

OFFERED BY CITY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND
TWENTY-SIX**

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO REVIEW PAST EXPENDITURES
THROUGH QUARTERLY UPDATES ON THE FY2026 OPERATING
BUDGET**

WHEREAS, The City of Boston's FY2026 Operating Budget, covering the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, totals \$4.8 billion and reflects a substantial commitment of public resources requiring rigorous oversight to ensure fiscal responsibility; *and*

WHEREAS, Once appropriations have been approved and public dollars expended, it is critical for the Council to evaluate how those funds were actually spent in order to ensure alignment with legislative priorities, fiscal discipline, and community needs; *and*

WHEREAS, Reviewing past expenditures provides a valuable opportunity to measure the efficiency of departmental operations, assess whether funds have reached their intended purposes, and identify instances of cost overruns, underspending, or reallocation; *and*

WHEREAS, Quarterly reviews of actual spending compared to appropriated amounts will allow the Council to track trends, evaluate efficiency, and assess whether departments are on track to deliver services within their budgets;; *and*

WHEREAS, Focused examination of completed expenditures ensures accountability for prior budgetary decisions and provides the public with a clear record of how their tax dollars have been managed; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold quarterly hearings during FY2026 to review departmental budgets and expenditures, including how funds have been used to meet stated needs, whether reallocations were required, and how actual spending compares to appropriated amounts, with a focus on accountability, fiscal discipline, and the effective use of the City's \$4.8 billion operating budget. Representatives from the Office of Budget Management, the City Auditor, interested individuals and all City departments shall be invited to provide testimony.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026