



ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR MATTERS PRESENTED TO THE CITY CLERK PRIOR TO 10:00 A.M. ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE CITY COUNCIL AT A REGULAR MEETING IN THE CHRISTOPHER IANNELLA CHAMBER ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026 AT 12:00 P.M.

---

## **ROLL CALL**

## **APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM HER HONOR, THE MAYOR:**

- [0377](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Hundred Eighty-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$189,000.00) in the form of a grant, The Solar Recommissioning Project Grant, awarded by MA Department of Energy Resources to be administered by the Environment. The grant would fund the replacement of existing inverters with newer models, the incorporation of rapid shutdown modules to meet safety regulations, the replacement of the monitoring system, and proper redressing of wiring.
- [0378](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$20,930.00) in the form of a grant, the El Centro Fellowship Grant, awarded by Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Boston to be administered by the Department of Innovation & Technology. The grant would fund the fellowship program for El Centro IT training program graduates.
- [0379](#) Message transmitting certain information under Section 17F: regarding cost of out-of-district vocational placements for Boston resident students, Docket #0297, passed by the City Council on February 4, 2026.

[0380](#) Message transmitting certain information under Section 17F: regarding traveling Boston Public School employees and parking access needs, Docket #0298, passed by the City Council on February 4, 2026.

## **PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES**

### **REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND OTHERS:**

[0381](#) Notice was received from the Mayor of her absence from the City from Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 7:00 A.M., returning Sunday, February 15, 2026 at 12:00 P.M.

[0382](#) Notice was received from the Mayor of her absence from the City from Monday, February 16, 2026 at 9:00 A.M., returning Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 6:30 P.M.

[0383](#) Notice was received from the City Clerk in accordance with Chapter 6 of the Ordinances of 1979 re: action taken by the Mayor on papers acted upon by the City Council at its meeting of February 11, 2026.

[0384](#) Communication was received from the City Clerk of the filing by the Boston Planning and Development Agency regarding “Proposed Minor Modification to the Washington Park Urban Renewal Plan, Project No. Mass. R-24, with respect to Parcel L-19.”

[0385](#) Communication from Councilor Flynn regarding temporary rollback of Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) percentage for five years.

[0386](#) Communication was received from the Office of Black Male Advancement of the report entitled "Black Male Advancement Impact Report 2025".

### **MATTERS RECENTLY HEARD-FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:**

[0200](#) Order for a hearing on BPS staffing program impacts.

[0166](#) Order for a hearing regarding Boston Public Schools student-athlete transfer and eligibility policies.

### **MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

[0387](#) Councilor Coletta Zapata and Louijeune offered the following: An Ordinance Establishing the Boston Emergency Relief Fund.

- 0388** Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: An Ordinance Modernizing and Increasing Transparency at the Zoning Board of Appeal.
- 0389** Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Petition for a Special Law Re: An Act Relative to the Zoning Board of Appeal.
- 0390** Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Petition for a Special Law Re: An Act Directing the City of Boston Fire Department to Waive the Maximum Age Requirement for Firefighters for Richard Scimeca.
- 0391** Councilor Santana offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding Boston LGBTQIA+ youth community spaces and their public health benefits.
- 0392** Councilor Santana offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding Boston's LGBTQIA+ mental health data collection processes, existing services, and further community needs.
- 0393** Councilor Santana offered the following: Order for a hearing to ensure access to lifesaving online resources for LGBTQIA+ and other marginalized communities in response to proposed federal and state digital censorship legislation.
- 0394** Councilor Santana offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding legalizing construction of triple-deckers and other 2- to 4-unit housing in the City of Boston.
- 0395** Councilor Santana offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding legalizing accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in every neighborhood in the city of Boston.
- 0396** Councilor Santana offered the following: Order for a hearing to facilitate the creation of Single Room Occupancy (SROs) in the City of Boston.
- 0397** Councilor Santana offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss how Boston Public Schools can expand the use of evidence-based best practices for inclusive learning environments for multilingual and special education learners.
- 0398** Councilor Santana offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding the public safety requirements and possible locations for a new emergency operations center in the city of Boston.

- 0399** Councilor Santana offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding how the Boston Police Department collects, uses, protects, and shares information that may be requested by external entities.
- 0400** Councilor Santana offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding all City of Boston grants administered by the Boston Fire Department.
- 0401** Councilor Pepén offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss parking benefit districts.
- 0402** Councilor Culpepper offered the following: Order for a hearing to examine reallocating funding for the Blue Hill Avenue project toward streetscape improvements and beautification and to provide a status update on project implementation.
- 0403** Councilor Culpepper and Flynn offered the following: Order for a hearing to examine the status of the proposed Long Island reconstruction project and the reopening of the Long Island Treatment Center.
- 0404** Councilor Culpepper and Weber offered the following: Order for a hearing to examine weather emergency policies for unhoused individuals in the City of Boston and coordination with housing and homelessness assistance providers and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority.
- 0405** Councilor Culpepper and Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to examine crossing guard staffing shortages in the City of Boston and to explore strategies for improved coordination and volunteer recruitment.
- 0406** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing on transparency and accountability of private fundraising in Boston Public Schools.
- 0407** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to review prevention and response to bullying, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual misconduct in Boston Public Schools.
- 0408** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to identify community priorities, needs, and hopes in Boston Public Schools.
- 0409** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing on civil rights, constitutional, and legal implications of the Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC), The Associative Violence Information System (AVIS), Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR), and participation in Federal Joint Task Forces (JTTF).

- 0410** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to examine and modernize the Boston City Charter in advance of the City's 400th anniversary.
- 0411** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to explore how to amend special law to expand access to the ballot box by removing language barriers and aligning with the language and communications access ordinance.
- 0412** Councilor Louijeune offered the following: Order for a hearing to bring World Cup activations and economic activity to Boston neighborhoods.
- 0413** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss water and sewer infrastructure in Chinatown and the Leather District.
- 0414** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order for a hearing on the establishment of a Committee on Civility in the City of Boston.
- 0415** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss appropriate uses of Boston 311 and 9-1-1 emergency.
- 0416** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss the Boston 2025 crime statistics.
- 0417** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss Boston Public Schools (BPS) health services leadership requirements.
- 0418** Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Resolution recognizing Women's History Month and reaffirming Boston's commitment to women's rights.
- 0419** Councilor Culpepper offered the following: Resolution declaring February 17 as Jesse Jackson Day in the City of Boston.
- 0420** Councilor Pepén and Santana offered the following: Resolution recognizing the 27th of February as Dominican Independence Day.
- 0421** Councilor Murphy offered the following: Resolution recognizing March 2nd as Read Across America Day.
- 0422** Councilor Murphy offered the following: Resolution recognizing March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in the City of Boston.

- 0423** Councilor Murphy offered the following: Resolution recognizing March as National Social Work Month.
- 0424** Councilor Murphy offered the following: Resolution recognizing Women's History Month and the Boston City Council Women's History Month Celebration.
- 0425** Councilor Pepén offered the following: Resolution urging continued funding of the MBTA's Fare-Free Bus Program.
- 0426** Councilor Louijeune offered the following: Resolution in recognition of the Independence of Ghana on March 6, 1957.
- 0427** Councilor Weber offered the following: Resolution in support of H.D. 5608, "An Act Promoting Rule of Law, Oversight, Trust, and Equal Constitutional Treatment," (The PROTECT Act).
- 0428** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Resolution in support of an initiative to create a U.S. commemorative stamp series in honor of African American veterans.
- 0429** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Resolution in support of receiving a response to docket #0221: Order requesting certain information under section 17F: regarding elevator access, life safety, and disability compliance.
- 0430** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Resolution in support of establishing a Blue Ribbon Commission to study and address Downtown office vacancies and city revenue.
- 0431** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Resolution in support of the seven nights per week "Residential Parking Only" in South Boston.
- 0432** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Resolution in support of a temporary rollback for the Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) and affordable housing requirement to 13%.
- 0433** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order requesting certain information under section 17F regarding increased White Stadium costs and their effect on other Boston Public Schools capital projects.

**0434** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order requesting certain information under section 17F regarding Memoranda of Understanding, cooperation agreements or collaborative partnerships between the City of Boston and external entities.

**0435** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order requesting certain information under section 17F regarding detainer requests from January 1, 2024 to the present.

**PERSONNEL ORDERS:**

**0436** Councilor Breadon offers the following: Order for the appointment of temporary employee Veniece Miller in City Council, effective February 28, 2026.

**0437** Councilor Breadon for Councilor Mejia offers the following: Order for the appointment of temporary employee John D. Moore in City Council, effective February 21, 2026.

**0438** Councilor Breadon for Councilor Mejia offers the following: Order for the appointment of temporary employees Millie Rivera and Skarlett Abreu Martinez in City Council, effective February 21, 2026.

**0439** Councilor Breadon for Councilor Mejia offers the following: Order for the appointment of temporary employees Millie Rivera and Skarlett Abreu Martinez in City Council, effective February 28, 2026.

**GREEN SHEETS:**

**25/26** Legislative Calendar for February 25, 2026.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**0440** Councilor Louijeune offered the following: Resolution recognizing Boston Hip-Hop Legends.

**0441** Councilor Louijeune offered the following: Resolution recognizing Norman Brown.

- 0442** Councilor Durkan and Coletta Zapata offered the following: Resolution recognizing February 12, 2026 as "North End Curling Club Day" in the City of Boston.
- 0443** Councilor Durkan offered the following: Resolution celebrating the grand opening of Swingers Back Bay.
- 0444** Councilor Breadon offered the following: Resolution congratulating the Boston Lunar New Year Festival Gala.
- 0445** Councilor Breadon offered the following: Resolution recognizing Joseph Charles.
- 0446** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Resolution recognizing eight (8) individuals upon receipt of their awards in celebration of Afro-Caribbean Black History.
- 0447** Councilor Santana offered the following: Resolution recognizing the Luis D. Brown Peace Institution.
- 0448** Councilor Santana offered the following: Resolution recognizing the Allston Brighton Health Collaborative.
- 0449** Councilor Santana offered the following: Resolution recognizing Ethan Torres.
- 0450** Councilor Santana offered the following: Resolution recognizing Belencita Rosa.
- 0451** Councilor Weber offered the following: Resolution recognizing staff of the Benjamin Healthcare Center and 11 individuals.
- 0452** Councilor Weber offered the following: Resolution in memory of Scott MacIsaac.
- 0453** Councilor Murphy offered the following: Resolution recognizing The Ice Creamsmith.



**City Of Boston • Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor  
Michelle Wu**

02-11-2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS (**\$189,000.00**) in the form of a grant, The Solar Recommissioning Project grant, awarded by MA Department of Energy Resources to be administered by the Environment.

The grant would fund the replacement of existing inverters with newer models, the incorporation of rapid shutdown modules to meet safety regulations, the replacement of the monitoring system, and proper redressing of wiring.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order so that the City of Boston may accept the funds expeditiously and expend them upon award for the purposes for which they are granted.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu  
Mayor of Boston



## City Council Order

**AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND** The Solar Recommissioning Project grant FUNDS, AWARDED BY MA Department of Energy Resources.

**WHEREAS**, the MA Department of Energy Resources, is being petitioned for the issuance of funds to the Environment; and

**WHEREAS**, the funds in the amount of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS (**\$189,000.00**) would fund the replacement of existing inverters with newer models, the incorporation of rapid shutdown modules to meet safety regulations, the replacement of the monitoring system, and proper redressing of wiring. Therefore be it

**ORDERED:** that the Mayor, acting on behalf of the City of Boston be, and hereby is authorized, pursuant to section 53A of chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend the MA Department of Energy Resources, The Solar Recommissioning Project grant award not to exceed the amount of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS (**\$189,000.00**).

**Docket #** \_\_\_\_\_

**In City Council  
Passed** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**City Clerk**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor**

**Approved** \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that  
the foregoing, if passed in  
the above form, will be in  
accordance with law.

by Adam Cederbaum

Adam Cederbaum  
Corporation Counsel



**City Of Boston • Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor  
Michelle Wu**

02-19-2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of TWENTY THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS **(\$20,930.00)** in the form of a grant, the El Centro Fellowship grant, awarded by Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Boston to be administered by the Dpt of Innovation & Technology.

The grant would fund the fellowship program for El Centro IT training program graduates.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order so that the City of Boston may accept the funds expeditiously and expend them upon award for the purposes for which they are granted.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu  
Mayor of Boston



## City Council Order

**AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND** the El Centro Fellowship grant FUNDS, AWARDED BY Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Boston.

**WHEREAS**, the Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Boston, is being petitioned for the issuance of funds to the Dpt of Innovation & Technology; and

**WHEREAS**, the funds in the amount of TWENTY THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS **(\$20,930.00)** would fund the fellowship program for El Centro IT training program graduates. Therefore be it

**ORDERED:** that the Mayor, acting on behalf of the City of Boston be, and hereby is authorized, pursuant to section 53A of chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend the Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Boston, the El Centro Fellowship grant award not to exceed the amount of TWENTY THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS **(\$20,930.00)**.

**Docket #** \_\_\_\_\_

**In City Council Passed** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**City Clerk**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor**

**Approved** \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the foregoing, if passed in the above form, will be in accordance with law.

by Adam Cederbaum

Adam Cederbaum  
Corporation Counsel



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor  
**MICHELLE WU**

February 17, 2026

**TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

Dear Councilors:

This is the response to the 17F: Order requesting information under section 17F regarding cost of out-of-district vocational placements for Boston resident students. (**Docket #0297 filed on 2/6/2026**).

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu  
Mayor of Boston



[0297](#) - Councilor Murphy offered the following: Order requesting information under section **17F** regarding cost of out-of-district vocational placements for Boston resident students

## Response to City Council Order Under Section 17F

### Order Requesting Information Regarding Costs of Out-of-District Vocational Placements for Boston Resident Students

**Filed in Council:** February 4, 2026

**Responding Agency:** Boston Public Schools

---

Pursuant to the Order issued under Section 17F, Boston Public Schools (BPS) provides the following information regarding Boston resident students placed in vocational or technical high schools outside the Boston Public Schools system for whom BPS incurred tuition costs. Data reflects the past five completed school years and the current school year to date, as available.

---

#### 1. Total Number of Students Placed Out of District (by School Year)

School Year	Students
SY 2020–2021	32
SY 2021–2022	38
SY 2022–2023	43
SY 2023–2024	49
SY 2024–2025	50
SY 2025–2026 (to date)	50

---

#### 2. Receiving Vocational or Technical High Schools

All placements during the referenced period were to:

- **Norfolk County Agricultural School**, Walpole, Massachusetts

Student counts by school year are reflected above.

### 3. Tuition and Fee Costs Paid by Boston Public Schools

School Year	Tuition Cost
SY 2020–2021	\$812,710.72
SY 2021–2022	\$980,119.28
SY 2022–2023	\$1,146,434.00
SY 2023–2024	\$1,352,673.67
SY 2024–2025	\$1,447,042.67
SY 2025–2026 (to date)	Not finalized

### 4. Total Tuition Costs (by School Year)

Tuition costs are reflected in Section 3 above.

### 5. Average Per-Student Tuition Cost

School Year	Average Tuition per Student
SY 2020–2021	\$25,397
SY 2021–2022	\$25,793
SY 2022–2023	\$26,661
SY 2023–2024	\$27,606
SY 2024–2025	\$28,941

## **6. Transportation Costs**

Most students attending the Norfolk County Agricultural School received M7 MBTA passes consistent with BPS policy. M7 MBTA passes cost an average of \$300 per year per student.

## **7. Funding Sources**

Tuition costs for these placements are funded through Boston Public Schools operating funds as required by Massachusetts Vocational Technical Education Program Nonresident Student Tuition Process.

---

## **8. Reason for Placement Outside Boston Public Schools**

The Chapter 74 Nonresident Student Tuition Program allows students to attend a school outside of their home school district in order to study at a state-approved CTE program that is not offered by their home district.



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor  
**MICHELLE WU**

February 17, 2026

**TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

Dear Councilors:

This is the response to the 17F: Order requesting certain information under section 17F regarding traveling Boston Public School employees and parking access needs. (**Docket #0298 filed on 2/6/2026**).

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu  
Mayor of Boston

[0298](#) - Councilor Murphy offered the following: Order requesting certain information under section 17F regarding traveling Boston Public School employees and parking access needs

## Response to City Council Order Under Section 17F

**Order Requesting Information Regarding traveling Boston Public School employees and parking access needs**

**Filed in Council:** February 4, 2026

**Responding Agency:** Boston Public Schools

ORDERED: That Boston Public Schools provide data regarding employees whose assigned job responsibilities require travel between two or more Boston Public Schools sites during the workday, for the current school year and the two prior school years, including but not limited to the following:

**1. The total number of Boston Public Schools employees whose regular job responsibilities require travel between two or more school sites during the school day, disaggregated by job title or role.**

Boston Public Schools does not maintain a single, static count of employees whose regular job responsibilities require travel between two or more school sites during the school day. The number of such employees fluctuates over time and is dependent on school-level needs, student service requirements, staffing assignments, and operational considerations at any given point in the school year.

Positions that may require travel between multiple school sites can vary by role and may include, but are not limited to, instructional specialists, related service providers, support staff, and certain central or network-based personnel. Whether travel is required for a specific employee may change based on student enrollment, individualized service plans, vacancies, leaves, programmatic adjustments, or temporary reassignments.

Because these assignments are dynamic and subject to change, Boston Public Schools does not categorize or track all employees in a centralized manner based solely on inter-site travel requirements, nor does it maintain a consistently updated, disaggregated count by job title or role.

**2. The criteria currently used by Boston Public Schools to define or classify an employee as a traveling employee for purposes of parking eligibility or other transportation supports.**

Employees who use their own vehicle on authorized school business are entitled to [Mileage Reimbursement](#) and/or [the ParkBoston Program](#).

**3. The total number of parking passes issued by Boston Public Schools to traveling employees, disaggregated by school year and by employee role or assignment, for the current school year and the two prior school years.**

The Boston Public Schools does not issue parking passes. Eligible members of the Boston Teachers Union may use the ParkBoston app to park in on-street 2-hour metered parking spaces for up to 3 hours in one session at no cost.

**4. The number of traveling employees who applied for but did not receive a parking pass in each of the referenced school years.**

N/A

**5. Any data available regarding parking citations or fines incurred by traveling employees while performing required job duties, including whether any reimbursements were provided.**

N/A

**6. A description of any alternatives to parking passes currently offered to traveling employees, including mileage reimbursement, transit benefits, or other supports.**

- The Transportation Benefit Plan allows employees to set aside an amount pre-tax from their paycheck to pay for certain parking and transportation expenses subject to the following limits:
  - Parking Reimbursement Account: Allows you to pay for your daily or monthly parking expenses up to \$230.00 per month.
  - Mass Transit Reimbursement Account: Allows you to pay for your mass transit expenses related to your commute to work up to \$230 per month.
- For employees who use their personal vehicles for work, the district offers [mileage reimbursement](#) and free [3-hour parking through the Park Boston App](#).
- Bluebike Annual Pass; Full-time benefits-eligible employees are eligible for a \$0 annual Bluebikes pass.

**7. Any written policies, internal guidance, or communications provided to staff, principals, or supervisors regarding parking eligibility, renewal, or prioritization for traveling employees.**

- [Mileage reimbursement circular](#)
- [Multi-Site BPS Employee ParkBoston Program](#)



City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor  
**MICHELLE WU**

February 12, 2026

The Honorable Alex Geourntas  
Office of the City Clerk  
1 City Hall Square, Room 601  
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Clerk Geourntas,

Please note that I will be out of town on Thursday February 12, 2026 from 7:00 a.m. returning Sunday February 15, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu  
Mayor of Boston





City of Boston, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor  
**MICHELLE WU**

February 16, 2026

The Honorable Alex Geourntas  
Office of the City Clerk  
1 City Hall Square, Room 601  
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Clerk Geourntas,

Please note that I will be out of town on Monday February 16, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. returning Thursday February 19, 2026 6:30 p.m.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu  
Mayor of Boston





Office of the City Clerk

ALEX GEOURNTAS  
City Clerk

February 19, 2026

To The City Council

Councilors:

In accordance with Chapter 6 of the Ordinances of 1979, I hereby notify you of the following actions taken by the Mayor with regard to the papers acted upon by the City Council at its meeting of February 11, 2026, viz.

**0130** Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Million Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,700,000.00) in the form of a grant, the FY26 Training Academy Earmark Grant, awarded by Massachusetts Department of Fire Services to be administered by the Fire Department. The grant would fund the Boston Fire Department Training Academy to provide training and instruction for public safety agencies in the City of Boston and municipal and political subdivisions across the Commonwealth, per line item 8324-0000 of the FY26 General Appropriations Act.

**Approved by the Mayor February 19, 2026**

**0136** Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) in the form of a grant, the FY26 Delta Unit Earmark Grant, awarded by MA Executive Office Of Public Safety & Security to be administered by the Fire Department. The grant would fund the Boston Fire Department to conduct dedicated emergency services through its Delta Units, consisting of 3 Delta Unit vehicles assigned to Castle Island, Pleasure Bay and Carson Beach respectively, within the Old Harbor Reservation in the South Boston section of the city of Boston, seasonally from Memorial Day to Labor Day, inclusive, per line item 8324-0050 of the FY26 General Appropriations Act.

**Approved by the Mayor February 19, 2026**

**0369** Message and order for your approval an Order appropriating from the Edward Ingersoll Browne Fund in the sum of Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$650,000.00) for projects described in the attached order. The Edward Ingersoll Browne Fund Commissioners voted to approve these projects.

**Approved by the Mayor February 19, 2026**

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Geourntas", written in a cursive style.

Alex Geourntas  
City Clerk



February 19, 2026

Alex Geourntas  
Boston City Clerk  
1 City Hall Square  
Boston, MA 02201

Proposed Minor Modification to the Washington Park Urban Renewal Plan, Project No. Mass. R-24, with respect to Parcel L-19

Dear Clerk Geourntas,

In accordance with the policies adopted by the Boston Redevelopment Authority d/b/a the Boston Planning & Development Agency ("BPDA") Board on December 12, 2004 and April 14, 2016, with respect to proposed urban renewal actions of the BPDA, I am hereby notifying the Boston City Clerk that the BPDA proposes to adopt a minor modification to the Washington Park Urban Renewal Plan, with respect to the modification of uses at Parcel L-19, located at 13 Homestead Street in Boston's Roxbury neighborhood. This minor modification will enable residential uses on Parcel L-19.

The purpose of the proposed BRA action is to enable the current owners of the parcel to construct a two-family dwelling. The BRA proposes to take action on the minor modification on March 19, 2026.

I enclose a copy of the proposed minor modification resolution. If you have any questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Max Houghton, Policy Specialist, at [max.houghton@boston.gov](mailto:max.houghton@boston.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,

Teresa Polhemus  
Acting Director

---

**BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION  
(D/B/A BOSTON PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AGENCY)**

One City Hall Square | Boston, MA 02201 | [BostonPlans.org](http://BostonPlans.org) | T 617.722.4300 | F 617.248.1937  
Michelle Wu, Mayor | Kairos Shen, Director | Priscilla Rojas, Chair

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
RE: MINOR MODIFICATION TO THE WASHINGTON PARK URBAN RENEWAL  
PLAN, PROJECT NO. MASS. R-24, WITH RESPECT TO PARCEL L-19**

---

**WHEREAS**, the Urban Renewal Plan for the Washington Park Urban Renewal Area, Project No. Mass. R-24, was adopted by the Boston Redevelopment Authority (the "Authority") on January 16, 1963, and approved by the City Council of the City of Boston on February 18, 1963; (said plan, as previously modified, being herein referred to as the "Plan"); and

**WHEREAS**, Section 1201 of Chapter XII of said Washington Park Urban Renewal Plan entitled: "Modifications" provides that the Urban Renewal Plan may be modified at any time by the Authority without further approval provided that the proposed modifications do not substantially or materially alter or change the Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the opinion of the Authority that the minor modification with respect to Parcel L-19 is consistent with the objectives of the Washington Park Urban Renewal Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority is cognizant of the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30, Sections 61 through 62H, as amended, and its implementing regulations (collectively "MEPA") with respect to minimizing and preventing damage to the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendment to the Plan is necessary to effectuate the redevelopment of Parcel L-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendment to the Plan is a minor change and may be adopted within the discretion of the Authority pursuant to Section 1201 of Chapter XII of said Plan;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

1. That, pursuant to Section 1201 of Chapter XII of the Washington Park Urban Renewal Plan, Project No. Mass. R-24 (the "Plan"), the Plan be, and hereby is, modified as follows:

a) That Map 2 of the Plan, entitled "Proposed Land Use," is hereby modified by including the Proposed Land Use of Parcel L-19 to allow for Residential Uses; and

b) That Chapter VI, "Land Use, Building Requirements and Other Controls," Section 602, Table A is hereby modified by inserting the following:

Site Designation	Permitted Uses	Minimum Setback (in ft)	Min. Height (in ft)	Max. Height (in ft)	Max. Net Density	Min. Parking Ratio	Planning and Design Requirements
L-19	Residential	AA	AA	AA	AA	AA	AA

2. That the proposed modification is found to be a minor modification which does not substantially or materially alter or change the Plan.

3. That it is hereby found and determined pursuant to MEPA that the foregoing modification of the Plan, and any proposed development undertaken pursuant thereto, will not result in significant damage to or impairment of the environment and further, that all practicable and feasible means and measures have been taken and are being utilized to avoid and minimize damage to the environment.

4. That all other provisions of the Plan not inconsistent herewith be, and hereby are, continued in full force and effect.

5. That the Director be, and hereby is, authorized to proclaim by certificate this minor modification of the Plan, all in accordance with the provisions of the Urban Renewal Handbook, RHM7207.1, Circular dated August, 1974, if applicable.



## Boston City Council

**ED FLYNN**

Councilor - District 2

Michelle Wu, Mayor of Boston  
One City Hall Square, Suite 500  
Boston, MA 02201

Kairos Shen, Chief of Planning  
One City Hall Square #9  
Boston, MA 02201

February 23, 2026

Dear Mayor Wu and Chief Shen,

In light of our housing crisis, the urgent need to increase supply, and address affordability in our city, please note that I am writing to respectfully recommend again that the City of Boston temporarily rollback the Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) and income-restricted unit percentage for new developments back down where it was previously at 13% for the next 5 years, depending on economic conditions. As you know, IDP aims to create more affordable housing through the inclusion of income-restricted housing within new market rate housing developments, or contributions to be made to the City's IDP fund - which is used for the creation of affordable and income-restricted housing across Boston.

For the last 8 years, I have been a strong supporter of affordable housing in District 2 and throughout the City of Boston. I previously supported increasing our affordable housing requirements. I still believe that is the right thing to do, philosophically. However, following several years of post-pandemic inflation, a high interest rate environment, rising construction costs, and tariffs, I believe it is long past time for elected officials and leaders in our city and state to acknowledge the reality that while we do not control many of these big picture economic conditions - we should do what we can within our power to make any adjustments that will help to spur development of housing and affordable units in our city. While these aforementioned factors are central to this issue, a 20% affordable housing rate is certainly not helping to produce enough new units to meet demand in Boston while facing such strong economic headwinds.

During this time of great economic uncertainty, we must use all tools available to build housing in Boston. With reports continuing to show that production has dropped significantly - from 9,800 in 2020, to 2,389 in 2024, and just 852 in the first half of 2025 - all options should now be on the table to increase supply and meet demand. Recent reports also show Boston lagged 16 peer cities in production in 2024.

