

CITY OF WORCESTER

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 7, 2026
Esther Howland (South) Chamber
Convened: 5:00 P.M.
Adjourned: 5:48 P.M.

MAYOR

Joseph M. Petty

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson Tony Economou
Vice Chairperson Satya B Mitra
Councilor John P Fresolo



CLERK OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Nikolin Vangjeli

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City Hall - 455 Main Street Worcester, Massachusetts

Present Were:

Chairperson Councilor Tony Economou
Councilor Satya B. Mitra
Councilor John P. Fresolo

Also:

Councilor Luis A. Ojeda, who participated in the meeting remotely
Commissioner of Public Works John K. Westerling
Assistant Commissioner of Engineering Jay Mello
Deputy City Clerk Clare M. Robbins, clerk

1. Virtual Attendee Call-In Information/Important Notice to Residents

- a. Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and in order to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in-person and remote participation at all City Council and Standing Committee meetings. To partake in the meeting, you may attend the meeting in-person within the meeting location, follow the below link to join via Zoom or dial the direct line as indicated. If you join a Zoom meeting by dialing in with a phone number, you can raise your hand by dialing *9.

Public Works Committee Zoom Link: <https://worcesterma.zoomgov.com/j/1615992759>

Public Works Committee Zoom Phone Number: +1 646 828 7666

Public Works Committee Zoom Access Code: 161 599 2759

- b. Important Notice: Residents are advised of an ongoing scam involving the impersonation of city officials and departments. Scammers are fraudulently requesting payments be made for planning and zoning permits, as well as City Council petitions. All official emails regarding your petition will come exclusively from an @worcesterma.gov email address (such as clerk@worcesterma.gov), or via physical mail on the City of Worcester's official letterhead. Any legitimate hearing letter will always include your specific application details, along with the scheduled hearing date, time, and location. The City of Worcester will never request payments via wire transfer.

2. Approval of the Minutes

- a. Order - That the City Council Standing Committee on Public Works hereby approves the minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting on September 14, 2026.

**Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and moved for a roll call vote to adopt the item.
Order adopted on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays**

3. Honorary Street Name Petition

- a. Councilor Luis A. Ojeda on behalf of Kelly M. Fay Rodriguez and Joselina Fay request Oread St. from Main St. to Beacon St. be given the honorary street name designation of Ruth Rodriguez-Fay Way.

10v CC September 8, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and recognized Councilor Ojeda, who spoke concerning Ruth Rodriguez-Fay's life, such as her commitments to advocating for youth, education, and social justice, and highlighted the importance of honoring her memory.

Chairperson Councilor Economou recognized the following Speakers:

1. Kelly Fay Rodriguez, Cambridge resident, spoke in favor of the item
2. Joselina Fay, no residence provided, spoke in favor of the item
3. Gladys Rodriguez-Parker, Worcester resident, spoke in favor of the item

Chairperson Councilor Economou recognized Councilor Mitra, who spoke in favor of the item.

Chairperson Councilor Economou highlighted Ruth Rodriguez-Fay's commitments to community and provided condolences to the family and friends.

Chairperson Councilor Economou recognized Councilor Fresolo, who spoke concerning his friendship with Ruth Rodriguez-Fay and the importance of honoring her by designating an honorary street in her name.

Chairperson Councilor Economou moved for a roll call vote to recommend the item be approved.

Recommend Approval on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

4. Sidewalk Repair and Resurfacing Petitions

- a. Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of Clifford Rose request sidewalk resurfacing in front of 50 Marland Rd.
8v CC August 18, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and recognized the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering, who provided the Department of Public Work's (DPW) recommendation to add the vicinity of 50 Marland Dr. to the Sidewalk Repair List with an estimated 1,400 feet of sidewalk repairs on both sides of the street at estimated cost of \$100,092.00.

Chairperson Councilor Economou discussed streets placed on the Sidewalk Repair List are selected at the discretion of each District Councilor and are contingent upon available funding with the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering.

