

**OFFERED BY COUNCILORS MINIARD CULPEPPER, BREADON, COLETTA ZAPATA, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, LOUIJEUNE, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL**



## **CITY OF BOSTON**

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX**

### **ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXAMINE BOSTON'S 48-HOUR PARKING SPACE SAVER POLICY FOLLOWING SNOW EMERGENCIES**

- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston permits the temporary use of “space savers,” such as chairs, cones, or other objects, to reserve on-street parking spaces that residents shovel out following a snowstorm when a snow emergency has been declared; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Under current City policy, space savers may only be used for up to forty-eight (48) hours after the end of a declared snow emergency, after which they must be removed from the street; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The purpose of the forty-eight-hour limitation is to balance the interests of residents who clear parking spaces during winter storms with the need to maintain fair and equitable access to public parking throughout the City; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Reports following recent winter storms suggest that space savers have remained in public parking spaces beyond the permitted forty-eight-hour period, raising concerns about the consistency of enforcement and the availability of public parking; *and*
- WHEREAS,** As of March, 2026, the City of Boston has declared two snow emergencies, and residents have reported concerns regarding the enforcement of the forty-eight-hour space saver policy following the conclusion of those emergencies; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Questions have also been raised regarding what enforcement tools the City of Boston, the Boston Police Department, and other City departments utilize to ensure compliance with the forty-eight-hour space saver rule and what actions residents may take when violations occur;
- WHEREAS,** A clearer understanding of the City’s policies, enforcement practices, and public communication related to space saver rules may help ensure fair and consistent application of the policy and reduce conflicts between residents following winter storms; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the City of Boston's forty-eight-hour parking space saver policy following snow emergencies, including the City's enforcement practices, public education efforts, and options to improve compliance with the policy, and that the Boston Transportation Department, Boston Police Department, Public Works Department, Parking Clerk's Office, and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: March 11, 2026