

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS EDWARD M. FLYNN, FITZGERALD, AND MURPHY



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE

AN ORDER REGARDING A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE BOSTON ZONING CODE RELATIVE TO CHINATOWN ADULT ENTERTAINMENT

WHEREAS, In the 1960s, the term “Combat Zone” was given to an area for Downtown and Chinatown, which primarily included Washington Street, Boylston Street, and Kneeland Street. At present, only a few adult entertainment venues that have operated there for many years still remain; *and*

WHEREAS, Under current zoning, if an adult entertainment establishment seeks to locate in Chinatown, it is defined as a commercial use. As a result, the proponent is not required to undergo a significant community review process in the neighborhood; *and*

WHEREAS, Due to ongoing concerns regarding public process, quality of life and public safety from neighbors, it is critical that all adult entertainment establishments go through a full Zoning Board of Appeals community process with an amendment to the zoning code for Chinatown. Residents in Chinatown, Downtown Boston, and the Bay Village deserve a voice in what takes place in their community;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

ORDERED, *That the Boston City Council, by and through Councilor Edward Flynn, submits a petition to amend the text of the Boston Zoning Code.*

TO THE ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BOSTON:

Boston City Council through and by Boston City Councilor Edward Flynn petition to amend the text of the Boston Zoning Code as follows:

(1) Article 43, Section 24. - Adult Entertainment District
Strike the word “allowed” and replace with the word “conditional”.

(2) Appendix B to Article 43 - Use Categories, Adult Entertainment Uses
Strike the words “allowed only” and replace with “conditional”.

Petitioner: Boston City Council
By: Councilor Edward Flynn

Address: 1 City Hall Square, Suite 550, Boston, MA 02201
Telephone: 617-635-3203

Filed on: October 22, 2025