



City Council
**Sustainability &
Environment Committee
Meeting**

**36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103
<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>**

Councilor Victor Davila (Chair)

~Final~

March 17, 2026

3:00 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Roll Call

In Person:

Councilor Davila
Sarah Heinonen (Press The Reminder)
Channel 22

Zoom:

Madam President Whitfield
Councilor Hurst
Chris Cignoli (Director of DPW)
Councilor Fenton
Stephen Howard (Citizen)
Channel 22

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Brian Santaniello	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Gerry Martin	City Councilor — Ward 7	Excused	
Maria Perez	City Councilor — Ward 1	Excused	
Malo Brown	City Councilor — Ward 4	Excused	
Zaida Govan	City Councilor — Ward 8	Absent	
Kateri Walsh	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Justin Hurst	City Councilor At Large	Virtual *Late	
Victor Davila	City Councilor — Ward 6	Present	
Michael Fenton	City Councilor — Ward 2	Virtual	

Jose Delgado	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Lavar Click-Bruce	City Councilor — Ward 5	Excused	
Melvin Edwards	City Councilor — Ward 3	Excused	
Tracye Whitfield	City Councilor At Large	Virtual *Late	

Call To Order

3:00 PM Meeting called to order on March 17, 2026, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Public Portion

1. Discussion of potholes, including their environmental impact and the City's plan, timeline, and costs to address repairs.

Minutes:

Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting Summary – March 17

Chaired by: Councilor Victor Davila

The Sustainability and Environment Committee convened to review the city's pothole conditions, repair efforts, environmental impacts, funding allocations, and upcoming infrastructure projects. **Chris Cignoli (DPW Director)** reported that three crews have been performing temporary pothole repairs using bagged roadway millings and cold patch material. Hot mix asphalt, a permanent repair material, is scheduled to be available on March 24. An additional road patcher vehicle will be used to expand repair capacity once permanent materials are available. Repairs are prioritized based on 311 reports submitted by residents, and weekly progress reports will be provided to the council.

Chris Cignoli noted that factors contributing to pothole formation include winter weather conditions, including approximately 65 inches of snowfall and freeze-thaw cycles, as well as aging road infrastructure. Salt is applied to arterial streets using untreated salt treated with liquid calcium, and coverage of all residential streets is limited due to resource constraints. Utility-related failures from water, gas, and electric work have contributed to additional pothole formation. The winter moratorium on non-emergency excavation, implemented in December, is scheduled to end on March 24.

The city's funding for road maintenance includes \$5 million in Chapter 90 funds, with a total paving budget of \$6.5 million for the current fiscal year. Paving priorities focus on arterial streets and selected residential streets with chronic deterioration, including Worthington, Parker, Bay Street, and Sumner Avenue. Pothole repair materials are estimated at \$30,000–\$40,000.

Approximately 2 percent of city roads are expected to be paved this year.

Chris Cignoli provided updates on infrastructure projects, including the Armory Street Bridge, with a detour map to be posted on the city's official Facebook page prior to construction. Snow removal operations included towing during emergencies and snow hauling for intersections.

Chair Davila scheduled a follow-up meeting in approximately four weeks to review repair progress.

Action items identified during the meeting include beginning hot asphalt repairs on March 24, coordinating crews and utility-related repairs, providing weekly progress reports to the council, finalizing the paving list and funding allocation for council approval, and following up on state road repairs. Residents are encouraged to report potholes through official 311 channels and comply with snow emergency parking regulations.

The timeline for repair and paving activities includes cold patch and roadway milling repairs conducted over the last two to three weeks, hot mix asphalt repairs beginning March 24, the paving program starting March 30, council review and approval of Chapter 90 funds in April, and a follow-up progress review approximately four weeks after the meeting.

The meeting concluded with agreement that pothole repairs will continue in accordance with the city's planned schedules, priorities, and available resources, with transparency maintained through council reporting and official communications.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]