

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDINANCE REGARDING EMPLOYEE SAFETY WITHIN BOSTON'S OIL TERMINALS

- WHEREAS,** The Boston City Council has the authority to adopt ordinances designed to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all residents and workers of the City of Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Currently, there are four active oil terminals along Chelsea Creek with one located at 467 Chelsea St. in East Boston. All of these facilities operate twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The East Boston oil terminal is the busiest terminal in terms of volume of petroleum products delivered by ship and the highest volume of transit carrying oil in the area. The East Boston oil terminal provides over 1.6 million gallons of jet fuel a day to Logan Airport. Additionally, another 1.6 million gallons are transported out of the terminal by tanker trucks; *and*
- WHEREAS,** All three other oil terminals surrounding the Chelsea Creek have mandatory staffing to ensure protection of the environment, property, and especially the public; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City of Chelsea has enacted legislation to standardize the minimum requirement of staffing to ensure trained employees are always onsite. This staffing guardrail provides additional layers of safety during the offloading and onloading of petroleum at terminals. The East Boston oil terminal only requires one operator onsite, unless a vessel is at the dock; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Having only one trained operator onsite at any time creates a variety of safety concerns. This includes leaving the terminal unattended during times when the operator has to perform offsite duties, lack of immediate support if the operator is injured, immense size and volume of operations, and the need to leave the site to activate a spill response in the event of a leak or failure at the terminal; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Staffing needs must be aligned across industry standards in order to guarantee the safety of terminal employees and the overall safety of the public; *and*

WHEREAS, Further protection to employees and residents is required for the oil terminals that exist within the city; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston as follows:

That the City of Boston Municipal Code, Section 17-15.2 is hereby amended by adding the following provisions:

SECTION 1

Definitions.

Marine Terminal Operator shall mean a person overseeing the operations of offloading and onloading petroleum and other hazardous materials from ship vessels to motor vehicles at oil terminals.

SECTION 2

All oil terminals within the boundaries of the City of Boston shall have at minimum two trained employees on duty at all times.

- a. At least one such trained employee shall be a Marine Terminal Operator who has knowledge and training in the following areas:
 - i. Storage tank type, location and operation of all valves including pressure relief devices, operations of all piping and valves and emergency venting operations;
 - ii. Operations of the loading rack(s), including emergency venting operations;
 - iii. Offloading operations at the dock, including ship to shore connections and emergency procedures;
 - iv. Operations of the of the fire suppression system(s); and
 - v. Spill and product release procedures, including proper notification of the fire department.
- b. The second trained employee shall have knowledge and training in the following areas:
 - i. Storage tank type, location, and emergency procedures;
 - ii. Operations of loading rack(s), including emergency procedures;
 - iii. Operations of the fire suppression system(s); and
 - iv. Spill and product release procedures, including proper notification of the fire.
- c. Whenever there are offloading operations at the dock, there shall be at least two Marine Terminal Operators on duty.

SECTION 2

This ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

Filed on: November 6, 2024