

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ENRIQUE J. PEPÉN



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS PARKING BENEFIT DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, Many neighborhoods of Boston, especially those neighborhoods farther from the city center with limited transit, have car dependent infrastructure, which requires large amounts of land to be reserved for the storage of cars, preventing the land from being productive for the community; *and*

WHEREAS, Concerns have been raised by community members of increased development in neighborhood centers — especially those neighborhoods part of the Squares + Streets rezoning initiative — and how new residents will impact parking on main streets if they bring personal vehicles; *and*

WHEREAS, It is essential that land used for parking on our main streets is as productive as possible — by encouraging a consistent turnover of cars rather than long term parking — to help businesses see more activity; *and*

WHEREAS, A Parking Benefit District is a tool used by cities which monetizes parking in specific districts, helping to manage parking while also funding the district's community needs by designating a body to manage the District; *and*

WHEREAS, Many cities have successfully implemented Parking Benefit Districts such as Pasadena, California, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as well as Austin, Texas which used a parking benefit district to mitigate the impacts on resident parking by a transient population— a major concern in communities facing new development; *and*

WHEREAS, Parking Benefit Districts can generate revenue that can support the City's Main Streets organizations' programs and the City with funds to repair sidewalks, plant street trees, build bus shelters, and more; *and*

WHEREAS, It is important to discuss if parking benefit districts could work in our city to provide revenue to foundational programs, how it could be right-sized for the City, and which neighborhoods could sustain a parking benefit district; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing on parking benefit districts. Experts on parking benefit districts, administration officials, and community members will be invited to testify.

Filed on: February 25th, 2026