Chairperson Councilor Economou moved for a roll call vote to recommend approval of the item.

Recommend Approval on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

- b. Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of Pamela Stefanllari request the sidewalks on Neptune Rd. be resurfaced.
8o CC August 18, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and moved to take the item up collectively with item #5a.

Chairperson Councilor Economou discussed whether sidewalks repairs are also considered when a street is selected for resurfacing, as well as best practices to address separate requests on the same street relative to street resurfacing and sidewalk repairs with the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering.

Chairperson Councilor Economou then moved to take up items #4b and #5a individually.

Chairperson Councilor Economou discussed feedback received by the Department of Public Works (DPW) related to the poor sidewalk conditions at the location, as well as the recommendation to approve the item to be added to the Sidewalk Repair List with an estimated 620 feet of sidewalk replacement on both sides at an estimated cost of \$180,000.00.

Chairperson Councilor Economou moved for a roll call vote to recommend approval of the item.

Recommend Approval on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

- c. Councilor Jose A. Rivera request sidewalk resurfacing from 31 Mower St. to 67 Mower St.

7i CC July 21, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and recognized the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering, who provided an overview relative to the Department of Public Works' (DPW) recommendation to grant the item Leave to Withdraw, as Mower St. has been selected for resurfacing and anticipates project completion by July 2028.

Chairperson Councilor Economou moved for a roll call vote to recommend the item be granted Leave to Withdraw.

Recommend Leave to Withdraw on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

- d. Councilor Luis A. Ojeda request sidewalk resurfacing on Boyden St.

7j CC July 21, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and recognized Councilor Ojeda, who spoke concerning the feasibility of resurfacing the sidewalk on Boyden St.

Chairperson Councilor Economou recognized the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering, who provided the Department of Public Work's (DPW) recommendation to add Boyden St. to the Sidewalk Repair List.

Chairperson Councilor Economou discussed streets placed on the Sidewalk Repair List are selected at the discretion of each District Councilor and are contingent upon available funding with the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering.

Chairperson Councilor Economou moved for a roll call vote to recommend approval of the item.

Recommend Approval on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

5. Street Resurfacing Petitions

- a. Councilor Tony Economou on behalf of Pamela Stefanllari request Neptune Rd. be resurfaced.

8n CC August 18, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and recognized the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering, who provided the Department of Public Work's (DPW) recommendation to add Neptune Rd. to the Street Resurfacing List with an estimated cost of \$180,000.00 or an estimated \$350,000.00 including sidewalk repairs.

Chairperson Councilor Economou discussed streets placed on the Street Resurfacing List are selected at the discretion of each District Councilor and are contingent upon available funding with the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering.

Chairperson Councilor Economou moved for a roll call vote to recommend approval of the item.

Recommend Approval on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

- b. Councilor Jose A. Rivera on behalf of Michael Brennan request street resurfacing on Pine View Ave.

7g CC July 21, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and discussed a prior request for sidewalk repairs on Pine View Ave. with the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering.

Chairperson Councilor Economou then recognized the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering, who provided an overview relative to the Department of Public Work's (DPW) recommendation to add Pine View Ave. to the Street Resurfacing List and the recommendation for private street conversion for the private portions of the street.

Chairperson Councilor Economou discussed streets placed on the Street Resurfacing List are selected at the discretion of each District Councilor and are contingent upon available funding.

Chairperson Councilor Economou recognized Councilor Mitra, who discussed the timeline for District Councilors to make resurfacing selections with the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering.

Chairperson Councilor Economou moved for a roll call vote to recommend approval of the item.

Recommend Approval on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

- c. Councilor John P. Fresolo request street resurfacing on Puritan Ave.
20h CC June 2, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and recognized the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering, who provided the Department of Public Works' (DPW) recommendation to grant the item Leave to Withdraw, as Puritan Ave. was chip sealed and found to be in reasonable condition.

Chairperson Councilor Economou recognized Councilor Fresolo, who discussed resident concerns related to the chip seal on Puritan Ave.

