



ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR MATTERS PRESENTED TO THE CITY CLERK PRIOR TO 10:00 A.M. ON MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE CITY COUNCIL AT A REGULAR MEETING IN THE CHRISTOPHER IANNELLA CHAMBER ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026 AT 12:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 5, 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

COMMUNICATIONS FROM HER HONOR, THE MAYOR:

- [0124](#) Message and order for your approval an order to reduce the FY26 appropriation for the Reserve for Collective Bargaining by Eighteen Million One Hundred Eighteen Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Eight Dollars (\$18,118,488.00) to provide funding for the Fire Department for the FY26 increases contained within the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Boston and the Boston Firefighters IAFF Local 718. Filed in the Office of the City Clerk on January 26, 2026.
- [0125](#) Message and order for a supplemental appropriation order for the Boston Fire Department for FY26 in the amount of Eighteen Million One Hundred Eighteen Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Eight Dollars (\$18,118,488.00) to cover the FY26 cost items contained within the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Boston and IAFF Local 718. The terms of the contracts are July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 and July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028. The major provisions of the contracts include a base wage increase of 2.5% to be given in July of 2024, and a base wage increase of 2% in July of each subsequent fiscal year of the contract term. The agreement also includes salary adjustments in January of 2025, starting at 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service.

- [0126](#) Message and order for your approval an order to reduce the FY26 appropriation for the Reserve for Collective Bargaining by One Million Three Hundred Seven Thousand Nine Hundred One Dollars (\$1,307,901.00) to provide funding for the Boston Public Schools for the FY26 increases contained within the collective bargaining agreements between the School Committee of the City of Boston and the Boston Association of School Administrators and Supervisors (BASAS). Filed in the Office of the City Clerk on January 26, 2026.
- [0127](#) Message and order for a supplemental appropriation order for the Boston Public Schools Department for FY26 in the amount of One Million Three Hundred Seven Thousand Nine Hundred One Dollars (\$1,307,901.00) to cover the FY26 cost items contained within the collective bargaining agreements between the School Committee of the City of Boston and the Boston Association of School Administrators and Supervisors (BASAS). The terms of the contracts are September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2027. The major provisions of the contracts include base wage increases of 2% to be given in September of each fiscal year of the contract term. The contract also adds a new step in FY27 and a new degree to the education differential.
- [0128](#) Message and order for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to appropriate the amount of Six Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,500,000.00) for the purpose of paying costs for the window and door replacement projects at the following schools: the Edward Everett Elementary School and the Richard J. Murphy K-8 School. This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Boston may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of the Boston Public Schools.

- [0129](#) Message and order for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to appropriate the amount of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00) for the purpose of paying costs for the roof replacement projects at the following schools: the Thomas J. Kenny Elementary School and Hugh Roe O'Donnell Elementary School. This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Boston may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of the Boston Public Schools.
- [0130](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Million Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,700,000.00) in the form of a grant, the FY26 Training Academy Earmark Grant, awarded by Massachusetts Department of Fire Services to be administered by the Fire Department. The grant would fund the Boston Fire Department Training Academy to provide training and instruction for public safety agencies in the city of Boston and municipal and political subdivisions across the Commonwealth, per line item 8324-0000 of the FY26 General Appropriations Act.
- [0131](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend a grant in an amount not to exceed One Million One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,150,000.00) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program. This grant is awarded to the City of Boston through the Parks and Recreation Department for improvements to Christopher Columbus Park and Long Wharf located in the Downtown neighborhood of Boston.

- [0132](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend technology equipment valued at approximately Four Hundred Thirty Thousand Three Hundred Forty Dollars (\$430,340.00), from the Connected & Online Program Grant, awarded by United States Department of the Treasury, passed through the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, to be administered by the Department of Innovation & Technology. The equipment includes laptops, desktop bundles, and related equipment. The equipment will support public access to education, workforce development, digital literacy, and telehealth services across multiple City departments, with deployments centered at BCYF Centers and sites operated by the Office of Workforce Development and the Office of Returning Citizens. This award reflects strong cross-departmental collaboration and advances the City's broader digital equity goals.
- [0133](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Two Hundred Nineteen Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars And Three Cents (\$219,178.03) in the form of a grant, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Funding, awarded by MA Executive Office for Administration & Finance to be administered by the Office of Workforce Development. The grant would fund the Center for Working Families' Boston Tax Help Coalition in assisting low-income taxpayers with personal income tax filings for the 2026 tax season.
- [0134](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000.00) in the form of a grant, Financial Empowerment Program, awarded by United Way, passed through the Boston Local Development Corporation, to be administered by the Office of Workforce Development. The grant would fund financial education, credit/asset building, and employment services for residents at the Center for Working Families.

- [0135](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) in the form of a grant, Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MassTech), awarded by United States Department of the Treasury, passed through the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, to be administered by the Department of Innovation & Technology. The grant would fund a multi-session digital skills workshop series at multiple locations and distribute devices to learners.
- [0136](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) in the form of a grant, the FY26 Delta Unit Earmark Grant, awarded by MA Executive Office Of Public Safety & Security to be administered by the Fire Department. The grant would fund the Boston Fire Department to conduct dedicated emergency services through its delta units, consisting of 3 delta unit vehicles assigned to Castle Island, Pleasure Bay and Carson Beach respectively, within the Old Harbor Reservation in the South Boston section of the city of Boston, seasonally from Memorial Day to Labor Day, inclusive, per line item 8324-0050 of the FY26 General Appropriations Act.
- [0137](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) in the form of a grant, Municipal ADA Improvement Grant, awarded by The Massachusetts Office on Disability to be administered by the Department of Innovation & Technology. The grant would fund updating the municipal ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan to address barriers to accessibility in web based services and applications.

- [0138](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) in the form of a grant, Mayor's Office of Human Services' Connect, Learn and Explore Initiative, awarded by Boston Children's Hospital to be administered by the Office of Human Services. The grant would fund training an additional ten lifeguards to support the Swim Safe: Autism Swim program, hold an Autism Awareness Water Safety event, Purchase Autism Swim equipment to support Sensory Swim programs in BCYF pools, provide all youth participating in the Same Safe: Lessons Gear program with goggle and swim caps, host a weeklong All Girls Sports Festival camp, Launch "Get into the Game" ad campaign as part of the Women's Coaching Initiative.
- [0139](#) Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend through the Office of Human Services an in-kind donation of athletic shoes and apparel, valued at Three Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Six dollars (\$3,276.00), donated by Reebok Corporation. The purpose of this donation is to support the Mayor's Let's Play Boston Youth Sports Initiative.

PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES

REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND OTHERS:

- [0140](#) Communication was received from City Council President Liz Breadon detailing the named chairs, vice-chairs and voting members of the Boston City Council's Standing Committees for the 2026-2027 term.
- [0141](#) Notice was received from the Mayor of the re-appointment of Stephen Alkins as a Member of the Boston School Committee, effective January 5, 2026.
- [0142](#) Notice was received from the Mayor of the appointment of Lydia Torres as a Member of the Boston School Committee, effective January 5, 2026.
- [0143](#) Notice was received from the Mayor of the appointment of Franklin Peralta as a Member of the Boston School Committee, effective January 5, 2026.
- [0144](#) Notice was received from the Mayor of the appointment of Michael Firestone as Corporation Counsel, effective January 12, 2026.

- [0145](#) Notice was received from the Mayor of the appointment of Danielle N. Choi as a Member of the Boston Civic Design Commission, for a term expiring October 31, 2029.
- [0146](#) Notice was received from the Mayor of the appointment of Anthony Hollenberg, MD as an ex-officio member of the Boston Public Health Commission's Board of Health.
- [0147](#) Communication was received from Scott Finn, City Auditor, regarding the City of Boston's Fiscal 2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.
- [0148](#) Communication was received from the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission regarding a vote to approve Cathy Baker-Eclipse to serve on the Community Preservation Committee, as the representative of the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission.
- [0149](#) Communication from Councilor Flynn regarding a recent sexual assault at Boston Medical Center.
- [0150](#) Communication from Councilor Flynn regarding Boston Public Health Commission oversight on security at hospitals in the City of Boston.
- [0151](#) Communication from Councilor Flynn regarding outgoing ARPA funds to nonprofits in Boston.
- [0152](#) Communication from Councilor Flynn regarding the demotion of Boston Police Deputy Superintendent Marcus Eddings.
- [0153](#) Communication from Councilor Flynn regarding the community process for the Parcel P-3 development.
- [0154](#) Communication from Councilor Mejia regarding proposed amendments to Boston City Council Rules 2026-2027.
- [0155](#) Communication was received from Police Commissioner Michael A. Cox in accordance with Section 3 of the Boston Trust Act regarding civil immigration detainer results for calendar year 2025.
- [0156](#) The Constable Bond of Tamika J. Dash having been duly approved by the Collector-Treasurer was received.

MATTERS RECENTLY HEARD-FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:

MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

- 0157** Councilor Breadon offered the following: Order to adopt Rules for the Boston City Council for Municipal Years 2026-2027.
- 0158** Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Ordinance Establishing Street Food Carts in the City of Boston.
- 0159** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Ordinance to establish a White Stadium Oversight Committee.
- 0160** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Ordinance creating a municipal identification card in the City of Boston.
- 0161** Councilor Weber and Mejia offered the following: Ordinance preventing wage theft in the City of Boston.
- 0162** Councilor Mejia and Worrell offered the following: Petition for a Special Law re: An Act Relative to Reorganization of the Boston School Committee.
- 0163** Councilor Santana offered the following: Petition for a Special Law re: An Act Relative to Real Estate Transfer Fees and Senior Property Tax Relief.
- 0164** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Petition for a Special Law re: An Act Relative to Various Tax Classification Definitions, Exemptions, and Credits.
- 0165** Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding the establishment and implementation of funding mechanisms for Boston's coastal protection.
- 0166** Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding Boston Public Schools student-athlete transfer and eligibility policies.
- 0167** Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss progress and opportunities for addressing drink spiking and Drug-Facilitated Sexual Assault.
- 0168** Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding reviving the "Red Shirts" program.
- 0169** Councilor Culpepper offered the following: Order for a hearing to develop a report on the state of civil rights in Boston.

- 0170** Councilor Culpepper offered the following: Resolution in support of more transparency and community engagement with respect to extending the temporary designation status of and investments in the Parcel P-3 and Madison Park Project.
- 0171** Councilor Culpepper offered the following: Order for a hearing to explore designating economically disenfranchised areas of District 7 as empowerment zones to spur economic development and improve quality of life for residents.
- 0172** Councilor Durkan and Breadon offered the following: Order for a hearing to investigate the use, impact, and potential ban of algorithmic price setting in the Boston rental market.
- 0173** Councilor Durkan and Santana offered the following: Order for a hearing to explore amending the Boston Zoning Code to remove parking minimum requirements for new residential development.
- 0174** Councilor FitzGerald offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss 2026 large event safety resources and infrastructure.
- 0175** Councilor FitzGerald offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss the regulation of Kratom in the City of Boston.
- 0176** Councilor FitzGerald offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss increasing access to high-quality school options for Boston Public Schools students in all neighborhoods.
- 0177** Councilor Flynn and FitzGerald offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss public safety and quality of life concerns at Mass & Cass and surrounding neighborhoods.
- 0178** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss dedicating the new open space at Phillips Square to Tunney Lee Plaza.
- 0179** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss food insecurity and malnutrition in the City of Boston.
- 0180** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss resources for the Boston Police Crime Laboratory.

- 0181** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss public safety and quality of life issues in Downtown Boston and the Boston Common.
- 0182** Councilor Louijeune and Coletta Zapata offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding the City of Boston's response to sexual assault, domestic violence, and related resources for survivors.
- 0183** Councilor Louijeune and Pepén offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding voter accessibility and election preparedness.
- 0184** Councilor Louijeune and Weber offered the following: Order for a hearing on building a stronger fair housing future for Boston.
- 0185** Councilor Louijeune and Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing on a cross-sector collaborative citywide strategy for community safety and violence prevention.
- 0186** Councilor Louijeune offered the following: Order for a hearing on equitable contracting and business opportunities for major civic sporting events in Boston.
- 0187** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to examine income-adjusted parking fines and interest-free payment plans.
- 0188** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing on Boston Public School facilities, public assets and White Stadium.
- 0189** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to audit child care investments and the financial stability of Family Child Care Providers.
- 0190** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing on workforce development housing for City of Boston employees.
- 0191** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to address critical issues in jail-based voting and empower incarcerated communities to strengthen democracy.
- 0192** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to audit government transparency and accountability towards surveillance equipment.
- 0193** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to audit the City of Boston's hiring, firing and promotion policies, practices and procedures.

- 0194** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to audit the City of Boston's procurement processes, procedures and progress.
- 0195** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to audit the distribution of local, state, and federal grants to small businesses.
- 0196** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to review the City of Boston's use of federal and state funds.
- 0197** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to review past expenditures through quarterly updates on the FY2026 operating budget.
- 0198** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to audit the implementation and effectiveness of the 2014 Boston Trust Act.
- 0199** Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing on government accountability, transparency, and accessibility of decision making protocols in city government.
- 0200** Councilor Murphy offered the following: Order for a hearing on BPS staffing program impacts.
- 0201** Councilor Weber and FitzGerald offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss Boston's FY27 operating budget.
- 0202** Councilor Weber and FitzGerald offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss Boston Public Schools' FY27 operating budget.
- 0203** Councilor Weber and FitzGerald offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss prior operating budget amendments from FY23 to FY25.
- 0204** Councilor Weber and Pepén offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss making neighborhood streets safer following the 30-day review of streets projects in Boston.
- 0205** Councilor Weber offered the following: Order for a hearing to review construction costs associated with the White Stadium project.
- 0206** Councilor Worrell and Mejia offered the following: Order for a hearing to explore ways of using municipal buildings to host childcare centers.
- 0207** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing to review and establish a "Business Owner 101" program for grant recipients.

- 0208** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing to address problem properties in Boston.
- 0209** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing on technical assistance and best practices for civic associations.
- 0210** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss the creation of cultural districts in Boston.
- 0211** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss the creation of indoor playgrounds in Boston.
- 0212** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing on a proposal for a Crispus Attucks Statue.
- 0213** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing to allow for monthly property tax payments for residents.
- 0214** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing to review the distribution of Boston's 225 new liquor licenses and provide ongoing support to restaurateurs.
- 0215** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing to explore scholarships for Boston students to increase access to all forms of higher education.
- 0216** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing to bring a Historically Black College or University Satellite Campus to Boston.
- 0217** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing regarding the homeownership voucher program.
- 0218** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing to review the effectiveness of the Boston Residents Jobs Policy in improving equity and employment standards on projects throughout the city.
- 0219** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing to discuss long-term city job vacancies.
- 0220** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Order for a hearing to bring more signature sports events to Boston.

0221 Councilor Flynn offered the following: Order requesting certain information under Section 17F: regarding elevator access, life safety, and disability compliance.

0222 Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Resolution in support of Bill SD.3607: An Act Protecting Access to Justice.

0223 Councilor Flynn offered the following: Resolution acknowledging Open Meeting Law violations.

0224 Councilor Santana offered the following: Resolution urging support for the 2026 ballot question on rent stabilization to protect tenants in Massachusetts.

PERSONNEL ORDERS:

0225 Councilor Breadon offers the following: Order for the appointment of temporary employees Moira McCrave Carragee and Matthew D. Costas in City Council, effective January 24, 2026.

0226 Councilor Breadon for Councilor Mejia offered the following: Order for the appointment of temporary employee Ericson Hilaire in City Council, effective January 24, 2026.

0227 Councilor Breadon for Councilor Durkan offers the following: Order for the appointment of temporary employee Jessie Frasier in City Council, effective February 7, 2026.

GREEN SHEETS:

290 Legislative Calendar for January 28, 2026.

CONSENT AGENDA:

0228 Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Resolution recognizing Jason Aluia.

0229 Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Resolution in memory of Judy A. Gray.

0230 Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Resolution recognizing Richard McGuinness.

0231 Councilor Coletta Zapata offered the following: Resolution in memory of Barbara Ann Sutura.

- 0232** Councilor Culpepper offered the following: Resolution recognizing Arthur M. Rose.
- 0233** Councilor Durkan offered the following: Resolution in memory of Suzanne Comtois.
- 0234** Councilor Durkan offered the following: Resolution recognizing General "Woody" Woodhouse.
- 0235** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Resolution recognizing the Historic Twelfth Baptist Church.
- 0236** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Resolution recognizing American Legion Fogg - Roberts Post 78.
- 0237** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Resolution recognizing The BASE.
- 0238** Councilor Flynn offered the following: Resolution recognizing Diane & Brian Yanovitch.
- 0239** Councilor Louijeune offered the following: Resolution recognizing Geraud Charles.
- 0240** Councilor Louijeune offered the following: Resolution recognizing the life of Betty Jean Chisolm.
- 0241** Councilor Louijeune offered the following: Resolution recognizing the Haitian Artists Assembly of Massachusetts and their 30th anniversary.
- 0242** Councilor Louijeune offered the following: Resolution recognizing the Haitian American United (H.A.U) 27th Gala.
- 0243** Councilor Pepén and Louijeune offered the following: Resolution recognizing Hydn and Rossemary Vales.
- 0244** Councilor Pepén offered the following: Resolution congratulating Lucille Douglas.
- 0245** Councilor Pepén offered the following: Resolution in memory of Smiler Haynes.
- 0246** Councilor Pepén offered the following: Resolution congratulating JAM Optical.

- 0247** Councilor Pepén offered the following: Resolution congratulating the Sant Belvi Center.
- 0248** Councilor Pepén offered the following: Resolution congratulating Elisabeth Trupei Talbot.
- 0249** Councilor Weber and Louijeune offered the following: Resolution in memory of Robert Franklin.
- 0250** Councilor Weber offered the following: Resolution recognizing International Holocaust Remembrance Day.
- 0251** Councilor Weber offered the following: Resolution in memory of Susano Augusto Polanco.
- 0252** Councilor Worrell offered the following: Resolution recognizing Stella Tate.



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

January 26, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith for your approval an Order to reduce the FY26 appropriation for the Reserve for Collective Bargaining by eighteen million, one hundred eighteen thousand, four hundred eighty eight (\$18,118,488) to provide funding for the Fire Department for the FY26 increases contained within the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Boston and the Boston Firefighters IAFF Local 718.

I respectfully request your favorable action on this important matter.

Sincerely,


Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER REDUCING THE FY26 APPROPRIATION FOR THE RESERVE FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING BY EIGHTEEN MILLION, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY EIGHT DOLLARS (\$18,118,488).

ORDERED: That the appropriation heretofore made, to meet the current operating expenses in the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, be reduced by the following amount:

100-999000-51000 Reserve for Collective Bargaining \$18,118,488

**I HEREBY CERTIFY
THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**
BY 
**MICHAEL FIRESTONE KMW
CORPORATION COUNSEL**



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

January 26, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith a supplemental appropriation order for the Boston Fire Department for FY26 in the amount of eighteen million, one hundred eighteen thousand, four hundred eighty eight (\$18,118,488) to cover the FY26 cost items contained within the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Boston and IAFF Local 718. The terms of the contracts are July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 and July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028. The major provisions of the contracts include a base wage increase of 2.5% to be given in July of 2024, and a base wage increase of 2% in July of each subsequent fiscal year of the contract term. The agreement also includes salary adjustments starting in January of 2025, for 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service.

As originally presented to you, the FY26 budget request included a Reserve for Collective Bargaining - a separate appropriation to fund projected collective bargaining increases. A separate order has been filed to reduce that appropriation to support this supplemental request.

I respectfully request your support of this supplemental appropriation.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING EIGHTEEN MILLION, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY EIGHT DOLLARS (\$18,118,488) TO COVER THE FY26 COST ITEMS CONTAINED WITHIN THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BOSTON AND BOSTON FIREFIGHTERS IAFF LOCAL 718.

ORDERED: That in addition to the appropriations heretofore made, to meet the current operating expenses of the fiscal period commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, the sum of EIGHTEEN MILLION, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY EIGHT DOLLARS (\$18,118,488) be, and the same hereby is appropriated as follows, said sum to be met from available funds and taxation pursuant to Section 23 of Chapter 59 of the General Laws: -

221000 Boston Fire Department

Personnel Services	\$18,118,488
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I HEREBY CERTIFY
THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.
BY MICHAEL FIRESTONE
MICHAEL FIRESTONE
CORPORATION COUNSEL *Kmw*



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

January 26, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith for your approval an order to reduce the FY26 appropriation for the Reserve for Collective Bargaining by one million, three hundred seven thousand, nine hundred one dollars (\$1,307,901) to provide funding for the Boston Public Schools for the FY26 increases contained within the collective bargaining agreements between the School Committee of the City of Boston and the Boston Association of School Administrators and Supervisors (BASAS).

I respectfully request your favorable action on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER REDUCING THE FY26 APPROPRIATION FOR THE RESERVE FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING BY ONE MILLION, THREE HUNDRED SEVEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED ONE DOLLARS (\$1,307,901).

ORDERED: That the appropriation heretofore made, to meet the current operating expenses in the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, be reduced by the following amount:

100-999000-51000 Reserve for Collective Bargaining \$1,307,901

**I HEREBY CERTIFY
THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**

BY 
MICHAEL FIRESTONE
CORPORATION COUNSEL

KMW



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

January 26, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith a supplemental appropriation order for the Boston Public Schools Department for FY26 in the amount of one million, three hundred seven thousand, nine hundred one dollars (\$1,307,901) to cover the FY26 cost items contained within the collective bargaining agreements between the School Committee of the City of Boston and the Boston Association of School administrators and Supervisors (BASAS). The terms of the contracts are September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2027. The major provisions of the contracts include base wage increases of 2% to be given in September of each fiscal year of the contract term. The contract also adds a new step in FY27 and a new degree to the education differential.

As originally presented to you, the FY26 budget request included a Reserve for Collective Bargaining - a separate appropriation to fund projected collective bargaining increases. A separate order has been filed to reduce that appropriation to support this supplemental request.

I respectfully request your support of this supplemental appropriation.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER APPROPRIATING ONE MILLION, THREE HUNDRED SEVEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED ONE DOLLARS (\$1,307,901) TO COVER THE FY26 COST ITEMS CONTAINED WITHIN THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE BOSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND THE BOSTON ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND SUPERVISORS.

ORDERED: That in addition to the appropriations heretofore made, to meet the current operating expenses of the fiscal period commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, the sum of ONE MILLION, THREE HUNDRED SEVEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED ONE DOLLARS (\$1,307,901) be, and the same hereby is appropriated as follows, said sum to be met from available funds and taxation pursuant to Section 23 of Chapter 59 of the General Laws: -

Boston Public Schools

\$1,307,901

**I HEREBY CERTIFY
THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**
BY _____

MICHAEL FIRESTONE kmw
CORPORATION COUNSEL



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

January 26, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to appropriate the amount of Six Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$6,500,000) for the purpose of paying costs for the window and door replacement projects at the following schools:

Schools	Address	Scope	City	State	Zip
Edward Everett ES	71 Pleasant Street	Window	Dorchester	MA	02125
Richard J. Murphy K-8 School	1 Worrell Street	Window	Dorchester	MA	02122

This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Boston may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of the Boston Public Schools.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order as soon as possible so that the City of Boston may proceed with the design and construction of these timely improvements for Boston school facilities.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston

CITY OF BOSTON

IN CITY COUNCIL


AN ORDER APPROPRIATING SIX MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$6,500,000) FOR PROJECTS AT THE EDWARD EVERETT ES AND RICHARD J. MURPHY K-8 SCHOOL.

ORDERED: That the City of Boston (the "City") appropriate the amount of Six Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (6,500,000) for the purpose of paying costs of window and door replacement projects at the following schools:

Schools	Address	Scope	City	State	Zip	Total Project Budget
Edward Everett ES	71 Pleasant Street	Window	Dorchester	MA	02125	\$2,827,974
Richard J. Murphy K-8 School	1 Worrell Street	Window	Dorchester	MA	02122	\$3,594,145

FURTHER ORDERED: This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, which proposed repair projects would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the City may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of Boston Public Schools; and that to meet said appropriation the Collector-Treasurer be, and hereby is, authorized under the provisions of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, as amended or supplemented, or any other enabling authority, to issue from time to time, with the approval of the Mayor, bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness of the City up to said amount, which debt issued hereunder may bear interest at variable rates, as the Collector-Treasurer shall select, be redeemable at the option of the holder thereof, at such price or prices and under such conditions as may be fixed by the Collector-Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor prior to the issuance thereof and contain terms that cause the interest thereon to be subject to federal income taxation; that this order shall constitute a declaration of official intent of the City pursuant to Treasury Regulations Section 1.15 0-2(e) to reimburse expenditures for such projects made from funds established for such purpose as permitted by statute from proceeds of debt incurred by the City pursuant to this Order; and that pursuant to Section 12(b) of Chapter 643 of the Acts of 1983, as amended, if any part of the proceeds of sale of any bonds or notes or other obligations issued by the City under this Order remains unexpended after the work or purpose for which such bonds, notes or other obligations are issued is completed, such proceeds are hereby appropriated and may be applied by the Collector-Treasurer and City Auditor, at the direction of the Mayor, to pay the principal of, and premium and/or interest on such bonds, notes or other obligations or on any debt of the City. The City acknowledges that the MSBA's

grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the City incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City, and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the City and the MSBA.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY
THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**
BY 
**MICHAEL FIRESTONE *Kmw*
CORPORATION COUNSEL**



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

January 26, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to appropriate the amount of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) for the purpose of paying costs for the roof replacement projects at the following schools:

Schools	Address	Scope	City	State	Zip
Thomas J Kenny ES	19 Oakton Ave	Roof	Dorchester	MA	02124
Hugh Roe O'Donnell ES	33 Trenton Street	Roof	East Boston	MA	02128

This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Boston may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of the Boston Public Schools.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order as soon as possible so that the City of Boston may proceed with the design and construction of these timely improvements for Boston school facilities.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston

CITY OF BOSTON

IN CITY COUNCIL


AN ORDER APPROPRIATING THREE MILLION DOLLARS (\$3,000,000) FOR PROJECTS AT THE THOMAS J. KENNY ES AND HUGH ROE O'DONNELL ES.

ORDERED: That the City of Boston (the "City") appropriate the amount of Three Million Dollars (3,000,000) for the purpose of paying costs of roof replacement projects at the following schools:

Schools	Address	Scope	City	State	Zip	Total Project Budget
Thomas J Kenny ES	19 Oakton Ave	Roof	Dorchester	MA	02124	\$1,653,539
Hugh Roe O'Donnell ES	33 Trenton Street	Roof	East Boston	MA	02128	\$1,309,345

FURTHER ORDERED: This includes the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, which proposed repair projects would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the City may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Public Facilities Department on behalf of Boston Public Schools; and that to meet said appropriation the Collector-Treasurer be, and hereby is, authorized under the provisions of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, as amended or supplemented, or any other enabling authority, to issue from time to time, with the approval of the Mayor, bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness of the City up to said amount, which debt issued hereunder may bear interest at variable rates, as the Collector-Treasurer shall select, be redeemable at the option of the holder thereof, at such price or prices and under such conditions as may be fixed by the Collector-Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor prior to the issuance thereof and contain terms that cause the interest thereon to be subject to federal income taxation; that this order shall constitute a declaration of official intent of the City pursuant to Treasury Regulations Section 1.15 0-2(e) to reimburse expenditures for such projects made from funds established for such purpose as permitted by statute from proceeds of debt incurred by the City pursuant to this Order; and that pursuant to Section 12(b) of Chapter 643 of the Acts of 1983, as amended, if any part of the proceeds of sale of any bonds or notes or other obligations issued by the City under this Order remains unexpended after the work or purpose for which such bonds, notes or other obligations are issued is completed, such proceeds are hereby appropriated and may be applied by the Collector-Treasurer and City Auditor, at the direction of the Mayor, to pay the principal of, and premium and/or interest on such bonds, notes or other obligations or on any debt of the City. The City acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as

determined by the MSBA, and any costs the City incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City, and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the City and the MSBA.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY
THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**
BY 
**MICHAEL FIRESTONE *Kmw*
CORPORATION COUNSEL**



**City Of Boston • Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
Michelle Wu**

01-14-2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$1,700,000.00)** in the form of a grant, the FY26 Training Academy Earmark Grant, awarded by Massachusetts Department of Fire Services to be administered by the Fire Department.

The grant would fund the Boston Fire Department Training Academy to provide training and instruction for public safety agencies in the city of Boston and municipal and political subdivisions across the Commonwealth, per line item 8324-0000 of the FY26 General Appropriations Act.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order so that the City of Boston may accept the funds expeditiously and expend them upon award for the purposes for which they are granted.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



City Council Order

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND the FY26 Training Academy Earmark Grant FUNDS, AWARDED BY Massachusetts Department of Fire Services.

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services, is being petitioned for the issuance of funds to the Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the funds in the amount of ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$1,700,000.00)** would fund the Boston Fire Department Training Academy to provide training and instruction for public safety agencies in the city of Boston and municipal and political subdivisions across the Commonwealth, per line item 8324-0000 of the FY26 General Appropriations Act. Therefore be it

ORDERED: that the Mayor, acting on behalf of the City of Boston be, and hereby is authorized, pursuant to section 53A of chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services, the FY26 Training Academy Earmark Grant award not to exceed the amount of ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$1,700,000.00)**.

Docket #

**In City Council
Passed**

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved

I hereby certify that
the foregoing, if passed in
the above form, will be in
accordance with law.

by Adam Cederbaum

Adam Cederbaum
Corporation Counsel



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

January 26, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith for your approval an order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend a grant in an amount not to exceed One Million One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,150,000.00) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program.

This grant is awarded to the City of Boston through the Parks and Recreation Department for improvements to Christopher Columbus Park and Long Wharf located in the Downtown neighborhood of Boston.

I urge your honorable body to adopt this Order as soon as possible so that the City of Boston may accept and expend these funds expeditiously.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITIES (BRIC) PROGRAM GRANT OF ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,150,000) FOR THE RENOVATION OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS PARK AND LONG WHARF.

ORDERED: That the Commissioner of the Parks and Recreation Department, acting on behalf of the City of Boston be, and hereby is authorized pursuant to section 53A1/2 of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend a Federal Emergency Management Agency Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program grant award in an amount not to exceed One Million One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,150,000.00). The funds will provide capital improvements to Christopher Columbus Park and Long Wharf located in the Downtown neighborhood of Boston.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY
THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**

BY 

**MICHAEL FIRESTONE
CORPORATION COUNSEL** *Kmw*



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

January 26, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend technology equipment valued at approximately \$430,340, from the Connected & Online Program Grant, awarded by United States Department of the Treasury, passed through the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, to be administered by the City of Boston through the Department of Innovation & Technology. The equipment includes laptops, desktop bundles, and related equipment (see Attachment A).

The equipment will support public access to education, workforce development, digital literacy, and telehealth services across multiple City departments, with deployments centered at BCYF Centers and sites operated by the Office of Workforce Development and the Office of Returning Citizens. This award reflects strong cross-departmental collaboration and advances the City's broader digital equity goals.

I urge your Honorable Body to pass this order as expeditiously as possible, so that the City may receive and expend the donation for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston

Attachment A

Equipment includes:

- 138 Dell Pro 14 Laptop (16GB RAM) bundled with 1 year of M365 Basic, Acronis (anti-virus), and Dell Limited Hardware Warranty / Mail In Service after Remote Diagnosis, 3 Years and 3 year accidental;
- 276 Dell Pro Micro Desktop Bundle (32GB RAM);
 - includes: Dell Pro 24" Video Conferencing Monitor, Dell Wired Headset, Wired keyboard and mouse, bundled with 1 year of M365 Basic, Acronis (anti-virus),
 - warranties included: Dell Limited Hardware warranty Plus Service Onsite Service After Remote Diagnosis - 2 Years, Dell 24" Class Webcam Full HD LED Monitor - 3-year warranty, Dell Pro Dock - 3-year warranty,
- 36 Dell Pro Slim Graphics Desktop Bundle (RTX) (32GB RAM) (Includes: Dell Pro 24" Video Conferencing Monitor, Dell Wired Headset, Wired keyboard and mouse) bundled with 1 year of M365 Basic, Acronis (anti-virus);
 - warranties included: Dell Limited Hardware Warranty Plus Service Onsite Service After Remote Diagnosis - 2 Years, Dell 24" Class Webcam Full HD LED Monitor - 3-year warranty, Dell Pro Dock - 3-year warranty,
- 450 Add-on Software: DeepFreeze;
- 28 X-keys L-Trac Trackball;
- 28 Logickeyboard XLPrint;
- 28 Logickeyboard Braille Keyboard;
- 28 CST Vertical Wireless Mouse;
- 28 Ergonomic Large Print Keyboard;
- 4 Charging Cart for 36 Devices;
- 138 Dell Pro Dock - WD25; and
- 10 Newline Interactive Panels.

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

**AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND
EQUIPMENT FROM THE CONNECTED & ONLINE PROGRAM GRANT.**

ORDERED: That the City of Boston, acting by and through the Department of Innovation and Technology, be, and hereby is, authorized pursuant to Section 53A½ of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend technology equipment from the Connected & Online Program Grant, valued at Four Hundred Thirty Thousand Three Hundred and Forty Dollars (\$430,340.00) for use by City departments.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY
THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**

BY 
MICHAEL FIRESTONE kmw
CORPORATION COUNSEL



City Of Boston • Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
Michelle Wu

01-08-2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of TWO HUNDRED NINETEEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS AND THREE CENTS (**\$219,178.03**) in the form of a grant, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Funding, awarded by MA Executive Office for Administration & Finance to be administered by the Office Workforce Development.

The grant would fund the Center for Working Families' Boston Tax Help Coalition in assisting low-income taxpayers with personal income tax filings for the 2026 tax season.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order so that the City of Boston may accept the funds expeditiously and expend them upon award for the purposes for which they are granted.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



City Council Order

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Funding FUNDS, AWARDED BY MA Executive Office for Administration & Finance.

WHEREAS, the MA Executive Office for Administration & Finance, is being petitioned for the issuance of funds to the Office Workforce Development; and

WHEREAS, the funds in the amount of TWO HUNDRED NINETEEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS AND THREE CENTS (**\$219,178.03**) would fund the Center for Working Families' Boston Tax Help Coalition in assisting low-income taxpayers with personal income tax filings for the 2026 tax season. Therefore be it

ORDERED: that the Mayor, acting on behalf of the City of Boston be, and hereby is authorized, pursuant to section 53A of chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend the MA Executive Office for Administration & Finance, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Funding award not to exceed the amount of TWO HUNDRED NINETEEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS AND THREE CENTS (**\$219,178.03**).

Docket # _____

**In City Council
Passed** _____

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved _____

I hereby certify that
the foregoing, if passed in
the above form, will be in
accordance with law.

by Adam Cederbaum

Adam Cederbaum
Corporation Counsel



**City Of Boston • Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
Michelle Wu**

01-14-2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$120,000.00)** in the form of a grant, Financial Empowerment Program, awarded by United Way, passed through the Boston Local Development Corporation, to be administered by the Office Workforce Development.

The grant would fund financial education, credit/asset building, and employment services for residents at the Center for Working Families.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order so that the City of Boston may accept the funds expeditiously and expend them upon award for the purposes for which they are granted.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



City Council Order

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND Financial Empowerment Program FUNDS, AWARDED BY United Way AND Boston Local Development Corporation.

WHEREAS, the United Way and Boston Local Development Corporation, are being petitioned for the issuance of funds to the Office Workforce Development; and

WHEREAS, the funds in the amount of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (**\$120,000.00**) would fund financial education, credit/asset building, and employment services for residents at the Center for Working Families. Therefore be it

ORDERED: that the Mayor, acting on behalf of the City of Boston be, and hereby is authorized, pursuant to section 53A of chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend the United Way, and Boston Local Development Corporation' Financial Empowerment Program award not to exceed the amount of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (**\$120,000.00**).

Docket # _____

**In City Council
Passed** _____

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved _____

I hereby certify that
the foregoing, if passed in
the above form, will be in
accordance with law.

by Adam Cederbaum

Adam Cederbaum
Corporation Counsel



**City Of Boston • Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
Michelle Wu**

01-20-2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$100,000.00)** in the form of a grant, Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MassTech), awarded by United States Department of the Treasury, passed through the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, to be administered by the Dpt of Innovation & Technology.

The grant would fund a multi-session digital skills workshop series at multiple locations and distribute devices to learners.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order so that the City of Boston may accept the funds expeditiously and expend them upon award for the purposes for which they are granted.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



City Council Order

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MassTech) FUNDS, AWARDED BY United States Department of the Treasury AND Massachusetts Technology Collaborative.

WHEREAS, the United States Department of the Treasury and Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, are being petitioned for the issuance of funds to the Dpt of Innovation & Technology; and

WHEREAS, the funds in the amount of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (**\$100,000.00**) would fund a multi-session digital skills workshop series at multiple locations and distribute devices to learners. Therefore be it

ORDERED: that the Mayor, acting on behalf of the City of Boston be, and hereby is authorized, pursuant to section 53A of chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend the United States Department of the Treasury, and Massachusetts Technology Collaborative' Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MassTech) award not to exceed the amount of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (**\$100,000.00**).

Docket #

**In City Council
Passed**

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved

I hereby certify that
the foregoing, if passed in
the above form, will be in
accordance with law.

by Adam Cederbaum

Adam Cederbaum
Corporation Counsel



**City Of Boston • Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
Michelle Wu**

01-14-2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$100,000.00)** in the form of a grant, the FY26 Delta Unit Earmark Grant, awarded by MA Executive Office Of Public Safety & Security to be administered by the Fire Department.

The grant would fund the Boston Fire Department to conduct dedicated emergency services through its delta units, consisting of 3 delta unit vehicles assigned to Castle island, Pleasure bay and Carson beach respectively, within the Old Harbor Reservation in the South Boston section of the city of Boston, seasonally from Memorial Day to Labor Day, inclusive, per line item 8324-0050 of the FY26 General Appropriations Act.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order so that the City of Boston may accept the funds expeditiously and expend them upon award for the purposes for which they are granted.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



City Council Order

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND the FY26 Delta Unit Earmark Grant FUNDS, AWARDED BY MA Executive Office Of Public Safety & Security.

WHEREAS, the MA Executive Office Of Public Safety & Security, is being petitioned for the issuance of funds to the Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the funds in the amount of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$100,000.00)** would fund the Boston Fire Department to conduct dedicated emergency services through its delta units, consisting of 3 delta unit vehicles assigned to Castle island, Pleasure bay and Carson beach respectively, within the Old Harbor Reservation in the South Boston section of the city of Boston, seasonally from Memorial Day to Labor Day, inclusive, per line item 8324-0050 of the FY26 General Appropriations Act. Therefore be it

ORDERED: that the Mayor, acting on behalf of the City of Boston be, and hereby is authorized, pursuant to section 53A of chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend the MA Executive Office Of Public Safety & Security, the FY26 Delta Unit Earmark Grant award not to exceed the amount of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$100,000.00)**.

Docket # _____

**In City Council
Passed** _____

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved _____

I hereby certify that
the foregoing, if passed in
the above form, will be in
accordance with law.

by Adam Cederbaum

Adam Cederbaum
Corporation Counsel



**City Of Boston • Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
Michelle Wu**

01-14-2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$100,000.00)** in the form of a grant, Municipal ADA Improvement Grant, awarded by The Massachusetts Office on Disability to be administered by the Dpt of Innovation & Technology.

The grant would fund updating the municipal ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan to address barriers to accessibility in web based services and applications.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order so that the City of Boston may accept the funds expeditiously and expend them upon award for the purposes for which they are granted.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



City Council Order

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND Municipal ADA Improvement Grant FUNDS, AWARDED BY The Massachusetts Office on Disability.

WHEREAS, the The Massachusetts Office on Disability, is being petitioned for the issuance of funds to the Dpt of Innovation & Technology; and

WHEREAS, the funds in the amount of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$100,000.00)** would fund updating the municipal ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan to address barriers to accessibility in web based services and applications. Therefore be it

ORDERED: that the Mayor, acting on behalf of the City of Boston be, and hereby is authorized, pursuant to section 53A of chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend the The Massachusetts Office on Disability, Municipal ADA Improvement Grant award not to exceed the amount of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$100,000.00)**.

Docket # _____

**In City Council
Passed** _____

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved _____

I hereby certify that
the foregoing, if passed in
the above form, will be in
accordance with law.

by Adam Cederbaum

Adam Cederbaum
Corporation Counsel



**City Of Boston • Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
Michelle Wu**

01-14-2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$50,000.00)** in the form of a grant, Mayor's Office of Human Services' Connect, Learn and Explore Initiative, awarded by Boston Children's Hospital to be administered by the Office of Human Services.

The grant would fund training an additional ten lifeguards to support the Swim Safe: Autism Swim program, hold an Autism Awareness Water Safety event, Purchase Autism Swim equipment to support Sensory Swim programs in BCYF pools, provide all youth participating in the Same Safe: Lessons Gear program with goggle and swim caps, host a weeklong All Girls Sports Festival camp, Launch "Get into the Game" ad campaign as part of the Women's Coaching Initiative

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order so that the City of Boston may accept the funds expeditiously and expend them upon award for the purposes for which they are granted.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



City Council Order

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND Mayor's Office of Human Services' Connect, Learn and Explore Initiative FUNDS, AWARDED BY Boston Children's Hospital.

WHEREAS, the Boston Children's Hospital, is being petitioned for the issuance of funds to the Office of Human Services; and

WHEREAS, the funds in the amount of FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$50,000.00)** would fund training an additional ten lifeguards to support the Swim Safe: Autism Swim program, hold an Autism Awareness Water Safety event, Purchase Autism Swim equipment to support Sensory Swim programs in BCYF pools, provide all youth participating in the Same Safe: Lessons Gear program with goggle and swim caps, host a weeklong All Girls Sports Festival camp, Launch "Get into the Game" ad campaign as part of the Women's Coaching Initiative Therefore be it

ORDERED: that the Mayor, acting on behalf of the City of Boston be, and hereby is authorized, pursuant to section 53A of chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend the Boston Children's Hospital, Mayor's Office of Human Services' Connect, Learn and Explore Initiative award not to exceed the amount of FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS **(\$50,000.00)**.

Docket #

**In City Council
Passed**

City Clerk

Mayor

Approved

I hereby certify that
the foregoing, if passed in
the above form, will be in
accordance with law.

by Adam Cederbaum

Adam Cederbaum
Corporation Counsel



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

January 26, 2026

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston through the Office of Human Services to accept and expend an in-kind donation of athletic shoes and apparel, valued at Three Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Six dollars (\$3,276), donated by Reebok Corporation.

The purpose of this donation is to support the Mayor's Let's Play Boston Youth Sports Initiative.

I urge your Honorable Body to pass this order as expeditiously as possible, so that the City may receive and and expend the donation for the purpose for which it was awarded.


Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND THE DONATION OF ATHLETIC SHOES AND APPAREL IN SUPPORT OF THE LET'S PLAY BOSTON INITIATIVE.

ORDERED: That the City of Boston, acting by and through the Office of Human Services, be, and hereby is, authorized, in accordance with Section 53A½ of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend a donation from Reebok Corporation in the form of athletic shoes and apparel in an amount that shall not exceed Three Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Six dollars (\$3,276) for the purpose of supporting the Let's Play Boston initiative.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY
THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**
BY 
MICHAEL FIRESTONE *Kmw*
CORPORATION COUNSEL



BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

www.boston.gov/citycouncil

One City Hall Square, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02201 ♦ Phone: (617) 635-3040 ♦ city.council@boston.gov

2026 - 2027 COMMITTEES • VOTING MEMBERS

Committee / Email address	Chair	Vice Chair	Members	Team Lead
Arts, Culture, Entertainment, Tourism, and Special Events ccc.ac@boston.gov	Louijeune	Durkan	FitzGerald, Flynn, Mejia, Murphy, Worrell	Meghan Kavanagh meghan.kavanagh@boston.gov
Census, Redistricting, and Elections ccc.census@boston.gov	Louijeune	Mejia	Culpepper, Flynn, Murphy, Santana, Worrell	Shane Pac shane.pac@boston.gov
City Services ccc.csit@boston.gov	Flynn	Murphy	Durkan, Pepén, Santana, Weber, Worrell	Shane Pac shane.pac@boston.gov
Civil Rights, Racial Equity, and Immigrant Advancement ccc.civilrights@boston.gov	Culpepper	Mejia	Coletta Zapata, Flynn, Pepén, Santana, Worrell	Meghan Kavanagh meghan.kavanagh@boston.gov
Community Preservation Act ccc.cpa@boston.gov	Pepén	Durkan	FitzGerald, Flynn, Louijeune, Murphy, Weber	Karishma Chouhan karishma.chouhan@boston.gov
Education ccc.education@boston.gov	Mejia	Worrell	Louijeune, Murphy, Pepén, Santana, Weber	Meghan Kavanagh meghan.kavanagh@boston.gov
Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks ccc.ep@boston.gov	Worrell	Santana	Coletta Zapata, Culpepper, FitzGerald, Mejia, Pepén	Shane Pac shane.pac@boston.gov
Government Operations ccc.go@boston.gov	Coletta Zapata	Louijeune	Culpepper, Durkan, Murphy, Santana, Worrell	Meghan Kavanagh meghan.kavanagh@boston.gov
Housing and Community Development ccc.housing@boston.gov	Pepén	Culpepper	Coletta Zapata, Durkan, Louijeune, Mejia, Worrell	Meghan Kavanagh meghan.kavanagh@boston.gov
Human Services ccc.hs@boston.gov	Murphy	Santana	Coletta Zapata, Culpepper, Durkan, Flynn, Louijeune	Meghan Kavanagh meghan.kavanagh@boston.gov
Labor and Economic Development ccc.labor@boston.gov	Worrell	Weber	Culpepper, Flynn, Mejia, Murphy, Santana	Shane Pac shane.pac@boston.gov
PILOT Agreements, Institutional and Intergovernmental Relations ccc.pilot@boston.gov	Durkan	Pepén	FitzGerald, Flynn, Coletta Zapata, Culpepper, Weber	Meghan Kavanagh meghan.kavanagh@boston.gov
Planning, Development, and Transportation ccc.plandev@boston.gov	Durkan	FitzGerald	Coletta Zapata, Flynn, Pepén, Santana, Worrell	Shane Pac shane.pac@boston.gov
Post-Audit ccc.postaudit@boston.gov	FitzGerald	Culpepper	Coletta Zapata, Durkan, Mejia, Santana, Weber	Karishma Chouhan karishma.chouhan@boston.gov
Public Health, Homelessness, and Recovery ccc.health@boston.gov	FitzGerald	Flynn	Culpepper, Durkan, Louijeune, Mejia, Weber	Meghan Kavanagh meghan.kavanagh@boston.gov
Public Safety and Criminal Justice ccc.ps@boston.gov	Santana	Weber	Flynn, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy, Pepén	Shane Pac shane.pac@boston.gov
Rules, Ethics, and Administration ccc.ra@boston.gov	Breadon	Coletta Zapata	Durkan, FitzGerald, Flynn, Weber, Worrell	Michelle Goldberg michelle.a.goldberg@boston.gov
Veterans, Military Families, and Military Affairs ccc.vma@boston.gov	Santana	Flynn	Coletta Zapata, Durkan, FitzGerald, Murphy, Pepén	Shane Pac shane.pac@boston.gov

Ways and Means ccc.wm@boston.gov	Weber	FitzGerald	Coletta Zapata, Culpepper, Louijeune, Pepén, Worrell	Karishma Chouhan karishma.chouhan@boston.gov
Whole ccc.whole@boston.gov	Breadon	Coletta Zapata	All Councilors	Michelle Goldberg michelle.a.goldberg@boston.gov

The vice chair of the committee of the whole shall serve as the president pro tempore in the absence of the president.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE: All councilors shall be considered as members of each standing committee. The president of the council shall name those members of each committee, including its chair and vice-chair, who are authorized to vote on matters in the committee. All other members of each committee are not authorized to vote on such matters in the committee. A quorum of the committee shall be determined on the basis of voting members only.

