Resolution Regarding Emergency Meeting Procedures of the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority in response to the COVID-19 Outbreak

WHEREAS on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth declared a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19");

WHEREAS on March 12, 2020, the Governor issued an emergency order providing public bodies relief from the requirements of Section 20 of Chapter 30A, allowing alternative means of public access to the meetings of public bodies to provide distance between residents to reduce transmission of COVID-19;

WHEREAS on March 16, 2020, the Cambridge City Manager issued emergency restrictions on city public meetings containing specific directions for holding public meetings;

WHEREAS on March 24, 2020, the Governor issues an emergency order requiring organizations that do not conduct COVID-19 Essential Services to conduct operations remotely;

WHEREAS the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority is a public body that must conduct governmental business through meetings of the Board;

NOW THEREFORE, the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority adopts this resolution that during the state of emergency, the CRA Board shall conduct its regular meetings and executive sessions as required, through remote methods, further meaning:

The Board is not required to hold a physical quorum at any geographic location including its regular meeting location at the Cambridge Public Safety Building,

The CRA Staff shall facilitate remote access to the meeting for Board members through webbased applications,

The CRA shall provide the public with multiple methods of observing the meeting proceeding,

The CRA shall provide opportunities for the Board to hear public comments and questions regarding its meeting agenda through the web-based application, electronic written testimony, and telephone, and

The CRA Board and staff shall adapt these means and methods of conducting public meetings in order to best facilitate the deliberation of the Board while also providing public access to those deliberations.

This resolution is effective immediately upon its adoption by Board vote on April ___ , 2020 and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.