

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BRIAN WORRELL, JULIA MEJIA, COLETTA ZAPATA,
DURKAN, FITZGERALD, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER AND LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO REVIEW AND ESTABLISH A “BUSINESS OWNER 101” PROGRAM FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS

WHEREAS: The City of Boston provides grants to help support new businesses throughout the City; and

WHEREAS: While Boston has a robust ecosystem of programs to support new business owners, including entities like BECMA, Amplify Latinx, Boston Impact Initiative, ICIC, and MassChallenge, many entrepreneurs remain unaware of these resources or face challenges navigating them; and

WHEREAS: New entrepreneurs may lack access to coordinated education, mentorship, and technical assistance that are critical to their success, leading to avoidable errors that could jeopardize their businesses; and

WHEREAS: There is an opportunity to build tighter coordination between the City and existing technical assistance providers to ensure entrepreneurs are efficiently connected to the right resources; and

WHEREAS: Homebuyers who receive City assistance are required to complete a “Homebuyer 101” course, which equips them with necessary tools to understand their investment, mitigate risks, and plan for success; and

WHEREAS: A similar “Business Owner 101” program is planned as an educational support system to provide essential information, particularly for grant recipients, on foundational topics such as financial planning, permitting, compliance, and business operations; and

WHEREAS: Further discussion is needed to explore how a “Business Owner 101” program will operate, language accessibility, and proper marketing; and

WHEREAS: Collaboration with key partners in Boston’s entrepreneurial ecosystem can ensure this program leverages existing expertise, fills gaps where necessary, and effectively empowers new business owners; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to review and discuss the new “Business Owner 101” program, with an emphasis on aligning with existing programs and partners. Representatives from the Office of

Economic Opportunity and Inclusion, as well as key stakeholders such as BECMA, Amplify Latinx, Boston Impact Initiative, ICIC, MassChallenge, and other interested parties, shall be invited to testify.

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