



City of Cambridge

O-
IN CITY COUNCIL
October 7, 2019

VICE MAYOR DEVEREUX
MAYOR MCGOVERN
COUNCILLOR CARLONE
COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as part of its response to the climate crisis; and

WHEREAS: [An estimated 43% of emissions in Massachusetts come from transportation](#), and driving personal gasoline-powered vehicles causes a large portion of those emissions; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge's [Climate Action Plan](#) states that in order to reach our sustainability goals, the City must actively pursue innovative methods to reduce vehicular emissions; and

WHEREAS: Many gasoline nozzles come equipped with a “nozzle talker” that could easily hold a small label; and

WHEREAS: Requiring these labels at the gas pump will provide consumers with information about the impact of fossil fuel consumption directly at the point of purchase, which may encourage them to reduce their consumption and use alternative forms of transportation when appropriate; and

WHEREAS: The fight to reverse climate change requires that everyone take action to change their behavior, and the City must underscore the fact that each individual's behavior can make an impact on the environment and on public health; and

WHEREAS: In [City Manager's Agenda #13 of October 17, 2016](#), the City Solicitor opined that such an ordinance would violate neither the First Amendment nor the Commerce Clause, as long as it contains “purely factual and uncontroversial” information; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the proposed amendment to article 8.12.010 of the Municipal Code (as attached) be referred to the Ordinance Committee for hearing and report before the end of 2019; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the City Solicitor and the appropriate staff to review the language of this draft amendment and to report back to the City Council in advance of the Ordinance Committee hearing.