

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, ENRIQUE J. PEPÉN, HENRY SANTANA, BREADON, COLETTA ZAPATA, CULPEPPER, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, MEJIA, MURPHY, WEBER, AND WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF BOSTON'S ANTI-DISPLACEMENT ACTION PLAN

WHEREAS, Displacement, whether direct, economic, commercial, or cultural, remains one of the most urgent and complex challenges facing the City of Boston, disproportionately impacting Black and Brown, low-income, and senior residents, small businesses, and cultural institutions; *and*

WHEREAS, Displacement is not only a housing issue, but a broader community stability issue, affecting access to schools, employment, transit, healthcare, cultural spaces, social networks, and is deeply intertwined with historic patterns of segregation, redlining, urban renewal, and inequitable public investment; *and*

WHEREAS, Historically, housing policies and economic systems have not served communities equitably, leaving certain neighborhoods at disproportionate risk of losing their homes and cultural institutions; *and*

WHEREAS, In 2025 the City of Boston released its first comprehensive Anti-Displacement Action Plan, intended to serve as a cross-cabinet roadmap to stabilize residents, neighborhoods, and support equitable growth, utilizing a "4 P's" framework: Protect, Preserve, Produce, and Prosper; *and*

WHEREAS, The Anti-Displacement Action Plan outlines dozens of new and expanded policies, programs, and initiatives, including but not limited to eviction prevention, tenant protections, homeowner stabilization, acquisition and preservation strategies, planning and zoning reforms, data-driven displacement risk analysis, small business and cultural space stabilization, and even including improved access to City services and resources; *and*

WHEREAS, Many elements of the plan rely on effective interdepartmental coordination, sustained funding commitments, robust data collection and reporting, clear implementation timelines, and continued partnerships; *and*

WHEREAS, Several proposed tools and protections identified in the plan require state authorization through Home Rule Petitions or enabling legislation, underscoring the importance of coordinating legislative strategy; *and*

WHEREAS, Transparency and accountability are essential to ensuring that the plan delivers measurable outcomes for residents and neighborhoods most at risk, and that progress is clearly communicated to the public in an accessible and meaningful way; *and*

WHEREAS, A comprehensive review of the Anti-Displacement Action Plan would help to examine early results and challenges, hear directly from City departments and community stakeholders, and identify gaps, barriers, or unmet needs; *and*

WHEREAS, Such a review is particularly timely as Boston continues to experience rising housing costs, climate-related risks, and shifting federal policy landscapes that may impact both displacement and the capacity to respond; *and*

WHEREAS, Effective anti-displacement policy depends not only on the creation of programs and tools, but on sustained funding and staffing capacity, and ongoing monitoring to ensure that initiatives are effective and an efficient use of resources; *and*

WHEREAS, Meaningful evaluation of the plan requires large amounts of data, reporting, and clear performance metrics to assess whether policies are reducing displacement risk, improving housing stability, and preserving neighborhood commercial and cultural assets across different communities and geographies; *and*

WHEREAS, Community trust in the plan depends on the City's ability to demonstrate that anti-displacement commitments are being integrated into decision-making related to zoning, land disposition, development review, capital planning, and major public investments, rather than treated as stand-alone or aspirational efforts; *and*

WHEREAS, The City Council has an essential oversight role in reviewing major policy initiatives, understanding how plans are translated into on-the-ground outcomes, evaluating whether stated goals are being met, and identifying opportunities to strengthen or accelerate implementation through legislative or budgetary action;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a public hearing to review the City of Boston's Anti-Displacement Action Plan, including but not limited to: implementation across City departments; progress toward stated goals; use and effectiveness of displacement risk data and tools; impacts on renters, homeowners, small businesses, and cultural institutions; coordination with planning, zoning, and development review processes; community access to resources; funding and staffing capacity; reporting and accountability mechanisms; and any legislative, regulatory, or state-level actions necessary to strengthen and sustain the Plan; and that the appropriate individuals and organizations be invited to testify.