CENTRAL STAFF TEAM LEAD: The team lead will assign a legislative aide to help file hearing notices, staff the hearings/meetings, and draft hearing minutes and reports. The team lead will provide overall oversight of the staff support for each docket assigned to their committee. Depending on the committee and type of hearing, the team lead may staff the hearing him/herself. If a Committee team lead is not available, please contact the Central Staff Director at (617) 635-4645.

Updated 1/23/26



January 2, 2026

The Honorable Alex Geourntas
Office of the City Clerk
1 City Hall Plaza
Room 601
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Clerk,

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Chapter 108 of the Acts of 1991, I hereby re-appoint the following Member to the Boston School Committee, effective January 5, 2026:

Stephen Alkins of 47 Goodale Road, Unit 3, Boston, MA 02126.

This Member will serve for a term expiring on January 7, 2030.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



January 2, 2026

The Honorable Alex Geourntas
Office of the City Clerk
1 City Hall Plaza
Room 601
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Clerk,

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Chapter 108 of the Acts of 1991, I hereby appoint the following Member to the Boston School Committee, effective January 5, 2026:

Lydia Torres of 60 Annafran Street, Roslindale, MA 02131.

This Member will serve for the remainder of a term expiring on January 1, 2029.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



January 5, 2026

The Honorable Alex Geourntas
Office of the City Clerk
1 City Hall Plaza
Room 601
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Clerk,

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Chapter 108 of the Acts of 1991, I hereby appoint the following Member to the Boston School Committee, effective January 5, 2026:

Franklin Peralta of 89 Montebello Road, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

This Member will serve for a term expiring on January 7, 2030.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

January 12, 2026

The Honorable Alex Gcourntas
Office of the City Clerk
1 City Hall Plaza
Room 601
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Clerk,

In accordance with the provisions of Section 5-5.10 of the City of Boston Municipal Code, I hereby appoint Michael Firestone of 41 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130, Corporation Counsel effective January 12, 2026.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
Michelle Wu

January 12, 2026

The Honorable Alex Geourntas
Office of the City Clerk
1 City Hall Plaza
Room 601
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Clerk:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me under Section 81-4 of the Boston Zoning Code, I hereby appoint the following member to the Boston Civic Design Commission:

Danielle N. Choi of 29 Manning Street, #2, Medford, MA 02155.

This member will serve a term expiring on October 31, 2029.

Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Wu", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
Michelle Wu

January 26, 2026

The Honorable Alex Geourntas
Office of the City Clerk
1 City Hall Plaza
Room 601
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Clerk:

Pursuant to Chapter 147 of the Acts of 1995, s. 3(b), I hereby appoint Anthony Hollenberg, MD to a seat on the Boston Public Health Commission's Board of Health ("Board"). Anthony Hollenberg will sit in the seat designated for the CEO of Boston Medical Center, as an ex-officio member.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston



City of Boston
Mayor Michelle Wu
Auditing

January 21, 2026

City Council Members
City Council
Boston City Hall
Fifth Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Honorable Council,

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Section 40 of Chapter 44, I have filed the City of Boston's Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report with the City Clerk. If you would like to view this document, please go to our website
<https://www.boston.gov/departments/auditing#annual-financial-reports>

Sincerely,

Scott Finn

Scott Finn
City Auditor

CC: Ashley Groffenberger
Veronica Imbaro



VOTE

of the

BOSTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Approved at a Public Hearing on Thursday, January 15, 2026

Vote to approve Cathy Baker-Eclipse to serve on the Community Preservation Committee,
as the representative of the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission.

Attested to on behalf of the
Boston Parks and Recreation Commission

Carrie M. Dixon, Executive Secretary



Boston City Council
ED FLYNN
Councilor - District 2

January 6, 2026

Dr. Alastair Bell, President & CEO
Boston Medical Center
One Boston Medical Center Pl
Boston, MA 02118

RE: Alleged Emergency Room Rape

Dear President Bell,

I am writing in regards to the disturbing reports of rape and sexual assault of a patient at Boston Medical Center that occurred in the emergency room in the evening of September 13th to September 14th, 2025. Reportedly, the alleged assailant slipped into a partially paralyzed female patient's room while she was recovering from surgery, removed her medical monitors and raped her. It is my understanding that the alleged assailant was supposed to be on a Section 12 hold for mental illness and under constant supervision by hospital staff at the time of the attack.

Yesterday, the defendant appeared in Suffolk Superior Court and pled not guilty to charges of two counts of rape, one count of indecent assault and battery on a person over 14, one count of assault and battery on a person with a disability, and one count of witness intimidation.

It is unconscionable that a horrific and violent sexual assault took place on a defenseless patient. The safety and security of patients and staff at the hospital must come before all else, and cannot be ignored any longer. It is critical that hospital leadership make immediate changes and upgrades to the security department to prevent similarly unsettling incidents from ever taking place again. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov, or in the alternative at 617-635-3203.

Sincerely,

Ed Flynn
Boston City Councilor, District 2



Boston City Council
ED FLYNN
Councilor - District 2

January 8, 2026

Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Executive Director
Boston Public Health Commission
One Boston Medical Center Pl
Boston, MA 02118

RE: Request for Committee on Safety & Security at Boston Hospitals

Dear Dr. Ojikutu,

I am writing in regards to the disturbing reports of rape and sexual assault of a patient at Boston Medical Center (BMC) that occurred in the emergency room in the evening of September 13th to September 14th, 2025. Reportedly, the alleged assailant slipped into a partially paralyzed female patient's room while she was recovering from surgery, removed her medical monitors and raped her. It is my understanding that the alleged assailant was supposed to be on a Section 12 hold for mental illness and under constant supervision by hospital staff at the time of the attack.

On Monday, the defendant appeared in Suffolk Superior Court and pled not guilty to charges of two counts of rape, one count of indecent assault and battery on a person over 14, one count of assault and battery on a person with a disability, and one count of witness intimidation.

It is unconscionable that a horrific and violent sexual assault took place on a defenseless patient. The safety and security of patients and staff at the hospital must come before all else, and cannot be ignored any longer. In light of this disturbing incident, as well as a recent stabbing at BMC on December 10th, I am respectfully requesting that the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) provide leadership in security affairs with hospitals in the City of Boston. In my opinion, the BPHC should establish a committee that would provide an independent review of security plans at every Boston hospital and healthcare facility to ensure the safety and security of all patients and staff.

At this time, it is critical that the city works with hospital leadership to make immediate changes and upgrades to their security department to prevent similarly unsettling incidents from ever taking place again.

Sincerely,

Ed Flynn
Boston City Councilor, District 2



Boston City Council
ED FLYNN
Councilor - District 2

January 8, 2026

Segun Idowu
Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Chief Idowu,

I am writing today on the funds the City of Boston received from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). Boston received almost \$560 million in federal funds for pandemic recovery, which was committed by the end of 2024 and must be spent in full by the end of 2026. As you know, in May of 2025, it was reported that a Boston's Main Streets program allegedly misspent ARPA funds in the amount of \$32,000.

I remain concerned this is not an isolated incident. At this time, I am respectfully requesting confirmation as to whether any other similar cases were reported to your office and the city, including any nonprofit funding that was returned or requested to be returned for any reason. Additionally, whether the City of Boston communicated with any organization that received these funds to return the funds back to the city.

Please provide a complete written response to this request with any details explaining any misappropriation of funds, regardless of the amount. It is critical that Boston is in compliance with city, state, and federal regulations. We must demonstrate fiscal discipline, transparency and accountability. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 617-635-3203 or Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov.

Sincerely,

Ed Flynn
Boston City Councilor, District 2



Boston City Council
ED FLYNN
Councilor - District 2

January 20, 2026

Michael Cox
Commissioner, Boston Police Department
1 Schroeder Plaza
Boston, MA 02120

RE: Demotion of Deputy Superintendent Marcus Eddings

Dear Commissioner Cox,

I'm writing today concerning the recent demotion of Marcus Eddings from superintendent to deputy superintendent. Eddings was promoted to the role of superintendent before he was demoted to his current position of deputy superintendent in 2024.

When Eddings was demoted, many expressed confusion and disappointment about the decision. Deputy Superintendent Eddings is a seasoned and knowledgeable leader who has demonstrated a deep dedication to serving the Boston Police Department and our community. In my opinion, his demotion is a huge loss to the important work of the department and the communities we serve.

Superintendent Eddings is an outstanding leader in our community and a respected leader in the Boston Police Department. It's also important that we support and respect our law enforcement officers of color. I am respectfully requesting to please reconsider this decision, and reinstate him as superintendent so that he can continue to provide invaluable leadership in the Boston Police Department and the City of Boston.

Sincerely,

Ed Flynn
Boston City Councilor, District 2



Boston City Council
ED FLYNN
Councilor - District 2

January 16, 2026

Boston Planning Department
One City Hall Square, Room 900
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Members of the Board,

I'm writing today urging the BPDA Board to renew the development rights at Parcel P-3. In January 2023, The Board voted to designate HYM Investment Group, LLC and My City at Peace (HYM/MyCAP) to redevelop Parcel P-3 in Roxbury in January 2023. The rights are crucial to economic development and building strong neighborhoods. All neighborhoods should share in the success of economic development, growth and affordable housing.

The residents of Roxbury have waited for years to see economic development take place in this site. This should be an important and thriving section of Roxbury, delivering affordable housing, employment, job training opportunities, building our commercial tax revenue, and home for Embrace Boston. Boston should work closely with the development team and grant an extension for development rights. The years of community process, time and effort that have already been spent on this project deserves to be respected, listened to and included in the future of the project. Boston has the potential to house a future Madison Park Technical Vocational School on one of many unused former school properties, and others to come in the future.

In my opinion, it is critical that the City of Boston begin to rebuild trust with residents across all neighborhoods and communities of color when it comes to showing respect for public process - especially following years of neighbors and civic organizations feeling their concerns were not taken seriously when it came to proposals on White Stadium, moving the John D. O'Bryant School to West Roxbury, and a bus lane centered on Blue Hill Avenue. The development team is diverse and experienced and deserves the opportunity to continue building a strong neighborhood. We need to work with them during these challenging economic times in our city, not replace them without any notice or community engagement. Boston works best when we work together!

Sincerely,

Ed Flynn
Boston City Councilor, District 2



OFFICE OF JULIA MEJIA, CITY COUNCILOR AT-LARGE

1 City Hall Square, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02201
617.635.4217 | julia.mejia@boston.gov

January 23, 2026

Liz Breadon, President
Boston City Council
1 City Hall Plaza
Boston, MA 02201

Re: Boston City Council Rules 2026-2027: Proposed Amendments

Dear Council President Liz Breadon,

In advance of passing the permanent Boston City Council Rules for Municipal Years 2026 and 2027, I am writing to respectfully propose some amendments to the rules. Below are my proposed amendments with explanations for the amendment and the proposed redline:

Throughout the Rules:

Amendment: Strike “he or she”/“his or her”/etc. and insert “they”/“their”/etc.

Purpose of amendment: More inclusive language rather than gendered language.

Rule 15:

Amendment: Language to clarify the rule’s intended purpose that is to prevent duplicate dockets in the same year.

Purpose for amendment: There has been a lack of clarity around the use of Rule 15, and this lack of clarity can get in the way of the Council’s ability to do its job. A subject, topic, issue, concern, etc. that is before the Council can change significantly in a year’s time. New filings may be necessary to reflect changes in situations, available information, unanticipated concerns or consequences, and subtopics regarding the matter at hand. It is important that the Council has the ability to adapt as a matter evolves over time, and is not inadvertently prevented from doing so by a docket on a certain matter that was filed at an earlier time when the matter was at a different stage; the lack of clarity in the rule’s current language about the distinction between duplication versus evolution of filings does not allow for evolved filings and therefore inadvertently prevents the Council from adapting over the course of a year.

Precedence/need for amendment: Councilors have had their filings “rule fifteened” despite significantly evolved language and/or different subtopics from a previous filing, even as recently

as the previous municipal year. This was due to the lack of distinction between duplication and necessary updates due to subject matters changing over the course of the year.

Proposed redline:

Rule 15. **Only for the purpose of preventing duplication,** ~~in~~ the event that an ordinance, order, resolution, petition, amendment, authorization, agreement or motion concerning the same or similar subjects are filed with the clerk for consideration by the council, the clerk, in consultation with the council president, shall cause to have entered on the agenda only that resolution or order which was first filed. The name of the sponsor(s) to the similar resolution or order may be added as a sponsoring member to the resolution or order which is placed on the agenda if at the same meeting. Such action, however, shall not preclude any member from offering an amendment to the resolution or order. **This rule shall not apply to filings whose content is on a different subtopic under the same or similar subject as a previous filing, or whose content has evolved due to changes in said same or similar subject as time has gone on; the council's ability to adapt via new filings as situations, available information, unanticipated concerns or consequences, and subtopics develop over time is preserved.**

Rule 34, Rule 35, and Rule 35A:

Amendment: Adding “public testimony sessions” to the kinds of events committees can hold.

Purpose of amendment: To empower committee chairs to hold public testimony sessions on dockets. There are many hearings where there are lots of people who are interested in testifying, and it is difficult to fit all the public testimony, panel opening statements, and Councilor questions into a three-hour session. This addition to the kinds of events committees can hold will allow for a distinct time for public testimony when necessary.

Precedence: Public testimony sessions held by the Committee on Ways and Means have been successful, well-attended by community and Councilors, and necessary during budget season. All committees should be able to hold this kind of session.

Proposed redline for Rule 34:

Rule 34. No meeting, policy briefing, working session, ~~or~~ hearing, **or public testimony session** of any committee, except the committee on ways and means, in accordance with the limitations of the state's open meeting law, shall be called upon less than forty-eight (48) hours notice (exclusive of legal holidays, Saturdays, and Sundays), unless otherwise allowed by the president in accord with the limitations of the state's open meeting law, from the time the council staff shall have electronically transmitted the notices and invitation letters or dispatched them by special messenger; provided that meetings of the committee of the whole may be held for a specific purpose(s) at the call of the president, at the completion of council business and prior to final adjournment of any meeting of the council without such notice. Only that specific item(s) for which a committee of the whole meeting, working session, ~~or~~ hearing, **or public testimony session** has been called

shall be in order at such meeting, working session, ~~or~~ hearing, or public testimony session.

Only a committee chair may schedule a meeting, policy briefing, working session, ~~or~~ hearing, or public testimony session or reserve time on the council's calendar for a meeting, policy briefing, working session, ~~or~~ hearing, or public testimony session to be scheduled. Notice of all scheduled meetings, policy briefings, hearings, working sessions, and public testimony sessions shall be posted by the clerk indicating the date, time and place in accordance with the requirements of the open meeting law. In addition, the notice shall include the item(s) or subject(s) to be discussed. Electronic notice shall be delivered to each councilor and other interested parties by council staff. The chair and members of any committee shall speak and question witnesses for not more than ten minutes at a time. The conduct of members of the public at council meetings, and committee meetings, policy briefings, working sessions, ~~and~~ hearings, and public testimony sessions, including those present to testify, shall be governed by Rules 41, 42 and 43 and shall be enforced by the council staff assigned to the meeting, policy briefing, working session, ~~or~~ hearing, or public testimony session.

In the event a hearing is expected to last three or more hours, the chair shall allow members of the public, in the order in which they sign up, to offer testimony at the beginning, middle and end of the hearing. It shall be at the discretion of the chair to determine the appropriate time and how many individuals shall testify at the beginning and during the hearing with the remaining individuals being allowed to testify at the end of the hearing.

No committee, unless authorized by an order of the council, shall incur any expense, including, but not limited to, advertising and stenographic costs. Committee chairs requesting interpreter services will work with the staff director, recognizing there are budgetary limitations, to arrange for such services at the time the meeting, policy briefing, working session, ~~or~~ hearing, or public testimony session is scheduled. No committee meeting, policy briefing, working session, ~~or~~ hearing, or public testimony session, except the committee of the whole, the committee on rules and administration, and the committee on ways and means, shall be conducted on the day of any regular meeting of the council. No committee, except the committee of the whole, committee on ways and means, or committee on rules and administration shall be allowed to schedule or conduct a meeting, policy briefing, working session, ~~or~~ hearing, or public testimony session on the same day and time as a previously scheduled meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing of another committee.

No committee will hold any hearing, policy briefing, working session, ~~or~~ meeting, **or public testimony session** after the last regular council meeting of the municipal year.

Proposed redline for Rule 35:

Rule 35. Each item listed on the weekly agenda that is to be reported out of committee must be accompanied by a report. The committee chair shall draft the report with the assistance of central staff committee liaisons. Committee liaisons will be responsible for keeping minutes of committee hearings, working sessions, meetings, ~~and~~ policy briefings, **and public testimony sessions** in accordance with open meeting and public records requirements. Minutes shall include the following information: name of the committee, title of the event (meeting, working session, hearing, policy briefing, **public testimony session**), date, time of the call of the event, start time, end time, location, subject, committee/council members present, a summary of the discussion held, any decisions made, next steps to be taken, or votes taken, a list of all correspondence, documents, or exhibits presented at the event, and items requested by councilors. The minutes are to be prepared by the committee liaison and presented to the chair for review and signature and filed within a reasonable timeframe of the conclusion of the hearing, meeting, policy briefing, ~~or~~ working session, **or public testimony session**, but in no case later than the committee's next hearing, meeting, policy briefing, ~~or~~ working session, **or public testimony session** on the relevant topic, except if a more suitable timeframe is determined by the council president or central staff director. Reports of the committee chair or the committee must contain the following information: docket number, title, date referred, sponsor, date(s) of hearing, meeting, policy briefing, ~~or~~ working session, **or public testimony session** (where applicable), a discussion of the provisions of the legislation, summary of information received at the hearing, meeting, policy briefing, ~~or~~ working session, **or public testimony session**, and in the case of amended or substituted language, a discussion of the changes and the impacts on the original legislation, and the rationale for the recommended action.

The committee chair may issue an interim report to provide to the council information received regarding the topic or the status of a docket. This interim committee report does not recommend a final disposition of the docket, and will not dispose of the docket. The interim report will be filed in the same manner as all other documents. It will be filed as part of the Reports of Committee portion of the agenda, and will be placed on file. The docket remains in the assigned committee until final disposition.

Proposed redline for Rule 35A:

Committee Hearings, Meetings, Policy Briefings, ~~and~~ Working Sessions, and Public Testimony Sessions

Rule 35A. Committee hearings refer to formal sessions of a committee at which representatives from the Administration, experts, or others from the public are invited to

discuss and answer questions regarding a particular docket or subject matter as articulated in the hearing order assigned to that committee. A public comment period is required and subject to Rule 34.

Committee chairs or a quorum of committee members may schedule a meeting for the purpose of discussing ideas related to committee work, particular dockets, or other topics within the subject matter of that committee. For committee meetings, public testimony is at the discretion of the Chair of the committee.

Committee policy briefings refer to less formal sessions in which a chair of a committee invites representatives from the Administration, experts and others from the public to participate in an open discussion about a particular policy issue. While there is no formal public comment period, members of the public are encouraged to attend policy briefings, and participate in the discussion.

Committee chairs may schedule working sessions for the purpose of revising legislation in committee, reviewing a proposed committee report, or to discuss with the committee the content of a piece of legislation. The committee chair may schedule a working session under the requirements of the open meeting law and process established in Rule 34. The purpose of the working session will be to discuss and deliberate on proposed changes to the legislation before the committee. The changes outlined at that working session would then be incorporated into the legislation, and included in the committee report regarding the legislation. More than one working session may be held on the same legislation and working sessions may be scheduled to review more than one piece of legislation at the same time. Subject to the will of the chair, working sessions may be scheduled to occur at times separate from the hearings, or directly afterward. While members of the public may attend working sessions, there will be no public comment period. Public participation and draft materials at working sessions shall be limited to councilors and chair invitees.

Committee public testimony sessions refer to formal sessions of a committee at which members of the public are invited to testify regarding a particular docket or subject matter as articulated in the docket assigned to that committee. Committee chairs may schedule public testimony sessions for the purpose of allowing council members to hear statements from the public and focusing on the public's positions on a particular docket or subject matter. Council members may provide opening and closing remarks.

Rule 36:

Amendment: Language to clarify committee chairship, vice-chairship, and membership for two years.

Purpose of amendment: To clarify that the assignments of a committee's chair, vice-chair, and members is concurrent with the two-year term of the City Council. The current language refers to no timeline/length of appointment, meaning that it could be interpreted incorrectly. The length of these assignments should be stated explicitly so that members of the public are aware that the assignments of a committee's chair, vice-chair, and members is for the current two-year term of the City Council.

Precedence: Rule 3 has this clarifying language, as it states, "The term of the City Council President shall be two (2) years, co-terminus with the term of the City Council."

Proposed redline:

Rule 36. All councilors shall be considered as members of each standing committee. The president of the council shall name those members of each committee, including its chair and vice-chair, who are authorized to vote on matters in the committee, **which shall be co-terminus with the two-year term of the City Council**. Communication shall be filed with the City Clerk detailing the named chairs, vice-chairs, and members who are assigned and authorized to vote on matters in each committee **for said two-year term**. All other members of each committee are not authorized to vote on such matters in the committee. A quorum of the committee shall be determined on the basis of voting members only.

The role of each committee shall be to provide a forum for in-depth review and analysis of all matters that come before city departments, boards, and agencies, and to provide a means for residents to address their concerns with regard to services provided by the city.

Committees shall focus upon: (1) public policy, (2) efficiency of service delivery, (3) equity with respect to that service delivery, (4) equity with respect to outcome and impact in order to address disparities, (5) cost containment, it being the goal of the city government to provide appropriate services while ensuring that public monies, which derive from our citizenry, are appropriated wisely and cautiously.

I believe these proposed amendments will better our body through empowering its members, providing additional tools, and clarifying the language of our rules. I respectfully request that you include these amendments in the City Council Rules for Municipal Years 2026 and 2027.

Sincerely,



Julia Mejia, Boston City Councilor At-Large

January 12, 2026

Alex Geourntas
City of Boston City Clerk
1 City Hall Square
Room 601
Boston, MA 02201-2014

Boston City Clerk Geourntas:

In February 2025 the Department issued Special Order 25-3 to clarify and amend procedures to follow upon receipt of a Civil Detainer request. In an effort to address concerns regarding the total number of Civil Detainer requests reported annually, the Department established a dedicated fax number within the Operations Division solely for Civil Detainer requests rather than receiving requests at individual booking stations. The fax machine is monitored every day, on all shifts, and the appropriate district or booking station is notified upon receipt of a request. Additionally, to facilitate compliance with the Trust Act reporting requirements, each Civil Detainer request received is sent to the Chief of the Bureau of Field Services using a dedicated e-mail address. A copy of the Special Order is attached for your convenience.

Information regarding the dedicated fax line was also shared with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Boston Field Office. The Department requested that, regardless of the booking location, ICE use the dedicated fax line to send Civil Detainer requests for all prisoners booked by the Department to help ensure that this report reflects the total number of requests received in 2025.

As you can see from the information provided below, only 28% of the Detainer Requests received in 2025 came through the dedicated fax line as requested, while others were directed to individual booking locations via facsimile or directly to the Bureau of Field Services via e-mail.

Pursuant to the Boston Trust Act, below please find statistical information on civil immigration detainer requests sent by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and received by the Boston Police Department in 2025.

Please accept this annual report for calendar year 2025 per the requirements of the Trust Act:

- a. A statistical breakdown of the total number of civil immigration detainer requests lodged with the City's law enforcement officials, organized by reason(s) given for the request;

For all of the civil immigration detainer requests listed below, the reason given for the request is: "DHS has determined that probable cause exists that the subject is a removable individual."

	Date received	Detainer received by	Originating ICE office
1	2/2/2025	District D4 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
2	2/2/2025	District C11 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
3	2/11/2025	District C11 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
4	2/13/2025	District A1 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
5	2/19/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
6	2/26/2025	District A7 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
7	2/28/2025	District B3 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
8	3/10/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
9	3/13/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
10	3/30/2025	District D4 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
11	4/1/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
12	4/2/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
13	4/2/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
14	4/4/2025	District E13 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)

15	4/20/2025	District A1 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
16	4/25/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
17	5/1/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
18	5/7/2025	District E5 fax	Boston MA Docket Control Office
19	5/11/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
20	5/15/2025	Central Booking fax	Boston MA Docket Control Office
21	5/24/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston, Docket Control Office
22	5/26/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
23	5/27/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
24	5/29/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
25	6/6/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
26	6/10/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
27	6/23/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
28	6/24/2025	District A1 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
29	7/11/2025	Central Booking fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)

30	7/16/2025	District A7 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
31	7/19/2025	District A1 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
32	7/20/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
33	8/18/2025	Dedicated Operations fax and District E5 fax	ERO - Pacific Enforcement Response Center (Santa Ana, CA)
34	9/5/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
35	9/8/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
36	9/13/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
37	9/16/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
38	9/17/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
39	9/17/2025	Dedicated Fax in Operations	Boston MA Docket Control Office
40	9/18/2025	District E5 fax	Boston MA Docket Control Office
41	9/22/2025	District E5 fax	Boston MA Docket Control Office
42	9/23/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
43	10/5/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
44	10/12/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office

45	10/25/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
46	10/27/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
47	10/28/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
48	11/3/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
49	11/3/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
50	11/26/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
51	12/1/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
52	12/9/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
53	12/22/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
54	12/23/2025	Central Booking fax	Boston MA Docket Control Office
55	12/28/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
56	12/28/2025	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office
57	12/31/25	Bureau of Field Services (BFS) email	Boston MA Docket Control Office

- b. A statistical breakdown of the total number of individuals that City law enforcement detained pursuant to Section 2, organized by the reason(s) supporting the detention;

Zero individuals were detained by the BPD pursuant to Section 2.

- c. Total number of individuals transferred to ICE custody;

Zero individuals were transferred to ICE custody.

- d. Total cost reimbursements received from the federal government pursuant to Section 2, organized by individual case.

Zero cost reimbursements were received from the federal government pursuant to Section 2.

The Boston Police Department is dedicated to working in partnership with the community to fight crime, reduce fear and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. Our mission is community policing. To that end, the Department remains committed to complying with the Boston Trust Act, as well as State Law, and to building and strengthening relationships and trust with all our communities across the City. Boston's immigrant communities should feel safe in reporting crime and quality of life issues to the Department and in proactively engaging with all members of the Boston Police Department.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Cox
Police Commissioner



Police Commissioner's Special Order

Number:	SO 25-3
Date:	2/19/25
Post/Mention:	Indefinite

SUBJECT: THE PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW UPON RECEIPT OF A CIVIL IMMIGRATION DETAINER AND TRUST ACT REPORTING

Commissioner's Memo 13-025, Bail Procedures for Prisoners Subject to ICE Detainers, Commissioner's Memo 16-027, Bail Procedures for Prisoners Subject to ICE Detainers and Special Order 21-63, ICE Detainer Requests and Trust Act Reporting, are hereby rescinded and replaced with Special Order 25-3.

The Trust Act is a city ordinance that clarifies the role of Boston Police Officers relative to civil immigration enforcement. The Department does not enforce civil immigration laws and does not inquire about an individual's immigration status. The Department's work continues with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations (ICE-HSI) division on matters of significant public safety importance, such as combatting human trafficking, child exploitation, drug and weapons trafficking and cybercrimes, in accordance with the Trust Act.

The Trust Act prohibits a law enforcement official from detaining an individual solely on the basis of a Civil Immigration Detainer request after the individual is eligible for release from custody, unless ICE has a criminal warrant issued by a judicial officer, for the individual. State law also prohibits detaining individuals solely on the basis of an immigration detainer who are otherwise eligible for release solely on the basis of an immigration detainer. *Lunn v. Commonwealth*, 477 Mass. 517 (2019).

The Department has established a dedicated fax number within the Operations Division solely for Civil Immigration Detainer requests. The fax machine will be located in the Supervisor's Clerk's Office and monitored by a call taker assigned to that location on all shifts.

Upon receipt of a Civil Immigration Detainer, the call taker shall immediately notify the Operations Supervisor and provide him/her with a copy of the detainer request and accompanying documents. The Operations Supervisor shall immediately notify the appropriate District Duty Supervisor or Central Booking Supervisor where the person is being held by phone and then scan and send a copy of the detainer request and accompanying documents via e-mail to the Duty Supervisor or Central Booking Supervisor. If the detainer request does not identify the location where the person is being held, the Operations Supervisor shall immediately begin the process to locate the individual utilizing all available Department records to locate the appropriate booking location.

Page Two

The Operations Supervisor shall also scan and email the Civil Immigration Detainer to the BFS Bureau Chief at bfs@pd.boston.gov to facilitate compliance with Trust Act reporting requirements.

Any Civil Immigration Detainers sent directly to the district station/booking location or Central Booking Section will be scanned and emailed to bfs@pd.boston.gov by the Duty Supervisor or Central Booking Supervisor where the request was received.

The following procedure shall apply for Civil Immigration Detainers received through the Operations Division or sent directly to the district station/booking location or Central Booking Section.

The Duty Supervisor or Central Booking Supervisor shall make a copy of the Civil Immigration Detainer and accompanying documents and attach the original detainer request, and all documents that are received with the detainer request, to the arrest packet of the prisoner.

The receipt of a Civil Immigration Detainer does not change the obligations of the Boston Police Department to provide access to bail and a probable cause determination pursuant to Massachusetts law.

All prisoners must receive equal access to bail commissioners, which includes notifying said prisoners of their right to seek bail. The booking officer shall summons a bail magistrate or bail commissioner and, in circumstances when a bail commissioner responds to the district station or the Department's central booking location, officers are to notify the bail commissioner of the receipt of any Civil Immigration Detainer and provide any relevant information to assist in the determination of whether to grant bail or release. This information shall include the arrest packet with a copy of the police report and Civil Immigration Detainer where applicable. A copy of the Civil Immigration Detainer shall be provided to the prisoner upon release by a bail commissioner.

If a prisoner is transported to court, all relevant documents shall be transferred with the individual. That shall include the arrest packet with a copy of the police report and Civil Immigration Detainer where applicable.

Commanding Officers shall ensure that this Special Order is posted on Department bulletin boards.

Michael A. Cox
Police Commissioner

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR LIZ BREADON



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER TO ADOPT CITY COUNCIL RULES

ORDERED: That the attached rules be adopted as the Rules of the Boston City Council for Municipal Years 2026-2027.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

Rules of the Boston City Council
Municipal Years 2026-27
Filed January 28, 2026

General Rules

Meeting Time

Rule 1. Unless otherwise ordered from time to time, and except on holidays, the regular meeting of the City Council shall be on Wednesdays at twelve o'clock noon in the Christopher A. Iannella Council Chamber, One City Hall Square, 5th Floor, Boston, unless otherwise determined by the Council President. Special meetings may be called at the Council President's discretion, upon a forty-eight (48) hour notice from the time the notices are posted by the Clerk, or relayed to each Councilor's office in compliance with the Open Meeting Law. Special meetings of the Council may be called by the Council President upon less than forty-eight (48) hours notice in the case of an emergency, in compliance with the Open Meeting Law, and with the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of all members of the Council. A roll call vote will be taken at the beginning of a meeting called on less than forty-eight (48) hours notice to affirm the two-thirds (2/3) agreement to hold the special meeting.

Quorum

Rule 2. A quorum of the Council shall consist of seven (7) members and any member may call for a roll call on the question of the presence of a quorum. If at any time, any meeting is called to order, or if during a meeting, a roll call shows less than a quorum, the Presiding Officer shall call a recess of not more than ten (10) minutes, after which time, if a quorum is not present, the meeting may be adjourned by the Presiding Officer.

Presiding Officer

Rule 3. The Council President shall serve as Presiding Officer of the Committee of the Whole and shall assume the Chair at the hour set by the previous adjournment, call the members to order after a roll call showing a quorum present, and proceed with the regular order of business. The Council President shall select a President Pro Tempore to act in his or her absence and serve as Vice Chair of the Committee of the Whole. In the event of the absence of both the Council President and the President Pro Tempore, the senior member by age shall preside. The term of the Council President shall be two (2) years, co-terminus with the term of the City Council, except that by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all members of the Council, the

Council may declare the role vacant and conduct a new election for Council President. A member, after serving a term as Council President, may again serve as Council President after two (2) years have passed.

Appealing a Decision of the Chair

Rule 4. The Presiding Officer may speak to points of order in preference to other members, and shall decide all questions of order, and assignment of matters to Committee, subject to an appeal of the decision of the Chair, but no appeal shall be considered unless properly seconded. No other business except a motion to adjourn or to lie on the table shall be in order until the question on appeal has been decided. The question shall be put as follows:

"Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the Council?"

The vote shall be by a roll call vote, and it shall be decided in the affirmative unless a two-thirds (2/3) majority of all the members of the Council is to the contrary.

Matters Properly Before Council

Rule 5. Any motion, order, or resolution which conflicts with the City Charter, federal or state constitution, or with rules prescribed by existing city ordinance, federal law, or state law, or which in the opinion of the Presiding Officer does not have a direct bearing on the business of the Council, is duplicative of a matter already in Committee, or was previously acted upon in the current municipal year may be placed on file. The decision of the Chair shall be a final disposition of the matter, subject to an appeal, but no appeal shall be considered unless properly seconded. No other business except a motion to adjourn or to lie on the table shall be in order until the question on appeal has been decided. Prior to the vote, the proponent of the motion, order, or resolution shall have three (3) minutes to explain the issue and the need for the Council to take action on the matter. Afterward, those members who share the opposite view, should they choose to, shall have the opportunity to select one of its members to speak for no more than two (2) minutes on the opposing view. A matter that has been placed on file under Rule 5 and is under appeal shall not be subject to amendment. After the debate, a vote on the matter shall be taken. The question shall be put as follows:

"Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the Council?"

The vote shall be by a roll call, and it shall be decided in the affirmative unless a two-thirds (2/3) majority of all the members of the Council is to the contrary.

Recess

Rule 6. The Presiding Officer may at any time, during debate or otherwise, declare a recess for not more than twenty (20) minutes, unless the Presiding Officer declares that the Council will return to public session at a time certain. Such action shall not be subject to appeal, nor shall any motions apply thereto.

Propounding Motions

Rule 7. The Presiding Officer shall propound all motions in the order in which they are moved unless the subsequent motion shall be previous in its nature.

Deciding Questions

Rule 8. Subject to the provisions of these rules, the Presiding Officer, without debate, shall decide all questions relating to priority of business.

Dividing a Question

Rule 9. The Presiding Officer, at the request of any member, shall make a division of a question when the sense will admit of it.

Doubting the Vote

Rule 10. The Presiding Officer shall declare all votes. If any member doubts a vote, the Presiding Officer shall cause the vote to be taken by a roll call.

Vacating the Chair

Rule 11. When the Presiding Officer wants to vacate the Chair, he or she shall call on the President Pro Tempore to take the Chair. In the absence of the President Pro Tempore, any member can be asked to assume the Chair. The Presiding Officer may resume the Chair at will.

Agenda

Rule 12. Any measure submitted for consideration by the Council shall be filed with the Clerk electronically with one (1) hard copy delivered to the Clerk's office by ten o'clock AM two (2) days preceding the Council meeting. The Clerk shall publish the agenda online no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the Council meeting. With the exception of consent agenda items, all new Councilor-sponsored filings shall be submitted by no more than two Councilors. Other Councilors may sign on to the legislation during the scheduled Council meeting. Such

submission is a prerequisite to any item's consideration at such meeting.

Duties of the Clerk

Rule 13. It shall be the duty of the Clerk, acting as Clerk and parliamentarian of the Council, to prepare and cause to be printed for each meeting a listing of all matters submitted for consideration to the Council, including the minutes of the previous meeting, in accordance with Rule 12; such listing shall be known as the agenda, and it shall be divided into two sections, the latter of which shall be known as the consent agenda.

The agenda shall include a section on "Matters Recently Heard – For Possible Action", which shall list all matters that are in Committee and publicly noticed to be discussed before any Committee between nine o'clock AM Monday and the beginning of the meeting. Committee Chairs wanting to take action on matters included in this portion of the agenda shall present a Committee Chair Report recommending action at the meeting. The Committee Report will be entered into the record of the meeting. The agenda shall include a list of all pending Council matters, such listing being also known as the "Green Sheets." The Green Sheets shall include a list of all thirty (30) and sixty (60) day orders, matters assigned for further action, matters on the table, unanswered 17F orders, home rule petitions not responded to by the Mayor, and a listing of all matters currently assigned to Committees.

It shall be the duty of the Clerk to post the agenda and the full documents corresponding to the specific docket numbers listed on the agenda on the City's web page no later than two (2) business days (forty-eight (48) hours) preceding the scheduled meeting. If the Clerk's Office decides to post only a portion of an agenda item due to length, they must make a note on the attachment that the attachment is incomplete, and direct viewers to contact their office for the full document. Revised or amended dockets and late file matters shall be posted with the meeting minutes within forty-eight (48) hours of the conclusion of the meeting.

Corrections as to Form

Rule 14. The Clerk, with the assistance of Corporation Counsel, if necessary, may make changes to correct the form of legislation once passed, provided however that its substance is not affected.

Items of the Same Matter

Rule 15. For the purpose of preventing duplicative debate in meetings or in committee, in the event that an ordinance, order, resolution, petition, authorization, agreement, or motion that is duplicative of or is substantively similar to a matter already in Committee or previously acted

upon in the current municipal year, is filed with the Clerk for consideration by the Council, the Clerk shall cause to have entered on the agenda only that matter which was first filed during the current municipal year. The name of the Sponsor(s) to the similar matter may be added as a sponsoring member to the first filed matter that is placed on the agenda if the filings were submitted for the same meeting. Such action, however, shall not preclude any member from offering an amendment to such matter. This rule shall not preclude filings whose content is on a different subtopic, or a subtopic not specified or that should not have reasonably been expected to be covered by a previous filing, or filings on topics for which content has evolved since the previous filing, so long as a hearing or debate on the new filing would not result in the same hearing or same debate that would otherwise be had under the previous filing.

Removal from the Consent Agenda

Rule 16. Resolutions of condolences and congratulations filed in accordance with Rule 37 shall be listed upon the consent agenda. Any member of the Council may object to the Clerk upon such a filing. The matter being objected to shall be removed from the consent agenda and placed on the agenda of the regular Council business. No such resolution shall bear the name of any Councilor not indicating consent to sponsorship.

All matters contained on the consent agenda shall be read as one and the question of adoption and passage of all said matters shall be by a single motion. The question shall be put as follows:

"The question now comes on approval of the various matters contained within the consent agenda."

Order of Business and Debate

Rule 17. At every regular meeting of the Council, the order of business shall be as follows:

1. Council Accolades (See Rule 37).
2. Approval of the previous meeting minutes.
3. Communications from the Mayor.
4. Petitions, memorials, and remonstrances.
5. Reports of public officers and others.

6. Reports of Committees.
7. Matters recently heard - for possible action.
8. Motions, orders, and resolutions.
9. Personnel orders.
10. Pending Council matters (“Green Sheets”).
11. Consent agenda.
12. Remembrances (see Rule 37).

Motions and Orders

Rule 18. When a question is under debate, the following motions shall be entertained and shall have precedence in the order in which they are arranged:

1. To adjourn.
2. To lay on the table.
3. To move the previous question.
4. To close debate at a specified time.
5. To postpone to a day certain.
6. To commit.
7. To amend.
8. To postpone indefinitely.

The motion to adjourn, the motion to lie on the table, the motion to take from the table, and the motion for the previous question shall be decided without debate.

Strike and Insert

Rule 19. A motion to strike and insert shall be treated as indivisible; however, the failure of a motion to strike shall not prevent the introduction of a motion to amend or a motion to strike and insert.

Any motion(s) to amend must be presented in writing and copies given to Central Staff to distribute to all members of the Council present. No motion to amend shall be debated prior to receipt of the amendment by all members.

Three copies shall be given to the Clerk.

Adjourn

Rule 20. A motion to adjourn shall be in order at any time except during or on an immediate repetition of or pending a verification of a vote.

Remanding Matters to the Mayor

Rule 21. Any measure submitted by the Mayor for action by the Council shall be rejected without prejudice, unless when it is filed with the Clerk, it bears the certificate of the Corporation Counsel that, if adopted or passed in the form submitted by the Mayor, it will be in accordance with the law.

The Council, at the discretion of the Council President, may remand a response from the mayor to a Section 17F request, if in the determination of the Council President the response does not comply with the request. A subsequent response shall be due within seven (7) days.

Withdrawal of Motions

Rule 22. After the Presiding Officer has put a motion on the floor, the Presiding Officer may withdraw it on the request of the Sponsor, providing no objection.

Committee Assignment and Action

Rule 23. When any measure submitted for consideration relates to a subject that may properly be examined and reported upon by a Council Committee, such filing, upon presentation, shall be referred to such Committee by the Council President in consultation with the Clerk. Any member offering a filing referred to a Committee may request that the Chair of the Committee set, within thirty (30) days, a mutually agreeable date for a hearing. No hearing may be scheduled or conducted without the consent and the presence of the Chair or his or her designee. In order, designees shall be Vice Chair, Lead Sponsor (if voting member of the

Committee), voting member of the Committee, Lead Sponsor, and so forth.

Calling of Matters in Committee

Rule 24. Within sixty (60) days after a matter is referred to a Committee, it shall not be voted upon without the consent of the Committee Chair.

Sixty (60) days after a matter is referred to a Committee, it may be called by nine (9) members of the Council.

Ninety (90) days after a matter is referred to a Committee, it may be called by seven (7) members of the Council.

One hundred twenty (120) days after a matter is referred to a Committee, it may be called by five (5) members of the Council.

As a part of the Council meeting agenda, Committee Chairs may issue formal reports on dockets referred to his or her Committee. When the meeting moves to the docket(s) that are the subject of the Committee Chair Report, the Clerk will read the docket(s) and the Presiding Officer will state:

“Absent objection, the report of the Committee Chair is accepted and the docket(s) is (are) properly before the body.”

If there is an objection, the Clerk will conduct a roll call vote of the Committee members to ascertain that a majority of the Committee members support the call of the Committee Chair to remove the docket from Committee for discussion and action by the full Council.

The Chair of a Committee may call a docket out of his or her Committee at any time and ask that a vote be taken on a matter (“calling from the Green Sheets”), provided that when such a call is made and before the discussion of the item, the Presiding Officer will state:

“Absent objection, the motion of the Committee Chair is accepted and the docket(s) is (are) properly before the body.”

If there is an objection, the Clerk will conduct a roll call vote of the Committee members to ascertain that a majority of the Committee members support the call of the Committee Chair to remove the docket from Committee for discussion and action by the full Council.

Matters Placed on File at Year End

Rule 25. The Clerk shall place on file any Council-sponsored matter remaining in Committee at the conclusion of the last meeting of the calendar year, including matters introduced and not voted upon at the last meeting of the calendar year. Sixty (60) day orders and mayoral filings shall be exempt from this rule. Items awaiting mayoral action, including unanswered 17F orders and Home Rule Petitions, that are more than two weeks old at the end of the municipal year will be removed from the Green Sheets.

Legislative Form

Rule 26. In all legislation the form of expression shall be "Ordered" for everything by way of command, and the form shall be "Resolved" for everything expressing opinions or principles.

Summons of Members

Rule 27. Upon request for a roll call vote, the Presiding Officer may hold open the calling for a period of no longer than five (5) minutes during which time the City Messenger shall summon all members who are absent from the Iannella Council Chamber. The Clerk shall call the names of the members in alphabetical order without interruption. Each member shall respond to his or her name when called by the Clerk. No member shall be recorded after the name of the next member has been called in the prescribed manner, except by unanimous consent of all members present.

Voting

Rule 28. Every member present when a question is put, unless he or she is excluded by interest, shall vote in the affirmative or negative or shall respond, "present". Unless otherwise provided, seven (7) members of the Council shall constitute a majority vote at a meeting of the Council. For a hearing of the Council, a majority of members present and voting shall constitute a majority.

Absence of Sponsoring Member

Rule 29. In the event that the lead sponsoring member of any measure first submitted for consideration, except communications and the contents of the consent agenda, is not present when the Clerk reads the matter, the Clerk shall withdraw the matter from consideration at that meeting. The Clerk will automatically re-file the document as a part of the regular agenda for the next Council meeting.

Reconsideration

Rule 30. Once a vote has been taken, any member may only move reconsideration of the vote at the same meeting. Debate on motions to reconsider shall be limited to thirty (30) minutes, and no member shall occupy more than five (5) minutes. On a vote upon any subsidiary or incidental question, debate shall be limited to ten (10) minutes, and no member shall occupy more than two (2) minutes.

