BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

Committee on Ways and Means
Benjamin J. Weber, Chair

One City Hall Square 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02201 ◊ Phone: (617) 635-3040 ◊ city.council@boston.gov

REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

June 3, 2026

Dear Councilors:

The Committee on Ways and Means was referred the following dockets for consideration:

Docket #0738, message and order approving an appropriation of Three Hundred Eighty-Four Million Seven Hundred Five Thousand Dollars ($384,705,000.00) for various capital improvement purposes for city departments including the Boston Center for Youth and Families, Boston Housing Authority, Boston Planning and Development Agency, Boston Public Library, Innovation and Technology, Environment, Fire, Mayor's Office of Housing, Office of Arts & Culture, Parks and Recreation, Planning, Property Management, Public Health Commission, Public Works, and the Transportation Departments.

Docket #0739, message and order approving an appropriation in the amount of Thirteen Million Eight Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Dollars ($13,855,000.00) for various capital improvements purposes for the Boston Public Schools.

Docket #0740, message and order authorizing the City of Boston to enter into one or more leases, lease-purchase or installment sales agreements in Fiscal Year 2027 in an amount not to exceed Twenty-Eight Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($28,500,000.00). These funds are to be used by various City departments for the acquisition of equipment in furtherance of their respective governmental functions. The list of equipment includes: computer equipment (hardware and software), motor vehicles and trailers, ambulances, firefighting equipment, office equipment, telecommunications equipment, photocopying equipment, medical equipment, school and educational equipment, school buses, parking meters, street lighting installation, traffic signal equipment and equipment functionally related to, and component of the foregoing.

These matters were sponsored by Mayor Michelle Wu and were referred to the Committee on April 8, 2026.

The Committee has conducted a robust review process, including 31 public hearings on departmental budgets and associated capital budgets, 2 dedicated public testimony sessions, 6 working sessions, and has received written testimony from all City departments, as well as written, oral, and recorded testimony from the public. Prior to the FY27 budget process, the Committee held 5 hearings, 1

committee meeting, and 1 working session to collate the Council's FY27 budget priorities, to collate the Council's Request for Information (RFI), and to discuss forecasted revenues and expenditures for the FY27 budget.

These dockets represent authorizations for the FY27 Capital Budget, which help to fund the City's $4.4 billion FY27-31 Capital Plan. The projects within the Capital Plan have a significant impact on the quality of life for Boston's residents. They maintain and improve the City's infrastructure, enhance its mobility, ensure its safety, and provide necessary open space for both residents and visitors to enjoy all that Boston has to offer, across Boston's neighborhoods. These authorizations will be allocated towards the following projects:

Arts and Culture

- Design, fabricate, and install a memorial to Crispus Atticks.

Boston Centers for Youth and Families

- BCYF Hyde Park Community Center: repairs and renovations to the Hyde Park Center, including adding a splash pad, repairing the roof, and renovating the teen room.
- BCYF Curley Phase II: phase 2 of the Curley renovation project, with repairs to plumbing, floors, and roof replacement.
- BCYF Mason Pool: design and renovation of the Mason Pool.
- BCYF North End Community Center: design and construct a new North End Community Center.
- Pool Repairs: renovations and repairs at various BCYF/BPS pools across the City.

Boston Fire Department

- Engine 3: design and construct Engine 3
- Fire Apparatus FY25-28: purchasing of new engines and ladders for Boston Fire.

Boston Planning and Development Agency

- Lafayette Garage: repairs to the Lafayette Garage.
- RLFMP Wharf 8/Pier 10 Improvements: improvements to Wharf 8 and Pier 10 and adjacent areas in the RLFMP to maintain the infrastructure in a state of good repair and improve coastal resilience.
- Long Wharf Resiliency Improvements: design and engineering work for the resilience needs of Downtown and the North End, to advance the solutions outlined in Climate Ready Boston. The project includes stabilizing the east face seawall.
- Sail Boston Berthing: Improvements and capital repairs to piers and wharfs in the Raymond L. Flynn Marine Park (RLFMP) and the Charlestown Navy Yard (CNY).

Boston Public Health Commission

- IT Server Infrastructure Refresh Project: replace critical server infrastructure for the Boston Public Health Commission.

Boston Public Schools

- Bathroom Improvements at Various Schools: bathroom renovations at Boston Collaborative High School and Condon K-8. Future bathroom renovations may include Tynan, JFK, TechBoston, Russell, and others.
- BPS–Capital Maintenance: core maintenance work in various schools, including electrical, HVAC, masonry, and window repairs.
- Brighton High School Renovation: renovations and upgrades to accommodate increased student enrollment from closure and reconfiguration of other neighborhood schools. Upgrades may include auditorium, bathroom, HVAC, and roof replacement.
- Building Envelope Repairs at Various Schools: envelope repairs at East Boston High School and TechBoston Academy to improve energy efficiency and keep the structure in a state of good repair. Future envelope repairs may include Boston Latin Academy and others.
- Implementation of Long-Term Facilities Plan at Several Schools: improvements at several school buildings as part of implementation of the Long Term Facilities Plan, as well as a strategic reserve for MSBA Core projects.
- John F. Kennedy School Improvements: John F. Kennedy School Improvements: upgrades and improvements to the JFK School, which may include fire alarm, electrical systems, roof repairs, and accessibility improvements.
- South Boston Education Complex Renovation: decarbonization and other interior upgrades to accommodate relocation of another BPS high school, to be determined.
- Technology Infrastructure: upgrades to technology and internet infrastructure at various schools across the district.