With progressive cities in the country at lower requirements, we must also prioritize Boston's future with a temporary rollback of IDP to potentially be reviewed for sunset in 5 years, depending on economic conditions. A higher percentage of affordable units has been noble, and with the best of intentions to address our affordable housing crisis for working families. But, in these conditions - if we're producing less housing, we're also getting less affordable units for working people who qualify. Some housing is better than no housing. It's my hope that we have the courage to put politics aside, ignore the noise of social media, and make this adjustment with the best interest of Boston's economic vitality in mind.

Sincerely,

Ed Flynn  
Boston City Councilor, District 2



Black Male  
Advancement

# IMPACT REPORT

20  
25



CITY of BOSTON

The Office of Black Male  
Advancement  
*strives to improve outcomes  
and reduce systemic barriers  
to advancement for Black men  
and boys living in Boston.*



City of Boston  
Black Male  
Advancement

## DEAR RESIDENTS, PARTNERS, AND CHAMPIONS OF EQUITY & INCLUSION

As we reflect on this past year, I am deeply proud of the progress we've made together to advance equity, opportunity, and wellbeing for Black men and boys and for all of Boston's communities. The work of the Office of Black Male Advancement continues to be guided by one clear vision: to improve outcomes and reduce systemic barriers to advancement for Black men and boys living in Boston.

Over the past year, our office has strengthened partnerships across City departments, community organizations, and neighborhoods. We've expanded our team, launched new initiatives, and deepened our engagement with residents to better understand their experiences and priorities. From policy and advocacy to program funding and direct collaboration, each effort has been rooted in the belief that when we invest in equity, we invest in the future of Boston.

This year's Impact Report highlights the stories, data, and partnerships that define our collective progress. It captures the dedication of those working every day to remove barriers, build community power, and create lasting change.

I want to thank Mayor Michelle Wu, the Black Male Advancement team, Black men and boys commission, our City colleagues, community partners, and the many residents whose support is critical in continuing to drive this work forward. Your commitment reminds us that progress is not achieved in isolation; it's built through shared purpose, accountability, and collaboration. We will continue to highlight the strength, resilience, and brilliance of our communities.

Together, we are laying the foundation for a more equitable Boston one that honors the strength, resilience, and brilliance of our communities, here is to Impact !

*Frank Farrow*  
**FRANK FARROW**

Executive Director,  
Office of Black Male Advancement



“

**TOGETHER, WE ARE LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR A MORE EQUITABLE BOSTON. ONE THAT HONORS THE STRENGTH, RESILIENCE, AND BRILLIANCE OF OUR COMMUNITIES, HERE IS TO IMPACT !”**

**FRANK FARROW**

Executive Director,  
Office of Black Male Advancement



Black Male  
Advancement

# IMPACT REPORT

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

**ABOUT.....6**

**IMPACT AT A GLANCE.....7**

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS.....8**

**BMBC FY27 BUDGET RECOMENDATIONS ....14**

**NEW EDITION.....17**  
**DAY**

**LOOKING.....19**  
**HEAD**

**THANK YOU.....20**



# ABOUT BMA

The Office of Black Male Advancement (BMA) works to empower Black men and boys across Boston by ensuring equitable access to opportunities that support their growth and success. Rooted in community and guided by equity, BMA focuses on advancing policies, programs, and partnerships that remove barriers and expand pathways to prosperity. Through strategic initiatives, resource development, and collaboration with local and national partners, our office is committed to creating conditions where Black men and boys can thrive and fully share in the City's progress.

BMA also directs and supports the Black Men and Boys Commission, which helps shape citywide priorities and recommendations that advance equity and inclusion. Our programs and initiatives include the Community Empowerment Grant, My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Boston, Project Opportunity, Reach 1000, and the Young Black Leaders Initiative each designed to strengthen communities, promote leadership, and foster economic and social advancement for Black men and boys in Boston.



# IMPACT *At a Glance*

Here's a snapshot of how the Office of Black Male Advancement strengthened equity, opportunity, and community across Boston for the 2025 Fiscal Year.

**\$500,000**

Disbursed in grant funding to community organizations

**5000+**

Boston residents directly impacted by BMA programs and partnerships

**3000+**

Youth and young adults connected to leadership, workforce pathways, and college access

**300+**

Fathers engaged in parenting and family initiatives



# PROGRAM *Highlights*





In 2014, former President Barack Obama established the My Brother's Keeper Task Force at the federal level. The Task Force was an interagency effort focused on closing and eliminating the opportunity gaps faced by boys and young men of color so that all young people have the chance to reach their full potential. The mission of My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Boston is to dismantle the societal, economic, and educational barriers to the advancement of boys and young men of color in Boston. MBK Boston, in partnership with the Obama Foundation, will focus on the MBK Alliance milestones to tackle these challenges through the concentration of policy, programs and resources. MBK Boston will partner with local community based organizations, Boston Public Schools, nonprofits, and colleges & universities that serve boys and young men of color (ages 8-24) in Boston.

**2000+**

Students engaged to HBCU Schools and Programs

**150+**

Students attended our MBK Boston Youth Summit

**10**

Boston Public Schools Engaged

**4**

College Tours (Instate and Out of State)







# PROJECT OPPORTUNITY

Project Opportunity works to establish accessible pathways to prosperity for Boston residents ages 25 to 55. Through the concentration of policy, programs and resources, Project Opportunity offers access to employment and career training, health and housing resources, free legal support for criminal offender record information (CORI) sealing or expungement, and a community partnership network.

## Project Opportunity's focus areas include:

- **Workforce Training and Development:** helping unemployed and underemployed individuals attain livable wage jobs and helping businesses with training for employees to support a pipeline of skilled workers.
- **Economic Inclusion and Wealth Building:** supporting individuals to experience financial empowerment and economic mobility.
- **Housing Mobility:** providing a continuum of housing opportunities, resources, and supports that result in pathways to affordable housing and homeownership.
- **Health and Wellness:** helping support and improve the overall health and wellbeing of men.
- **Fatherhood Engagement:** supporting fatherhood education, case management, and peer-to-peer support to strengthen positive father-child interaction, improve social and economic outcomes for fathers and their families and improve healthy relationships.

434

Residents connected to workforce development

147

Residents connected to City of Boston career opportunities

15

City of Boston Neighborhoods Impacted





# EQUITY STUDY PHASE 1

The Office of Black Male Advancement, in partnership with the Black Men and Boys Commission, launched a citywide equity study to better understand how Boston's policies, programs, and services impact Black men and boys. Phase 1 of the study was led by the Tury Research Institute, with community engagement conducted by Roxbury USA. This phase focused on collecting data and centering the lived experiences of Black men and boys through community conversations, deliberative engagement sessions, and neighborhood tours held across Boston's neighborhoods.

These efforts ensured residents had meaningful opportunities to share feedback, identify challenges, and help shape the direction of the work. Findings from Phase 1 will inform Phase 2, launching in 2026, which will advance actionable, data-driven strategies to improve outcomes for Black men and boys citywide.



**3000+**

Black males directly engaged in Phase One of Our Equity Study

**500+**

Survey Participants

**60+**

Black males engaged through focus groups

**20**

1 on 1 Interviews



# BLACK MEN AND BOYS COMMISSION

The Black Men and Boys Commission is a 21-member advisory body that advises the Mayor and the Office of Black male Advancement on issues impacting Black men and boys. Established through a 2021 ordinance, the Commission is appointed by the Mayor, and composed of community members with experience or knowledge of issues facing Black men and boys in Boston. Current members include Maddrey Goode, Devin Morris, Anthony Richards II, James Mackey, Tony Brewer, Piter Brandao, Andre Barbour, Jakhi Dean, Bishop William E. Dickerson II, Richard Claytor, Dr. Rufus J. Faulk, Rudy Luders, Jerel Ferguson, Dr. Richard Kelly Cameron, Shareef Smith, Malik Aziz, Laurence Justice, Ailson Carvalho, Hasan Muhammed, Noah Tewolde, and Dr. Antoine Salvador.





CK MEN A



# BMBC FY27 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on community listening sessions, monthly Commission meetings, previously shared policy recommendations, working sessions with various city agencies, and meetings with Mayor Michelle Wu, the Commission on Black Men and Boys recommends budget proposals to advance the mission of the Commission and Office of Black Male Advancement. As the City prepares for hard decisions in the FY27 budget given the current economic challenges, the Commission requests level funding for FY27 Budget priorities, goals and success indicators, and for City Departments to work with BMA to gain assistance on targeted outreach. The following slides represent the Commission's latest FY27 Budget recommendations.





# FY27 BUDGET PROPOSALS

Equity and Racial Justice Executive Committee, Maddrey Goode, Chair

Budget Proposal Brief Description	Department	Committee Priority Ranking	FY27 Budget Request
Racial Equity Toolkit to embed racial equity in policy, programs, budget, and hiring across all city departments and monitor metrics for accountability	Equity and Inclusion Cabinet - Racial Justice	1	Level Funding
Program Fund My Brothers Keeper (MBK) Boston program funds - BMA has oversight of MBK funds housed in Boston Public Schools. Request to return MBK funds, and FTE to BMA for oversight and administration.	Office of Black Male Advancement/Boston Public Schools	2	Level Funding
Added capacity for diversity efforts across all levels of city government	People Operations	3	Level Funding
Race & Ethnicity Data Standard for City of Boston	Equity and Inclusion Cabinet - Racial Justice	4	Level Funding



# FY27 BUDGET PROPOSALS

Affordable Housing & Pathways to Homeownership Committee, Anthony Richards II, Lead

Budget Proposal Brief Description	Department	Committee Priority Ranking	FY27 Budget Request
Program fund Expand down payment assistance and interest rate buydowns for first time homebuyers	Office of Housing	1	Level Funding
Anti-displacement action plan and toolkit	Planning Department	1	Level Funding
Program fund A homeownership voucher pilot to establish anti-displacement first generation homeownership opportunities for homebuyers affected by the benefits cliff.	Office of Housing	2	Level Funding
Program fund Expand pre-homebuyer preparation programs to help first-time homebuyers get lender ready (e.g. credit repair, lowering debt, savings, and budget management)	Office of Housing	3	Level Funding
Program fund Increase pre-development funding for emerging developers	Office of Housing	4	Level Funding



# FY27 BUDGET PROPOSALS

Economic Opportunity & Workers Empowerment Committee, Andre Barbour, Lead

Budget Proposal Brief Description	Department	Committee Priority Ranking	FY27 Budget Request
Program fund Additional capacity to recruit participants and identify high value career training program and employment opportunities	Office of Worker Empowerment	1	Level Funding
Program Fund Additional capacity for technical assistance for small businesses and entrepreneurs	Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion	1	Level Funding
Program fund Additional capacity for the Boston Jobs Bank (BRJP)	Office of Worker Empowerment	2	Level Funding
Program fund Additional capacity for a financial empowerment program (credit and asset building) and constituent outreach	Center for Working Families	2	Level Funding
Program fund Fund for school year jobs	Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity	3	Level Funding



# FY27 BUDGET PROPOSALS

Education and Youth Advancement Committee, Devin Morris, Lead

Budget Proposal Brief Description	Department	Committee Priority Ranking	FY27 Budget Request
Contract Support for enhancing student literacy and high quality curriculum	Boston Public Schools	1	Level Funding
Contract Enhancing social emotional supports	Boston Public Schools	2	Level Funding
Program fund Support for student and family empowerment and restorative justice task forces	Boston Public Schools	3	Level Funding
Program Fund A required financial literacy course for all BPS students to graduate high school. BPS and BMA to work in partnership for the initial pilot. Funds housed in the BPS budget.	Boston Public Schools	4	Level Funding
Contract Expanding program support for diverse teacher recruitment & retention	Boston Public Schools	5	Level Funding



# FY27 BUDGET PROPOSALS

Public Health and Wellness & Fatherhood and Families Committee, Richard Claytor, Lead

Budget Proposal Brief Description	Department	Committee Priority Ranking	FY27 Budget Request
Program fund Expand Behavioral & Mental Health Initiative to include programs for adults	Boston Public Health Commission	1	Level Funding
Program fund Additional capacity to support health equity education and outreach	Boston Public Health Commission	2	Level Funding
Program fund Additional capacity in the Father Friendly Initiative to support fathers	Boston Public Health Commission	3	Level Funding
Program fund Additional capacity to support substance abuse and recovery	Boston Public Health Commission	4	Level Funding



# FY27 BUDGET PROPOSALS

Public Health and Wellness & Fatherhood and Families Committee, Richard Claytor, Lead

Budget Proposal Brief Description	Department	Committee Priority Ranking	FY27 Budget Request
Program fund Additional support for transitional housing	Office of Returning Citizens	1	Level Funding
Program fund Added capacity for the Community Safety Team and the expansion of violence prevention and intervention outreach efforts	Boston Public Health Commission - Office of Violence Prevention	1	Level Funding
Program Fund Added capacity for trauma response - coordinated response and recovery program	Boston Public Health Commission - Office of Violence Prevention	2	Level Funding
Program Fund Added capacity for returning citizen transition/success coaching	Office of Returning Citizens	2	Level Funding



# COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT GRANT

The Community Empowerment Grant invests in community-based organizations that are creating meaningful change across Boston's neighborhoods. This year, a total of \$500,000 will be awarded to local nonprofit organizations to help them scale their work, deepen their impact, and strengthen community outcomes.

Rooted in the Office of Black Male Advancement's (BMA) mission to empower and improve outcomes for Black men and boys in Boston, the FY26 Community Empowerment Small Grants provide awards of up to \$20,000 to support programs that expand opportunity and equity within seven key focus areas:

- Mentoring and Out-of-School Time: Providing quality mentoring, literacy, and enrichment programs that nurture social, emotional, and physical well-being.
- Youth and Young Adult Pathways: Creating educational and career pathways that promote long-term economic prosperity.
- Housing Mobility: Expanding access to affordable housing, resources, and supports that lead to stability and homeownership.
- Economic Inclusion and Wealth Building: Advancing financial empowerment and pathways to economic mobility.
- Workforce Training and Development: Supporting skill-building and employment opportunities that connect residents to livable-wage jobs.
- Fatherhood Engagement: Promoting programs that strengthen father-child relationships, enhance family well-being, and foster peer support networks.
- Mental Health and Wellness: Enhancing mental health supports that improve the emotional and psychological well-being of men.

Through this grant, BMA continues its commitment to advocacy, equity, and action—empowering organizations that are helping Boston's residents, families, and communities thrive.

**\$500,000**

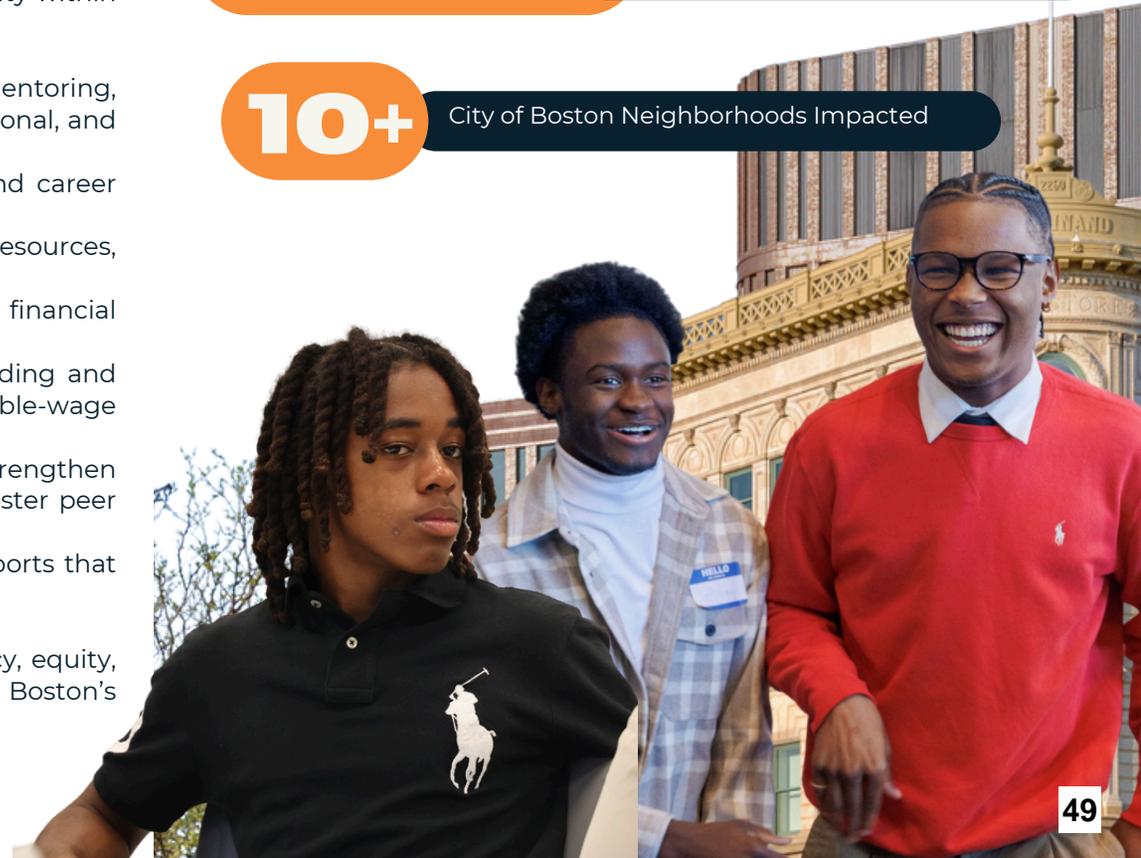
disbursed in grant funding to community organizations

**9000+**

Males directly supported by the community empowerment grant

**10+**

City of Boston Neighborhoods Impacted





# NEW EDITION DAY

New Edition Day honors the extraordinary legacy of New Edition—the iconic R&B group founded in Roxbury in 1978 whose sound, style, and success reshaped popular music and inspired generations worldwide. Declared annually on August 30 in the City of Boston, New Edition Day celebrates the group's deep roots in the community, their groundbreaking contributions to music and culture, and the enduring pride they bring to Boston.

Through commemorative events including a street naming ceremony and a community block party in Roxbury, New Edition Day creates space for residents and families to come together, celebrate Black excellence, and recognize the global impact born from Boston neighborhoods. “As someone from Roxbury, it's an honor to celebrate New Edition's accomplishments and legacy right where it all started,” said Frank Farrow, Executive Director, Office of Black Male Advancement. “New Edition is the greatest music group of all time. The legendary group's cultural influence is still felt today in the Boston community and throughout the entertainment industry worldwide.”



Black Male  
Advancement



CITY of BOSTON





# NEW EDITION WAY



*Black Male  
Advancement*



**CITY of BOSTON**

# LOOKING AHEAD

Looking Ahead, the Office of Black Male Advancement will focus on expanding MBK Boston and Project Opportunity, advancing Phase 2 of the Equity Study, and launching the 2026 Community Empowerment Grant. The Commission will also prioritize expanding the Capacity Building Institute, publicizing the Black Men and Boys Commission's budget and policy recommendations, advancing the Boston100 initiative, convening regular Commission meetings, and kicking off the BMA Partnership Network to strengthen collaboration and impact across the city.





*Black Male  
Advancement*

 [WWW.BOSTON.GOV/BMA](http://WWW.BOSTON.GOV/BMA)

  @OFFICEOFBMA





## **CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL**

### **Order for a hearing regarding impacts of the Boston Public Schools hiring and spending freeze on students, educators, and school communities**

**WHEREAS**, the Boston Public Schools have publicly identified a projected budget shortfall for Fiscal Year 2026, reported to be approximately \$50 million, which has prompted the implementation of an immediate hiring and spending freeze; and

**WHEREAS**, communications to school principals and leaders indicate that this freeze applies to hiring for vacant positions, discretionary purchases, stipends, contracts, travel, and other expenditures that directly support school operations and student programming; and

**WHEREAS**, educators, families, and school communities have expressed serious concern about how these measures may affect staffing stability, student support services, program continuity, enrichment opportunities, and the ability of schools to operate effectively during the current school year and in planning for the upcoming school year; and

**WHEREAS**, schools have been directed not to fill vacant positions at a time when educators are ordinarily submitting staffing needs and provisional educators are awaiting letters of assurance, creating uncertainty for school communities and employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the projected shortfall has been attributed to multiple cost pressures, including health insurance, salaries and benefits, transportation, and the expiration of federal relief funds, and clarity is needed regarding the assumptions and timing underlying these projections; and

**WHEREAS**, additional reporting and stakeholder concerns have raised questions as to whether the actual budget gap may be significantly larger than the approximately \$50 million publicly cited, with some estimates suggesting the shortfall could approach \$150 million, underscoring the need for transparency regarding when the shortfall was identified, how projections were developed, and what range of scenarios is being considered;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:** That the Education Committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the impacts of the Boston Public Schools hiring and spending freeze on students, educators, and school communities, including effects on staffing, programming, and school operations during the current school year and in Fiscal Year 2026, and to provide timely clarity and accountability from the appropriate members of the Administration.

**Filed in Council:** January 28, 2026



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT-ATHLETE TRANSFER AND ELIGIBILITY POLICIES

**WHEREAS,** Boston Public Schools serves thousands of student-athletes whose participation in interscholastic sports plays an important role in physical health, academic engagement, social development, and overall student well-being; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Students may seek school transfers for a variety of non-athletic reasons, including academic programming needs, access to specialized supports, health considerations, or family circumstances, and such transfers can unintentionally trigger athletic eligibility reviews governed by strict timelines and administrative requirements; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Eligibility determinations for interscholastic athletics are subject to coordination between Boston Public Schools and external governing bodies, including the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, which limits local discretion once deadlines or procedural thresholds have passed; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Concerns have emerged that the current student-athlete transfer and eligibility review framework may allow for arbitrary or inconsistent outcomes, including situations in which eligibility determinations, allegations of recruitment, investigative decisions, and appeals processes lack clear evidentiary standards, publicly available rules, or guaranteed opportunities for students to be meaningfully heard; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Reliance on discretionary judgments, opaque review bodies, limited notice, and appeal mechanisms controlled solely by school administrators may create conditions in which adult actions, retaliation concerns, or fear of reprisal discourage full and fair participation in the process, raising fundamental questions about transparency, due process, and equity for students; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In practice, delays, miscommunication, or actions taken by adults within institutional systems, rather than the conduct of students themselves, may result in students losing athletic opportunities, creating outcomes that disproportionately impact children and undermine the intent of educational and athletic equity; *and*

**WHEREAS,** A review of current policies presents an opportunity to ensure that student-athlete transfer processes are transparent, clearly communicated to families, and centered on fairness, due process, and student well-being, while remaining compliant with applicable regulations; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

***ORDERED:*** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine Boston Public Schools' student-athlete transfer and eligibility policies, including implementation practices, communication of deadlines, coordination with external athletic governing bodies, and potential policy reforms to prevent students from bearing adverse consequences due to administrative or adult decision-making. Representatives from Boston Public Schools central administration, including the Boston Public Schools Director of Sports Administration and the Boston Public Schools Sports Administration Review Board, legal counsel, and other relevant stakeholders shall be invited to testify.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE BOSTON EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

- WHEREAS,** Boston has experienced a variety of residential fire emergencies that have left residents displaced and in financially precarious situations; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On July 19th, 2022, a fire occurred at a triple-decker on Princeton Street in East Boston in the midst of some of the highest temperatures on record across the City of Boston. Boston firefighters fought the five-alarm fire that burned through all three stories of the building while battling heat exhaustion. The fire displaced twenty-eight people, including eight children – four who are under the age of two, many had no housing after losing all of their belongings, and almost none had renters or homeowners insurance; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Similarly, on April 2nd, 2024, a six-alarm fire ravaged a home on Meridian Street in East Boston, claiming the lives of a child as well as an adult resident, and displacing thirty people. Last year, East Boston again dealt with another fire on Prescott Street that displaced twenty-seven people. These devastating emergencies have occurred all over the city; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston response from Neighborhood Services, Emergency Management and Medical, Housing Stability, and has been vital in assisting non-English speaking, undocumented, and low-income families on scene; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Local grassroots organizations often scramble to raise funding for housing and gather clothing donations for displaced residents. However, many still lack adequate housing and instability two months later due to the skyrocketing rate of rental units; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Historically, our communities have united to implement mutual aid funds benefiting these families in the absence of adequate city resources to help affected residents get back on their feet. However, it is the city’s responsibility to address gaps in fire emergency support and response; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Research shows that there are long-lasting adverse mental health effects from home displacement, and is exacerbated by financial stress. The rapid deployment of resources toward relocation for permanent housing can substantially reduce symptoms of post-traumatic stress; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston must have a standardized process when individuals are displaced after an emergency like a fire or building collapse. Additionally, the City should implement an emergency relief fund to cover initial housing costs and basic necessities like food and clothing; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

***Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston as follows:***

The City of Boston Municipal Code, Ordinances, Chapter VI Section 6-3.14 is hereby inserted by adding the following new sections and subsections:

**SECTION 1.** Establishment and Purpose of Funds

- a. The Collector-Treasurer shall establish the “Emergency Relief Fund”. Subject to approval by the Boston City Council and the Mayor, the Fund be and hereby is authorized to accept and expend any and all funds contributed to it consistent with the purposes of the Fund. The Collector-Treasurer shall administer distributions from the Emergency Relief Fund for the benefit of residents who are determined by the Fund Administrator, in consultation with the Emergency Assistance Council, to be experiencing displacement or necessitous circumstances as a result of a qualifying emergency. The Fund Administrator, with the approval of the Mayor, shall determine the amount of assistance to be provided to each eligible recipient. Payments shall be issued on a schedule established by the Collector-Treasurer and processed through the City Auditor in accordance with standard municipal financial procedures.
- b. The Boston Emergency Relief Fund (the "Fund") is established to provide critical financial assistance to residents experiencing extraordinary and unforeseen home displacement or damages that render the home uninhabitable due to an emergency. Qualifying emergencies include fires, building collapses, and other disasters, which can have a lasting impact on residents and pose significant financial hardships. The Fund shall expend any monies appropriated for these purposes as set forth in section 3.
- c. Landlords remain responsible for providing technical and financial assistance for the emergency support of tenants in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 175 § 99.

**SECTION 2.** Use of Funds

Public funds allocated to or expended from the Emergency Relief Fund shall not be granted to, or used for the purpose of founding, maintaining, or aiding any private, charitable, or religious institution or undertaking. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the City from providing direct financial assistance to eligible residents, or from contracting with third-party service providers when necessary to administer or deliver emergency relief in

accordance with this ordinance.

The Collector-Treasurer, or any successor department designated by the Mayor, is authorized to accept grants and gifts of funds from the federal government, the Commonwealth, or any agency or political subdivision thereof, and from charitable foundations, private corporations, or individuals, for purposes consistent with this ordinance, subject to the approval of the Mayor and City Council as required by law.

Notwithstanding the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, § 53, all funds so received shall be deposited with the City Treasurer and maintained in a separate account and may be expended by the receiving department for the purposes of such grant or gift without further appropriation. Where expressly permitted by the terms of the grant or gift, interest earned on such funds shall remain with and become part of the grant account and may be expended for authorized purposes without further appropriation. All funds accepted pursuant to this section shall be expended in accordance with the conditions of the grant or gift and applicable federal, state, and local laws.

