



MAYOR GINA-LOUISE SCIARRA

**City of Northampton
Office of the Mayor**

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March 14, 2023

Northampton City Council
210 Main Street, Room 3
Northampton, MA 01060

To the Honorable Members of the City Council,

Pursuant to my authority under Article 6, Section 6-1 of the City Charter, I am respectfully submitting the attached Administrative Order making the following change to the City's Administrative Code:

Reduce the number of Council on Aging members required by the administrative code from 15 to 9.

Currently, the Council on Aging is not holding meetings because they cannot achieve a quorum of members. The CoA is one of the few remaining multi-member bodies to dictate a specific number of required members in the administrative code. In my experience, maintaining memberships this large is a struggle for all boards and commissions that enumerate a required number of members.

I am supported in submitting this order by current Council on Aging members and the city's Senior Services Director. There are currently 7 appointed members of the CoA, and I am working to submit for an appointment some new members to achieve full membership as of this revision. With your support for this change, I am confident that it will be possible to maintain a membership of 9 members going forward, so there will be no difficulties achieving a quorum.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gina-Louise Sciarra".

Gina-Louise Sciarra
Mayor
cc: City Clerk