

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR EDWARD M. FLYNN



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS CITY SERVICES AND QUALITY OF LIFE CONCERNS IN COPLEY SQUARE

WHEREAS, In recent months, residents have raised concerns about the current state of Copley Square - including the general area from the border of the South End going towards the Boston Public Library on Boylston Street; *and*

WHEREAS, A major concern that residents have raised concerns about ongoing sanitation issues, including persistent trash accumulation on sidewalks, plazas, and near storefronts and transit entrances, as well as consistent 311 response and enforcement; *and*

WHEREAS, There is a glaring need for stronger participation from abutting businesses and improved coordination between City departments and partners, such as the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) on trash disposal, as jurisdiction is not always clear for neighbors; *and*

WHEREAS, Concerns also remain about the maintenance of sidewalks, lighting, and public infrastructure. What was once an open greenspace for neighbors, Copley Square is now a concrete plaza, with reported plans from the City to include a new greenspace further down the street in the future. Neighbors have reported a lack of landscaping, which can be unsightly for visitors, and may lead to improper storm water absorption; *and*

WHEREAS, Ongoing construction and vacant storefronts in the surrounding area have raised questions about the City's investment, maintenance, and the overall condition of the Copley Square, in the areas around Titus Sparrow Park, and through Boylston Street. It's critical that Copley Square be revitalized and receive the appropriate level of care and commitment from the City of Boston; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss city services and quality of life issues at Copley Square, and that Boston Public Works, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), Boston 311 and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: March 25, 2026