Limits on Reconsideration

Rule 31. When a motion to reconsider has been decided, that decision shall not be reconsidered, and no question shall be twice reconsidered unless it has been amended after the reconsideration; nor shall any reconsideration be had upon the following motions:

1. To adjourn.
2. The previous question.
3. To lay on the table.
4. To take from the table.
5. To close debate at a specified time.

A motion to reconsider may be laid on the table or postponed indefinitely, and the effect of such action in either case shall be to defeat the motion to reconsider.

Two-Thirds Majority Required and Second Readings

Rule 32. All orders releasing rights, easements, or restrictions on land, all orders for the sale of land, all appropriations for the purchase of land, and all loans voted by the Council shall require a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all members of the Council, and shall be passed only after two (2) separate readings and by two (2) separate votes, the second of said readings and votes to be had not less than fourteen (14) days after the first, except in cases in which a shorter period is authorized by law. Any order rescinding an order for any of the foregoing purposes shall require the same number of readings and votes as was required for the passage of the original order. All matters failing to receive a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote on the first vote shall be deemed to have been rejected without prejudice and removed from further consideration, unless reconsideration of the initial vote prevails.

Adoption of Matters on Day Introduced

Rule 33. No measure submitted for consideration may be adopted at the meeting at which it is submitted. This rule may only be suspended with unanimous consent. This rule applies only to matters not previously filed for Council consideration and assigned to Committee, and any related amendments or substitutions, and does not apply to reports of Committee Chairs, personnel orders, or items on the consent agenda.

Committees

Forty-Eight Hour Notice Required

Rule 34. No meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing of any Committee shall be called upon less than forty-eight (48) hours notice (exclusive of legal holidays, Saturdays, and Sundays), unless otherwise allowed by the Council President in accord with the limitations of the state's Open Meeting Law, from the time Central Staff shall have electronically transmitted the notices and invitation letters or dispatched them by special messenger; provided that meetings of the Committee of the Whole may be held for a specific purpose at the call of the Council President, at the completion of Council business and prior to final adjournment of any meeting of the Council without such notice.

Only a Committee Chair may schedule a meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing or reserve time on the Council's calendar for a meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing to be scheduled. Notice of all scheduled meetings, policy briefings, working sessions and hearings shall be posted by the Clerk indicating the date, time and place in accordance with the requirements of the Open Meeting Law. In addition, the notice shall include the docket(s) or subject(s) to be discussed. Electronic notice shall be delivered to each Councilor and other interested parties by Central Staff. The Chair and members of any Committee shall speak and question witnesses for not more than ten (10) minutes at a time. The conduct of members of the public at Council meetings, and Committee meetings, policy briefings, working sessions, and hearings, including those present to testify, shall be governed by Rules 41, 42 and 43 and shall be enforced by the Central Staff assigned to the meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing.

In the event a hearing is expected to last three or more hours, the Chair shall allow members of the public, in the order in which they sign up, to offer testimony at the beginning, middle, and end of the hearing. It shall be at the discretion of the Chair to determine the appropriate time and how many individuals shall testify at the beginning and during the hearing with the remaining individuals being allowed to testify at the end of the hearing.

No Committee, unless authorized by an order of the Council, shall incur any expense,

including, but not limited to, advertising and stenographic costs. Committee Chairs requesting interpreter services will work with the Staff Director, recognizing there are budgetary limitations, to arrange for such services at the time the meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing is scheduled. No Committee meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing, except the Committee of the Whole, the Committee on Rules, Ethics and Administration, and the Committee on Ways and Means, shall be conducted on the day of any regular meeting of the Council. No Committee, except the Committee on Rules, Ethics, and Administration, shall be allowed to schedule or conduct a meeting on the same day and time as a previously scheduled meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing of another Committee.

No Committee will hold any meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing after the last regular Council meeting of the municipal year.

Committee Action

Rule 35. Each item listed on the weekly agenda that is to be reported out of Committee must be accompanied by a report. The Committee Chair shall draft the report with the assistance of Central Staff Committee Liaisons. Committee Liaisons will be responsible for keeping minutes of Committee meetings, policy briefings, working sessions, and hearings in accordance with Open Meeting and Public Records requirements. Minutes shall include the following information: name of the Committee, title of the event (meeting, policy briefing, working session, hearing), date, time of the call of the event, start time, end time, location, subject, Committee members present, a summary of the discussion held, any decisions made, next steps to be taken, votes taken, a list of all correspondence, documents, or exhibits presented at the event, and items requested by Councilors. The minutes are to be prepared by the Committee Liaison and presented to the Chair for review and signature and filed within a reasonable timeframe of the conclusion of the meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing, but in no case later than the Committee's next meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing, on the relevant topic, except if a more suitable timeframe is determined by the Council President or Staff Director. Reports of the Committee Chair must contain the following information: docket number, title, date referred, Sponsor(s), date(s) of meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing (where applicable), a discussion of the provisions of the legislation, summary of information received at the meeting, policy briefing, working session, or hearing, and in the case of amended or substituted language, a discussion of the changes and the impacts on the original legislation, and the rationale for the recommended action.

The Committee Chair may issue an interim report to provide to the Council information received regarding the topic or the status of a docket. This interim Committee Report does not

recommend a final disposition of the docket, and will not dispose of the docket. The interim report will be filed in the same manner as all other documents. It will be filed as part of the Reports of Committee portion of the agenda, and will be placed on file. The docket remains in the assigned Committee until final disposition.

Committee Meetings, Policy Briefings, Working Sessions, and Hearings

Rule 35A. Committee Chairs or a quorum of Committee members may schedule a meeting for the purpose of discussing ideas related to Committee work, particular dockets, or other topics within the subject matter of that Committee. While members of the public may attend Committee meetings, there is no public comment period.

Committee policy briefings refer to less formal sessions in which a Committee Chair invites representatives from the Administration, experts and others from the public to participate in an open discussion about a particular policy issue. While there is no formal public comment period, members of the public are encouraged to attend policy briefings.

Committee Chairs may schedule working sessions for the purpose of revising or writing legislation in Committee, or reviewing a proposed Committee Report. The Committee Chair may schedule a working session under the requirements of the Open Meeting Law and process established in Rule 34. More than one working session may be held on the same legislation and working sessions may be scheduled to review more than one piece of legislation at the same time. Subject to the will of the Chair, working sessions may be scheduled to occur at times separate from the hearings, or directly afterward. While members of the public may attend working sessions, there is no public comment period. Participation and draft materials at working sessions shall be limited to Councilors and Chair invitees.

Committee hearings refer to formal sessions of a Committee at which representatives from the Administration, experts, or others from the public are invited to discuss and answer questions regarding a particular docket or subject matter as articulated in the hearing order assigned to that Committee. A public comment period is required and subject to Rule 34.

Committee Appointment, Structure, and Role

Rule 36. All Councilors shall be considered as members of each standing Committee. The Council President shall name those members of each Committee who are authorized to vote on matters in the Committee, including its Chair and Vice-Chair, who, with consent of the Chair, may preside in his or her absence. Communication shall be filed with the Clerk detailing the named Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and members who are assigned and authorized to vote on matters in each Committee. All other members of each Committee are not authorized to vote on such

matters in the Committee. A quorum of the Committee shall be determined on the basis of voting members only.

The role of each Committee shall be to provide a forum for in-depth review and analysis of all matters that come before city departments, boards, and agencies, and to provide a means for residents to address their concerns with regard to services provided by the City. Committees are charged with reviewing all matters within their purview through the lens of government accountability, transparency, and accessibility.

Committees shall additionally focus upon: (1) public policy, (2) efficiency of service delivery, (3) equity with respect to that service delivery, (4) equity with respect to outcome and impact in order to address disparities, and (5) cost containment, it being the goal of the city government to provide appropriate services while ensuring that public monies, which derive from our citizenry, are appropriated wisely and cautiously.

Committees of the Council

There shall be the following Committees:

Committee on Arts, Culture, Entertainment, Tourism, & Special Events, which shall concern itself with the encouragement of arts, culture, and the creative economy, including cultural development, humanities, performing arts, visual arts, film and filmmaking, music, public art, museums, arts education, arts organizations, tourism, entertainment, the support and funding of art and cultural amenities, opportunities to display and/or present works, and special events. The Committee shall also concern itself with fostering the creative environment and reputation of the city, including support for public art, arts events, and festivals, development of programs to empower arts organizations and arts supporters, retaining creative talent and ideas, and other actions to make the city a cultural and creative hub. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to the Boston Art Commission, Boston Cultural Council, all Cultural Districts, the Office of Arts and Culture, the Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment, and all agencies, departments, and programs related to arts, culture, tourism, and special events.

Committee on Census, Redistricting, and Elections, which shall concern itself with matters relating to the decennial United States Census as it affects representation, resources, and planning within the City of Boston, including efforts to support a complete and accurate count and the use of census data for municipal purposes; with the review and redrawing of City Council district boundaries following the release of census data in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local law, including providing a public forum for community input throughout the redistricting process; and with matters relating to municipal elections, including voter registration, ballot access, election administration, and policies affecting participation in

local elections. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to the City Clerk, the Election Department, and any other departments, offices, or agencies whose functions relate to the responsibilities of this Committee.

Committee on City Services, which shall concern itself with the delivery of municipal services to the city's residents and neighborhoods in order to promote improved and accessible service delivery to all residents, including the activities of and provision of services to residents by communication, energy, and water service providers.

The Committee shall concern itself with the infrastructure that facilitates broadband, wireless voice and data communications. The Committee shall be responsible for monitoring issues arising from utility facilities and operations, and including facility siting, in order to ensure that consumers are provided with the most reliable service, at the lowest possible cost, and that ratepayers' rights are protected under federal, state and local regulations. The Committee shall further concern itself with matters relating to motor vehicle parking, including the residential parking program and parking meters and other matters related to parking. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to the Inspectional Services Department, Office of Neighborhood Services, Public Works Department operations and programming, Transportation Department operations and enforcement, the Edward Ingersoll Browne Fund and the George Robert White Fund, the Boston Water and Sewer Commission, the Office of Broadband and Cable, Office of the Parking Clerk, Public Improvement Commission, the Commission for Persons with Disabilities, and the Department of Innovation and Technology.

Committee on Civil Rights, Racial Equity, and Immigrant Advancement, which shall concern itself with all matters relating to city, state, and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. The Committee shall also concern itself with advancing opportunities, equity, and wellbeing of our immigrant communities. The Committee shall concern itself with exploring the development of programs and/or legislation to ensure that all are able to safely and fully participate in the civic life of the city and economy. The Committee shall explore opportunities for city agencies, non-governmental organizations, and individuals to work together to protect the civil rights and civil liberties of all Bostonians. The Committee shall concern itself with promoting equal and fair access to public and private services and facilities for all residents, regardless of race, color, national origin, national ancestry, language background, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age or disability. The Committee shall work to ensure that city services and resources are accessible to immigrant communities regardless of their preferred language, country of origin, and immigration status. The Committee is charged with ensuring that language and communication access is integral to city services, resources, and policies. The Committee shall have oversight with respect to the Office of Immigrant Advancement, the Commission on Persons with Disabilities, the Office of Women's Advancement, the Office of Black Male Advancement, the

Office of LGBTQ+ Advancement, Fair Housing and Equity, the Human Rights Commission, the Office of Language and Communications Access, and all matters pertaining to language access with relevant city departments and agencies, and all matters relating to the violation or protection of civil rights.

Committee on the Community Preservation Act, which shall concern itself with nominating members to the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) for consideration by the Boston City Council, including developing an open and transparent application process for interested candidates; providing a public forum to review and discuss the activities of the CPC; serving as liaison between the Boston City Council, CPC members, and the Director of the CPC, and providing additional input and transparency for the allocation of Community Preservation Act funds by the Community Preservation Committee.

Committee on Education, which shall concern itself with the quality of equitable educational services provided to all school-aged residents in Boston. Further, the Committee shall explore developing programs to provide assistance with academics and extracurricular activities for families. The Committee shall monitor educational policy, in particular special education, bilingual education, and technical education, with the goal of eliminating opportunity and achievement gaps for students of color, English Language Learners, students with disabilities, and children living in poverty. The Committee shall work to strengthen cooperation among city and state government, private enterprise, and institutions of higher learning, to provide students with the necessary education, training, and skills for further education and future career opportunities in the new economy. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to the Boston School Department, educational based programs, and all other city programs related to education.

Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks, which shall concern itself with environmental justice issues of residents, including the impact of industry on quality of life. The Committee shall concern itself with the natural resources of the city, issues of air, land, and water pollution, as well as recycling and other resource recovery efforts, issues related to waste disposal and land reclamation, and examine technologies and innovations regarding energy savings and efficiency. The Committee shall also concern itself with open space conservation, access to recreational facilities and opportunities, and the administration and oversight of the Rose Kennedy Greenway. The Committee shall have oversight of public parks, playgrounds, recreational facilities and matters generally impacting the Parks Department including but not limited to accessibility, maintenance, design and construction of new and existing public parks in the city. The Committee shall have oversight of departments within the Environment, Energy, and Open Space Cabinet and matters related to climate change, resiliency, and sea level rise, as well as trash collection, recycling, and composting operations within Public Works.

Committee on Government Operations, which shall concern itself with the organization and structure of city government, including departmental fees and charges. The Committee shall have referred to it all proposed ordinances and special laws affecting the structure, duties, concerns, and responsibilities of city departments, agencies and commissions. The Committee shall also concern itself with the review of the city's policy regarding residency for city employees. The Committee shall also concern itself with the implementation of ordinances, as well as periodic reviews of the City Code, oversight of publishing vendors undertaking such work, and review and proposal of amendments. In scheduling hearings and working sessions, the Committee will coordinate with the chair of the Committee whose jurisdiction covers the policy area discussed in the ordinance or special law.

Committee on Housing and Community Development, which shall concern itself with public policy involving the preservation, creation, and rehabilitation of housing in the city, including public housing programs. The Committee is charged with evaluation of policies and programs of the city to ensure an adequate supply of affordable housing to advocate toward the goal of safe, decent, and affordable housing for all Boston residents. The Committee shall also concern itself with affirmatively furthering equal and fair access to housing for all residents. The Committee shall concern itself with housing solutions for residents experiencing homelessness and with issues relating to homeless shelters. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to the housing policies and programs of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, the Mayor's Office of Housing, Boston Housing Authority, the Fair Housing Commission, and the Emergency Shelter Commission.

Committee on Human Services, which shall concern itself with the equitable delivery of human services and city programming for youth, families, seniors, and all residents. The Committee shall have particular focus on youth and women. This includes addressing issues, including but not limited to sexual violence, child abuse and neglect, reproductive health, LGBTQ+ health, trauma, hunger, and human trafficking. The Committee shall concern itself with issues related to youth, including but not limited to youth programming, summer jobs and job readiness initiatives, volunteerism, and youth violence prevention. The Committee shall also concern itself with early education and childcare in the City of Boston. The Committee shall have oversight with respect to Boston Centers of Youth and Families, Youth Engagement and Advancement, Youth Employment and Opportunity, and the Boston Youth Development Fund, Office of Early Childhood, Library Department, Women's Advancement, and the Age Strong Commission.

Committee on Labor and Economic Development, which shall concern itself with the economic empowerment of City neighborhoods through employment opportunities, fair working conditions, and workforce development. The Committee shall concern itself with

diversifying the City's workforce and ensuring equity in the City's procurement processes. The Committee shall concern itself with policy issues affecting Boston's workforce across all sectors. The Committee shall also concern itself with issues related to organized labor and members of public and private collective bargaining units, including, but not limited to wages and hours, standards and statistics, job creation and retention, occupational health and safety, and the development of employment opportunities and training programs, with the exception of city collective bargaining agreements as filed with the Council that fall within the purview of Ways and Means.

The Committee shall also concern itself with the creation and growth of small business, entrepreneurship, and the innovation economy. The Committee shall work to support thriving neighborhood commercial districts, including streamlining permitting and licensing, and fostering community economic development. The Committee shall further concern itself with protecting small businesses from displacement resulting from rising rents, redevelopment, and regulatory burdens. The Committee shall concern itself with reducing barriers for small business, focus on expanding access to capital for small businesses, and increasing support resources for small businesses. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to Boston Employment Commission and the Boston Residents Jobs Policy, Office of Workforce Development, Labor Compliance and Worker Protections, Main Streets Program, Consumer Affairs and Licensing, and Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion.

Committee on PILOT Agreements, Institutional and Intergovernmental Relations, which shall review the City's relationships and partnerships with institutions and government entities. The Committee will evaluate the efficacy of and compliance with the payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) program and agreements entered into by the City of Boston, as well as institutional master plans submitted by tax-exempt academic, medical, and cultural institutions. The Committee shall concern itself with the methodology of the program, involvement of residents in determining community benefits, and engagement of area universities and colleges and their plans relating to development, expansion, student activities, and other relevant topics. The Committee will also work with the Office of Intergovernmental Relations to advocate, coordinate, and advance the City's partnerships with local, regional, and state agencies to advance the City's priorities.

Committee on Planning, Development and Transportation, which shall concern itself with the planning, physical development, and transportation access of the city, including financing, zoning, licensing, land use policy, the effects of development, and access to multimodal transportation and transit options throughout the city and its neighborhoods. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to all commercial, medical, research, educational and large scale residential development and building projects, development without displacement, as well as historic preservation programs. The Committee shall work to ensure community

participation in the planning and development process, that residents and their institutional neighbors are both able to share in the city's benefits, and that the delivery of financial services are accessible, non-discriminatory, and promote both small and large business and development throughout all neighborhoods. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to the care, management, custody, and use of public lands and buildings, except parkland. The Committee shall exercise additional oversight with respect to the Boston Industrial Development Finance Authority, the Boston Redevelopment Authority d/b/a the Boston Planning and Development Agency and the Planning Department, Mayor's Office of Housing, Economic Development and Industrial Corporation, Public Facilities Commission, Property Management Department, Zoning Board of Appeals, Zoning Commission, Freedom Trail Commission, and Architectural and Landmarks Commission.

The Committee shall also concern itself with the planning, infrastructure, operational, and regulatory policies of Boston's surface, air, and water transportation modes. The Committee shall concern itself with transportation matters relating to bicycles, pedestrians, and motor vehicles, with the exception of parking. The Committee shall further concern itself with matters relating to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority and other agencies that furnish public transportation. The Committee shall further concern itself with matters relating to the taxi industry and other transportation network companies. The Committee shall concern itself with hackney and jitney licenses. The Committee shall further concern itself with matters relating to operations at Logan International Airport and the Port of Boston. To further its initiatives, the Committee shall foster working relationships and collaborate with related state and local agencies. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to Boston Bikes, the Boston Transportation Department, the Transportation Capital Program planning and policies, and the Boston Public Works Department's transportation-related programs and operations.

Committee on Post-Audit, which shall concern itself with evaluating the efficiency, effectiveness, and accessibility of city budget, operations and programs, including administrative compliance with legislative intent, and administrative regulations of departments, agencies, and programs. The Committee may review, establish goals and objectives, collect and analyze data, and report to the Council with recommendations, including possible legislative and programmatic changes based on its review and analysis. That Committee shall further concern itself with oversight and tracking of capital plans and expenditures following debt approval, general oversight over the City of Boston's distribution of state and federal COVID-19 relief funding and programs, examining municipal financial statements, bond and credit reports, internal fiscal controls, and risk management procedures, thus ensuring public funds and assets are managed responsibly and effectively. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to the Auditing Department and the Boston Finance Commission.

Committee on Public Health, Homelessness, and Recovery, which shall concern itself with the health and well-being of residents, eliminating disparities in health care services, as well as the equitable delivery of health services. The Committee shall concern itself with all public health matters including, but not limited to, the COVID-19 pandemic, HIV, and other infectious diseases. The Committee shall concern itself with the care and well-being of individuals dealing with homelessness, mental and behavioral health issues, or seeking assistance with substance use disorders and recovery. The Committee shall concern itself with issues impacting hospitals, community health centers, homeless shelters, public health nonprofits, and recovery programs. The Committee shall work to enhance the quality and quantity of available programming financed by city, state, and federal resources. The Committee shall have oversight with respect to the Boston Public Health Commission and the Office of Recovery Services.

Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice, which shall concern itself with the adequate delivery of police and fire protection to all neighborhoods. The Committee shall be responsible for evaluating, encouraging, and facilitating resident-driven efforts to prevent crime. The Committee also shall concern itself with criminal justice policies including matters related to the reintegration and reentry of returning citizens. The Committee shall coordinate and work with county, state, and federal agencies and community organizations to evaluate, explore, and develop strategies, policies, and recommendations aimed at lowering the recidivism rate and incarcerated population while ensuring the public's safety. The Committee shall also be concerned with all matters related to homeland security and efforts to protect residents against terrorism in any form. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to the Boston Fire Department, Boston Police Department, Office of Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Operations Center, Suffolk County Jail, Suffolk County House of Correction, anti-crime and criminal justice reform efforts financed by state and federal government sources, and county correctional matters.

Committee on Rules, Ethics, and Administration, which shall concern itself with the rules and administrative functions of the Council. The Committee shall meet to discuss matters in accordance with M.G.L. c. 39, s. 23B (the state Open Meeting Law) and other issues internal to City Council operations. The Clerk, as Clerk of the Council, shall participate in Committee meetings convened to address related rules or parliamentary issues at the request of the chair.

Committee on Veterans, Military Families, and Military Affairs, which shall concern itself with the city's programs for veterans, active military personnel, and their families. The Committee shall evaluate and examine the availability of programs for veterans and active military personnel. The Committee shall evaluate the need for the implementation of new programs and services for veterans and active military personnel and their families. The Committee shall have oversight with respect to the Veterans' Services Department, and the

Veterans' Graves Division of the Parks Department.

Committee on Ways and Means, which shall exercise general oversight with respect to city revenues and expenditures and all other component units that comprise the government entity, as defined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The Committee may report to the Council the cost of implementation of any order, ordinance, program, as well as any and all contracts for city services and collective bargaining agreements for city services, or any other initiative pending before the body, and shall make such report whenever requested by another Committee or directed to do so by the Council. The Committee shall have referred to it all matters concerning appropriations, the city budget, expenditures and loans. The Committee shall review city policies and actions involving the purchase of financial services, deposits, borrowing, and investment. The Committee shall concern itself with issues related to all city owned or leased facilities. The Committee shall exercise oversight with respect to the Assessing Department, Auditing Department, the Office of Budget Management, the Treasury Department, and the Boston Finance Commission.

Committee of the Whole, which shall concern itself with any litigation involving the Council and all other matters referred to it.

Council Accolades and Remembrances

Rule 37. The Council shall have the honor of recognizing persons, groups, and events of significant importance to the City. Any Councilor wishing to honor such individuals or groups at the start of a Council meeting shall notify the office of the Council President in writing by four o'clock PM, one (1) business day before the meeting. Councilors may honor individuals up to six (6) times per year. Two (2) accolades will be allowed per meeting and each accolade should not exceed five (5) minutes. Said notification shall include the names of the individuals or groups and the reason they are being honored. The Council President, at the request of any Councilor, shall ask the Council to recognize and acknowledge a special guest or group of guests seated in the Council gallery. Deviations are subject to the Council President's discretion.

Directly before the conclusion of a scheduled Council meeting, Councilors may request that the Council adjourn in memory of persons with importance to the City. Any Councilor wishing to do so shall notify the office of the Council President in writing by 9:00 o'clock AM the morning of the meeting. The Councilor shall provide the name, with correct spelling and pronunciation where appropriate. The Council President shall read the names of the Councilor making the request and the people to be recognized.

Conduct in City Council

Rule 38. Every member about to speak shall signal the Chair by electronic means provided and then wait until recognized by the Chair. No member shall be recognized when away from his or her desk. In speaking, members shall address other members in one of the manners as follows: by the title Councilor and the member's surname, as the Councilor from district (cite district number), the at-large Councilor from (neighborhood of residence), or as the Chair of a particular Committee, and shall confine themselves to the question, shall not use unbecoming, profane, abusive, or non-parliamentary language, and shall avoid personal or derogatory remarks to or about any member. Any member who, in debate or otherwise, indulges in personal or derogatory remarks to or about another member or makes charges reflecting upon the character of another member, shall make an apology in open session at the meeting at which the offense was committed or at the next succeeding regular meeting. If the member fails to apologize, the Council President may hold the member in contempt and suspend the member from further participation in debate and statement until an apology is made.

Order of and Time Limit on Speaking

Rule 39. No member shall speak more than once on a question when another member who has not spoken claims the floor and no member speaking shall, without consenting, be interrupted by another, except on a point of order.

A member may speak upon a matter for no more than ten (10) minutes, except as further limited by the provisions of this rule. A member who has not spoken on a matter shall have priority and recognition by the Chair whenever said member shall rise.

Dockets filed as Communications from the Mayor; Petitions, Memorials, and Remonstrances; Reports of Public Officers and Others; and Personnel Orders shall not be open for remarks and debate at the time they are introduced except at the discretion of the Council President.

Remarks by Councilors at the time a matter that is to be assigned to a Committee is introduced shall be limited to three (3) minutes for the Lead Sponsor and two (2) minutes for any additional original Co-Sponsors. The appropriate time for questioning and debate is at public hearings and working sessions. If a docket Sponsor requests suspension of Rule 33 and passage of a newly introduced docket, remarks shall be limited to three (3) minutes for the docket Sponsors and two (2) minutes for all other members.

The Clerk shall inform the Council President whenever a member has spoken longer than the allotted time under the prescribed time limits.

Conduct of Councilors - Generally

Rule 40. The Ethics Commission of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts enforces Chapter 268A of the Massachusetts General Laws -- The Conflict of Interest Law. The Conflict of Interest Law regulates and governs the conduct of all Councilors as municipal public officials. All Councilors shall review and fully comply with each of the law's provisions. The Clerk shall distribute a copy of said law at the start of each municipal year. The Council President may arrange for trainings on Conflict of Interest Laws, the Open Meeting Law, and other topics as appropriate.

Rule 40A. Pursuant to the City Charter and in accordance with the Open Meeting Law, the Council President may refer a matter to the Council upon his or her determination that any member has engaged in conduct unbecoming a member of the Boston City Council or may be unqualified to sit on the body. A member may be unqualified by violating federal or state law, or any conditions imposed by the City's Charter, which includes violating any provisions of the three oaths of office.

The Council President shall automatically refer a matter to the Council upon a felony conviction of any member by any state or federal court.

Any action by the Council taken in response to any referral shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of all members of the Council and shall be in accordance with local, state and federal law.

Members of the Public on Council Floor

Rule 41. No person except a member of the Council at any time shall be permitted to occupy a seat designated for Councilors at any City Council meeting or hearing location. Central Staff shall strictly enforce this rule.

Staff on Council Floor

Rule 42. No person, except the staff of the Clerk or Central Staff, shall be allowed upon the floor of the Iannella Council Chamber, the witness podium (microphone), or the doorways of the anteroom, unless invited by the Presiding Officer. No person shall be permitted to speak, testify, or otherwise participate in any Council meeting, policy briefing, working session or hearing unless permitted to do so by the Presiding Officer. Members of the public are welcome in the gallery of the Iannella Council Chamber when the Council is in session, but no one will be admitted to the gallery after all seats are occupied. Members of the public are welcome into other Council hearing locations, but no one will be admitted unless seats or proper standing room exists in the interest of public safety. No demonstration of approval or disapproval from

members of the public will be permitted (including, but not limited to, signs, placards, banners, cheering, clapping, booing, etc.) and if such demonstrations are made, the gallery or public seating area will be cleared. This rule shall be strictly enforced. Any person, upon entering a Council meeting or hearing for the purpose of viewing or testifying grants permission to the Council to record and televise their presence and testimony.

Electronic devices, including cell phones, must be turned off or put in silent mode upon entering the Iannella Council Chamber or any Council hearing location, and any person violating this rule shall be asked to leave.

Members of the Press on Council Floor

Rule 43. Members of the press in attendance shall refrain from discussion within the Iannella Council Chamber with Council members during a Council meeting or Committee hearing. No member of the press shall be allowed on the Council floor without the consent of the Presiding Officer. Central Staff shall strictly enforce this rule.

Lobbying Activities

Rule 44. No person, who for compensation or reward acts to promote, oppose, or influence a matter pending before the Council, shall be admitted at any time to the Iannella Council Chamber or anterooms unless said person has registered with the Clerk as required by the Lobbyist Registration and Regulation Ordinance of the Boston City Code, Chapter 2, Section 2-15. All registered Lobbyists, Lobbying Entities, and Clients who have registered with the City are available on the City's website to promote transparency in government.

Further Rules, Amendment, and Suspension

Rule 45. Unless inconsistent with any provision of these rules, the proceedings of the Council shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, current edition.

Suspension of Rules

Rule 46. All portions of the Rules of the Council that require compliance with the Open Meeting Law, portions of the rules mandated by City Charter, and portions of the rules enumerating or designating the authority of the Council President shall not be suspended. Rules 12, 33, and 35 may be suspended only by unanimous consent. All other rules shall not be altered, amended, suspended, or repealed at any time, except by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all members of the Council. Provided, however, that Rule 12 may be suspended to introduce a matter submitted by a Councilor calling for action by the Council on the day of a meeting

only in the case of an emergency, and the filing includes a declaration explaining such emergency, which, per the Open Meeting Law, would be under circumstances where such filing was unable to be anticipated prior to the filing deadline, and requires an immediate response by the Council.

Adoption of Rules

Rule 47. The Rules of the City Council shall be adopted for a two (2) year term and shall be adopted by a majority roll call vote no later than the first regular meeting in February.

Motion to Lay on the Table

Rule 48. The motion to *Lay on the Table* shall only be in order to place a pending question aside temporarily. This matter shall be taken up for consideration no later than the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council; unless the tabled matter is postponed to a date certain. A motion to lay a question on the table shall not be debatable. A motion to take a question from the table may be made by any member of the body and such motion shall not be debatable.

Power to Summons

Rule 49. Pursuant to Chapter 233, Section 8 of the General Laws, the Council has the authority to summons witnesses to attend and testify and to produce books and papers at a hearing before the Council. See also Section 17I of the City Charter. An Order for Summons shall be filed by the Chair of the Council Committee invoking the summons power or shall be filed by the Sponsor of the docket invoking the summons power. An Order for Summons shall state the reason for issuing the summons and the subject matter jurisdiction. The Order shall be referred to the Committee of the Whole. Such Order shall be taken up for consideration at a subsequent Council meeting where the Council President shall bring the matter before the Council for consideration. The Chair of the standing Committee shall sign the summons requiring a person to appear before the Committee to be examined in reference to any matter within the scope of the inquiry being conducted by such Committee.

Electronic Records

Rule 50. It is the policy of the Council to promote transparent governance and provide clear and easily accessible records of Council actions. The Council shall, in consultation with the Clerk, Committee staff, and information technology employees of the City, seek to provide the following information, clearly enumerated independent of and separate from records of the Council agenda and minutes: text of filed matters, which shall include final copies of matters

as adopted by the Council and/or Mayor, amendments offered, and voting records.

Separation of Powers in Event of Mayoral Vacancy

Rule 51. In the event that a mayoral vacancy should occur and require the Council President to perform the duties of the Acting Mayor as specified in Section 11B of the City Charter, the President Pro Tempore shall perform the duties of the Council President. In addition to presiding over Council meetings, the President Pro Tempore shall assume all powers of the Council President as dictated by these rules, for so long as the mayoral vacancy exists and the Council President is performing the duties of the Acting Mayor. The powers of the Council President, and these powers assumed by the President Pro Tempore, shall include the power to call regular and special meetings, to authorize remembrances and accolades, to speak on behalf of the Council in a ceremonial capacity, to sign documents on behalf of the Council, to bring Orders for Summons before the Council, to assign matters to Committees, to file personnel orders on behalf of other members and the Council as a whole, to enforce standards of Councilor conduct, to arrange trainings, to oversee and direct Council staff, to close or open the Council's central offices, to propose and manage the Council's operating budget, and to make determinations in regard to Council rules, protocols, operations, and personnel matters, in appropriate consultation with the Committee on Rules, Ethics and Administration on changes to codified procedures and contractual obligations. The President Pro Tempore who is performing the duties of the Council President during a mayoral vacancy shall chair the Committee of the Whole and shall assume the Chair of the Committee on Rules, Ethics and Administration in place of the Council President. The President Pro Tempore performing the duties of the Council President in these circumstances may use the style of 'President', and may designate another Councilor to preside in the President Pro Tempore's absence over meetings of the Council and of the Committee of the Whole. In the event that a vacancy should occur in the office of President Pro Tempore, whether by resignation, departure, or Council vote, the Council shall elect by simple majority another member to serve in the role of President Pro Tempore.

For so long as the mayoral vacancy exists, the Council President who is performing the duties of the Acting Mayor shall not vote or participate in Council meetings, policy briefings, working sessions, or hearings, shall make no Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, or membership assignments, and shall introduce matters to the Council docket only in the capacity of Acting Mayor. As the Council President remains a member of the Council, however, a quorum of the Council shall remain seven (7) members and a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Council shall remain nine (9) members. The Council President who is performing the duties of the Acting Mayor shall retain the physical office associated with the office of the Council President. In the event that a vacancy should occur in the office of Council President, whether by resignation, departure, or Council vote, a new Council President shall be elected by the

procedure described in Section 17 of the City Charter, to possess all powers of the office and to perform the duties of the Acting Mayor when a mayoral vacancy should exist.



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING STREET FOOD CARTS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

WHEREAS, Boston is rich with cultures that bring various cuisines and customs from regions around the world. It is also a city that prides itself on empowering various communities with business opportunities to all who seek them regardless of income, immigrant status, or ability; *and*

WHEREAS, Street vending is the oldest informal version of commerce. Vendors can be found across our city outside of TD Garden or Fenway Park on game days and all over Faneuil Hall, but many struggle to navigate municipal bureaucracy, access the permits and understand the process to legally vend their food and beverages; *and*

WHEREAS, Large cities across the country like Washington D.C, Los Angeles, and New York, have a framework Boston can mirror to create street entrepreneurship opportunities for those seeking to start a small business enterprise, but do not have the means to invest in a food truck let alone a brick and mortar; *and*

WHEREAS, Residents resort to establishing street food carts largely out of survival or because they are unable to navigate the local bureaucracy without the help of an attorney or because they speak a language other than English; *and*

WHEREAS, We have the opportunity to close this gap by simplifying and expediting the permitting process, lowering the costs of licenses and fines, and ensure Boston residents are not further criminalized for attempting to make a living from their culinary talents; *and*

WHEREAS, The Washington D.C. Council passed the Street Vendor Advancement Amendment Act of 2023, a landmark bill that decriminalizes street vending, forgives past fines, creates designated vending zones, and establishes a simpler licensing system, shifting from criminalization to a framework supporting vendors', livelihoods, allowing them to self-govern within these new zones, and fostering a more vibrant, diverse city economy; *and*

WHEREAS, Currently, there is no section in the Boston Municipal Code that outlines permitting and regulations for non-motorized street food carts. Codifying this section in the code, is the first step to ensuring our city can provide adequate resources, simplified processes, and an understanding of the laws and regulations

vendors must abide by to protect street food cart entrepreneurs and their clients;
and

WHEREAS Inserting Chapter 17, Section 17-22, Permitting and Regulation of Non-Motorized Street Food Carts will allow Bostonians who cannot afford a brick and mortar or food truck to establish a food cart business anywhere across our city, and create greater accessibility in understanding of the permitting process. Thus, the City of Boston will develop more opportunities for entrepreneurs, expand access to cultural foods and beverages, and provide a branch towards upper economic mobility; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston as follows:

The City of Boston Municipal Code, Chapter 17, Section 17-22, Permitting and Regulation of Non-Motorized Street Food Carts, is hereby established by inserting the following provisions:

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this section is to establish a coordinated and transparent system for the permitting and regulation of non-motorized street food carts in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; ensure compliance with sanitary, fire, traffic, and public safety standards; promote the orderly use of streets, sidewalks, and public and private spaces; prevent nuisances and conflicts; support small businesses and local entrepreneurship; encourage environmentally sustainable and socially responsible practices; expand access to food in underserved neighborhoods; and ensure effective interdepartmental coordination and enforcement in the public interest.

Section 2. Definitions.

Commissioner shall mean the Commissioner of Public Works of the City of Boston or their designee.

The Committee shall mean the Commissioner, the Director of Small Business, and the Departments, as defined.

Departments shall mean Public Works Department, Boston Transportation Department, the Inspectional Services Department, the Office of Economic Opportunities and Inclusion, the Boston Fire Department, and the Director of Small Business, all of the City of Boston.

Food establishment shall mean a business operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends or otherwise provides food for human consumption as set forth in the State Sanitary Code 105 CMR 590.002.

Food Commissary shall mean licensed food establishment that a non-motorized street food cart reports to twice daily for all food and supplies and for all cleaning and sanitizing of units and equipment.

Non-motorized street food cart shall mean a food establishment that is located upon a mobile kitchen operated by people rather than electric or gas power where food or beverage is cooked, prepared and/or served for individual portion service.

Section 3. Scope

- a. The provisions of this section shall apply to non-motorized, street food cart operations engaged in the business of preparing and distributing food or beverage with or without charge from non-motorized, street food cart on or in public, private or restricted spaces. This section may apply to canteen, coffee, or ice cream non-motorized carts that move from place to place and are stationary in the same location for no more than thirty (30) minutes at a time.
- b. The provisions of this section shall not apply to non-motorized carts that receive a temporary event permit issued by the Public Works Department.

Section 4. Non-motorized Street Food Cart Committee

- a. There shall be within the City of Boston a Non-motorized Street Food Carts Committee consisting of the Public Works Department, Boston Transportation Department, the Inspectional Services Department, the Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion, and the Boston Fire Department, for the purpose of reviewing applications for non-motorized street food cart permits and establishing rules and regulations as appropriate.
- b. The Committee may establish sidewalk vending zones with at least 3 designated vending spaces within each zone. A sidewalk vending zone shall:
 - i. Limit the number of sidewalk vendors allowed in each vending space to a number determined by the Committee;
 - ii. Permit sidewalk vendors to move from one vending space to another within the same sidewalk vending zone;
 - iii. Deny entry to additional sidewalk vendors if the sidewalk vending zone has reached maximum capacity;
 - iv. Require all sidewalk vendors to conspicuously display their sidewalk vending zone individual license, sidewalk vending zone manager license, or proof of registration with a sidewalk vending zone manager; and
 - v. Require all sidewalk vendors to vend from a temporary table or a cart that contains no motor or open fires, is able to be moved by hand, and is no more than 3 ft. in width and 6 ft. in length.
- c. The Committee may work with applicants for non-motorized street food cart permits and renewals to encourage the following:
 - i. Charitable components to the business of operation,
 - ii. School nutrition programs or healthy food choices,
 - iii. Programs for children or the homeless,
 - iv. Other socially responsible practices and programs,

- v. Routes that provide access to underserved neighborhoods of the city, and
- vi. The use of food commissaries within the City.

Sections 5. Application and Permitting

No person or business entity, including a religious or charitable organization, shall operate a non-motorized street food cart in any public, private or restricted space without a permit issued by the Committee. A non-motorized street food cart permit is required for each and every non-motorized street food cart.

- a. *Single Application.* There shall be made available by a representative of the Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion a single application form to apply for each non-motorized street food cart permit. The application shall provide a description of necessary inspections and fees.
- b. *Submission of Materials.* Each application shall indicate on its face, in addition to other requirements as may be determined by the Committee, that the following materials must be submitted by the applicant:
 - i. The name of the business and its owner(s) and the mailing address of the business;
 - ii. A description of the proposed business plan for the non-motorized street food cart operation;
 - iii. A proposed service route within a sidewalk vending zone and hours of operation with a detailed schedule of times and locations where the cart will be stationary and serving food;
 - iv. Certification that the vehicle has passed all necessary inspections required by the Boston Fire Department, if operating an open flame or gas establishment, and Department of Inspectional Services;
 - v. If a kitchen commissary is needed, a documented agreement between the non-motorized street food cart and commissary may be required; and
 - vi. A certificate of insurance providing general liability insurance listing the City as additionally insured.
- c. *Approval Process.* An application must be submitted to the Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion, who shall then forward to the Departments for review. The application must receive the approval of each of the Departments, based on duly published criteria established by the Committee, prior to its final approval and the issuance of a permit by the Commissioner.
 - i. The Committee may work with the applicant or permit holder to modify a service route at any time (i) before the issue of a permit or (ii) after the issue of a permit, if the grant of a permit or approval of a service route has led to the creation of a nuisance or otherwise endanger the public health, safety, or order or by request of the permit holder.
 - ii. Within thirty (30) days of the submission of a completed application, the Commissioner shall either issue or deny the application for a permit.

- iii. If the application is denied in whole or in part, the Commissioner shall state the specific reasons for the denial. Any applicant who has been denied a permit may appeal such denial by submitting a written request for a hearing to the Commissioner within ten (10) days of denial. Such hearing shall be conducted by the Commissioner or his or her designee within thirty (30) days of receipt of said appeal. The decision resulting therefrom shall be final and subject only to judicial review under M.G.L. c. 30A, § 14.
- d. *Permit Renewal.* Every non-motorized street food cart permit, unless suspended or revoked by the Committee for a violation of any provision of this section or other rule or regulation promulgated for the implementation of this section, shall be renewed annually given that a renewal fee is paid within thirty (30) days after its one (2) year expiration, at which time the permit holder shall forfeit the right to renew and the permit may be made available to another applicant for new permit if the limitation on the number of permits has not been reached.
 - i. The renewal of a permit does not also guarantee renewal of the previously approved route. The Committee reserves the right to add, remove, and reappropriate available locations among non-motorized street food cart operations at renewal.
- e. *Limitation on the Number of Permits.* The Committee may from time to time set a limit on the number of total permits that may be issued or renewed per year; provided, however, that no more than ten percent (10%) of total permits or three (3) permits, whichever is greater, may be issued to a single person or business entity or both. Upon receipt of application, the Commissioner or his or her designee shall advise the applicant whether or not the limitation has been met.
- f. *Permit Fees.* The application and issuance fee for a permit granted by the Committee for the operation of a non-motorized street food cart shall be fifty (\$50.00) dollars. An annual renewal fee of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars shall be also required for a non-motorized street food cart permit.

Section 6. Rules and Regulations

- a. *General.* The Committee members are hereby authorized to promulgate, both jointly and within their respective departments, additional rules and regulations appropriate for the implementation of this section, and, if necessary, work with other agencies and departments of the City and State to establish a streamlined process for the permitting of non-motorized street food carts; provided, however, that such rules and regulations are not inconsistent with the following limitations and restrictions:
 - i. No operator of a non-motorized street food cart shall stand and conduct business within areas of the City where the permit holder has not been authorized to operate;
 - ii. No permit holder shall possess a permit for a non-motorized street food cart that is not in operation for a period of more than thirty (30) days without duly notifying and obtaining approval from the Commissioner;

- iii. The issuance of a permit does not grant or entitle the exclusive use of the service route, in whole or in part, to the non-motorized street food cart permit holder, other than the time and place as approved for the term of the permit;
 - iv. No non-motorized street food cart shall provide or allow any dining area, including but not limited to tables, chairs, booths, bar stools, benches, and standup counters, unless a proposal for such seating arrangements is submitted with the permit application and approved by Committee;
 - v. Consumers shall be provided with single service articles, such as forks, napkins, and disposable take-out containers;
 - vi. No non-motorized street food cart shall make or cause to be made any unreasonable or excessive noise in violation of CBC 16-26.1.
 - vii. A non-motorized street food cart may operate on public property if the Commissioner and the Departments have granted approval on the permit application for its operation at the particular location during specific times.
 - viii. For non-motorized street food carts on public property, the City reserves the right to temporarily move a non-motorized street food cart to a nearby location if the approved location needs to be used for emergency purposes, snow removal, construction, or other public benefit.
- b. *Inspectional Services.* The Inspectional Services Department shall ensure compliance with the State Sanitary Code 105 CMR 590.
 - c. *Fire Department.* The Boston Fire Department shall promulgate rules and regulations for the inspection of non-motorized street food carts and to ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local fire safety statutes, regulations, ordinances, and codes.

Section 7. Prohibition Against the Transfer of a Permit

- a. *Transfers for Value Prohibited.* No person holding a permit for a non-motorized street food cart shall sell, lend, lease or in any manner transfer a non-motorized street food cart permit for value.
- b. *Nonvalue transfers as part of the sale of a business.* Notwithstanding division (a) above, a permit holder may transfer a permit as part of the sale of a majority of the stock in a corporation holding such permit, as part of the sale of a majority of the membership interests of a limited liability company holding such permit, or as part of the sale of a business or substantially all of its assets; provided that there shall be no allocated or actual value for the transfer of the permit.
 - i. Prior to any such transfer, the transferor shall notify the Committee in writing and the transferee shall submit a non-motorized street food cart permit application for approval to the Committee pursuant to the process set forth in Subsection 17-22.5 and any additional rules and regulations promulgated by the Committee.
 - ii. Any such transfer shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the original permit.
- c. *Unauthorized transfer voids permit.* Any unauthorized transfer or attempt to transfer a permit shall automatically void such permit. Whoever violates this provision, including

both the transferor and transferee, shall be subject to a fine of three hundred (\$300.00) dollars, pursuant to Subsection 17-22.9 (a). The unauthorized transfer or attempt to transfer of each permit shall constitute a separate violation.

Section 8. Operation of Non-motorized Street Food Cart

- a. *Operation Without Permit.* Any non-motorized street food cart being operated without a valid non-motorized street food cart permit issued by the Commissioner shall be deemed a public safety hazard and may be fined.
- b. *Unattended Vehicles Prohibited.* No non-motorized street food cart shall be parked on the street overnight, or left unattended and unsecured at any time food is kept on the non-motorized street food cart. Any non-motorized street food cart which is found to be unattended shall be considered a public safety hazard and may be fined and impounded.
- c. *Operation in Unauthorized Location.* A non-motorized street food cart operating outside of an approved street or sidewalk zone, at an unauthorized location, or beyond the hours for which the operation has been permitted shall be deemed operating without a permit in violation of this section and may be subject to enforcement under section 17-22.9.

Section 9. Enforcement.

