



Medford City Council  
Medford, Massachusetts

**MEETING DATE**

February 14, 2024

**SPONSORED BY**

**AGENDA ITEM**

**22-310** - Housing Home Rule Petitions

**FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

**22-310-Offered by Vice President Bears and Councillor Collins**

Whereas the City of Medford and Greater Boston region are in the midst of a deep housing crisis that is displacing residents and families; and

Whereas the City of Medford saw a 15% year-over-year increase in average rents from March 2021 to March 2022 and a 5% increase in average rents from February 2022 to March 2022, according to WGBH News; and

Whereas many Medford residents are facing significant rent increase or other methods of displacement from rental units; now, therefore:

Be it Resolved by the Medford City Council that the Housing Subcommittee meet to discuss the potential drafting of home rule petitions on the following policies to protect Medford residents facing housing instability and a lack of affordable housing options:

- Rent stabilization,
- Tenant right to purchase,
- Tenant right to counsel,
- Just cause eviction protections,
- Regulation of up-front lease fees,
- Anti-price gouging protections, and
- Exemptions for small, owner-occupant landlords.

Be it Further Resolved that the Housing Subcommittee discuss a potential Council resolution supporting H.1378 and S.886, "An Act enabling local options for tenant protections" currently under consideration by the Massachusetts Legislature.

Addressing the Council:

Liza Maloney, 26 Bradlee Road

John Petrella, 61 Locust Street

Daniel Craven, 21 Maple Avenue

Casey Tiavaggi, 75 Marshall Avenue

Sharon DeYeso, Mass. Ave. and Circuit Road

Melanie Tringali, 116 Forest Street

Laura Panette, 40 Tesla Avenue

**Vice President Bears moved for approval (Councillor Collins second)—approved on a roll call vote of four in favor (Vice President Bears, Councillor Collins, Councillor Tseng and President Morell), two opposed (Councillor Knight and Councillor Scarpelli) and Councillor Caraviello absent.**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**FISCAL IMPACT**

**ATTACHMENTS**

None