



City Council
Finance Subcommittee
Meeting

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

Zaida Govan (Chair)

~Final~

May 15, 2026

1:00 PM

City Hall - Room 200

Roll Call

In Person:

Councilor Govan
Attorney Shea
Karen Lee

Virtual:

Councilor Davila

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	Present	
Kateri Walsh	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Justin Hurst	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Victor Davila	City Councilor — Ward 6	Virtual	
Michael Fenton	City Councilor — Ward 2	Excused	
Jose Delgado	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
Lavar Click-Bruce	City Councilor — Ward 5	Absent	
Melvin Edwards	City Councilor — Ward 3	Excused	

Tracye Whitfield	City Councilor At Large	Excused	
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Call To Order

1:00 PM Meeting called to order on May 15, 2026, in Hybrid Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Public Portion

1. Discussion on revised resolution

Minutes:

On May 18, 2026, the Finance Committee chaired by Councilor Zeta Govan met with Councilor Victor Davila, Attorney Shea, and resident Karen Lee to discuss a revised resolution supporting a coordinated and transparent framework to address long-term municipal and community impacts related to the proposed Springfield Regional Justice Center project, a public-private partnership expected to operate for at least 40 years under oversight by the Massachusetts Division of Capital Assets Management and Maintenance.

Councilor Govan stated the resolution is intended to ensure impacts involving transportation, infrastructure, public safety, land use, environmental conditions, public health, and municipal services are monitored and addressed throughout the project lifecycle. Attorney Shea explained the proposal includes creation of a restricted municipal impact fund dedicated solely to mitigation efforts so revenues or contributions are not absorbed into the City's general fund. Committee members referenced prior projects, including MGM and cannabis tax revenues, where anticipated public benefits and dedicated uses did not fully materialize.

Discussion included potential funding sources such as grants, District Incremental Financing, and portions of property tax revenue connected to the courthouse or surrounding development. Attorney Shea noted legal and procedural questions remain regarding how revenues could be dedicated outside the general fund, and participants acknowledged that funding sources and amounts remain undetermined pending further study.

Karen Lee and committee members cited concerns from previous development projects, including demolition of historic properties, business displacement, and environmental and health issues such as mold conditions at the Roderick Ireland Courthouse, emphasizing the need for proactive mitigation and accountability.

The resolution supports continued coordination among the City, Commonwealth, developers, and community stakeholders through ongoing communication, monitoring procedures, and a working group to be convened within 60 days after developer selection, with written updates to the City Council within 90 days. Members described the resolution as an initial policy step

intended to begin a structured public process requiring additional legislative action, financial review, and community engagement before final governance and funding mechanisms are established.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]