### SECTION 3. Governance of Fund

- a. The governance of the Fund is a function that is exclusive under the jurisdiction and control of the Mayor of Boston. In accordance with their authority, the Mayor hereby establishes the Fund Administrator shall be responsible for advising the Mayor in connection with matters related to the Emergency Fund which they are otherwise empowered to perform at their sole discretion. The Mayor may, with or without receipt of a recommendation from the Fund Administrator, authorize dispersal of funds beyond the recommendation of the Administrator, or in the absence of their consent.
- b. The Fund Administrator will be assigned from the Treasury Department, overseen by the Mayor's office. The Fund Administrator is authorized to utilize data from the Office of Neighborhood Services, Emergency Management Department, the Office of Housing Stability, and the Fire Department in duties related to the Fund.
  1. The Fund Administrator, along with the Mayor's office, is encouraged to perform consistent outreach and education to connect residents with all the possible emergency support options available, such as but not limited to grants, funds, and government assistance.
- c. The Mayor shall establish the Emergency Assistance Council. The Council is designated to assist and provide advice to the Fund Administrator and the Mayor regarding monies collected and allocated. The Council shall be formed of:
  1. Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services or their designee;
  2. Chief of Emergency Preparedness or their designee;
  3. Fire Commissioner or their designee; and
  4. Director of the Office of Housing Stability or their designee.

- d. The Emergency Assistance Council will convene with the fund administrator immediately following high displacement events due to emergencies such as a fire or a building collapse.

#### SECTION 4. Eligibility

- a. The Fund Administrator may make payments from the Fund to applicants who meet the eligibility requirements established in this section and have a household income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income as determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Boston-Cambridge-Quincy metropolitan area.
- b. Assistance from the Fund for any single incident shall not extend beyond 6 months from the date of the qualifying emergency. However, applicants with household income at or below 30% of Area Median Income may receive assistance for up to 12 months from the date of the incident if all of the following conditions are met: (1) the applicant has not returned to reside in the unit from which they were displaced, (2) the applicant has not secured permanent replacement housing, and (3) the building in which the incident occurred remains uninhabitable.
- c. The Fund Administrator may meet with applicants and applicants must be willing to attend any such meetings and cooperate with the Fund Administrator or their designee throughout the application process.
- d. Only residents of the City of Boston are eligible for assistance from the Emergency Relief Fund. Applicants must demonstrate that they were residents of the City of Boston at the time of the qualifying emergency through one or more of the following:
  - i. A copy of a bill issued by the City of Boston bearing the applicant's name and address, the name of their spouse, child, or parent;
  - ii. A copy of a lease agreement for a Boston address bearing the signature of the applicant, their spouse, child, or parent;
  - iii. A copy of a deed for Boston property bearing the name of the applicant or their spouse, child, or parent;
  - iv. Correspondence from the Boston Public School system addressed to the applicant, the applicant's child, spouse, parent, or guardian; or
  - v. Any other documentation deemed sufficient by the Fund Administrator to establish Boston residency at the time of the incident.
- e. Applicants will be eligible for a payment not exceeding the following amounts based on household size: \$7,000 for a one to two person household, \$8,500 for a three to four person household, \$10,500 for a five to six person household, and \$11,500 for a seven or more person household. Applicants must disclose on their application whether they have filed or are currently pursuing any legal claims against the City of Boston related to the emergency that forms the basis of their application. The payment amount for each applicant shall be determined by the Fund Administrator based on household size and

Area Median Income level, and the Fund Administrator may consider any such pending or filed legal claims against the City and any funds received from property owners, landlords, or other entities when determining the appropriate payment amount.

- f. The Fund Administrator has the authority to provide funds based on the household size amounts, regardless of the applicant's ability to demonstrate need.

#### SECTION 5. Reporting

- a. The Fund Administrator shall provide a biannual report to review and make recommendations regarding the allocation of funds, ascertain needs and trends within the community, recommend improvements in community outreach and education, and identify partners for provisional assistance. The report shall include expenditures, the current balance of the Fund, and characteristics and trends of individuals seeking assistance and donors. The report shall be filed with the City Clerk and submitted to the Mayor's Office and the City Council by March 15 and December 1. The report shall be made publicly available.
- b. The Emergency Assistance Council shall review and discuss the biannual report released by the Fund Administrator in consultation with the Mayor's office.
- c. The Fund Administrator, in consultation with the Mayor's office, is responsible for regularly communicating the status of the Fund and its activities. The Fund Administrator shall process and acknowledge all donations, and the Mayor's office shall regularly provide donors with the opportunity to donate to the fund and shall be given the option to provide donations anonymously.
- d. The Fund Administrator, in consultation with the Mayor's office, may request an optional anonymous survey to fund recipients about how the funding was utilized.
- e. The reporting requirements established in this section shall be implemented one year from the effective date of this ordinance.

#### SECTION 6. Severability

The provisions of this Section are severable, and if any provision, or portion thereof, should be held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity will not affect the remaining provisions, which will remain in full force and effect.

#### SECTION 7. Effective Date

The provisions of this ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage.

Filed on: February 25, 2026



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### AN ORDINANCE MODERNIZING AND INCREASING TRANSPARENCY AT THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEAL

**WHEREAS,** The Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) is an independent quasi-judicial body created under a 1956 Special Act and currently consists of seven members and seven alternates, with authority to grant variances, conditional use permits, and zoning exceptions that materially shape housing supply, neighborhood character, and equitable development across the City of Boston; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The ZBA is supported by a limited administrative staff, one Principal Administrator, three Head Clerks, and one vacant position, along with limited legal and constituent services support, despite reviewing hundreds of complex appeals each year; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The ZBA's current public notice, records, and access systems rely primarily on outdated methods and do not meet modern standards for transparency, accessibility, or meaningful public participation; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Communities most impacted by displacement, eviction, environmental burdens, and land-use change, including renters, civil-rights advocates, fair-housing experts, and environmental justice stakeholders, are not guaranteed representation on the ZBA; *and*

**WHEREAS,** ZBA members are not required by statute to receive standardized ethics or conflict-of-interest training, raising concerns about consistency, accountability, and public trust; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Members of the Board do not consistently receive timely, formal briefings on major zoning reforms, despite such changes having demonstrable impacts on variance patterns and development outcomes; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Recent zoning modernization efforts have resulted in measurable reductions in variance requests in certain neighborhoods, yet the City lacks a routine, public system for tracking and reporting variances by neighborhood and zoning district; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Residents, particularly those without legal representation, face significant barriers to accessing zoning records, understanding procedures, and participating

effectively in the appeals process, and would benefit from centralized electronic access and in-person assistance; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Regular public reporting on variances by neighborhood and zoning district would support evidence-based zoning, highlight systemic mismatches between the zoning code and actual development, and inform future planning efforts; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The ZBA's enabling statute restricts changes to board size, composition, term limits, and appointment structure, making legislative action necessary to modernize the Board and align it with current planning and equity goals; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Strengthened conflict-of-interest standards and structural safeguards are necessary to ensure fairness, independence, and public confidence in the ZBA's decision-making; **NOW THEREFORE**

***Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston as follows:***

That the City of Boston Code of Ordinances, Chapter IX, Section 4 is hereby amended:

**SECTION 1.** Purpose

*Insert in section 9-4.1 following subsection (B):*

(C) The Zoning Board of Appeal (the "Board") is critical in determining what development is approved in the City of Boston. The Board must conduct itself in a manner that supports public confidence in its proceedings by avoiding apparent or potential conflicts of interest. The Board is subject to the provisions of G. L. c. 268A and to additional conflict of interest requirements of St. 1956, c. 665, s. 8, as amended, governing the City of Boston Zoning Board of Appeal. These statutes prohibit Board members from participating in proceedings related to 1) projects in which they had an interest in the two years before any application to the Board and 2) projects seeking the same type of relief in the same district as is sought by any project in which a board member has an interest. In order to further the effective implementation of these obligations, promote public confidence in the Board, and reduce the potential for conflicts of interest by promoting greater transparency, and improving the overall efficiency and functioning of the Board, related agencies, entities and processes, the following requirements are imposed.

*Insert following provisions after section 9-4.2:*

**SECTION 2.** Ethics and Transparency

Each member and each alternate member of said board shall be subject to the provisions of G. L. c 268A. In addition, notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, no member or alternate member shall participate in hearing or deciding (a) any appeal involving property in which he has held an ownership interest, or received compensation for services rendered, within five years of the date the appeal was filed with the board; and (b) any appeal involving property in the same geographic zoning district and seeking relief from the same provisions of the zoning regulations as any other appeal pending before the board in which the member or alternate member has a financial or legal interest. A violation of the provisions of

the preceding sentence shall be punishable in the same manner as a violation of the provisions of section nineteen of said chapter two hundred and sixty-eight A and shall be subject to the provisions of section twenty-one of said chapter two hundred and sixty-eight A.

- A) At the time of appointment to the Board, each member shall disclose all properties or projects in which they or their business associates have business dealings, ownership interests, or investments, and which are likely to be before the Board for any reason. Board members shall disclose any additional such property or project as soon as they become aware that such property or project may come before the Board for any reason. For the purposes of this disclosure requirement, a "business associate" includes any individual, company, or organization with which a member or alternate is acting together to pursue a common business purpose, including partners in a partnership, co-owners of a business, outside employers, or co-members of an LLC.
- B) In addition to limitations imposed by G. L. c 268A, Zoning Board of Appeal members and alternates shall be prohibited from having any subsequent business dealings concerning any project on which they voted, including purchasing, lending, investing, or performing construction, architectural, marketing, sales or brokerage or other services for compensation, for two years after the date of any vote on the project. Prior to accepting appointment to the Board, all members and alternates shall acknowledge this restriction.
- C) Zoning Board of Appeal members and alternates will submit annual statements of financial interest to the City Clerk's Office.
- D) Upon appointment or re-appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeal, members and alternates will undergo comprehensive ethics training, as well as training in Board processes, the Boston Zoning Code, and principles of zoning law. Board staff will be similarly trained, with said training to be updated bi-annually. The Office of Human Resources, in conjunction with Corporation Counsel, will develop these trainings.
- E) The Executive Secretary of the Zoning Board of Appeal shall schedule a business meeting for the Zoning Board of Appeal to consider the creation of any written policies or protocols which, in the judgment of the Board, would facilitate the efficient, predictable conduct of its proceedings and decision.

### SECTION 3. Reporting

- A) The Board of Appeal shall make available to the public its contact information, including electronic contact information, and shall maintain an electronic subscription list for notice and advertisement of board hearings. The board shall also maintain and publish a detailed record of all its proceedings, setting forth the reasons for each decision; the vote of each member participating therein; the absence of a member or her or his failure to vote; and any conditions or provisions attached to the granting of any variance or exception. To ensure public access to zoning decisions, the board, with assistance from the Inspectional Services Department, shall make all records, reports, and variance data available on a publicly accessible website and establish a searchable electronic database of past decisions.

- B) The board shall produce and publish a biannual report to the Boston City Council Committee on Planning, Development, and Transportation detailing the number and types of zoning relief granted and denied; a breakdown by zoning district and neighborhood; any variances granted contrary to planning or environmental recommendations; variances granted without meeting hardship standards, including the rationale; and a summary of trends, including instances where Planning Department recommendations differed from board rulings.
- C) The City Council Committee on Planning, Development, and Transportation shall hold a public hearing annually at which the Board of Appeal shall testify regarding its decision-making process and provide justification for variances granted in deviation from hardship standards. The City Council may issue a formal recommendation for procedural reforms to be implemented by the Board; request that the Mayor review and reconsider appointments to the Board of Appeal based on patterns of noncompliance; and propose legislative amendments to strengthen zoning enforcement and limit discretionary approvals.
- D) The Board of Appeal shall be supported by one or more employees of the City of Boston who shall not be otherwise engaged in real estate, permitting, planning or development within or on behalf of the City, except as to report findings or recommendations of the board to other boards, offices, departments or agencies and to the general public. Such staff shall also educate and update members of the board on updates to the municipal code, zoning code, or other regulations which may impact matters before the board. The Chief of the Planning Department, or their designees, shall convey such updates to the municipal code, zoning code, or other regulations which may impact matters before the board to the staff of the Board of Appeal.
- E) The Commissioner of Inspectional Services, also known as the Building Commissioner, shall ensure that an employee within that office, or an individual provided by a non-profit organization under contract with that office, provide neutral advice and guidance explaining to members of the public the standards, procedures, appeal process and all other matters relevant to the Board of Appeal. Such employee or individual shall be present and clearly identifiable at each meeting of the Board of Appeal and shall be located either at City Hall or at the office of the Building Commissioner.
- F) The Commissioner, or their designee, shall work in conjunction with the Mayor's Office of Language and Communications Access, to ensure the provision of translation services, including through assistive technology and/or staff to ensure effective conveyance of technical discussions, at Board hearings.
- G) The Commissioner, or their designee shall:
  - 1) Enable email notification of notice to hearings, deferrals and new hearing dates to those who sign up for email notice;
  - 2) Enable the electronic circulation of plans and petitions to be heard by Zoning Board of Appeal members prior to the hearing date;

- 3) Update and improve the existing online subscription list for residents and other interested parties to receive updates on projects within specific geographic zones; and
- 4) Update and improve the existing database such that it is searchable and contains all pending applications, deferrals, and decided petitions, including the decisions themselves.

SECTION 4. The provisions of this Section are severable, and if any provision, or portion thereof, should be held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity will not affect the remaining provisions, which will remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 5.

This act shall take effect one (1) year after passage.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA



**CITY OF BOSTON**

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX**

**HOME RULE PETITION**

**WHEREAS,** The Zoning Board of Appeal provides a powerful and critical function in city government and in the development process, granting conditional use permits, variances and other exceptions to the zoning code; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Members of the ZBA are dedicated volunteers whose service is authorized by and dependent on statutory guidance established by the City of Boston and the general court; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Records and notice policies at the ZBA are out of date and not conducive to fully informing members of the general public; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Renters, persons knowledgeable in civil rights and fair housing, experts in environmental protection and other stakeholders are not currently represented on the ZBA; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Members of the board deserve timely notification and explanation of changes to city ordinances and changes to zoning; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Residents of the city would benefit from legal support and guidance and the ability to access zoning services and records of decisions electronically and at Boston City Hall; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Establishing a regular report on variances by neighborhood and zoning district would inform future zoning by clearly indicating where actual development practices and the zoning code differ substantially; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston has launched a review of practices at the Board of Appeal and is considering a range of operational changes; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Legislative action is necessary in addition to such review and as a complement, as the enabling legislation for the ZBA currently requires the appointment of certain real estate and other interests among its members, and does not allow for a change in membership or appointment structure; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Improvements to mitigate conflict of interest are necessary to ensure public trust in the continued and substantial work of the board; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**ORDERED:** That a petition to the General Court, accompanied by a bill for a special law relating to the City of Boston to be filed with an attested copy of this Order be, and hereby is, approved under Clause One (1) of Section Eight (8) of Article Two (2), as amended, of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to the end that legislation be adopted precisely as follows, except for clerical or editorial changes of form only:

**PETITION FOR A SPECIAL LAW RE: AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEAL**

Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956, as amended, is further amended by striking Section 8 and replacing it with the following:

SECTION 1. There is hereby established in the City of Boston a board to be called the board of appeal, and to consist of nine members and nine alternate members appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council in the following manner: one member and one alternate member from four candidates with expertise in environmental protection and climate change nominated by the Conservation Law Foundation; one member and one alternate member from four candidates with a background in urban planning and the design of neighborhoods nominated by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council; one member and one alternate member from four candidates nominated by the Greater Boston Real Estate Board; one member and one alternate member nominated by the Boston Society of Architects; one member and one alternate member from eight candidates, two nominated by the Master Builders Association, two by the Building Trades Employers' Association, two by the Associated General Contractors of Massachusetts, and two by The Contractor's Association of Boston, Inc.; one member and one alternate member from four candidates nominated by the Building Trades Council of Greater Boston; one member and one alternate member selected at large by the mayor with expertise in zoning and the general laws; and two members and two alternate members selected by the mayor each of whom has served for at least one year (1) as an officer or member of the board of directors or similar governing body of a residential neighborhood organization which (a) is a non-profit organization consisting primarily of residents of a specific neighborhood; (b) has at least twenty-five members; (c) allows any resident of the neighborhood to join as a member; (d) has as a principal purpose the preservation of the quality of residential life in the neighborhood; and (e) has been in existence for at least two years; or (2) as a member of a residential neighborhood organization which (a) has been established by the mayor; (b) consists primarily of residents of a specific neighborhood; and (c) has as a principal purpose the preservation of the quality of residential life in the neighborhood; provided that any person appointed from a residential neighborhood organization under this section is a resident of the neighborhood represented by the residential neighborhood organization in which she or he has served. The two members from residential neighborhood organizations shall reside at the time of their respective appointments in different city council districts. The two alternate members from residential neighborhood organizations shall reside at the time of their respective appointments in different city council districts. Of the two members and two alternate members from residential neighborhood organizations, one member and alternate member shall be a homeowner in the City of Boston and the other member and alternate member a renter in the City of Boston.

All members and all alternate members of said board shall be residents of the City of Boston. Appointments of members and alternate members of said board shall be for terms of

three years and shall serve no more than two terms in total, provided, however, that members serving on the Board at the time this provision comes into effect shall serve no more than 1 additional term from that date if so appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Council. Any vacancy in the office of a member or alternate member shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner in which the original appointment to such term was made.

Each member and each alternate member of said board shall be subject to the provisions of chapter two hundred and sixty-eight A of the General Laws. In addition, notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, no member or alternate member shall participate in hearing or deciding (a) any appeal involving property in which he has held an ownership interest, or received compensation for services rendered, within five years of the date the appeal was filed with the board; and (b) any appeal involving property in the same geographic zoning district and seeking relief from the same provisions of the zoning regulations as any other appeal pending before the board in which the member or alternate member has a financial or legal interest. A violation of the provisions of the preceding sentence shall be punishable in the same manner as a violation of the provisions of section nineteen of said chapter two hundred and sixty-eight A and shall be subject to the provisions of section twenty-one of said chapter two hundred and sixty-eight A.

Upon the absence or disqualification from the hearing of any appeal of a member appointed upon nomination or at large under this section, the alternate member appointed in the same manner as such member shall substitute for such member; provided, however, that upon the absence or disqualification from such hearing of such alternate member, the chairperson shall designate one of the remaining alternate members to substitute for such members.

Upon the absence or disqualification from the hearing of any appeal of a member appointed from a residential neighborhood organization under this section, the alternate member appointed from a residential neighborhood organization whose term is concurrent with such member shall substitute for such member; provided, however, that upon the absence or disqualification from such hearing of such alternate member, the other alternate member appointed from a residential neighborhood organization shall substitute for such member; and provided, further, that upon the absence or disqualification from such hearing of such other alternate member, the chairperson shall designate one of the remaining alternate members to substitute for such member.

Each member and each alternate member of the board of appeal shall receive for every day or part thereof of actual service two hundred dollars or such sum as may from time to time be fixed by the City Council with the approval of the Mayor; but no member or alternate member shall so receive in any one year more than twenty-four thousand dollars or such other sum as may from time to time be fixed by the City Council with the approval of the Mayor. The board shall establish rules and regulations for its own procedures not inconsistent with this act.

Any board or officer of the city or any person aggrieved by reason of being refused a permit by any administrative official under the provisions of the state building code or by reason of any order or decision of the building commissioner or other administrative official in violation of any provision of the state building code or any zoning regulation or amendment thereof adopted under the state building code may appeal to said board of appeal within forty-five days after such refusal, order or decision by paying to the building commissioner a fee of twenty-five dollars or such other sum as the City Council with the approval of the Mayor may from time to time

prescribe, and by filing with the board or officer from whose refusal, order or decision the appeal is taken a notice of appeal specifying the grounds thereof. Such board or officer shall forthwith transmit to said board of appeal such notice of appeal and all documents and papers constituting the record of the case in which the appeal is taken. Such appeal may be filed electronically or in person at the office of the building commissioner or at Boston City Hall.

Said board of appeal shall fix a reasonable time for the hearing of any appeal and give at least twenty days public notice thereof in a newspaper of general circulation in the city and give at least twenty days public notice electronically through relevant city mailing lists and informational portals. Said board of appeal shall also send notice, by mail, postage prepaid, at least twenty days prior to the hearing, to the appellant and to the owners of all property deemed by said board of appeal to be affected thereby, as they appear on the then most recent local tax list, and to any person filing written request for notice of hearings, such request to be renewed yearly in December, and to the Boston Planning and Development Agency d/b/a Boston Redevelopment Authority. The board shall schedule the hearing in the evening, if the board receives from the Mayor or any City Councilor and from fifty residents of the neighborhood in which the project is located, prior to the submission of the notice for publication and the mailing of the notice, a written request that the hearing be scheduled in the evening. The notice shall identify the specific variance, exception, or other zoning relief which the appellant is seeking. At the hearing any party whether or not entitled to notice thereof may appear in person or by agent or attorney. The board of appeal may in its discretion administer oaths to all persons testifying at said hearing. No such hearing shall be held any day on which a state or municipal election, preliminary election or primary is held in said city.

In acting upon such appeal, said board of appeal may, in conformity with the provisions of this act, reverse or affirm in whole or in part, or may modify, any order or decision, and may make such order or decision as ought to be made, and to that end shall have all the powers of the board or officers from whom the appeal is taken and may direct the issue of a permit. The board may in its discretion continue the hearing in order that the appellant may meet with any residential neighborhood organization specified by the board to discuss the appeal, and the board may in its discretion deny the appeal without prejudice in the event the appellant fails to do so. The concurring vote of five members of said board of appeal shall be necessary to reverse any order or decision of any administrative official under this act, or to decide in favor of the appellant on any matter upon which it is required to pass under any zoning regulation or amendment thereof, or to grant any variance in, or exception to the application of any such regulation or amendment. Standards of review for said board of appeal shall be promulgated in the Boston Zoning Code.

Said board of appeal shall cause to be made a detailed record of all its proceedings, which record shall set forth: the reasons for its decision; the vote of each member participating therein; the absence of a member or her or his failure to vote; and any conditions or provisos to which the granting of any variance or exception was made subject by vote of said board of appeal at the hearing. Such record shall be filed in the office of the building commissioner of the City within ninety days of the hearing and shall be open to public inspection; provided, however, that the board may for good cause extend the time for such filing.

Notice of such decision shall be mailed forthwith to each party in interest as aforesaid, to the Boston Planning and Development Agency d/b/a Boston Redevelopment Authority, to every

person receiving notice of the hearing, and to every person present at the hearing who requests that notice be sent to her or him and states the address to which such notice is to be sent.

SECTION 2. To ensure continuity in development and prevent a lack of quorum for the Board of Appeal, members of the Board serving under a prior nomination and legislative authorization shall serve until such time as their term of service expires, until replacement members are appointed, or until members currently serving are re-appointed under new legislative authorization.

SECTION 3. The provisions of this Section are severable, and if any provision, or portion thereof, should be held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity will not affect the remaining provisions, which will remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4.

This act shall take effect one (1) year after passage.

Filed on: February 25, 2026



**CITY OF BOSTON**  

---

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX**  

---

**HOME RULE PETITION**

**WHEREAS,** Richard “Ricky” Scimeca is a lifelong resident of the City of Boston who was born and raised in the community, continues to reside in the City, and owns and operates a small business in Boston; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Scimeca has taken the Massachusetts civil service firefighter examination five times and, on the current eligibility list, earned a score of 98, demonstrating strong aptitude and commitment to public service; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Scimeca is a Disabled American Veteran who has consistently sought to continue serving the public through a career with the Boston Fire Department; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Scimeca has successfully passed the Physical Ability Test (PAT) each time he has taken the civil service examination, further demonstrating his physical readiness and fitness for the position of firefighter; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Despite his qualifications, Mr. Scimeca has been notified by the Human Resources Division that his current ranking on the eligibility list is not sufficient for appointment, and that he will otherwise age out of eligibility before having another meaningful opportunity for appointment; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Scimeca is currently participating in the City’s Firefighter Hybrid Hiring process, which represents his final opportunity to pursue appointment before exceeding the statutory age limit; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Scimeca has raised concerns regarding inconsistencies in the administration of the Physical Ability Test, including differences between the test demonstration and the actual exam and the use of defective weighted vests, which he believes unfairly impacted his ability to advance in the hybrid process; *and*

**WHEREAS,** According to M.G.L. c. 31, § 58A, “no person shall be eligible to have his name certified for original appointment to the position of firefighter or police officer if such person has reached his thirty-second birthday on the date of the entrance examination”; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**ORDERED:** That a petition to the General Court, accompanied by a bill for a special law relating to the City of Boston to be filed with an attested copy of this Order be, and hereby is, approved under Clause One (1) of Section Eight (8) of Article Two (2), as amended, of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to the end that legislation be adopted precisely as follows, except for clerical or editorial changes of form only:

**PETITION FOR A SPECIAL LAW RE: AN ACT DIRECTING THE CITY OF BOSTON  
FIRE DEPARTMENT TO WAIVE THE MAXIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT FOR  
FIREFIGHTERS FOR RICHARD SCIMECA**

**SECTION 1.**

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the City of Boston Fire Department shall waive the maximum age requirement for original appointment of firefighters for Richard Scimeca. If Scimeca meets all other requirements set forth by the Boston Fire Department, he shall be eligible to have his name certified for appointment to the position of firefighter.

**SECTION 2.**

The provisions of this act are severable and if any provision, or portion thereof, should be held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 3.**

This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Filed on: February 25, 2026



## CITY OF BOSTON

---

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

---

### ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING BOSTON LGBTQIA+ YOUTH COMMUNITY SPACES AND THEIR PUBLIC HEALTH BENEFITS

**WHEREAS,** LGBTQIA+ youth are at a much higher risk for ill mental health effects due to continual and growing exposure to social and political hostility, discrimination, and bullying. Community spaces where LGBTQIA+ youth can come together with peers and advisors can be a life-saving measure, and have been shown by studies to be profoundly positively impactful on mental health, and protective of public health concerns, particularly for transgender and gender-expansive youth; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In Massachusetts, 50% of LGBTQ+ youth have seriously considered suicide in the past year, more than 70% experience anxiety, and 58% report depression, per the 2024 Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth FY25 report; *and*

**WHEREAS,** 11% of 13-18 year-old LGBTQ+ youth in Massachusetts had attempted suicide per the most recent Trevor Project survey, with an even higher rate of 16.2% of Boston Public High School (BPS) students identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, questioning, and students who describe their sexuality in some other non-heterosexual way (LGBQ+) having attempted suicide per a 2024 Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) report analyzing data from 2017, 2019, and 2021 studies; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Schools sometimes offer GSAs (gender and sexuality alliances), which studies have shown are positively impactful on mental health, and also reduce sexual violence against the LGBTQ+ youth who participate; GLSEN has further found that students in GSAs experienced nearly half as much in-person victimization for their sexual orientation or gender expression. However, these programs are often reliant on the availability of a staff member who has the time and willingness to volunteer; this is true for the BPS GSA program, which has led to many BPS locations lacking an active GSA for students. The Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth also notes that surveys show GSA advisors very frequently report receiving no training or mentorship in how to facilitate meetings and happenings that are productive for LGBTQIA+ youth mental health and public health concerns; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In-school LGBTQIA+ youth community groups are important for ease of access for many students, but bullying of LGBTQIA+ students at schools can be one of the primary threats to public health for LGBTQIA+ youth, often making schools an unsafe space to host LGBTQIA+ youth community spaces, because it makes the affected youth more visible to bullies. Further, not all LGBTQIA+ youth are enrolled in a school, and it is challenging to ensure every school will have an active program at all times, particularly for non-BPS schools where the City has more limited resources and purview to utilize. These factors necessitate also offering LGBTQIA+ youth community spaces in other accessible locations outside of schools like libraries and community centers; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Boston Public Libraries (BPL) and Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) community centers are particularly apt facilities to potentially host more LGBTQIA+ youth community spaces, given their existing resources, locations throughout Boston, and aligned missions; *and*

**WHEREAS,** LGBTQIA+ youth community spaces hosted in non-school locations can also facilitate youth in developing greater and more durable community connections, including with youth from different neighborhoods, schools, and age groups; *and*

**WHEREAS,** These spaces can also serve as a way for youth to keep updated on and discuss current events and news, host health and sexual education programs oriented toward LGBTQIA+ youth, provide after-school and teen advisory programs, and facilitate special community events like LGBTQIA+ proms.