- a. *Fine for Violation.* Any permit holder operating a non-motorized street food cart or service in violation of any provision of this section or any rules and regulations promulgated by the Committee may be subject to a fine of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars per day. Each day of violation shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.
- b. *Revocation, Suspension, Modification.* Once a permit has been issued it may be revoked, suspended, modified, or not renewed by the Commissioner for failure to comply with the provisions of this section or any rules and regulations promulgated by the Committee.
 - i. No permit shall be revoked, suspended, modified, or not renewed without a hearing before the Commissioner or their designee, prior to which hearing the Commissioner or their designee shall give reasonable notice of the time and place of the hearing and the specific grounds of the proposed action. The decision resulting therefrom shall be final and subject only to judicial review under M.G.L. c. 30A, § 14.
 - ii. The Commissioner or their designee may suspend a permit for no more than three (3) days without a notice or hearing, pursuant to subsection 17-22.9 (b)(1), if the Commissioner or their designee specifically notifies the permit holder in writing that there is a probability of violation of public safety, health or order. In such a case, a hearing shall be held before the Commissioner or their designee within forty-eight (48) hours of the suspension in order to determine whether the public safety, health or order concern justified the suspension.
- c. *Removal.* Any permit holder found in violation of this section or any rules and regulations promulgated by the Committee may be issued a fine for violation and the non-motorized street food cart may be impounded.

- d. *Enforcement.* The provisions of this section or any rules and regulations promulgated by the Committee may be enforced by the Inspection Services Department.

Section 10. Severability

If any provision of this section is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, then such provision shall be considered separately and apart from the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 11. Effective Date

The provisions of this ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

**ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A WHITE STADIUM
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, The redevelopment of White Stadium, located inside Franklin Park, represents one of the most important public land decisions facing Boston today. Franklin Park is the city's largest green space and a cornerstone of daily life for residents across Roxbury, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, Roslindale, and beyond. The park supports our seniors, working families, Boston Public Schools (BPS) students, youth sports groups, tourists, and countless community programs throughout the year; *and*

WHEREAS, Since the beginning of the redevelopment process, residents have continued to express their concerns with the accelerated community process. With the lease between the City of Boston and Boston Unity Soccer Partners in December 2024 and construction already underway, there have been growing concerns from residents that there would be less community input; *and*

WHEREAS, Under the present structure, the Mayor serves as the chief oversight official. While this reflects strong leadership and accountability, the Mayor's obligations span the entire city, encompassing every department, initiative, crisis, and constituency. Given the complexity and scale of the White Stadium project, there is a critical need to expand oversight capacity, bring in specialized expertise, and ensure that residents and key stakeholders have a formal, independent, and ongoing voice; *and*

WHEREAS, The creation of the proposed White Stadium Oversight Committee is designed to be a partnership between the Mayor, in their capacity as chief oversight official, and the community. It enhances transparency, strengthens public trust, and ensures the project succeeds for the City, for BPS students, and for the surrounding neighborhoods; **NOW, THEREFORE**

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston as follows:

Section 1.

The City of Boston Code, Ordinances, Chapter 7, Section 4 is hereby amended by inserting the following after Section 4.2A:

Be it ordained by the Boston City Council, as follows

7-4.2B White Stadium Oversight Committee

SECTION 1. Establishment.

The White Stadium Oversight Committee (“the Committee”) is hereby established to provide long-term oversight, monitoring, accountability, and community engagement for the White Stadium redevelopment and operation.

SECTION 2. Purpose.

The Committee shall be established to ensure that residents have a legally constituted, independent body that is empowered to:

1. Receive complaints.
2. Request documentation.
3. Review agreements, studies, and plans.
4. Hold public hearings.
5. Coordinate across city and state agencies.
6. Provide structured, ongoing input to the Mayor and City Council.

SECTION 3. Responsibilities.

The Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Advancing transparent communication among city and state agencies, partners, and residents.
2. Monitoring project decisions, operations, and community impacts.
3. Review all stadium-related plans, schedules, agreements, and operations.
4. reviewing essential studies on environmental impact, parking, mobility, and economic opportunity.
5. Monitoring and advocating for BPS student athletics and community use.
6. Monitoring procurement integrity and compliance with respect to equity and transparency.
7. Receiving public concerns and recommending corrective actions.
8. Publishing quarterly updates and comprehensive annual oversight reports.
9. Providing recommendations to the Mayor and City Council.

SECTION 4. Membership.

The Committee shall consist of 30 members including:

1. Representatives from the 3 City Council districts bordering Franklin Park.
2. Representatives from Boston Public Schools and Boston Public Schools Athletics.
3. Franklin Park advocacy organizations.
4. Neighborhood associations from Roxbury, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, and Roslindale.

5. Environmental and environmental justice organizations.
6. Public health, climate resilience, and air quality experts.
7. Transportation, mobility, and accessibility experts.
8. Small business, economic development, and entrepreneurship organizations.
9. Tourism and visitor economy organizations, including Meet Boston.
10. Youth and senior advocates.
11. Arts, culture, recreation, and community activation groups.
12. Public procurement experts.

SECTION 5. Powers and Duties.

The Committee shall have the authority to:

1. Request relevant and necessary documentation from city and state agencies or partners to carry out the Committee's responsibilities described herein.
2. Convene public hearings and solicit expert testimony.

SECTION 6. Independence.

The Committee shall operate under the supervision of the Parks and Recreation Department; however, no department, agency, or partner may interfere with its investigations or reports.

SECTION 7. Staffing.

The Committee may retain independent experts as needed. The City shall provide budgetary support sufficient to cover the necessary expenses related to the Committee's operations.

SECTION 8. Duration.

The Committee shall remain active through construction and for 20 years after the stadium opens, unless extended.

SECTION 9. Severability

The provisions of this ordinance are severable and if any provision, or portion thereof, should be held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions, which remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

Filed on: January 28, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

ORDINANCE CREATING A MUNICIPAL IDENTIFICATION CARD IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

- WHEREAS,** In 2018, the City of Boston released a feasibility study to assess the demand for a City of Boston municipal ID card in partnership with UMass Boston and the Triage Group; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The 2018 feasibility study found that the most popular features desired by Boston residents included the ability to use as a T pass and library card, access to City programs and services, discounts at small businesses and grocery stores, and acquiring a sense of belonging here in the City of Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS,** While State-issued IDs retain the gender marker, "X", at the federal level, transgender and gender-diverse individuals are being erased insofar as there is no longer an option to select gender markers other than "male" or "female" recognized on official documents such as passports, immigration forms, or federal employment records; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The ability to provide proof of identity is a basic necessity that is taken for granted by individuals that benefit from the privilege of race, class, and citizenship; *and*
- WHEREAS,** An average resident is asked to provide photo identification at numerous points of sale and service on a daily basis including opening a bank account, cashing a check, purchasing certain medications, applying for a job, borrowing a book from the library, and countless other basic services; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The difficulty in obtaining a government-issued photo identification is most likely to affect elderly, African-Americans, Latinx, immigrant, unhoused, disabled, formerly incarcerated, transgender, gender-diverse, and low-income residents, who are also most likely to need the services that require a form of identification; *and*

WHEREAS, The communities that face the highest barriers to obtaining government-issued photo identification are also the most likely to be asked to display their ID in situations where it is not required; *and*

WHEREAS, Barriers to obtaining government-issued photo identification range from high costs of collecting necessary documentation to errors on official documents and lack of transportation to an ID-issuing office; *and*

WHEREAS, While the Work and Family Mobility Act allows undocumented residents to receive state-issued ID cards or driver's licenses, a municipal program could provide more flexibility and increased accessibility to applicants; *and*

WHEREAS, Offering a municipal ID to residents of Boston, regardless of their immigration status or gender-identity, would allow the City of Boston to make a powerful statement of welcome and inclusion, bolstering its status as a safe-haven for all residents; *and*

WHEREAS, Municipal ID programs in New York City, Chicago, Oakland, Los Angeles, Trenton, Washington D.C., Princeton, San Francisco, and New Haven have all seen widespread success; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston can choose to fill this gap by developing a municipal ID program that not only requires less documentation than state or federal IDs, but also provides more benefits and incentives to participants, allowing for the protection of privacy of its users; NOW THEREFORE

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston as follows:

That the City of Boston Code, Ordinances be amended in Chapter VI by adding the following after 6-11:

6-12: Ordinance Creating a Municipal Identification Card in the City of Boston

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to provide a means of identification and proof of residency to the residents of Boston, regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, age, religion, disability, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, marital status, partnership status, parental status, military status, source of income, credit history, criminal record or criminal history, housing status, or status as a victim of domestic violence. The ordinance is designed to protect the privacy and prevent surveillance of Boston residents through issuance or use of the Boston ID Card, while allowing the maximum number of Boston residents to hold an identification and proof of residency card. The Boston ID Card program may also include partnerships with, but

not limited to, the Boston Public Library, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, local museums, local businesses, as well as be recognized by all City of Boston departments, agencies, and commissions as a valid form of identification and proof of residency.

Section 2. Definitions

For the purposes of this Section, the following definitions shall apply:

1. “Administering Agency” means the city department or agency that shall administer the Boston identification card program.
2. “Applicant” means a person who applies for a City of Boston Identification Card.
3. “City of Boston ID” means an identification card issued by the City of Boston that displays information that includes, but is not limited to, the Applicant’s name, photograph, date of birth, an expiration date, and at the Applicant’s option, displays either the cardholder’s self-designated gender or no gender at all. The City of Boston ID shall be designed in a manner to deter fraud.
4. “Program” means the program to administer and issue the City of Boston ID.
5. “Resident” means a person who can establish that they are a current resident of the City of Boston pursuant to Section 5 of this ordinance.

Section 3. Administration

1. The Administering Agency shall implement and administer the Program, and shall promulgate all rules necessary to effectuate the purposes of this legislation.
2. The Administering Agency is authorized to enter into agreements necessary to effectuate the Program, and, in connection with agreements entered into under this Section, to enter into and execute all such other instruments and to perform any and all acts, including the allocation and expenditure of duly appropriated funds, as shall be necessary or advisable in connection with the implementation of such agreements and any renewals thereto.

Section 4. Application

1. The City of Boston ID shall be available to any Applicant regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, age, religion, disability, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, marital status, partnership status, parental status, military status, source of income, credit history, criminal record or criminal history, housing status, or status as a victim of domestic violence, provided that the Applicant completes an application on a form provided by the Administering Agency, and fulfills the requirements for proving identity and residency in the City of Boston as set forth in rules promulgated by the Administering Agency. The Administering Agency shall provide by rule an option for victims of domestic violence to designate an alternative address, and alternative methods

by which individuals who are homeless can establish residency notwithstanding the lack of fixed address. The Administering Agency shall also investigate the feasibility of allowing online applications for the City of Boston ID.

2. To obtain a City of Boston ID, applicants must provide proof of identity and proof of residency within the city. Acceptable forms of identification include but are not limited to various U.S. and foreign government-issued documents such as passports, driver's licenses, birth certificates, voter registration, and military or consular IDs; additional documentation may also be accepted at the City's discretion. Proof of residency can include utility bills, leases, tax forms, or official letters verifying at least fifteen days of residence from shelters, hospitals, social service agencies, or nonprofit organizations (NGOs); additional documentation may also be accepted at the City's discretion.
3. The Administering Agency shall establish alternative methods by which individuals who are homeless can establish residency in the city notwithstanding the lack of fixed address.
4. The Administering Agency shall also designate access sites, including at least one site located in each neighborhood of the City of Boston, and establish mobile units where application for the Boston ID card shall be made available for pick-up and submission.

Section 5. Confidentiality

The Administering Agency shall keep all information submitted by an Applicant for a City of Boston ID confidential to the maximum extent permitted by law and in compliance with Public Records Law. The Administering Agency shall review, but not collect, documents provided by an Applicant as proof of identity and residence. In relation to an application for a City of Boston ID, the Administering Agency shall not maintain a record of an Applicant's address, telephone number, immigration status, or gender-identity. Information collected about applicants for the card shall be treated as confidential and shall not be voluntarily shared with any entity or agency outside of the jurisdiction of the City of Boston.

All information and data collected from applications must not be shared with other city departments.

Section 6. Recognition of City of Boston ID Card as Valid Identification

1. When requiring members of the public to provide identification or proof of residency, every department and agency of the City of Boston shall accept the City of Boston ID created by this section as valid identification and as valid proof of residency for access to city services in the City of Boston, unless the department has reason to believe that the City of Boston ID is counterfeit, altered, improperly issued, or that the person presenting the City of Boston ID is not the person to whom the card was issued.

2. The city shall seek to encourage eligible persons to apply for the card and expand the benefits associated with the card, including, at a minimum, by promoting acceptance of the card by banks and other public and private institutions.
3. The city shall explore pathways to integrate this municipal ID with the existing identification system implemented by shelters within the City of Boston as a means of expanding shelter accessibility to houseless populations.
4. City agencies shall not require the possession of a Boston city identity card where identification is not already required to obtain city services, provided, however that agencies may require the possession of a Boston city identity card to obtain benefits or privileges offered exclusively to those who possess a Boston city identity card as an incentive to apply for a Boston city identity card.

Section 7. Language Assistance Services

The Administering Agency, in consultation with the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Advancement (or any successive office) the Office of Language and Communication Access, and the Office of LGBTQIA2S+ Advancement, and the Office of Returning Citizens shall identify and implement measures, including but not limited to staff training, community outreach, and language assistance tools, to address the needs of limited English proficient individuals in the administration of the Boston city identity program.

Section 8. Reporting

1. The Administering Agency shall prepare and submit to the Mayor and the City Council a report on the Boston city identity card program that includes the following information:
 - a. the number of applications received by the city for the Boston city identity card disaggregated by applicant neighborhood of residence;
 - b. the number of Boston city identity cards issued;
 - c. the number of Boston city identity card applicants whose information was disclosed to law enforcement, disaggregated by the type of judicial warrant or judicial subpoena;
 - d. the number of occurrences of fraud or other criminal activity related to issuance of the Boston city identity card;
 - e. the city's efforts to conduct outreach to prospective applicants relating to the Boston identity card program;
 - f. the city's efforts to promote acceptance of the Boston city identity card by banks and other public and private institutions in compliance with state and federal law; and
 - g. the types of services, other than city services, for which the Boston city identity card is permitted as acceptable proof of identity and residency.
2. Such a report shall be submitted one year following passage of this ordinance, and every three months thereafter.

Section 9. Fees

The application for a City of Boston ID will be free of charge, and the Administering Agency shall not collect any fees related to the application, processing, or manufacturing of the ID card.

Section 10. Severability

The provisions in this ordinance are severable. If any part or provision of this ordinance, or the application of this ordinance to any person or circumstance, is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected by such holding and shall continue to have full force and effect.

Section 11.

The provisions of this act shall take effect immediately upon passage.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BENJAMIN J. WEBER AND JULIA MEJIA



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDINANCE PREVENTING WAGE THEFT IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

WHEREAS: The practice known as “wage theft” refers to the improper withholding of workers’ earned wages by employers. “Wage theft” takes many forms, including the failure to pay employees for work performed, independent contractor misclassification, misclassification of employees as exempt from overtime pay, tip stealing, failure to pay wages in a timely manner, and prevailing wage job misclassification; *and*

WHEREAS: Studies have repeatedly shown that wage theft is concentrated among low-wage workers, and particularly women, minorities, non-citizens, and non-union workers, many of whom do not know their workplace rights; *and*

WHEREAS: Wage theft is often accompanied by employer tax and insurance fraud, with employers failing to pay their payroll taxes, workers compensation premiums, or unemployment insurance premiums; *and*

WHEREAS: As a result, wage theft is common in industries such as the hospitality service industry, janitorial services, and construction. For example, in June 2021, a UMass Amherst study estimated that in Massachusetts, misclassification of employees in the construction industry had led to a shortfall in the state’s unemployment insurance fund for 2019 of between \$24.5 to \$40.6 million; *and*

WHEREAS: The City of Boston spends hundreds of thousands of dollars each year for procurement of various goods, services, and labor across every City department and agency; *and*

WHEREAS: The City of Boston, as a consumer, must be cognizant of the impact that its consumption has on the workers that provide their labor pursuant to City contracts; *and*

WHEREAS: Former City of Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh signed an Executive Order Establishing Requirements for City Contracts in an Effort to Prevent Wage Theft (referred to as “Executive Order”) in October 2014. The Executive Order required City vendors to verify their compliance with federal and state wage laws, to report wage law violations, provide a wage bond where such violations existed, to debar vendors who committed repeated wage violations; *and*

- WHEREAS:** The Executive Order further allowed the Boston Licensing Board to revoke or deny licenses to businesses who commit wage violations. It does not appear, however, that even a single license has been revoked or denied due to wage violations since the Executive Order was enacted; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Wage theft continues to be an issue in Boston, including with businesses that contract with the City. A recent study by Mayor Michelle Wu's Worker Empowerment Cabinet of wage theft violations issued by the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office and the United States Department of Labor found that 35 percent of Boston wage theft violations (totaling around \$4.3 million in wages and penalties) involved companies that had a City of Boston license or contract; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Wage theft also makes it harder for honest businesses to compete and creates a race to the bottom for the City's business community, as well as impeding the City's economic development and growth; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Wage theft directly impacts Boston residents health and contributes to the racial wealth gap, making it difficult for the City's low-wage workers to pay for things such as food, housing, and child care; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Requiring city contractors, subcontractors and bidders to comply with applicable federal and state wage laws, strengthens the City's ability to hire vendors that treat their employees fairly; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Prohibiting the City from contracting with debarred contractors for the period of debarment will help to ensure that City resources are not used to support businesses which either intentionally violate state and federal wage laws or permit such violations to occur on projects they oversee; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Withholding businesses licenses will help the City ensure its workers are treated fairly and that honest business practices that comply with already-existing law are incentivized; *and*
- WHEREAS:** The Boston City Council has a duty to protect employees from predatory employer practices like wage theft; **NOW, THEREFORE**

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston as follows:

That the City of Boston Code, Ordinances be amended in Chapter XXIV by adding the following after 24-14:

25-1: Ordinance preventing wage theft in the City of Boston

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to assure that all workers in the City of Boston are paid in full, for all hours worked on a timely basis and that Boston employers who pay their workers in compliance with applicable wage and hour laws are not undercut by non-compliant employers.

This ordinance will facilitate the enforcement of local, state and federal wage and hour laws and promote the public welfare of Bostonians. This ordinance is also intended to enforce the City's goal of procuring with vendors and contractors that maintain and do not distract from community standards for employment, and to bolster compliance with the City's existing licensing and contracting requirements.

Section 2. Definitions

A. For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following definitions apply:

1. "Administrative Citation" – a civil citation issued by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth pursuant to G.L. c. 149 § 27C, a civil citation issued by the U.S. Department of Labor pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq. and/or 29 C.F.R. § 578, or any other civil citation for violation of M.G.L. c. 149 or c. 151 and/or 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq. issued by any other federal, state, or local administrative agency.
2. "City Contractor" – an Employer who currently holds or seeks to hold a contract for goods, services, or labor with the City of Boston.
3. "City Licensee" - an Employer who has either filed an initial application or a renewal of a license issued by the City of Boston pursuant to M.G.L. c. 138 or c. 140.
4. "City Permittee" - an Employer who has filed an application or a renewal for a permit issued by the Boston Public Health Commission to operate a nail salon.
5. "Employee" - any natural person who performs work for an employer that provides any services within the City of Boston, but shall not include a bona fide independent contractor as defined by G.L. c. 149, § 148B;
6. "Employer" - any natural person or business, whether or not incorporated or unincorporated, who (1) employs an individual in the City of Boston; (2) employs an individual pursuant to a contract to which the City of Boston or one of its

Departments is signatory; or (3) who otherwise maintains a commercial presence in the City of Boston. The use of a subcontractor shall not be a bar to a finding of a person or entity as an employer. An individual may be considered to be an employer in addition to an incorporated business as defined by G.L. c. 149, § 148.

This definition excludes:

- i. The United States or a corporation wholly owned by the government of the United States; and
 - ii. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, its subdivisions, and corporate bodies.
7. “Employ,” including as used in the term “employment,” is governed by the ABC Test outlined in G.L. c. 149, § 148B (“Massachusetts Independent Contractor Law”).
 8. “Independent contractor” - as defined in G.L. c. 149, § 148B and any applicable regulations or advisory guidance implementing that statute.
 9. “Minimum wage” – as defined at G.L. c. 149 §§ 27-27H, 152A, G.L. c. 151, § 1 and 29 U.S.C. § 206 as well as any other state or federal statute or regulation establishing a minimum fair wage for particular occupations or classes of workers.
 10. “Overtime” – as defined in G.L. c. 151, § 1A and 29 U.S.C. § 207.
 11. “Payroll Fraud” – concealing an entity’s true payroll tax liability or other financial liability to a government agency from government licensing, regulatory or taxing agencies through misclassification of employees, failure to report or underreported payment of wages, or executing a cash transaction while failing to maintain proper records of reporting and withholding.
 12. “Prevailing wage” – as defined in G.L. c. 149, §§ 26-27H or under federal prevailing wage laws and/or regulations, 40 U.S.C. § 3141, et seq and 41 U.S.C. 351, et seq.
 13. “Stop work order” – as defined in G.L. c. 152, § 25C and 452 C.M.R. § 8.00.
 14. “Subcontractor” – a person other than a materialman or laborer who enters into a contract with a contractor for the performance of any part of such contractor’s contract.
 15. “Timely Payment of Wages” – as defined by G.L. c. 149, § 148.
 16. “Wage” – as defined by G.L. c. 149, §148 and/or 29 U.S.C. § 201.
 17. “Wage Theft” – any action or omission by an employer, the employer’s officers, agents, or employees, causing an employer to violate federal or state wage laws, such as 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq., Massachusetts Wage Act, M.G.L. c. 149, §§ 148,

150, federal or state prevailing wage laws, resulting from claims including those of improper (1) classification as an independent contractor and/or non-employee exempt from federal and state minimum wage and/or overtime laws, or any other alleged misclassification under federal or state laws or any alleged misclassification related to other employment-related claims; (2) deductions from compensation and/or wages; (3) failure to pay minimum wages; (4) failure to provide proper pay stubs or other records related to hours worked, wages earned, and/or payroll deductions; (5) failure to pay, indemnify, and/or reimburse for work-related expenses; (6) failure to pay all wages when due; (7) failure to calculate and/or pay overtime compensation; (8) failure to pay or allow the use of accrued vacation or sick time; and (9) failure to keep and maintain any records required to be kept or maintained under federal and/or state wage and hour laws. This list is not exhaustive.

18. “Wage Theft Determination” - means a final adjudication, not subject to appeal, by a court of competent jurisdiction, a final action by a state or federal government agency, or a final adjudication by an arbitrator or arbitral body of competent jurisdiction, including but not limited to, an administrative merit determination, arbitration award or decision, civil judgment, or criminal conviction, that a Contractor, Subcontractor, Licensee or Permittee has committed Wage Theft or Payroll Fraud. If the person or entity appeals or contests the final adjudication, final action, or final determination, the Wage Theft Determination becomes effective whenever that initial adjudication, action, or determination, in whole or in part, is affirmed on appeal or after the contest, or the appeal or contest is denied. A settlement agreement or other similar agreement entered into by a person or entity related to any allegations of Wage Theft or Payroll Fraud to resolve the matter prior to the issuance of an Adverse Determination or while an appeal is pending shall not constitute an Wage Theft Determination. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a collateral attack on the jurisdiction of a court, state or federal governmental agency, or an arbitrator or arbitral body to avoid being listed as an entity with a Wage Theft Determination.

Section 3. Role of Office of Labor Compliance and Worker Protections and Wage Theft Advisory Committee

A. Office of Labor Compliance and Worker Protections

The City of Boston’s Office of Labor Compliance and Worker Protections (OLCWP) shall implement and provide oversight of the City’s Wage Theft Prevention activities, including but not limited to community outreach, complaint intake and resolution, coordination with other City departments as set forth below, oversight and performance of this Ordinance’s provisions relative to City procurement, licensing, and permitting, as set forth below, and cooperation and coordination with the Commonwealth’s Office of the Attorney General on issues of common concern. The OLCWP shall also develop guidance, policies, and recommendations from time

to time in connection therewith. The OLCWP may take on additional duties related to and advancing the purposes of this Ordinance at the request of the Mayor.

B. Office of Labor Compliance and Worker Protections Advisory Council

The Advisory Council shall meet with the OLCWP on a periodic basis. Consultations between the Advisory Council and the OLCWP shall include, but not be limited to, the establishment and maintenance of a community-based outreach program working with each of the City's communities vulnerable to wage theft to facilitate public education and the eradication of wage theft and the enforcement of this ordinance. The Advisory Council shall review the effectiveness of this Ordinance and make recommendations for changes as needed.

C. Powers and Duties of the Office of Labor Compliance and Worker Protection Regarding the Prevention of Wage Theft

(a) Annual Report to the Office of the Mayor and City Council

OLCWP shall publish an annual report detailing all wage theft complaints received and actions taken by the OLCWP in response to such complaints, including specifically the status or final disposition of each complaint. The report shall also include a list of persons or entities who have received a Wage Theft Determination or debarments issued against Employers pursuant to G.L. c. 149 §§ 26-27H, 148 and G.L. c. 151 §§ 1, 1A, either related to complaints received by the OLCWP, related to current City Contractors, licensees, and permittees as defined above or related to employers who have performed services within the City of Boston in the last 3 years for any civil violations and 5 years for any criminal violations.

(b) Employee Rights Posters and Other Public Awareness Measures

The OLCWP shall require employers within the City of Boston to post a notice informing Employees of Programs and Services of the OLCWP and the protections offered by the City and Massachusetts law. The poster shall be available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Portuguese, Cape Verdean Creole and Haitian Creole. The Office of Language and Communication Access shall be consulted on whether any languages should be included.

From time to time, the OLCWP shall also publish materials, advertise, and perform outreach to raise public awareness concerning the OLCWP's programs, compliance with state and federal wage and hour laws, and problems associated with wage theft.

(c) Wage Theft Complaints Under Massachusetts and Federal Law

The OLCWP shall receive complaints of violations of law committed by Employers under G.L. c. 149 §§ 26-27H, 148 and G.L. c. 151 §§ 1, 1A and/or under 29 U.S.C. 201, et seq. and federal prevailing wage laws.

The form used by OLCWP to receive complaints shall indicate if, based on evidence, or information and belief, employers named in the complaint hold contracts with the City (“Contractor Wage Theft Forms”).

The OLCWP shall also assist affected employees in filling out municipal, state, and federal complaint forms at its offices and at City-sponsored events in collaboration with other City departments.

(d) Transmission of Non-Payment and Prevailing Wage Complaints to Massachusetts Attorney General and U.S. Department of Labor

Unless otherwise specified in writing by the complainant, the OLCWP shall forward an original of each complaint submitted to it pursuant to G.L. c. 149 §§ 26-27H, 148 and G.L. c. 151 to the Attorney General’s office, contemporaneous with receipt.

Unless otherwise specified in writing by the complainant, the OLCWP shall forward an original of each complaint submitted to it pursuant to 29 U.S.C § 201, et seq. and/or federal prevailing wage statutes to the U.S. DOL, Region 1, contemporaneous with receipt.

On a quarterly basis, the OLCWP shall make best efforts to meet with the Office of the Attorney General and U.S. DOL, Region 1 to discuss complaints involving employers within the City of Boston and to better coordinate on issues of wage theft in the City.

(e) OLCWP Duty to Monitor Wage Theft Complaints Against Employers with Whom the City Holds Contracts for Goods, Services, and/or Labor.

The OLCWP shall make best efforts to meet with representatives of the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office and the U.S. Department of Labor on a quarterly basis to identify investigations and findings of any infractions by those agencies related to work performed by City Contractors. Furthermore, complaints against City Contractors shall be monitored by the OLCWP even after being promptly referred to the relevant State or Federal authorities.

(f) Voluntary Mediation of Wage Theft Complaints

The OLCWP may develop and offer mediation to complainants and their respective employers as a means to efficiently resolve wage theft complaints. This service shall be voluntary, meaning that both parties must agree to use the OLCWP to mediate the contents of the complaint in writing. The contents and results of any mediation, as well as the identities of the parties shall be kept confidential to the extent permitted by the Massachusetts General Laws and the City’s ordinances.

(g) Public Database of Wage Theft Ordinance Violations

The OLCWP shall compile, develop and maintain on the City’s website (www.boston.gov) a publicly accessible, searchable database of Wage Theft Determinations, including, final state administrative orders and citations under G.L. c. 149 §§ 26-27H, 148-148C and G.L. c. 151 §§

1, 1A, 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq., 40 U.S.C. § 3141, et seq., 41 U.S.C. 351, et seq., and arbitral decisions finding violations of state and federal wage law against City Contractors, City Licensees, and City Permittees, and all other employers operating within the City of Boston. The database shall include information available through public data sources or disclosed to OLCWP. The OLCWP shall include information for the above-mentioned infractions starting three years prior to the date this ordinance goes into effect.

In addition, the OLCWP shall maintain a non-public database including any pending litigation in State or Federal court or investigations pending with the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office or the federal Department of Labor regarding current City Contractors, City Licensees, and City Permittees that relate to the payment of wages.

(h) Coordination with City Departments Issuing City Permits and City Licenses.

1. All City of Boston Departments responsible for issuing, suspending, or renewing any license or permit regarding businesses of the kind are included within the definitions of City Contractors, City Licensees, and City Permittees described above, shall review the public database and consult with the OLCWP preceding any action on any license or permit and identify the action sought, the name and address of the applicant business and all owners of the business and consider any wage theft determinations in their deliberations.
2. After Issuance. Upon receipt of a new Wage Theft Determination against a City license or permit holder, the OLCWP will provide notice of the same, with a copy of the decision, to the relevant City Department for review and action consistent therewith.

(i) OLCWP coordination with the Auditors' Office in Monitoring Compliance with City Procurement Requirements.

The City shall develop RFP disclosures and certifications that require the reporting of wage theft violations and settlements as a condition of securing a contract with the City of Boston for the provision of goods, services, or labor.

(j) Electronic, Automated Process for Review of Certified Payrolls, Processing of Certified Payrolls, and Investigation of Non-Payments found therein

The City shall require all vendors that have been awarded a contract, providing goods, services and/or labor that have disclosed any criminal or civil judgement, administrative citation, or final administrative determination for wage theft against the vendor or any of its subcontractors within the three (3) years prior to being awarded a contract, as well as any debarments against the vendor or any of its subcontractors in effect while under contract, to provide certified payroll records for each pay period for all employees working on such contract in an electronic format to the Awarding Authority and the OLCWP.

(k) Outreach to Community Organizations.

The OLCWP shall establish and maintain a community-based outreach program working with communities across the City to facilitate public education and the eradication of wage theft.

In partnership with organizations involved in the community-based outreach program, the OLCWP shall create outreach materials that are designed for workers in particular industries.

The OLCWP may develop funding programs for organizations it partners with in performing outreach activities.

Section 4. Requirements for City Contractors

A. RFP/Bid and Successful Bidder Requirements

- 1) Every request for proposals, invitation for bids, or request for qualifications issued by the City and/or its Departments shall include the certification and disclosure requirements imposed by this Section:
 - a) Every request for proposals, invitation for bids or request for qualifications issued by the City and/or its Departments shall notify bidders that they have an affirmative duty to report any Wage Theft Determination, including any criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, or final administrative determination for wage theft against the bidder or any of its subcontractors entered within the three (3) years prior to bid submission, as well as any debarments against the bidder or any of its subcontractors in effect while its bid is pending to the City, and shall further notify bidders that if they are the successful bidder, they and any of their subcontractors have an affirmative duty to report any criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, final administrative determination, order, or debarment against the bidder or any its subcontractors while their contract with the City is in effect, within five (5) business days of receipt. The disclosure requirements will identify the Awarding Authority and the OLCWP and the awarding authority as the departments to whom this must be reported.
 - b) Every request for proposals, invitation for bids or requests for qualifications issued by the City and/or its Departments shall notify bidders that they may not contract with the City if they have been either voluntarily or involuntarily debarred by the federal government, any agency of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any other state, or any municipal body – including, but not limited to, the City of Boston – for the entire term of the debarment.
 - c) Every request for proposals, invitation for bids or requests for

qualifications issued by the City and/or its Departments shall notify bidders that they may not utilize subcontractors on their contracts with the City who have been voluntarily or involuntarily debarred by the federal government, any agency of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any other state, or any municipal body-including, but not limited to, the City of Boston -for the entire term of the debarment.

- i) Bidders that are subject to municipal, state, or federal debarment for violation of the above laws, either voluntarily or involuntarily, or that have been prohibited from contracting with the Commonwealth or any of its agencies or subdivisions will be deemed not responsible and their bids or proposals shall be rejected. Such bidders shall be deemed not responsible for the entire term of debarment or other stated time period. During the term of a Contract, upon a finding or order of such debarment or prohibition, the City must terminate the contract.
- d) Every Request for Proposals (RFP) shall require bidders to identify all corporations and other businesses whether or not incorporated under Massachusetts law with whom their officers, owners or responsible managers have been officers, owners or responsible managers in the last three years and have received a Wage Theft Determination during the same period. Additionally, the bidder shall identify any successors of interest or alter egos as defined by applicable law who have received a Wage Theft Determination within the last three years.

2) Successful bidders and their subcontractors must either:

- a) Provide a certification of compliance with M.G.L. c. 149, c. 151 and 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.* as required by this Section; a form certification will be attached to each RFP issued by the City. To the extent that the bidder has been in business for less than three years prior to the bid deadline, it shall provide a certification certifying compliance for the entire period of time for which the entity has been in existence.
- b) To the extent a Wage Theft Determination has been issued against a bidder within three years prior to its bid, the bidder must provide a copy of the same, in addition to documentation demonstrating that the bidder has paid all damages, fines, penalties, costs, and fees in full.
- c) To the extent a Wage Theft Determination has been issued against a subcontractor of the successful bidder within three years prior to its bid, the bidder must provide a copy of the same, in addition to documentation demonstrating that the sub-contractor has paid all damages, fines, penalties, costs, and fees in full.

- 3) Successful bidders and their sub-contractors must agree to post the notice available at <http://www.mass.gov/ago/docs/workplace/wage/wagehourposter.pdf> in a conspicuous location accessible to all of their employees. To the extent not all employees would have reasonable access to the notice if posted in a single location by the successful bidder, the successful bidder must post the notice a number and locations of postings in order to provide reasonable notice to all of their employees.
- 4) Contracts between the City and the United States or a corporation wholly owned by the government of the United States, or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or its subdivisions and corporate bodies shall be exempt from this section.

B. Additional Reporting and Notice Requirements during the Contract Term.

1. All City Contractors, and/or subcontractors of City Contractors, providing goods, services, or labor that have disclosed any Wage Theft Determination against the vendor or any of its subcontractors within the three (3) years prior to being awarded a contract, as well as any debarments against the vendor or any of its subcontractors in effect while under contract, shall furnish their monthly certified payrolls for all employees working on such contract in an electronic format set forth by the City to the Awarding Authority and the OLCWP.
2. To the extent a contract is for a term of one year or more, a City Contractor, and his/her sub-contractors, will provide the City of Boston with a certification compliant with this Section on the effective date of the contract and at each anniversary thereof until the contract expires.

C. Wage Bonds during the Contract Term.

1. Any City Contractor or subcontractor of a City Contractor who has had a Wage Theft Determination, debarment or order, resulting from a violation of M.G.L. c. 149, M.G.L. c. 151, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.* or any other state or federal laws regulating the payment of wages within three (3) years prior to the date the City Contractor submitted its bid(s), may be required by the City to obtain a wage bond or other comparable form of insurance in an amount equal to the aggregate of one year's gross wages for all employees employed by the City Contractor (or sub-contractor) on the specific City of Contractor contract, based on an average of its total labor costs in the City for the past two years. Such bond must be maintained for the term and any extensions of any Contract, and proof of such bond must be provided upon request by the City.

2. Any City Contractor or sub-contractor of as City Contractor that receives a Wage Theft Determination, order, or debarment, resulting from a violation of M.G.L. c. 149, M.G.L. c. 151, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.*, or any other state or federal laws regulating the payment of wages during the term of the Contract, and that is not otherwise prohibited from public contracting, may be required by the City to obtain a wage bond or other form of comparable insurance in an amount equal to the aggregate of one year's gross wages for employees employed on the specific City of Boston contract, based on an average of its total labor costs on the contract for its duration or two years, whichever is less. Such bond must be maintained for the terms or extensions of any Contract, and proof of such bond must be provided upon request by the City.

D. Suspension or Revocation of Contract/Wage Theft as Material Breach of Conditions in RFP or Bid

If a City Contractor is found to be in violation of G.L. c. 149, G.L. c. 151, or 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.*, or this Section, and therefore in breach of its contract with the City, the City may take one or more of the following actions:

1. Revocation of City Contractor's contract with the City;
2. Suspension of City Contractor's contract with the City;
3. Imposing conditions on any future contracts with the City, including, but not limited to, the posting of a wage bond and other reasonable requirements.

E. Additional Requirements for Municipal Construction Contracts.

Whenever the City is procuring construction services pursuant to G.L. c. 149, c. 149A or c. 30, § 39M, in addition to the other requirements described in this ordinance, the following shall also apply:

1. Construction Bidders:

All bidders, proposers, contractors, and subcontractors or subcontractors shall, as a condition of bidding, contracting, or subcontracting, certify in writing that they shall comply with the following conditions:

- a. The contractor understands its obligations under the Boston Resident Jobs Policy and will make best faith efforts to achieve hiring standards.
- b. The contractor shall maintain or shall obtain documentation from a subcontractor that it maintains an appropriate level of industrial accident insurance sufficient to provide coverage for all employees on the project in accordance with G.L. c. 152 and provide documentary proof of such coverage as a condition of acceptance of their bid.

- c. The contractor shall not suffer or permit workers to be misclassified as independent contractors on the project and shall neither suffer nor permit workers to be misclassified for the purposes of prevailing wage or overtime, worker's compensation coverage, social security taxes, and state and federal income tax withholding.
- d. The contractor shall not suffer or permit workers on the project to be paid less than their earned wages and that such wages be paid within the time prescribed by federal and Massachusetts law.
- e. The contractor will make arrangements to ensure that all workers on the project complete daily sign-in/signout logs listing: the worker's name, the name of the employer, the location of the project, current date, the time of entry and exit from the worksite. The log shall state that employees are entitled to the prevailing wage rate under state law and the rate sheet for the project shall be attached to the log.
- f. The sign-in/sign-out logs shall be provided to the OLCWP upon request.

2. Construction Contractors

Contractors or subcontractors awarded or who otherwise obtain projects subject to G.L. c. 149, Sec. 44A(2), c. 149A, of c. 30, Sec. 39M shall comply with each of the obligations set forth above for the entire duration of the project.

3. Sanctions for Violations

Any proposer, bidder, trade contractor or subcontractor under the bidder or proposer that fails to comply with any of the obligations set forth herein may be subject to the following at the sole discretion of the City of Boston: 1) stop work order on the project until compliance is obtained; 2) withholding of payment due under any contract or subcontract related to the project until compliance is obtained; 3) debarment; and/or 4) liquidated damages payable to the City of up to five percent of the dollar value of the contract.

Section 5. Requirements for Licensees and Permittees and Prospective Licensees and Permittees

1. Requirements for City License and Permit Applicants

Any application filed by an Employer to the City of Boston for any license or permit issued pursuant to M.G.L. c. 138 or M.G.L. c. 140 or for a permit from the Boston Public Health Commission for the operation of a business may be denied if, during the three (3)-year period prior to the date of the application, the applicant Employer has been subject to a Wage Theft Determination, debarment, or final administrative

determination resulting from a violation of M.G.L. c. 149, M.G.L. c. 151, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.*, or any other state or federal laws regulating the payment of wages.

In submitting an application for a license or permit under either section, each such Employer-applicant must either:

- A. certify that the Employer, its officers, owners, and managers have not been found guilty, liable or responsible, in the past three (3) years, in any judicial or administrative proceeding, for any violation of any of the laws set forth above; or
- B. To the extent an Employer is unable to truthfully make the above certification, provide:
 - a. a true copy of the federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, order, debarment, or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of M.G.L. c. 149, M.G.L. c. 151, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.*, or any other state or federal laws regulating the payment of wages, and
 - b. proof that the Employer has paid all associated damages, fines, penalties in full.

2. Requirements for License and Permit Holders.

Employers holding licenses and permits subject to Chapters 138 or 140 and this Ordinance have an affirmative duty to report any Wage Theft Determination issued against them while their licenses or permits are in effect and to provide a true copy of the same, within five (5) business days of receipt, to the OLCWP.

Any license or permit issued under M.G.L. c. 111, M.G.L. c. 138 or M.G.L. c. 140 to an Employer may be modified, suspended or revoked to the extent allowable by law if, during the term of the license or permit, the licensee or permittee Employer has been subject to a Wage Theft Determination, order, or debarment resulting from a violation of M.G.L. c. 149, M.G.L. c. 151, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.* or any other state or federal laws regulating the payment of wages.

Any license or permit issued under M.G.L. c. 138 or M.G.L. c. 140 to an Employer and which is subject to this Ordinance may be modified, suspended or revoked to the extent consistent with law if, during the term of the license or permit, the licensee or permittee Employer fails to timely provide notice and documentation of Wage Theft complaints against the Employer.

3. Wage Bonds for License Holders

Employers granted a License or Permit subject to this Ordinance that have disclosed a Wage Theft Determination, order, or debarment resulting from a violation of M.G.L.

c. 149, M.G.L. c. 151, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.* or any other state or federal laws regulating the payment of wages within three (3) years prior to the date they submit their applications, may be required by the City to obtain a wage bond or other form of comparable insurance in an amount equal to the aggregate of one year's gross wages for all employees, based on an average of its total labor costs for the past two years.

Employers granted a License or Permit subject to this Ordinance who become subject to a Wage Theft Determination, order, or debarment resulting from a violation of M.G.L. c. 149, M.G.L. c. 151, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.*, or any other state or federal laws regulating the payment of wages during the term of the License or Permit, may be required by the City to obtain a wage bond or other form of comparable insurance in an amount equal to the aggregate of one year's gross wages for all employees, based on an average of its total labor costs for the past two years.

The bond must be maintained for the terms or extensions of any License or Permit, and proof of such bond must be provided upon request by the City. Failure to comply with this Subsection may constitute grounds for modification, suspension, and/or revocation of the license or permit pursuant to Subsection B.

4. Requirements for successors-in-interest.

The requirements of this Section, including any sanctions imposed herein, that are applicable to any successful bidder shall also be applicable to, and effective against, any successor-in-interest that (i) has at least one of the same owners, presidents, treasurers, or officers or agents having the management of such corporation as the prior Employer; and (ii) is engaged in the same or equivalent trade or activity as the prior Employer.

Section 6. Requirements for Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Agreements

1. Required Notices and Responses.

Every solicitation for a project including TIF funding issued by the City, shall include the certification and disclosure requirements included in this Section. All successful Applicants for contracts, grants, and tax incentives shall provide complete and accurate responses to the same.

These certification and disclosure requirements shall include:

1. A requirement for documentation reflecting the Applicant's demonstrated commitment to workforce development within Boston and/or the Commonwealth;
2. A requirement that the Applicant will provide a statement of intent concerning efforts that it and its contractors and subcontractors will take to promote workforce development on the project if successful;

3. A requirement for documentation reflecting the Applicant's demonstrated commitment to economic development within Boston and/or the Commonwealth;
4. A requirement that the Applicant provide a statement of intent concerning efforts that it and its contractors and subcontractors on this project will take to promote economic development on the project if successful;
5. A requirement for documentation reflecting the Applicant's demonstrated commitment to expand workforce diversity, equity, and inclusion in its past projects within Boston and/or the Commonwealth;
6. A requirement that the Applicant provide a statement of intent concerning efforts that it and its contractors and subcontractors on this project, will undertake to expand workforce diversity, equity, and inclusion on the project if successful;
7. A requirement that the Applicant disclose whether it and each of its contractors and subcontractors on this project, have previously contracted with a labor organization, as defined by Massachusetts General Laws, c. 150A and/or the National Labor Relations Act, Section 2, in the Commonwealth or elsewhere.
8. A requirement that the Applicant specify whether it and each of its contractors and subcontractors on this project participates in a state or Federally certified apprenticeship program and the number of apprentices the apprenticeship program has trained to completion for each of the last five (5) years.

2. Additional Certifications and Disclosures.

It shall be a special and material condition of any future TIF Agreement that any and all persons, natural or corporate, who are signatories to the TIF Agreement provide the City of Boston, via the OLCWP, with a list of all construction managers, general contractors, lead or prime contractors, developers, or any entity functioning in any such capacity, and any other contractor or subcontractor of any tier engaged to perform work on the property subject to the tax increment financing plan during the term of the TIF Agreement. An initial list must be provided to the OLCWP at least thirty (30) business days prior to the start of any work on the property subject to the TIF Agreement. Should any additional or replacement entities be engaged to perform work on the property subject to the TIF Agreement during the term of the TIF Agreement, the signatory must provide the name of such entity no later than ten (10) business days before that entity begins work on the property.

All signatories to the TIF Agreement shall certify that they shall not engage any entity to perform work on the property covered under the TIF Agreement which is subject to debarment for any reason or has been found liable/responsible for any unpaid criminal

or civil judgment, administrative citation, or final administrative determination for Wage Theft.

All TIF signatories shall certify that they do not (a) have entities performing work on the property who have been the subject of an indictment, judgment, or grant of immunity, including pending actions, for any business-related conduct constituting a crime under state or federal law; nor (b) have any entities performing work on the property who have been the subject to voluntary or involuntary debarment under either federal or state law; nor (c) have entities performing work on the property who have been found liable for Wage Theft under state and/or federal law within three (3) years prior to the execution of the TIF Agreement.

If, notwithstanding such certification, any interested person gives the City of Boston written notice, via the OLCWP, that the certification provided by any signatory in the form provided above is materially inaccurate and provide the bases therefore, OLCWP shall write to all signatories to the TIF Agreement within ten (10) business days to request reverification and/or remediation of the certification. Should the signatory fail to come into compliance—by ensuring that the person or entity not in compliance with the terms of the certification fulfills all outstanding obligations under a court or administrative order or is replaced—within fifteen (15) business days of notice, the signatory shall be in material breach of the TIF Agreement because it materially frustrates the public purpose for which this TIF Agreement and any certification of the tax increment financing plan by the City was intended to advance. The consequences of a signatory providing an inaccurate certification and the procedures for remediation will be included in each TIF Agreement.

