



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

August 8, 2022

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith for your approval an Order to fully authorize the creation of a sheltered market program. During our pilot which ended on June 30, 2022, we learned that this is a powerful and necessary tool to advance our administration's mission to foster equity in city contracting.

Following the success of the sheltered market pilot program, I believe that reauthorizing the program is critically important to our larger efforts to ensure that Boston is an economically equitable city that offers opportunities for all communities to build wealth. To that end, I request that the Council reauthorize the sheltered market program for an additional three (3) years.

As stated in the December 1, 2021 Order to authorize the sheltered market program pilot, M.G.L. ch.30B §18 provides for the authorization of a sheltered market program, which allows the City to designate certain contracts for procurement from one or more classes of disadvantaged vendors, thereby creating an environment that allows small, local, and diverse businesses to build their capacity to compete for prime contracting opportunities. These types of programs have been implemented in municipalities across the nation since the 1990s, and have a proven track record of not only diversifying a city's current spending, but also diversifying the pipeline of businesses available for future city contracting opportunities.

I urge your Honorable Body to pass this Order expeditiously so that the City may create the sheltered market program.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston

**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF A SHELTERED MARKET PROGRAM FOR MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.

ORDERED: that the Chief Procurement Officer for the City of Boston is hereby authorized to establish a sheltered market program (the "Sheltered Market Program") in conformity with the requirements of M. G. L. c. 30B, §18. This authorization applies to contracts for goods, professional services, and support services. This authorization is for any number of appropriate contracts, and is valid until June 30, 2025. This Sheltered Market Program shall be available for disadvantaged minority- and women-owned vendors for whom there is a demonstrated "substantial disparity" in the City's 2021 Disparity Study.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY
THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**

BY



**ADAM CEDERBAUM
CORPORATION COUNSEL**

