

City of Framingham

The City Council of Framingham



ORDER NO. 2022-071 REQUEST OF COUNCILOR STEINER

UPON THE REQUEST OF COUNCILOR STEINER, THE CITY OF FRAMINGHAM, THROUGH THE FRAMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, IT IS SO ORDERED:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FAIR SHARE AMENDMENT

WHEREAS - the Fair Share Amendment will be on the November 2022 Massachusetts statewide ballot and would amend the Massachusetts Constitution to create a tax surcharge of four percentage points on annual income above one million dollars and dedicate the revenue to quality public education and affordable public colleges and universities, and for the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges, and public transportation.

WHEREAS - the best way to help working families and build a strong economy for all is to ensure that we have quality public schools for our children, affordable public higher education, and a reliable transportation system.

WHEREAS - Framingham has extensive infrastructure needs including more than 10 bridges in need of repair or reconstruction, miles of roads in need of repair, and several schools with failing roofs, that far outpace our regular revenue collection.

WHEREAS - Framingham taxpayers are already paying a high real estate tax rate, a debt exclusion to pay for the Fuller School, a Community Preservation Act (CPA) surcharge, and a projected water rate increase of 16% for this year.

WHEREAS - We must make significant investments in public education to help students recover academically, socially, and emotionally from the COVID-19 pandemic.

WHEREAS - We must reduce the tuition and fees charged by our public colleges, which are among the highest in the country, and force students to take on excessive debt to earn a degree.

WHEREAS - Even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic Massachusetts needed to invest more in transportation and public education and those investments are now more necessary than ever to produce an equitable and long-lasting recovery.

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WHEREAS - Our Commonwealth's highest-income residents, whose net worth increased substantially in recent years, and who commonly shelter income from taxation, can and should pay at a higher rate than low- and middle-income wage earners.

WHEREAS - the Massachusetts Department of Revenue estimated in 2019 that the Fair Share Amendment would generate \$1.9 billion of new revenue and impact just half of one percent of all filers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED - that the Framingham City Council expresses its support for the Fair Share Amendment.

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FAIR SHARE AMENDMENT

The Council voted to take no action.

YEAS: Alexander, Cannon, King, Leombruno, Long, Ottaviani, Stefanini
NAYS: Bryant, Mallach, Steiner, Stewart-Morales
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: All members were present in person or via teleconferencing
PASSED IN COUNCIL: MAY 24, 2022

A True Record, Attest:

6/8/2022
Date Approved

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