

**OFFERED BY COUNCILORS RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, ERIN MURPHY, ENRIQUE PEPÉN,  
BREADON, COLETTA ZAPATA, DURKAN, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FITZGERALD,  
FLYNN, MEJIA, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL**



## **CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL**

### **ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING VOTER ACCESSIBILITY AND ELECTION PREPAREDNESS**

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston is committed to ensuring accessible, reliable and secure voting for all residents; *and*

**WHEREAS,** On Election Day, November 5, 2024, multiple polling locations, including those in Hyde Park, Roslindale, and West Roxbury, experienced ballot shortages, leading to significant delays, voter confusion and frustration, and instances of disenfranchisement, especially impacting Boston's communities of color; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Boston Police Department and Elections Commission coordinated efforts to hand-deliver additional ballots to affected locations in response to these shortages; however, the combination of high turnout, extended wait times, and logistical challenges has underscored the need for a thorough review of current election procedures to restore confidence in our electoral processes; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Due to the urgency of addressing these events and their impact on the voting rights of Boston residents, an emergency declaration is necessary to expedite the filing and consideration of this order; *and*

**WHEREAS,** It is imperative that Boston conduct a comprehensive review of election procedures, including but not limited to ballot availability, staffing levels, site preparedness, and accessibility accommodations, to identify and resolve systemic issues; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss challenges related to voter accessibility and election preparedness in the City of Boston, whereby the Boston Election Commission, the Secretary of State's Office, advocacy organizations, and members of the public shall be invited to testify.