



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FIVE

**ORDER REQUESTING CERTAIN INFORMATION UNDER
SECTION 17F RELATIVE TO WHITE STADIUM**

WHEREAS: There are concerns that the City of Boston, specifically the Parks and Recreation Commission, is out of compliance with state law and the Massachusetts Constitution where it executed the “BPS Stadium Usage Agreement” dated December 23, 2024 (the “Usage Agreement”), which purports to authorize (i) the disposition of City of Boston parkland in Franklin Park for utility purposes, (ii) the disposition of existing park roads in Franklin Park for commercial purposes, and, (iii) the disposition of land in Franklin Park for the creation of a new roadway which will be used for commercial purposes, all outside of the 14 acres owned by the George Robert White Trust (the “White Fund Parcel”), and on parkland that is unquestionably protected by Article 97, without a prior unanimous vote of the Parks Commission; *and*

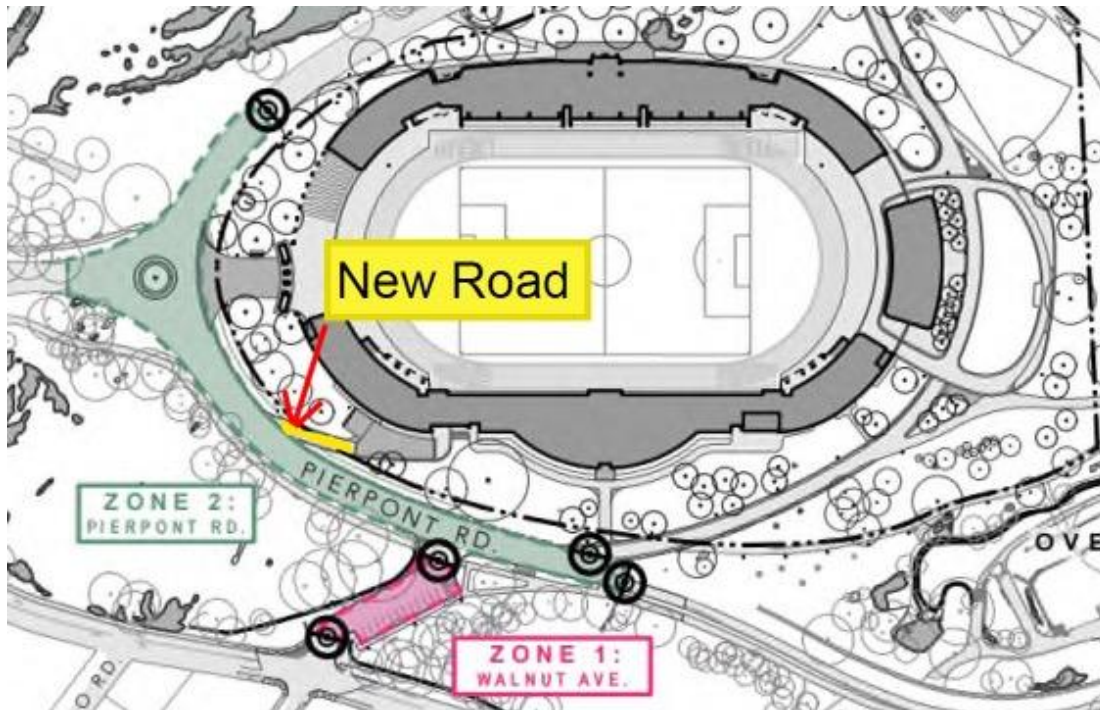
WHEREAS: The Usage Agreement between the City of Boston and Boston Unity Stadco, LLC (the “Soccer Team”), signed by the Parks Commissioner, states that the Parks Department under Section 4.2 (a) ii.: “hereby provides to the Team, and the Team hereby accepts, a license for pedestrian (and vehicular to the extent of any paved roads intended for vehicular use) ingress and egress to and from the Stadium through such portions of Franklin Park abutting the Stadium Parcel that are identified in the TAPA, which ingress and egress the City hereby acknowledges must be sufficient to accommodate the Team’s use of the Stadium for Team Events and the year round operation of the Grove as contemplated herein and in the Cooperation Agreement.”; *and*

WHEREAS: The Parks Commissioner has stated, and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs’ Natural Resource Site Evaluation Map has affirmed, all of Franklin Park outside of the White Fund Parcel, including Pierpont Road and Playstead Road, is protected parkland under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

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, Her Honor, 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. Given that the above-quoted language authorizes the use of roads in Franklin Park identified in the “TAPA”, i.e., Transportation Access Plan Agreement between the Soccer Team and the Boston Transportation Department, and that to this point, the TAPA has not been agreed to and executed, precisely which paved roads intended for vehicular use did the Parks Commission vote on April 28, 2025 authorize the use of for private commercial purposes?
2. Does the Parks Commission vote on April 28, 2025 to approve the plan for White Stadium as proposed by the Boston Public Schools and the Soccer Team grant the team an irrevocable license to use the Parks Department's Playstead Road and Pierpont Road, or any other new or existing park roads in Franklin Park, for private commercial purposes for the duration of the 10-to-30-year Usage Agreement?
3. Does the Parks Commission vote also represent a vote to approve the easement required to unearth the parkland by Walnut and Seaver Streets on the north side of White Stadium in Franklin Park in order to install a new utility system into White Stadium as laid out in the renovation plans?
4. Does the vote include a vote to approve the commercial use and dispositions of protected land for the utility work needed and use of the protected parkways, Playstead and Pierpont Roads (or any other roads in Franklin Park) for commercial purposes?
5. Please provide the findings of any appraisals that were conducted regarding the commercial value of the pedestrian and vehicular access and egress rights and utility rights granted under Section 4.2(a)(ii) of the Usage Agreement. If none were done, please explain why not.
6. Exhibit D to the Usage Agreement (attached and annotated), and the attached site map included in the latest revised transportation plan, appear to show a new paved roadway through protected parkland from Pierpont Road to the northwest portion of the White Fund Parcel and the new stadium. (Please see the area highlighted in yellow in the attached site map.) It appears to be the only vehicular access to the White Fund Parcel, which has no frontage on any roadway. What is the purpose of the new roadway? Did the Parks Commission vote to allow the construction of this new roadway through protected parkland for private commercial purposes?



Requesting that the appropriate department or departments, through the Mayor, provide any and all information that is available regarding this matter.

Filed on: May 7, 2025