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing regarding Boston LGBTQIA+ youth community spaces and their public health benefits. Representatives from the Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Public Libraries, Boston Centers for Youth and Families, the Office of Youth Engagement and Advancement, and community organizations and advocates will be invited, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

**Filed in Council:** February 18, 2026



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING BOSTON'S LGBTQIA+ MENTAL HEALTH DATA COLLECTION PROCESSES, EXISTING SERVICES, AND FURTHER COMMUNITY NEEDS

**WHEREAS,** Numerous studies have consistently found that Commonwealth of Massachusetts has one of the highest LGBTQIA+ population concentrations of any U.S. state or district, with the city of Boston being home to the largest population identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer in Massachusetts; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Studies also show that LGBTQIA+ people in both Massachusetts and the U.S. at large suffer from higher rates of anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation and attempts, and other harmful mental health effects relative to their cisgender, heterosexual, and endosex counterparts, due to continual and growing exposure to social and political hostility, discrimination, bullying, and a severe lack of access to mental health resources addressing their needs; these effects are especially pronounced amongst youth; transgender, non-binary, and gender expansive people; and LGBTQIA+ people with intersectional identities, including Indigenous, Black, person of color, neurodiverse, and immigrant; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth (MCLGBTQY) FY25 Report released on May 28, 2024, observes:

“515 anti-LGBTQ bills have been introduced by policymakers in states across the nation; many have already passed in the South and Midwest. In our country, states are legislating discrimination, dehumanization, terrorization, and the erasure of millions of queer, transgender, and gender-expansive youth, as well as their caregivers, providers, and educators.

“As a result, 50% of our queer and trans youth have seriously considered suicide in the past year. More than 70% of our LGBTQ youth experience anxiety, and 58% report depression. Despite these statistics, 1 in 2 LGBTQ youth in Massachusetts were unable to access the mental health care they desperately wanted.”; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The most recent Trevor Project survey found that 11% of 13-18 year-old LGBTQ+ youth in Massachusetts had attempted suicide; with an even higher rate of 16.2% of Boston Public High School students identifying as lesbian, gay,

bisexual, questioning, and students who describe their sexuality in some other non-heterosexual way (LGBQ+) having attempted suicide per a 2024 Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) report analyzing data from 2017, 2019, and 2021 studies; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The U.S. Census Bureau’s most recent Household Pulse Survey notes that LGBTQ+ 18-29 year-olds are nearly twice as likely to experience anxiety and depression as their non-LGBTQ+ counterparts, with similar findings noted in local Boston data in BPHC’s Health of Boston 2024 Mental Health Report; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Despite crisis-level public health concerns for LGBTQIA+ mental health, Boston’s LGBTQIA+ population is often invisible to data collection, with the MCLGBTQY noting that “no recent national and state-level survey about LGBTQ mental health exists that is disaggregated by intersex status, immigration status, geographical location, disability, or involvement with child welfare or juvenile justice”; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In a June 2024 report addressing LGBTQ+ health equity in Boston, the BPHC identifies significant health concerns and inequities, but notes:

“To date, however, there has not been a consolidated effort in the city of Boston to address LGBTQ+ specific health issues and disparities. BPHC’s current programming is inclusive of serving LGBTQ+ residents; however not specifically directed toward reducing health disparities in the LGBTQ+ community.”; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Given the increasing legislative attacks on members of the LGBTQIA+ community across the country by all levels of government, special consideration must be given to the privacy and safety of LGBTQ+ community members when collecting and analyzing sensitive mental health and healthcare data for public health purposes. ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss the City of Boston’s current LGBTQIA+ mental health data collection processes, existing services, and further community needs, so that the City can be better informed and equipped to tackle the public mental health crisis among both LGBTQIA+ youth and adults. Representatives from the Boston Public Health Commission, Mayor’s Office of LGBTQIA2S+ Advancement, Mayor’s Office of Youth Engagement and Advancement, Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth, American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, and relevant local community organizations will be invited, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

**Filed in Council:** February 18, 2026



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### ORDER FOR A HEARING TO ENSURE ACCESS TO LIFESAVING ONLINE RESOURCES FOR LGBTQIA+ AND OTHER MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSED FEDERAL AND STATE DIGITAL CENSORSHIP LEGISLATION

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston values and affirms the dignity, rights, and safety of LGBTQIA+ residents and all marginalized communities; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Online spaces and resources are essential lifelines for queer and trans youth, survivors of abuse, people seeking reproductive health care, and other vulnerable individuals, providing information, community, and support that may not otherwise be accessible; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Proposed legislation at the federal and state levels, including the Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA), age verification requirements such as the SCREEN Act and the App Store Accountability Act, and attacks on Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, would severely limit access to these vital online resources; *and*

**WHEREAS,** KOSA, if enacted, could grant current and future presidential administrations, including those hostile to LGBTQIA+ rights, sweeping authority to censor LGBTQIA+ content under the guise of protecting minors, despite the opposition of youth and their parents, caretakers, and guardians; *and*

**WHEREAS,** More than one hundred Massachusetts parents of transgender children, along with hundreds of others nationally, have publicly expressed opposition to such censorship as it defies the best interest of the youth; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Mandatory age verification laws would require Internet users to upload government identification or submit to invasive biometric scans, creating barriers to access, undermining privacy, and disproportionately harming marginalized communities; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Weakening or repealing Section 230 would enable states with extreme anti-LGBTQIA+ or anti-reproductive rights laws to criminalize access to online content about abortion, gender-affirming care, and other constitutionally protected information, and would sever the connections local Boston LGBTQIA+

individuals hold with the broader LGBTQIA+ community upon censorship of online forums and exchanges by tech companies; *and*

***WHEREAS***, Protecting digital freedom is integral to safeguarding civil rights, ensuring equitable access to information, and promoting the well-being of all residents.  
***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

***ORDERED***: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to examine the impacts on LGBTQIA+ and other marginalized communities by proposed federal and state legislation, including KOSA, the SCREEN Act, the App Store Accountability Act, and attempts to weaken or repeal Section 230, and to explore how the City of Boston can protect online free expression, privacy, and access to lifesaving resources. Legal experts, community-based organizations, and impacted residents will be invited, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

**Filed in Council:** February 25, 2026



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING LEGALIZING CONSTRUCTION OF TRIPLE-DECKERS AND OTHER 2- TO 4-UNIT HOUSING IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

**WHEREAS,** Despite estimates that Boston has over 15,000 existing triple-deckers (also often referred to as three-deckers or 3Ds), which are home to tens of thousands of Boston residents and families, the current Boston Zoning Code largely makes it illegal to build new similar moderate-scale multi-family homes with 2-4 units anywhere in Boston, even in neighborhoods these homes already exist, or even on the very parcels of land that already have these homes; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Many of the zoning code restrictions currently in place originated in the 1930s through 1960s, and were explicitly intended to limit the creation of housing for immigrants, Black people and other people of color, Jews, and low-income people; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The problem of the Boston Zoning Code forbidding the creation of popular existing types of housing is pervasive, with a 2023 study commissioned by the Boston Planning and Redevelopment Agency finding that “an incredible 58% of parcels citywide fail to comply with floor-to-area ratio rules,” a form of zoning restriction that limits the creation of homes like triple-deckers and other multi-family homes; *and*

**WHEREAS,** These zoning code restrictions inhibit the creation of much-needed affordable housing, and further drive up development and permitting costs, which raises the price of housing, and encourages the development of high-cost “luxury” housing that is not affordable to the average Boston resident; *and*

**WHEREAS,** These zoning restrictions also favor large-scale national corporate developers, who are more readily able to afford the legal and design services necessary to navigate obtaining approvals for variances to zoning code restrictions, which makes it harder for local Boston housing developers to compete, and additionally creates far more burdens for Bostonians trying to start or grow small businesses to build much-needed housing; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Since 2010, there has been an increase in the production of housing with 5+ units, yet the rate of production of 3-4 unit homes is approximately one-fifth the production rate of single-family dwellings, and one-tenth that of larger housing developments; *and*

**WHEREAS,** 2-4 unit multi-family homes are particularly popular among our immigrant communities, with 17% of immigrant homeowners in Massachusetts living in such homes, compared to 8% of native-born homeowners; *and*

**WHEREAS,** These 2-4 unit residences further facilitate home ownership for multigenerational families, low-income families, and families who pool resources to become homeowners, making the creation of more of these homes an important factor in supporting greater long-term economic independence for Boston families; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Most of Boston's triple-deckers were built between 1880-1930 because of the severe zoning code limitations in building additional similar units since then, which has caused these existing units to be among the oldest housing structures, and therefore in the greatest need of repair and structural maintenance; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Reforming Boston Zoning Code to legalize construction of more 2-4 unit homes would help meet Boston's current and anticipated future housing needs; facilitate the production of modern 2-4 unit housing, thus lessening the repair and maintenance burdens for those seeking such housing; and increase the accessibility of home ownership to immigrant, multigenerational, working, middle-class, low-income, and other families. ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing regarding legalizing construction of triple-deckers and other 2-4 unit housing in the City of Boston. Representatives from the Planning Department and Mayor's Office of Housing will be invited, along with community advocates for affordable housing, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

**Filed in Council:** February 18, 2026



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING LEGALIZING ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS (ADUs) IN EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

**WHEREAS,** Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) are self-contained, non-transient dwelling units on the same lot as a main residential property — or, put more simply, ADUs are small homes that are built inside or alongside a main home, and can be adapted to serve a wide range of people; build wealth for homeowners; and provide affordable living space for friends, multigenerational family members, or those looking to downsize; *and*

**WHEREAS,** ADUs may be attached (adjacent to a main building), detached (a separate stand-alone structure from the main building), or internal (located within the main building); *and*

**WHEREAS,** Boston is the only exemption from Massachusetts’ 2024 statewide ADU law, which allows homeowners to add an ADU in single-family zoning districts in every one of the 350 cities and towns in Massachusetts other than Boston; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Mattapan adopted an updated neighborhood zoning plan in 2024, making it the only neighborhood in Boston allowing by-right ADUs on owner-occupied residential lots; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Currently, Boston permits one internal ADU in all 1-, 2-, and 3-family homes, but building an attached or detached ADU requires a zoning variance from the City’s Zoning Board of Appeal, which adds costs and red tape, and undermines the benefit of creating affordable homes; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Boston’s current restrictive zoning for ADUs has led to only 150 ADUs having been built in Boston from 2019 to May 2024; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The right to build an ADU is often essential for families to have space to care for aging family members, provide increased privacy to young adults seeking independent living while living with family, or for other intergenerational living arrangements; *and*

**WHEREAS,** ADUs are further utilized by those seeking additional income through renting, those downsizing who wish to remain on their property, tenants seeking a more affordable option than traditional housing, and many others whose personal circumstances lead them to believe an ADU would best meet their needs; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The appeal of ADUs is widespread: the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) found that one in four homeowners 50 years or older would consider building one on their property, their main motivators being the accommodation of a loved one who needs care (55%) or providing a home for family members or friends (52%); *and*

**WHEREAS,** ADUs offer a low-cost alternative to costly assisted-living facilities and allow elderly residents to age in-place; many of Boston’s 82,000 elderly residents may benefit from the opportunity to receive at-home support from family members, as 20.9% of Bostonians 65 years of age or older had an income below the poverty line, 12.5% reported self-care difficulty, and 19.7% reported independent living difficulty according to the 2025 MA Healthy Aging Community Profile; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The cost of living in Boston is significantly higher than the national average, and Boston and the surrounding region have a shortage of tens of thousands of homes to meet the needs of existing residents, and as small and affordable units, ADUs can help to meet the need for more affordable housing options and reduce the percentage of residents who are housing cost-burdened; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston can serve a role in reducing the costs and complexity for residents to build ADUs by providing sample architectural plans and technical guidance, as exemplified by the Accessory Dwelling Unit Guidebook that the City’s Planning Department has already created, which offers twelve sample ADU floor plan designs tailored to meet space and capacity needs; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Boston’s housing affordability crisis is urgent, and ADUs can enable more residents to live with dignity; our communities should have an opportunity to engage in this discussion as Boston rectifies the discrepancies between our City zoning and the other 350 municipalities in Massachusetts.

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to explore legalizing Accessory Dwelling Units by-right in every neighborhood in the City of Boston. Representatives from the Boston Planning Department and Mayor’s Office of Housing will be invited, along with community advocates, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.



CITY OF BOSTON

---

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

---

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO FACILITATE THE CREATION OF  
SINGLE ROOM OCCUPANCY UNITS (SROs)  
IN THE CITY OF BOSTON**

**WHEREAS,** Single Room Occupancy units (SROs) provide permanent and affordable housing for thousands of Bostonians and have the untapped potential to house many more; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Through short-term and flexible leases, SROs allow for single-room rentals with access to shared facilities, such as bathrooms, living rooms, and kitchens; *and*

**WHEREAS,** SROs are uniquely able to meet communities' needs in both affordability and support, as well as being amongst the core offerings of initiatives serving target populations by providing housing and specialized services; *and*

**WHEREAS,** SROs have historically been a part of Boston's fabric — from housing Bostonians since at least the 19th century, to over 10% of the City's population residing in SROs in the 1885 and 1895 censuses, and to over 3,000 licensed SRO buildings providing over 35,000 units in the 1920s; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The available stock of SROs has decreased significantly over time due to suburbanization, urban renewal policies causing SROs to be torn down in the thousands, and gentrification leading to mass conversions of SROs to luxury townhouses; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Zoning laws have contributed to the decline of SROs by imposing minimum parking requirements, setting density caps, and requiring specialized rooming house licences from the Boston Licensing Board, which has discretion to deny applications that may impact property value; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Such restrictions curtail Boston's ability to address the current housing unaffordability crisis, which impacts hundreds of thousands of residents: 46% of Boston's households are cost burdened (spending greater than 30% of their income on rent or mortgage) and 23% being severely cost burdened (spending greater than 50% of their income on rent or mortgage); *and*

**WHEREAS,** Cost-burdened households are at increased risk of entering homelessness, which impacts over 2,000 single adult individuals in Boston; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Because the cost of an SRO is approximately 75% that of a studio apartment, it would provide many current cost-burdened single-renters — of which there are an estimated 33,000 in Boston — a living arrangement option that may better suit such renters' current situation; *and*

**WHEREAS,** SROs provide a flexible housing arrangement for transient populations, including new immigrants and individuals without stable employment, who may be less inclined to commit to, or less able to afford, traditional, longer-term leases; *and*

**WHEREAS,** SROs are essential for members of some of our most vulnerable communities, including formerly unhoused people, formerly incarcerated people, survivors of domestic or intimate partner violence, and those experiencing or recovering from a substance use disorder; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Existing initiatives in Boston, including Caritas Communities, Justice 4 Housing, Nuestra Comunidad Development Corporation, and Haley House, have successfully used SROs to uplift these target communities by offering support, services, and community alongside free or affordable housing; instituting policies more amenable to SROs would uplift such existing organizations, encourage their growth, and allow for emergence of new organizations; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Ensuring City policy meaningfully allows for the creation of SROs would provide greater choice to our neighbors who are cost-burdened, as well as generate more pathways of support for members of target populations seeking specialized services made possible through SRO housing. ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to explore implementing policies that would be more amenable to the creation of additional Single Room Occupancy Units (SROs) in the City of Boston. Representatives from the Planning Department and Mayor's Office of Housing, as well as community organizations with expertise on SROs and some of the populations they are particularly adept at serving will be invited, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

**Filed in Council:** February 18, 2026



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS HOW BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS CAN EXPAND THE USE OF EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES FOR INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS FOR MULTILINGUAL AND SPECIAL EDUCATION LEARNERS

**WHEREAS**, “Inclusion” is an education model that seeks to ensure the effective education of students with diverse learning needs, including multilingual learners and students with disabilities, while enhancing the social and emotional development for all students in an integrated learning environment that supports the needs of each student, instead of segregating students based on their learning needs; *and*

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Department of Education identifies multilingualism and multiliteracy as highly beneficial for the cognitive and socio-emotional development of children, with peer-reviewed research demonstrating increased understanding of math concepts, easier development of strong thinking skills and use of logic, improved focus and decision-making, better self-control, and strengthened connections with culture and community, in addition to long-term practical benefits for job opportunities and participation in multilingual local and global communities; *and*

**WHEREAS**, It is therefore highly beneficial for English Learners to have their native language fostered through native language instruction while simultaneously developing skills in the English language, rather than receive instruction solely in English; and it is further of benefit for native English speakers to gain exposure to other languages through inclusive classrooms that support and integrate Multilingual Learners with instruction in their native languages in addition to English; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Further, the inclusion of students with disabilities provides similar benefits for social and emotional development of all students, while enhancing positive outcomes for students who learn differently; *and*

**WHEREAS**, BPS currently places students in substantially separate classrooms (SSCs) at highly disproportionate rates, particularly for Black male students and English Learners, with over twice the state and national rate of students in SSCs, Black male students being over three times as likely to be placed in emotional impairment SSCs as other student groups, and English Learners with an identified communication disability being over two and a half times more likely to be placed in SSCs; *and*

**WHEREAS,** BPS leadership has recognized this deficiency and urgency to implement a more inclusive approach, including as part of a 2022 deal with the Massachusetts Education Commissioner, which mandated structural changes to address what state leaders described as “systemic disarray” in BPS’s special education services, and which allowed BPS the opportunity to address these shortcomings to avoid being immediately labeled “underperforming” or requiring state receivership; *and*

**WHEREAS,** A May 22, 2024 BPS School Proposals report reflects these necessary changes, discussing investments BPS is making: “[to] create inclusive opportunities to the maximum extent possible, to increase students' access to grade level content and high-quality instructional materials with the appropriate resources and supports to ensure that ALL students can be successful, especially students we have not served well. This work is at the center of our efforts to eliminate gaps in opportunities and outcomes.”; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Research studies on special education outcomes consistently demonstrate that students having access to targeted subject matter interventions and sufficient support are both critical, making the specific details of the implementation of Inclusion extremely important; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Teachers and staff must be adequately trained and provided resources to maximize the positive impact of Inclusion on student outcomes; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Some BPS schools have been nationally recognized for highly effective implementations of Inclusion, and their systems should be discussed as models for expansion to the majority of other BPS schools that do not currently implement similar systems, and consequently have measurably poorer outcomes; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Inclusive classrooms are best facilitated by a team of educators who are dedicated to one classroom of students, so the educators can build relationships and provide consistency for those students, and collectively meet each of their needs, without overtaxing teachers to possess multiple licenses and perform the duties of more than one job at once, or jump between classrooms and split attention across too many students to maintain close relationships; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Emphasizing the necessity of a team of educators for effective implementation of Inclusion, the Council of Great City Schools, a coalition of 75 of the nation’s largest urban public school systems, of which the Boston School Committee is a member, published a report in 2022 commissioned by BPS, which highlighted: “No districts we are familiar with use dually certified general/special educators to meet the needs of all of their students, even with paraeducator support”; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Providing native language instruction requires a sustained pipeline of educators who are fluent in the primary home languages of students, making it critical to implement systems to attract, hire, and retain enough teachers to meet students' needs; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The effective implementation of inclusive classrooms requires guidance and support from families and students, and must therefore integrate community outreach on a school-by-school basis with both the school's community at large, as well as the individual families of that school's students.

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss how Boston Public Schools can expand the use of evidence-based best practices for Inclusive Learning Environments for Multilingual and Special Education Learners. Experts on classroom Inclusion models; community groups representing Boston Public School teachers, students, parents, and staff; and representatives from Boston Public Schools will be invited, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

**Filed in Council:** February 25, 2026



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING THE PUBLIC SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND POSSIBLE LOCATIONS FOR A NEW EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

**WHEREAS,** Coordination between many City of Boston departments is required to ensure public safety and effective emergency response for winter storms, hurricanes, tropical storms, and other large storms; special events; natural disasters and natural hazards, including flooding, extreme heat or cold, sea level rise, and urban heat islands; outages of power, water, sewer, or other critical services; terrorist or cybersecurity attacks; public health emergencies; and other large-scale threats to public safety; *and*

**WHEREAS,** During such circumstances, in-person coordination between representatives of many departments is required for effective communication and efficient action, particularly in cases where travel, communications, power, or other critical needs are impeded by the emergency at hand; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston utilizes its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to coordinate a centralized response to public safety situations requiring extensive emergency preparedness or emergency response; the EOC also houses the staff of the City of Boston's Office of Emergency Management (OEM); *and*

**WHEREAS,** The current EOC is inadequately sized to allow co-location of representatives of all necessary departments and services during public safety emergencies and circumstances with large-scale public safety risks, which typically require close collaboration of OEM and Boston 311, along with some mix of the Boston Police Department, Boston Transportation Department, Public Works, Backup 911, Boston Water and Sewer, Boston Fire Department, Boston Emergency Medical Services, Boston Public Health Commission, Parks and Recreation Department, Boston Public Schools, power and energy providers, hospitals and medical facilities, and public and private partners; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Further, the EOC presently has insufficient restroom, shower, sleeping, and kitchen facilities for multi-day habitation, which is critical during emergencies that limit travel or communication, or require on-call response without delay;

key emergency response personnel may also be victims themselves of the same crisis they are managing on behalf of our community, and be unable to access their homes and need emergency accommodations while serving our city during the emergency, particularly in situations with large-scale impact like hurricanes; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The current EOC has extremely limited warehouse and storage space, making it impossible to centralize critical supplies for either proactive or emergency response to a variety of public safety threats and crises both exceptional and everyday; examples of services coordinated by OEM that require warehouse space include storage and distribution of food, water, or medications; distribution of coats to communities in need during extreme cold; storage of cooling stations for use during extreme heat; and storage of signage for deployment during special events, natural disasters, and other emergencies; *and*

**WHEREAS,** As the residential and commercial populations of Boston continue to expand, there is increased need for additional public safety and emergency management facilities, including stations for police, fire, and emergency medical services, which could provide opportunity to also co-locate a new Emergency Operations Center that fully meets the needs of Boston; *and*

**WHEREAS,** New residential, commercial, and institutional developments also raise opportunities for public-private partnerships that could provide space to house a new, fully-equipped Emergency Operations Center with reduced cost to Boston taxpayers; *and*

**WHEREAS,** As representatives of every neighborhood of the city, the Boston City Council can be an effective partner in identifying opportunities for the development of a new Emergency Operations Center, and can best do so if fully apprised of the requirements for such a facility. ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing regarding the public safety requirements and possible locations for a new Emergency Operations Center in the City of Boston. The Office of Emergency Management, Boston 311, Boston Police Department Telecommunications Unit, and Boston Streets Cabinet will be invited, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

**Filed in Council:** February 25, 2026



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING HOW THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT COLLECTS, USES, PROTECTS, AND SHARES INFORMATION THAT MAY BE REQUESTED BY EXTERNAL ENTITIES

**WHEREAS,** The Surveillance Oversight and Information Sharing Ordinance, Boston City Code Section 16-63, includes provisions for the Boston Police Department (BPD) and other City departments to report on their use of surveillance technologies, and for the City Council to conduct oversight thereof; pursuant to the Ordinance, the Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice held a series of three hearings regarding recent filings by the Administration, specifically on Docket #2025-1355 on August 11, and on Dockets #2025-1356 and #2025-1357 on August 12 and August 19; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Based on the discussion topics during those hearings between Councilors and representatives of BPD, as well as the testimony of panelists representing community advocacy organizations for privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties, as well as testimony from members of the public, it is apparent that while the Surveillance Oversight and Information Sharing Ordinance provides means for transparency specifically about the use of certain technologies for law enforcement purposes, many of the questions and concerns of interest to Councilors and the community transcend the particular technologies involved, and instead broach broader topics of how BPD more generally collects and uses information, regardless of source, and further, how BPD protects the integrity and security of that information, and through what means and in what circumstances BPD shares or declines to share that information with other City departments and agencies, other law enforcement agencies, and other external entities.  
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing regarding how the Boston Police Department collects, uses, protects, and shares information that may be requested by external entities. Representatives from the Boston Police Department, Boston Regional Intelligence Center, and community organizations with interest in the topic will be invited, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

**Filed in Council:** February 25, 2026



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING ALL CITY OF BOSTON GRANTS ADMINISTERED BY THE BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

**WHEREAS,** In accordance with MGL c.44, §53A, and as incorporated in the City of Boston Charter §51 “Grants and Gifts; Acceptance and Expenditure,” as prepared and distributed by the Boston City Council, July 2007:

“An officer or department of any city or town ... may accept grants or gifts of funds from the federal government and from a charitable foundation, a private corporation, or an individual, or from the commonwealth, a county or municipality or an agency thereof, and ... may expend such funds for the purposes of such grant or gift with the approval of the Mayor and City Council.”;  
*and*

**WHEREAS,** The Boston Fire Department routinely applies for and receives a wide variety of grants and gifts from the federal government, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, charitable foundations, private corporations, and individuals, and such funding represents a significant source of revenue for the Boston Fire Department, and provides for critical staff, equipment, and operations; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Such grants and gifts include both non-competitive grants, which are allocated by federal and state government entities in proportion to available resources and need, as determined by such entities; as well as competitive grants and gifts, which are applied for by the City of Boston, and awarded by both governmental and non-governmental entities on the basis of the merits of the City’s application;  
*and*

**WHEREAS,** The quality and breadth of the applications for competitive grants and gifts submitted by the City of Boston to grant-making entities substantially affects the the resources available to serve the public safety needs of residents, businesses, workers, and visitors in Boston, and it is therefore critical that sufficient staffing and resources are provided to the Boston Fire Department to pursue competitive grants and gifts, which can only be accomplished with full awareness by the Boston City Council of current and ongoing grant applications; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Non-competitive grants awarded by federal and state governmental entities can be highly variable in dollar amount and scope in accordance with changes in federal and state budgets and priorities, and it is critical that the Boston City Council remains apprised of these variations from year to year, and that the City of Boston adjusts City funding and services accordingly; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In compliance with the aforementioned Massachusetts General Law and City of Boston Charter, upon receipt of a grant or gift to the City of Boston to be administered by the Boston Fire Department, the Mayor of Boston files a legislative order with the Boston City Council to accept and expend or make use of such grant or gift; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Once filed with the City Council, the City Council President refers such orders to a City Council Committee, which reviews the grant or gift and associated mayoral order, and thereafter provides a recommendation for formal action by the whole City Council body to approve or disapprove of the City of Boston accepting such grant or gift, at which time all Councilors are free to vote on the order at their discretion; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In the past 12 months, the City Council Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice conducted such reviews and recommendations for formal action on grants administered by the Boston Fire Department totaling \$5,593,221.51; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Due to such orders to accept grants or gifts being filed at the time of receipt by the City of Boston, reviewing these orders solely at the time of filing would provide a haphazard and incomplete picture of grants and funding sources for the Boston Fire Department, as there are a multitude of funding sources even for individual programs, services, teams, equipment purchases, maintenance, and operations, from both various grants and gifts, as well as City funds and other sources; *and*

**WHEREAS,** By instead conducting its oversight role proactively and with a holistic approach, rather than solely reacting to legislative orders filed by the Mayor upon receipt of grants or gifts, the City Council can better ensure public safety and the effective funding and function of the Boston Fire Department, while providing greater public transparency. ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing regarding all grants administered by the Boston Fire Department (BFD). Representatives of BFD who manage the application for, receipt of, and disbursement of grants and gifts administered by BFD will be invited, along with on-the-ground members of the BFD providing critical public safety services. Interested parties and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

**Filed in Council:** February 25, 2025

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ENRIQUE J. PEPÉN



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS PARKING BENEFIT DISTRICTS

**WHEREAS,** Many neighborhoods of Boston, especially those neighborhoods farther from the city center with limited transit, have car dependent infrastructure, which requires large amounts of land to be reserved for the storage of cars, preventing the land from being productive for the community; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Concerns have been raised by community members of increased development in neighborhood centers — especially those neighborhoods part of the Squares + Streets rezoning initiative — and how new residents will impact parking on main streets if they bring personal vehicles; *and*

**WHEREAS,** It is essential that land used for parking on our main streets is as productive as possible — by encouraging a consistent turnover of cars rather than long term parking — to help businesses see more activity; *and*

**WHEREAS,** A Parking Benefit District is a tool used by cities which monetizes parking in specific districts, helping to manage parking while also funding the district's community needs by designating a body to manage the District; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Many cities have successfully implemented Parking Benefit Districts such as Pasadena, California, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as well as Austin, Texas which used a parking benefit district to mitigate the impacts on resident parking by a transient population— a major concern in communities facing new development; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Parking Benefit Districts can generate revenue that can support the City's Main Streets organizations' programs and the City with funds to repair sidewalks, plant street trees, build bus shelters, and more; *and*

**WHEREAS,** It is important to discuss if parking benefit districts could work in our city to provide revenue to foundational programs, how it could be right-sized for the City, and which neighborhoods could sustain a parking benefit district; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing on parking benefit districts. Experts on parking benefit districts, administration officials, and community members will be invited to testify.