3. Special and Material Conditions of TIF Agreements with City of Boston.

1. It shall be a special and material condition of any TIF Agreement that any construction manager, general contractor, or other lead or prime contractor, or any entity functioning in any such capacity, and any other contractor or subcontractor of any tier or other person that is engaged to perform the work during the term of their TIF Agreement on the property that is the subject of the Tax Increment Financing Plan shall comply with the following qualification and condition at all times during their performance of work on the property:
2. The firm must maintain appropriate industrial accident insurance sufficient to provide coverage for all the employees on the project in accordance with G.L. c.152 and provide documentary proof of such coverage to the Building Inspector to be maintained in the Building Department as a public record;
3. The firm must properly classify all workers who are employees and treat them accordingly under the tests set forth in M.G.L. c. 149, § 148B for purposes of compensation on both a straight time and overtime basis and coverage under the earned sick time law, and M.G.L. c. 152, § 1(4) for purposes of workers’

compensation insurance coverage;

4. The firm must comply with G.L. c. 149, § 148, G.L. c. 151 §§ 1, 1A, and 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq., with respect to the payment of wages and overtime;
5. The firm must comply with G.L. c. 149, G.L. c. 151, and 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq. with respect to prohibitions on discrimination, adverse action, interference with, restraint, or denial of the exercise of the rights of any person in connection with the assertion or anticipated assertion of their own or others' rights under these laws; and
6. The firm must be in compliance with the health and hospitalization requirements of the Massachusetts Health Care Reform law established by Chapter 58 of the Acts of 2006, as amended, and regulations promulgated under that statute by the Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector Authority.

4. Wage Theft Complaints for Properties Covered by TIF Agreements

Within ten (10) business days of receiving a complaint related to Wage Theft that pertains to work performed at any property subject to a TIF Agreement, the OLCWP shall send notice of such complaint to all signatories of the TIF Agreement.

If, after the OLCWP has properly served notice of a complaint upon the signatories to a TIF Agreement pursuant to this subsection, any Employer becomes subject to a federal or state criminal or civil judgment, administrative citation, stop work order, debarment, or final administrative determination resulting from a violation of any of the legal obligations outlined at subsections (B)(1)-(4), and if such judgment, citation, or order is not satisfied or discharged, or the offending Employer replaced on the project, within fifteen (15) business days of the entry of such judgment, citation, or order, the parties agree that such an event materially frustrates the public purpose that the TIF Agreement and any certification of the tax increment financing plan by the City was intended to advance.

5. Termination of TIF Agreements

In the event the public purpose of a TIF Agreement or TIF Plan is materially frustrated pursuant to Subsection (A) and/or (C), the OLCWP will promptly refer the matter to the City Council, which shall hold a public hearing and vote at its next regularly scheduled meeting regarding whether to terminate the tax relief provided by such TIF agreement and petition the EACC for revocation of that portion of its certification of the TIF Plan corresponding to such TIF Agreement. If the termination of such TIF Agreement is approved by the Council and Mayor, or by the Council over the Mayor's veto, the owner of the property covered by such TIF Agreement shall forfeit the receipt of any funds or future tax benefits and/or shall return any such funds already received in connection with the project.

6. Requirements for Successors-in-Interest

The requirements of this Section, including any sanctions imposed herein, that are applicable to any Employer shall also be applicable to, and effective against, any successor Employer that (i) has at least one of the same principals or officers as the prior Employer; and (ii) is engaged in the same or equivalent trade or activity as the prior Employer.

G. Reporting and Notice Requirements during Agreement Term

Upon request by the OLCWP, all Employers performing work upon a property subject to a TIF Agreement shall furnish their monthly certified payrolls in an electronic format acceptable to the OLCWP for all employees providing labor or services at the property subject to such Agreement.

Section 7. Severability

If any provision of this Ordinance is held invalid or unenforceable by any court, such a holding does not invalidate or render unenforceable any other provision of the Ordinance, and the rest of the Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 8. Effective date

This Section shall take effect July 1, 2027.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

Offered by City Councilor Julia Mejia



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

HOME RULE PETITION FOR A SPECIAL LAW AN ACT RELATIVE TO REORGANIZATION OF THE BOSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

- WHEREAS,** The Boston School Committee is the governing body of the Boston Public Schools (BPS) and is responsible for defining the vision, mission, and goals of BPS; the annual operating budget; hiring, managing and evaluating the Superintendent; and setting and reviewing district policies and practices; *and*
- WHEREAS,** For over 200 years following the formation of the first 21-member Boston School Committee in 1789, citizens of Boston elected school committees with between five and 116 members; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Upon passage of Chapter 605 of the Acts of 1982, the Boston School Committee was restructured to resemble the composition of the Boston City Council with 13 members total, four members elected at-large and nine elected for each district; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In November 1989, an advisory ballot question asking Boston voters whether the elected school committee should be changed to a Mayor-appointed school committee narrowly passed by a margin of just 670 votes citywide; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In 1991, the City of Boston passed a Home Rule Petition, which went on to become Chapter 108 of the Acts of 1991, resulting in the first appointed school committee in December 1991 and the consolidation of the powers of the school committee into the office of the Mayor; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Every municipality in Massachusetts, except Boston, elects its school committee; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In November 2021, the voters of Boston overwhelmingly voted to change from the current appointed school committee structure to an elected school committee, with 79 percent—more than 99,000 voters, the majority in

every precinct of every ward—of Boston voters supporting an elected body; *and*

WHEREAS, Elected school committees place the power of community representation on education matters back into communities, allowing for people from diverse backgrounds to have their voices heard and for those in power to be held accountable; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That a petition to the General Court, accompanied by a bill for a special law relating to the City of Boston to be filed with an attested copy of this order be, and hereby is, approved under Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article II, as amended, of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to the end that legislation be adopted precisely as follows, except for clerical or editorial changes of form only:

**PETITION FOR A SPECIAL LAW RE:
AN ACT RELATIVE TO REORGANIZATION OF THE BOSTON
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Chapter 108 of the Acts of 1991 is hereby stricken and replaced with the following:

Section 1.

Notwithstanding sections one hundred and twenty-eight to one hundred and thirty-four, inclusive, of chapter forty-three of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the school committee of the City of Boston as presently constituted is hereby restructured and thereafter each member shall be elected or appointed as provided herein.

Section 2.

Subject to the provisions of this act, the existing school committee of the City of Boston shall be dissolved and the composition of the school committee of the City of Boston shall transition to a thirteen member school committee to be phased in as follows:

- a) At the start of the 2025-2026 school year, two (2) non-voting student members shall be selected by the Boston Public Schools student population through a vote of the Boston Student Advisory Council. Both students will be seated with the school committee and allowed to participate in discussion.
- b) The first Tuesday after the first Monday following the municipal election year immediately following passage of this Act a thirteen (13) member school committee composed of nine (9) district members elected in November of the previous year and four (4) members appointed by the Mayor shall be seated. The nine (9) district seats

shall correspond to the electoral districts for Boston City Councilors in accordance with districting and residency laws established in Chapter 605 in the Acts of 1982.

- c) The first Tuesday after the first Monday following the second municipal election year immediately following this Act a thirteen (13) member school committee composed of nine (9) district members and four (4) at-large members elected in November of the previous year shall be seated. The nine (9) district seats shall correspond to the electoral districts for Boston City Councilors in accordance with districting and residency laws established in Chapter 605 in the Acts of 1982.

The members of the school committee shall at all times during their terms of office be Boston residents. No member of the school committee shall hold more than one elected office at the same time. This restriction shall apply to every office which is elected by the qualified voters of the Commonwealth or any political subdivision or part thereof.

Section 3.

All existing powers and duties hitherto exercised by the school committee of the City of Boston, including the powers and duties set forth in chapter 613 of the acts of 1987, shall henceforth be exercised by both the temporary hybrid elected/appointed school committee and, upon formation, the thirteen (13) member elected school committee.

Section 4.

The term of office of the members of the school committee of the City of Boston shall be two (2) years and shall commence on the first day of the municipal year, except for the student members. The student members shall have a term of office of one (1) year and shall commence on June 1 and expire on May 31. Upon the selection, whether by election or appointment, of all members, the City Clerk shall administer the oath of office to the school committee and they shall subscribe in the book kept by the City Clerk in accordance with the provisions of St. 1948, c. 452, s.11A, as amended by Acts of 1951, c. 376 s. 1.11A and as further amended by Acts of 1983, c.342, s.1. The office of each committee member shall become vacant upon the expiration of the term of said member. Any appointed member whose term of office shall expire may be considered for reappointment, but only if renominated by the nominating panel. All member offices excluding the student members shall automatically become vacant on the first Tuesday after the first Monday following the first Boston municipal election immediately following the passage of this Act regardless of unexpired terms. The vacant offices shall be filled by elected school committee members chosen during the Boston municipal elections immediately following passage of this Act. A president of the school committee shall be elected annually by its members at the first meeting in each municipal year. In the event that the president is unable to complete their term, a new president shall be elected by committee members for the unexpired

term.

Section 5.

Notwithstanding any special or general law to the contrary, the members of the school committee of the City of Boston elected or appointed pursuant to this act shall not have the authority to hire personal staff; provided, however, that a paid administrative assistant may be appointed by the president of the school committee.

Section 6.

This section shall only apply to appointed members of the school committee of the City of Boston until the transition to a fully elected committee is complete. Upon which the nominating panel and all appointed members of the school committee of the City of Boston shall be disbanded.

There shall be in the City of Boston a nominating panel composed of thirteen (13) members whose sole function shall be to nominate persons for consideration by the Mayor for appointment to the school committee. Representation on the panel and the selection of said members shall be as follows:

- a) Four parents of children in the Boston Public Schools system as follows: (i) one parent who shall be selected by the Citywide Parents Council; (ii) one parent who shall be selected by the Citywide Educational Coalition; (iii) one parent who shall be selected by the Boston Special Needs Parent Advisory Council; and (iv) one parent who shall be selected by the bilingual education citywide parent advisory council.
- b) One teacher in the Boston Public School system who shall be selected by the Boston Teachers Union from its membership.
- c) One head of school or principal in the Boston Public School system who shall be selected by the Boston Association of School Administrators and Supervisors from its membership.
- d) One representative from the Boston business community as follows: one representative each shall be selected by the private industry council, the Boston Municipal Research Bureau, and Boston Chamber of Commerce from their respective memberships. Such representatives shall serve on a rotating basis as follows: the representative from the private industry council shall serve for the first year of the first term of the nominating panel; the representative from the Boston Municipal Research Bureau shall serve for the second year of the first term of the nominating panel; the representative from the Boston Chamber of Commerce shall serve for the first year of the second term of the nominating panel; and so forth.
- e) One president of a public or private college or university who shall be selected by the chancellor of higher education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- f) One person shall be the Commissioner of Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

g) Four persons shall be appointed by the Mayor

The members of the nominating panel shall be selected from time to time no later than September thirtieth and shall serve for a term of two (2) years, except as otherwise provided in this section. In the event that any member does not complete his or her term for any reason, the person or entity who selected such member shall select another person in like manner to complete the unexpired term.

Section 7.

This section shall only apply to appointed members of the school committee of the City of Boston until the transition to a fully elected committee is complete, upon which the nominating panel shall be disbanded.

The nominating panel annually shall from among its membership elect a chairman who shall forthwith file a list of the name and addresses of the members of the panel with the City Clerk. The panel shall meet in public for the sole purpose of deliberating upon, hearing public comment with respect to, and finally selecting a list of nominees to be presented to the Mayor from time to time. Each nominee shall be a resident of Boston at the time of such nomination. The panel shall strive to nominate individuals who reflect the ethnic, racial and socioeconomic diversity of the City of Boston and its public school population.

On the first Wednesday of October of every year the nominating panel shall convene to select not fewer than three (3) but no more than five (5) nominees for each appointed office of school committee members that shall become vacant on the first day of the next municipal year. No later than the first Monday in December of each year, the panel shall present to the Mayor a list containing the names and addresses of the said nominees for each term of office to commence on the first day of the next municipal year; provided, however, should the panel fail to present said list to the Mayor by said first Monday in December, the Mayor shall have the power to appoint any person they deems suitable to the office of school committee for the term to commence in the following January. The Mayor shall strive to appoint individuals who reflect the full diversity of the City of Boston, and its public school population. This includes but is not limited to ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic diversity as well as disability, and LGBTQIA+ representation.

Section 8.

Upon notice provided by the City Clerk that a vacancy exists in the office of any appointed school committee member due to death or resignation, the nominating panel shall convene within ten (10) days of such notice and shall, within thirty (30) days after so convening, select and present to the Mayor a list containing the names and addresses of not fewer than three (3) but not more than five (5) nominees. Within fifteen (15) days after such presentment, the Mayor shall appoint a school committee member to serve the unexpired term of the vacant office;

provided, however, should the panel fail to present said list within said thirty (30) days, the Mayor shall have the power to appoint any person they deem suitable to the vacant office to serve said unexpired term. Upon notice provided by the City Clerk that a vacancy exists in the office of any student member appointed school committee member due to personal circumstances, illness, or resignation, the Boston Student Advisory Council the nominating panel shall convene within one (1) month of such notice and shall, select a replacement student member.

Section 9A.

If at any time a vacancy occurs in the office of school committee-at-large for any cause, the City Clerk shall forthwith notify the school committee thereof; and within fifteen days after such notification, the remaining school committee members shall choose, a school committee member-at-large for the unexpired term, whichever of the defeated candidates for the office of school committee member-at-large at the regular municipal election at which the school committee member-at-large were elected for the term in which the vacancy occurs, who are eligible and willing to serve, received the highest number of votes at such election, provided, however, that the defeated candidate shall have received no less than 20 percent of the total ballots cast for the seat being vacated. For the purpose of this section, the 20 percent minimum threshold shall be calculated as a ratio of votes obtained by the defeated candidate to ballots cast for the office being vacated.

If there is no such defeated candidate eligible and willing to serve, and the vacancy occurs more than one hundred and eighty days prior to a regular municipal election, the City Clerk shall forthwith notify the Boston City Council regarding the vacancy; at the first Boston City Council meeting after the notice has been read, the Boston City Council shall forthwith adopt an order calling a special preliminary election for the purpose of nominating a school committee member-at-large for the unexpired term, which election shall be held on a Tuesday, not less than sixty-two nor more than seventy-six days after the adoption of such order, as the Boston City Council shall in such order fix. The two candidates for school committee member-at-large receiving the greatest number of votes at the special preliminary election shall be deemed nominated and their names shall be placed on the ballot for the special municipal election, which election shall be held twenty-eight days following the special preliminary election.

Section 9B.

If a vacancy occurs in the office of district school committee member more than one hundred and eighty days prior to a regular municipal election, the City Clerk shall forthwith notify the Boston City Council regarding the vacancy; at the first Boston City Council meeting after the notice has been read, the Boston City Council shall forthwith adopt an order calling a special preliminary election for the purpose of nominating a district school committee member for the unexpired term, which election shall be held on a Tuesday, not less than sixty-two nor more than seventy-six days after the adoption of such order, as the Boston City Council shall in such order

fix. The two candidates for district school committee member receiving the greatest number of votes at the special preliminary election shall be deemed nominated and their names shall be placed on the ballot for the special municipal election, which election shall be held twenty-eight days following the special preliminary election.

Section 10.

This act shall not be amended or repealed except by special act passed in conformance with article 89 of the amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Section 11.

The provisions of this act shall take effect immediately upon passage.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR HENRY SANTANA



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

HOME RULE PETITION

WHEREAS, On March 2, 2022, the Boston City Council passed in a new draft, and the Mayor subsequently signed, a Home Rule petition to the General Court (docket number 2022-0222) entitled “Petition for a Special Law Re: An Act Relative to Real Estate Transfer Fees and Senior Property Tax Relief”;
and

WHEREAS, The aforementioned Home Rule petition includes as its Findings and Purpose: “that a serious state of emergency exists in the city of Boston with respect to housing, whereby there is an inadequate supply of affordable housing, which is impacting quality of life and public health, contributing to housing insecurity, rent burden, homelessness, and increasing evictions, that rising housing costs and speculative real estate practices disproportionately impact protected classes, including households of color, and further finds that imposition of a fee on certain real estate transfers shall be applied, at the discretion of the city and with exemptions as detailed in this act, in order to mitigate the impacts of speculative market practices through the production of affordable and deeply affordable housing and by discouraging rapid repeat sales of property.

“Additionally, outdated income and asset restrictions for senior tax exemptions are restricting exemption relief, resulting in higher ownership costs and risking the displacement of a vulnerable population”; *and*

WHEREAS, The need to address the housing emergency through real estate transfer fees was reaffirmed by the Council on March 27, 2024 with the passage of a Resolution entitled “Resolution Reaffirming the City of Boston’s Support for Developing Affordable Housing and Enabling Senior Property Tax Relief by Utilizing Real Estate Transfer Fees”; *and*

WHEREAS, The state of emergency in Boston concerning the inadequate supply of affordable housing persists, and the urgency has only worsened; and [

WHEREAS, The Home Rule petition would further enable the city of Boston to protect our economically vulnerable seniors who are aging in place in their homes by increasing the Senior Homeowner Property Tax Exemption; *and*

WHEREAS, The intention of the Home Rule petition is to gather modest fees only from particularly high-value properties, and would exempt at least the first \$2,000,000 of the purchase price of any transfer of any real property interest; *and,*

WHEREAS, Boston is not alone in recognizing the urgent need for more affordable housing, and the opportunity to equitably provide additional funds for affordable housing through a modest real estate transfer fee on high-value properties; other Massachusetts communities across the Commonwealth have filed similar Home Rule petitions, including Arlington, Brookline, Cambridge, Chatham, Nantucket, Provincetown, Somerville, Truro, and Wellfleet; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That a petition to the General Court, accompanied by a bill for a special law relating to the City of Boston to be filed with an attested copy of this order be, and hereby is, approved under Clause One (1) of Section Eight (8) of Article Two (2), as amended, of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

**PETITION FOR A SPECIAL LAW RE: AN ACT RELATIVE TO REAL ESTATE
TRANSFER FEES AND SENIOR PROPERTY TAX RELIEF.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows

SECTION 1. Findings and Purpose. The general court finds and declares that a serious state of emergency exists in the city of Boston with respect to housing, whereby there is an inadequate supply of affordable housing, which is impacting quality of life and public health, contributing to housing insecurity, rent burden, homelessness, and increasing evictions, that rising housing costs and speculative real estate practices disproportionately impact protected classes, including households of color, and further finds that imposition of a fee on certain real estate transfers shall be applied, at the discretion of the city and with exemptions as detailed in this act, in order to

mitigate the impacts of speculative market practices through the production of affordable and deeply affordable housing and by discouraging rapid repeat sales of property.

Additionally, outdated income and asset restrictions for senior tax exemptions are restricting exemption relief, resulting in higher ownership costs and risking the displacement of a vulnerable population.

SECTION 2. Transfer Fee. Except where otherwise exempted pursuant to this act, the city of Boston may impose a fee of up to 2 percent of the purchase price upon the transfer of any real property interest in any real property in the city of Boston, or the transfer of a controlling interest in a trust, limited liability company, or other entity that directly or indirectly holds an interest in any real property situated in the city of Boston. The fee shall be payable by the seller. In the case of a transfer of a controlling interest, the city of Boston may define by ordinance what constitutes a controlling interest and the calculation of the fee.

SECTION 3. Exempted Value. The first \$2,000,000 of the purchase price of any transfer of any real property interest, or the transfer of a controlling interest in a trust, limited liability company, or other entity that directly or indirectly holds an interest in any real property situated in the city of Boston shall be exempted from the transfer fee. The amount of the purchase price exempted from the transfer fee may be adjusted by the City Council with the approval of the Mayor every five (5) years based on the percentage increase in the median citywide sales price for all properties, but shall not be reduced.

SECTION 4. Payment of Fees to City. Fees established pursuant to this act shall be paid to the city of Boston; provided that, the city of Boston may, in lieu of collecting such fees, enter into an agreement with the Suffolk county registry of deeds regarding the collection of such fees. The city is authorized to adopt an ordinance to provide for the collection and lien of any outstanding transfer fee. The city shall have such remedies to collect said amount as provided by law with respect to the collection of real property taxes.

The city shall deposit all fees received pursuant to this act into the neighborhood housing trust established by the city pursuant to chapter 665 of the acts of 1956, provided that, in order to address a range of housing needs, the city may, in an ordinance accepting the provisions of this act, or in an ordinance amending that acceptance, reserve and appropriate through the city's annual budgetary filings, a portion of fees received pursuant to this act for programs designed to further housing acquisition, affordability, creation, preservation, senior homeowner stability, low-income renter stability, or related purposes and to address disparities in housing access and opportunity.

SECTION 5. Affidavit and Deed. A copy of the deed or other instrument evidencing each transfer subject to the transfer fee shall be provided to the city and shall be accompanied by, (a) an affidavit signed under oath or under the pains and penalties of perjury by the purchaser and seller attesting to the purchase price, (b) the applicable fee owed, and (c) the basis, if any, upon

which the transfer, or one or both of the parties to the transfer, is claimed to be exempt in whole or in part from said fee or fees. Upon receipt of such payment and/or satisfactory evidence of exemption, the city or its designee shall promptly thereafter issue a certificate indicating that the fee has been paid or that the purchaser or seller, or the transfer, is exempt from the fee. The Suffolk county register of deeds shall not record or register a deed unless the deed is accompanied by such certificate.

SECTION 6. Exempt Transfers. The following transfers of real property interests shall be exempt from the fee established by this act: (1) transfers between family members, as may be defined by ordinance; (2) transfers of convenience, as may be defined by ordinance; or (3) transfers to the government of the United States or any other instrumentality, agency or subdivision thereof, or the commonwealth or any instrumentality or subdivision thereof.

SECTION 7. Acceptance of Fee by Ordinance; Further Exemptions and Regulation. The city may, by ordinance, accept and determine the amount of the fee and adjust the exempted value, pursuant to the structure detailed in sections 2 and 3, and may adopt additional exemptions for economically vulnerable populations, affordable housing developments, units of housing subject to deed restrictions, homeowners or beneficiaries of a city-approved homebuyer program, or other parties. The city may also specify requirements or conditions under which exemptions are granted and adopt regulations to implement or enforce said fee, consistent with this act.

SECTION 8. Annual Report. The city shall prepare and issue an annual report that (i) identifies fee receipts by payer category including buyers and sellers, location and unit type; and (ii) quantifies senior tax relief and affordable housing programs funded, including type and purpose.

SECTION 9. Senior Homeowner Property Tax Exemption.

Notwithstanding clause 41C of section 5 of chapter 59 or any other general or special law to the contrary, with respect to real property in the City of Boston the following factors determining exemption for real property under clause 41C of section 5 of chapter 59 shall be adjusted as follows: (1) increasing the sum of \$500 contained in the first sentence of clause 41C to \$1500; (2) increasing the amounts contained in subclause (B) of said first sentence whenever they appear in said subclause from \$13,000 dollars and from \$15,000 dollars to fifty percent of Area Median Income as adjusted for household size, as is published annually by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as required by Section 8 of the Federal Housing Act of 1937 (42 USC Section 1437f), as amended, and the relevant year of the calculation shall be the most recent figure available as of July 1 of the start of the fiscal year to which the exemption is sought; and (3) increasing the amounts contained in subclause (C) of said first sentence whenever they appear in said subclause from \$28,000 dollars to not more than \$80,000 and from \$30,000 to not more than \$110,000. These adjustments shall not be further modified by the second sentence of clause 41C of section 5 of chapter 59.

SECTION 10. Severance Clause. The determination or declaration that any provision of this act is beyond the authority of the general court or is preempted by law or regulation shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provisions.

SECTION 11. Effective Date. This act shall take effect immediately upon signing by the Governor.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

HOME-RULE PETITION REGARDING VARIOUS TAX CLASSIFICATION DEFINITIONS, EXEMPTIONS, AND CREDITS

WHEREAS, The City of Boston has used property tax as its largest source of revenue for decades, with it accounting for \$3.47 billion of its projected revenue, 72 percent, in FY26, and \$3.3 billion of its revenue, 70 percent, in FY25; *and*

WHEREAS, Declining commercial values and rising residential values led to residents paying their largest share of property taxes in at least four decades in FY25, according to Boston Municipal Research Bureau; *and*

WHEREAS, A temporary shift in the tax burden on commercial properties from 175 percent to 181 percent, and an increase in the residential homeowners exemption from 35 percent to 40 percent have both been floated as worthy short-term solutions to the shifting tax burden problem; *and*

WHEREAS, A long-term solution in Boston's property tax code that works within the state's current Proposition 2.5 rules should emphasize fairness and protect homeowners and the majority of renters; *and*

WHEREAS, Under current tax code, large multi-family rental properties are financed, transacted, and assessed using income-based methods typical of commercial assets, yet are currently billed at the residential rate; *and*

WHEREAS, An example of this is a 307-unit apartment building in Seaport that is assessed at \$124 million, pays \$1.4 million in annual taxes, amounting to \$4,560 per unit despite asking for an average of \$9,000 per unit in monthly rent, while a 2-bedroom unit owned by a small landlord in South Boston pays \$11,510 in annual taxes on that unit despite its monthly rent being \$4,000; *and*

WHEREAS, Charging large apartment buildings with 30 units or more a commercial rate and giving them a housing exemption of 10 percent would cause the above 307-unit building to pay \$3.25 million in taxes, about \$10,586 per unit, and the small landlord's tax burden would be lowered to \$10,228 for the above 2-bedroom unit; *and*

WHEREAS, By reclassifying large apartment buildings, corporate landlords in the City of Boston would be more equitably taxed, and the result would be that residential

rates would be lowered across the city as a greater burden of the fixed Proposition 2.5 property tax revenue would fall on corporate landlords rather than on small landlords or homeowners; *and*

WHEREAS, Further creating a supplemental affordable housing exemption for corporate landlords who offer 80% of units at rents lower than those set for 80% of AMI individuals would incentivize landlords to keep rents lower than the market might otherwise dictate; *and*

WHEREAS, Tax rates classified by apartment building size are already used in cities such as New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago (Cook County), Providence, Minnesota and Colorado while cities such as Austin, Texas, which has a property tax of \$46 per \$1,000 valuation, show that high property taxes don't have an effect on rent nor on housing production; *and*

WHEREAS, Even if property taxes had an effect on rental prices, the majority of tenants in the city would see the taxes their landlords pay decrease under this plan because the majority of apartment units are located in buildings of 30 units or fewer; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston should also petition to give out 7-year tax agreements reflective of the residential rate on any new housing of 100 units or more to ensure this tax plan doesn't hamper housing production across the city; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston already led the way in housing production in the prior decade, even compared to cities such as Austin when accounting for the size of the two cities on a per-square mile basis, with Boston adding 2.4 times more housing per square mile than Austin from 2010 to 2020; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston must explore changes to the tax code, categorizing large apartments as commercial properties, offering corporate landlords a housing exemption, and additionally incentivizing rents to be lower than 80% of the AMI through a supplemental affordable housing exemption; *and*

WHEREAS, This petition will do the following: 1. Reclassify large apartment buildings with 30 or more units as Class Three "commercial residential"; 2. Establish a 10% housing exemption to all Class Three "commercial residential," similar to the residential homeowners exemption, which will be absorbed within Class Three; 3. Create a supplemental 50% affordable housing exemption to all affordable Class Three "commercial residential" similar to the residential homeowners exemption, which will be absorbed within Class Three; 4. Shorten standard tax agreements from 15 years to 7 years; 5. Phase in any property tax increases by allowing for an increased housing exemption in the first two fiscal years, to offset any property tax increases for all newly classified Class Three "commercial residential" buildings; *and*

WHEREAS, This petition will effectively lower the residential tax rate and stabilize the commercial tax rates while remaining tax levy-neutral; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That a petition to the General Court, accompanied by a bill for a special law relating to the City of Boston to be filed with an attested copy of this Order be, and hereby is, approved under Clause One (1) of Section Eight (8) of Article Two (2), as amended, of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to the end that legislation be adopted precisely as follows, provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objective of this petition:

PETITION FOR A SPECIAL LAW RE: AN ACT RELATIVE TO REDEFINING COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEFINITIONS, AND CREATING FURTHER EXEMPTIONS

SECTION 1. Section 2A of chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by inserting “Except in the City of Boston” at the beginning of line eleven.

SECTION 2.

Notwithstanding General Law Chapter 59, Section 2A, or any General or special law to the contrary, in the City of Boston, the assessors shall determine the fair cash valuation of real property according to section thirty-eight; and if certified by the commissioner pursuant to subsection (c) shall classify such real property according to the following uses:—

"Class one, residential", property used or held for human habitation containing one or more dwelling units including rooming houses with facilities designed and used for living, sleeping, cooking and eating on a non-transient basis, including a bed and breakfast home with no more than three rooms for rent. Such property includes accessory land, buildings or improvements incidental to such habitation and used exclusively by the residents of the property or their guests. Such property shall include: (i) land that is situated in a residential zone and has been subdivided into residential lots; and (ii) land used for the purpose of a manufactured housing community, as defined in section thirty-two F of chapter one hundred and forty. Such property shall not include hotels, motels, or property used or held for the production of income providing 30 or more dwelling units for rent. Such property may be exempt from taxation under other provisions of law.

"Class two, open-space", land which is not otherwise classified and which is not taxable under the provisions of chapters sixty-one, sixty-one A or sixty-one B, or taxable under a permanent conservation restriction, and which land is not held for the production of income but is maintained in an open or natural condition and which contributes significantly to the benefit and enjoyment of the public. In the event that the City of Boston has elected to adopt section 2A of chapter 61, section 4A of chapter 61A or section 2A of chapter 61B, class two, open-space shall include land taxable under chapter 61, 61A or 61B.

"Class three, commercial", property used or held for use for business or investment/income purposes and not specifically excluded from or includible in another class, including but not limited to any commercial, business, retail, trade, service, recreational, agricultural, artistic, sporting, fraternal, governmental, educational, medical

or religious enterprise, for non-profit purposes. Property used or held for the production of income and providing 30 or more dwelling units for rent shall be included within this class, and referred to hereafter as "Class Three commercial residential" parcels.

"Class four, industrial", property used or held for use for manufacturing, milling, converting, producing, processing or fabricating materials; the extraction or processing of materials unserviceable in their natural state to create commercial products or materials; the mechanical, chemical or electronic transformation of property into new products and any use that is incidental to or an integral part of such use, whether for profit or non-profit purposes; and property used or held for uses for the storage, transmitting and generating of utilities regulated by the department of public utilities or the department of telecommunications and cable. Such property may be exempt from taxation under other provisions of law.

Where real property is used or held for use for more than one purpose and such uses result in different classifications, the assessors shall allocate to each classification the percentage of the fair cash valuation of the property devoted to each use according to the guidelines promulgated by the commissioner.

Real property which is exempt from taxation under section five shall be classified according to said guidelines.

(c) Classification of real property shall not be implemented in the City of Boston until the commissioner has certified in writing to the assessors of the City of Boston that the assessments on the real property that they propose to make are at full and fair cash valuation as required by section thirty-eight and that a majority of its assessors are qualified to classify its property.

SECTION 3. The City of Boston shall ensure the total property taxes owed by a Class Three commercial residential property increase less than 33%, year over year, for each of the first two fiscal years after this law has gone into effect.

SECTION 4. Section 5C of chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by inserting "This section shall apply to each city and town within the Commonwealth, except the City of Boston." before the first line.

SECTION 5. Notwithstanding Chapter 59, Section 5C, or any general or special laws to the contrary, With respect to each parcel of real property classified as Class One, residential, in the City of Boston, certified by the commissioner to be assessing all property at its full and fair cash valuation, and at the option of the mayor, with the approval of the city council, as the case may be, there shall be an exemption equal to not more than 35 per cent of the average assessed value of all Class One, residential parcels and Class Three commercial residential parcels, within the City of Boston; provided, however, that such an exemption shall be applied only to the principal residence of a taxpayer as used by the taxpayer for income tax purposes. This exemption shall be in addition to any exemptions allowable under section five; provided, however, that in no instance shall the taxable valuation of such property after all applicable exemptions be reduced below ten per cent of its full and fair cash valuation, except through the applicability of clause Eighteenth of section five. Where, under the provisions of section five, the exemption is based upon an amount of tax rather than on valuation, the reduction of taxable valuation for purposes of the preceding sentence shall be computed by dividing the said amount of tax by the residential

class tax rate of the City of Boston and multiplying the result by one thousand dollars. For purposes of this paragraph, "parcel" shall mean a unit of real property as defined by the assessors in accordance with the deed for such property and shall include a condominium unit.

With respect to each parcel of real property classified as Class Three commercial residential, in the City of Boston, certified by the commissioner to be assessing all property at its full and fair cash valuation, and at the option of the mayor, with the approval of the city council, there shall be an exemption equal to not more than 10 per cent of the tax bill for parcels that are defined as Class Three commercial residential. For each of the first two fiscal years after this law has gone into effect, the City of Boston shall be empowered to increase said exemption to not more than 50 per cent, at the option of the mayor, with the approval of the city council. This exemption must be applied for before the first day of the fiscal year of which it will be applied. This exemption shall be in addition to any exemptions allowable under section five; provided, however, that in no instance shall the taxable valuation of such property after all applicable exemptions be reduced below ten per cent of its full and fair cash valuation, except through the applicability of clause Eighteenth of section five. For purposes of this paragraph, "parcel" shall mean a unit of real property as defined by the assessors in accordance with the deed for such property.

With respect to each parcel of real property classified as Class Three commercial residential and that has offered 80% of its units at the same level of rent as 80% AMI rent or lower for the preceding year, as certified by the City of Boston by Sept. 1 of the following fiscal year, certified by the commissioner to be assessing all property at its full and fair cash valuation, and at the option of the mayor, with the approval of the city council, there shall be an exemption equal to not more than 50% of that following year's tax bill. This exemption shall be in addition to any exemptions allowable under section five; provided, however, that in no instance shall the taxable valuation of such property after all applicable exemptions be reduced below ten per cent of its full and fair cash valuation, except through the applicability of clause Eighteenth of section five. For purposes of this paragraph, "parcel" shall mean a unit of real property as defined by the assessors in accordance with the deed for such property.

In the event in which exemptions are made available hereunder, a taxpayer aggrieved by the failure to receive such exemptions may apply for such exemptions to the assessors, in writing, on a form approved by the commissioner, on or before the deadline for an application for exemption under section 59.

A timely application filed hereunder shall, for the purposes of this chapter, be treated as a timely filed application pursuant to section fifty-nine.

For purposes of this section, with respect to real property owned by a cooperative corporation, as defined in section 4 of chapter 157B, that portion which is occupied by a member pursuant to a proprietary lease as such member's domicile and is used as such member's principal residence for income tax purposes shall be deemed to be real property owned by such member for purposes of this section, provided that the portion of the real estate is represented by the member's share or shares of stock in the cooperative corporation and the percentage of such portion to the whole is the percentage of such member's shares in the cooperative corporation to the total outstanding stock of the corporation, including shares owned by the corporation. Such portion of such real property shall be eligible for exemption from taxation pursuant to this section if such member

meets all requirements for such exemption. Any exemption so provided shall reduce the taxable valuation of the real property owned by the cooperative corporation; provided, however, that the reduction in taxes realized thereby shall be credited by the cooperative corporation against the amount of such taxes otherwise payable by or chargeable to such member. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to affect the tax status of any manufactured home or mobile home under this chapter, but shall apply to the land on which such manufactured home or mobile home is located if all other requirements of this paragraph are met. This paragraph shall take effect in the City of Boston upon its acceptance by the City of Boston.

SECTION 6.

Section 10 of chapter 121A of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by inserting “and in the City of Boston, for a period of 7 years” in the first sentence of the first paragraph after “fifteen years”

Section 10 of chapter 121A of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by inserting “and in the City of Boston, for a period of 7 years” in the first sentence of the third paragraph after “fifteen years”

Section 10 of chapter 121A of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by inserting “and in the City of Boston, for a period of 7 years” in the first sentence of the sixth paragraph after “fifteen years”

Section 10 of chapter 121A of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by inserting “or in the City of Boston, the 7 year period” in the first line of the tenth paragraph after “fifteen year period”

Section 10 of chapter 121A of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by inserting “or in the City of Boston, for a 7 year period” in the third line of the tenth paragraph after “fifteen year period”

Section 10 of chapter 121A of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by inserting “or in the City of Boston, for a 7 year period” in the first sentence of the sixteenth paragraph after “fifteen year period”

SECTION 7

The provisions of this act are severable and if any provision, or portion thereof, should be held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions, which remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8.

This act shall take effect at the start of the next fiscal year after its passage.

Filed on: January 26, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF FUNDING MECHANISMS FOR BOSTON'S COASTAL PROTECTION

- WHEREAS,** Boston's waterfront is a historic and treasured public resource protected under the Public Waterfront Act (Chapter 91), and as sea levels rise and coastal flooding intensifies due to climate change, the City must prioritize waterfront planning, funding, and development that integrates resilience, equity, accessibility, and long-term stewardship; *and*
- WHEREAS,** According to the First Street Foundation and the Massachusetts Climate Change Assessment, Suffolk County faces the greatest flood risk in the Commonwealth, with more than 45 percent of critical infrastructure, including hospitals, schools, police, fire, transportation, and utility assets, located within flood-exposed areas, a risk that is projected to increase substantially by mid-century; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Coastal flooding driven by sea level rise, storm surge, and extreme weather events has increased in both frequency and severity, placing thousands of Boston residents at risk of displacement, particularly low-income households, environmental justice communities, renters, and residents living in basement and first-floor units within flood zones; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Boston has made significant progress in climate adaptation planning, including the establishment of the Office of Climate Resilience and the development of district-scale coastal resilience projects that emphasize flood pathways, nature-based solutions, and integrated gray infrastructure; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Despite these planning advances, the scale and urgency of implementation requires substantial and sustained capital investment to move projects from planning and design into construction, operation, and long-term maintenance; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Boston Green Ribbon Commission has launched a Coastal Resilience Funding and Financing Blueprint to address this challenge, estimating that total costs to protect Boston's coastline could range from \$4 billion to \$10 billion, with over half of necessary projects requiring completion by 2040 in order to close urgent flood pathways and protect people, infrastructure, and economic activity; *and*

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA

WHEREAS, The Green Ribbon Commission Blueprint emphasizes that coastal resilience investments generate substantial public value, including avoided property loss, protection of critical infrastructure, housing stability, job creation, tax base preservation, and regional economic benefits, and that every dollar invested in resilience can yield multiple dollars in avoided disaster and recovery costs; *and*

WHEREAS, In November 2025, the Commonwealth released the ResilientCoasts Plan, the first statewide, 50-year framework for coastal resilience, which establishes 15 Coastal Resilience Districts, identifies near-term adaptation areas, and calls for district-scale and regional approaches to financing and implementation, recognizing that piecemeal, project-by-project funding is insufficient to meet the scale of the climate challenge; *and*

WHEREAS, The ResilientCoasts Plan and the associated ResilientMass Funding and Finance Strategy identify new and emerging financing tools, including district-level financing mechanisms, special assessment districts, public-private partnerships, transfer of development rights programs, and state-enabled revenue authorities, to help municipalities like Boston move from planning to implementation at scale; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston sits at the center of Coastal Resilience District 5, which includes the inner harbor, Logan International Airport, Designated Port Areas, and neighborhoods such as East Boston, Charlestown, the North End, and the Seaport, areas that collectively protect statewide economic activity, transportation networks, housing, and environmental justice communities, making Boston well-positioned to serve as a pilot city for district-scale resilience financing; *and*

WHEREAS, A city-level climate bank or climate financing entity could serve as a critical tool to aggregate public, private, state, federal, and philanthropic capital; leverage state and federal resilience programs; support district-scale coastal protection projects; and ensure that investments are deployed equitably, transparently, and in alignment with Boston's climate, housing, and environmental justice goals; *and*

WHEREAS, Cities across the country have demonstrated that climate banks and similar financing vehicles can accelerate project delivery, reduce borrowing costs, attract private capital, create jobs, and ensure that historically marginalized communities benefit from climate investments; *and*

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, that the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the implementation and funding of coastal resilience strategies, including:

1. Alignment with State and Regional Frameworks
 - How Boston's coastal resilience efforts align with the Green Ribbon Commission Coastal Resilience Funding and Financing Blueprint and the Commonwealth's

ResilientCoasts and ResilientMass strategies.

2. Financing and Funding Mechanisms

- Potential city-level financing tools, including the establishment of a climate bank, quasi-governmental authority or similar entity.
- District-scale financing strategies, special assessment districts, public-private partnerships, and state-enabled revenue mechanisms identified in ResilientCoasts.

3. Project Prioritization and Equity

- Criteria for prioritizing resilience investments that protect life safety, housing stability, critical infrastructure, environmental justice communities, and public access to the waterfront.

4. Governance and Accountability

- Oversight structures, interagency coordination, and reporting mechanisms to ensure transparency, fiscal responsibility, and long-term maintenance of resilience infrastructure.

5. Leveraging State and Federal Resources

- Strategies for positioning Boston to access ResilientMass pilots, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers funding, FEMA and NOAA programs, and other state and federal opportunities.

6. Public and Stakeholder Engagement

- Approaches for engaging residents, community organizations, labor, environmental advocates, and the business community in shaping and supporting large-scale resilience investments.; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER***

ORDERED: that representatives from the Office of Climate Resilience, Boston Planning Department, Green Ribbon Commission, relevant state agencies, community organizations, and financing experts be invited to testify.

Filed on: January 28, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT-ATHLETE TRANSFER AND ELIGIBILITY POLICIES

- WHEREAS,** Boston Public Schools serves thousands of student-athletes whose participation in interscholastic sports plays an important role in physical health, academic engagement, social development, and overall student well-being; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Students may seek school transfers for a variety of non-athletic reasons, including academic programming needs, access to specialized supports, health considerations, or family circumstances, and such transfers can unintentionally trigger athletic eligibility reviews governed by strict timelines and administrative requirements; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Eligibility determinations for interscholastic athletics are subject to coordination between Boston Public Schools and external governing bodies, including the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, which limits local discretion once deadlines or procedural thresholds have passed; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Concerns have emerged that the current student-athlete transfer and eligibility review framework may allow for arbitrary or inconsistent outcomes, including situations in which eligibility determinations, allegations of recruitment, investigative decisions, and appeals processes lack clear evidentiary standards, publicly available rules, or guaranteed opportunities for students to be meaningfully heard; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Reliance on discretionary judgments, opaque review bodies, limited notice, and appeal mechanisms controlled solely by school administrators may create conditions in which adult actions, retaliation concerns, or fear of reprisal discourage full and fair participation in the process, raising fundamental questions about transparency, due process, and equity for students; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In practice, delays, miscommunication, or actions taken by adults within institutional systems, rather than the conduct of students themselves, may result in students losing athletic opportunities, creating outcomes that disproportionately impact children and undermine the intent of educational and athletic equity; *and*
- WHEREAS,** A review of current policies presents an opportunity to ensure that student-athlete transfer processes are transparent, clearly communicated to families, and centered on fairness, due process, and student well-being, while remaining compliant with applicable regulations; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine Boston Public Schools' student-athlete transfer and eligibility policies, including implementation practices, communication of deadlines, coordination with external athletic governing bodies, and potential policy reforms to prevent students from bearing adverse consequences due to administrative or adult decision-making. Representatives from Boston Public Schools central administration, including the Boston Public Schools Director of Sports Administration and the Boston Public Schools Sports Administration Review Board, legal counsel, and other relevant stakeholders shall be invited to testify.

Filed on: January 28, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS PROGRESS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADDRESSING DRINK SPIKING AND DRUG-FACILITATED SEXUAL ASSAULT

WHEREAS, Reports of suspected drink spiking and drug-facilitated sexual assault (DFSA) continue to surface in Boston nightlife settings, emergency departments, and advocacy networks, demonstrating that contaminated beverages remain an ongoing public-safety concern; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston has made some progress towards ensuring effective services and data collection in instances of drink spiking crimes. For instance, the Boston Police Department updated its internal reporting system to track suspected drink spiking incidents, expanded officer training, and committed to assigning detectives even when sexual assault is not immediately alleged; *and*

WHEREAS, The Office of Nightlife Economy and the Licensing Board have also committed to venue-based safety measures, including technical assistance for nightlife businesses, distribution of drink covers, and policies encouraging establishments to report suspected incidents without fear of penalty; *and*

WHEREAS, However, Boston still lacks a unified citywide framework for drug-facilitated assault prevention, staff training, survivor response, data collection, and interagency coordination, limiting the City's ability to measure trends, identify repeat locations, and intervene early. The continued absence of standardized testing protocols and transparent data sharing leaves many cases effectively "unenforceable" in practice; *and*

WHEREAS, Additionally, survivors still face significant barriers because substances commonly used in DFSA, including GHB, Rohypnol, and ketamine, metabolize rapidly, meaning evidence is often lost before survivors are able to access care or law enforcement; *and*

WHEREAS, To address this gap, Senator Paul Feeney filed S.1537, *An Act safeguarding victims of illicit drink spiking*, which would establish standardized toxicology testing protocols and care pathways for individuals who report involuntary drug ingestion. The bill would require hospitals to provide timely and reliable testing

for suspected drink spiking, whether or not a sexual assault is reported, and would strengthen evidence collection and survivor-centered response practices; *and*

WHEREAS, S.1537 would also create an Illicit Drink Spiking Response and Intervention Task Force within the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to study, report, and recommend best practices for preventing and responding to drug-facilitated sexual assault; *and*

WHEREAS, The City has also continued public education and prevention efforts through resolutions, awareness campaigns, and cross-agency partnerships that recognize drink spiking as both a public-health and public-safety issue. These combined efforts demonstrate meaningful progress at the municipal and state level, while also highlighting the need for continued coordination, data sharing, and state-local alignment to fully address drink spiking and drug-facilitated sexual assault; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to review progress made by the City; examine updated data on suspected drink spiking incidents; assess remaining service gaps in testing, reporting, survivor care, and prevention; and identify opportunities to align municipal strategies with pending State legislation and best practices. Representatives from the Boston Police Department, Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Licensing Board, Mayor's Office of Nightlife Economy, survivor advocacy organizations, hospital systems, and relevant agencies will be invited to testify.

