CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

ORDER RESCINDING THE CITY’S EMERGENCY ORDERS CONCERNING: (1) REQUIREMENTS FOR FITNESS CENTER AND HEALTH CLUB OPERATIONS; (2) ADVANCING TO PHASE III, STEP 2 OF THE COMMONWEALTH’S REOPENING PLAN WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS; AND (3) DELAYING PHASE IV, STEP 1 OF THE COMMONWEALTH’S REOPENING PLAN AND CONCERNING GATHERINGS

RESCINDED EFFECTIVE MIDNIGHT 12:00 A.M. ON THURSDAY MAY 6, 2021

WHEREAS, in response to the outbreak of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, over the course of 2020 through the present, Governor Charles D. Baker has issued a number of public health orders initially closing businesses, other than those that provide COVID-19 essential services, and restricting gatherings, and then in response to improving public health data phasing in the reopening of specific industries in Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Cambridge Commissioner of Public Health and Cambridge City Manager declared that a state of emergency exists in the City of Cambridge, and over the course of 2020 through the present the Cambridge Commissioner of Public Health and Cambridge City Manager have issued a number of public health orders specifically targeted to address the COVID-19 public health conditions in Cambridge; and

WHEREAS, on February 9, 2021, the City issued the Emergency Order with Requirements for Fitness Center and Health Club Operations, which restricted certain fitness center and health club activities to reduce the likelihood of additional COVID-19 community spread;

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2021, the City issued the Temporary Emergency Order Advancing to Phase III, Step 2 of the Commonwealth’s Reopening Plan with Certain Exceptions, which advanced the City to Phase III, Step 2 of the Commonwealth’s Reopening Plan, consistent with Governor Baker’s COVID-19 Order No. 65 which advanced all community in the Commonwealth to Phase III, Step 2, but with the exception that live musical performances were not permitted in restaurants in Cambridge, and indoor performance venues could not open their premises until they had been inspected by the City’s Inspectorial Services Department; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2021, Governor Baker issued COVID-19 Order No. 66 which provided that Phase IV, Step 1 of the Reopening Plan would go into effect on March 22, 2021, which included the reopening of large capacity sports and entertainment venues;

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2021, Governor Baker issued the March 22, 2021 Appendix Adjusting Gathering Limits Set in COVID-19 Order No. 63 which provided the gathering limits for event venues and in public settings would increase to 100 people indoors and 150 outdoors effective March 22, 2021, with the exception of gatherings at private residences, which were restricted to a maximum of 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2021, the City issued the Temporary Emergency Order Delaying Phase IV, Step 1 of the Commonwealth’s Reopening Plan and Concerning Gatherings in the City of Cambridge, which delayed the reopening of Phase IV, Step 1 enterprises and activities within the City, and restricted capacity limitations for event venues and in public settings to a maximum of 50 people in indoor event venues or public settings and a maximum of 100 people in outdoor event venues or public settings; and
WHEREAS, the City has continued to closely monitor the public health data and the specific conditions in Cambridge, particularly in light of the availability of COVID-19 vaccinations, and the City has experienced a sustained decline in the number of cases, hospitalizations and deaths linked to COVID-19; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Cambridge Commissioner of Public Health and the City Manager hereby order as follows:

1. The City’s Emergency Order with Requirements for Fitness Center and Health Club Operations, issued on February 9, 2021, is rescinded and of no effect as of midnight (12:00 a.m.) on Thursday, May 6, 2021. Fitness Centers and Health Clubs must comply with all applicable State safety protocols.

2. The City’s Temporary Emergency Order Advancing to Phase III, Step 2 of the Commonwealth’s Reopening Plan with Certain Exceptions, issued on February 26, 2021, is rescinded and of no effect as of midnight (12:00 a.m.) on Thursday, May 6, 2021.

3. The City’s Temporary Emergency Order Delaying Phase IV, Step 1 of the Commonwealth’s Reopening Plan and Concerning Gatherings in the City of Cambridge, issued on March 22, 2021, is rescinded and of no effect as of midnight (12:00 a.m.) on Thursday, May 6, 2021.

4. Accordingly, effective at midnight (12:00 a.m.) on Thursday, May 6, 2021, the City will advance to Phase IV, Step 1 of the Commonwealth’s Reopening Plan, as set forth in Governor Baker’s COVID-19 Order No. 66.

5. Effective at midnight (12:00 a.m.) on Thursday, May 6, 2021, the Commonwealth’s gathering limits set forth in the March 22, 2021 Appendix Adjusting Gathering Limits Set in COVID-19 Order No. 63 which provided that the gathering limits for event venues and in public settings will increase to 100 people indoors and 150 outdoors will be in effect within the City.

6. All businesses, organizations and activities that are identified as Phase I - Phase IV, Step 1 enterprises and all gatherings shall continue to follow any and all orders, protocols or guidance pertaining to mitigating the spread of COVID-19 issued from time to time by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Cambridge, including its License Commission, Public Health, Public Works and Inspectional Services Departments.

Dated: April 29, 2021

By:

Assaad J. Sayah, MD, Commissioner of Public Health

Louis A. DePasquale, City Manager