

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS JULIA M. MEJIA, ENRIQUE J. PEPÉN, ERIN J. MURPHY, BREADON, CULPEPPER, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, LOUIJEUNE, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND
TWENTY-SIX**

**ORDER FOR A HEARING ON THE CONDITIONS, OPERATIONS, AND
ACCESS OF BOSTON CENTERS FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES (BCYF)
POOLS**

WHEREAS, Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) pools are critical public resources that support youth development, public health, and community access to recreation; *and*

WHEREAS, Several BCYF facilities remain closed, underutilized, or in disrepair, including BCYF Hennigan, where the pool has been closed for approximately five years without a clear reopening timeline despite sustained community advocacy; *and*

WHEREAS, Community members have raised concerns regarding maintenance delays, lack of transparency, and management decisions, including recent leadership changes without clear public communication; *and*

WHEREAS, Programmatic decisions impacting pool access—such as the reported elimination of Metro League swim team programming at BCYF Flaherty, affecting over 100 youth—raise concerns regarding access to youth programming and decision-making protocols; *and*

WHEREAS, Citywide disparities persist, with multiple pools remaining closed or facing delayed reopening timelines, including BCYF Blackstone, despite capital funding allocations and ongoing public concern; *and*

WHEREAS, The City has committed significant funding toward pool restoration, making it critical to assess how resources, maintenance, and programming decisions are prioritized across neighborhoods; *and*

WHEREAS, The City has also undertaken initiatives such as Swim Safe to expand access to free swim lessons for Boston youth; *and*

WHEREAS, The Boston City Council and City of Boston residents require clear, consistent communication regarding facility conditions, reopening

timelines, and how priorities are determined across BCYF aquatic facilities; ***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT***

ORDERED,

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to receive a comprehensive, system-wide update on the status of all BCYF pools and aquatic facilities, including but not limited to current operational status, maintenance needs, and reopening timelines; capital investments and how repair priorities are determined; staffing and management decisions affecting facility operations; pool usage policies and allocation of time across user groups; recent programmatic changes impacting youth access, including swim teams and instructional programming; BCYF and City long-term swim priorities; and steps the City will take to ensure transparent communication and equitable access to BCYF aquatic facilities across all neighborhoods.

Filed in Council: April 1, 2026