Filed on: January 28, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING REVIVING THE "RED SHIRTS" PROGRAM

WHEREAS, In the 1980s and 1990s, Mayor Thomas M. Menino created the "Summer of Opportunity" initiative, which included hiring 1,000 youth to work with the city's cleanup crews and help renovate baseball diamonds in city parks, and teaching 250 teenagers carpentry and construction skills. The program was known informally as the "Red Shirts," composed of highly visible city workers deployed in neighborhoods to address day-to-day quality of life issues; *and*

WHEREAS, The Red Shirts assisted in a range of municipal tasks, including emptying city trash barrels, sweeping sidewalks, shoveling hydrants, reporting abandoned vehicles, and removing debris from vacant lots, among other small but high-impact services. By 1994, the initiative had organized twelve crews of teenagers, each assigned to different city neighborhoods. These crews were responsible for cleaning local business districts, sidewalks, and municipal properties, contributing to the city's maintenance and fostering community pride; *and*

WHEREAS, The presence of Red Shirts offered a proactive and responsive city workforce visible in communities, helping to strengthen neighborhood trust in municipal government and allowing for real-time response to constituent concerns. A revived and reformed Red Shirt program may be able to assist and supplement full-time employees who work tirelessly to deliver high-quality city services. The City has been working to address long term issues related to staffing shortages despite increased demand, which has led to some service delays; *and*

WHEREAS, Reviving a modern version of the Red Shirts program could create employment opportunities, bolster inter-departmental response capacity, and improve neighborhood cleanliness, safety, and livability, especially as summer months bring heightened need for street-level service delivery; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to explore the feasibility of reviving the Red Shirts program. Representatives from the Mayor's Office of Youth Engagement and Advancement, the Office of Neighborhood Services, Office of Workforce Development, Public Works Department, PowerCorps Boston, and other relevant agencies shall be invited to testify.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR MINIARD CULPEPPER



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DEVELOP A REPORT ON THE STATE OF CIVIL RIGHTS IN BOSTON

WHEREAS, The Boston City Council Committee on Civil Rights, Racial Equity, & Immigrant Advancement was established in 2002; *and*

WHEREAS, Since then, the Committee has concerned itself with addressing matters including but not limited to those related to equal access to education, housing, employment, healthcare and city services to advance and protect the civil rights and civil liberties of all residents in the City of Boston, regardless of their race, color, national origin, natural ancestry, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, disability or citizenship/immigration status; *and*

WHEREAS, Questions have been raised as to whether Boston is fully realizing its commitment to being an inclusive city that provides equitable access and equal opportunity to improved economic, educational, and health outcomes for all residents; *and*

WHEREAS, Additional research into the state of civil rights in Boston is necessary to better understand the realities and challenges residents face when civil rights protections are not upheld, and to identify actionable solutions to address and remedy such injustices; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council hold a series of hearings to examine civil rights issues impacting residents of the City of Boston and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at-large to develop an official Committee Report on the State of Civil Rights in Boston. The report shall assess the status of civil rights protections under current local, state and federal anti-discrimination laws and policies; identify which communities are disproportionately impacted by civil rights violations, the frequency and nature of such violations, and the circumstances under which they occur to determine and recommend corrective actions. Such report shall be prepared by the Committee with input from relevant stakeholders to be publicly released by the end of 2026. The series of hearings to be held shall focus specifically on: 1. Examining racial discrimination and disparities in housing, education, employment, healthcare, public safety, civic participation, and access to city services. 2. Examining

age-based discrimination affecting employment, housing, healthcare access, digital equity, and access to public and social services. 3. Examining discrimination and barriers based on gender identity and/or sexual orientation, including access to healthcare, housing, employment, public accommodations, safety, and municipal services. 4. Examining accessibility of public spaces, transportation, housing, employment opportunities, digital services, and compliance with disability rights laws. 5. Examining discrimination based on national origin or immigration status, access to language services, interactions with municipal agencies, workplace protections, housing stability, and the protection of civil liberties for immigrant communities. The Committee shall invite testimony and data from, but not limited to, the following city and state agencies and non-governmental organizations: The Office of Civil Rights; Office of Racial Equity; Boston Public Schools; Boston Police Department; Boston Housing Authority; Boston Public Health Commission, Office of Black Male Advancement; Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD); Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities; Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Department of Public Health; NAACP Boston Branch; Lawyers for Civil Rights; ACLU of Massachusetts; Black Economic Council of Massachusetts; Boston Urban League; the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement; Office of Language and Communications Access; Office for Refugees and Immigrants; Department of Labor Standards; MIRA Coalition; Political Asylum/Immigration Representation (PAIR) Project; the Office of LGBTQ+ Advancement; Executive Office of Health and Human Services; the Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities; Office of Disability Access; Boston Transportation Department; Massachusetts Office on Disability; Department of Developmental Services; MassAbility; Disability Law Center; The Arc of Massachusetts; the Age Strong Commission; Office of Youth Engagement and Advancement; Executive Office of Elder Affairs; Greater Boston Legal Services; AARP Massachusetts; Boston Center for Independent Living; and Massachusetts Senior Action Council.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR MINIARD CULPEPPER



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MORE TRANSPARENCY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WITH RESPECT TO EXTENDING THE TEMPORARY DESIGNATION STATUS OF AND INVESTMENTS IN THE PARCEL P-3 AND MADISON PARK PROJECT

WHEREAS, Parcel P-3 in Roxbury is the largest undeveloped publicly owned parcel in the City of Boston and has remained vacant and underutilized for decades, despite its central location in Nubian Square and its significant potential to serve as an economic, educational, and cultural hub for the surrounding community; *and*

WHEREAS, Parcel P-3 has been the subject of many years of community-based planning through the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan, reflecting a shared vision for a development that supports educational excellence, economic opportunity, workforce development, housing, and long-term community benefit; *and*

WHEREAS, In January 2023, the Boston Planning & Development Agency granted tentative designation to a joint venture led by My City at Peace, LLC and the HYM Investment Group, LLC to redevelop Parcel P-3 through a mixed-use proposal that included housing, commercial and life science space, workforce training facilities, cultural space, and community-serving uses; *and*

WHEREAS, Since receiving tentative designation, My City at Peace and HYM have continued to advance planning efforts, engage City partners, and maintain communication with community stakeholders, including the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee; *and*

WHEREAS, As such tentative designation is set to expire at the end of this month, the Administration announced that the City will not extend the temporary designation status of Parcel P-3 and will build a new Madison Park Technical Vocational High School on Parcel P-3, following anticipated approval from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, as part of a shared commitment to delivering a modern, state-of-the-art facility that reflects Madison Park's essential role in workforce development and economic mobility for Boston students; *and*

WHEREAS, Community members and stakeholders have expressed frustration over a lack of consultation and communication regarding the City’s new proposal to prioritize the Madison Park campus, particularly its lack of explanation in how the proposed project aligns with prior planning efforts and economic development goals for Parcel P-3, including unresolved questions related to cost, phasing, and the integration of workforce and economic opportunity components; *and*

WHEREAS, Article 50, Section 2 of the Boston Zoning Code codifies the Administration's responsibility to incorporate community participation and feedback in determining appropriate land use regulations and zoning in the neighborhood of Roxbury; *and*

WHEREAS, Meaningful investment in Madison Park Technical Vocational High School is long overdue and will require a transparent process that ensures information regarding project costs and long term site planning is accessible and carefully evaluated to support informed decision-making and sustained public confidence in the process; *and*

WHEREAS, The future of Parcel P-3 and Madison Park will benefit from a collaborative partnership between the City Council, the Administration, and the community, grounded in mutual respect, transparency, and a commitment to equity; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council supports extending the tentative designation of My City at Peace, LLC and the HYM Investment Group, LLC for Parcel P-3 in order to preserve economic development options and maintain continuity; affirms the importance of ongoing collaboration and partnership between the City Council and the administration on land use and public infrastructure decisions on Parcel P-3; encourages enhanced transparency and information-sharing regarding the scope, cost, and phasing of the proposed Madison Park project; and supports continued, meaningful engagement with community stakeholders, including the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee, to ensure that educational excellence, economic opportunity, and long-standing community priorities advance together for the benefit of Madison Park students and the Roxbury community.

Filed on: January 28, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXPLORE DESIGNATING ECONOMICALLY DISENFRANCHISED AREAS OF DISTRICT 7 AS EMPOWERMENT ZONES TO SPUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, Neighborhoods throughout District 7, particularly Nubian Square and Grove Hall, have experienced decades of systemic underinvestment, resulting in disparities in income, health outcomes, business ownership, and access to economic opportunity when compared to citywide averages; *and*

WHEREAS, Median household income in parts of these neighborhoods is estimated to be well below the City of Boston median household income and residents continue to face heightened displacement pressures, rising costs, and the loss of small, locally owned businesses; *and*

WHEREAS, Federal Empowerment Zones established in the 1990s demonstrated the effectiveness of place-based, community-led economic development strategies that combine geographic designation, targeted investment, and accountability through measurable outcomes; *and*

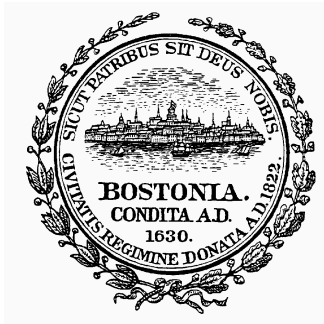
WHEREAS, Boston has an opportunity to adapt the Empowerment Zone model to local conditions by coordinating City and State resources to align investments in housing, transportation, public safety, education, health, and economic opportunity within clearly defined geographic areas; *and*

WHEREAS, Multiple community-led and City-supported planning efforts already exist within District 7, yet these initiatives often operate independently and would benefit from a shared framework to coordinate investments, elevate small business priorities, and measure collective impact; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to explore the designation of Empowerment Zones in District 7, examine proposed geographic boundaries, convene relevant City agencies, community stakeholders, small businesses, and nonprofit partners, and assess how such a designation could align existing plans, target public investment, strengthen locally owned

businesses, improve quality of life for residents, and establish clear accountability and reporting mechanisms.

Filed on: January 28, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO INVESTIGATE THE USE, IMPACT, AND POTENTIAL BAN OF ALGORITHMIC PRICE SETTING IN THE BOSTON RENTAL HOUSING MARKET

WHEREAS, The City of Boston continues to experience an acutely tight housing market, which has driven rents to rise rapidly, and its share of rent-burdened households exceeds the U.S. average; *and*

WHEREAS, Recent years have seen the emergence of revenue management software programs, often referred to as "algorithmic price-setting devices," which allow landlords to utilize non-public competitor data to set or recommend rental prices and occupancy levels, reducing market competition and contributing to rent increases; *and*

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and eight state attorney generals filed a civil lawsuit on August 23, 2024 against a leading rental algorithmic software provider – RealPage – accusing the company of violating antitrust laws by fostering collusion and coordination among landlords by replacing competition with collective pricing strategies that inflate rents; *and*

WHEREAS, The DOJ lawsuit details how these algorithms use non-public data from landlords to generate rent recommendations, guide landlords to artificially inflate rents by limiting competition, and even suggest to landlords to maintain vacancies rather than reduce rent prices, which in totality exacerbates the housing affordability crisis; *and*

WHEREAS, Although the DOJ has since reached a proposed settlement with RealPage imposing certain restrictions on its software, this has not yet been approved by the courts and currently carries no binding legal effect on RealPage or other companies offering similar products; *and*

WHEREAS, Several jurisdictions have taken decisive action to prohibit algorithmic price setting practices in the rental housing market, including San Francisco, Philadelphia, Berkeley, Minneapolis, Seattle, and the states of New York and California; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston has a vested interest in providing affordable and stable housing for its residents, and the use of algorithmic price-setting devices that rely

on non-public information runs counter to that interest; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council convenes a hearing to assess the use and impact of algorithmic price-setting tools in the City of Boston's rental housing market, and investigate the potential for an ordinance to be passed in Boston banning the use of non-public information driven algorithmic price setting in the rental housing market.

Filed on: January 23, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS SHARON DURKAN AND HENRY SANTANA



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXPLORE AMENDING THE BOSTON ZONING CODE TO REMOVE PARKING MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston is committed to advancing sustainable development, unlocking housing supply, addressing the challenges posed by climate change, and alleviating severe urban traffic congestion; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Minimum parking requirements in the Boston Zoning Code mandate the inclusion of off-street parking spaces in many new residential developments, which increases the cost of housing units, curtails housing supply, and limits the feasibility of creating affordable housing units; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Eliminating these requirements would allow the housing development market to function better by removing a non-market-based barrier, thereby reducing costs, fostering the creation of more housing, and incentivizing sustainable growth; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Three years ago, this body voted to amend the Boston Zoning Code to eliminate off-street parking minimums for affordable housing developments which are defined as residential developments where at least 60% of the units are income-restricted at 100% of Area Median Income (AMI) or below; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The rationale supporting the aforementioned amendment holds true for market-rate housing across the city as well; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Neighboring jurisdictions such as Cambridge, MA and Somerville, MA have passed measures to remove parking minimums for residential development while having similar car ownership rates per household to Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Last year, the City Council held a hearing on this issue and heard testimony from housing and planning experts regarding the effectiveness of removing parking minimums as a tool to reduce housing costs and increase affordable housing supply, as well as from many residents who expressed support for these reforms; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In more recent zoning initiatives including PLAN: Charlestown, PLAN: East Boston, and Roslindale Squares + Streets, the City has eliminated or substantially reduced residential parking minimum requirements, however, the scale and

urgency of Boston's housing crisis warrants consideration of expanding this reform citywide across all neighborhoods; *and*

WHEREAS, For Boston's future goals around climate and housing, as expressed through the Climate Action Plan, potential ADU allowability, and recent increase in IDP requirements to be effective, removing residential parking minimums from the Boston Zoning Code would assist in those goals; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED, That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council convene a hearing to examine amending the Boston Zoning Code to remove all residential parking minimums for new development in the City of Boston.

Filed on: January 23, 2026



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR JOHN FITZGERALD

CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS 2026 LARGE EVENT SAFETY RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

WHEREAS, This year Boston and the surrounding area will host major events including the FIFA World Cup, the return of the Tall Ships and the American Revolution's 250th Celebrations; *and,*

WHEREAS, The overlapping of these events in addition to our regularly scheduled events like the Boston Marathon will present a unique challenge to our existing safety resources and infrastructure; *and,*

WHEREAS, While our tourism industry may have taken a hit recently due to economic instability and international relations, these events are still forecasted to bring millions of visitors to our city this year; *and,*

WHEREAS, With this influx of tourists it is essential that our safety resources like Boston EMS, Fire and the Police Departments are fully prepared to deal with the potential strain these events will place on our resources; *and,*

WHEREAS, In order to ensure our city's continued safety throughout these events, it is important for us to learn how our city's safety responses are preparing for these events; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss large event safety within the city of Boston. Representatives from the appropriate departments of the administration and other interested parties will be invited, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

Filed in City Council: January 14, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR JOHN FITZGERALD



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS THE REGULATION OF KRATOM IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

WHEREAS, Kratom is a plant-derived substance that contains psychoactive compounds mitragynine and 7-hydroxymitragynine, and when consumed, can produce stimulant-like effects at low doses and opioid-like effects at higher doses; *and*

WHEREAS, Kratom is commonly marketed and sold in forms including dried leaf powders capsules, teas, gummies, energy drinks, concentrated extracts, inhalants etc. through retail outlets such as smoke shops, convenience stores, gas stations, specialty herbal shops, and online vendors; *and*

WHEREAS, Since 2016, federal health agencies have cautioned consumers about the health risks associated with consuming kratom, and in July 2025, the FDA recommended a scheduling action to control one of the compounds found in Kratom (7-hydroxymitragynine) under the Controlled Substances Act; *and*

WHEREAS, Many states and local jurisdictions have considered adopting legislation to regulate the sale and distribution of Kratom, including here in Massachusetts (House Bill H.4261); *and*

WHEREAS, Across the city we have heard concerns from residents about the widespread and unregulated use of Kratom; *and*

WHEREAS, In 2015, when residents raised similar concerns about the unregulated use of other psychoactive substances, the City Council adopted CBC 16-59, an Ordinance prohibiting the possession, sale, manufacture, and distribution of synthetic cannabinoids, which are chemically synthesized compounds that bind to cannabinoid receptors. Kratom, which binds to one's opioid receptors is therefore not regulated under the Ordinance as currently written; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss regulating Kratom in the City of Boston. Representatives from the appropriate departments of the administration and other interested parties will be invited. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

Filed in City Council: January 28, 2026



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR JOHN FITZGERALD

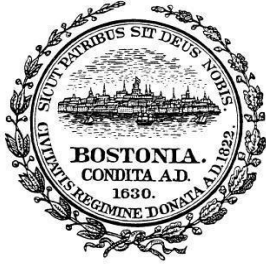
CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS INCREASING ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY SCHOOL OPTIONS FOR BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENTS IN ALL NEIGHBORHOODS

- WHEREAS,** We must ensure that students in every neighborhood of Boston have access to high-quality schools, and that all Boston Public Schools (BPS) have adequate resources to serve students and families, regardless of the neighborhood they are in; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** BPS utilizes a Home-Based lottery process to assign students to kindergarten through grade 8, which provides families with the opportunity to rank their top school choices from a customized list, which includes every school within a one-mile radius of their home; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** Without high-quality school options in every neighborhood, families are forced to make a false choice between nearby schools or long commutes to higher-quality schools in other neighborhoods; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** By ensuring all students in every neighborhood have high-quality school choices nearby, we can reduce travel distances for more BPS students; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** BPS Transportation costs have also increased significantly over the past decade, rising by \$60 million since 2014, despite losing nearly ten thousand student passengers in that same time frame; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** Money spent on transportation accounts for a large portion of the BPS budget, and reducing these costs would allow greater investments in providing better school environments, improved academic and athletic programs, more counselors and other student and family support programs, and other direct benefits for the education and welfare of our students; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** We must recognize the inequitable distribution of resources our school system has historically had and continues to suffer from, and as the City continues to work to rectify this legacy, any decreases in BPS transportation costs must be reinvested towards improving the schools with the greatest need; *and,*

- WHEREAS,** This investment strategy would counteract inequalities that arose in previous school community-based models, and which were upheld by a Boston School Committee that aggressively blocked school funding and resources from communities of color; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** Reducing long travel distances for some BPS students would enable prioritizing existing bus operators and transportation staff to better serve students who still need school bus travel options; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** Boston is experiencing increased traffic congestion, and BPS travel adds 632 school buses to our city's traffic, in addition to cars and other transportation needed to transport the two-thirds of BPS students who do not use school bus travel; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** As the City works towards addressing traffic by improving pedestrian safety and elevating alternative forms of travel, we must further expand these initiatives within school transportation; with some students attend schools closer to their homes, we can reduce demand on our school bus transportation system and reduce car trips by encouraging more students to walk, bike, or take other non-vehicular modes of travel to school; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** Decreasing school bus demand can also reduce staggered school start times, allowing for a more uniform school schedule, making planning easier for parents when coordinating drop-off and pick-up times; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** In 2023, school buses accounted for 11% percent of municipal greenhouse gas emissions, and fossil fuel emissions also release harmful particulate matter and nitrogen oxides, which risk human and environmental health; shorter travel distances can allow the City to more easily phase out existing propane- and diesel-powered buses, as the City moves towards electric vehicles; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** School bus electrification alone does not remove all environmental and public health concerns, with greenhouse gasses released during electricity generation, and environmental harm done in mining for the raw materials for batteries, so reducing travel distances is still beneficial; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss the potential of increasing access to high-quality school options for Boston Public School students in all neighborhoods. Representatives from the appropriate departments of the administration and other interested parties will be invited, and members of the public are encouraged to attend and testify.

Filed in City Council: January 14, 2026



OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ED FLYNN & JOHN FITZGERALD

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS PUBLIC SAFETY AND QUALITY
OF LIFE CONCERNS AT MASS & CASS AND SURROUNDING
NEIGHBORHOODS

WHEREAS: Since the closure of the city's Long Island recovery campus in the fall of 2014, the opioid crisis has driven people to the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard and surrounding areas, where those battling addiction can seek methadone treatment or a bed at city-run shelters; *and*

WHEREAS: On a given day, neighbors can regularly find hundreds of people sprawled throughout the area while engaging in open-air drug dealing, drug use, human trafficking, shoplifting and violent crimes throughout the neighborhoods of South End, Nubian Square, Roxbury, Dorchester, South Boston, Downtown Boston and the Back Bay; *and*

WHEREAS: As well-intentioned as some of the City's efforts have been, it is wholly appropriate to finally acknowledge that the City of Boston's current plan at Mass & Cass has been an abject failure by any standard. Any reasonable person who visits the area will say unequivocally that what has taken place there on a daily basis for over a decade now - an open air drug market and dealing, public drug use, the trafficking of women, acts of serious violence, public defecation and urination, among others - is completely unacceptable; *and*

WHEREAS: The neighborhoods around Mass & Cass continue to bear the brunt of a humanitarian crisis, and it is impacting the public safety and quality of life for residents and businesses, with piles of trash, including discarded needles and human feces scattering neighborhoods. Neighbors from Nubian Square, Worcester Square, Andrew Square, Blackstone and Franklin Squares all the way to Downtown Boston and the Boston Common continue to share their frustration and fear for their personal and families' public safety; *and*

WHEREAS: More recently in the South End, neighbors have experienced residential and business break-ins, assaults on residents, and drug dealing on residents' stoops. The situation continues to harm our small businesses, nonprofit partners, and the local economy; *and*

WHEREAS: While it is important to remain compassionate to those struggling with drug addiction, the status quo of escalating crime and violence spreading from Mass & Cass cannot continue and requires difficult decisions. We need a zero tolerance when it comes to making arrests for public drug dealing and public drug use, human trafficking, crime and assaults. On public health, it is appropriate to shift to a treatment-first approach. It is long past time to put wish lists aside and make a recovery campus a top priority for the City of Boston. It is also critical that these services be decentralized and spread out to other

locations across the Commonwealth; *and*

WHEREAS: While we are seeing an improvement, thanks to the partnership of the Community Response Team and the Neighborhood Engagement Safety Team, there is an urgent need to discuss the current and future strategies in addressing the public safety, quality of life, neighborhood services, and public health issues related to the situation in Mass & Cass and in the impacted neighborhoods. We need to discuss ways to improve the City's response to the opioid crisis, drug dealing activities, and homelessness; *and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss public safety and quality of life concerns at Mass & Cass and surrounding neighborhoods.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS DEDICATING THE NEW OPEN SPACE AT PHILLIPS SQUARE TO TUNNEY LEE PLAZA

- WHEREAS:** Chinatown's census tracts are designated as an Environmental Justice community, ranking in the 99th percentile of lack of green space, proximity to hazardous waste facilities, and traffic proximity; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Chinatown has only 8% tree canopy, the least open space per capita among neighborhoods, and 89% impermeability; *and*
- WHEREAS:** A project has been initiated by the Boston Transportation Department to redesign the barricaded area of Harrison Avenue known as Phillips Square into a more welcoming and cooling open space in a neighborhood impacted by the heat island effect; *and*
- WHEREAS:** The aforementioned project will include a plaza that intersects with Oxford Place, the childhood home of Tunney Lee; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Tunney Lee was a widely respected and well-loved community leader raised on Oxford Place in Boston Chinatown; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Tunney Lee had a long and influential career as an architect and urban planner both as the chief of planning and design for the Boston Redevelopment Authority and at MIT's Department of Urban Studies; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Tunney Lee worked tirelessly to save working class neighborhoods and communities of color from destruction and demolition as memorialized in the book *People Before Highways*; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Tunney Lee mentored multiple generations of urban planners and community activists across the globe. Tunney Lee was an avid historian of Boston Chinatown who led projects to explore the community's history and historic streetscapes; *and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss adding and dedicating the new open space at Phillips Square to Tunney Lee Plaza.

Filed on: January 28, 2025



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

- WHEREAS:** In 2019, the City of Boston released the State of Food Security in the City of Boston - with data presented from the Boston Food Access Assessment and conducted by the Boston Mayor's Office of Food Access; *and*
- WHEREAS:** The report found that the estimated food insecurity rate for the City of Boston was 18% as of 2016, though the neighborhood with the highest rate of food insecurity was 27.1%. At the same time, it was found that 1 in 5 people in Boston experienced food insecurity, compared to 1 in 10 in Massachusetts; *and*
- WHEREAS:** The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic were felt around the world, but especially for low-income families and our seniors who are living on fixed incomes. These disparities were particularly evident when we witnessed high levels of food insecurity among our immigrant families in the Latino, Black, and Asian communities, who were disproportionately impacted; *and*
- WHEREAS:** We must recognize how food access continues to be a critical issue for many families and neighbors in need, and commit ourselves to supporting families and people struggling with hunger and food insecurity. We need to ensure our children, families, seniors and others in need have access to nutritious food. It is critical that we discuss the state of malnutrition, especially for our seniors and working families, to better inform policy relating to food access moving forward; *and*
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:**
That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss food insecurity and malnutrition in the City of Boston.

Filed on: January 28, 2026



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS RESOURCES FOR THE BOSTON POLICE CRIME LABORATORY

- WHEREAS:** The Boston Police Crime Laboratory is a critical part of our Boston Police Department, as its work in processing, examining, and analyzing evidence, such as sexual assault kits, is indispensable to the investigation and solving of crimes; *and*
- WHEREAS:** In 2018, the state legislature mandated that sexual assault kits be tested within 30 days, in order to ensure swift processing of evidence that will bring justice for sexual assault survivors. However, in an annual report by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), it found that half of the kits were not tested within a 30 day window by the the BPD Crime Laboratory; *and*
- WHEREAS:** According to the report, the lab received 186 sexual assault kits in FY23 between June 2022 and June 2023, and 93 of which it did not managed to test within 30 days. In FY22, it failed to test 39 of the 144 kits within 30 days, and 24 of the 123 kits in FY 21. By comparison, the State Police Crime Laboratory tested 96% of the 714 kits it received within 30 days in FY23; *and*
- WHEREAS:** At the hearing in 2024, Boston Police explained that there were staffing shortages at the Crime Lab, and that while there were 22 employees in the lab, there were open positions that needed to be filled as well as staff who were on leave. These staffing shortages have impacted the time in which the sexual assault kits are tested, resulting in an average of 54 days to test a rape kit; *and*
- WHEREAS:** During the FY 25 budget process, the Boston City Council voted to internally reallocate \$1 million within the Boston Police Department to support the work of the Boston Police Crime Lab. This included \$700,000 from BPD Personnel Services to the Crime Lab to increase the number of lab techs and to fill the director vacancy, and \$300,000 from BPD Equipment to the Crime Lab to purchase new sexual assault testing equipment; *and*
- WHEREAS:** At last year's hearing, questions were raised regarding prior leaves of absence and vacancies in the Director position and their impact on staff morale, training, and mentorship. The panel stated that, despite staffing challenges related to the Director role, the Lab continued operations and its work remained unaffected. The panel was also asked about the budget amendment in the amount of \$1 million for the Crime Lab, including funding for Y-screening technology, and indicated that the funding was not approved; *and*
- WHEREAS:** In addition, there was also a lack of stability in leadership at the Crime Lab due to a rotating number of interim directors after its leader was placed on leave in August 2022 amidst an ongoing internal investigation; *and*
- WHEREAS:** It is important that the sexual assault kits and evidence from our sexual assault survivors be processed in a timely manner, and that the Boston Police Department address the

staffing shortage at the Crime Laboratory; *and*

WHEREAS: Since last year's hearing, it is important to find out if there are any updates with regard to staffing, compensation and benefits level, and any equipment upgrades that have allowed crime lab staff to perform their work more easily and efficiently, and whether additional resources are still required; *and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to find out about any staffing and equipment updates at the Boston Police Crime Laboratory, as well as ways to ensure that the Crime Lab has the appropriate resources to operate smoothly and test sexual assault kits on time. Representatives from the Boston Police Department and other relevant and interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: January 8, 2025



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS PUBLIC SAFETY AND QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES IN THE DOWNTOWN BOSTON AND THE BOSTON COMMON

- WHEREAS:** In recent years, residents have reported that public safety and quality of life issues in Downtown and the Boston Common have deteriorated. City officials have received a significant increase in outreach from concerned Downtown residents, families, schools and businesses regarding the issues of crime, violence, open air drug-dealing and use that has impacted their sense of safety and quality of life; *and*
- WHEREAS:** In August 2024, a Downtown Public Safety walkthrough was conducted with residents, the Downtown BID and businesses, Boston Police, and other stakeholders, many of whom expressed unease and concerns of personal and public safety due to instances of drug-dealing and consumption in public and the increase in violence in the area; *and*
- WHEREAS:** In September 2024, the Boston Police Department held a Compstat meeting with the Downtown Boston Neighborhood Association, and reported that crime statistics in the area increased. Residents who live and work in and around the vicinity of Downtown, such as those from the Leather District and Beacon Hill neighborhoods, and those who commute into South Station to work in Downtown, also highlighted a decreasing sense of personal and public safety when seeing the flagrant drug consumption, crime and other illicit activities in public view; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Subsequent meetings took place with nearby school administrators, parents, Boston Police, and city officials regarding serious concerns on the safety of children, caretakers, and staff as the population of those with substance use disorders started migrating from the Brewer Fountain closer to Park Street. Parents of young children, many of whom are Downtown residents and walk their kids to preschool every morning, expressed frustration for the safety of their children and the unhealthy environment that they walk by in the Common to pick up and drop off at the school every day; *and*
- WHEREAS:** In September 2024, NBC Boston reported recent incidents of violence at Boston Common led to specific tour operators having to either re-route or skip Boston Common altogether. Boston Historic Company reported that visitors got slapped, and an employee got punched in the face while on break in the area. Moreover, there was a stabbing at Downtown Crossing in August 2024, and another in October near the Brewer Fountain in the Boston Common, with many parents reportedly witnessing the aftermath while taking children to school; *and*
- WHEREAS:** As a result of the 2024 hearing and ongoing concerns from neighbors, the Downtown Boston Neighborhood Association hosted a meeting with Downtown elected officials, residents, business leaders, and non-profits to discuss the next steps in addressing public safety concerns in the Boston Common and Downtown Crossing area. Following the

meeting, in March 2025, the “One Downtown Task Force” was formed with Mayor Michelle Wu, Councilor Ed Flynn, Representative Aaron Michlewitz, District Attorney Kevin Hayden, and Rishi Shukla, Co-founder of the Downtown Boston Neighborhood Association, among others, to proactively ensure coordination among stakeholders and mobilize resources to address public safety and related quality of life issues; *and*

WHEREAS: Downtown and Boston Common remain both critical economic engines, as well as home to some of the most important historic sites in our country. There is an urgent need to continue to revisit and reevaluate current strategies in addressing the public safety and quality of life issues in the heart of our City. We need to identify ways to improve the City’s response to the opioid crisis, drug dealing activities, violence and homelessness; *and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss public safety and quality of life concerns in Downtown Boston and the Boston Common Representatives from the Mayor’s Office, Police Department, the Coordinated Response Team, elected officials, community leaders, and any other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS LOUIJEUNE AND COLETTA ZAPATA



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING THE CITY OF BOSTON'S RESPONSE TO SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AND RELATED RESOURCES FOR SURVIVORS

- WHEREAS,** Sexual violence remains a pervasive issue in the United States, with more than 400,000 individuals aged 12 or older becoming victims of rape or sexual assault annually, and with the highest risk among individuals aged 12-34 years old; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Domestic violence, which often involves a pattern of abusive behaviors such as physical, emotional, psychological, and sexual abuse, affects individuals in intimate or family relationships, with one in four women and one in nine men experiencing severe intimate partner violence during their lifetime; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Sexual assault and domestic violence affect individuals across all demographics, including race, gender, disability, and age, highlighting the need for intersectional and inclusive support systems and resources for all survivors; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston must expand access to services for survivors of domestic violence, including safe housing, legal support, mental health services, and crisis counseling, as these resources are often underfunded and under-resourced; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Sexual assault and domestic violence survivors face an array of physical, emotional, and psychological impacts, such as guilt, fear, anger, avoidance, and trust issues, further necessitating trauma-informed, survivor-centered responses from the City of Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Collaboration between law enforcement, advocacy organizations, healthcare providers, and community-based organizations is essential to improve the City's response to both sexual assault and domestic violence cases; **NOW,**
THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED,
- RESOLVED,** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the City of Boston's current efforts in responding to sexual assault, review the impacts of initiatives, assess the adequacy of survivor support services, and explore additional measures to improve the prevention of and response to sexual violence across the city.



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING VOTER ACCESSIBILITY AND ELECTION PREPAREDNESS

- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston is committed to ensuring elections are accessible, reliable, secure, and administered in a manner that protects the fundamental right to vote for all residents; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In recent election cycles, voters in Boston have experienced a range of administrative and logistical challenges at polling locations, including issues related to ballot availability, staffing, voter check-in, communication, and site preparedness, which have contributed to delays, confusion, and barriers to participation; *and*
- WHEREAS,** These challenges have disproportionately affected voters with disabilities, seniors, and voters with limited English proficiency, underscoring the need for continued attention to accessibility in election administration; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In response to prior election challenges, the City of Boston and the Commonwealth have undertaken changes to election operations, staffing, training, and oversight, including procedural reforms intended to improve Election Day readiness and voter experience ; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Ongoing review and public accountability are essential to ensuring that election reforms are effective, sustainable, and responsive to evolving voter needs and turnout patterns; *and*
- WHEREAS,** A comprehensive review of election preparedness, including ballot planning, poll worker recruitment and training, communications protocols, accessibility accommodations, and coordination among municipal and state agencies will strengthen public confidence in Boston's electoral system; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine voter accessibility and election preparedness in the City of Boston, and to assess both ongoing challenges and recent reforms, at which the Boston Election Commission, the Massachusetts Secretary of State's Office, advocacy organizations, election workers, and members of the public shall be invited to testify.



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING ON BUILDING A STRONGER FAIR HOUSING FUTURE FOR BOSTON

WHEREAS, The City of Boston must continue to uphold the principles of fairness, equality, and justice in housing, in alignment with the Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, the Fair Housing Act, which prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of residential dwellings, and in other residential real estate related transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, or disability; *and*

WHEREAS, Today, federal, state, and municipal laws prohibit discrimination in the sale and rental of housing by property owners and managers, landlords, mortgage lenders, and real estate agents, including the Federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act, Community Reinvestment Act, and Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, MA anti-discrimination law M.G.L. c. 151B, and City of Boston ordinance C.B.C 10-3.1, however inequity and injustice remain pervasive; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston's fair housing landscape has been profoundly shaped by the legacy of Robert "Bob" Terrell III, a civil rights leader, educator, and former Executive Director of the Office of Fair Housing and Equity, whose lifetime of work advanced enforcement, public education, affirmative marketing oversight, and whose passing has underscored the critical need for strong, stable, and visionary leadership to guide the City's primary civil rights and fair housing enforcement agency; *and*

WHEREAS, Effective fair housing enforcement relies on robust testing, monitoring, adjudication, and proactive oversight, including substantial equivalency practices that enable the City to detect discrimination, intervene early, and ensure meaningful remedies for residents facing bias in rental, sales, lending, or marketing processes; *and*

WHEREAS, Persistent disparities in access to housing opportunities and neighborhood choice, rooted in a history of racial segregation and discriminatory real estate practices, require a proactive, reparative, and community-centered approach grounded in data-driven assessment, meaningful collaboration among residents, advocates, and legal service providers, and a clear commitment by the City to fully support and strengthen its fair housing enforcement infrastructure, including testing, investigations, adjudication, and leadership; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council hold a hearing to address these concerns, evaluate current practices, hear from community members and experts, and formulate comprehensive strategies to strengthen fair housing in the City of Boston.



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING ON A CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATIVE CITYWIDE STRATEGY FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION

- WHEREAS,** The discontinued SOAR (Street Outreach, Advocacy, and Response) Boston program was aimed at violence intervention, reducing recidivism, and supporting gang-involved youth by building meaningful relationships and facilitating employment and education, until the program was discontinued in 2022 as part of the city's decision to reshape its approach to youth violence prevention; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Incidents of youth violence are symptomatic of deeper societal issues, including the lack of opportunity and support for the city's youth, thereby necessitating a comprehensive and sustained response from all sectors of the community; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The philanthropic and non-profit sector plays an indispensable role in funding and supporting initiatives aimed at combating youth violence, offering resources, expertise, and innovative approaches that complement and enhance public sector efforts, and thus their continued and increased engagement is essential for the success of citywide violence prevention efforts; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The pervasive issue of youth violence is fundamentally a manifestation of a lack of accessible opportunities, with studies indicating a direct correlation between the expansion of community engagement and the reduction of violence; *and*
- WHEREAS,** There exists a critical need to reconceptualize our approach to youth, not as problems to be contained but as reservoirs of potential who are eager to contribute positively to their community, if given the chance and the right support; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Mayor Wu recently convened a multi-day workshop on evidence-informed violence intervention strategies, which resulted in a draft comprehensive violence intervention strategy; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***
- ORDERED:** That the City of Boston hold a hearing on a cross-sector citywide youth violence prevention strategy that aims to scale up community and youth activities, mentorship programs, and job opportunities, particularly in communities historically impacted by gun violence, acknowledging the heightened need for engagement in prevention, programming, and employment.



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING ON EQUITABLE CONTRACTING AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR MAJOR CIVIC AND SPORTING EVENTS IN BOSTON

WHEREAS, Boston will mark a series of milestone celebrations and world-class events over the next decade, including the Boston 250 commemoration in 2026, the City's 400th birthday in 2030 envisioned in Imagine Boston 2030, the return of Sail Boston Tall Ships in July 2026, and seven FIFA World Cup 2026 matches at Gillette Stadium; *and*

WHEREAS, these gatherings are projected to draw hundreds of thousands of visitors and generate regional economic impacts ranging from \$500 million to more than \$1.1 billion, representing unprecedented contracting, vending, and sponsorship opportunities; *and*

WHEREAS, these large-scale events create expansive procurement pipelines, covering construction and fit-out, transportation and logistics, hospitality, security, merchandising, marketing, and legacy projects, offering thousands of contracts whose aggregate value will reach into the hundreds of millions of dollars; *and*

WHEREAS, the City of Boston has committed to closing racial wealth gaps through its Supplier Diversity Programs and Executive Orders on Equitable Procurement, which set annual goals for City spending go to minority- and women-owned businesses and directed agencies to remove structural barriers to participation; *and*

WHEREAS, ensuring that host committees, quasi-public agencies, and private organizers embed clear supplier-diversity targets, transparent reporting, and technical assistance into every procurement cycle is essential to closing wealth gaps and strengthening Boston's business diversity ecosystem; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a public hearing to examine the contracting, supplier-diversity, and investment strategies associated with large upcoming civic or sporting events, with the aim of identifying policies and measures that will equitably distribute contracting and sponsorship opportunities to minority-, women-, and locally owned enterprises; and that representatives of each event's organizing entity, the City's Supplier Diversity Office, the Economic Opportunity & Inclusion Cabinet, local chambers of commerce, certified M/WBE and S/LBE firms, organized labor, and subject-matter experts be invited to testify.



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXAMINE INCOME-ADJUSTED PARKING FINES AND INTEREST-FREE PAYMENT PLANS

- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston currently issues parking citations using flat-rate fines that apply uniformly regardless of a resident's income or financial circumstances. This approach can result in substantially different financial impacts for residents who commit the same violation; *and*
- WHEREAS,** For residents with limited financial resources, including elders on fixed incomes, parking fines may pose challenges when balanced against essential household expenses such as housing, food, and transportation. These concerns raise questions about proportionality and fairness within the City's parking enforcement system; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Unpaid parking citations can quickly compound through late fees, penalties, and enforcement actions, creating cycles of municipal debt that are difficult to resolve and disproportionately burden residents with the least ability to pay; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Workers whose jobs require travel across multiple neighborhoods including home health care aides, special education specialists, and other service providers often rely on personal vehicles to perform their duties and may face increased exposure to parking citations that can affect their ability to maintain consistent employment when fines escalate; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Municipalities including San Francisco and Seattle have examined or implemented income-based fine structures or flexible, interest-free payment options for certain municipal fines and citations. These approaches have been considered as tools to improve compliance and reduce the accumulation of unpaid fines while maintaining enforcement objectives; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committees of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the feasibility, equity considerations, and administrative requirements of implementing income-adjusted parking ticket fines in the City of Boston, including the development of interest-free payment plans for parking citations, eligibility criteria, enforcement implications, administrative capacity, potential impacts on municipal revenue, and testimony from relevant City departments and other appropriate stakeholders.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

Offered by City Councilor Julia Mejia



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING ON BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES, PUBLIC ASSETS, AND WHITE STADIUM

- WHEREAS,** The condition, availability, and long-term planning of school facilities play a central role in educational equity, student safety, athletic access, and community trust across Boston Public Schools, and longstanding disparities in building quality and investment continue to shape unequal experiences for students and school communities citywide; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Boston Public Schools is managing significant facilities challenges, including aging buildings, deferred maintenance, accessibility and ADA compliance needs, climate resilience requirements, and uneven access to athletic and extracurricular spaces across schools; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Boston Public Schools is also experiencing declining enrollment, staffing constraints, school closures or consolidations, and a projected budget shortfall of at least \$53 million, all of which heighten the importance of ensuring that facilities decisions directly support core educational and student needs; *and*
- WHEREAS,** White Stadium is a Boston Public Schools athletic facility used for school athletics and student programming, and changes to its governance, scheduling, or long-term use directly affect student access to athletic opportunities and school-based programming; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston has proposed a major redevelopment of White Stadium through a public-private partnership that would significantly alter how a Boston Public Schools facility is operated and accessed, including long-term agreements that may grant a private professional sports tenant priority use, raising concerns about student access, instructional scheduling, and public accountability; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City has committed at least \$91 million of municipal capital funding toward the White Stadium redevelopment at a time when many Boston

Public Schools facilities face unmet instructional, athletic, and accessibility needs, raising questions about how such investments align with district-wide facilities priorities that serve students across the system; *and*

WHEREAS, The scope, cost, and timeline of the White Stadium project have evolved, yet key details—including a complete final design, a guaranteed maximum project cost, and clear protections for student priority access—have not been fully disclosed, limiting the ability of educators, families, and policymakers to assess educational impacts; *and*

WHEREAS, Decisions involving long-term private use of school facilities and significant capital investment in a single athletic site may establish precedent affecting how Boston Public Schools facilities are prioritized, accessed, and governed in the future, warranting careful review through an educational equity and student-centered lens; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to examine the condition, planning, funding, and governance of Boston Public Schools facilities, with a focused and in-depth review of the White Stadium redevelopment proposal, including its implications for BPS students, athletic programming, public access, long-term financial commitments, and equity across the school system.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY CITY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO AUDIT CHILD CARE INVESTMENTS AND THE FINANCIAL STABILITY OF FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston has directed significant funds to support child care, including \$7 million for the Growing the Workforce Fund, \$5.6 million from the Essential Worker and Stimulus and Stability Funds, \$3,260 stabilization grants to every licensed family child care provider, and updated developer contribution requirements projected to generate up to \$3.5 million annually; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Even with these investments, many Family Child Care providers continue to face serious financial challenges, raising questions about how past expenditures have been allocated, whether funds are reaching providers equitably, and what adjustments are needed to ensure long-term stability; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Boston is home to approximately 700 licensed Family Child Care providers, many of whom are women, immigrants, and small business owners providing critical early childhood education services in their homes; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Family Child Care providers enable working families to access affordable and culturally competent childcare directly in neighborhoods, contributing to Boston's economic stability and family well-being; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Family Child Care providers face growing financial pressures, including rent increases, insurance costs, rising utilities required to meet state standards, and higher property taxes, with some of these challenges stemming from misunderstandings about regulatory requirements, all of which threaten the long-term sustainability of their programs; *and*

WHEREAS, Creating dedicated child care spaces often depends on landlord cooperation, and New York City has sought to incentivize such cooperation through a Childcare Center Property Tax Abatement program, launched in 2023, that offers property owners up to \$225,000 in tax relief for constructing a new child care center or expanding an existing one; *and*

WHEREAS, National organizations such as the Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF), a leading Community Development Financial Institution since 1984, have demonstrated the impact of mobilizing capital to strengthen historically underserved communities, including through significant investments in affordable housing, child care facilities, and schools, showing that connecting community needs to financial resources is both viable and effective; *and*

WHEREAS, In 2018, San Francisco voters approved Proposition C (“Baby Prop C”), a Commercial Rent Tax on landlords with annual gross receipts above \$1 million with all revenue dedicated to funding childcare and early education programs, generating a sustainable local funding stream to expand access and improve educator compensation; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston must audit past child care investments and evaluate which incentives are effective, while considering new tools such as property tax exemptions for landlords and homeowners hosting Family Child Care programs, to ensure the sector’s long-term stability; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to review and audit past and current City expenditures and investments in child care and Family Child Care providers, including but not limited to ARPA-funded stabilization grants, the Growing the Workforce Fund, the Essential Worker and Stimulus and Stability Funds, and developer childcare contributions. The hearing shall assess how these funds have been allocated, whether they have reached providers equitably, and what adjustments are necessary to ensure long-term stability for Family Child Care providers. The hearing shall also examine the ongoing financial pressures facing Family Child Care providers, including rent increases, utilities, insurance costs, and property taxes, and explore additional city-level interventions and best practices from other municipalities and national organizations to strengthen Boston’s Family Child Care sector. Representatives from the Mayor’s Office of Housing, Office of Early Childhood, Assessing Department, Office of Workforce Development, child care providers, home owners, landlords, and interested individuals shall be invited to testify.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY CITY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

**ORDER FOR A HEARING ON WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
HOUSING FOR CITY OF BOSTON EMPLOYEES**

- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston Code Section 5-5.3 states that “Every person first employed by the City of Boston on or after July 1, 1976, shall be a resident of the City of Boston, and shall not cease to be a resident of the City of Boston during his employment by the City; *and*
- WHEREAS,** As of February 2025, the average rent in Boston, MA is \$3,393 per month. This is 118% higher than the national average rent price of \$1,555/month, making Boston one of the most expensive cities in the US according to data from Apartment.com; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Department of Health and Human Services set the 2025 federal poverty level at \$37,650 for a family of four, while the Boston Planning and Development Agency works with developers to create housing opportunities primarily available to renters with incomes up to 70% of the area median income (AMI), which is \$114,240 for a family of four; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Data from the 2025 City of Boston Employee demographic dashboard shows that roughly 11,167 individuals on the city’s payroll earned a yearly wage below the AMI of 70% at \$114,240; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In a time when housing prices are increasing beyond the means most people can afford, and many residents are choosing to leave the City to find affordable homes elsewhere, City employees are forced to find subsidized or substandard housing to keep their jobs with the City; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Cities and towns across the United States are creating housing subsidies or building units explicitly designated for city and county employees; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On March 8, 2024, New York City announced that it had partnered with trade unions to fund workforce housing for the City’s unionized workers at

