North Adams City Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the North Adams City Council will be conducted via remote, no in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted. This meeting can be viewed live on the Northern Berkshire Community Television station and will be posted to their website as soon as possible. I hereby notify that at twelve noon today, December 2, 2020, the following items of business have been filed with this office and will be acted upon at the regular meeting in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, Tuesday Evening December 8, 2020 at seven-thirty o’clock according to Section 8, Rules and Orders of the City Council.

Deborah M. Pedercini
City Clerk

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
December 8, 2020

Roll Call
Moment of silent remembrance
The Pledge
Approval of the minutes of November 24, 2020
Hearing of Visitors on Agenda

11,910 An Ordinance amending Chapter 27, entitled Dog Regulations, adding a new section 27-12, entitled Prohibition of the Sale of Dogs, Cats, or Rabbits by Pet Shops, which was postponed at the meeting of October 24, 2020 and referred to General Government Committee.

11,915 Mayor’s communication #67 recommending the reappointment of Robin Meyer to the North Adams Commission on Disabilities for a term to expire December 1, 2023.

11,916 Mayor’s communication #68 recommending the reappointment of Eric Wilson to the North Adams Commission on Disabilities for a term to expire December 1, 2023.
Mayor’s communication #69 recommending the reappointment of Justyna Carlson to the North Adams Commission on Disabilities for a term to expire January 2, 2024.

Mayor’s communication #70 recommending the reappointment of Wayne J. Wilkinson to the North Adams Mobile Home Rent Control Board for a term to expire September 1, 2025.

Mayor’s communication #71 regarding the acceptance of grant award in the amount of $12,881 to the North Adams Police Department.

An Order authorizing the Mayor, pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53A, to accept a grant from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) in the Amount of $12,881.

Communication submitted by Council President Hopkins requesting time for a presentation from the Lever organization to discuss the Mohawk Trail Entrepreneur Challenge.

Communication submitted by Council President Hopkins regarding the appointment of Rachel Hailey to the Inclusion Diversity, Equity Access working group.

Communication submitted by Councilor Sweeney regarding “The Not in My County Pledge” for a county-wide campaign coordinated by BRIDGE.

LICENSES
OPEN FORUM
MAYOR’S CONCERNS
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES
LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCILOR CONCERNS
CORRESPONDENCE
ADJOURNMENT

Zoom Information:

Topic: City Council Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83557540978
Or iPhone one-tap:
US: +19292056099,83557540978# or +13017158592,83557540978#
Or Telephone:
Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799
Webinar ID: 835 5754 0978
International numbers available: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdK9RQGvsW
Honorable Members of the City Council  
North Adams, Massachusetts  

Dear Honorable Councilors:

I am pleased to recommend Robin Meyer for reappointment to the North Adams Commission on Disabilities for a term to expire December 1, 2023. **This recommendation is presented for Council approval.**

I request Council confirmation of this appointment recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard  
Mayor  

TWB/me
Honorable Members of the City Council
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

I am pleased to recommend Eric Wilson for reappointment to the North Adams Commission on Disabilities for a term to expire December 1, 2023. This recommendation is presented for Council approval.

I request Council confirmation of this reappointment recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard
Mayor

TWB/me
Honorable Members of the City Council  
North Adams, Massachusetts  

Dear Honorable Councilors:  

I am pleased to recommend Justyna Carlson for reappointment to the Historical Commission for a term to expire January 2, 2024. **This recommendation is presented for Council approval.**  

I believe Ms. Carlson will continue to provide practical experience and leadership to the commission and its work.  

I request Council confirmation of this reappointment recommendation.  

Respectfully submitted,  

Thomas W. Bernard  
Mayor  

TWB/me
Honorablc Members of the City Council
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

I am pleased to recommend Wayne Wilkinson for appointment to the Mobile Home Rent Control Board for a term to expire September 1, 2025. This recommendation is presented for Council approval.

I believe Mr. Wilkinson will provide practical experience and leadership to the commission and its work.

I request Council confirmation of this appointment recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard
Mayor

TWB/me
Honorable Members of the City Council
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

Submitted for your consideration is an Order to accept a grant award to the North Adams Police Department (NAPD) in the amount of $12,881.00 through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the U.S. Department of Justice. Also enclosed with this communication and Order is a summary memo from Chief Wood about the JAG program.