Filed on: February 25th, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR MINIARD CULPEPPER



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXAMINE REALLOCATING FUNDING FOR THE BLUE HILL AVENUE TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN PROJECT TOWARD STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS AND BEAUTIFICATION AND TO PROVIDE A STATUS UPDATE ON PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

**WHEREAS,** Blue Hill Avenue serves as one of the most significant economic and cultural transportation corridors for Black, Brown, and low-income residents in the City of Boston; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Decades of public disinvestment in streetscape beautification, tree canopy expansion, pedestrian infrastructure, and sanitation conditions along Blue Hill Avenue have contributed to disparate public realm conditions when compared to other major corridors in the City; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Street design, traffic planning, maintenance practices, and the allocation of public transportation infrastructure resources may result in a disproportionate adverse impact on protected classes, including Black and Brown residents, within the meaning of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 when such investments fail to address longstanding inequities in public street conditions; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Public rights-of-way, including streets, sidewalks, and transportation corridors, are components of publicly funded programs, services, and activities that must be implemented in a manner that does not produce unjustified disparate impacts on communities of color; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The proposed multimodal redesign of Blue Hill Avenue includes dedicated center-running bus lanes supported by approximately \$44 million in combined federal, City, and MBTA investment, including a \$15 million RAISE Grant administered by the Federal Transit Administration; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The implementation of dedicated bus-only travel lanes will reduce general purpose travel lanes, curbside access, and parking availability for residents, customers, and small businesses, potentially resulting in increased congestion,

longer travel times, reduced economic activity, and barriers to mobility for corridor residents who rely on personal vehicles for transportation; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The prioritization of bus-only travel infrastructure along a corridor serving predominantly Black, Brown, and low-income communities risks producing a disparate impact on residents who work in trades, have shift-based employment, and caregivers whose travel patterns are not easily accommodated by fixed-route transit service; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The reduction of general purpose travel lanes and on-street parking associated with dedicated bus lane implementation may disproportionately burden corridor residents with limited access to alternative transportation options by increasing travel times, limiting curbside access for essential services, and creating barriers to economic participation; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the proposed allocation of capital funding associated with the Blue Hill Avenue Corridor Project, including the potential reallocation of funds away from dedicated bus lane infrastructure and toward beautification, streetscape improvements, landscaping, tree canopy expansion, and pedestrian infrastructure in order to mitigate potential disparate impacts and advance civil rights protections in the design and maintenance of public streets, and to provide a comprehensive status update on the design, funding allocation, implementation timeline, and community engagement process for the Blue Hill Avenue Action Plan Project and that representatives from the Boston Transportation Department, the Public Works Department, the Mayor’s Office of Equity and Inclusion, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS MINIARD CULPEPPER AND ED FLYNN



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXAMINE THE STATUS OF THE PROPOSED LONG ISLAND RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND THE REOPENING OF THE LONG ISLAND TREATMENT CENTER

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston announced a proposal to reopen the Long Island Treatment Center as part of a broader effort to expand access to recovery, treatment, and supportive services for individuals experiencing substance use disorder and homelessness; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The proposed Long Island recovery campus has been identified as a critical component of the City's long-term public health response to the opioid crisis and the need for expanded treatment infrastructure; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The timely reopening of the Long Island Treatment Center remains a critical priority in addressing ongoing public health challenges related to substance use disorder and housing instability; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Exploring alternative access options may provide a pathway to reopening treatment and recovery services on Long Island sooner while long-term infrastructure solutions are pursued; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the current status of the proposed Long Island reconstruction project and the planned reopening of the Long Island Treatment Center, including a project timeline update, funding status update, and regulatory approval status, and to explore potential interim alternatives for restoring access to Long Island, including ferry service, and that representatives from the Boston Public Works Department, the Mayor's Office of Housing, the Boston Public Health Commission, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: February 25, 2026



## **CITY OF BOSTON**

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX**

### **ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXAMINE WEATHER EMERGENCY POLICIES FOR UNHOUSED INDIVIDUALS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON AND COORDINATION WITH HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS AND THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

**WHEREAS,** On February 11, 2026, the Boston City Council unanimously adopted Docket #0353: Resolution recognizing the avoidable tragic death of Carvell Curry and urging the City and Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority to adopt compassionate cold-weather emergency shelter policies; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Extreme cold, extreme heat, and severe weather conditions are known life-threatening hazards for individuals experiencing homelessness and may increase the risk of injury, illness, or death when adequate shelter options are not readily accessible; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Winter weather emergencies, heat emergencies, and other severe weather events demand proactive, humane, and flexible emergency response protocols that prioritize human safety and dignity for unhoused individuals; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Government-owned and controlled properties, including indoor public facilities, may serve as potential safe spaces for unhoused individuals during declared weather emergencies when coordinated access policies are implemented; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, as a steward of public transit infrastructure and public-facing facilities throughout Boston, plays an important role in ensuring that its policies and practices during severe weather events are coordinated with City emergency responses; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Housing and homelessness assistance providers are critical partners in the City's response to severe weather emergencies affecting unhoused individuals, including through outreach, shelter access, and supportive services; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Effective emergency responses to extreme weather conditions requires clear, written protocols between the City, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation

Authority, and housing and homelessness assistance providers to ensure timely coordination and communication during declared weather emergencies; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** A comprehensive understanding of existing policies, procedures, and coordination efforts between City agencies, transit authorities, and service providers is necessary to ensure that unhoused individuals are able to access safe shelter and services during severe weather events; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

***ORDERED:*** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine weather emergency policies currently in place for unhoused individuals in Boston, including the level of coordination between the City, housing and homelessness assistance providers, and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority during extreme cold, extreme heat, and other severe weather events, and to assess opportunities for improved collaboration, communication, and access to safe shelter during declared weather emergencies, and that representatives from the Mayor’s Office of Housing, the Boston Public Health Commission, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, housing and homelessness assistance providers, and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS MINIARD CULPEPPER AND JULIA MEJIA



## **CITY OF BOSTON**

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX**

### **ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXAMINE CROSSING GUARD STAFFING SHORTAGES IN THE CITY OF BOSTON AND TO EXPLORE STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVED COORDINATION AND VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT**

- WHEREAS**, Boston is currently facing a significant understaffing of crossing guards, limiting the City's ability to provide adequate school crossing support for students and families throughout Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS**, Reports indicate that approximately one in four crossing guard positions in the City of Boston are currently unfilled, resulting in inconsistent coverage at school-area intersections during peak arrival and dismissal times; *and*
- WHEREAS**, Crossing guards play an indispensable role in enhancing student safety, particularly at busy intersections and in neighborhoods with high pedestrian traffic where students rely on safe crossings to travel to and from school; *and*
- WHEREAS**, The Boston Police Department plays a critical role in approving crossing guard locations, coordinating traffic safety planning, and supporting school-area pedestrian safety, and greater proactive coordination between the Boston Police Department and relevant City departments is necessary to ensure timely deployment and consistent coverage of crossing guards; *and*
- WHEREAS**, Crossing guard staffing shortages have made it increasingly difficult for the City to maintain reliable coverage at designated school crossings, particularly in areas with high volumes of pedestrian and vehicular traffic; *and*
- WHEREAS**, The recruitment and retention of both paid crossing guards and trained community-member volunteers will provide a more consistent and resilient staffing model, support equitable access to safe school travel, and strengthen community engagement in school safety efforts; *and*
- WHEREAS**, Improved coordination between the City of Boston and the Boston Police Department in recruiting, training, deploying, and supporting volunteer crossing guards will help address current staffing shortages and improve student safety outcomes across neighborhoods; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the current crossing guard staffing shortages in the City of Boston, including the number of unfilled positions and their impact on student safety, and to explore strategies by which the City of Boston and the Boston Police Department can improve coordination in the recruitment, training, and deployment of both paid and volunteer crossing guards in order to ensure consistent coverage at key school-area intersections, and that representatives from the Boston Police Department, the Boston Public Schools Department of Transportation, the Boston Transportation Department, Safe Routes To School program representatives, and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

Offered by City Councilor Julia Mejia



**CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL**

---

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX**

---

**ORDER FOR A HEARING ON TRANSPARENCY AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY OF PRIVATE FUNDRAISING IN BOSTON PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS,** Boston Public Schools (BPS) are primarily funded through local, state, and federal public sources, yet many individual schools rely on private fundraising activities to supplement their budgets and support instructional programming, extracurricular activities, staffing, and student services; *and*

**WHEREAS,** There is currently no publicly available, districtwide system that tracks the sources, amounts, or uses of private funds raised and spent by individual Boston Public Schools, as the district does not collect or publicly report this information in a consistent manner; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In 2018, in the interest of trust, transparency, and fiscal responsibility, Boston Public Schools retained an independent accounting firm to audit school-based accounts and affiliated organizations for the years 2013 through 2018, providing a one-time snapshot of private fundraising across the district; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The audit revealed that approximately one-third of schools had affiliated 501(c)(3) nonprofit fundraising organizations, and that schools with these nonprofit arms were among the highest fundraisers districtwide, while many other schools had limited or no access to private fundraising resources; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Boston Public Schools encourages schools engaged in private fundraising to partner with the Boston Education Fund (BEDF), a 501(c)(3) organization that serves as a fiscal agent for school-based funds and provides financial management and reporting services; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Not all schools utilize BEDF accounts, and there is no publicly available reporting on the balances, expenditures, or distribution of privately raised

funds held through BEDF or other independent school-affiliated entities;  
*and*

**WHEREAS,** Pursuant to a Superintendent’s Circular, any school seeking to establish an independent 501(c)(3) organization must receive district approval and submit annual reporting to Boston Public Schools, including the organization’s operating budget and a rationale for the need for an independent nonprofit structure; *and*

**WHEREAS,** While such reporting requirements exist, enforcement has been inconsistent and the information submitted by school-affiliated nonprofits has not been made publicly available, limiting transparency and public understanding of how private funds are distributed and used across the district; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Boston Public Schools are currently facing a projected \$53 million budget shortfall, requiring difficult fiscal decisions at both the district and school levels, including program reductions, staffing impacts, and constrained resources; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In this context of budgetary constraint, the absence of transparent, publicly accessible information about private fundraising and school-based accounts raises concerns about equity, accountability, and the uneven ability of schools to supplement public funding through private means; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The public, families, educators, and policymakers have a right to understand the full financial picture of resources held and spent for the benefit of Boston Public Schools, including both public appropriations and privately raised funds; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine transparency, accountability, equity, and oversight related to private fundraising, school-affiliated nonprofit organizations, and privately held funds supporting Boston Public Schools.

Filed in Council: February 25, 2026

Offered by City Councilor Julia Mejia



**CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL**

---

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX**

---

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO REVIEW PREVENTION AND RESPONSE  
TO BULLYING, SEXUAL HARASSMENT, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND  
SEXUAL MISCONDUCT IN BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

- WHEREAS,*** Boston Public Schools (BPS) has an obligation to provide students with safe, welcoming, and supportive learning environments free from bullying, sex-based discrimination, harassment, and violence; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** BPS policies and guidance recognize that bullying and sexual misconduct can include unwelcome conduct by students or adults, and that off-campus conduct may still violate district policy when it disrupts a student’s ability to learn; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** National research has long documented the prevalence and impact of bullying and sexual misconduct in K–12 settings, including educator sexual misconduct, and highlights the importance of prevention, reporting pathways, early intervention, and institutional accountability; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** Public health data show that many young people experience bullying, dating violence, and sexual violence during adolescence, underscoring the need for schools to have clear prevention strategies, trauma-informed supports, and effective response protocols; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** Students and families have raised concerns—locally and nationally—about inconsistent reporting experiences, uneven follow-through, fear of retaliation, and the risk that students who report harm are punished, marginalized, or pushed out of school instead of supported; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** There is a need for transparent, data-informed oversight of how BPS prevents bullying and sexual harm; receives and investigates reports; provides supportive measures; ensures accountability; and communicates

with students and families while protecting privacy and due process; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

***ORDERED:*** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to review Boston Public Schools' policies, procedures, training, staffing, data systems, and accountability measures related to the prevention of and response to bullying, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual misconduct involving students, including student-to-student and adult-to-student incidents; that such hearing examine BPS prevention efforts, anti-bullying education and intervention strategies, reporting pathways accessible to all students and families, supportive measures provided to students who report harm, investigation protocols and safeguards against retaliation, discipline practices to ensure students experiencing trauma are not penalized for trauma-related impacts, school-based staffing and coordination capacity, and data collection and public accountability practices. Representatives from Boston Public Schools, parents, students, educators, community organizations, and members of the public shall be invited and encouraged to attend.

Filed in Council: February 25, 2026

Offered by City Councilor Julia Mejia



**CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL**

---

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX**

---

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO IDENTIFY COMMUNITY  
PRIORITIES, NEEDS, AND HOPES IN BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS,** Serving students and their families, as well as supporting educators and staff, is at the center of Boston Public Schools' (BPS') duties and responsibilities; *and*

**WHEREAS,** We are able to best serve our BPS community when we hear directly from them because they are on the ground; this valuable lived experience shapes their perspective, which allows community members to provide insightful feedback that the district may not have access to otherwise; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Despite the informative observations from community that BPS could greatly benefit from, constituents have consistently reached out expressing that they feel as though things are being done to them without their input and that they are not heard by the district; *and*

**WHEREAS,** With major decisions recently made (such as school closures, staffing cuts, and more) and additional major decisions coming down the pipeline, now is a time to involve the community as much as possible; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Community engagement in BPS should employ co-governance and participatory democracy models and principles, as an enhanced community role in decision-making leads to improved outcomes for all with community voice being valued and the district gaining helpful insights; *and*

**WHEREAS,** As part of implementing more robust community engagement in BPS, it is critical to identify community priorities, needs, and hopes in order to best serve and educate our students; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to identify community priorities, needs, and hopes for BPS as a part of creating a more robust community engagement model in the district. Representatives from Boston Public Schools, parents, students, educators, community organizations, and members of the public shall be invited and encouraged to attend.

Filed in Council: February 25, 2026

Offered by City Councilor Julia Mejia



**CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL**

---

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX**

---

**ORDER FOR A HEARING ON THE CIVIL RIGHTS, CONSTITUTIONAL,  
AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE BOSTON REGIONAL  
INTELLIGENCE CENTER (BRIC), THE ASSOCIATIVE VIOLENCE  
INFORMATION SYSTEM (AVIS), AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE  
READERS (ALPR), AND PARTICIPATION IN FEDERAL JOINT TASK  
FORCES (JTTF)**

***WHEREAS,*** As members of the Boston City Council, we have sworn an oath to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and therefore bear a continuing responsibility to ensure that City policies and practices respect the civil liberties and legal protections guaranteed to the residents of Boston; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** The Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC) operates as a multi-agency intelligence and information-sharing hub through which the Boston Police Department collects, analyzes, maintains, and disseminates information with state and federal law enforcement partners including but not limited to Joint Terrorism Task Forces of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Anti-Terrorism Task Forces of the Department of Justice, and Regional Terrorism Early Warning Group; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** Through BRIC, the City utilizes interconnected intelligence tools to maintain data collected not only through documented field interactions but also via social media monitoring and ALPRs, which may be aggregated through AVIS, previously known as the gang database, linking individuals and incidents based on associations and behavioral indicators to identify patterns in group-related violence; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** These interconnected systems collectively shape how individuals are labeled, monitored, tracked, or included in intelligence records. Participation in shared intelligence environments may result in

information collected locally being used for purposes beyond the City's direct control, and in opposition to City values and commitments; *and*

**WHEREAS,** BRIC operates a Real Time Crime Center that functions as a centralized surveillance hub integrating live camera feeds, automated license plate reader data, social media monitoring tools, and multiple law enforcement databases to enable real-time monitoring, tracking, and analysis; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Although participation in the JTTF is voluntary for the City of Boston, federal memoranda and related directives, including NSPM-7, have instructed such task forces to investigate and disrupt activities characterized as domestic extremism, including conduct that may involve First Amendment-protected speech or protest; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Boston Regional Intelligence Center Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties Protection Policy only restricts disclosure of certain BRIC records to the public or the subject individual, while permitting dissemination among authorized governmental agencies based on official duties and operational necessity, allowing information to circulate across agencies without corresponding notice or access to the affected person; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Because data may be collected and maintained without incident (i.e. arrest, charge, or conviction), records derived from associations, location data, or investigative leads may influence law enforcement encounters and other governmental decision-making, threatening an individual's right to due process, equal protection, freedom of speech and association, and protection against unreasonable searches; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Concerns regarding the scope, impact, and civil liberties implications of BRIC's operations have been raised and documented by community members and civil rights organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts and the Muslim Justice League, whose research, public records requests, and community advocacy have brought increased public awareness to these issues; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Boston City Council has an oversight responsibility to ensure that intelligence and surveillance practices operating within the City are transparent, accountable, and aligned with constitutional protections and the City's commitments to supporting the constitutional rights and civil liberties of City of Boston residents; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council hold a series of hearings, policy briefings, and public testimony sessions to examine the civil rights and civil liberties implications of Boston's intelligence and surveillance infrastructure, centering the

perspectives of civil rights experts, constitutional scholars, impacted residents, and Administration officials responsible for oversight and operations. The series should focus on, but not be limited to, examining the governance, funding, transparency, accountability structures, and intelligence-sharing practices of the Boston Regional Intelligence Center, with particular attention to safeguards protecting privacy rights, and freedom from discriminatory surveillance; the structure, evidentiary standards, inclusion criteria, notice procedures, due process protections, removal mechanisms, and documented racial and ethnic disparities associated with the Associative Violence Information System (AVIS); the deployment and regulation of surveillance technologies such as Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR), including data collection and retention policies, query standards, inter-agency access, protections against prolonged location tracking; and the City of Boston's participation in the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), including the legal authority governing such participation, the scope of information-sharing, oversight mechanisms, and alignment with Boston's commitments to civil rights.

Filed in Council: February 25, 2026

Offered by City Councilor Julia Mejia



**CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL**

---

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX**

---

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXAMINE AND MODERNIZE THE  
BOSTON CITY CHARTER IN ADVANCE OF THE CITY'S 400TH  
ANNIVERSARY**

***WHEREAS,*** The City of Boston approaches the 400th anniversary of its founding, presenting a critical opportunity to reflect on how the City governs itself and whether its governing framework continues to meet the needs of its residents; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** Boston transitioned from a town to a city on March 4, 1822, when residents voted to adopt the City's first charter following authorization by the Massachusetts General Court, formally establishing a municipal government distinct from the prior town-meeting and board of selectmen model; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** While Boston's original charter dates to 1822, the City's current governing structure is not contained in a single modern document but instead reflects a patchwork of statutes, amendments, and home rule petitions developed over more than a century; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** A major revision to the Boston City Charter in 1909 fundamentally reshaped City government by abolishing the bicameral council, creating a unicameral legislative body, and significantly expanding mayoral authority; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** Additional charter amendments enacted between 1948 and 1951 further solidified the present mayor-council system, establishing the framework under which Boston continues to operate today; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** Boston currently functions under what is commonly referred to as a "Modified Plan A" charter, which relies on state legislation and piecemeal revisions rather than a consolidated, voter-ratified governing document; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Since the adoption of Home Rule, many core aspects of City governance—including executive authority, legislative powers, appointments, oversight mechanisms, and administrative structure—have been altered through individual legislative actions without a comprehensive charter review; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Residents, advocates, and policymakers have raised ongoing concerns about transparency, accountability, checks and balances, civic participation, and accessibility within Boston’s current governance structure; *and*

**WHEREAS,** As Boston prepares to mark four centuries as a city, there is a timely and generational opportunity to assess whether the City Charter reflects contemporary democratic values, equity goals, and the lived realities of Boston’s communities; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the history, structure, and future of the Boston City Charter, including opportunities for modernization, consolidation, and reform; that such hearing include, but not be limited to, a review of the historical evolution of the Charter from 1822 to the present, the distribution of powers between the executive and legislative branches, the clarity, accessibility, and transparency of the current charter framework, the role of Home Rule petitions in shaping City governance, comparative charter models from other major U.S. cities, opportunities for public participation, accountability, and democratic reform, and potential pathways for a comprehensive charter review or revision process; and that representatives from City departments, constitutional and municipal law experts, historians, government organizations, community advocates, and members of the public be invited to testify.

Filed in Council: February 25, 2026

Offered by City Councilor Julia Mejia



**CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL**

---

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX**

---

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXPLORE HOW TO AMEND  
SPECIAL LAW TO EXPAND ACCESS TO THE BALLOT BOX BY  
REMOVING LANGUAGE BARRIERS AND ALIGNING WITH THE  
LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATIONS ACCESS ORDINANCE**

***WHEREAS,*** Constituents have reached out about printing ballots in municipal elections in Haitian Creole; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** Upon further research, it has been discovered that the last time legislation has been passed to broaden the languages on ballots in Boston was with Chapter 166 of the Acts of 2014; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** Boston passed its updated Language and Communications Access Ordinance in 2022, which states that all vital documents be available in the identified City-wide or Neighborhood Threshold Languages; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** Ballots are not listed as a “vital document” under the Election Department, which may be because ballots are controlled under the special law from 2014; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** Accessibility to voting and ability to participate in the democratic process is a vital service the Election Department provides, therefore clearly needing to be made more accessible by removing language barriers; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** Ballots should be made available in the identified City-wide or Neighborhood Threshold Languages to carry out the intent of the Language and Communications Access Ordinance, and it appears as though the only reason ballots do not legislatively fall under the Language and Communications Access Ordinance is because they fall under special law, uplifting the need to amend said special law; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** The City Council has a duty and responsibility to ensure due diligence and update old legislation to align with new legislation, as is the case here with

ensuring that the special law regarding multilingual ballots aligns with the Language and Communications Access Ordinance; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

***ORDERED:*** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to explore making elections more accessible and ensure that the administration of electoral ballots aligns with the Language and Communications Access Ordinance. This hearing shall include a review of Chapter 166 of the Acts of 2014, the Language and Communications Access Ordinance, and current practices of administering multilingual ballots. Representatives from the Elections Department, Office of Language and Communication Access, other relevant offices, those who speak or work with individuals who speak languages other than English, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

Filed in Council: February 25, 2026



**CITY OF BOSTON**

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX**

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO BRING  
WORLD CUP ACTIVATIONS AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY  
TO BOSTON NEIGHBORHOODS**

**WHEREAS,** Greater Boston will host matches for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, an international event expected to bring hundreds of thousands of visitors and significant global attention to the City and the Commonwealth; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston has announced City Hall Plaza as the site of the official FIFA Fan Festival, building on recent public events and investments intended to support large-scale events; *and*

**WHEREAS,** City Hall Plaza will serve as the central Fan Festival location, the World Cup experience must be a citywide event, with activation and engagement extending throughout all of Boston's neighborhoods; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The City can support each neighborhood through watch parties, community block celebrations, and local programming as a way to ensure residents across Boston can participate in the World Cup regardless of location; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Other FIFA 2026 host cities, including Mexico City, Toronto, Kansas City, and Philadelphia, have specific action plans that are pairing Fan Festivals with satellite watch zones, neighborhood-scale activations, and locally curated events to expand access, manage crowd density, and distribute economic activity; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Local neighborhood businesses, particularly small, people of color-, women-, veteran-, and locally owned enterprises, must be positioned to contribute to and benefit from major events including proactive outreach, coordination, and technical support; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Collaborative planning between the City, the Boston 2026 Host Committee, neighborhood organizations, and local businesses can help ensure that World Cup-related activity supports equity goals, strengthens neighborhood economies, and enhances the overall visitor and resident experience; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine and support the City of Boston's plans for neighborhood activations, including satellite watch zones, neighborhood-based programming, community information sessions, and strategies to meaningfully engage local neighborhood businesses and organizations as partners in a broad citywide World Cup experience.