80% to 140% of the AMI, funded in part with \$100 million contributed by union pension funds. Teton County, Wyoming, currently owns 24 employee rental units, which they rent out to public servants. The Residences at Government Center in Washington D.C. was built on previously vacant county-owned land and is open to low- to moderate-income county and private-sector employees, and; *and*

WHEREAS, In 2023, the City Council approved allocating \$750,000 in ARPA funding to Boston City employees experiencing a housing emergency or housing instability; however, this allocation is insufficient to meet the needs of all our employees; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston has a hardworking and dedicated workforce who deserve to have access to resources, financial assistance, and housing that allows them to stay in the City of Boston; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED, That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss workforce development housing for City of Boston employees. Representatives from the City of Boston, including the Office of Fair Housing and Equity, the Mayor's Office of Housing, the Office of Workforce Development, and the Boston Housing Authority, in addition to housing advocates and members of the public are encouraged to attend.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY CITY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO ADDRESS CRITICAL ISSUES IN
JAIL-BASED VOTING AND EMPOWER INCARCERATED
COMMUNITIES TO STRENGTHEN DEMOCRACY**

- WHEREAS,*** While individuals incarcerated for felony convictions in Massachusetts cannot vote, residents awaiting trial and those convicted of misdemeanors are eligible, including the roughly six hundred voters currently residing at Nashua Street Jail and the Suffolk County House of Corrections who can legally vote but suffer from significant barriers to casting their ballot, accessing important voter information, and receiving relevant civic education; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** Incarcerated civic leaders and inclusive democracy organizers have led the charge to protect jail-based voting rights and end felony disenfranchisement across the Commonwealth, including jail-based voting volunteers with the Empowering Descendant Communities to Unlock Democracy (EDC) project, which recently identified five critical issues during the 2024 election season in Suffolk County and beyond; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** Despite the statutory obligation of state authorities under the 2022 VOTES Act to identify eligible incarcerated voters and implement jail-based voting, current technologies at the House of Corrections are inadequate for systematically determining jail-based voter eligibility in a timely manner; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** Nonpartisan civic groups face challenges providing resources and information due to the absence of state or local policies and accountability procedures for implementing jail-based voting; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** Jail-based voters struggle to access timely election information due to restricted internet access and poor information dissemination, often relying on community volunteers for crucial election details; *and*

WHEREAS, Limited budgetary allocations for translation and interpretation services prevent many incarcerated voters from accessing nonpartisan voter materials in their preferred languages, leaving eligible voters without essential voting information; *and*

WHEREAS, Establishing effective jail-based voting processes requires cross-institutional collaboration between election officials, jails, advocates, and incarcerated individuals, potentially necessitating special legislation; *and*

WHEREAS, Every eligible voter should have equal access to voting, yet systemic barriers disproportionately affecting people of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, and those with disabilities or mental health challenges continue to prevent hundreds of incarcerated voters from reliably obtaining ballots, voting information, and civic education; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to convene all relevant public officials and administrative authorities responsible for overseeing the implementation of jail-based voting in Suffolk County jails.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY CITY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO AUDIT GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY TOWARDS SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT

- WHEREAS,** One of the fundamental responsibilities of the Boston City Council to to ensure that there is accountability, transparency, and accessibility in all city business; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In December of 2021, an article was published detailing the purchase and use of a cell site simulator purchased by the Boston Police Department using a “hidden pot of money,” likely obtained through civil asset forfeiture; *and*
- WHEREAS,** According to the article, the cell site simulator, also known as a “stingray” was purchased by the BPD in 2019 for a total price of \$627,000 and mimics a commercial cell phone tower, allowing the BPD to access a person’s location and potentially identifying information from their cell phone; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The purchase was not disclosed to the City Council during its budget deliberations and the only city revue for the purchase of this equipment came from the Procurement Department; *and*
- WHEREAS,** According to internal investigative reports, there have been 98 instances since 2017 in which BPD has used a cell site simulator. Forty-one of those involved “exigent” circumstances in which a warrant wasn’t necessary; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Although the Boston City Council passed a surveillance oversight ordinance in 2021, it is unclear if notice of this purchase would have ever been made public; *and*

WHEREAS, A number of purchases made by the Boston Police Department, and other departments, even those using public money, are often redacted and made inaccessible to the public; *and*

WHEREAS, Our downtown, and the police districts of Roxbury, Dorchester, and the South End — neighborhoods largely made up of residents of color — each have more than 100 cameras; *and*

WHEREAS, In February 2024, The Boston City Council voted to accept a \$13 million anti-terrorism grant administered by U.S. Department of Homeland Security; *and*

WHEREAS, The Boston City Council has an obligation to audit and ensure accountability, transparency, accessibility, and oversight over City Departments especially in regards to technology used to surveil Boston residents; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to audit government transparency, accessibility, and oversight over surveillance technology. Representatives from the City of Boston, including Boston Police Department, as well as community advocates, including the ACLU, are encouraged to attend.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY CITY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO AUDIT THE CITY OF BOSTON'S HIRING, FIRING AND PROMOTION POLICIES, PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston is the largest employer in the city, with more than 17,000 employees across various departments, including the Boston Police Department, Boston Public Schools, Boston Public Health Commission, and all other vital City departments. The City of Boston is also one of Massachusetts' largest employers; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston prides itself on being an inclusive equal opportunity employer, and claims to be committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment, stating that qualified applicants will be considered regardless of their sex, race, age, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, genetic information, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, military and veteran status, or other protected category; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Although the City of Boston has made substantial strides to diversify its workforce, more can still be done to better reflect Boston's population, particularly as it pertains to leadership roles and corresponding wages and salaries; *and*
- WHEREAS,** A 2024 analysis by *The Boston Globe* revealed that among the top 100 highest-paid city employees, only four were women, despite women making up more than half of the city's workforce. Additionally, 69 of the top 100 earners were white, even though people of color make up nearly half of Boston's employees; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Median salaries reveal significant racial and gender disparities, with white employees earning a median salary of \$123,000 compared to \$88,000 for Black employees, and men earning a median salary of \$121,000 compared to \$95,000 for women; *and*

- WHEREAS,** The Boston Police Department (BPD) dominates the city’s highest earners, with 79 of the top 100 spots occupied by BPD employees. While efforts are underway to diversify the workforce, including a pledge to increase the number of women on the force to 30% by 2030, significant disparities remain; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The removal of Sergeant Detective Eddy Chrispin, a 25-year veteran of the Boston Police Department and a respected community leader, from the Police Command Staff has raised questions about transparency and equity in the Boston Police Department’s hiring, firing, and promotion practices, particularly as it relates to leaders of color; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In August of 2022, one month before Superintendent Mary Skipper formally began her duties, 15 retired principals and other administrators of color signed a letter alleging that BPS has placed a disproportionate number of administrators of color on leave and is subjecting them to a process known as investigatory meetings in an effort to terminate them or force them to resign; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In 2019, Boston Teachers Union (BTU) officials released a study that found that Black, Latino, and older teachers were more likely to receive negative performance evaluation ratings, reflecting broader systemic inequities within BPS; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Boston Police Department has long struggled to reflect the city’s population. In 2024, nearly 65% of uniformed officers are white, while minority groups remain underrepresented—21.2% are Black, 11.3% are Latinx, and 2.6% are Asian—and major diversity gaps persist at higher ranks, where 79% of sergeants and 97% of lieutenants are white, largely due to promotions through the state civil service exam process; *and*
- WHEREAS,** These patterns raise serious concerns about transparency, accountability, and fairness in the city’s hiring, firing, and promotion practices, particularly in ensuring that diverse employees have equitable opportunities for career advancement and leadership roles; *and*
- WHEREAS,** It is the responsibility of the Boston City Council to ensure the City of Boston’s hiring, firing and promotion practices, protocols and procedures are equitable and inclusive; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to audit the City of Boston’s hiring, firing and promotion practices, protocols and procedures. Representatives from the administration, including the Boston Police Department, Boston Fire Department, Boston Public Schools, Boston Public Health Commission, Human Resources, and Equity and Inclusion. Lawyers for Civil Rights, and members of the public are also encouraged to testify.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO AUDIT THE CITY OF BOSTON'S PROCUREMENT PROCESSES, PROCEDURES AND PROGRESS

- WHEREAS,** In 2020, the City of Boston published a Disparity Study, which indicated a disproportionate underutilization of minority- and women-owned businesses; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In response to the 2020 Disparity Study results, in February of 2021, the Mayor issued an Executive Order to address and ameliorate the outcomes by committing to a utilization goal of at least 25% contracting with minority- and women-owned businesses across all contracts awarded in any fiscal year; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Given these stated goals, it is imperative to discern if minority and women-owned businesses, small or micro, attempting to contract with the City of Boston are able to compete with businesses that are more knowledgeable and experienced with the City of Boston's procurement processes, practices and procedures; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Executive Order attempts to remedy both the historical and current barriers minority- and women-owned businesses encounter when interacting with the city's contracting processes. It is essential to determine if there are any compounding disadvantages that need to be further identified and properly addressed through an audit of the City of Boston's Chapter 30B procurement processes, practices and procedures; *and*
- WHEREAS,** An important component to creating access to opportunities for minority and women-owned businesses is an effective communication strategy which targets minority- and women-owned businesses to ensure that a broader population of businesses are notified about the opportunities to bid on contracts from all city agencies and quasi-public organizations funded by the City of Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Furthermore, the cultural sensitivity of these advertisements, outreach efforts, and technical assistance support, are also important and necessary steps to ensure small, micro, minority- and women-owned businesses are fully aware of existing and future contracting opportunities, and thus, the effectiveness of these efforts must be evaluated; *and*

WHEREAS, Once a micro or small business is given an opportunity to do business with the City of Boston, working capital is often an issue. The payment schedule is inconsistent with the financial constraints of many micro and small businesses and a quick pay policy for small businesses needs to be explored in order to ensure minority- and women-owned, micro or small businesses have the cash flow needed to fully participate and scale; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the City of Boston's procurement practices and enact a prompt pay policy for micro and small businesses. Representatives from the administration, including the Administration and Finance, Auditing, Procurement, and Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. Community advocates such as the Black Economic Council of Massachusetts, Amplify Latinx and local organizations and members of the public are also encouraged to testify.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO AUDIT THE DISTRIBUTION OF LOCAL,
STATE, AND FEDERAL GRANTS TO SMALL BUSINESSES**

- WHEREAS,** As of 2016, there were more than 40,000 small businesses in the City of Boston, and of these small businesses, “micro” businesses—those with fewer than ten employees and less than \$500,000 in revenue per year—accounted for about 85%; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Small businesses are a critical component of Boston’s economy, as they provide jobs, promote innovation, and contribute to the unique character of our neighborhoods; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Committee on Small Businesses and Professional Licensure held a hearing on July 11, 2024, where numerous small business owners along Blue Hill Avenue and across the city expressed a lack of transparency about and access to grants and requested local, state, and federal financial relief; *and*
- WHEREAS,** An audit of the processes and procedures for distributing these grants will provide insights into the efficiency, fairness, and impact of these programs, and will identify areas for improvement; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Transparency and accountability in grant management processes, which are conducted by the Auditing Department, are both essential to guaranteeing that funds are allocated and dispersed responsibly and in a timely manner, prioritizing businesses with the highest needs to sustain their operations and growth; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Grants such as but not limited to the Boston Contracting Opportunity Fund, Biz-M-Power Crowdfunding Program, and Small Business Relief Fund offer financial assistance; *and*

WHEREAS, Ensuring the equitable distribution of local, state, and federal grants is crucial to supporting Boston’s diverse small business community, particularly those owned by women, minorities, immigrants, and other historically marginalized groups; *and*

WHEREAS, It is the role of the Boston City Council to: examine municipal finances; evaluate the efficiency, effectiveness, and accessibility of the City budget; review the administrative processes of departments, agencies, and programs; establish goals and objectives; collect and analyze data; and ensure funds are managed responsibly and effectively; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to audit the City of Boston’s accountability, transparency, and accessibility regarding the processes of distribution of local, state, and federal grants. Representatives from the Boston City Departments of Finance, Auditing, all other related departments, and members of the public are encouraged to attend.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

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 THE CITY OF BOSTON'S USE OF FEDERAL AND STATE GRANT FUNDS

- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston regularly receives funding through a variety of federal and state grants supporting essential services, programs, and infrastructure across multiple City departments; *and*
- WHEREAS,** These funds support activities including planning, operations, training, technology, community programs, and capital investments that directly impact residents and neighborhoods *and*
- WHEREAS,** Ongoing review of how these resources are allocated and managed is necessary to ensure that they are used effectively, comply with applicable requirements, and reflect the City's commitments to transparency, accountability, and community priorities; *and*
- WHEREAS,** A comprehensive assessment of the City's use of federal and state grants will provide clarity on expenditures, outcomes, and opportunities for improvement to strengthen public trust and inform future decision-making; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to review the City of Boston's use of federal and state grant funds, including a full accounting of funds received and expended by City departments, the oversight and compliance processes in place, the outcomes and effectiveness of grant-funded programs, and any policy, community, or equity considerations related to their use, with recommendations to enhance transparency, accountability, and alignment with City priorities. Relevant City departments and community stakeholders shall be invited to testify.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026



**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

OFFERED BY CITY COUNCILOR JULIA MEJIA



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

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

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO AUDIT THE IMPLEMENTATION AND
EFFECTIVENESS OF THE 2014 BOSTON TRUST ACT**

- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston is committed to ensuring that all legislation, policies, and programs operate in a manner that upholds government accountability, transparency, and accessibility; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Boston Trust Act, passed unanimously by the City Council and signed into law on August 20, 2014, was established to limit the City’s role in federal civil immigration enforcement and ensure that City budget and resources are not used in said manner; *and*
- WHEREAS,** It has now been 10 years since the passage of the Boston Trust Act, presenting an opportunity to review compliance with legislative intent in light of the realities of 2025, particularly as undocumented residents face heightened concerns and uncertainty in the City of Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Given the evolving legal, social, and political landscape, it is critical to review the current status of the Trust Act to ensure that it remains a strong, effective, and enforceable protection for all residents; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The past 10 years of the implementation and enforcement of the Trust Act must be audited to determine whether it is operating efficiently and effectively in accordance with its legislative intent, ensuring that the ordinance continues to meet the needs of immigrant communities and remains consistent with municipal regulatory frameworks; *and*
- WHEREAS,** A thorough review of the Trust Act’s application requires an examination of data collection, reporting mechanisms, and departmental compliance, as well as an evaluation of whether City resources—including personnel and funding—are being used appropriately within the scope of municipal authority and not diverted toward federal civil immigration enforcement; *and*

WHEREAS,

The City of Boston has a duty to ensure that its law enforcement and administrative agencies comply with established policies, maintain internal controls, and adhere to best practices while ensuring risk management procedures are in place to prevent unintended legal and financial liabilities to verify that public funds and assets are managed responsibly and effectively; *and*

WHEREAS,

Evaluating the administration of the Trust Act includes reviewing whether current operational procedures align with the stated goals of the legislation, assessing whether enforcement mechanisms require adjustment, and determining whether additional programmatic or legislative changes may be necessary to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and accessibility based on this review and analysis; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED:

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to audit the implementation, enforcement, administrative compliance, and impact of the 2014 Boston Trust Act. This review will assess whether the ordinance has been executed in alignment with its legislative purpose, examine compliance by relevant departments, and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of related City operations and programs.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING ON GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCESSIBILITY OF DECISION MAKING PROTOCOLS IN CITY GOVERNMENT

- WHEREAS,** Sherry Arnstein, writing in 1969 about citizen involvement in planning processes in the United States, described a “ladder of citizen participation” that ranges from non-participation to full citizen control, where people handle the entire process of planning, policy-making, and program management. Arnstein’s framework underscores the importance of inclusive decision-making processes, particularly in matters that impact local communities; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston develops and dedicates substantial resources and conducts in-depth decision-making related to housing, education, public safety, public health, and zoning, but these resources and decision-making processes are often inaccessible to the individuals and communities most directly impacted by the systemic issues these initiatives aim to address; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Protocols and procedures in the City of Boston, established through the city charter, legislative action, or the discretion of city officials, have created a civic culture where individuals with the most privileged access often hold disproportionate influence over decision-making, while many residents feel excluded from or unheard in shaping policies and programs that affect them; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The renovation of White Stadium in Franklin Park has raised concerns about how effectively large-scale city projects incorporate meaningful community input. The project’s significant cost increase—from \$50 million to \$91 million—has highlighted questions regarding transparency, the accessibility and inclusiveness of decision-making processes, and how

these decisions align with the needs and priorities of neighboring communities such as Roxbury and Mattapan; *and*

WHEREAS,

In January 2026, City administration announced its intent to abandon a previously designated life sciences and affordable housing development on the City-owned Parcel 3 site along Tremont Street in Roxbury in favor of studying the construction of a new Madison Park Technical Vocational High School, a significant shift communicated to residents after years of community engagement around the prior plan and without a clearly defined, community-driven decision-making process, prompting concerns from Roxbury residents and Black community leaders about top-down governance, inconsistent application of public-private partnership models, the displacement of Black-led development partners, and the erosion of trust in how major land-use and public investment decisions are made; *and*

WHEREAS,

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) continues to conduct “Squares and Streets” planning and rezoning initiatives in several neighborhoods now and with a total of 17 neighborhoods in the future. Concerns have been raised about the inclusiveness and effectiveness of community engagement in these efforts, as participation data shows underrepresentation of protected demographic groups relative to neighborhood populations, suggesting insufficient outreach and equitable access, alongside a lack of specific measures to prevent the potential displacement often linked to rezoning, highlighting the need for more inclusive and proactive planning processes.; *and*

WHEREAS,

The modernization of Article 80 development processes by the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) has raised concerns about reductions in public participation, the transparency of decision-making protocols, and the inclusion of protections against displacement and inequity in housing and development outcomes; *and*

WHEREAS,

The redesign of Blue Hill Avenue, a vital corridor connecting multiple Boston neighborhoods, has raised similar concerns about a lack of community involvement in decision-making. Despite the significant impact of proposed changes to traffic flow, parking, and infrastructure, many residents and business owners along the corridor feel excluded from conversations that directly affect their lives and livelihoods. Greater transparency and engagement are necessary to align decisions with the needs of those most affected; *and*

WHEREAS,

The redesign and construction of Madison Park Vocational Technical High School has experienced prolonged delays that have disrupted students’

access to critical vocational and technical programming, and although the project has now received funding approval from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, community stakeholders continue to raise concerns regarding decision-making protocols related to swing space utilization during construction, the scope and inclusion of academic and vocational programs in the redesign, and the transparency of the project's timeline, budget, and community engagement processes; *and*

WHEREAS,

Since its creation, the Boston City Council Committee on Government Accountability, Transparency, and Accessibility has worked to review the efficiency, effectiveness, and accessibility of city operations and programs. This includes the importance of examining decision-making protocols for projects like the White Stadium renovation, Squares and Streets up-zoning, Article 80 modernization, and the Housing Accelerator Fund to ensure they align with legislative intent and community priorities; *and*

WHEREAS,

More work remains to ensure that the City of Boston's departments and agencies adopt accountable, transparent, and accessible decision-making processes that center the voices of all residents, particularly those in historically underserved neighborhoods; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED:

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing on Community Engagement, Transparency, and Accountability in City Development Decision-Making to examine the policies, protocols, and practices used by City departments and agencies to engage residents, disclose information, and make decisions related to major development, rezoning, capital, and infrastructure projects, including but not limited to the White Stadium renovation, Parcel 3 siting decisions, Squares and Streets rezoning, Article 80 modernization and other public-private partnerships; and to assess how these decision-making processes align with legislative intent, equity goals, public oversight responsibilities, and the needs of communities most impacted by such projects.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ERIN J. MURPHY

**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

Order for a hearing regarding impacts of the Boston Public Schools hiring and spending freeze on students, educators, and school communities

WHEREAS, the Boston Public Schools have publicly identified a projected budget shortfall for Fiscal Year 2026, reported to be approximately \$50 million, which has prompted the implementation of an immediate hiring and spending freeze; and

WHEREAS, communications to school principals and leaders indicate that this freeze applies to hiring for vacant positions, discretionary purchases, stipends, contracts, travel, and other expenditures that directly support school operations and student programming; and

WHEREAS, educators, families, and school communities have expressed serious concern about how these measures may affect staffing stability, student support services, program continuity, enrichment opportunities, and the ability of schools to operate effectively during the current school year and in planning for the upcoming school year; and

WHEREAS, schools have been directed not to fill vacant positions at a time when educators are ordinarily submitting staffing needs and provisional educators are awaiting letters of assurance, creating uncertainty for school communities and employees; and

WHEREAS, the projected shortfall has been attributed to multiple cost pressures, including health insurance, salaries and benefits, transportation, and the expiration of federal relief funds, and clarity is needed regarding the assumptions and timing underlying these projections; and

WHEREAS, additional reporting and stakeholder concerns have raised questions as to whether the actual budget gap may be significantly larger than the approximately \$50 million publicly cited, with some estimates suggesting the shortfall could approach \$150 million, underscoring the need for transparency regarding when the shortfall was identified, how projections were developed, and what range of scenarios is being considered;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED: That the Education Committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the impacts of the Boston Public Schools hiring and spending freeze on students, educators, and school communities, including effects on staffing, programming, and school operations during the current school year and in Fiscal Year 2026, and to provide timely clarity and accountability from the appropriate members of the Administration.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BENJAMIN J. WEBER & JOHN FITZGERALD



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS BOSTON'S
FY27 OPERATING BUDGET**

WHEREAS, Boston's Fiscal Year 2026 operating budget totalled \$4.8 billion; *and*

WHEREAS, Section 6-4.1 of the Boston Municipal Code states that, in accordance to Chapter 486 of the Acts of 1909, the Mayor, not later than May 1 of each year, shall submit to the Boston City Council the annual operating budget of the current expenses of the city and the county for the forthcoming fiscal year; *and*

WHEREAS, Mayor Michelle Wu is expected to announce the FY27 operating budget in the second week of April, and the Council is expected to take action on the FY27 operating budget in the first week of June, with expected final action on June 24; *and*

WHEREAS, For Fiscal Year 2026, the City Council focused on its priorities of increasing the affordability of housing, quality of life issues, community safety, and college and career readiness; *and*

WHEREAS, Fiscal uncertainties, including threats of federal funding cuts, rising costs, and fluctuating property values, have caused the Mayor to advise departments to reduce their budgets by at least 2 percent in FY27 to ensure that the City maintains its AAA bond rating and can cover fixed costs, including health care and long-term liabilities, including pension commitments; *and*

WHEREAS, Due to the potentially challenging circumstances that lie ahead, it is incumbent that the Council exercise its oversight of the operating budget to ensure that the City is able to continue to deliver essential City services to the residents of Boston in a fiscally responsible manner; *and*

WHEREAS, In previous iterations of the Council rules, the Committee on Ways and Means has had general oversight with respect to City revenues and expenditures and all other component units that comprise the government entity, as defined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, and have referred to it all matters concerning appropriations, the City budget, expenditures, and loans; *and*

WHEREAS, Traditionally, the Committee introduces a hearing order similar to this one during the last week of January to officially begin deliberations on the Council about the next fiscal year's operating budget, which is the intent of this order; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston should continue to invest in its residents with a budget that supports our schools, parks, streets, libraries, housing, climate resiliency, community safety, and more in its FY27 operating budgets. Moreover, it is important that the Council as a body work together to tackle the challenges faced by our City now, which will require us to deliver an operating budget that meets the needs of residents; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold multiple hearings and public testimony sessions regarding City revenues, preliminary plans for the upcoming FY27 operating budget, and that representatives of City of Boston and other interested parties be invited to attend.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BENJAMIN J. WEBER & JOHN FITZGERALD



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS' FY27 OPERATING BUDGET

WHEREAS, Boston Public Schools' Fiscal Year 2026 operating budget totalled more than \$1.5 billion; *and*

WHEREAS, Section 6 of Chapter 70 of the Massachusetts General Laws states that each municipality in the Commonwealth shall annually appropriate for the support of public schools in the municipality an amount equal to not less than the sum of the minimum required local contribution; *and*

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Chapter 224 of the Acts of 1936 further states that the City Council shall vote on the total amount of the appropriations requested by the Mayor; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston Public Schools Superintendent Mary Skipper will present the FY27 budget to the School Committee on the first Wednesday of February; *and*

WHEREAS, For Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026, the City Council worked collaboratively with Boston Public Schools starting in January to allow more advocacy from the Council before the School Committee approved the budget in March; *and*

WHEREAS, Similar to Fiscal Years 25 and 26, Boston Public Schools is committed to creating a physical budget book for Fiscal Year 2027, which will be similar to BPS budget books from last decade and will allow for more public transparency earlier in the budget process; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston Public Schools began actively working on the Fiscal Year 2027 budget starting in the fall of 2026, and the City Council engaged with Boston Public Schools starting in November 2025 to better advocate for priorities of the students in FY27; *and*

WHEREAS, In previous iterations of the Council rules, the Committee on Ways and Means has had general oversight with respect to City revenues and expenditures and all other component units that comprise the government entity, as defined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, and have referred to it all matters concerning appropriations, the City budget, expenditures and loans; *and*

WHEREAS, Traditionally, the Committee introduces a hearing order similar to this one during the last week of January to officially begin deliberations on the Council about the next fiscal year's operating budget, which is the intent of this order; *and*

WHEREAS, Facing declining enrollment and the potential loss of federal funding, Boston Public Schools are facing harsh realities that require the need for closures, mergers, and reconfigurations and ultimately a long-term facilities plan in order to ensure that our students, teachers and staff at BPS can be well equipped to receive and provide excellent educational services for all enrolled in Boston Public Schools; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a policy briefing in February, a working session in early March, multiple hearings in April, and that representatives of Boston Public Schools and other interested parties be invited to attend.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BENJAMIN J. WEBER & JOHN FITZGERALD



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS PRIOR OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENTS FROM FY23 TO FY25

WHEREAS, In November 2021, residents of the City of Boston approved a ballot question amending the City Charter, giving the Council stronger authority to review, amend, and override mayoral budget proposals, particularly concerning the overall budget and specific line items; *and*

WHEREAS, Prior to the City Charter amendment the City Council had the authority to adopt or reject a budget, or reduce specific items in a budget. Among other things, the 2021 City Charter amendment provided the City Council with the authority to amend the budget by reallocating funds among existing or new line items. The total amount of the City Council's amended version of the budget, however, cannot exceed the total amount of the budget proposed by the Mayor. The Mayor may accept or reject the City Council's version of the budget, or amend any line item in the City Council's version of the budget. The City Council can override the Mayor's veto or amendments by a two-thirds vote; *and*

WHEREAS, Since the City Charter amendment, the City Council has exercised its authority to amend the Mayor's budget. In June 2024, the City Council ultimately passed \$8.2 million in budget amendments designed to promote housing affordability, youth jobs, public safety, and English-language learning, among other things. On June 9, 2025, the Mayor signed the FY26 operating budget and accepted all of the Council's amendments, totalling over \$9 million worth of investments in areas such as housing, public safety, youth jobs, pest control, and other quality of life issues; *and*

WHEREAS, To ensure the integrity of the budget process, the Council has a fiscal responsibility to examine whether City funds have been allocated in the manner they intended in prior operating budgets approved by the Council; *and*

WHEREAS, An examination of the efficacy of prior budget amendments will allow the Council and the Mayor to ensure that past amendments have been used as designated and can inform how the Council plan future amendments so as to have the best chance of accomplishing their goals; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold hearings and public testimony sessions regarding the status of FY23, FY24, and FY25 budget amendments and that representatives of City of Boston and other interested parties be invited to attend.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BENJAMIN J. WEBER & ENRIQUE J. PEPÉN



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS MAKING NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS SAFER FOLLOWING THE 30-DAY REVIEW OF STREETS PROJECTS IN BOSTON

WHEREAS, On May 22, 2023, Mayor Michelle Wu and Chief of Streets Jascha Franklin-Hodge announced a new approach to addressing street safety across the City; *and*

WHEREAS, The new street safety program, dubbed the Safety Surge Initiative, revamped the City’s approach to installing speed humps, among other things. Rather than having neighborhoods apply for speed humps in their area, the neighborhood speed humps program allowed the City to proactively plan, design and build ten speed hump zones each year; *and*

WHEREAS, The former Neighborhood Slow Streets Initiative pit neighborhoods against neighborhoods and was a lengthy process for residents. According to Chief Franklin-Hodge, the Safety Surge Initiative policy would provide a more equitable distribution of traffic safety measures by designating speed humps as part of the City’s standard street design; *and*

WHEREAS, The intent of the Safety Surge Initiative was to use crash data to prevent accidents and injuries by prioritizing the most at-risk areas for speed humps. The City, however, is revising its approach to installing safety enhancements, including speed humps and bike lane; *and*

WHEREAS, On February 21, 2025, the City announced it was undergoing a 30-day review of safety and transit improvements made over the past three years. A memo was produced on April 2, 2025, acknowledging “that the communication and community engagement process for Streets projects can be improved to build community trust and achieve better outcomes”; *and*

WHEREAS, Community members and advocates have continued to urge the City to pursue popular road safety infrastructure projects aimed at reducing vehicle speeds and safety for road users of all modes including speed humps, separated bike lanes, daylighting, and intersection redesigns; *and*

WHEREAS, Neighborhood associations, community organizations, and advocates are still seeking clarity on what an enhanced communication and community process will look like while continuing to take a data-driven approach to planning, developing and implementing safety plans for our streets; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss how planning and transportation decisions will be implemented within the Safety Surge Initiative following the 30-day review and how residents can expect these changes to impact the planning for speed humps and other important transportation safety infrastructure moving forward. Representatives from the Streets Cabinet, traffic engineers, transportation experts and transportation planning professionals will be invited to participate.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BENJAMIN J. WEBER



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO REVIEW CONSTRUCTION COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE WHITE STADIUM PROJECT

WHEREAS, In April 2023, Mayor Michelle Wu announced the release of a request for proposals to renovate, rebuild, and reimagine White Stadium in Franklin Park as a hub for Boston Public Schools athletics; *and*

WHEREAS, In September 2023, Mayor Michelle Wu announced that Boston Unity Soccer Partners had been chosen during the RFP process to refurbish the stadium to be shared with Boston Public School students. This announcement was coupled with a \$30 million investment from Boston Unity Soccer Partners; *and*

WHEREAS, In December 2024, a 10-year BPS Stadium Usage Agreement and lease agreement was executed by the City and Boston Unity Soccer which established financial terms and legal obligations for maintenance and operations of the facility; *and*

WHEREAS, After 60 community meetings and more than 900 comment letters the White Stadium project was altered to address some of the concerns and issues raised; *and*

WHEREAS, The projected costs of the White Stadium project have gone up substantially on several occasions since the initial proposal was made in 2023 with various reasons given, including the rising costs of materials and labor and costs associated with the delay of construction due to litigation. According to recent disclosures by the Mayor's office, about \$12 million has been spent so far to demolish White Stadium; *and*

WHEREAS, Construction of the renovated White Stadium is expected to begin in earnest in the Spring of 2026. The cost of construction will depend on the various bids that were submitted for the project. Mayor Michelle Wu has committed to releasing updated costs at the start of the 2026 calendar year after the bidding process is completed; *and*

WHEREAS, The Boston City Council voted to approve the FY26-30 5-year Capital Plan, which was partially funded by loan orders totalling approximately \$466 million on June 25, 2025, which included a line item for White Stadium design and renovation costs estimated at \$91 million (the City's share of the total construction costs); *and*

WHEREAS, During a December 10, 2025 Boston City Council meeting, this body unanimously adopted a resolution in support of demanding updated cost estimates for the White Stadium project; *and*

WHEREAS, In order to conduct proper oversight of the renovation of this City-funded BPS athletic facility, it is important for the Council to receive updated estimates on costs that are associated with completion of this project; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to provide oversight for future expenditures and inform the Council's vote on the upcoming FY27-31 capital budget.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL AND JULIA MEJIA



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXPLORE WAYS OF
USING MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS TO HOST
CHILDCARE CENTERS**

WHEREAS, The high cost of childcare forces many Boston families to reduce work hours, leave the workforce altogether, or struggle to make ends meet; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston childcare costs an average of \$3,648 a month, according to the Department of Labor Women’s Bureau, which is more than half the average gross monthly salary of \$6,216 for someone working in Boston, more than the average \$2,999 monthly mortgage payment, and nearly triple the average \$1,325 monthly payment for in-state college tuition at UMass Boston; *and*

WHEREAS, Per the Office of Early Childhood’s 2021 Child Care Census Survey, Boston’s average childcare center costs exceed the state average, contributing to Massachusetts having the second-highest center-based childcare costs in the nation; *and*

WHEREAS, Many childcare centers closed during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, and, as of 2024, Boston had an estimated 37,000 children ages 0 to 5 but only 24,895 licensed childcare seats citywide, leaving thousands of families without access to care; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston owns at least 124 municipal buildings, yet only a limited number currently host early learning or childcare centers; *and*

WHEREAS, Several Boston Public Schools are expected to close as part of a long-term consolidation process, presenting an opportunity to repurpose underutilized buildings for childcare use; *and*

WHEREAS, The City continues to construct new municipal facilities, which should be designed to accommodate childcare centers as part of long-term community infrastructure planning; *and*

WHEREAS, While the City has taken steps to improve early learning infrastructure, including Mayor Michelle Wu’s Executive Order providing policy guidance for Inclusion of Daycare Facilities (IDF) zoning, these efforts have not met the full scale of Boston’s childcare needs; *and*

- WHEREAS,** While the Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) offers some support through its City Hall Childcare Program, the program has a waitlist, and most of the Department's other facilities do not utilize their space for child cares, despite having previously done so; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Roughly 81% of women in Boston who are parents or caretakers of young children were more likely than working fathers to reduce their hours or leave the workforce altogether to care for children at home during the COVID-19 pandemic; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The number of young children aged (5) five years and under who resided in Boston between 2017-20 declined 10 percent, some of which is a direct reflection of high childcare costs forcing families to leave as they seek affordable childcare elsewhere, according to American Community Survey results; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Expanding childcare spaces in municipal buildings could significantly reduce space costs for childcare operators, allowing savings to be passed on to families and increasing the number of available seats; *and*
- WHEREAS,** New York City and New York State leaders recently announced significant investments to expand universal early childhood care, including plans to provide free childcare for 2-year-olds and to strengthen universal pre-K access, demonstrating how municipal and state partnerships can expand affordable care for families; *and*
- WHEREAS,** These efforts in New York reflect a broader recognition that publicly supported childcare and early learning programs are essential for workforce stability, gender equity, and family economic participation, offering a model for how cities can rethink and expand access to childcare; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston must consider similar strategies to expand childcare facilities and services in municipal buildings to support families, employers, and the city's economic health; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council convene a hearing to explore how the City can strengthen its childcare infrastructure by opening early learning and childcare centers in municipal buildings across Boston, and that representatives from the Boston Centers for Youth and Families, Boston Public Schools, Property Management, Public Facilities, the Mayor's Office of Housing, the Office of Early Childhood, and other relevant parties be invited to attend and testify..

Filed on: January 23, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO REVIEW AND ESTABLISH A “BUSINESS OWNER 101” PROGRAM FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS

WHEREAS: The City of Boston provides grants to help support new businesses throughout the City; *and*

WHEREAS: While Boston has a robust ecosystem of programs to support new business owners, including organizations such as the Black Economic Council of Massachusetts (BECMA), Amplify Latinx, Boston Impact Initiative, the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC), and MassChallenge, many entrepreneurs remain unaware of these resources or face challenges navigating them effectively; *and*

WHEREAS: New entrepreneurs may lack access to coordinated education, mentorship, and technical assistance that are critical to their success, including guidance on theft prevention strategies and navigating complex licensing and permitting requirements, leading to avoidable errors that could jeopardize their businesses; *and*

WHEREAS: There is an opportunity to build stronger coordination between the City and existing technical assistance providers to ensure entrepreneurs are efficiently connected to the right resources at the right time; *and*

WHEREAS: Homebuyers who receive City assistance are required to complete a “Homebuyer 101” course, which equips them with necessary tools to understand their investment, mitigate risks, and plan for success; *and*

WHEREAS: A similar “Business Owner 101” program is planned as an educational support system to provide essential information, particularly for grant recipients, on foundational topics such as financial planning, permitting, compliance, and business operations; *and*

WHEREAS: Further discussion is needed to explore how a “Business Owner 101” program will operate, including provisions of language accessibility, and proper marketing; *and*

WHEREAS: Collaboration with key partners in Boston’s entrepreneurial ecosystem can ensure this program leverages existing expertise, fills gaps where necessary, and effectively empowers new business owners; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to review and discuss the new “Business Owner 101” program, with an emphasis on aligning with existing programs and partners. Representatives from the Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion, as well as key stakeholders such as BECMA, Amplify Latinx, Boston Impact Initiative, ICIC, MassChallenge, and other interested parties, shall be invited to testify.

Filed in City Council: January 26, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO ADDRESS PROBLEM PROPERTIES IN BOSTON

WHEREAS: The Problem Properties Task Force has identified a list of “problem properties” in the City of Boston that pose risks to public safety and neighborhood well-being; *and*

WHEREAS: Properties are designated as “problem properties” based on factors such as code violations, repeated calls to public safety agencies, and other incident reports; *and*

WHEREAS: Approximately 60 percent of the City’s problem properties are located in Dorchester, placing a disproportionate burden on residents in these areas and underscoring the need for targeted intervention and enforcement; *and*

WHEREAS: The Problem Properties Task Force works with multiple City departments and agencies to investigate problem properties and hold owners accountable for unresolved issues; *and*

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts State House has passed the City’s Home Rule Petition allowing increased fines for absentee landlords, but these changes have not yet been fully implemented; *and*

WHEREAS: Ongoing concerns about problem properties show the need for stronger coordination and more effective use of enforcement tools to protect community safety and quality of life; *and*

WHEREAS: It is necessary to review how existing enforcement tools, including newly authorized fine increases, can be implemented and integrated into the City’s broader strategy for addressing problem properties; *and*

WHEREAS: It should be proposed that a report summarizing the findings and recommendations from the hearing shall be submitted to the Boston City Council for further action; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council shall convene a hearing to examine the issue of problem properties within the City of Boston. Representatives from relevant City departments and agencies, as well as community stakeholders, shall be invited to provide testimony and discuss potential strategies for addressing problem properties and enhancing public safety.

The hearing shall explore how to strengthen the Problem Properties Task Force, improve coordination among City departments, law enforcement agencies, and community members, and implement newly authorized enforcement tools, including increased fines for absentee landlords, with the goal of fostering safer and more vibrant neighborhoods across Boston.

Filed in City Council: January 23, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

**ORDER FOR A HEARING ON TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE AND BEST PRACTICES FOR
CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS**

WHEREAS, The Mayor, Council, and City rely heavily on the organizing strength of Boston's network of civic associations to engage residents, build community, and provide feedback on neighborhood developments and public policies; *and*

WHEREAS, Civic associations provide critical platforms for community engagement, amplifying resident voices, especially those who are traditionally underrepresented; *and*

WHEREAS, Many civic associations operate with volunteer support and minimal resources, relying on out-of-pocket costs for essential operations such as printing, website development, virtual meeting technology, and outreach; *and*

WHEREAS, Unequal access to resources, including technology and language services, creates disparities among civic associations, particularly in historically disinvested neighborhoods; *and*

WHEREAS, Providing technical assistance, targeted financial support, and capacity-building opportunities will help civic associations operate effectively, increase engagement, and foster equitable community representation; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to explore providing technical assistance and targeted funding for civic associations, including resources for website development, social media management, hybrid meeting technology, translation services, and outreach efforts; **AND, BE IT FURTHER**

ORDERED: That the hearing examines best practices to improve operations, diversify civic association meeting topics to include schools, climate justice, and community-building activities, and increase representation from renters, younger residents, and underrepresented voices. Additionally, the City will consider creating a centralized digital platform to share information on civic associations, facilitate hybrid meetings, improve communication, and support collaboration. The discussion will address barriers to equity, explore phased pilot programs to measure outcomes, and assess third-party funding management models to avoid conflicts of interest while ensuring equitable resource distribution.

Representatives from the Office of Neighborhood Services, Civic Organizing, the Department of Language and Communication Access, and other relevant City departments, along with civic association leaders and stakeholders, will be invited to testify and provide recommendations.

Filed on: Jan. 23, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS THE CREATION OF CULTURAL DISTRICTS IN BOSTON

WHEREAS: Boston is the sixth most diverse city in the United States, and it owes its rich history of arts, music, culture, cuisine, and innovation to the contributions of people all across the globe; and

WHEREAS: Boston is home to one of the largest diasporas of Caribbean, Cape Verdean, Brazilian, Arab, Irish, Italian, Korean, Jewish, Polish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Indian, Chinese, and British peoples in the world, among many additional cultures; *and*

WHEREAS: Boston should invest in recognizing, embracing, and educating on the cultures of its residents as well as the city's complex history of immigration and first-nations peoples; *and*

WHEREAS: In recent years, increased federal immigration enforcement activity in Boston and surrounding areas has contributed to heightened anxiety among immigrant families, with data and community reports showing numerous detentions in local courthouses and families being forced to relocate due to fear of immigration enforcement, highlighting the importance of strengthening cultural supports and affirming spaces for all residents; *and*

WHEREAS: Since the City of Pittsburgh established its cultural district, the district's tax revenues increased from \$7.9 million to \$19.1 million in only eight years, and the number of hosted events has more than doubled, helping to generate \$33 million in public investment, \$63 million in private and philanthropic investment, and \$115 in commercial activity; and

WHEREAS: The State of Massachusetts authorized the creation of Cultural Districts in 2011 to foster local cultural development, encourage business development, and establish these districts as a tourist destination; *and*

WHEREAS: Boston is currently home to two cultural districts based on the larger ethnicity of their respective neighborhoods, with the Latin Quarter Cultural District in Hyde/Jackson Square dedicated to Latino residents, and Little Saigon in Fields Corner dedicated to Vietnamese residents; *and*

WHEREAS: A cultural district will enhance the ability for immigrant communities to grow, develop economic opportunities, interact with other communities, and share their rich culture while building a more vibrant Boston; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the creation of additional Cultural Districts in Boston, and that representatives from the Department of Arts and Culture and other interested parties be invited to testify.

Filed in City Council: January 23, 2025



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS THE CREATION OF INDOOR PLAYGROUNDS IN BOSTON

WHEREAS: Physical activity benefits not only physical health but also mental health and social development for children and families; *and*

WHEREAS, Research shows that regular physical activity is also associated with improved academic outcomes for children, including stronger performance in math and attention-based learning; *and*

WHEREAS, Access to safe and affordable recreational space is a recognized determinant of health and equity, particularly for low-income families and communities of color; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston experiences prolonged periods of extreme cold, snow, and ice during the late fall and winter months, which significantly limit children's ability to safely use outdoor playgrounds for several months every year; *and*

WHEREAS, According to the City of Boston Planning Department Research Division's report, Parks Project Pt. 2: An Analysis of Park Usage & Users in Four Boston Parks (2025), park visitation is highest during warmer months and drops substantially during colder periods, demonstrating the seasonal limits of outdoor recreation in Boston; *and*

WHEREAS, The same report finds that some of Boston's most heavily used parks, including Roberts Playground in Dorchester, primarily serve children from Black and Brown families and low-income households, with Roberts Playground users most likely to be aged 0–17, Black or African American, and earning between \$10,000–\$30,000 annually; *and*

WHEREAS, The report further shows that families who rely most on free public parks are also the most affected by seasonal barriers, as they have fewer affordable alternatives for indoor recreation during winter months; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston currently has a limited number of indoor recreational play facilities, and commercially operated indoor play spaces often charge hourly access fees that are cost-prohibitive for working families; *and*

WHEREAS, Indoor play facilities also function as community spaces that support family connection, early childhood development, and neighborhood cohesion, particularly in dense and underserved areas; *and*

WHEREAS, There is a clear need to explore municipal indoor playgrounds as a year-round recreational solution that promotes equity, supports working families, and ensures children can remain physically active regardless of weather conditions; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the creation of municipal indoor playgrounds in the City of Boston, and that representatives from Boston Centers for Youth & Families, the Parks and Recreation Department, the Planning Department Research Division, and other relevant City agencies and community stakeholders be invited to testify on feasibility, cost, location prioritization, and equitable access.

Filed on: January 23, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

**ORDER FOR A HEARING ON A PROPOSAL FOR A
CRISPUS ATTUCKS STATUE**

- WHEREAS,** Crispus Attucks, a Black man of African and Native American descent, was the first casualty of the American Revolution, killed during the Boston Massacre on March 5, 1770; and
- WHEREAS,** Attucks' bravery and sacrifice symbolize the fight for freedom and equity, serving as an inspiration to generations of Bostonians and Americans alike; and
- WHEREAS,** Crispus Attucks played a pivotal role in the events leading up to the American Revolution, demonstrating the courage and resilience of marginalized communities in the face of oppression and injustice; and
- WHEREAS,** Other cities across the United States, including Boston's revolutionary siblings New York City and Philadelphia, have already built statues in honor of Crispus Attucks, recognizing his pivotal role in American history; and
- WHEREAS,** The Downtown area of Boston, as a hub of significance in the American Revolution, stands as a fitting location to commemorate Crispus Attucks; and
- WHEREAS,** The Friends of Crispus Attucks and the Office of Arts and Culture have begun collaboration on site and process for the statue; and
- WHEREAS,** A site and commitment to create a statue should be created ahead of the country's 250th Independence Day with the goal of unveiling a finished statue before the city's quadricentennial in 2030; and
- WHEREAS,** The creation of a statue for Crispus Attucks in the City of Boston would serve as a symbol of our commitment to honoring diverse voices and recognizing the contributions of marginalized communities to our shared history; **AND NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**
- ORDERED,** That the Boston City Council hold a hearing on the process and obstacles facing the creation of a statue in honor of Crispus Attucks within the City of Boston, celebrating his legacy and contributions to the fight for liberty and justice for all.