Chairperson Councilor Economou moved for a roll call vote to recommend the item be granted Leave to Withdraw.

Recommend Leave to Withdraw on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

6. ADA Mat and Ramp Item

- a. Councilor Robert A. Bilotta request curb cuts be completed for the crosswalk at the eastern intersection of Laurel St. and Everett Gaylord Blvd.
10j CC September 8, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and recognized the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering, who provided the Department of Public Works' (DPW) recommendation to refer the item to Traffic and Parking Committee, as items relative to crosswalks are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation and Mobility.

Chairperson Councilor Economou moved for a roll call vote to recommend the item be referred to Traffic and Parking Committee.

Recommend Referred to Traffic and Parking Committee on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

7. Miscellaneous Items

- a. Petition of Jeffrey Conlon request installation of "No Littering" signage with associated fines at the intersection of Brantwood Rd. and Manhattan Rd.

7d CC May 5, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and discussed a prior request for "No Littering" signage in the vicinity of the Worcester Dual Language Magnet School rear parking lot, which was referred to the School Committee with the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering, Deputy City Clerk, and Commissioner of Public Works.

Chairperson Councilor Economou brought forth the following Chairman's Order on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays: "Request City Clerk provide the School Committee Clerk with a duplicate version of the following request: 'Petition of Jeffrey Conlon request installation of "No Littering" signage with associated fines at the intersection of Brantwood Rd. and Manhattan Rd.'"

Chairperson Councilor Economou moved for a roll call vote to recommend the item be held.

Recommend Hold on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

Chairman's Orders

Request City Clerk provide the School Committee Clerk with a duplicate version of the following request: 'Petition of Jeffrey Conlon request installation of "No Littering" signage with associated fines at the intersection of Brantwood Rd. and Manhattan Rd.'

- b. Petition of Arona Bauer request removal of small concrete posts throughout the sidewalks in the Corinth Dr. and Reardon St. neighborhood.

10b CC February 24, 2026

Chairperson Councilor Economou read the item and discussed the tripping hazards the concrete posts throughout the neighborhood cause due to the posts sticking out of the ground up to twelve (12) inches in some areas.

Chairperson Councilor Economou then discussed the process relative to installing and maintaining concrete survey markers and the feasibility of establishing a pilot program to identify six (6) to eight (8) streets which require contracted concrete survey marker maintenance for the purpose of allocating funds for said pilot program with the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering.

Chairperson Councilor Economou then brought forth the following Chairman's Order on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays: "Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report detailing the process used to remove concrete survey markers protruding throughout the sidewalks in the city. Said report should include, but not be limited to, short term solutions to address safety hazards, potential funding opportunities and budget allocations, and the process used to select streets for concrete survey marker maintenance."

Chairperson Councilor Economou recognized Councilor Mitra, who spoke concerning feasible temporary solutions to mitigate safety hazards due to the concrete survey markers with the Assistant Commissioner of Engineering and Commissioner of Public Works.

Chairperson Councilor Economou discussed the process relative for the city to maintain inventory as relates to property bounds with the Commissioner of Public Works and Assistant Commissioner of Engineering.

Chairperson Councilor Economou recognized Councilor Fresolo, who spoke concerning protruding concrete survey markers found in the vicinity of College Hill.

Chairperson Councilor Economou recognized Councilor Mitra, who spoke concerning protruding concrete survey markers found in the vicinity of Arbutus Rd. with the Commissioner of Public Works.

Chairperson Councilor Economou moved for a roll call vote to recommend the item be held.

Recommend Hold on a roll call vote of 3 Yeas and 0 Nays

Chairman's Orders

Request City Manager request Commissioner of Public Works provide City Council with a report detailing the process used to remove concrete survey markers protruding throughout the sidewalks in the city. Said report should include, but not be limited to, short term solutions to address safety hazards, potential funding opportunities and budget allocations, and the process used to select streets for concrete survey marker maintenance.

