

City of Boston, Massachusetts Office of the Mayor

MICHELLE WU

September 30, 2024

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to apply for, and then accept and expend a RAISE Grant from the Federal Transit Administration. The City of Boston's award will not exceed \$20,000,000 in funding from the RAISE Grant for the Roxbury Resilient Transportation Corridors project. Led by the Boston Transportation Department, the City will partner with local residents, community organizations and consultants to apply the fund toward planning, designing and constructing improvements on Warren Street, Malcolm X Boulevard, and Melnea Cass Boulevard in Roxbury.

The upcoming work will strive for a comprehensive solution that integrates affordable housing, prevents displacement, reduces heat island effects, contributes to a thriving small business community, and supports local artists. The three corridors are the primary roadways of the Roxbury neighborhood, the heart of the Black community in Boston. Today, they are detracting from quality of life in the area. The wide, auto-centric thoroughfares of Melnea Cass Boulevard, Malcolm X Boulevard, and Warren Street are a result of eminent domain and block clearance during Boston's urban renewal era of the 1960s.

The project will be focused on reconstruction of the three aforementioned corridors, with extensive community engagement, planning, design and engineering work ahead of construction. Some key principles informing this work will include improving the quality of life and safety for residents, proactively including approaches for climate resilience, addressing traffic concerns, and prioritizing public transit and non-vehicular modes of travel. This project will ultimately address the historic legacy of inequities in investment experience in Roxbury, where the corridors are located.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order as soon as possible so that the City of Boston may proceed with the execution of the RAISE Grant.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu Mayor of Boston

CITY OF BOSTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND A RAISE GRANT FROM THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS (\$20,000,000).

- **WHEREAS:** the Federal Transit Administrator has been delegated authority to award federal financial assistance for a transportation project; and
- WHEREAS: the grant or cooperative agreement for federal financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, and may require the applicant to provide the local share of the project cost; and
- **WHEREAS:** the applicant has or will provide all annual certifications and assurances to the Federal Transit Administration required for the project; *therefore*, *be it*
- ORDERED: That the City of Boston, acting by and through its Transportation Department and its Commissioner of the Transportation Department, be, and hereby is authorized to receive federal assistance from the Federal Transit Administration authorized by 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53, Title 23, United States Code, or other federal statutes authorizing a project administered by the Federal Transit Administration, and;
- FURTHER ORDERED: That the City of Boston, by and through its Transportation Department and its Commissioner of the Transportation Department, be, and hereby is, authorized to execute and file with its applications the annual certifications and assurances and other documents the Federal Transportation Administration requires before awarding a federal assistance grant or cooperative agreement, and;
- **FURTHER ORDERED:** That the City of Boston, by and through its Transportation Department and its Commissioner of the Transportation Department, Nicholas Gove, is authorized to execute grant and cooperative agreements with the Federal Transit Administration, and;
- FURTHER ORDERED: That the City of Boston, acting by and through its Transportation Department, be, and hereby is, authorized, in accordance with Section 53A of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend a RAISE grant awarded by the Federal Transit Administration, not to exceed Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000).

THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN THE ABOVE FORM? WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.

ADAM CEDERBAUM CORPORATION COUNSEL

* GCL/81-274C

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