

**OFFERED BY COUNCILORS MINIARD CULPEPPER, LIZ BREADON,
FITZGERALD, FLYNN, LOUIJEUNE, MURPHY, PEPÉN, WEBER, AND WORRELL**



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

RESOLUTION URGING IMPROVED RESPONSE TO NOISE COMPLAINTS AND ENFORCEMENT OF BOSTON'S NOISE CONTROL LAWS

WHEREAS, Boston residents are entitled to the quiet enjoyment of their homes and neighborhoods and to a timely and effective City response when unreasonable noise, disruptive gatherings, or other public nuisances interfere with their health, safety, sleep, and quality of life; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston City Code Section 16-26 prohibits unreasonable and excessive noise and establishes a clear enforcement role for the Boston Police Department and other authorized City officials, including the authority to verify violations, issue fines and notices, seek criminal complaints, and take other enforcement action where legally appropriate; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston City Code Section 16-27 authorizes law enforcement to address nuisance gatherings involving excessive noise and other disruptive conduct, issue warnings or citations, impose escalating fines, notify property owners and other responsible parties, and enforce the ordinance without first obtaining a scientific noise measurement; *and*

WHEREAS, The City has made reporting resources available through 311 and 911, neighborhood police district stations, and the Boston Police Department Party Line at 617-343-5500, creating a reasonable expectation that complaints submitted through those channels will be documented, investigated, resolved when violations are found, and followed by clear communication to affected residents; *and*

WHEREAS, District 7 residents and residents in other neighborhoods have repeatedly reported that noise complaints often receive little or no apparent response, enforcement, resolution, or follow-up, even after repeated calls concerning the same properties, gatherings, or sources of disturbance; *and*

WHEREAS, Laws intended to protect neighborhood quality of life are only effective when residents can reasonably rely on the City to respond, document complaints,

connect repeat incidents, use the enforcement authority already provided by law;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council urges the City of Boston and the Boston Police Department to improve the timeliness, consistency, documentation, enforcement, resolution, and follow-up associated with noise and nuisance complaints; to fully enforce Boston City Code Sections 16-26 and 16-27 when violations are established.

Filed on: July 22, 2026