

City of Framingham

The City Council of Framingham



ORDER NO. 2022-050-001 REQUEST OF THE ORDINANCE AND RULES SUBCOMMITTEE

UPON THE REQUEST OF THE ORDINANCE AND RULES SUBCOMMITTEE, THE CITY OF FRAMINGHAM, THROUGH THE FRAMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, IT IS SO ORDERED:

That the City Council vote to authorize the Mayor to establish a Downtown Community Cares Working Group as shown below:

Establishing the Downtown Community Cares Working Group

Whereas, our Downtown is the home of a diverse collection of people, entities, and businesses engaged in the exchange of idea, culture, services, and commerce;

Whereas, everyone wants to peacefully and productively coexist;

Whereas, creating harmony amongst these varied interests and beings requires a coordination, resources, and a comprehensive approach;

Whereas, numerous municipalities, including Framingham from time to time, have convened such committees to bring down silos and create compassionate and lasting harmony to the populace, diverse commerce centers;

Now therefore, a permanent broad-based committee of all interested parties to reduce risk in our community is created pursuant to the authority vested in the Mayor under Article III, Section 2 of the Framingham Home Rule Charter and the general municipal police power and power to protect public health and safety incorporated therein, be it ordained as follows:

Downtown Community Cares Working Group

A. Goal

To create compassionate and lasting harmony among visitors, businesses, and residents in our populace, diverse downtown commerce center.

B. Purpose

Provide a forum to bring together various stakeholders in the downtown commerce center to address public safety and quality of life issues. The Working Group provides all the participants with the opportunity to discuss what each group is seeing or doing in the downtown area. The members discuss:

- FPD crime and quality of life calls in the downtown area;
- What each agency / business has been doing in the past several months in the area;

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- Current or proposed items being worked on for implementation; and,
- Ideas that may make us more effective downtown

The goal is to work together to ensure families and individuals are safe, healthy and have the opportunity to thrive. The Group is a police-led initiative made up of designated staff from community and government agencies that meet weekly to address specific situations regarding clients facing elevated levels of risk, and develop immediate, coordinated, and integrated responses through mobilization of resources.

This innovative model mobilizes resources already in place to address specific situations before an emergency occurs. The Group reduces demands that are currently borne by the criminal justice system, health system, and families by more effectively applying the capacities of our human service partners and our police resources, and mitigating those critical upstream risk factors that lead to harm, crime, and/or death.

Moreover, the criteria for intervention is unique: the case must signify a high probability and strong intensity of harm, and require a multi-disciplinary approach. The case is then “filtered” to determine whether collaborative intervention is necessary, a process used to protect the individual’s privacy. Our model is efficient: we don’t have lengthy meetings diagnosing anything. Each case takes approximately four minutes.

C. Working Group

The executive Working Group shall be advisory to the Mayor and comprised by representatives of the following groups and any others as may volunteer to the Chief of Police may from time to time add:

- Mayor’s Office
- Police Chief
- Council
- Downtown Framingham, Inc
- SMOC
- Advocates – PES
- Property owner
- Business owner
- Fire Chief
- DPW Director
- JRI
- Metro West Medical Center
- Wayside Youth and Family
- Code Enforcement Officer
- Living Room on Union Ave

The Working Group shall be convened and chaired by the Deputy Police Chief. The Group shall meet as needed, but no less frequently than twice per month. The Group is not a multiple member body and its deliberations are confidential.

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
FRAMINGHAM, MA.

2022 JUN 28 PM 5:12

NOW, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Cannon, King, Leombruno, Long, Mallach, Ottaviani, Stefanini,
Steiner, Stewart-Morales
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: All members were present in person or via teleconferencing
PASSED IN COUNCIL: JUNE 21, 2022

A True Record, Attest:

6/27/2022

Date Approved

Lisa A. Ferguson, City Clerk
Emily L. Butler, Assistant City Clerk

6/28/22

Date Approved

Charlie Sisitsky, Mayor