



# BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks  
Gabriela Coletta Zapata, Chair

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## REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

August 26, 2024

Dear Councilors,

The Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks was referred the following docket for consideration:

***Docket #0682, message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend a grant from Eversource valued in the amount not to exceed Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) (grant includes the value of rebates and equipment) for the purpose of promoting energy efficiency and energy savings to various public buildings and infrastructure projects.***

This matter was sponsored by Mayor Michelle Wu and referred to the Committee on April 10, 2024.

### ***Summary of Legislation***

***Docket #0682*** is a grant from Eversource, in an amount up to \$10,000,000 that will fund the City's purchase of energy efficient equipment and improvements in City buildings.

### ***Information Received at Hearing***

The Committee held a hearing on Tuesday, August 20, 2024 to discuss Docket #0682. Carleton Jones, Executive Director, Public Facilities Department (PFD), testified on behalf of the Administration. Mr. Jones introduced the grant, and shared the Administration's excitement to apply such grants to the City's capital projects and advance its green initiatives.

Mr. Jones explained that the City applies for grants throughout the year, and this grant, like others, are meant to be used for public facilities, specifically departmental assets. He explained that the timing of when the grant is approved and appropriated will determine which projects it will fund, based on how that timing matches with eligible capital projects in the pipeline. He explained that the grant will fund energy efficient equipment such as air handling units, heat pumps, energy recovery units, and geothermal equipment for City buildings.

The Committee discussed the use of geothermal energy, examples of energy efficient improvements in other city facilities and coordination with Boston Water and Sewer on capital projects.

***Committee Chair Recommended Action***

As Chair of the Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks, I recommend moving the listed docket from the Committee to the full Council for discussion and formal action. My recommendation to the full Council is that this matter **OUGHT TO PASS**.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gabriela Coletta Zapata". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered on the page.

Gabriela Coletta Zapata, Chair  
Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks