

**OFFERED BY COUNCILORS MINIARD CULPEPPER, JULIA M. MEJIA,
BREADON, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, LOUIJEUNE, MURPHY, PEPÉN, WEBER,
AND WORRELL**



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE ROXBURY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL UNDER ARTICLE 50 AND THE ROXBURY STRATEGIC MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, Roxbury is one of the historic centers of Black Boston and has long been home to generations of Black families, working-class residents, small businesses, churches, civic organizations, tenant leaders, youth workers, elders, and community institutions that have carried the neighborhood through decades of exclusion, disinvestment, urban renewal, redlining, displacement, and broken promises; *and*

WHEREAS, The Roxbury Neighborhood Council was created and recognized to plan the development of Roxbury and ensure that Roxbury residents have an organized, formal, and continuing voice in the planning, zoning, development, public land, and quality-of-life decisions that shape their neighborhood; *and*

WHEREAS, Article 50 of the Boston Zoning Code recognizes the Roxbury Neighborhood Council as Roxbury's formal planning entity and affirms its role in reviewing certain project materials, planning on land use and design, and submitting written recommendations before certain planning actions move forward; *and*

WHEREAS, The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan created a governance structure to ensure community participation, including the establishment of the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee; *and*

WHEREAS, The Master Plan establishes an RNC-led nomination process for the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee, through which Roxbury residents, tenant organizations, merchant associations, neighborhood associations, religious organizations, human service organizations, community development corporations, and other Roxbury stakeholders provide names for consideration in the nomination pool; *and*

WHEREAS, The Roxbury Neighborhood Council, working with Roxbury's elected officials, is responsible for transmitting a pool of nominees from which the Mayor appoints members and the Chair of the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee; *and*

WHEREAS, The Administration's role under that framework is to appoint members from the community-generated nomination pool; *and*

WHEREAS, The current members of the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee have exceeded the three-year terms established by the Master Plan, requiring the City to restore the nomination and appointment process in compliance with the Master Plan; *and*

WHEREAS, The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan provides that the Roxbury Neighborhood Council and Roxbury's elected officials oversee the nomination process for the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee; *and*

WHEREAS, The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee regularly relies on the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan as its founding and governing document; *and*

WHEREAS, If the City, the Planning Department, the BPDA, or the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee rely on the Master Plan to justify planning decisions, public engagement processes, or the existence and authority of the Oversight Committee itself, then the City must also honor the provisions of that same Master Plan that empower the Roxbury Neighborhood Council and Roxbury residents; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council affirms the role of the Roxbury Neighborhood Council as Roxbury's formal community voice under Article 50 of the Boston Zoning Code, the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan, and applicable City development review processes, including Article 80 processes where applicable; and that the Boston City Council affirms that the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan remains the governing community planning document for the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee; and that the Boston City Council affirms that the City must honor the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan as a whole, including the provisions establishing the Roxbury Neighborhood Council's role in governance, recommendations, nominations, public land disposition, development review, developer designation, and community participation; and that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Chief of Planning, the BPDA, the Planning Department, the Office of Neighborhood Services, the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee, and the Roxbury Neighborhood Council.

Filed on: July 22, 2026