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE

### ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE IN CHINATOWN AND THE LEATHER DISTRICT

**WHEREAS,** In April 2025, there was a water main break in Chinatown, causing extensive flooding and evacuation of residents. Three properties were impacted and six units were displaced. The burst pipe was a six-inch fire sprinkler water pipe, and it was unclear what caused the break; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Over the last few years, there have been several other water main breaks in Chinatown, including a 12-inch water main break in August 2023 at the intersection of Harrison Avenue and Beach street, and another 12-inch water main break in September 2022 at the intersection of Washington and Kneeland Streets. This has impacted traffic, services and businesses in and around Chinatown; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In 2024, in the Leather District, residents complained that tap water temperatures were reaching nearly 100 degrees, and shared concerns regarding the adverse effects of high groundwater levels on civil infrastructure; *and*

**WHEREAS,** A number of potential factors can lead to water main breaks, including aging pipes, soil corrosion, construction, and traffic weight; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Boston Water and Sewer Commission actively monitors the health and function of its systems via pipe relining, pipe replacement and other preventative maintenance programs, including water main flushing, pipe cleaning, catch basin cleaning, among others; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In 2016, it was estimated that 22% of water pipes in Boston were more than a century old, with fewer than 100 miles of the city's water pipes relined. Last year, at a meeting with residents of Chinatown and the Leather District, Boston Water and Sewer Commission announced their plans for Capital Improvements and Stormwater Remediation Installation in the area; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In Chinatown, scheduled improvements, including recent projects to replace a 100-year-old water main on Hudson Street was completed in 2023, and another project to replace a 100-year-old sewer main on Tyler Street was completed in 2024. In the Leather District, a new project to replace a water main along Essex Street from Lincoln Street to Washington Street in Chinatown is scheduled; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** Water and sewer pipes are critical infrastructure to the health and quality life of a city. There is a need for comprehensive planning and collaboration to address aging infrastructure and slow processes due to design work, and a need to ensure traffic and small businesses are minimally impacted by any construction; *and*

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:***

That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss the Water and Sewer Infrastructure in Chinatown and the Leather District. Representatives from the Boston Water and Sewer Commission and other relevant and interested parties shall be invited to testify.

**Filed on: February 25, 2026**

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### ORDER FOR A HEARING ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE ON CIVILITY IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

- WHEREAS:** Intense partisan identity has been on the rise with people shifting to further ends of the political spectrum. We have been left in a place where there is a larger volume of issues for people to disagree with. According to polling in 2024, a record 80% of U.S. adults said that Americans were greatly divided on the most important values; *and*
- WHEREAS:** With escalating polarization and tensions, it is important that our government leaders and elected officials practice civility. National, state, and local government bodies should serve as role models for civil discourse, refraining from disrespect, personal offenses and remain professional, all while leaving room for disagreements in the spirit of democracy; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Municipalities across the country have taken action to foster a welcoming environment for government and residents alike to engage in healthy dialogue. The Montana League of Cities and Towns, a nonpartisan association of municipalities in Montana, painted a blueprint for how local leaders can encourage civility. In short, leaders should provide leadership, welcome disagreements, and connect, respect, and listen; *and*
- WHEREAS:** In terms of past examples of official committees and commissions focusing on civility, the City of Nashville has an Ad Hoc Civility Committee, which held a hearing to discuss a proposed Council Civility Code. Additionally, The Illinois Supreme Court has a dedicated Commission on Professionalism, which maintains its focus on promoting civility. The Commission, governed by Illinois Supreme Court Rule 799, may help outline a potential body for the City of Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS:** The National League of Cities (NLC), an organization comprised of city and town leaders stated in a 2024 article that city governments should, “be mediators in the community by working strategically with community groups to facilitate difficult conversations.” Recently, elected and municipal officials participated in a NLC forum to discuss how city leaders can improve civility in city government; *and*
- WHEREAS:** This hearing will be an opportunity to learn from legal experts, nonprofits, and residents on how this committee will serve as an example of strong leadership and fellowship. It would be beneficial to look into how the City of Boston can resist its own issues of incivility so we can serve as better role models for public discourse and lessen the effects of political tensions both locally and nationally; *and*
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:** That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss the establishment of a Committee on Civility in the City of Boston. Representatives from the City of Boston, Department of Intergovernmental Relations, and any other relevant party are invited to attend.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ED FLYNN & ERIN MURPHY



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS APPROPRIATE USES OF BOSTON 311 AND 9-1-1 EMERGENCY

- WHEREAS:** With continuously unsafe at Mass and Cass, the opioid crisis continuing to impact neighborhoods across the city, and other various quality of life issues in our communities, such as noise disturbances at all hours - residents have called attention to the oftentimes blurred line of when it is appropriate to contact Boston 311 and when to call 9-1-1, traditionally reserved for emergencies; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Boston 311 is the city's non-emergency information and service line. Boston 311 addresses various quality of life concerns, including broken sidewalks, overflowing trash, damaged signs, and potholes. The service also provides information such as neighborhood trash days, scheduling mattress pickup, and back to school information; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Additionally, Boston 311 has a “health hazards” category when entering a service request, which includes issues like encampments and needle pickup. When residents come across an encampment or discarded needles, they may be in a situation that requires them to call 9-1-1 if there is an emergency that requires immediate attention; *and*
- WHEREAS:** 9-1-1 is designated as the “Universal Emergency Number” for the United States. The Boston Police Department receives all 9-1-1 calls made from landlines, which are then transferred to the State Police, Boston EMS, or the Boston Fire Department as appropriate; *and*
- WHEREAS:** 9-1-1 should be called to report police, medical, or fire emergencies that need a timely response. The Boston Police Department has noted that residents can call the Captain’s Office, Detectives, or Community Service Office at your local police district, however, non-emergency inquiries should be reported to Boston 311. At the same time, since the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Boston Police have also encouraged residents to call 911 for disturbances coming from late parties; *and*
- WHEREAS:** With ongoing open air drug dealing, public drug use, discarded needles in neighborhoods abutting Mass and Cass, as well as various public safety, public health, and quality of life issues in the city - it is important for residents to know when to call 9-1-1 or contact Boston 311; *and*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:**

That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss the use of Boston 311 of 9-1-1. Representatives from the Boston Police Department, Boston 311, and other relevant and interested parties shall be invited to testify.

**Filed on: February 25, 2026**



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS BOSTON 2025 CRIME STATISTICS

**WHEREAS:** The 2025 crime statistics report was released by the Boston Police Department on December 29th, 2025. It is critical that the Boston City Council discuss crime trends with relevant stakeholders, including city officials, law enforcement, advocacy groups, schools, and residents; *and*

**WHEREAS:** The scope of crimes reported is sectionalized into three parts: Part 1 crime, firearm-related arrests, and shootings. Part 1 crime overall decreased by 3% from 2024 to 2025, with an increase in homicide (24 in 2024 and 31 in 2025), and an increase in commercial burglary (358 in 2024 and 379 in 2025); *and*

**WHEREAS:** We must also recognize the hardworking men and women at the Boston Police Department for their dedication to keep our city safe; *and*

**WHEREAS:** It is important to discuss these crime statistics to help our communities understand the prevalence and types of crimes occurring in their area, which can help to inform our policy and legislation moving forward. We must recognize patterns in our crime statistics to improve public safety and quality of life; *and*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:**

That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss the 2025 crime statistics in the City of Boston. Representatives from the Boston Police Department, the Boston Police Commissioner, and Boston City Council are invited to attend.

**Filed in Council:** February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN



**CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL**

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS BOSTON PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS (BPS) HEALTH SERVICES LEADERSHIP  
QUALIFICATIONS**

**WHEREAS:** School nurses play a critical role in our schools - they are responsible for the health of children by assessing and treating illness and injuries, distributing medication, and promoting the overall health of the school community. School nurses are one of the most undervalued professions, and it's critical that they are respected with the same dignity and integrity as other nurses; *and*

**WHEREAS:** In recent weeks, many BPS school nurses have expressed concerns regarding the recent change to the qualifications for the Senior Director of Health Services position within Boston Public Schools, which no longer requires candidates to hold a registered nursing license; *and*

**WHEREAS:** Many school nurses have expressed concerns that this recent change in qualifications has a negative impact on their work environment, citing that being led by someone without a nursing license undermines the profession and raises legitimate concerns about the quality and integrity of health leadership within our schools; *and*

**WHEREAS:** Moreover, many are saying that this change could potentially have a direct impact on student care. School nurses play a critical role in ensuring that students with complex and significant healthcare needs can safely and fully participate in their education. This responsibility requires current, evidence-based clinical judgment and sound decision-making, supported by strong leadership from an experienced and highly educated nurse. Without that leadership, the consistency and quality of health services for our most vulnerable students may be put at risk; *and*

**WHEREAS:** At this time, it is critical for the Boston City Council to listen to BPS leadership on their decision to cut this critical qualification and the impact it has on our students and school nurse community; *and*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:**

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the BPS health services leadership qualifications.

Filed in City Council: February 11, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AND REAFFIRMING BOSTON'S COMMITMENT TO WOMEN'S RIGHTS

**WHEREAS,** March is nationally recognized as Women's History Month, honoring the historic and ongoing contributions of women to the social, economic, cultural, and civic life of the United States; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Boston has served as a national center for women's leadership and social change, including the early women's rights movement led by Lucy Stone and the New England Woman Suffrage Association, the literary legacy of Phillis Wheatley, the civil rights leadership of Melnea Cass, and the continued organizing of women across every Boston neighborhood; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Women comprise over 52% of Boston's population and more than 49% of the City's workforce, serving as educators, healthcare workers, entrepreneurs, public servants, caregivers, and community leaders who sustain the City's economy and social infrastructure; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Women in Boston remain disproportionately impacted by economic and health inequities, including a persistent gender wage gap in which women in Greater Boston earn approximately 82 cents for every dollar earned by men, with Black and Latina women earning significantly less, rising housing cost burdens, with women, particularly single mothers, more likely to be rent-burdened or housing-insecure, and maternal health disparities that place Black women in Massachusetts at more than twice the risk of pregnancy-related death compared to white women; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Women in Boston also experience disproportionate rates of domestic and sexual violence, and are more likely to serve as unpaid caregivers, increasing vulnerability to economic instability; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Recent federal actions and judicial decisions have weakened protections related to reproductive healthcare, workplace rights, civil rights enforcement, and gender-based discrimination, placing women's health, autonomy, and safety at risk. These federal rollbacks disproportionately harm women of color,

low-income women, immigrant women, LGBTQ+ women, and women with disabilities, compounding existing inequities within Boston communities; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Massachusetts has demonstrated its commitment to women through investments and policies including paid parental leave, pay equity reforms, domestic violence prevention services, workforce development initiatives, maternal health programs, and expanded access to reproductive and family healthcare; *and*

**WHEREAS,** This moment demands renewed local leadership to affirm that women’s rights are human rights, and that Boston will remain a city that defends dignity, equity, and opportunity for all; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**RESOLVED,** That the Boston City Council hereby recognizes March as Women’s History Month and honors the immeasurable contributions of women to the City of Boston. The Council reaffirms Boston’s commitment to advancing gender equity and protecting women’s rights, particularly at a time when federal actions threaten long-standing civil and human rights protections. A copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Office of the Clerk, the Mayor’s Office of Women’s Advancement, and relevant state and federal partners.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR MINIARD CULPEPPER



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### RESOLUTION DECLARING FEBRUARY 17 AS JESSE JACKSON DAY IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., whose steadfast leadership helped shape the modern Civil Rights Movement and advance the cause of justice, equity, and opportunity for generations of Americans through decades of advocacy for civil rights, political empowerment, and social justice; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Mentored by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Reverend Jackson played a key role in advancing the principles of nonviolent social change and continued that work as founder of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, championing economic empowerment, voting rights, and educational access at critical moments in the nation's history; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Through his national leadership, Reverend Jackson supported school integration efforts across the United States, including during Boston's school desegregation crisis in the 1970s following the federal ruling in *Morgan v. Hennigan*, one of the most significant Northern civil rights struggles for educational equity; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Jackson utilized his national platform to advocate for policies addressing racial and economic disparities that directly impacted Boston's communities of color, helping to elevate local struggles for educational opportunity and civil rights; *and*

**WHEREAS**, The Rainbow/PUSH Coalition later established an organizational presence in Boston, reflecting Reverend Jackson's commitment to grassroots organizing, voter mobilization, corporate accountability, and workforce equity in cities confronting systemic inequality; *and*

**WHEREAS**, His advocacy extended to the City of Boston, where his moral leadership helped inspire ongoing efforts toward racial equity, fair housing, and inclusive economic development, leaving a lasting legacy that continues to guide Boston's pursuit of civil rights and social progress; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED**: That the Boston City Council hereby declares February 17 as Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. Day in the City of Boston.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ENRIQUE J. PEPÉN AND HENRY SANTANA



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### **RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 27TH OF FEBRUARY AS DOMINICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**WHEREAS,** Every February 27th, the Dominican Republic and Dominicans around the world celebrate the independence of the Dominican Republic as a sovereign nation in 1844; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Dominican Independence Day celebrates the heroism and works of those who fought for Dominican independence, including and especially founding fathers Juan Pablo Duarte, Francisco del Rosario Sánchez, and Matías Ramón Mella; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Dominicans, who make up around 6% of Boston's population, contribute greatly to the City's cultural fabric, enriching the neighborhoods they live in, developing the local economy with over 500 businesses and hundreds of millions of dollars in spending, and serving in various positions of public service; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston is committed to honoring the heritage of communities who make Boston their home, especially our immigrant neighbors who have worked hard to make a new country their home; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The observance of Dominican Independence Day allows for a celebration of Dominican culture, touching on this community's expressions of dance, cuisine, music, and tradition; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council, in celebration of Dominican Independence, declares February 27 as Dominican Independence Day in the City of Boston.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ERIN J. MURPHY



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### Recognizing Read Across America Day and Reaffirming Boston's Commitment to Literacy

**WHEREAS**, Read Across America Day promotes the joy and importance of reading for children and families across the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, strong literacy skills are foundational to academic achievement, economic opportunity, and lifelong success; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing reading proficiency across Boston Public Schools remains essential to improving educational outcomes and closing opportunity gaps; and

**WHEREAS**, school libraries, public libraries, educators, and librarians play a critical role in supporting student literacy and access to books across the City of Boston; and

**WHEREAS**, families are essential partners in supporting children's literacy development and fostering a lifelong love of reading at home and in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, cultivating a culture of reading strengthens families, empowers children, and contributes to stronger communities throughout the City of Boston;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Boston City Council recognizes Read Across America Day and recommits to advancing literacy, supporting educators and libraries, and ensuring that every child in Boston has the opportunity to become a strong and confident reader.

Filed in City Council: February 25, 2026



**OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ERIN J. MURPHY**

## **CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL**

### **Recognizing March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in the City of Boston**

**WHEREAS**, Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month has been observed each March since 1987 to increase public awareness of the needs and potential of individuals with developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and other cognitive and physical disabilities, affect individuals across all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals with developmental disabilities are students, workers, neighbors, family members, and valued members of the Boston community whose contributions strengthen our city; and

**WHEREAS**, inclusion in education, employment, housing, transportation, and civic life is essential to ensuring dignity, independence, and opportunity for all residents; and

**WHEREAS**, families, caregivers, educators, social workers, healthcare professionals, and advocates work tirelessly to ensure access to services and support systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Boston remains committed to advancing accessibility, equity, and opportunity for residents with disabilities through inclusive policies and community partnership;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Boston City Council hereby recognizes March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in the City of Boston; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Council recommits itself to promoting policies that support inclusion, accessibility, equitable services, and full participation in civic and community life for all residents with developmental disabilities.

**Filed in City Council:** February 25, 2026



**OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ERIN J. MURPHY**

## **CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL**

### **Recognizing March as National Social Work Month in the City of Boston**

**WHEREAS**, National Social Work Month is observed each March to honor the dedication and contributions of social workers across the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, social workers serve in schools, hospitals, community health centers, child welfare agencies, veterans services, senior services, housing programs, and public safety systems throughout Boston; and

**WHEREAS**, social workers provide essential services including mental health support, crisis intervention, advocacy, case management, and resource coordination; and

**WHEREAS**, social workers play a critical role in supporting vulnerable populations, including children, seniors, individuals with disabilities, veterans, and families facing economic hardship; and

**WHEREAS**, the profession of social work is rooted in principles of social justice, dignity, and respect for the inherent worth of every person; and

**WHEREAS**, the work of social workers strengthens families, stabilizes communities, and promotes equity throughout the City of Boston;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Boston City Council hereby recognizes March as National Social Work Month in the City of Boston; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Council expresses its deep gratitude to the social workers who serve Boston residents with compassion, integrity, and unwavering commitment.

Filed in City Council: February 25, 2026

**OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ERIN J. MURPHY**



**CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL**

**Recognizing Women’s History Month and the Boston City Council Women’s History Month Celebration**

**WHEREAS,** Women’s History Month is observed each March to honor and recognize the contributions of women throughout history and in contemporary society; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1987, Congress designated March as Women’s History Month, establishing a national opportunity to reflect on the achievements and lasting impact of women across our nation and within our local communities; and

**WHEREAS,** Women have shaped the social, economic, cultural, and civic life of the City of Boston through leadership in education, healthcare, business, public service, the arts, advocacy, and countless other fields; and

**WHEREAS,** Generations of women in Boston have strengthened families, built institutions, advanced equity, and contributed to the character and progress of our neighborhoods and our city; and

**WHEREAS,** Women serving on the Boston City Council and within its Central Staff play a vital role in advancing legislation, conducting oversight, and ensuring the effective and equitable operation of municipal government; and

**WHEREAS,** The growing presence of women in elected office and municipal leadership reflects meaningful progress while underscoring the continued responsibility to expand opportunity, mentorship, and inclusion for future generations; and

**WHEREAS,** The Boston City Council, led by the Chair of the Committee on Human Services, formerly known as the Committee on Strong Women, Families, and Communities, will host the 2026 Women’s History Month Celebration on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. in the Curley Room to recognize outstanding women nominated by members of the Council;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council hereby celebrates Women’s History Month in March 2026 and invites all members, staff, and residents to join in honoring the extraordinary women whose leadership, service, and dedication strengthen our communities and move Boston forward.

**Filed in City Council:** February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ENRIQUE J. PEPÉN



**CITY OF BOSTON**

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX**

**RESOLUTION URGING CONTINUED FUNDING OF  
THE MBTA'S FARE-FREE BUS PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS,** In 2021 the MBTA began a pilot program to end fare collection on the 28 bus route which runs through the heart of Boston via Blue Hill Avenue and Warren Street; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In the six month pilot of fare-free service, ridership on the 28 route quickly climbed to pre-pandemic levels, ridership on parallel lines rose, and bus riders saved money; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The fare-free pilot for the 28 bus route showed that saving even two dollars can make a difference in someone's life and the program's popularity saw it extended and expanded, now including the 23 and 29 bus routes; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The expansion of the program continued its success and now boasts 24,000 fare free trips across the three routes every weekday, with ridership rates significantly surpassing pre-pandemic levels, and travel times reduced thanks to all-door boarding shrinking time spent dwelling at bus stops; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The fare-free bus routes program is funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021, a landmark stimulus package which allowed for incredible investments in public benefits across the United States; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The city of Boston has resolved to use its remaining funds from ARPA to fund this popular and powerful program until June 2026, though its fate after June remains uncertain; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The City is calling for external support to continue this program which greatly improved the riding experience for many Boston residents in Mattapan, Dorchester, and Roxbury; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council support efforts to maintain the fare-free program for the 23, 28, and 29 bus routes and urges extended partnership between the City of Boston and the MBTA.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE



**CITY OF BOSTON**  

---

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX**  

---

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE  
INDEPENDENCE OF  
GHANA ON MARCH 6, 1957**

- WHEREAS,** On March 6, 1957, under the leadership of Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana became the first sub-Saharan African country to achieve independence from European colonial rule with the passage of the Ghana Independence Act of 1957; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Ghana's independence marked a historic turning point and inspired Black liberation movements throughout Africa and the African diaspora, influencing leaders such as Patrice Lumumba, Amílcar Cabral, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and W.E.B. Du Bois, who later resided in Ghana; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Ghana's rich history predates colonization, including powerful and influential states such as the Kingdom of Dagbon and the Ashanti Empire, whose resistance to colonial domination reflected a longstanding commitment to sovereignty and self-determination; *and*
- WHEREAS,** After enduring Portuguese, Dutch, and British control in the region formerly known as the Gold Coast, the Ghanaian people waged a determined struggle for freedom culminating in independence in 1957; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Ghana's post-colonial leadership advanced Pan-African unity and African liberation throughout the continent and is a leading nation in West Africa and on the continent; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Ghana has continued to contribute profoundly to global leadership, culture, and diplomacy through distinguished individuals such as Kofi Annan, Nobel Peace Prize laureate and former Secretary-General of the United Nations; Hilla Limann, President of Ghana's Third Republic; and Ama Ata Aidoo, acclaimed author and advocate for African literature and gender equity; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Ghana has maintained one of the most stable and freest governments in modern Africa and consistently performs well in metrics related to health care, economic growth, and human development; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston recognizes and honors the resilience, achievements, and enduring sovereignty of the Republic of Ghana, the Ghanaian diaspora in Boston, and the lasting global impact of its independence; and the City of Boston eagerly awaits the arrival of the Ghanaian national soccer team, the Black Stars, to Boston for the FIFA World Cup; *and*

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

- ORDERED:** That in honor and celebration of the Independence of Ghana, on March 6, 2026 the City Council orders the Property Management Department to raise the flag of Ghana on the third flagpole on City Hall Plaza in place of the City of Boston flag.

Filed on: February 20, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BENJAMIN J. WEBER



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF H.D. 5608, “AN ACT PROMOTING RULE OF LAW, OVERSIGHT, TRUST, AND EQUAL CONSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT,” (The PROTECT Act)

**WHEREAS**, The Trump Administration has deputized a masked federal police force that has been used to attack immigrant and nonimmigrant neighbors in cities across the country and violate residents’ Constitutional rights under the First Amendment, Second Amendment, and Fourth Amendment; *and*

**WHEREAS**, The Department of Homeland Security under Secretary Kristi Noem has unleashed Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents who have acted with impunity in their attempts to arrest, detain and intimidate nonviolent immigrants and protesters, leading to high-profile deaths of peaceful demonstrators Renee Good and Alex Pretti in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and resulted in the deaths of numerous detainees; *and*

**WHEREAS**, In 2025 there were over 600 arrests at courthouses across the state of Massachusetts and more than 20 individuals were detained by ICE at the East Boston District Courthouse. It’s been reported that 20 percent of courthouse arrests in Massachusetts are occurring in Boston-area courthouses; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Despite rules barring ICE from detaining pregnant, postpartum, or nursing women, in February 2026, ICE detained Djeniffer Benvinda Ribeiro Sameda, a Cape Verdean national who was six months pregnant, outside the Brockton Courthouse. ICE held Ms. Ribeiro Sameda in a temporary holding facility without a proper diet and where she did not receive treatment despite being in medical distress with abdominal pains and nausea for three days. ICE eventually transferred Ms. Ribeiro Sameda to Beth Israel Hospital under ICE guard. Ms. Ribeiro Sameda was eventually released from the hospital after advocacy from the LUCE Immigrant Justice Networker and her attorney.

**WHEREAS**, In December 2024, this Council passed a resolution re-affirming the City’s dedication to the Boston Trust Act, originally enacted in 2014 and amended in 2019, which prohibits the Boston Police Department (BPD) from aiding federal agencies in civil immigration actions, while allowing BPD to participate in actions aimed at serious violent criminals.

**WHEREAS,** On February 11, 2026, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu signed an Executive Order that prohibits ICE from using municipal property and reinforces that violence committed on municipal property by federal agents will be prosecuted. Neighboring Cambridge, Chelsea, Somerville, Newton and Lynn followed suit. Cities including Providence, Rhode Island and Worcester, Massachusetts have barred ICE agents from using municipal properties as staging areas.; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Despite this, recent reporting by GBH News has shown that across Massachusetts some local police, sheriff, and District Attorney offices, including the Suffolk County sheriff’s office, have been in communication with ICE over the last year in “more ways than previously disclosed.”

**WHEREAS,** Indeed, the Massachusetts Department of Correction maintains a 287(g) agreement with ICE and regularly transfers people exiting state prisons directly into ICE custody. It is believed that Massachusetts is the only state where Democrats fully control the state government that has such an agreement.

**WHEREAS,** On January 28, 2026 the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus (MBLLC) filed H.D. 5608, *An Act promoting rule of law, oversight, trust, and equal constitutional treatment*, colloquially known as the PROTECT Act, which has also been endorsed by immigrants rights and civil rights organizations, such as the MIRA Coalition and the ACLU of Massachusetts; *and*

**WHEREAS,** If passed, the PROTECT Act would bar local law enforcement cooperation with ICE for civil offenses statewide, prohibit the Commonwealth from entering into new 287(g) agreements, bar civil detention in courthouses, establish clear rights for detainees when entering detention facilities by ensuring legal communication and language access for those detained, and empower the Massachusetts Attorney General to seek court orders to compel compliance. Under the new system, local agreements are allowed for serious crimes, but would require approval from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), after public notice, comment periods, consultation with the Attorney General, publication of a legal analysis and regular reporting; *and*

**WHEREAS,** It is essential that we support safe access to our courts, restore trust in our local law enforcement agents and protect the rights of all of our residents, regardless of immigration status; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council endorses H.D. 5608, the PROTECT Act, and supports swift action on the bill from the Massachusetts Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN INITIATIVE TO CREATE A U.S. COMMEMORATIVE STAMP SERIES IN HONOR OF AFRICAN AMERICAN VETERANS

**WHEREAS,** Over the last several years, Mr. Haywood Fennell, Sr., a former U.S. Veteran and founder of the Tri-Ad Veterans League, has been spearheading this effort to recognize our African American Veterans. The commemorative stamps will be based on original artwork from an art exhibit called, “Triumph, Unsung Heroes,” commissioned by Mr. Fennell, Sr., in partnership with the Artists For Humanity after school program; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Since the founding of our country, African Americans soldiers have played an important role in the defense of our nation. During the American Civil War, President Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation allowed for one of the first Black regiments - the Massachusetts 54th Regiment - to be created, and through their successes, inspired the enlistment of over 180,000 Black men into the Union Army; *and*

**WHEREAS,** In World War II, the Tuskegee Airmen were the first group of African American aviators in the U.S. Air Forces. They not only garnered much success and earned eight Purple Hearts, 14 Bronze Stars, and over 90 Distinguished Flying Crosses, they also encouraged the eventual integration of the U.S. Armed Forces, leading President Truman to sign Executive Order 9981 in 1948 to end segregation and establish equality of treatment and opportunity in the military; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Time and again, African American soldiers have gallantly placed themselves in danger for the protection of our freedoms despite not being fully free themselves. They have been, and continue to be, an integral part of our military; without their contributions, our forces would not have accomplished many of its missions; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council supports the Citizens’ Stamp Advisory Committee to fully consider this request to honor our African American Veterans through this commemorative stamp series.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR EDWARD M. FLYNN



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RECEIVING A RESPONSE TO DOCKET #0221: ORDER REQUESTING CERTAIN INFORMATION UNDER SECTION 17F: REGARDING ELEVATOR ACCESS, LIFE SAFETY, AND DISABILITY COMPLIANCE

**WHEREAS**, On January 28, 2026, the Boston City Council passed an Order requesting certain information under Section 17F: regarding elevator access, life safety, and disability compliance (docket #0221); *and*

**WHEREAS**, This renewed Order followed review of the Boston Housing Authority's December 10, 2025, response submitted to the original Section 17F Order passed by the Boston City Council. Based on that passage, the City Council has found that the response failed to comply with the requirements of a lawful Section 17F Order; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Details are essential to the City Council's oversight function. Elevator access in public housing directly implicates resident safety, access to medical care, and the City's obligations to residents with disabilities, not limited to mobility impairments. Without complete and reliable information, the Council cannot evaluate the adequacy of BHA's actions, the effectiveness of its internal controls, or the need for further legislative or oversight measures; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**RESOLVED**: That the Boston City Council receives a timely and detailed response to docket #0221 Order requesting certain information under Section 17F: regarding elevator access, life safety, and disability compliance.

