

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS SHARON DURKAN, RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, COLETTA ZAPATA, BREADON, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MEJIA, MURPHY, SANTANA, WORRELL, WEBBER AND FERNANDES ANDERSON



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS THE CREATION
OF A PARKS ADMINISTRATOR FOR DOWNTOWN
PARKS INCLUDING THE BOSTON COMMON, PUBLIC
GARDEN, COMMONWEALTH AVENUE MALL, COPLEY
SQUARE AND CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS PARK

WHEREAS, Millions of people annually enjoy Boston's network of downtown parks including the Boston Common, Public Garden, Commonwealth Avenue Mall, Copley Square and Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park; *and*

WHEREAS, These 5 downtown parks are under the management of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department and benefit from the additional stewardship of nonprofit partners including the Friends of the Public Garden and the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park; *and*

WHEREAS, This year Boston has achieved the great accomplishment of hiring a dedicated full-time administrator and six new full-time maintenance and natural resources staff for the largest park in the city of Boston, Franklin Park, a result of the Franklin Park Action Plan and the advocacy of the Franklin Park Coalition; *and*

WHEREAS, The Franklin Park Administrator is responsible for, among other duties: coordinating all management and operations activities in Franklin Park in alignment with City priorities and Franklin Park plans; setting goals for park management and operations improvements; establishing management protocols and ensuring compliance with shared policies and procedures by all entities operating within the park on a regular basis or for special events; building partnerships with community organizations and leaders to sustain the community's critical role in park stewardship; coordinating the calendar of events at Franklin Park; strengthening daily and special event management; collaborating with other BPRD divisions around park maintenance, capital improvements, recreational programs, permitting, business operations, marketing and communications, and park safety; *and*

WHEREAS, The Boston Common Master Plan lays out a bold vision for the future, proposing over \$150 million in capital improvements as well as improvements in parks care and management, and calls for the inclusion of a Parks administrator, which would centralize the management of the park's operations and programming, resulting in a focused and consistent implementation of park protocols and practices; *and*

WHEREAS, The Boston Common, Public Garden, Commonwealth Avenue Mall, Copley Square Park, and Christopher Columbus Parks are some of the most permitted parks in the city, with hundreds of small and large-scale events and an estimated seven million visitors annually; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council convene a hearing to discuss appointing a salaried Parks Administrator to manage our five downtown parks thereby responsibly creating climate resilient, equitable accessible, clean and updated open park spaces, which the general public can enjoy for years to come.

Filed on: 05/20/2024