

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL AND COUNCILOR JOHN FITZGERALD



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS LONG-TERM CITY JOB VACANCIES

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston's Fiscal Year 2026 operating budget is \$4.85 billion, covering more than 19,000 employees; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston reported about 16% of its more than 10,400 jobs to be vacant as of RFIs submitted in April of 2025, including nearly 450 at the Boston Police Department, more than 150 at the Fire Department, and more than 100 at the Boston Public Health Commission; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Those numbers do not include the more than 500 vacancies out of more than 10,000 jobs at the Boston Public Schools as of April of 2025; *and*

**WHEREAS,** These vacancies include roles that need to be filled for the city's government to reach its full potential; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Work for unfilled jobs can either be outsourced to contractors without a residency requirement, reallocated elsewhere in the department's budget, or partially reassigned to the city's general fund;

**WHEREAS,** Cities such as Los Angeles give specific numbers on long-term job vacancies in their budgets; *and*

**WHEREAS,** A better understanding of job vacancies and unused money would give a more accurate picture of the city's budget for the upcoming fiscal year, allow the city to strategize how to fill vacant positions, and empower city employees and unions to advocate for higher compensation; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston is actively creating the Fiscal Year 2027 budget, which will include projections for full-time employees; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the Labor and Economic Development Committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing on the current status of unfilled jobs in city departments and that representatives of the City's Position Review Committee, Boston Public Schools, Boston Police Department, Boston Public Health Commission, Public Works, Boston Center for Youth and Families and other interested parties be invited to attend.

Filed on: Jan. 26, 2026