Filed on: February 25, 2026



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING A BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION TO STUDY AND ADDRESS DOWNTOWN OFFICE VACANCIES AND CITY REVENUE

- WHEREAS:** Downtown Boston is an important economic driver of our city, state, and New England's economy. For several years, since the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of Boston's neighborhoods, especially those in the Downtown area, have been, and continues to be negatively impacted by office vacancies due to changes to hybrid and remote work; *and*
- WHEREAS:** The City of Boston's budget is heavily reliant on property taxes, with more than 70% of the City's FY26 \$4.8 billion budget coming from property taxes. The city's commercial tax base, which includes offices and retail spaces, is Boston's largest revenue source, making up 35% of the city's revenue; *and*
- WHEREAS:** A 2023 BPDA market analysis found that the Financial District is the largest office submarket in Boston by a substantial margin, with 445 office buildings compared to 178 in Back Bay and 94 in the South Boston Waterfront. 91% of building stock in the Financial District are marked as office use; *and*
- WHEREAS:** According to a report by the real estate firm Cushman & Wakefield, the office vacancy rate in Boston is at 17%, up from 15.1% last year. Vacancy rates impact the value of real estate, which in turn impacts the amount of tax revenue that they generate; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Over the two years, a number of high-profile buildings in Downtown have sold for large discounts, included buildings at 101 Arch Street, selling for \$78 million compared to what it was bought for at \$121.7 million in 2005, One Lincoln Street, formerly known as the State Street Building and now HarborVest, which was sold for \$400 million at a foreclosure auction in March this year, less than half of its value a few years ago, and 99 High St, which sold for \$227 million in late April compared to what it was bought for at \$273 million in 2005 - which is \$100 million below its assessed value of \$373.7 million; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Boston Policy Institute and Tufts University's Center for State Policy Analysis latest research also finds that due to the decreasing value of office spaces, there is now a potential shortfall of \$1.7 billion to \$2.1 billion in city revenue over the next 5 years. The Report also found that office values are likely to fall 35-45% from 2024 levels, which is far higher than the 20-30% decline anticipated from last year's findings (between \$1.2 billion - \$1.5 billion); *and*

**WHEREAS:** Commercial real estate executives in Boston have expressed serious concerns about the future of the city’s office space, and asked for assistance from local, state, and federal officials to play a key role in helping to bring more workers and foot traffic back Downtown. There are also continued concerns that falling commercial property prices would spike property taxes for residential homeowners; *and*

**WHEREAS:** In 2023, the City Council held a hearing on bringing back foot traffic by having in-person meetings for all City boards and commissions, as a way to both set an example and encourage all sectors to work with their employees to begin to shift to more in-person workdays, since our small businesses, restaurants, and retailers need to be supported by visitors to Downtown, and for it to have sustained value and prosperity. Since that time, only the Boston Planning Department monthly Board of Directors meeting has shifted to in-person meetings with a hybrid option for accessibility; *and*

**WHEREAS:** According to a Boston Globe report in December 2025, the City of Boston indicated that it would launch a ‘time limited’ task force in 2026 to explore ways to generate revenue aside from commercial property taxes; *and*

**WHEREAS:** Having a vibrant Downtown is vitally important to the prosperity of our city and state, and Downtown residents, businesses and city officials all agree that higher foot traffic and healthy economic activity is much needed to restore confidence and improve public safety in the neighborhood; *and*

**WHEREAS:** Addressing our office vacancies is also a critical component to a revitalized Downtown, and filling office vacancies will also be important in ensuring the stability of our city’s tax base and budget; *and*

**WHEREAS:** Establishing a Blue Ribbon Commission made up of business leaders, city and state officials and leaders, neighborhood advocates, and other relevant experts to study the impact of the office vacancies and recommend strategies to fill these vacancies, address city budget revenue, and ensure the long term vitality of our City and the whole region; *and*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the Boston City Council works to address the office vacancies in the City of Boston, and that it sends its support in creating a blue ribbon commission in studying this issue, as well as other efforts in ensuring long term economic vitality of Boston.

Filed in City Council: February 25, 2026



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SEVEN NIGHTS PER WEEK “RESIDENT PARKING ONLY” POLICY IN SOUTH BOSTON

- WHEREAS:** Over the last several years, the parking crisis in South Boston has become increasingly unsustainable. In 2023, a Boston Transportation Department (BTD) study on parking in South Boston indicated there were 28,900 active resident parking permits and only 10,600 on-street parking spaces. Although an audit of South Boston residential parking permits was subsequently conducted, and thousands of permits revoked, concerns remain for residents on enforcement and a policy of automatic resident parking permit renewals that continued since the pandemic; *and*
- WHEREAS:** South Boston continues to absorb a significant number of Article 80, large and small, multifamily development projects. While a number of projects have gone through a thorough community process and garnered support of neighbors and abutters, nearby civic associations, and the local elected officials in the midst of a housing crisis - developers have reported being stalled with requests to cut already agreed upon parking ratios, and more closely adhere to BTD’s recommended parking guidelines of 0.5 spots per unit over local zoning regulations; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Residents continue to call attention to quality of life issues and having to consistently search for parking for a considerable period of time, while also expressing concerns regarding sufficient parking on-site for new Article 80 development, and questioning the ability for the BTD to restrict residential parking permits for new rental developments to prevent an overflow of street parking; *and*
- WHEREAS:** South Boston residents consistently report a large number of out-of-state plates and cars lacking a resident parking permit throughout the community, even during the nights of “Resident Parking Only”- Monday to Thursday 6pm-10am. With the neighborhood having become a destination for many young people on the weekend, this dynamic increases significantly - with many visitors parking for several days beginning Friday morning at 10am through Monday evenings at 6pm; *and*
- WHEREAS:** At the very time this influx of non-resident vehicles occurs each weekend, there are no “Resident Parking Only” restrictions and BTD enforcement is also scaled back. As a result, residents have reported increased quality of life and public safety issues - such as illegal parking in handicap spots, crosswalks, MBTA bus stops, blocking driveways and fire hydrants, and double-parking along Broadway; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Due to the unprecedented growth that South Boston has experienced over the last two decades, future development proposals on the horizon, and an imbalance of

parking stickers that are issued compared to parking spots available, the current parking policy needs to adapt to provide relief for residents, while also including attention to caregiver passes and visitor zones; *and*

**WHEREAS:** With neighborhoods in similar proximity to Downtown Boston having stricter residential parking regulations, it is no longer tenable for the absence of an updated seven nights per week “Resident Parking Only” policy for those areas of South Boston who currently do not have one, or the enforcement it requires in the community. It is necessary to protect the tax-paying residents of South Boston from both the unsustainable parking crisis and the aforementioned quality of life issues that occur every weekend, including for our seniors and persons with disabilities; *and*

**WHEREAS:** On December 11th, 2024, both BTB and the Boston Planning Department conducted a virtual meeting with the South Boston Chamber of Commerce and small businesses regarding the South Boston Transportation Plan. At that time, BTB and the Planning Department discussed both parking restrictions along Broadway, as well as the plan to convert the residential neighborhood of South Boston to “Resident Parking Only” for 7 nights per week in those areas that currently lacked overnight parking restrictions; *and*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:**

That the Boston City Council supports a seven nights per week “Resident Parking Only” policy in South Boston.

**Filed in Council: February 25, 2026**

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR EDWARD M. FLYNN



## CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A TEMPORARY ROLLBACK FOR THE INCLUSIONARY DEVELOPMENT POLICY (IDP) AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENT TO 13%

**WHEREAS,** The Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) aims to create more affordable housing options through the inclusion of income-restricted units within a new building, the creation of income-restricted units at a location near the building, or contributions to be made to the IDP fund, used by the City to fund the creation of affordable/income-restricted housing across Boston; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The IDP applies to market-rate housing developments that are in need of zoning relief from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). At this time, it is wholly appropriate to temporarily lower the IDP percent to 13% for the next five years, depending on economic conditions, as the city is unable to produce enough new units to meet the housing demand while facing such difficult economic headwinds; *and*

**WHEREAS,** During this time of great economic uncertainty - a high interest rate environment for years to stem post-pandemic inflation, increased construction costs, and now tariffs - we must use all tools available to build housing in Boston; *and*

**WHEREAS,** With reports continuing to show that production has dropped significantly - from 9,800 in 2020, to 2,389 in 2024, and just 852 in the first half of 2025 - all options should now be on the table to increase supply and meet demand. Recent reports also show Boston lagged 16 peer cities in production in 2024; *and*

**WHEREAS,** A higher percentage of affordable units may be noble and with the best of intentions to address our affordable housing crisis for working families. But, in these conditions - if we're producing less housing, we're also getting less affordable units for residents and families who qualify; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council supports the City of Boston to lower the IDP percentage back to 13% for the next five years to encourage development for new affordable housing opportunities.

**Filed on: February 25, 2026**

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

---

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

---

**ORDERED:** That under the provisions of section 17F of Chapter 452 of the Acts of 1948, as amended, and any other applicable provision of law, the Mayor, be, and hereby is, requested to obtain and deliver to the City Council, within one week of the receipt hereof, the following information regarding increased White Stadium costs and their effect on other Boston Public Schools capital projects:

1. Of the \$252 million cited as community benefits, how much will directly support Boston Public Schools (BPS) students, programming, or facilities apart from the construction costs, and can the City provide a complete itemized list of recipients, amounts, and payment timelines?
2. What financial protections are in place to shield Boston Public Schools from operating and maintenance costs if Boston Legacy does not renew its lease after 10 years?
3. Please produce the executed Guaranteed Maximum Price construction contract governing the City-funded portion of the White Stadium project, specifically as it relates to Boston Public Schools capital allocations, contingencies, and change-order provisions affecting public expenditures.
4. Please identify any and all Boston Public Schools capital projects that have been delayed, reduced, or removed from the Capital Plan due to increased public spending associated with White Stadium.
5. Please provide documentation of any bond authorizations, debt service allocations, or central contingencies supporting White Stadium that affect Boston Public Schools capital capacity.
6. Please provide documentation of any analysis conducted regarding the impact of White Stadium funding on BPS departmental budget reduction targets.

7. What specific school, housing, or infrastructure projects are not being funded or have been deferred because White Stadium absorbed additional capital capacity?
8. Please provide transfers, reallocations, or shared cost centers between White Stadium and other City or BPS capital projects.

Filed in Council: February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR EDWARD FLYNN



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

---

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

---

### ORDER REQUESTING CERTAIN INFORMATION UNDER SECTION 17F RE: MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING, COOPERATION AGREEMENTS OR COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN THE CITY OF BOSTON AND EXTERNAL ENTITIES

**ORDERED:** That under the provisions of section 1.17F of Chapter 376 of the Acts of 1951 as amended by section 16 of Chapter 190 of the Acts of 1982, and any other applicable provision of law, the Mayor, be, and hereby is, requested to obtain and deliver to the City Council, within one week of the receipt hereof, the following information relative to

- 1) Any existing and expired Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs), cooperation agreements or collaborative partnership between any federal agency and the City of Boston regarding data and information sharing executed from January 2021 to the present.
- 2) Any existing and expired MOUs, cooperation agreements or collaborative partnership between the Boston Regional Intelligence Center or Boston Police Department and any federal agency, including but not limited to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives executed from 2021 to the present.
- 3) Any existing and expired MOUs, cooperation agreements or collaborative partnership between any City of Boston agency or department, including but not limited to Boston Housing Authority, Boston Public Schools, Boston Police Department and any federal agency executed from 2021 to the present.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN



**CITY OF BOSTON  
IN CITY COUNCIL**

---

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX**

---

**ORDER REQUESTING CERTAIN INFORMATION UNDER SECTION 17F RE:  
DETAINER REQUESTS FROM JANUARY 1, 2024 TO THE PRESENT**

**ORDERED:** That under the provisions of section 1.17F of Chapter 376 of the Acts of 1951 as amended by section 16 of Chapter 190 of the Acts of 1982, and any other applicable provision of law, the Mayor, be, and hereby is, requested to obtain and deliver to the City Council, within one week of the receipt hereof, the following information relative to

1. From January 1, 2024 to the present, provide any and all communication from any federal government agency to the Boston Police Department or any City department about detainer requests, any cooperation agreements, and/or Memorandum of Understanding.
2. From January 1, 2024 to the present, how many detainer requests were requested, the reason for the request, and how the Boston Police responded to it.
3. On the January 1, 2024 to present detainer requests, what were the specific reasons to request to detain, including if this accounted for open criminal cases. If so, please include these open criminal cases.

Filed on: February 25, 2026

**BOSTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY COUNCIL**

February 19, 2026

Councilor Breadon

**ORDERED:** That effective Saturday, February 28, 2026 the following named person be, and hereby is, appointed to the position set against their name until Friday, March 13, 2026.

BiWeekly Payroll

Veniece Miller	Secretary	\$3,346.16	Full Time
----------------	-----------	------------	-----------

**BOSTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY COUNCIL**

February 19, 2026

Councilor Breadon  
(Councilor Mejia)

**ORDERED:** That effective Saturday, February 21, 2026 the following named person be, and hereby is, appointed to the position set against their name until Friday, March 13, 2026.

BiWeekly Payroll

John D. Moore	Secretary	\$740.26	Part Time
---------------	-----------	----------	-----------

**BOSTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY COUNCIL**

February 19, 2026

Councilor Breadon  
(Councilor Mejia)

**ORDERED:** That effective Saturday, February 21, 2026 the following named person be, and hereby is, appointed to the position set against their name until Friday, February 27, 2026.

BiWeekly Payroll

Millie Rivera	Secretary	\$1,000.00	Part Time
Skarlett Abreu Martinez	Secretary	\$770.00	Part Time

**BOSTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY COUNCIL**

February 19, 2026

Councilor Breadon  
(Councilor Mejia)

**ORDERED:** That effective Saturday, February 28, 2026 the following named person be, and hereby is, appointed to the position set against their name until Friday, March 13, 2026.

BiWeekly Payroll

Millie Rivera	Secretary	\$1000.00	Part Time
Skarlett Abreu Martinez	Secretary	\$540.00	Part Time



## **Boston City Council**

### *Legislative Calendar for the February 25, 2026 Session*

#### **Sixty Day Orders<sup>1</sup>**

##### **In Effect After March 29, 2026**

Message and order for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to appropriate the amount of Six Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,500,000.00) for the purpose of paying costs for the window and door replacement projects at the following schools: the Edward Everett Elementary School and the Richard J. Murphy K-8 School. This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Boston may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of the Boston Public Schools. **(Docket #0128)**

Message and order for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to appropriate the amount of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00) for the purpose of paying costs for the roof replacement projects at the following schools: the Thomas J. Kenny Elementary School and Hugh Roe O’Donnell Elementary School. This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Boston may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of the Boston Public Schools. **(Docket #0129)**

<sup>1</sup>**Section 17E of Chapter 452 of the Acts of 1948 (as amended):**

*The mayor from time to time may make to the city council in the form of an ordinance or loan order filed with the city clerk such recommendations as he may deem to be for the welfare of the city. The City Council shall consider each ordinance or loan order so presented and shall either adopt or reject the same within sixty days after the date when it is filed as aforesaid. If such ordinance or loan order is not rejected within sixty days, it shall be in force as if adopted by the city council unless previously withdrawn by the mayor.*  
**Section 15 of Chapter 190 of the Acts of 1982 (as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 701 of the Acts of 1986)** *The city council shall take definite action on any supplementary appropriation order and any order for a transfer of appropriations by adopting, reducing or rejecting it within sixty days after it is filed with the city clerk; and in the event of their failure to do so, such supplementary appropriation order or transfer as submitted by the mayor shall be in effect as if formally adopted by the city council.*

## **Assigned for Further Action**

### **In Effect After March 29, 2026**

Message and order for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to appropriate the amount of Six Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,500,000.00) for the purpose of paying costs for the window and door replacement projects at the following schools: the Edward Everett Elementary School and the Richard J. Murphy K-8 School. This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Boston may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of the Boston Public Schools. **(Docket #0128)**

Message and order for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to appropriate the amount of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00) for the purpose of paying costs for the roof replacement projects at the following schools: the Thomas J. Kenny Elementary School and Hugh Roe O’Donnell Elementary School. This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Boston may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of the Boston Public Schools. **(Docket #0129)**

## **On the Table**

Order to adopt Rules for the Boston City Council for Municipal Years 2026-2027. (**Docket #0157 - Amendment to Rule 35**)

## **Unanswered Section 17F Orders<sup>2</sup>**

Order requesting certain information under Section 17F: regarding elevator access, life safety, and disability compliance. **(Docket #0221)**

Order requesting certain information under Section 17F re: Memoranda of Understanding between the Boston Police Department and external entities. **(Docket #0296)**

Order requesting information under section 17F regarding cost of out-of-district vocational placements for Boston resident students. **(Docket #0297)**

Order requesting certain information under section 17F regarding traveling Boston Public School employees and parking access needs. **(Docket #0298)**

### **<sup>2</sup>Section 17F of Chapter 452 of the Acts of 1948 (as amended):**

*The city council may at any time request from the mayor specific information on any municipal matter within its jurisdiction, and may request his presence to answer written questions relating thereto at a meeting to be held not earlier than one week from the date of the receipt of said questions, in which case the mayor shall personally, or through ahead of a department or a member of a board, attend such meeting and publicly answer all such questions. The person so attending shall not be obliged to answer questions relating to any other matter.*

## ***Home Rule Petitions Not Responded to by the Mayor***

### ***<sup>3</sup>Section 22 of Chapter 190 of the Acts of 1982:***

*Every order of the city council approving a petition to the general court pursuant to Clause (1) of Section 8 of Article 2 of the amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth shall be presented to the mayor who shall forthwith consider the same, and, within fifteen days of presentation, either approve it, or file with the city council a statement in detail of his reasons for not approving the same, including any objection based on form, on content, or both; provided, that no such order shall be deemed approved or in force unless the mayor affixes his signature thereto.*

## *Matters in Committee*

The following matters were previously filed with the City Council and have been referred to a committee. Matters in committee can be brought back before the City Council pursuant to City Council Rule 24. The following *definitions* describe different types of matters in committee:

- Ordinances:*** Local laws enacted by the Boston City Council and the Mayor that become part of the City Code of Ordinances.
- Loan Orders:*** Authorization for the City of Boston to incur debt and expend money for projects, purchases, or other obligations.
- Orders:*** Directives that authorize action. Orders are legally binding but are not part of the City Code of Ordinances.
- Home Rule Petitions:*** Requests for special acts that concern a particular municipality. Home Rule Petitions require approval of the Boston City Council and Mayor, as well as passage by the state legislature.
- Order for a Hearing:*** A formal request sponsored by a councilor that a committee of the Boston City Council conduct a hearing about a particular matter, issue, or policy that impacts the City of Boston. An Order for a Hearing is not a law and is not voted on by the City Council. The only action concerning an Order for a Hearing that can be taken at a City Council meeting is the administrative action of placing it on file.
- Legislative Resolution:*** A recommendation concerning policy issues that may urge action on particular matters. Legislative resolutions have no legal effect. Legislative resolutions represent a particular position or statement by a Councilor, Councilors, or the City Council as a whole.

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred	Hearing(s)	Notes
Arts, Culture, Entertainment, Tourism & Special Events	<b>0186</b>	<b>Louijeune</b>		Order for a hearing on equitable contracting and business opportunities for major civic sporting events in Boston.		1/28/2026	
Arts, Culture, Entertainment, Tourism & Special Events	<b>0210</b>	<b>Worrell</b>	Mejia	Order for a hearing to discuss the creation of cultural districts in Boston.		1/28/2026	
Arts, Culture, Entertainment, Tourism & Special Events	<b>0212</b>	<b>Worrell</b>	Flynn	Order for a hearing on a proposal for a Crispus Attucks Statue.		1/28/2026	
Arts, Culture, Entertainment, Tourism & Special Events	<b>0220</b>	<b>Worrell</b>		Order for a hearing to bring more signature sports events to Boston.		1/28/2026	
Arts, Culture, Entertainment, Tourism & Special Events	<b>0339</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss the goals and priorities of the Office of Arts and Culture and the Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment in the City of Boston.		2/11/2026	
Census, Redistricting, and Elections	<b>0183</b>	<b>Louijeune</b>	Pepén	Order for a hearing regarding voter accessibility and election preparedness.		1/28/2026	
Census, Redistricting, and Elections	<b>0355</b>	<b>Louijeune</b>		Resolution affirming Boston's Ranked Choice Voting Home Rule Petition.		2/11/2026	
City Services	<b>0112</b>	<b>Murphy</b>		Order for a hearing regarding parking access for traveling Boston Public Schools employees.		1/5/2026	2/12/2026

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred Hearing(s)	Notes
City Services	0132	Mayor		Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend technology equipment valued at approximately Four Hundred Thirty Thousand Three Hundred Forty Dollars (\$430,340.00), from the Connected & Online Program Grant, awarded by United States Department of the Treasury, passed through the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, to be administered by the Department of Innovation & Technology. The equipment includes laptops, desktop bundles, and related equipment. The equipment will support public access to education, workforce development, digital literacy, and telehealth services across multiple City departments, with deployments centered at BCYF Centers and sites operated by the Office of Workforce Development and the Office of Returning Citizens. This award reflects strong cross-departmental collaboration and advances the City's broader digital equity goals.	1/28/2026	
City Services	0135	Mayor		Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) in the form of a grant, Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MassTech), awarded by United States Department of the Treasury, passed through the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, to be administered by the Department of Innovation & Technology. The grant would fund a multi-session digital skills workshop series at multiple locations and distribute devices to learners.	1/28/2026	
City Services	0137	Mayor		Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) in the form of a grant, Municipal ADA Improvement Grant, awarded by The Massachusetts Office on Disability to be administered by the Department of Innovation & Technology. The grant would fund updating the municipal ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan to address barriers to accessibility in web based services and applications.	1/28/2026	
City Services	0187	Mejia		Order for a hearing to examine income-adjusted parking fines and interest-free payment plans.	1/28/2026	
City Services	0209	Worrell		Order for a hearing on technical assistance and best practices for civic associations.	1/28/2026	

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred	Hearing(s)	Notes
City Services	<b>0270</b>	<b>Pepén</b>		Order for a hearing to explore snow removal relief and options.	2/4/2026	3/3/2026	
City Services	<b>0281</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss pest control and the discovery of leptospirosis in the City of Boston.	2/4/2026	3/16/2026	
City Services	<b>0291</b>	<b>Worrell</b>	Mejia, Pepén	Order for a hearing to discuss creation of a snow corps in Boston.	2/4/2026	3/3/2026	
City Services	<b>0292</b>	<b>Flynn</b>	Worrell	Order for a hearing to discuss the City of Boston purchasing snow melters.	2/4/2026	3/3/2026	
City Services	<b>0335</b>	<b>Flynn</b>	Murphy	Order for a hearing to discuss accessibility in Boston City Hall.	2/11/2026		
Civil Rights, Racial Equity, & Immigrant Advancement	<b>0169</b>	<b>Culpepper</b>		Order for a hearing to develop a report on the state of civil rights in Boston.	1/28/2026	3/6/2026	
Civil Rights, Racial Equity, & Immigrant Advancement	<b>0191</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Order for a hearing to address critical issues in jail-based voting and empower incarcerated communities to strengthen democracy.	1/28/2026		
Civil Rights, Racial Equity, & Immigrant Advancement	<b>0222</b>	<b>Coletta Zapata</b>	Louijeune	Resolution in support of Bill SD.3607: An Act Protecting Access to Justice.	1/28/2026		
Civil Rights, Racial Equity, & Immigrant Advancement	<b>0293</b>	<b>Louijeune</b>		Order for a hearing on the civil rights and liberties of returning citizens and re-entry into their Boston communities.	2/4/2026		
Civil Rights, Racial Equity, & Immigrant Advancement	<b>0299</b>	<b>Culpepper</b>	Mejia, Louijeune	Order for a hearing to confront the termination of federal protected status for Haitian immigrants and examine the City of Boston's response to protect affected residents.	2/4/2026		
Civil Rights, Racial Equity, & Immigrant Advancement	<b>0328</b>	<b>Louijeune</b>	Breadon, Pepén	Order for a hearing on a scalable funding model for an immigrant Emergency Response Fund.	2/11/2026		
Education	<b>0113</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	Flynn, Mejia	Order for a hearing to examine Boston Public School closure and merger actions related to the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years and transparency in the Long-Term Facilities Plan.	1/5/2026	3/2/2026	
Education	<b>0166</b>	<b>Coletta Zapata</b>		Order for a hearing regarding Boston Public Schools student-athlete transfer and eligibility policies.	1/28/2026	2/23/2026	

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred	Hearing(s)	Notes
Education	<b>0176</b>	<b>FitzGerald</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss increasing access to high-quality school options for Boston Public Schools students in all neighborhoods.	1/28/2026		
Education	<b>0188</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Order for a hearing on Boston Public School facilities, public assets and White Stadium.	1/28/2026		
Education	<b>0200</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	Flynn, FitzGerald	Order for a hearing on BPS staffing program impacts.	1/28/2026		2/23/26-Hearing Canceled
Education	<b>0215</b>	<b>Worrell</b>		Order for a hearing to explore scholarships for Boston students to increase access to all forms of higher education.	1/28/2026		
Education	<b>0216</b>	<b>Worrell</b>	Mejia	Order for a hearing to bring a Historically Black College or University Satellite Campus to Boston.	1/28/2026		
Education	<b>0276</b>	<b>Mejia</b>	Culpepper, Santana	Order for a hearing on transparency and accountability in service provision and spending for English Learners.	2/4/2026	3/10/2026	
Education	<b>0277</b>	<b>Mejia</b>	Murphy	Order for a hearing to audit Boston Public School's special education and return on investments.	2/4/2026	3/10/2026	
Education	<b>0278</b>	<b>Mejia</b>	Murphy, Culpepper	Order for a hearing to audit mental health curriculum and services in Boston Public Schools.	2/4/2026		
Education	<b>0279</b>	<b>Mejia</b>	Culpepper, Louijeune	Order for a hearing to audit the implementation and outcomes of restorative justice practices in Boston Public Schools.	2/4/2026		
Education	<b>0280</b>	<b>Mejia</b>	Soletta Zapata, Culpepper	Order for a hearing addressing the relationship between school lunches and the achievement gap.	2/4/2026		
Education	<b>0294</b>	<b>Louijeune</b>		Order for a hearing on the creation of a Boston School Building Authority.	2/4/2026		
Education	<b>0330</b>	<b>Santana</b>	Murphy	Order for a hearing regarding MassCore graduation requirements and student supports in Boston Public Schools.	2/11/2026		
Education	<b>0334</b>	<b>Louijeune</b>		Order for a hearing on community college access and student success for Boston residents.	2/11/2026		

