



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION TO NAME THE DISTRICT SEVEN ART CORRIDOR THE ARTery

- WHEREAS,** The area spanning from Mass Ave and Columbus Ave to Grove Hall contains a high prevalence of diverse local businesses, but suffers from an unfortunate confluence of vacant lots, diminishing pedestrian traffic, and a lack of public spaces; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The ARTery would counteract this unsatisfactory status quo by establishing cultural landmarks, commissioning artists, activists, and entrepreneurs to transform unused lots into community spaces, renovating deteriorating streets and sidewalks, and authorizing tour bus routes through culturally rich Black and Brown neighborhoods; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The ARTery represents the economic revitalization and artistic appreciation of historically disinvested and currently marginalized communities; *and*
- WHEREAS,** By highlighting existing public art and commissioning new artistic displays along the route, employing local artists and creatives to beautify businesses, and contracting entrepreneurs and culturalists to activate unused city owned lots, we can do much to enliven and enrich our communities; *and*
- WHEREAS,** That this endeavor would increase foot traffic, help fortify and strengthen long existing and up and coming commercial districts and small businesses, as well as create the conditions for alternative modes of transportation for pedestrians, bikers and bus riders; *and*
- WHEREAS,** This process of beautification that the ARTery embodies includes street and sidewalk renovations, the inclusion and incorporation of potted plants, new trees, light poles, and recycling bins; *and*
- WHEREAS,** That said revitalization and renovation would bring the impacted commercial districts and the surrounding communities they service and support up to par with other recently revitalized locations throughout the city; *and*

- WHEREAS,** That area residents would significantly benefit from the reduction in stress and the greater sense of ownership, belonging, and community pride that would develop as a result; *and*
- WHEREAS,** That all residents deserve to be heard, seen, and valued by the city of Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS,** That public art is capable of radically transforming city owned infrastructure, including streets and vacant lots, into eye catching and meaningful representations of the artistic, cultural and liberatory realms of the community and its members; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Unsightly and unseemly empty lots are currently lying vacant along the corridor; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Contracting local entrepreneurs and artists to activate the area into a variety of converted uses would mutually empower communities and strengthen and create partnerships with local businesspeople; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Revitalization along the corridor includes allotting the proper space for pop up shops, and for local artists and entrepreneurs to produce and sell their excellent, enervating, and eclectic work; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Bodegas serve as informal yet integral community spaces where diverse people casually convene and converse on a daily basis; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Refacing and beautifying locally owned bodegas and corner stores would incorporate businesses within the purview of the ARTery and reflect the variety of cultures represented by the owners of the establishments under consideration; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Existing murals within close proximity of the corridor emanate values pertaining to culture, perseverance, community and joy; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The economic, social and cultural advantages that would accrue to various stakeholders in the city make the ARTery an exciting prospect that brings a plethora of positive possibilities to the impacted communities: **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council, in the properly assembled meeting, supports the naming of the District Seven Art Corridor whereby the area from Massachusetts Avenue and Columbus Ave. (Jazz Square) to Northampton Street to Shawmut Ave. to Melnea Cass Blvd. to Washington Street to Dudley Street to Blue Hill Ave. to Seaver Street to end at 300 Walnut Ave. Roxbury, MA 02119 at the Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists, the ARTery.