



Christine McCall
Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

Yovani Baez-Rose
Deputy Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Eileen M. Donoghue, City Manager

FROM: Christine McCall, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

DATE: April 5, 2022

SUBJECT: MOTION OF 3/29/2022 BY COUNCILOR MERCIER REQUEST CITY MANAGER FIND WAYS AND MEANS TO TELEVISE THE MEETINGS OF THE LOWELL SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL

Currently, the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) is in conversations with Lowell TeleMedia Center (LTC) to ensure that the public has access to view the Lowell Sustainability Committee (LSC)'s monthly meetings. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the LSC has been meeting remotely over zoom. Meetings held remotely have been recorded and the minutes are posted to the City of Lowell's website so the general public is able to stay informed of the issues being discussed.

As Lowell and the surrounding region continue to see a significant decrease in COVID-19 transmission, the LSC is excited to hold in-person meetings at City Hall once again. It is important to this council that members of the public are apprised of the matters covered in these meetings. Many of the topics discussed will ultimately impact, and will require the contribution of all Lowell residents.

The DPD has spoken with the LTC, who has ensured that future LSC meetings are covered as long as the meetings are held in the Councilor's Chambers or the Mayor's Reception Room in City Hall. Prior to COVID, the LSC met in the Arthur Hammer Conference Room located on the second floor of DPD. This meeting space is not equipped for public access recording. Due to security and access issues for members of the public, meetings were relocated to City Hall. The LSC will continue to provide a public zoom link and hold meetings in a hybrid format. Should the LTC be unable to cover the in-person component of any future meetings, typically due to scheduling conflicts, the remote component will still be recorded and made available to the public.

The DPD has updated the website to provide links to "remote public meetings" so that interested resident can view the zoom recordings should LTC not be able to record the meeting. The DPD is excited to bring the LSC conversations to a broader audience through the LTC and spread the mission of the committee.

Cc: Sophie Mortimer, Neighborhood Planner