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**Gary Christenson, Mayor**

November 21, 2024

The Honorable City Council  
City of Malden  
215 Pleasant Street  
Malden, MA 02148

**RE: Appointment of Alexander Pratt, Director, OSPCD**

Dear Members of the City Council:

Pursuant to Title 2, Chapter 12, Section 085 of the Code of the City of Malden, I am pleased to submit for your confirmation Alexander Pratt, 26 Holden Street, Unit 3, Malden Massachusetts, to fill the position of Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) said term subject to confirmation by the City Council, and to commence upon the retirement of Deborah Burke. Alex's term will expire November 21, 2027.

Alex has worked under Director Burke for nearly six years, first at the MRA and now with the OSPCD as the Deputy Director of Housing and Community Development. Alex successfully managed the MRA's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, including managing park improvements and overseeing the public services and housing rehab programs. During the pandemic, he led the creation of emergency small business assistance and rental assistance programs. He has been essential in the creation of the City's new affordable housing projects like 213 Main Street and helped close significant financial gaps at the Bread of Life and Metro North Housing project.

Additionally, Alex has worked to secure new grants that have expanded OSPCD's capacity and impact, including multi-year Mass Save and Healthy Homes Production grants and he manages a myriad of programs and projects. Alex has helped lead the OSPCD to launch new programs, streamline application systems, and overcome many obstacles. Alex's planning experience and his experience working with both small businesses and non-profit developers will assist the City in advancing a commercial development strategy as part of the City's next Master Plan.

I strongly believe Alex's abilities and knowledge align with what is needed to successfully lead the OSPCD into the future. I respectfully request that you confirm this appointment. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**GARY CHRISTENSON**

Mayor

cc: Alex Pratt  
Deborah Burke, OSPCD Director  
Anthony Chiccuarelli, Human Resources Director

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