I request that the Council adopt this Order as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard
Mayor

TWB/me
WHEREAS, the City of North Adams, through the North Adams Police Department, has been notified of a grant award through The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the U.S. Department of Justice, in the amount of $12,881.00; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 A, the North Adams City Council must accept the grant;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, that the North Adams City Council accepts the grant described above.
TO: HONORABLE MAYOR THOMAS W. BERNARD

FROM: CHIEF OF POLICE, JASON R. WOOD

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE FY2020 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF $12,881.00

DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 2020

Background

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the U.S. Department of Justice is the leading source of Federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. The Department of Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program allows states and local units of government, including tribes, to support a range of activities to prevent and control crime and enhance Public Safety within their jurisdictions.

The North Adams Police Department, as the organizational unit on behalf of the City of North Adams, is requesting permission from the City Council to approve and accept the FY2020 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant award in the amount of $12,881.00. The JAG Program requires all grant applications to be approved by the governing body (City Council) at a public meeting, and a Certification of Assurance to be signed by the Mayor which states that all conditions of the award have been met.

Discussion

The City of North Adams Police Department is requesting approval to accept the FY2020 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) award in the amount of $12,881.00. The North Adams Police Department anticipates using this funding to purchase a vehicle for the Detective Bureau to use for investigations and patrol purposes.

Financial Contributions

There are no matching dollars required for this program.
Recommendation

The North Adams Police Department recommends the City Council, of the City of North Adams, approve the submission of the FY2020 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Local Solicitation grant award in the amount of $12,881.00.

Approved:

________________________________
Thomas W. Bernard, Mayor
September 19, 2020

Chief Jason R. Wood
City of North Adams
40 American Legion Drive
North Adams, MA 01247-3913

Dear Chief Wood:

Congratulations on your recent award. The Office for Civil Rights (OCR), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has been delegated the responsibility for ensuring that recipients of federal financial assistance from the OJP, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) are not engaged in discrimination prohibited by law. Several federal civil rights laws, such as Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, require recipients of federal financial assistance to give assurances that they will comply with those laws. In addition to those civil rights laws, many grant program statutes contain nondiscrimination provisions that require compliance with them as a condition of receiving federal financial assistance. For a complete review of these civil rights laws and nondiscrimination requirements, in connection with OJP and other DOJ awards, see https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/LegalOverview/CivilRightsRequirements.htm

Under the delegation of authority, the OCR investigates allegations of discrimination against recipients from individuals, entities, or groups. In addition, the OCR conducts limited compliance reviews and audits based on regulatory criteria. These reviews and audits permit the OCR to evaluate whether recipients of financial assistance from the Department are providing services in a nondiscriminatory manner to their service population or have employment practices that meet equal-opportunity standards.

If you are a recipient of grant awards under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act or the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and your agency is part of a criminal justice system, there are two additional obligations that may apply in connection with the awards: (1) complying with the regulation relating to Equal Employment Opportunity Programs (EEOPs); and (2) submitting findings of discrimination to OCR. For additional information regarding the EEOP requirement, see 28 CFR Part 42, subpart E, and for additional information regarding requirements when there is an adverse finding, see 28 C.F.R. §§ 42.204(c), 42.205(c)(5). Please submit information about any adverse finding to the OCR at the above address.

We at the OCR are available to help you and your organization meet the civil rights requirements that are associated with OJP and other DOJ grant funding. If you would like the OCR to assist you in fulfilling your organization's civil rights or nondiscrimination responsibilities as a recipient of federal financial assistance, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Alston
Director

c: Grant Manager
Financial Analyst
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<tr>
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<td>40 American Legion Drive</td>
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<td>North Adams, MA 01247-3913</td>
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THE ABOVE GRANT PROJECT IS APPROVED SUBJECT TO SUCH CONDITIONS OR LIMITATIONS AS ARE SET FORTH ON THE ATTACHED PAGE(S).

13. STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR GRANT
This project is supported under FY20(BJA - JAG State and JAG Local) Title I of Pub. L. No. 90-351 (generally codified at 34 U.S.C. 10101-10726), including subpart I of part E (codified at 34 U.S.C. 10151 - 10158); see also 28 U.S.C. 530C(a)

14. CATALOG OF DOMESTIC FEDERAL ASSISTANCE (CFDA Number)
16.738 - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program

15. METHOD OF PAYMENT
GPRS

16. TYPED NAME AND TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL
Katharine T. Sullivan
Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

18. TYPED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED GRANTEE OFFICIAL
Jason R. Wood
Chief of Police

17. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

19. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED RECIPIENT OFFICIAL

20. ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION CODES
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<th>DIV. REG.</th>
<th>SUB. POMS</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
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21. VWUJGT3199

OJP FORM 4000/2 (REV. 5-87) PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE OBSOLETE.

OJP FORM 4000/2 (REV. 4-88)
This project is supported under FY20(BJA - JAG State and JAG Local) Title I of Pub. L. No. 90-351 (generally codified at 34 U.S.C. 10101-10726), including subpart I of part E (codified at 34 U.S.C. 10151 - 10158); see also 28 U.S.C. 530C(a)

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<tr>
<th>1. STAFF CONTACT (Name &amp; telephone number)</th>
<th>2. PROJECT DIRECTOR (Name, address &amp; telephone number)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shaketta Cunningham (202) 514-4493</td>
<td>Stacy Abusi</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Grant Specialist</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>40 American Legion Drive North Adams, MA 01247-3913</td>
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<td>(413) 664-4944</td>
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<th>3a. TITLE OF THE PROGRAM</th>
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<td>3b. POMS CODE (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE)</td>
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<th>6. NAME &amp; ADDRESS OF SUBGRANTEE</th>
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<tr>
<td>North Adams, MA 01247-3913</td>
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| 7. PROGRAM PERIOD FROM: | 10/01/2019 TO: | 09/30/2021 |
| 8. BUDGET PERIOD FROM: | 10/01/2019 TO: | 09/30/2021 |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 9. AMOUNT OF AWARD    | $12,881        |
| 10. DATE OF AWARD     | 09/19/2020     |
| 11. SECOND YEAR'S BUDGET |
| 12. SECOND YEAR'S BUDGET AMOUNT |
| 13. THIRD YEAR'S BUDGET PERIOD |
| 14. THIRD YEAR'S BUDGET AMOUNT |

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<th>15. SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT (See instruction on reverse)</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program allows states and units of local government, including tribes, to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own state and local needs and conditions. Grant funds can be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, and information systems for criminal justice, including for any or more of the following program areas: 1) law enforcement programs; 2) prosecution and court programs; 3) prevention and education programs; 4) corrections and community corrections programs; 5) drug treatment and enforcement programs; 6) planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs; and 7) crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation) and 8) mental health programs and related law enforcement and corrections programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>This JAG award will be used to support criminal justice initiatives that fall under one or more of the allowable program areas above. Funded programs or initiatives may include multi-jurisdictional drug and gang task forces, crime prevention and domestic violence programs, courts, corrections, treatment, justice information</td>
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OJP FORM 4000/2 (REV. 4-88)
sharing initiatives, or other programs aimed at reducing crime and/or enhancing public/officer safety.

NCA/NCF
December 2, 2020

Dear Fellow City Councilors,

I am requesting time for a presentation from Lever, an organization seeking entrepreneurs who wish to launch businesses that will create jobs in the Mohawk Trail region. Examples of qualifying businesses include woodland-related tourism, woodcraft and woodland derived natural products. Thank you for allowing this presentation.

Thank you.

Paul Hopkins
President
MOHAWK TRAIL REGION ENTREPRENEURS:

WIN $25,000 TO LAUNCH YOUR BUSINESS

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS
for the
Mohawk Trail Entrepreneur Challenge

We seek entrepreneurs who wish to build regional businesses that will create jobs in the Mohawk Trail region. Examples of qualifying businesses include woodland-related tourism, woodcraft, and woodland-derived natural products. Any entrepreneur seeking to establish and grow a sustainable, woodland-related business should apply. To participate, the entrepreneurs or their businesses must be located in a Mohawk Trail Woodland Partnership (MTWP) member town.

