



# BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

Committee on Planning, Development, and Transportation  
Sharon Durkan, Chair

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## REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

June 5, 2026

Dear Councilors,

The Committee on Planning, Development, and Transportation was referred the following dockets for consideration:

***Docket #0796, Message and order for the confirmation of the reappointment of David Sampson as an Alternate Member of the Back Bay Architectural District Commission for a term expiring on December 31, 2030,***

***Docket #0797, Message and order for the confirmation of the reappointment of Robert Weintraub as a Member of the Back Bay Architectural District Commission for a term expiring on December 31, 2029,***

***Docket #0798, Message and order for the confirmation of the appointment of David Dixon as a Member of the Boston Landmarks Commission, for a term expiring June 30, 2028,***

***Docket #0799, Message and order for the confirmation of the reappointment of Kirsten Hoffman as an Alternate Member of the Boston Landmarks Commission, for a term expiring June 30, 2026,***

***Docket #0800, Message and order for the confirmation of the appointment of Kirsten Hoffman as a Member of the Fort Point Channel Landmark District Commission for a term expiring on June 30, 2026.***

These matters were sponsored by Mayor Michelle Wu, and were referred to the Committee on April 15, 2026, and

***Docket #1037, Message and order for the confirmation of the appointment of Vineet Gupta as an Alternate Member of the Boston Landmarks Commission, for a term expiring June 30, 2026.***

***Docket #1038, Message and order for the confirmation of the appointment of Susan Goganian as a Member of the Boston Landmarks Commission, for a term expiring June 30, 2026.***

***Docket #1039, Message and order for the confirmation of the appointment of Susan Goganian as a Member of the Fort Point Channel Landmark District Commission, for a term expiring June 30, 2026.***

***Docket #1040, Message and order for the confirmation of the reappointment of Kathleen Connor as a Member of the Back Bay Architectural District Commission, for a term expiring December 31, 2026.***

These matters were sponsored by Mayor Michelle Wu, and were referred to the Committee on May 20, 2026.

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

***Docket #0796*** is an order confirming the reappointment of David Sampson as an Alternate Member of the Back Bay Architectural District Commission.



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**Docket #0797** is an order confirming the reappointment of Robert Weintraub as an Alternate Member of the Back Bay Architectural District Commission.

**Docket #0798** is an order confirming the appointment of David Dixon as a Member of the Boston Landmarks Commission.

**Docket #0799** is an order confirming the reappointment of Kirsten Hoffman as an Alternate Member of the Boston Landmarks Commission.

**Docket #0800** is an order confirming the appointment of Kirsten Hoffman as a Member of the Fort Point Channel Landmark District Commission.

**Docket #1037** is an order confirming the appointment of Vineet Gupta as an Alternate Member of the Boston Landmarks Commission

**Docket #1038** is an order confirming the appointment of Susan Goganian as a Member of the Boston Landmarks Commission.

**Docket #1039** is an order confirming the appointment of Susan Goganian as a Member of the Fort Point Channel Landmark District Commission.

**Docket #1040** is an order confirming the reappointment of Kathleen Connor as a Member of the Back Bay Architectural District Commission

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

The Committee held a hearing on Friday, January 5, 2026 to discuss Dockets #0796-0800 and #1037-1040 which are orders confirming a series of planning and development-related appointments and reappointments. The Committee heard testimony from panelists which included Joe Cornish, Director of Design Review from the Boston Landmarks Commission who endorsed all nominees and highlighted their expertise and leadership.

The Committee heard testimony from each appointee beginning with Rob Weintraub who is reappointed to the Back Bay Architectural Commission. Mr. Weintraub detailed his ten year tenure and 45 year experience specializing in historic preservation in Boston. He emphasized the pride and responsibility he feels in maintaining the architectural beauty of Back Bay.

David Sampson discussed his reappointment to the Back Bay Architectural District Commission. Mr. Sampson stated that he works in real estate and development in Boston, especially in the Back Bay, where he also resides. He highlighted his fundraising effort of nearly \$100,000 for removing the scaffolding on the first Baptist Church. He also expressed his commitment to preserving the Back Bay's character.

David Dixon discussed his appointment to the Boston Landmarks Commission and discussed the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration on the Commission, with members bringing diverse expertise and passions. Mr. Dixon discussed his extensive urban planning work, including major projects



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like post-Katrina planning in New Orleans, downtown Memphis, and Leesburg, Virginia where legacy preservation and urban evolution were critical themes.

Kirsten Hoffman discussed her reappointment to the Boston Landmarks Commission and Fort Point Landmark District Commission. Ms. Hoffman discussed her background as an archaeologist, moving into historic preservation law, and then real estate development. She believes that historic resources can be maximized for the benefit and value of projects. She expressed her appreciation for Boston's rich history and the strong commitment from the Landmarks Commission and city staff toward preservation.

Vineet Gupta discussed his appointment to the Boston Landmarks Commission. Mr. Gupta stated that he is the former Director of Planning for Transportation with the City of Boston. Mr. Gupta discussed his background stating that he is trained as an architect and urban designer, with decades of experience reviewing development projects focusing on contextual appropriateness and community impact.

The Committee also received information from the Administration on the appointment of Susan Gognian to the Boston Landmark District Commission and the reappointment of Kathleen Connor to the Back Bay Architectural District Commission. Ms. Gognian has extensive experience in historic site administration and interpretative programming as well as collaborations with community groups, historic organizations and residents. She has spent 17 years as the Director of Historic Beverly. Ms. Connor currently serves as Chair of the Back Bay Architectural District Commission with a passion to ensure that preservation and development have a healthy synergy that directly impacts the economic engine in the City of Boston.

### ***Committee Chair Recommended Action***

As Chair of the Committee on Planning, Development, and Transportation, I recommend moving the listed dockets from the Committee to the full Council for discussion and formal action. At this time, my recommendation to the full Council will be that these matters **OUGHT TO PASS**.

Sharon Durkan, Chair  
Committee on Labor, Workforce, and Economic Development