

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BENJAMIN J. WEBER



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO REVIEW CONSTRUCTION COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE WHITE STADIUM PROJECT

WHEREAS, In April 2023, Mayor Michelle Wu announced the release of a request for proposals to renovate, rebuild, and reimagine White Stadium in Franklin Park as a hub for Boston Public Schools athletics; *and*

WHEREAS, In September 2023, Mayor Michelle Wu announced that Boston Unity Soccer Partners had been chosen during the RFP process to refurbish the stadium to be shared with Boston Public School students. This announcement was coupled with a \$30 million investment from Boston Unity Soccer Partners; *and*

WHEREAS, In December 2024, a 10-year BPS Stadium Usage Agreement and lease agreement was executed by the City and Boston Unity Soccer which established financial terms and legal obligations for maintenance and operations of the facility; *and*

WHEREAS, After 60 community meetings and more than 900 comment letters the White Stadium project was altered to address some of the concerns and issues raised; *and*

WHEREAS, The projected costs of the White Stadium project have gone up substantially on several occasions since the initial proposal was made in 2023 with various reasons given, including the rising costs of materials and labor and costs associated with the delay of construction due to litigation. According to recent disclosures by the Mayor's office, about \$12 million has been spent so far to demolish White Stadium; *and*

WHEREAS, Construction of the renovated White Stadium is expected to begin in earnest in the Spring of 2026. The cost of construction will depend on the various bids that were submitted for the project. Mayor Michelle Wu has committed to releasing updated costs at the start of the 2026 calendar year after the bidding process is completed; *and*

WHEREAS, The Boston City Council voted to approve the FY26-30 5-year Capital Plan, which was partially funded by loan orders totalling approximately \$466 million on June 25, 2025, which included a line item for White Stadium design and renovation costs estimated at \$91 million (the City's share of the total construction costs); *and*

WHEREAS, During a December 10, 2025 Boston City Council meeting, this body unanimously adopted a resolution in support of demanding updated cost estimates for the White Stadium project; *and*

WHEREAS, In order to conduct proper oversight of the renovation of this City-funded BPS athletic facility, it is important for the Council to receive updated estimates on costs that are associated with completion of this project; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to provide oversight for future expenditures and inform the Council's vote on the upcoming FY27-31 capital budget.

Filed on: January 28, 2026