



# BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks  
Brian J. Worrell, Chair

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## REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

April 23, 2026

Dear Councilors,

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

***Docket #0760, Message and order for your approval an appropriation order in the amount of Eight Hundred and Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$860,000) for the Cemetery Division of the Parks and Recreation Department and the Trust Office of the Treasury Department to be funded from the Cemetery Trust Fund established under Chapter 13 of the Acts of 1961.***

This matter was sponsored by Mayor Michelle Wu, and was referred to the Committee on April 8, 2026.

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

***Docket #0760*** is an Order authorizing the appropriation of \$860,000 for the Cemetery Division of the Parks and Recreation Department and the The Trust Office of the Treasury Department to be funded from the Cemetery Trust Fund established under Chapter 13 of the Acts of 1961.

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

The Committee held a hearing on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 to discuss Docket #0760. The Committee heard from Tom Sullivan, General Superintendent of the Cemetery Division, and Margaret Dyson, Director of Trust from the Treasury Department.

The panelists stated that this Docket is an approval for an appropriation of \$860,000 from the Cemetery Trust Fund to the Cemetery Division of the Parks and Recreation Department. They stated that of this total, \$200,000 will be used to engage licensed professionals to develop a plan for future burial needs in City cemeteries, \$300,000 to improve paved ways and water infrastructure at Mt. Hope, Fairview, and Evergreen Cemeteries; \$200,000 to improve the landscape infrastructure including fencing and walls at Mt. Hope, Fairview, and Evergreen Cemeteries; \$100,000 to improve signage at Mt. Hope, Fairview, and Evergreen Cemeteries; \$35,000 to improve public access by supporting digital access to cemetery records and maps of the burials in Mt. Hope, Fairview, and Evergreen Cemeteries; and \$25,000 to provide tree care at City cemeteries.

Mr. Sullivan added that the City owns and operates 19 cemeteries, 16 of which are historic and maintained primarily for beautification. The Cemetery Division oversees 265 acres and conducts 600-800 burials annually. About 25 employees maintain cemetery operations.

### ***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. At this time, my recommendation to the full Council will be that this matter **OUGHT TO PASS**.



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*Brian Worrell*

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