Department of Innovation and Technology

- Permit & License Transformation: design and implement improvements to the permit and licensing technology systems.

Environment Department

- Coastal Resilience Reserve: continued commitment to a Climate Resilience Capital Reserve.

Mayor's Office of Housing

- Mildred C. Hailey Phase 1 Redevelopment: renovation of existing BHA housing units including plumbing, ventilation, windows, and other building repairs and Phase 1 Redevelopment – which will include 1-to-1 replacement of the existing 253 public housing units and construction of approximately 435 new affordable and upper middle-income units – at Mildred C. Hailey Development.

Parks and Recreation Department

- Ceylon Park: design of park improvements including upgrades to artificial turf, sports lighting, basketball court, playgrounds, splash pad, spectator seating, and accessibility.
- General Parks: replace fencing, pavement, court lighting, and other infrastructure improvements needed.
- Hardiman Playground: develop design for a complete renovation of the play area.

- Moakley Park: implementation of master plan for Moakley Park. This project will redesign the park including climate resilience features to mitigate flood risk.
- Renovations at Municipal Golf Courses: improve drainage, paving, and other miscellaneous items at the William Devine and George Wright Golf Courses.
- Dorchester Park Infield: reconstruct existing softball infield.
- Arnold Arboretum Hunnewell Path: design the path at the Hunnewell entrance in the Arboretum in conjunction with an Arboretum led project on the entrance itself.
- East Boston Memorial Park Playground: design playground improvements to the playground.
- Forbes Street Play Area: design and renovate the park and playground area.
- Public Garden Bridge: make structural repairs and improvements to the bridge over the Public Garden Lagoon.
- Chandler Pond Phase 2: restoration of the remaining shoreline, including removing invasives, erosion control, and establishing designated access to the pond.

Property Management

- City Hall HVAC: replace air handling units to ensure continued operation of the City Hall air distribution system.
- City Hall Four Stop Elevator: design and install a new 4 stop elevator in City Hall, allowing movement between floors 1, 2, 3, M, and 4 to improve accessibility of the interior courtyard and transaction windows.
- Municipal Facility Repairs: study, design, renovation, and construction at various municipal facilities in the City's portfolio.
- 125 Magazine Street: assess and address the building condition and user agency needs at the facility.
- City Hall: study, design, renovation, and construction at City Hall.
- Feasibility Study Services: conduct studies on potential capital projects to determine scope, feasibility, cost estimate, and timeline.

Public Works

- Bridge Repairs: ongoing repairs at various City-owned bridges as needed to bring the portfolio of 40 bridges to a state of good repair. This includes proactive maintenance and annual maintenance.
- Citywide Street Safety Construction Services: construction of street safety improvements across the City, including intersection redesign, raised crossings, speedhumps, bikelanes, and other traffic calming strategies to promote Vision Zero.
- Citywide Street Safety Design Services: design and engineering for street safety improvements across the City, including intersection redesign, raised crossings, speedhumps, bikelanes, and other traffic calming strategies to promote Vision Zero.
- McArdle Bridge: design phase of bridge structure rehabilitation.
- Poplar Street Safety Improvements Phase II: update ramps on Poplar Street and introduce safe raised crossings at five key locations, including close to a school.

- Sidewalk and Ramp Reconstruction FY25-27: program for sidewalk reconstruction and repair including responses to 311 requests as well as planned reconstruction of brick and concrete sidewalks for the 2025, 2026, and 2027 construction seasons.
- Roadway Reconstruction and Resurfacing FY25-27: maintain citywide streets with resurfacing and reconstruction efforts.
- Street Lighting Infrastructure Upgrades and Installation: installation and upgrades of street lights in various locations.
- Wood Avenue Safety Improvements: design and construct safety improvements along Wood Avenue and in the surrounding neighborhoods.
- Sidewalk and Ramp Reconstruction 2028-30: design and construct improvements to sidewalks and curb ramps during the 2028, 2029, and 2030 construction seasons.
- Roadway Reconstruction and Resurfacing 2028-30: resurface and reconstruct roadways to maintain and improve the citywide pavement condition index during the 2028, 2029, and 2030 construction seasons.
- Transit Project Coordination and Construction: coordinate with the MBTA on transit projects on City streets, including Green Line work on Huntington and Commonwealth Avenues.

Committee Chair Recommended Action

As Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means I recommend moving the listed dockets from the Committee to the full Council for discussion and formal action. At that time, my recommendation to the full Council will be that these matters ought to be **READ FOR THE FIRST TIME AND ASSIGNED FOR FURTHER ACTION** to support this capital spending plan that addresses important investments throughout the City, and sets the stage for future collaboration among the Administration and the City Council.

Benjamin J. Weber, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means