

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A TEMPORARY PAUSE ON VERTICAL
CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES AT WHITE STADIUM**

- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston, in partnership with Boston Unity Soccer Partners, is undertaking construction at White Stadium in Franklin Park, a project currently estimated at \$325 million; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Construction activities have advanced into the “vertical construction” phase, including the installation of structural components that will form the permanent superstructure of the facility; *and*
- WHEREAS,** There is outstanding information on whether diverse businesses are receiving meaningful scopes of work that help them build capacity and compete for future projects; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Supplier diversity has been made a central part of this project; goals have been set, outreach has happened, and there is an effort to track progress publicly. These steps reflect the kind of city Boston is working to become, and the responsibility of the City Council is to make sure we keep building on that progress; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Supplier diversity must be connected to workforce diversity—making sure Boston residents, people of color, women, apprentices, and journey-level workers are all receiving opportunities to thrive; *and*
- WHEREAS,** There remain outstanding concerns about the low supplier diversity goals set by the City, transparency regarding the bidding process, and the resulting work hours must be addressed before the construction continues forward; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Additionally, the project remains the subject of active litigation currently before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, which heard oral arguments April 8 2026, regarding the legality of the project under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution and related statutory interpretations; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The outcome of this case may determine whether legislative approval is required, whether the current project structure is permissible, and whether elements of the project must be altered, paused, or reauthorized; *and*

WHEREAS, The Court is expected to issue a decision within approximately 130 days of oral arguments, creating a defined timeline for judicial resolution; *and*

WHEREAS, Continuing construction activities that may be difficult to reverse during this period could expose the City to financial, legal, and operational risks, including the need for rework; *and*

WHEREAS, A temporary pause limited specifically to new vertical construction activities would preserve the City's flexibility while respecting ongoing legal proceeding; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED, That the Boston City Council calls on the Administration to pause all new vertical construction activities at White Stadium, including the installation of structural and superstructure elements, until a final decision is issued by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court in the pending litigation.

Filed in Council: May 13, 2026