One entrepreneur or team will win a $25,000 grant to advance their business.

The Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Member Towns

Adams
Ashfield
Charlemont
Cheshire
Clarksburg
Conway
Heath
Leyden
Monroe
New Ashford
North Adams
Rowe
Shelburne
Peru
Windsor
Williamstown

Apply Now – Space Is Limited!
The Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Entrepreneur Challenge (MTEC) will help entrepreneurs contribute to regional economic development. The Challenge will prioritize business models that 1) serve customers from within and outside of the Mohawk Trail region, 2) have high potential to create new jobs, and 3) are capable of attracting grant, debt or equity financing.

Challenge participants will receive six months of no-cost business acceleration from Lever, a leading entrepreneurship center based in North Adams, Massachusetts. Acceleration programming will include technical assistance from Lever's experienced staff, consultation from domain experts, and a variety of additional resources. Participants will also learn strategies for attracting capital investment.

One participating business will be awarded a $25,000 grant in early 2021. The grant will be awarded by a panel of independent experts who will assess businesses based on their business plans, customer validation, market traction, and a ten-minute pitch to be presented at the Challenge’s culminating event.

Examples of Qualifying Businesses

The following mature business, while not located in the Mohawk Trail region, exemplifies the types of businesses the MTEC is designed to accelerate.

**H. Arnold Wood Turning** (Tarrytown, New York) is a manufacturer of customized finished wood products. Certified by the Forest Stewardship Council, H. Arnold employs ten.

**Suncadia** (Cle Elum, Washington) is a resort hotel located in the Cascade mountains that offers visitors a variety of options to enjoy the natural beauty, including birding, rafting, horseback-riding and fly-fishing. Suncadia’s amenities are LEED certified.

**Mullican Flooring** (Johnson City, Tennessee) is a leader in sustainable flooring. Its products are made from major North American wood varieties sourced in Appalachia.

**Martin’s Tree Service** (Waterloo, Ontario) converts tree stumps into lawn furniture, stools, coffee tables, benches, and even place mats.

Apply Now – Space Is Limited!
Participation Requirements

• The business must create jobs in one or more Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership (MTWP) member towns. (Adams, Ashfield, Charlemont, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Conway, Heath, Leyden, Monroe, New Ashford, North Adams, Rowe, Shelburne, Peru, Windsor, Williamstown)

• Existing businesses must be less than 1 year old and receive no more than $500,000 per year in annual income.

• Individuals or business owners must be able to participate fully in the MTEC program, including three half-day workshops online via Zoom, completing weekly homework online via Google Classroom, video chat meetings with mentors, and an online final pitch event. Participants should expect to spend at least 5 hours per week on Challenge-related work.

• Business ideas must be consistent with the goals and intent of the Mohawk Trail Woodland Partnership legislation.

Preference will be given to

• Business ideas that have the potential to attract revenues from elsewhere (i.e. tourism revenues or customers outside of the MTWP region).

• Business ideas that have the potential for swift scalability and rapid job creation.

• Individuals or business ideas that can identify potential funding sources to support rapid scaling of their business idea.

• Business plan ideas that incorporate resilience to climate change.

Apply Now – Space Is Limited!
Award Criteria

Individuals or businesses will be evaluated on:
- Product/market fit
- Ability of the individual or business to execute
- Time to market
- Potential to support economic development in the Mohawk Trail region
- Market opportunity outside the Mohawk Trail region

Award funding must be used to advance the concept presented at the final pitch event.

For more information, contact us at jschnauber@leverinc.org

About Lever

Founded in 2014, Lever is an economic development non-profit focused on innovation-driven job creation. Lever supports entrepreneurs with startup expertise, an investment fund, research, mentors, and access to talent. Lever has helped launch dozens of companies that have attracted more than $10M in equity investment and have created more than 200 jobs. Lever supports existing companies by helping their intrapreneurs “innovate from within” using proven entrepreneurial methods to generate top-line revenue growth and job creation.

About the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership

The purpose of the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership, established by State legislation, is to bring recognition and additional financial and technical resources to 21 municipalities in northwestern Massachusetts, via a locally led partnership with support from U.S. Forest Service and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to:
- Increase sustainable economic development related to forestry and natural resource-based tourism;
- Support forest conservation on private lands and use of sustainable forestry practices; and
- Improve fiscal stability and sustainability of the municipalities.

