

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS MINIARD CULPEPPER, JULIA MEJIA, ENRIQUE J. PEPÉN, BREADON, COLETTA ZAPATA, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, LOUIJEUNE, MURPHY, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL



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