

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA, BENJAMIN J. WEBER, ENRIQUE PEPEN, BREADON, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MEJIA, MURPHY, SANTANA, WORRELL AND LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 6, 2025 AS WORLD ASTHMA DAY IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

WHEREAS, Asthma is defined as a chronic lung disease that inflames and narrows airways resulting in recurring periods of wheezing, chest tightness, shortness of breath, and chronic coughings; *and*

WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), over 21 million adults and over 4.2 million children in the United States have asthma. In Massachusetts, about one out of every eleven people currently has asthma, which accounts for approximately 10.2% of adults and 12.9% children; *and*

WHEREAS, In 2021 13.1 percent of Boston adult residents reported having asthma, according to the City's Health of Boston 2023 Asthma Report. These percentages increase exponentially in neighborhoods with higher populations of Black and brown residents, including Mattapan, Roxbury, Dorchester, and East Boston; *and*

WHEREAS, A Logan Airport Health Study conducted by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Bureau of Environmental Health in 2014 found that children in neighborhoods near Logan Airport, like East Boston, are four times more likely to exhibit signs of asthma compared with children in other areas and adults are twice as likely to show signs of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The study suggests a significant link between pollutants and respiratory problems like asthma and wheezing; *and*

WHEREAS, In an effort to raise awareness and improve asthma care throughout the world, advocates annually celebrate the first Tuesday of May as "World Asthma Day." This occasion encourages individuals to focus on daily asthma management and to identify allergens and irritants that can lead to and worsen asthma attacks; *and*

WHEREAS, A recent report from the American Lung Association found that 46 percent of Americans live in places with unhealthy levels of ozone or particle pollution. The same report found that the Boston–Worcester–Providence metro area was ranked the 61st worst for high ozone days out of 228 metropolitan areas and 110th worst for annual particle pollution out of 208 metropolitan areas; *and*

WHEREAS, The Trump administration recently announced cuts to federal grants administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which will negatively impact efforts in Massachusetts to address high asthma rates; *and*

WHEREAS, By recognizing “World Asthma Day” in Boston, we are supporting those who suffer from asthma and amplifying the need for resources to study and tackle this chronic disease; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: The Boston City Council recognizes May 6, 2025 as World Asthma Day in the City of Boston and commits itself to working towards clean air justice for all communities in Boston.

Filed on: May 5, 2025