At present, the MTWP is a collaboration of sixteen towns that have opted in, joined by environmental, land conservation, economic development, planning and forestry organizations working in the region. Lever, Inc. is a member of the MTWP Board and received a grant from the State to support natural resource based economic development in the MTWP towns.

Apply Now – Space Is Limited!
MOHAWK TRAIL REGION ENTREPRENEURS:

WIN $25,000 TO LAUNCH YOUR BUSINESS

MOHAWK TRAIL ENTREPRENEUR CHALLENGE

We seek entrepreneurs who wish to build regional businesses that will create jobs in the Mohawk Trail region.

Examples of qualifying businesses include woodland-related tourism, woodcraft, and woodland-derived natural products. Any entrepreneur seeking to establish and grow a sustainable, woodland-related business should apply.

To participate, the entrepreneurs or their businesses must be located in a Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership (MTWP) member town.

One entrepreneur or team will win a $25,000 grant to advance their business.

Apply now—space is limited!
Visit Leverinc.org to apply
or contact Jade at jschnauberg@leverinc.org or 413-346-4840.
A virtual information session will be held at noon on October 14, 2020.

Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Member Towns

Adams·Ashfield·Charlemont·Cheshire·Clarksburg·Conway·Heath·Leyden·Monroe·NewAshford·NorthAdams·Rowe·Sheburne·Peru·Windsor·Williamstown

63 Main St. #218, North Adams, MA 01247
Body: MOHAWK TRAIL REGION ENTREPRENEURS: WIN $25,000 TO LAUNCH YOUR BUSINESS

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

for the Mohawk Trail Entrepreneur Challenge

We seek entrepreneurs who wish to launch businesses that will create jobs in the Mohawk Trail region. Any entrepreneur seeking to establish and grow a sustainable, woodland-related business should apply. Examples of qualifying businesses include woodland-related tourism, woodcraft, and woodland-derived natural products. To participate, the entrepreneurs or their businesses must be located in a Mohawk Trail Woodland Partnership (MTWP) member town.

For More Information:

Visit the MTEC website: https://leverinc.org/challenges/

Email jschnauber@lever.org

Or call Jade at 413-346-4840

Apply here: https://leverinc.org/mohawk-trail-entrepreneur-challenge-application/
December 2, 2020

Dear Fellow City Councilors,

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion working group indicates it would like to add one new member to its ranks.

In consultation with the group coordinator, Councilor Lamb, I am appointing Rachel Hailey. Ms. Hailey has lived in North Adams for about five years and specializes in the realm of diversity, equity and inclusion work as it pertains to outdoor recreation. She has expertise in and passion for this work, and a deep desire to be further involved in the City.

Thank you.

Paul Hopkins

President
Dear Fellow Councilors,

This year, this Council unanimously voted to create the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Working Group to assist this and future Councils through education as a means to strengthening our equitable approach to legislative efforts.

We have an opportunity to further those efforts and align with communities across Berkshire County by taking the Not in My County Pledge, a county-wide campaign coordinated by BRIDGE whose work is “a catalyst for justice, social change and building community.”

While BRIDGE recently presented the pledge as part of a City SPIRIT session, the Not In My County pledge was actually launched by BRIDGE back in 2017 to help “communities throughout the county to stop hate, address bullying, and build safe, inclusive communities for all”.

The campaign unites the county through:

1. A unified visible logo, pledge, and shared values
2. A commitment to not be silent when ignorance, hate, or intolerance arises
3. A collaborative approach across our county

“Within those principles, each town or city can choose what their Not in the Berkshires action and engagement will be and it will be supported and amplified by the County-wide steering committee.”

With this opportunity available, and in line with our forthcoming training, we hereby recommend that the North Adams City Council develop and adopt a strategy and pledge in partnership with BRIDGE aligned with the Not in the Berkshires pledge to address ignorance, hate, or intolerance when it appears in our City.

This will both connect our efforts with a collective strategy across the Berkshires, and will continue to unify our City’s efforts towards social justice and progress towards more equitable legislation practices.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Councilor Sweeney & Councilor Lamb