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred Hearing(s)	Notes
Education	<b>0340</b>	<b>Murphy</b>		Order for a hearing to examine student academic outcomes and return on investment in Boston Public Schools.	2/11/2026	
Education	<b>0342</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	Santana	Order for a hearing to examine graduation requirement implementation, waivers, and equity in Boston Public Schools.	2/11/2026	
Education	<b>0374</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	Flynn, FitzGerald	Emergency hearing order regarding chronic school bus delays and special education transportation failures.	2/11/2026	
Environmental Justice, Resiliency & Parks	<b>0165</b>	<b>Coletta Zapata</b>		Order for a hearing regarding the establishment and implementation of funding mechanisms for Boston's coastal protection	1/28/2026	
Environmental Justice, Resiliency & Parks	<b>0211</b>	<b>Worrell</b>	Mejia	Order for a hearing to discuss the creation of indoor playgrounds in Boston.	1/28/2026	
Environmental Justice, Resiliency & Parks	<b>0260</b>	<b>Mayor</b>		Message and order for the confirmation of the appointment of Samira Ahmadi as a Member of the Building Emissions Reduction and Disclosure Ordinance (BERDO) Review Board, for a term expiring May 23, 2026.	2/4/2026	
Environmental Justice, Resiliency & Parks	<b>0341</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss the status of the City of Boston's application to certify with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Ranking System (CRS).	2/11/2026	
Government Operations	<b>0158</b>	<b>Coletta Zapata</b>		Ordinance Establishing Street Food Carts in the City of Boston.	1/28/2026	
Government Operations	<b>0160</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Ordinance creating a municipal identification card in the City of Boston.	1/28/2026	
Government Operations	<b>0161</b>	<b>Weber</b>	Mejia, Pepén	Ordinance preventing wage theft in the City of Boston.	1/28/2026	3/19/26-Working Session
Government Operations	<b>0162</b>	<b>Mejia</b>	Worrell	Petition for a Special Law re: An Act Relative to Reorganization of the Boston School Committee.	1/28/2026	
Government Operations	<b>0163</b>	<b>Santana</b>	Louijeune, Durkan	Petition for a Special Law re: An Act Relative to Real Estate Transfer Fees and Senior Property Tax Relief.	1/28/2026	

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred Hearing(s)	Notes
Government Operations	<b>0164</b>	<b>Worrell</b>		Petition for a Special Law re: An Act Relative to Various Tax Classification Definitions, Exemptions, and Credits.	1/28/2026	
Government Operations	<b>0266</b>	<b>Culpepper</b>	Mejia, Worrell	Ordinance Prohibiting the Use of Boston City Property for Civil Immigration Enforcement Activities by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.	2/4/2026	
Government Operations	<b>0267</b>	<b>Worrell</b>	Mejia	Ordinance to Codify the Equity & Inclusion Cabinet in the City of Boston.	2/4/2026	
Government Operations	<b>0268</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Petition for a Special Law re: An Act Relative to Pension Benefits for Firefighter Leo J. Bracken.	2/4/2026	
Government Operations	<b>0324</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Ordinance establishing the Office of Pest Control in the City of Boston.	2/11/2026	
Government Operations	<b>0325</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Ordinance amending City of Boston Code, Ordinances, 17-22, Road Safety and Accountability for Delivery Providers.	2/11/2026	
Government Operations	<b>0326</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Ordinance regulating all e-bikes in the City of Boston.	2/11/2026	
Housing & Community Development	<b>0172</b>	<b>Durkan</b>	Breadon, Santana	Order for a hearing to investigate the use, impact, and potential ban of algorithmic price setting in the Boston rental market.	1/28/2026	
Housing & Community Development	<b>0184</b>	<b>Louijeune</b>	Weber	Order for a hearing on building a stronger fair housing future for Boston.	1/28/2026	
Housing & Community Development	<b>0208</b>	<b>Worrell</b>		Order for a hearing to address problem properties in Boston.	1/28/2026	
Housing & Community Development	<b>0217</b>	<b>Worrell</b>		Order for a hearing regarding the homeownership voucher program.	1/28/2026	
Housing & Community Development	<b>0271</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss the status of the elevators at the BHA Ruth Ruth Barkley apartments.	2/4/2026	
Housing & Community Development	<b>0272</b>	<b>Flynn</b>	Mejia	Order for a hearing to discuss the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's Report on Boston Housing Authority.	2/4/2026	

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred	Hearing(s)	Notes
Housing & Community Development	<b>0286</b>	<b>Weber</b>		Order for a hearing on housing development costs and barriers to building affordable housing units in the City of Boston.	2/4/2026		
Housing & Community Development	<b>0295</b>	<b>Louijeune</b>		Order for a hearing regarding the state of anti-displacement as to Boston's Acquisition Opportunity Program.	2/4/2026		
Housing & Community Development	<b>0307</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Resolution in support of a Boston Housing Authority (BHA) Elevator Safety Commission.	2/4/2026		
Housing & Community Development	<b>0343</b>	<b>Santana</b>	Pepén, Louijeune	Order for a hearing to continue exploring strategies for developing mixed-income social housing to increase housing access and affordability for all Bostonians.	2/11/2026		
Housing & Community Development	<b>0347</b>	<b>Santana</b>	Culpepper	Order for a hearing to explore programs the City of Boston offers or could establish to prevent illegal discrimination by landlords and real estate brokers against prospective tenants utilizing housing choice vouchers.	2/11/2026		
Human Services	<b>0179</b>	<b>Flynn</b>	Murphy	Order for a hearing to discuss food insecurity and malnutrition in the City of Boston.	1/28/2026	3/30/2026	
Human Services	<b>0182</b>	<b>Louijeune</b>	Coletta Zapata	Order for a hearing regarding the City of Boston's response to sexual assault, domestic violence, and related resources for survivors.	1/28/2026		
Human Services	<b>0189</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Order for a hearing to audit child care investments and the financial stability of Family Child Care Providers.	1/28/2026		
Human Services	<b>0206</b>	<b>Worrell</b>	Mejia	Order for a hearing to explore ways of using municipal buildings to host childcare centers.	1/28/2026		
Human Services	<b>0275</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss the status of the South Boston Branch Library Study.	2/4/2026		
Human Services	<b>0283</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	Flynn	Order for a hearing regarding elder scamming and fraud prevention.	2/4/2026	3/9/2026	2/26/26-hearing canceled
Human Services	<b>0284</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	Flynn	Order for a hearing regarding equitable access to services and programming through the Boston Public Library System.	2/4/2026	2/20/2026	

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred	Hearing(s)	Notes
Human Services	<b>0285</b>	<b>Murphy</b>		Order for a hearing regarding navigating city services for residents with complex family and caregiving needs.	2/4/2026	3/3/2026	
Human Services	<b>0287</b>	<b>Murphy</b>		Order for a hearing regarding senior programming and services across the city of Boston.	2/4/2026	2/26/2026	
Human Services	<b>0289</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	Worrell	Order for a hearing regarding youth summer jobs, access and readiness for the upcoming summer.	2/4/2026	3/13/2026	
Human Services	<b>0290</b>	<b>Worrell</b>	Murphy, Mejia	Order for a hearing to review and strengthen Boston's Summer Safety and Youth Programming Plan.	2/4/2026		
Human Services	<b>0350</b>	<b>Culpepper</b>	Flynn, FitzGerald	Order for a hearing on the status of the South End Branch Library reopening.	2/11/2026		
Human Services	<b>0352</b>	<b>Santana</b>	Breadon, Durkan	Resolution recognizing June 2026 as Pride Month.	2/11/2026		
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0133</b>	<b>Mayor</b>		Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Two Hundred Nineteen Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars And Three Cents (\$219,178.03) in the form of a grant, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Funding, awarded by MA Executive Office for Administration & Finance to be administered by the Office of Workforce Development. The grant would fund the Center for Working Families' Boston Tax Help Coalition in assisting low-income taxpayers with personal income tax filings for the 2026 tax season.	1/28/2026		
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0134</b>	<b>Mayor</b>		Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000.00) in the form of a grant, Financial Empowerment Program, awarded by United Way, passed through the Boston Local Development Corporation, to be administered by the Office of Workforce Development. The grant would fund financial education, credit/asset building, and employment services for residents at the Center for Working Families.	1/28/2026		
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0168</b>	<b>Coletta Zapata</b>		Order for a hearing regarding reviving the "Red Shirts" program.	1/28/2026		

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred Hearing(s)	Notes
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0171</b>	<b>Culpepper</b>		Order for a hearing to explore designating economically disenfranchised areas of District 7 as empowerment zones to spur economic development and improve quality of life for residents.	1/28/2026	
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0190</b>	<b>Mejia</b>	Weber	Order for a hearing on workforce development housing for City of Boston employees.	1/28/2026	
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0193</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Order for a hearing to audit the City of Boston's hiring, firing and promotion policies, practices and procedures.	1/28/2026	
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0194</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Order for a hearing to audit the City of Boston's procurement processes, procedures and progress	1/28/2026	
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0207</b>	<b>Worrell</b>		Order for a hearing to review and establish a "Business Owner 101" program for grant recipients.	1/28/2026	
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0214</b>	<b>Worrell</b>		Order for a hearing to review the distribution of Boston's 225 new liquor licenses and provide ongoing support to restaurateurs.	1/28/2026	
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0218</b>	<b>Worrell</b>		Order for a hearing to review the effectiveness of the Boston Residents Jobs Policy in improving equity and employment standards on projects throughout the city.	1/28/2026	
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0219</b>	<b>Worrell</b>	Weber	Order for a hearing to discuss long-term city job vacancies.	1/28/2026	
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0282</b>	<b>Flynn</b>	Murphy, Mejia	Order for a hearing to discuss retail theft and the impacts on small businesses and residents in the City of Boston.	2/4/2026	
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0336</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss the impact of CORI on access to employment and other opportunities.	2/11/2026	
Labor and Economic Development	<b>0344</b>	<b>Santana</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss the educational and workforce development past successes and future opportunities of youth jobs offered by the City of Boston.	2/11/2026	
PILOT Agreements, Institutional & Intergovernmental Relations	<b>0288</b>	<b>Durkan</b>	Breadon, Culpepper	Order for a hearing to evaluate the progress and impact of the City's Payment in Lieu of Tax (PILOT) Program.	2/4/2026	

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred Hearing(s)	Notes
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0173</b>	<b>Durkan</b>	Santana, Breadon	Order for a hearing to explore amending the Boston Zoning Code to remove parking minimum requirements for new residential development.	1/28/2026	
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0178</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss dedicating the new open space at Phillips Square to Tunney Lee Plaza	1/28/2026	
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0199</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Order for a hearing on government accountability, transparency, and accessibility of decision making protocols in city government.	1/28/2026	
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0204</b>	<b>Weber</b>	Pepén	Order for a hearing to discuss making neighborhood streets safer following the 30-day review of streets projects in Boston.	1/28/2026	
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0257</b>	<b>Mayor</b>		Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) in the form of a grant, Planning / Neighborhood Development Funds, awarded by Boston Redevelopment Authority to be administered by the Office of Economic Opportunity & Inclusion. The grant would fund the launch and early implementation of the Commercial Acquisition Assistance Program (CAAP).	2/4/2026	
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0302</b>	<b>Flynn</b>	Mejia	Resolution in support of the replacement of concurrent traffic signals in the City of Boston.	2/4/2026	
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0327</b>	<b>Pepén</b>	Flynn, FitzGerald	Order for a hearing to explore the creation of safe school zones to improve pedestrian safety around all schools in the City of Boston.	2/11/2026	
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0331</b>	<b>Pepén</b>	Durkan, Worrell	Order for a hearing to discuss ways to repair and maintain private ways.	2/11/2026	
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0332</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss the importance of the cruise industry in the City of Boston.	2/11/2026	
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0333</b>	<b>Flynn</b>	Pepén	Order for a hearing to discuss pedestrian safety, traffic calming, and Vision Zero in the City of Boston.	2/11/2026	

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred	Hearing(s)	Notes
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0345</b>	<b>Durkan</b>	Breadon, Santana	Order for a hearing to explore amending the Boston Zoning Code to shift residential use to allowed where appropriate.	2/11/2026		
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0346</b>	<b>Durkan</b>	Doreta Zapata, Louijeun	Order for a hearing to explore the inclusion of pollinator corridors as part of sustainable development.	2/11/2026		
Planning, Development & Transportation	<b>0349</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Order regarding a text amendment to the Boston Zoning Code relative to adult entertainment.	2/11/2026		
Post Audit	<b>0195</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Order for a hearing to audit the distribution of local, state, and federal grants to small businesses.	1/28/2026		
Post Audit	<b>0196</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Order for a hearing to review the City of Boston's use of federal and state funds.	1/28/2026		
Post Audit	<b>0197</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Order for a hearing to review past expenditures through quarterly updates on the FY2026 operating budget.	1/28/2026		
Post Audit	<b>0203</b>	<b>Weber</b>	FitzGerald	Order for a hearing to discuss prior operating budget amendments from FY23 to FY25.	1/28/2026		
Post Audit	<b>0205</b>	<b>Weber</b>		Order for a hearing to review construction costs associated with the White Stadium project.	1/28/2026		
Post Audit	<b>0337</b>	<b>Murphy</b>		Order for a hearing to consider a full independent audit of Boston Public Schools' finances, operations and	2/11/2026		
Public Health, Homelessness & Recovery	<b>0175</b>	<b>FitzGerald</b>	Flynn	Order for a hearing to discuss the regulation of Kratom in the City of Boston	1/28/2026	3/9/2026	
Public Health, Homelessness & Recovery	<b>0348</b>	<b>Santana</b>		Order for a hearing regarding LGBTQIA+ youth and young adult homelessness in the City of Boston.	2/11/2026		

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred Hearing(s)	Notes
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0100</b>	<b>Mayor</b>		Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000.00) in the form of a grant for the FY25 Boston Regional Intelligence Center Earmark, awarded by the MA Executive Office of Public Safety & Security to be administered by the Police Department. The grant will fund upgrading, expanding, and integrating technology and protocols related to anti-terrorism, anti-crime, anti-gang and emergency response.	4/9/2025	2025-0847
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0167</b>	<b>Coletta Zapata</b>	Durkan	Order for a hearing to discuss progress and opportunities for addressing drink spiking and Drug-Facilitated Sexual Assault.	1/28/2026	
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0174</b>	<b>FitzGerald</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss 2026 large event safety resources and infrastructure.	1/28/2026	
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0177</b>	<b>Flynn</b>	FitzGerald, Culpepper	Order for a hearing to discuss public safety and quality of life concerns at Mass & Cass and surrounding neighborhoods.	1/28/2026	
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0180</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss resources for the Boston Police Crime Laboratory.	1/28/2026	
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0181</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Order for a hearing to discuss public safety and quality of life issues in Downtown Boston and the Boston Common.	1/28/2026	
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0185</b>	<b>Louijeune</b>	Worrell	Order for a hearing on a cross-sector collaborative citywide strategy for community safety and violence prevention.	1/28/2026	
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0192</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Order for a hearing to audit government transparency and accountability towards surveillance equipment.	1/28/2026	
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0198</b>	<b>Mejia</b>		Order for a hearing to audit the implementation and effectiveness of the 2014 Boston Trust Act.	1/28/2026	

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred Hearing(s)	Notes
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0320</b>	<b>Mayor</b>		Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Five Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$577,500.00) in the form of a grant, the FY25 Port Security Grant Program, awarded by United States Department of Homeland Security to be administered by the Police Department. The grant would fund the purchase of a new 31' LifeProof boat, the replacement of engines on the 31' Safeboat and 38' Safeboat, and finally, the re-collaring of the Kvichak patrol boat, and ice rescue training.	2/11/2026	
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0321</b>	<b>Mayor</b>		Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Hundred Forty Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Six Dollars (\$140,426.00) in the form of a grant, the FY25 Port Security Grant, awarded by Federal Emergency Management Agency to be administered by the Fire Department. The grant would fund strengthened port-wide risk management and protection of critical surface transportation infrastructure from acts of terrorism, major disasters, and other emergencies.	2/11/2026	
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0329</b>	<b>Worrell</b>	Flynn, Weber	Order for a hearing to review the mission, goals, objectives, and challenges at the Office of Police Accountability and Transparency (OPAT).	2/11/2026	
Public Safety & Criminal Justice	<b>0356</b>	<b>Santana</b>		Resolution in support of "An Executive Order to Protect Bostonians from Unconstitutional and Violent Federal Operations."	2/11/2026	
Veterans, Military Families & Military Affairs	<b>0273</b>	<b>Flynn</b>	Santana	Order for a hearing to discuss the Lung Cancer Rates among Black Veterans.	2/4/2026	
Veterans, Military Families & Military Affairs	<b>0274</b>	<b>Flynn</b>	Murphy	Order for a hearing to discuss services for women veterans.	2/4/2026	

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred	Hearing(s)	Notes
Ways & Means	<b>0128</b>	<b>Mayor</b>		Message and order for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to appropriate the amount of Six Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,500,000.00) for the purpose of paying costs for the window and door replacement projects at the following schools: the Edward Everett Elementary School and the Richard J. Murphy K-8 School. This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Boston may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of the Boston Public Schools.	1/28/2026	2/9/2026	2/11/26-first read/assigned for further action
Ways & Means	<b>0129</b>	<b>Mayor</b>		Message and order for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to appropriate the amount of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00) for the purpose of paying costs for the roof replacement projects at the following schools: the Thomas J. Kenny Elementary School and Hugh Roe O'Donnell Elementary School. This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Boston may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of the Boston Public Schools.	1/28/2026	2/9/2026	2/11/26-first read/assigned for further action
Ways & Means	<b>0201</b>	<b>Weber</b>	FitzGerald	Order for a hearing to discuss Boston's FY27 operating budget.	1/28/2026	2/26, 3/5, 3/10/26	2/12/26-Committee Meeting, 3/24/26-Public Testimony
Ways & Means	<b>0202</b>	<b>Weber</b>	FitzGerald	Order for a hearing to discuss Boston Public Schools' FY27 operating budget.	1/28/2026	3/10/2026	2/19/26-working session, 3/2/26-Working Session, 3/5/26-Policy Briefing, 3/24/26-Public Testimony
Ways & Means	<b>0213</b>	<b>Worrell</b>		Order for a hearing to allow for monthly property tax payments for residents.	1/28/2026		

## 2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred Hearing(s)	Notes
Ways & Means	<b>0312</b>	<b>Flynn</b>		Resolution in support of proposed state legislation on tax relief.	2/4/2026	
Ways & Means	<b>0338</b>	<b>Flynn</b>	Worrell	Order for a hearing to discuss property tax relief for long-term residents and essential municipal employees.	2/11/2026	



## **OFFICIAL RESOLUTION**

PRESENTED BY

**COUNCILOR AT-LARGE RUTHZEE LOULJEUNE**

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL  
EXTENDS ITS CONGRATULATIONS TO

### **Names:**

1. Maurice Starr, 1980
2. Body Construction/ Funk-A-Ffects David Vaughn, 1980
3. Body Construction Randall McCray
4. Almighty RSO Crew, 1982
5. RSO MCs E-Devious/ Marco Antonio Ennis
6. RSO Ray Dogg/ Raymond Scott
7. RSO Tony Rhome/ Anthony Johnson
8. RSO Rock/ Rodney Pitts
9. RSO DJ Deff Jeff/ Jeffrey Neal
10. RSO Kevski/ Kevin Means
11. RSO Orange Man/ Steven James
12. MC Spice/ Amir Shakir, 1986

### **IN RECOGNITION OF:**

Your title as a “Boston Hip Hop Legend” and your role as a staple, foundation-builder, history-maker, and cultural influencer. Through your consistent passion and dedication to the movement in the last five decades, you laid the building blocks of Hip-Hop culture rooted in Roxbury and extending to the rest of the world and future generations. Thank you for your pioneering love, vision, and energy that helped give birth to and sustain Hip-Hop culture in the city of Boston

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS ITS BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS; THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE DULY SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND ATTESTED TO AND A COPY THEREOF TRANSMITTED BY THE CLERK OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.



## **OFFICIAL RESOLUTION**

PRESENTED BY

**COUNCILOR AT-LARGE RUTHZEE LOUJEUNE**

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL  
EXTENDS ITS CONGRATULATIONS TO

### **Norman Brown**

IN RECOGNITION OF:

**Your outstanding artistic achievements as a Grammy Award winning  
jazz guitarist, and for your remarkable contributions and lasting impact  
on music and the arts.**

**Your dedication, creativity, and excellence continue to inspire audiences  
and enrich the cultural landscape of our community and beyond**

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS ITS  
BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS; THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE DULY  
SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND ATTESTED TO AND A  
COPY THEREOF TRANSMITTED BY THE CLERK OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

# City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



## OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS

### Sharon Durkan & Gabriela Coletta-Zapata

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL  
RECOGNIZES AND NAMES FEBRUARY 12, 2026 AS  
“NORTH END CURLING CLUB DAY”  
IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

**WHEREAS,** The Boston City Council recognizes the North End Curling Club (NECC), founded in 2017, as one of only 170 curling clubs in the country and the only club bringing the international Olympic sport of curling to Boston; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The NECC has developed programming at its home rink, Steriti Memorial Rink in the North End, that supports both recreational and competitive play, including regular learn to curl events that welcome new players to the sport. By sending teams to compete nationally and internationally, the club weaves Boston into the fabric of the global curling community and proudly puts the city’s spirit on display; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Club is steadfast in its mission to raise appreciation for curling, make it more accessible to Boston residents, and foster community through a welcoming and supportive culture that is open to all; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**ORDERED:** The City Council extends its gratitude to the North End Curling Club for its commitment to bringing the sport to Boston and providing a source of joy, community, and camaraderie to curlers of all levels in Boston.



By: Elizabeth Bresson  
President of the City Council

Attest: Alex Quintos  
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: Gabriela Coletta Zapata Sharon Durkan

Date: February 12, 2026

# City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



## OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

OFFERED BY

**Councilor Sharon Durkan**

Be It Resolved, that the Boston City Council Celebrates  
The Grand Opening of:

## Swingers Back Bay

The grand opening of Swinger's new location at 777 Boylston Street brings the brand's award-winning crazy golf and carnival experience to Boston's Back Bay. This venue enhances the vitality of the neighborhood, offering residents and visitors alike an exciting new gathering space featuring two golf courses, multiple cocktail bars, semi-private event spaces, and a Belle Époque-inspired arcade. Developed in partnership with Tavistock Restaurant Collection, Swingers Back Bay is one of only four United States locations of the global hospitality brand. The City Council celebrates its opening and recognizes its contribution to the City's tourism and entertainment industries, reflecting Boston's continued commitment to welcoming innovative experiences that energize our neighborhoods and strengthen our local economy.



By: Elizabeth Beason

President of the City Council

Attest: Alex Avoutas

Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: Sharon Durkan

Date: February 19, 2026

# City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



## Official Resolution

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council  
extended its Congratulations to:

*The Boston Lunar New Year Festival Gala*

### In Recognition of:

*February 15, 2026, as Boston Lunar New Year Day, and for their yearly efforts to celebrate diversity, community, and cross-cultural exchange through the yearly Lunar New Year Festival Gala which brings together community leaders, residents, and organizations from across Greater Boston*

\_\_\_\_\_ ; and  
Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Elizabeth Beardon*  
President of the City Council

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Elizabeth Beardon*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



## Official Resolution

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council  
extended its Congratulations to:

Joseph Charles

### In Recognition of:

*His contributions to the Allston-Brighton community and Boston as a Black small business owner and entrepreneur; from his roots as a Haitian immigrant and a Community College student to his achievements as the founder and owner of multiple Rock City Pizza locations, Joseph has always centered community and focused on lifting up those around him.*

Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
President of the City Council

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution recognizing eight (8) individuals upon receipt of their awards in celebration of Afro-Caribbean Black History, and for their commitment to the well-being and empowerment of Massachusetts' Caribbean and Caribbean-American communities, youth, and disenfranchised groups:**

1. Kay Chambers

2. Ellan Trotman

3. Pierre Weeks

4. Gladys Vega

5. Juana Valdés

6. David Connell

7. Marcia Fearon

8. Errol Strength

# Official Resolution

presented by

**Boston City Councilor At-Large  
Henry A Santana**

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council  
Extends its Congratulations and Recognition to

**Louis D. Brown Peace Institute**

In recognition of:

**For your 30 years of unwavering leadership and commitment to healing, we proudly honor Louis D. Brown Peace Institute for hosting the 30th Annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace.**

**For three decades, this powerful gathering has united families, neighbors, and advocates in remembrance, resilience, and hope.**

**Through trauma informed care, advocacy, and community driven healing, you continue to ensure that no family walks their journey alone and that peace remains possible in our city.**

and Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

# Official Resolution

presented by

**Boston City Councilor At-Large  
Henry Santana**

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council  
Extends its Congratulations and Recognition to

## **Allston Brighton Health Collaborative**

In recognition of:

**The success of the 2nd Annual Thirsty For Soup Thursday, we celebrate an evening that brought the community together through culture, food, and learning.**

**This event highlighted the rich diversity of Allston Brighton, supported local restaurants, encouraged creativity and wellness activities, and strengthened community care through a shared food drive. Its continued growth reflects a powerful commitment to connection, generosity, and neighborhood unity.**

and Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

# Official Resolution

presented by

## **Boston City Councilor At-Large Henry A Santana**

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council  
Extends its Congratulations and Recognition to

### **Ethan Torres**

In recognition of:

**Your outstanding growth and leadership within the Becoming a Man (BAM) program, we honor your courage, integrity, and dedication.**

**During the circle activity, you demonstrated focus, a success-driven mindset, and strong teamwork. Your resilience and discipline earn the respect of your peers. You embody BAM's empowering values, inspire others to reach their potential, and serve as a model of leadership, character, and positive influence.**

and Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

# Official Resolution

presented by

**Boston City Councilor At-Large**

**Henry A Santana**

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council  
Extends its Congratulations and Recognition to

**Belencita Rosa**

In recognition of:

**As you celebrate your 70th birthday, we honor a lifetime of dedication to your family and community.**

**You have been not only a devoted wife and mother, but also a pillar of strength and care within your community. Your compassion and commitment have made a lasting and meaningful impact on everyone around you.**

**Thank you for all that you have given. We wish you continued health, happiness, and many more years of celebration.**

and Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

# City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



## Official Resolution

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council  
extended its Congratulations to:

**Staff of the Benjamin Healthcare Center**

In Recognition of:  
Your work with the

Edgar P. Benjamin Healthcare Center throughout the years \_\_\_\_\_ ; and

Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its  
best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly  
signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and  
a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.



By: Elizabeth Branson  
President of the City Council

Attest: Alex Gontas  
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: Ben Welch

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution recognizing staff of the Benjamin Healthcare Center and the following 11 individuals

- 
- Christopher Dunston
  - Alvin Walker
  - Adam Owens
  - SEIU 1199
  - Kathy Griham
  - Geraldine Anderson
  - Marise Colsoul
  - Anthony Aguirre
  - Jennifer Beauchamp
  - Winsome Paul
  - Guerda Cadet
-

# City of Boston

IN  
CITY COUNCIL



## IN TRIBUTE

THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS ITS  
DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO YOU AND YOUR  
FAMILY IN THE PASSING OF YOUR LOVED ONE

# SCOTT MACISAAC

IN WHOSE MEMORY ALL MEMBERS STOOD  
IN TRIBUTE AND REVERENCE AS  
THE COUNCIL ADJOURNED ITS MEETING OF  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4th, 2026



SINCERELY,

CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Attest

City Clerk

Presented By

City of Boston  
IN  
CITY COUNCIL



Official-Resolution Presented by  
Councilor Erin J. Murphy

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council extended its  
Congratulations to:

**The Ice Creamsmith**

In Recognition of:

The Ice Cream Smith in Lower Mills, celebrating its 50th season as generations of families, children, and neighbors have enjoyed its homemade ice cream made on site and the lasting traditions it brings to the Dorchester community.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
President of the City Council

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the City Council

Offered by:: \_\_\_\_\_  
At-Large City Councilor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 190