

OFFERED BY: Councilor Erin Murphy and Councilor Ed Flynn



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE \$560 MILLION IN ARPA FUNDS

WHEREAS, We, the Boston City Council, are tasked with the responsibility to review the way the City spends money. In our work we look over the City's payments, loans, and investments. Each year we conduct a review of the Mayor's budget before we vote on it; **and**

WHEREAS, The AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) OF 2021, in response to the catastrophic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, was passed by the federal government to provide relief. The allocation of almost \$560 million, was a once-in-a-generation opportunity for transformative investments in Boston; **and**

WHEREAS, The City Council has the responsibility to review all money that comes into City government along with the City's spending, so the Boston's Covid 19 Recovery committee was formed to offer oversight and recommendations on the City's distribution and implementation of COVID-19 relief funding and programs; **and**

WHEREAS, According to the City of Boston's AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN PROJECTS website page, as of July 31, 2022, \$551.7 million has been budgeted. All monies need to be committed by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026, or the funds need to be returned; **and**

WHEREAS, This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for our City, so we should hold a hearing to discuss what organizations have received ARPA funds, what money has been spent so far, and what supports may be needed to insure they spend this money properly; **and NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the distribution of the \$560 million in ARPA funds and that the Finance, Treasury, Budget Management, Internal Equitable Recovery Coordinating Committee, and other relevant departments be invited to testify.

Filed on: November 29th, 2023