Filed on: January 26, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO ALLOW FOR MONTHLY PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS FOR RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, The City of Boston processed 150,072 parcels for residential taxes in FY25, according to the Division of Local Services; *and*

WHEREAS, While many homeowners pay their property taxes automatically through monthly mortgage payments, those who have paid off their mortgages face quarterly payments that can total several thousands of dollars at a time; *and*

WHEREAS, Residential taxes have risen more than 7 percent every year since FY19, which when combined with increased housing values have caused large increases from the second quarter to the third quarter each year; *and*

WHEREAS, That property tax bill would be more manageable if residents could pay it automatically in a monthly payment; *and*

WHEREAS, Several cities and towns across the country, including New York and Milwaukee, allow for monthly payments, and the process has been recommended by several tax experts for decades; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston should explore changing its processing system to collect residential property taxes through automatic monthly payments in order to ease the burden on the city's residents; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing on the process to allow for automatic monthly payments of residential property taxes, and that the city's Chief Financial Officer and representatives from the Department of Innovation and Technology, Assessing, and other relevant departments attend alongside members of the public.

Filed on: January 26, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO REVIEW THE DISTRIBUTION OF BOSTON'S 225 NEW LIQUOR LICENSES AND PROVIDE ONGOING SUPPORT TO RESTAURATEURS

WHEREAS, Gov. Maura Healey signed into law a bill that created 225 new liquor licenses in Boston, after the passage of a home-rule petition by the Boston City Council in 2023; *and*

WHEREAS, The 225 liquor licenses—consisting of Neighborhood Non-Transferable Licenses, Community Space Licenses, and Citywide Transferable Licenses—represent a nearly unprecedented opportunity to drive economic development, particularly in the 13 designated ZIP Codes such as Mattapan, Dorchester, and Roxbury, which have historically lacked access to sit-down restaurants; *and*

WHEREAS, As of Nov. 11, 2025, 61 new licenses in 12 ZIP Codes, Oak Square, and cultural districts had been distributed, including 7 cultural licenses, with only 02132 lacking any new liquor licensees; *and*

WHEREAS, It is critical to provide regular updates on the progress of license distribution, including transparency on the awarded applicants, data tracking their impact on local communities, and plans for future rounds of applications; *and*

WHEREAS, The City must continue to ensure equity in the application process through expanded informational sessions, business support resources, and licensing guidance tailored for entrepreneurs in underrepresented neighborhoods; *and*

WHEREAS, These support systems, including multilingual resources, application tutorials, and outreach efforts, should be offered consistently both in-person, online, and at accessible times to maximize participation from diverse restaurateurs; *and*

WHEREAS, The City should sustain ongoing marketing and outreach efforts to inform existing and aspiring small business owners about these opportunities and help them navigate the licensing process; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold an annual hearing to review the status and impact of the 225 new liquor licenses, ensure transparency in the distribution process, and explore continued support mechanisms such as informational sessions, business guidance, and community

outreach to maximize equitable access and economic growth in Boston's neighborhoods.

Filed on: January 26, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXPLORE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR BOSTON STUDENTS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO ALL FORMS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

WHEREAS, The City of Boston has been a national leader in public education for nearly four centuries, and access to higher education remains one of the most important drivers of economic mobility and long-term stability; and

WHEREAS, Boston Public Schools serve a highly diverse student population, with approximately 44% Hispanic/Latino students, 28% Black students, 9% Asian students, and 15% White students, many of whom face longstanding structural barriers to accessing higher education; *and*

WHEREAS, Changes to Boston's exam school admissions policies have had a measurable impact on access for students of color, with invitations to Black students increasing from approximately 13% under the prior system to 22–24% following earlier reforms, before declining again to approximately 15% after more recent policy changes, despite Black students comprising roughly 29% of the Boston Public Schools population; *and*

WHEREAS, These shifts highlight the continued need for broader, more reliable pathways to postsecondary opportunity for Boston students beyond selective admissions systems; *and*

WHEREAS, The cost of higher education continues to rise, and more than half of low-income college students leave school without a degree due to financial constraints; *and*

WHEREAS, Statewide data indicates that households of color in Massachusetts earn significantly less on average than White households, contributing to reduced family capacity to finance post-secondary education compared to more affluent households; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston currently provides tuition assistance to a limited number of students, up to \$2,500 per year, an amount that represents less than 7% of the cost of attending UMass Boston or UMass Amherst and less than 5% of the cost of attending private institutions such as Boston University or Northeastern University; *and*

WHEREAS, Students can expect to spend an additional \$700 to \$1,000 per year on textbooks alone, not including housing, food, transportation, and other basic needs; *and*

WHEREAS, According to the Greater Boston Food Bank, 37% of public college students in Boston experience food insecurity, with rates rising to 52% for Black students, 47% for Latino students, 46% for LGBTQ+ students, and 53% for student-parents; *and*

WHEREAS, During the 2019–20 academic year, 56% of Massachusetts college graduates carried student loan debt averaging \$33,457, one of the highest averages in the nation; *and*

WHEREAS, Scholarship programs such as the Menino Scholarship at Boston University and the Boston Public High School Scholarship at Northeastern University provide full-tuition support to a limited number of Boston Public School graduates each year, demonstrating both the impact of such programs and the unmet demand that remains; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston’s major higher education institutions, including Boston University and Northeastern University, benefit significantly from their tax-exempt status through the City’s Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program; *and*

WHEREAS, In 2025 the City of Boston and Northeastern University announced an expanded partnership through a new PILOT agreement and institutional commitments focused on workforce development, community engagement, and neighborhood investment; however, these initiatives do not include a dedicated or guaranteed expansion of scholarship funding for Boston students, highlighting the need for additional, intentional efforts to address the rising cost of higher education and improve access for Boston families; *and*

WHEREAS, Expanding scholarship and tuition assistance programs would help address rising costs, reduce student debt, and create more equitable pathways to higher education for Boston students; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council convene a hearing to explore expanding scholarship and tuition assistance opportunities for Boston students, including ways the City, higher education institutions, community partners, and employers can collaborate to reduce financial barriers to postsecondary education. That representatives from Boston Public Schools, the Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion, the Center for Working Families, local colleges and universities, and other relevant stakeholders be invited to attend and testify.

Filed on: January 23, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO BRING A
HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY
SATELLITE CAMPUS TO BOSTON**

WHEREAS, Boston led the way in Black education, when the Abiel Smith School was opened in 1835 as the first public school for Black children, the conditions of which later led to the desegregation of the city's school system in 1855; *and*

WHEREAS, The student population of Boston's John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics is 30 percent of Black students, a higher percentage than districtwide Black students, and the school routinely ranks among the best in the state; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston is home to more than two dozen colleges and universities, and more than a dozen other schools are in neighboring towns, and more than 150,000 graduate and undergraduate students living in Boston; *and*

WHEREAS, Among those schools in Boston and its nearby cities and towns are some of the country's finest colleges and universities, including Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston College, Boston University, Tufts University and Northeastern University; *and*

WHEREAS, Graduates from those schools replenish our Boston's workforce every year, providing an infusion of new talent, ideas, and backgrounds that help shape our city's composition; *and*

WHEREAS, Many Boston college alumni put down roots in the Greater Boston area, thereby influencing policy, demographics, and culture in the region; *and*

WHEREAS, There are more than 100 Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the country, with the vast majority of them located in Southern states as a response to Jim Crow laws; *and*

WHEREAS, The need for more culturally sensitive schools, such as HBCUs, has grown in the past decade based upon court rulings and the actions of the current federal administration; *and*

WHEREAS, Although HBCUs make up just 3% of U.S. colleges, they produce 40 percent of all Black engineers, 40 percent of Black members of Congress, 50 percent of Black lawyers and doctors, and 70 percent of Black dentists; *and*

- WHEREAS,** Despite being a college town and being home to Roxbury Community College, a Predominantly Black Institution, Boston has no Historically Black College and Universities and no satellite campuses; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The future of Black Bostonians is in doubt as in recent years, more Black families have purchased homes in Brockton (pop. 104,000) than Boston (pop. 653,000); *and*
- WHEREAS,** Black Bostonians in Boston Public Schools currently graduate high school, complete MassCore, and complete advanced course work all at a lower rate than their district peers; *and*
- WHEREAS,** There are various organizations and events in Boston that help cultivate HBCU alumni, including the Building Bridges HBCU Program, the Boston HBCU Alumni Network, the Eastern Area of the Links and the Greater Boston National Pan-Hellenic Council, as well as HBCU tours and pathways from My Brother's Keeper and Journey to HBCUs; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Boston has previously been close to hosting a satellite campus of an HBCU, with a plan for a satellite campus of Pensole Lewis College of Business & Design proposed earlier this decade; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The establishment of an HBCU presence in Boston would expand higher education opportunities for students and adults; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Boston's pipeline of Black alumni putting down roots in the city would be strengthened through the location of a satellite campus of an HBCU in Boston or Greater Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The establishment of an HBCU presence in Boston would not only expand higher education opportunities for students and adults but also serve as a powerful symbol of progress, partnership, and civic investment in excellence and leadership in education; *and*
- WHEREAS,** After the initial filing of this hearing order in June 2025, a public listening session was held in August during the city's HBCU weekend, and dozens of meetings were conducted with interested stakeholders from HBCUs, local PBIs and MSIs, HBCU alumni, current student and faculty, perspective students, workforce experts, and more; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Although Boston has many diverse colleges and universities, the location of an HBCU in the city would not only create a magnet for Black students to attend and later settle in the area, but it would also send a message that the city, once marred by the busing battles of the 1970s has moved forward to a new era. It would also help improve the outcomes for current Black students in BPS by providing role models and evidence of a tangible path to success; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing on how the city can attract and support the presence of a Historically Black College and University, and that appropriate representatives of Black Male Advancement, Women's Advancement, Economic Opportunity & Inclusion, Boston Public Schools, and Planning, and other interested parties be invited to attend.

Filed on: January 23, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING THE HOMEOWNERSHIP VOUCHER PROGRAM

WHEREAS: The escalating cost of housing in Boston continues to disproportionately impact long-term residents, low-income households, and communities of color, exacerbating the racial homeownership gap, destabilizing communities, and limiting pathways to generational wealth; *and*

WHEREAS: Boston's homeownership rates reveal persistent racial disparities, with significantly lower rates of homeownership among Black and Hispanic/Latinx households compared to white households, reinforcing long-standing inequities in housing stability and wealth accumulation; *and*

WHEREAS: Rising home prices, limited housing inventory, and tightening credit conditions have made homeownership inaccessible for income-eligible first-time buyers, particularly for households earning below 80% of Area Median Income; *and*

WHEREAS: In November 2024, Mayor Michelle Wu announced the creation of the City of Boston's Housing Accelerator Fund, a \$110 million investment to close financing gaps for housing developments that have been approved but stalled, support new mixed-income and income-restricted construction, and accelerate production of housing across the city; *and*

WHEREAS: In January 2025, the Boston City Council approved an appropriation of \$110 million for the Housing Accelerator Fund, authorizing the use of one-time municipal funds to invest in eligible housing projects and support broader city goals for housing production; *and*

WHEREAS: While increased housing production through the Housing Accelerator Fund contributes to addressing Boston's housing shortage, expanding housing supply alone remains insufficient to close the homeownership gap without corresponding investments in ownership pathways, which is why the City Council pushed for \$10 million of the fund to go toward homeownership projects; *and*

WHEREAS: The City of Boston and the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) have cultivated innovative homeownership pathways, including the ONE+ Boston Mortgage Program and the BHA First Home Program, which allows eligible Section 8 voucher holders and other income-qualified households to transition from renters

to homeowners through mortgage Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) and down-payment assistance; *and*

WHEREAS: Since 2023, the BHA First Home Program has supported 105 total home purchase closings, including 95 homes purchased within the City of Boston, and 38 home purchases in 2025, of which 35 were in Boston, demonstrating continued progress in expanding access to homeownership for income-eligible residents; and

WHEREAS: As of January 2026, the BHA First Home Program has a robust active pipeline, including 44 households in mortgage shopping, 39 households actively home-searching, seven (7) households with accepted offers, and two (2) households already closed in 2026, reflecting sustained demand and forward momentum within the program; and

WHEREAS: The average timeline from program application to home purchase closing is approximately 317 days for Boston-based First Home Program participants, and 397 days for Citywide Voucher participants, highlighting the need for sustained funding, staffing, and housing inventory to accelerate successful outcomes; and

WHEREAS: Since 2023, the program has received 610 total First Home Program applications, including 93 applications in 2025, and 91 total Citywide Voucher Program applications, indicating strong interest among residents seeking homeownership pathways; and

WHEREAS: There is currently no waitlist for the program, with new applications typically processed within 48 hours to two weeks, yet many applicants are deemed not yet homebuyer-ready due to barriers such as credit scores below 650, expired or missing first-time homebuyer certifications, insufficient savings below \$4,000, or ineligibility based on tenancy status; and

WHEREAS: Aggregate program data shows that participating households span a wide range of income levels, with the largest concentration earning between \$50,000 and \$79,999 annually, and that the majority of households served are Black/African American, with many families including children, reinforcing the program's role in advancing racial equity and family stability; and

WHEREAS: Since 2023, nine (9) former public housing residents have successfully purchased homes through the program, and the majority of participants are Section 8 voucher holders, highlighting the program's importance as a bridge from rental assistance to asset-building homeownership; and

WHEREAS: Home purchases have occurred across multiple Boston neighborhoods, including ZIP codes 02136, 02126, 02124, 02132, and 02131, demonstrating geographic reach and neighborhood-level impact across District 4 and beyond; and

WHEREAS: The average monthly mortgage Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) provided through the program is \$1,519, with payments ranging from \$83 to \$3,167 per

month, determined based on household income, payment standards, and actual homeownership expenses at the time of purchase; and

WHEREAS: Program scale and sustainability are constrained by several factors, including the impending expiration of ARPA funding for down-payment assistance, staffing capacity limitations, lender participation challenges, the complexity of training financial institutions on layered subsidy programs, and reduced housing inventory at price points below \$600,000; and

WHEREAS: Expanding and stabilizing funding for the Homeownership Voucher Program and related assistance initiatives is critical to increasing the number of successful homebuyers, reducing racial disparities in homeownership, and strengthening long-term housing stability for Boston residents; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine the current status, outcomes, funding structure, and future expansion needs of the Boston Housing Authority's First Home Program and Citywide Voucher Program, including strategies to increase program scale and throughput, identify sustainable funding solutions beyond ARPA, assess staffing and operational capacity needs, address barriers to applicant readiness and lender participation, review program redesign efforts currently underway, and explore opportunities to deepen racial equity, geographic reach, and long-term affordability outcomes. Representatives from the Boston Housing Authority, the Mayor's Office of Housing, the Administration, participating lenders, and relevant housing and community stakeholders shall be invited to attend and testify.

Filed on: January 26, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO REVIEW THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE BOSTON RESIDENTS JOBS POLICY IN IMPROVING EQUITY AND EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ON PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THE CITY

WHEREAS, Established in 1983 to set equitable employment standards meant to improve the share of labor worked by residents, people of color, and women on construction sites throughout the City, the Boston Residents Jobs Policy (BRJP) remains a crucial tool in shaping the diversity and inclusivity of our city's workforce by setting hiring goals for public development projects and private development projects over 50,000 square feet that include hiring 51% Boston residents, 40% people of color and 12% women to work on each project; *and*

WHEREAS, The BRJP is housed in the Office of Workforce Compliance (OWC), which staffs 7 people to monitor approximately 165 construction projects per year across the city, and recommends any necessary sanctions to the Boston Employment Commission (BEC), which is charged with imposing fines on noncompliant firms; *and*

WHEREAS, According to OWC, the BRJP Office is allowed to give feedback on firms and their project compliance rates to the contract awarding authority, but they are not allowed to make decisions on which companies the City will continue to work with; *and*

WHEREAS, After advocacy from the City Council and resident workers, BEC developed a database and public dashboard to identify hiring trends across projects – including a breakdown of differences in trades and hours worked on job sites by residents, women and people of color – to help decision-makers ensure contracts are awarded to those who prioritize diversity in employment, and to help uphold a nature of accountability and transparency in the work of achieving the City's goals for a diverse workforce through the publication of this data; *and*

WHEREAS, The ordinance tasks the BEC to gather and report this data assessing compliance rates of developers, general contractors, construction managers and subcontractors for all projects across the city, to be presented to the City Council at biannual hearings for review; *and*

WHEREAS, The BRJP dashboard shows that hours worked by women have on average steadily decreased since 2022 and, in May of 2025 the OWC reported to the City

Council that about 21% of work hours have gone to Boston residents, reflecting a decrease from 28% in late 2018; *and*

WHEREAS, In 2025, the Planning Department estimated that “full compliance with [the BRJP] across all trades would result in 3 million additional construction hours worked by Boston residents, earning \$174.4 million in wages at prevailing wage rates”; *and*

WHEREAS, With 7 monitors to juggle the casework and a reported capacity to review about 7% of active projects at any one time, the BEC and OWC continue to face staffing strains that impact their ability to efficiently monitor all projects in the city, to ensure all necessary compliance reporting is completed in a timely and efficient manner, and to translate the City’s workforce equity goals to tangible outcomes in construction hiring trends to ensure these trends actually align with BRJP standards; *and*

WHEREAS, Even on projects monitored by BRJP representatives and located in areas with the highest displacement rates from development, there remain common disparities in hiring practices, trades and associated wage levels amongst contractors – with workers of color, women and especially women workers of color, as well as residents being relegated more often than not to some of the lowest paid trades and fewest amount of work hours in any given month of a project’s timeline; *and*

WHEREAS, It is important to explore practices to enhance enforcement mechanisms for noncompliant firms, help firms improve rates of compliance, and to continue updating the database of compliance reports with the most comprehensive information available – including wage breakdowns, union versus non-union work hours, and discrepancies in diversity across higher paid trades and journeymen versus apprenticeship positions – to gain better insight into the labor disparities endured by different communities, and a better understanding of the real economic mobility of Boston’s residents; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the Boston City Council hold a hearing every six (6) months to review the BRJP and the BEC’s work as it pertains to meeting the city’s hiring goals, to consider whether the goals for worker hours should be adjusted based on the data presented, and to explore ways of improving the BRJP. Representatives from the Boston Employment Commission, the Worker Empower Cabinet, the Office of Workforce Development, Procurement, and trade and union representatives should be invited to attend.

Filed on: January 26, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL AND COUNCILOR JOHN FITZGERALD



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS LONG-TERM CITY JOB VACANCIES

WHEREAS, The City of Boston's Fiscal Year 2026 operating budget is \$4.85 billion, covering more than 19,000 employees; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston reported about 16% of its more than 10,400 jobs to be vacant as of RFIs submitted in April of 2025, including nearly 450 at the Boston Police Department, more than 150 at the Fire Department, and more than 100 at the Boston Public Health Commission; *and*

WHEREAS, Those numbers do not include the more than 500 vacancies out of more than 10,000 jobs at the Boston Public Schools as of April of 2025; *and*

WHEREAS, These vacancies include roles that need to be filled for the city's government to reach its full potential; *and*

WHEREAS, Work for unfilled jobs can either be outsourced to contractors without a residency requirement, reallocated elsewhere in the department's budget, or partially reassigned to the city's general fund;

WHEREAS, Cities such as Los Angeles give specific numbers on long-term job vacancies in their budgets; *and*

WHEREAS, A better understanding of job vacancies and unused money would give a more accurate picture of the city's budget for the upcoming fiscal year, allow the city to strategize how to fill vacant positions, and empower city employees and unions to advocate for higher compensation; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston is actively creating the Fiscal Year 2027 budget, which will include projections for full-time employees; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the Labor and Economic Development Committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing on the current status of unfilled jobs in city departments and that representatives of the City's Position Review Committee, Boston Public Schools, Boston Police Department, Boston Public Health Commission, Public Works, Boston Center for Youth and Families and other interested parties be invited to attend.

Filed on: Jan. 26, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BRIAN WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO BRING MORE SIGNATURE SPORTS EVENTS TO BOSTON

WHEREAS, Boston professional sports teams have won 13 championship titles since 1999, more than any other city; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston has not hosted a professional All-Star Game since the Boston Red Sox hosted the 1999 MLB All-Star Game, has not hosted the NBA All-Star Game since 1964, and has never hosted an NFL Draft; *and*

WHEREAS, The 1999 MLB All-Star Game included iconic moments such as Mark McGwire's Home Run Derby performance, Pedro Martinez's 2-inning, 5-strikeout performance, and the pregame meeting of Ted Williams as part of the All-Century team nominees; *and*

WHEREAS, The 1964 NBA All-Star Game was historic for sports unions because a pregame players' strike vote spearheaded by Bill Russell led to the NBA Players Association being recognized as the first major sports union in the country; *and*

WHEREAS, The NFL Draft has been hosted by cities, including Chicago, Philadelphia, Las Vegas, and Detroit, and does not need to be held in a stadium setting; *and*

WHEREAS, Under current ownership, the Boston Red Sox are exploring hosting an MLB All-Star Game; *and*

WHEREAS, Under prior ownership, the Boston Celtics explored hosting an NBA All-Star Game, which would require two separate indoor venues, one for the All-Star Saturday Night and one for the All-Star Game; *and*

WHEREAS, The Greater Cleveland Sports Commission analysis indicates that the 2022 NBA All-Star Game attracted \$141.4 million in direct spending, generated \$248.9 million in total economic impact, produced \$50 million in earned media value, and received \$11.9 billion in total media reach; *and*

WHEREAS, The 2022 NBA All-Star Game attracted 121,600 people from 45 states and 24 countries; *and*

WHEREAS, This attention would provide the City of Boston an opportunity to highlight its many diverse neighborhoods and support local businesses by hosting extended festivities and celebrations throughout the City; *and*

WHEREAS, Hosting All-Star Games will require equitable contracting and procurement practices to ensure MWBE participation; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston also should explore hosting the regionals of the Women's NCAA Basketball Tournament as it has in the past for the Men's NCAA Basketball Tournament; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston's recent bid for a WNBA team was derailed by several factors, one of which was arena availability in the spring, which would've forced the team to play many games in Providence; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston now has no path to be home to a WNBA team till next decade despite a rabid fanbase of basketball fans that have sold out both Connecticut Sun games in the past two years; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston will not host an MLS team for the foreseeable future; *and*

WHEREAS, Although Boston has been home to incredible on-court, on-field and on-ice success in the first quarter of this century, the city's inability to host signature events either based upon infrastructure gaps or other issues has held our city's economy back; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to address improvements needed to bolster the City's application standing and ensure preparations are done equitably, and that representatives from the Boston Celtics; Boston Red Sox; New England Patriots; Public Works; Small Business Development; Tourism, Sports, & Entertainment; Transportation; and other interested parties be invited to testify.

Filed on: January 26, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR FLYNN



CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

WHEREAS: This renewed Order follows review of the Boston Housing Authority’s December 10, 2025, response submitted to the original Section 17F Order passed by the Boston City Council. Based on that review, the City Council finds that the response failed to comply with the requirements of a lawful Section 17F Order; *and*

WHEREAS: The original Section 17F consisted of twenty-two numbered questions, many of which were multi-part and expressly sought specific factual information, records, timelines, and identification of responsible officials. The response did not provide complete, question-by-question answers. In multiple instances, questions were not answered as asked, were answered only partially, or were addressed through generalized narrative rather than direct factual disclosure. Requests for concrete data, documentation, and identification of decision-makers were frequently met with high-level description, context, or explanation in place of the information requested; *and*

WHEREAS: As a result of these deficiencies, the City Council remains unable, based on the response to the original Section 17F, to determine basic and essential facts necessary to its oversight responsibilities. These include, but are not limited to: the duration and frequency of elevator outages; the management and escalation of those outages; the basis for delayed repairs; the handling of vendor payment and procurement issues; the status of outstanding complaints; the adequacy of interim and emergency access measures for residents; and the internal decision-making processes governing those matters. The absence of clear, complete, and verifiable information prevents the Council from assessing whether administrative responsibilities were fulfilled or whether failures in basic governance contributed to recurrent and prolonged loss of Access; *and*

WHEREAS: The renewed Section 17F Order is therefore corrective and necessary. Its expanded scope is directly responsive to the deficiencies in the initial submission. The questions in the renewed Order are functionally derivative of the original Section 17F Order and disaggregate, specify, and clarify the original questions in order to elicit the factual information, records, and decision- making details that were requested in the original Order but were not fully provided, and therefore fall squarely within the scope of the Council’s original oversight inquiry. The expansion is not a new or unrelated inquiry; it is structured to obtain the information that should have been disclosed in response to the original Order but was not; *and*

WHEREAS: This level of detail is essential to the City Council’s oversight function. Elevator access in public housing directly implicates resident safety, access to medical care, and the City’s obligations to residents with disabilities, not limited to mobility impairments. Without complete and reliable information, the Council cannot evaluate the adequacy of BHA’s actions, the effectiveness of its internal controls, or the need for further legislative or oversight measures; *and*

WHEREAS: The renewed Section 17F Order requires strict compliance. Each numbered question must be answered separately and directly. Responsive documents must be produced where requested, and responsible officials must be identified. Narrative or generalized responses that do not provide the specific information sought will not satisfy the requirements of Section 17F. Failure to provide complete and responsive answers will constitute noncompliance with a lawful Council Order; ***NOW THEREFORE, BE IT***

ORDERED: That under the provisions of section 1.17F of Chapter 376 of the Acts of 1951 as amended by section 16 of Chapter 190 of the Acts of 1982, and any other applicable provision of law, the Mayor, be, and hereby is, requested to obtain and deliver to the City Council, within one week of the receipt hereof, the following information relative to:

I. LIFE-SAFETY, EVACUATION, AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

1. Life-safety determination

State whether the City of Boston or the Boston Housing Authority has determined that elevator outages at Ruth Barkley Apartments constitute an immediate life-safety threat under M.G.L. c. 30B §8 and 28 CFR §35.133.

If yes, identify the date and decision-maker.

If no, explain why prolonged elevator outages affecting elderly and disabled residents were not deemed life-safety emergencies.

2. Emergency procurement authority

State whether emergency procurement authority was requested or exercised for Ruth Barkley elevators since January 1, 2020.

If no, identify each reason and the responsible official.

3. Emergency evacuation for residents who cannot use stairs

Produce the written emergency evacuation plan for residents with mobility impairments.

If none exists, state that fact and explain why.

4. Emergency evacuation equipment

State whether BHA possesses or has access to evacuation equipment (e.g., evacuation chairs, sleds).

Identify type, quantity, storage location, who can access and when, and staff training.

5. Same-day urgent exit during outages

State the protocol when an elevator is out of service and a resident must leave the building immediately for medical, legal, employment, school, or caregiving obligations.

II. ADA CONTINUING-DUTY AND REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

6. ADA continuing-duty compliance

Explain how unexpected brief and prolonged elevator outages comply with the ADA requirement to maintain accessible features in operable condition (28 CFR §35.133). Identify the responsible official for ADA compliance.

7. Residents unable to use stairs

State how many Ruth Barkley residents have approved reasonable accommodations related to inability to use stairs (regardless of amount), e.g., mobility, respiratory, low vision, etc.), broken down by building.

8. Relocation as accommodation

State whether relocation is treated as a primary accommodation during outages. Provide criteria, timelines, number offered relocation, and number who accepted.

III. MONITORING, KNOWLEDGE, AND MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT

9. Elevator outage awareness

Explain how management becomes aware an elevator is out of service.

10. Common-area maintenance awareness

Explain how management becomes aware of interior and exterior common-area maintenance issues.

11. Management rounds

State whether management conducts regular physical inspections of each building. If yes, state frequency and staff titles.

12. Routine maintenance checks

State whether BHA personnel perform basic maintenance checks of each building and on what schedule.

IV. HOUSEKEEPING AND BUILDING-LEVEL RESPONSIBILITY

13. Housekeeping schedule

Produce the housekeeping and routine maintenance schedule for each building. Note any known lapses and duration.

14. Named housekeeping personnel

For each building, identify by name and title the person responsible for cleaning and the required frequency and specific housekeeping duties.

15. Maintenance reporting responsibility

For each building, identify by name and title the person responsible for reporting common-area maintenance.

V. FIRE SAFETY AND FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES

16. Fire Department responses since January 1, 2019

Produce a list of all Boston Fire Department responses to Ruth Barkley, broken down by building and reason.

17. Actual fires

State how many responses involved actual fires, broken down by building, including whether elevator service was affected.

VI. ELEVATOR PROTOCOLS AND WORK ORDER SYSTEMS

18. Elevator-down protocols

Produce all written elevator-down protocols specific to Ruth Barkley.

19. Compliance with protocols

For each outage since January 1, 2023, state whether protocols were followed explicitly.

20. Floor captains

Identify floor captains by building.

20(a). Under the current elevator-down protocol requiring on-site maintenance checks prior to initiating a work order or performing an elevator reset, produce a complete log of all elevator reports processed under this protocol from the date the protocol was implemented to the date of response. For each report, provide:

- date and time the elevator issue was reported
- building and elevator identifier
- description of the reported issue
- name and title of the staff member who performed the initial maintenance check
- findings of that check
- whether a reset was attempted
- whether a work order was initiated
- time elapsed between report and vendor contact, if any.

20(b). State whether any elevator outages were resolved internally under this protocol without vendor involvement, and identify any instances where internal resolution delayed vendor dispatch or extended loss of access.

21. Work order numbers

State whether staff have ever been instructed not to provide work order numbers to residents and if so, provide a rationale.

22. Disabled work order follow-up system

State whether the work-order follow-up system has been nonfunctional. If so, how long, and why.

23. Staff conduct complaints

State whether complaints exist that work-order staff are rude or discourage reporting. Yes or no and how many complaints have been documented since January 1, 2020?

24. Training materials

Produce dated training materials governing staff interaction with residents during outages.

VII. DATA INTEGRITY AND HUD REPORTING**25. Incomplete work orders**

State whether work orders were marked complete when work was not completed.

26. HUD reporting accuracy

State whether any work orders were reported to HUD as completed when residents disputed completion.

27. Work order suppression

State whether work orders were removed or suppressed to improve performance metrics.

VIII. PROCUREMENT, PAYMENTS, AND VENDOR RELATIONS**28. Elevator vendor contracts since January 1, 2020**

Produce all contracts, amendments, scopes, and rate schedules for Schindler, United Elevator, Motion Elevator, and any other elevator vendor.

29. After-hours response limitations

State whether any vendor has refused after-hours service due to overtime approval or unpaid invoices.

Describe each instance and produce correspondence.

30. Retainage records

Produce all records of retainage withheld and released to elevator vendors.

31. Contract close-out documents

Produce all close-out documents for each elevator vendor contract.

If none exist, explain why.

32. Outstanding invoices – Ruth Barkley

State whether all invoices from Schindler, United, and Motion for Ruth Barkley have been paid to date for *all contract years in BHA history*. State whether all invoices from past vendors have been paid to date for *all contract years in BHA history*.

If not, list dates, amounts, and reasons.

33. Outstanding invoices – all BHA properties

State whether all invoices from those vendors have been paid across BHA properties.

IX. PLANNED OUTAGES, NOTICE, AND COMMUNICATION

34. Planned elevator outages

List all planned or scheduled elevator outages since January 1, 2020, by year.

35. Advance notice to residents

Produce written notices provided to residents for planned outages, including notice period and method of delivery.

36. Maintenance obligation regardless of cause

State whether BHA agrees that accessibility features must be operable at all times regardless of outage cause (with exception of planned outages).

37. Loss of access regardless of cause

State whether BHA agrees that an outage removing access is experienced as lack of access, regardless of cause.

38. Apologies and rent relief

State whether written apologies, rent reductions, or credits were issued to residents for outages.

39. Mischaracterizations to AAB and legislators

State whether BHA corrected or apologized for mischaracterizations made in official correspondence, including the 11/23–11/25/25 disruption.

X. OCN NOTICE SYSTEM AND MESSAGE GOVERNANCE

40. Units and leaseholders

State total units and total adult leaseholders by building, and languages spoken among non-English-speaking BHA leaseholders.

41. OCN opt-in counts

State how many residents, by building, are opted into OCN for each: text, email, both.

42. OCN marketing and notices

Produce all resident OCN opt-in notices, marketing materials, and records of distribution, method.

43. Specificity of OCN outage notices

State whether OCN messages identify specific buildings or only general complex-wide outages.

44. OCN message log

Produce all OCN text, voice, and email messages related to elevator outages for the past two years.

45. “Back in service” messages

Produce corresponding restoration notices with timestamps and buildings.

46. Message authorship and approval

Identify individuals responsible for drafting and approving OCN messages.

47. Work Order Center training on OCN

Produce training materials governing coordination between work orders and OCN.

XI. RESIDENT DISPLACEMENT, RENT, AND TENANT RIGHTS

48. Displacement reimbursement

State shortest and longest displacement reimbursement periods and per diem ranges per person. If per household, state calculus and rationale.

49. Hotel placement criteria

State whether displaced residents were placed within their neighborhood and school district. Yes or no.

50. Non-requested removals

State whether any residents were removed without requesting relocation. Yes or no.

51. Constructive evictions

State how many residents were constructively evicted in the past three years due to elevator failures they could no longer tolerate, e.g., BHA offers to move and resident requests to move tied to elevator failures.

52. Lease enforcement by residents

Produce lease provisions allowing residents to withhold or recover rent. If there are none, state so and describe any compensatory relief offered residents for BHA failures to uphold lease terms, expectations, and/or tenant rights.

53. Eviction threats for administrative issues

State whether eviction has been threatened for paperwork or administrative noncompliance.

54. Tenant Bill of Rights

Produce the current Tenant Bill of Rights.

55. Resident remedies

State what residents are instructed to do when BHA fails to uphold lease obligations.

XII. OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

56. ADA and 504 Coordinators

Identify the City ADA Coordinator and BHA 504 Coordinator; provide grievance procedures and where and how they are communicated to residents.

57. ADA self-evaluation / transition plan

State whether a transition plan exists for vertical access barriers. Provide it.

58. Civil rights complaints

List all ADA, Section 504, FHA, HUD, DOJ, MCAD, and AAB complaints since January 1, 2020.

59. Deliberate indifference

State whether BHA acknowledges prolonged inaction after notice can constitute deliberate indifference. Yes or no answer only, no narrative.

60. Completion timeline

Provide a definitive timeline with milestones for elevator modernization, for each building.

61. External oversight cooperation

State whether BHA and the City will cooperate fully with HUD or DOJ investigations.

62. Safe, sanitary, accessible determination

State whether Ruth Barkley Apartments currently meet federal safe, sanitary, and accessible standards.

XIII. ELEVATOR MODERNIZATION SCOPE, PHASING, AND REPRESENTATIONS

63. Basis for limiting modernization to two elevators

BHA represented to the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board that a determination would be made as to whether **two or four elevators** would be modernized in the next phase at Ruth Barkley Apartments.

State **each legally compliant reason** that would permit BHA to elect to modernize only two elevators rather than all elevators simultaneously.

For each reason identified:

- a. identify the legal authority relied upon (statute, regulation, guidance, or contract)
- b. identify the official who made or approved the determination
- c. explain how this decision complies with the ADA continuing-duty requirement (28 CFR §35.133) and state accessibility law.

64. Consideration of multiple vendors for simultaneous work

State whether BHA considered engaging **multiple elevator vendors simultaneously** to modernize all elevators at Ruth Barkley without phased reduction in access.

- a. Answer yes or no
- b. If no, list **all reasons** BHA did not consider or rejected this approach
- c. Identify any procurement, contractual, staffing, or policy barriers cited
- d. Identify who made the decision.

65. Constraints on simultaneous modernization

Produce any written analyses, memoranda, procurement determinations, risk assessments, or internal communications evaluating:

- a. phased versus simultaneous elevator modernization
- b. impact on resident access

- c. cost, schedule, and compliance implications.
- If no such analysis exists, state that fact and explain why.

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS TO RESIDENTS REGARDING ELEVATOR TIMELINES

66. Written communications to residents about repair timelines

Produce **all written communications** provided to residents since January 1, 2020 regarding proposed or anticipated elevator repair or modernization timelines, broken down by building and elevator.

Include notices, letters, flyers, emails, OCN messages, and postings.

67. Consistency of representations to residents and MAAB

State whether the timelines communicated to residents were consistent with representations made to the MAAB.

- a. Answer yes, no, or BHA did not communicate timelines to residents.
- b. If no, identify each inconsistency and explain why differing timelines were presented.

XV. PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC MEETINGS ON ELEVATOR TIMELINES

68. Presentations regarding elevator repair timelines

Produce any presentations, slide decks, handouts, or visual materials used to present elevator repair or modernization timelines to residents, advocates, legislators, or oversight bodies.

69. Attendance and notice for presentations

For each presentation identified in Question 68, state:

- a. date and location
- b. purpose of the presentation
- c. number of attendees
- d. how residents were notified, and in what languages
- e. whether accommodations and language access were offered in notice or provided at meeting.

XVI. PROCUREMENT FAILURE, VENDOR ENGAGEMENT, AND CONTRACT BREACH ALLEGATIONS

70. Consideration of an RFI after zero vendor responses

State whether BHA considered issuing a **Request for Information (RFI)** or other market-sounding instrument after zero vendors responded to the RFP for elevator modernization at Ruth Barkley.

- a. Answer yes or no
- b. If yes, produce all documents reflecting that consideration and any decision made, including internal correspondence
- c. If no, explain why no RFI or alternative procurement method was pursued and identify the decision-maker.

71. Correspondence with elevator vendors regarding modernization

Produce **all correspondence** between BHA and any elevator vendor regarding elevator

modernization or billing at Ruth Barkley since January 1, 2020, including emails, letters, texts, memoranda, meeting notes, and call summaries. Include correspondence on personal cell phones and emails for official BHA business.

72. Communications with Schindler regarding BHA contracts

Produce **all communications** between any BHA representative and any Schindler Elevator representative regarding:

- a. consideration of BHA contracts of compliance with BHA contracts
- b. willingness to bid or perform modernization work
- c. concerns about payment, scope, staffing, overtime, or responsiveness.

Identify the BHA and Schindler participants by name and title.

73. Alleged breach of contract during Thanksgiving week

BHA represented to the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board that an elevator service contractor breached contract and failed to respond during Thanksgiving week.

Produce **all communications** supporting this representation, including:

- a. notices of breach
- b. cure notices
- c. internal emails between BHA and service contractor discussing the alleged breach
- d. communications to or from the vendor regarding non-response.

74. Vendor follow-up regarding Thanksgiving-week incident

Produce **all follow-up correspondence** from any elevator vendor to any BHA representative regarding the Thanksgiving-week incident referenced in Question 73.

For each communication, provide a description of the issue addressed and the vendor's response or explanation. If no written communication exists, provide narrative describing verbal or other communication.

XVII. WORK ORDER CENTER CALL LOGS AND AFTER-HOURS RESPONSE

75. Outgoing call logs to Schindler – Nov 25-27, 2025; Dec 2026; and Jan 2026

Produce a **direct record and phone log** of all outgoing calls dialed by the Work Order Center to Schindler Elevator Corporation during the **November 2025, December 2025, and January 2026**, including:

- a. date and time of call and languages used
- b. phone number dialed, including extension if applicable
- c. duration
- d. whether the call was answered, went to voicemail, or was not completed
- e. any call notes or ticket references.

76. Outgoing call logs to Motion Elevator following Schindler

Produce the same records described in Question 75 for **Motion Elevator and United Elevator** specifically identifying calls made **after or in response to unsuccessful contact with Schindler** during the same period. Describe contractor initial and subsequent responses to service requests Nov 25–27.

77. Escalation sequence when primary vendor is unresponsive

Produce any written protocol or guidance governing the escalation sequence when the primary elevator vendor is unresponsive, including when, how, and after how many attempts secondary vendors are contacted. Include any exceptions to the creation of a work order by BHA personnel if elevator service contractor is contacted for service. Include rationale for any refusal of BHA staff to disclose work order numbers to residents when asked.

78. After-hours service conditions

State whether any elevator vendor communicated conditions limiting after-hours response, including requirements for overtime pre-approval or resolution of outstanding invoices. State whether any elevator service contractor who refused service have an outstanding invoice in any amount at the time?

- a. Answer yes or no
- b. If yes, identify the vendor, date, BHA recipient(s), and produce all supporting communications and rationale.

XVIII. Post-RFP Vendor Engagement and Procurement Continuity

79. Actions taken to secure Schindler, United, and Motion after nonresponse to initial RFP

State what specific actions BHA took to secure contracts with Schindler, United Elevator, and Motion Elevator after they did not respond to the initial RFP for elevator modernization or service at Ruth Barkley. For each vendor, provide *narrative* and:

- a. dates of outreach attempts
- b. method of outreach (email, phone, meeting, written request)
- c. BHA participants (names and titles)
- d. vendor participants (names and titles)
- e. documents reflecting the outreach and responses.

80. Outreach to other vendors and vendor list

Identify all other elevator vendors BHA contacted regarding Ruth Barkley elevator modernization or service after the initial RFP received zero responses. Provide:

- a. vendor name
- b. date(s) and method(s) of outreach
- c. the scope presented to the vendor
- d. whether the vendor declined and why, failed to respond, or engaged in discussions and outcome.

Produce all communications.

81. Reasons given for not bidding or not contracting

For each vendor identified in Question 80, state the reason(s) given for not bidding or not contracting, and produce supporting communications reflecting those reasons.

82. Periods with no contracted elevator vendor

List all periods from January 1, 2020 to the date of the response during which Ruth Barkley had no contracted elevator vendor responsible for routine maintenance and emergency response. For each period, provide:

- a. start and end dates
- b. explanation for the gap
- c. interim measures used
- d. the official responsible for ensuring coverage.

83. Month-to-month or interim vendor arrangements

List all periods from January 1, 2020 to the date of the response in which elevator service or maintenance at Ruth Barkley was performed under month-to-month, holdover, interim, or otherwise nonstandard contractual arrangements. For each period, provide:

- a. vendor name
- b. start and end dates
- c. contract mechanism used
- d. scope covered
- e. rates and payment terms
- f. reason a long-form contract was not in place.

XIX. Vendor Payment History and Timeliness

84. History of nonpayment or late payment to elevator vendors

State whether BHA has a history of nonpayment or late payment to elevator vendors.

- a. Answer yes or no
- b. If yes, identify the timeframe, vendors affected, and root causes.

85. Invoice-level payment timeliness for elevator vendors

For each elevator vendor providing service or modernization work at Ruth Barkley from January 1, 2020 to the date of response, produce an invoice-level table (and provide corresponding source documents) that includes:

- a. vendor
- b. invoice number
- c. invoice date
- d. invoice amount
- e. contractual net due date (for example, Net 7, Net 10, Net 30, Due on Receipt)
- f. payment date
- g. number of days from invoice date to payment date
- h. number of days late relative to the contractual due date
- i. reason for any late payment or nonpayment.

86. Payments by payment-term category

Using the table in Question 85, state how many invoices were paid:

- a. on receipt
- b. within 7 days
- c. within 10 days
- d. within 30 days
- e. more than 30 days after invoice date
- f. more than 60 days after invoice date
- g. more than 90 days after invoice date.

87. Dispute and documentation delays

For each invoice paid late or unpaid, state whether the stated reason was:

- a. incomplete documentation
- b. internal approval delay
- c. scope or pricing dispute
- d. quality dispute
- e. budget limitation
- f. other (describe).

Produce all supporting communications, rejection notices, cure requests, or dispute correspondence.

88. Controls to prevent vendor nonresponse tied to payment practices

Produce written policies, procedures, or internal guidance that ensure payment delays, disputes, or documentation requirements do not result in reduced vendor responsiveness, including after-hours coverage, escalation protocols, and contingency arrangements.

XX. DISPARATE IMPACT, DISCRIMINATION, AND CIVIL-RIGHTS ANALYSIS**89. Disproportionate impact on people with disabilities**

State whether BHA believes that elevator outages at Ruth Barkley Apartments disproportionately impact residents with disabilities.

- a. Answer yes or no
- b. If yes, state the factual and analytical basis for that conclusion, including any demographic analysis relied upon
- c. If no, explain why service disruption and prolonged loss of vertical access does not disproportionately burden residents with mobility, sensory, or health-related disabilities, and identify the official responsible for that position.

90. Disproportionate impact on residents of color

State whether BHA believes that elevator outages at Ruth Barkley Apartments disproportionately impact residents who are people of color.

- a. Answer yes or no
- b. If yes, state the factual and analytical basis for that conclusion, including any demographic analysis relied upon
- c. If no, explain why BHA believes repeated loss of access at a **predominantly non-white** public housing development does not constitute a disproportionate impact, and identify the decision-maker.

91. Recognition of discriminatory effect

State whether BHA recognizes that elevator outages which remove access to housing, services, and community life can constitute discrimination under federal or state civil-rights law.

- a. Answer yes or no, without narrative
- b. If yes, identify the laws BHA believes are implicated (including ADA Title II, Section 504, Fair Housing Act, Massachusetts anti-discrimination law)
- c. If no, identify the legal authority BHA relies upon to assert that such outages are not discriminatory.

92. Internal civil-rights analysis

State whether BHA has conducted any internal civil-rights, disparate-impact, or equity analysis related to elevator outages at Ruth Barkley.

- a. Answer yes or no
- b. If yes, produce the analysis and identify who conducted it and when
- c. If no, explain why no such analysis was undertaken despite repeated outages affecting elderly and disabled residents.

XXI. PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE AND BASIC OPERATIONS

93. Preventive maintenance schedules

Produce the written preventive maintenance schedule for **each elevator** at Ruth Barkley Apartments in effect from January 1, 2019 to present.
If schedules changed, produce all versions.

94. Manufacturer-recommended maintenance requirements

For each elevator, produce the manufacturer's recommended maintenance intervals and service requirements applicable during the same period.

95. Compliance with preventive maintenance schedules

For each elevator, state whether BHA complied with the preventive maintenance schedule and manufacturer recommendations for each calendar year from 2019 to present.

If no, identify each missed, deferred, or cancelled maintenance visit and the reason.

96. Deferred or cancelled maintenance

List all instances since January 1, 2019 where scheduled elevator maintenance was deferred or cancelled.

For each instance, state:

- a. date
- b. elevator
- c. reason
- d. who authorized the deferral
- e. whether the deferral increased outage risk.

97. Maintenance backlog tracking

State whether BHA maintains a backlog log or tracking system for deferred elevator maintenance.

- If yes, produce it
- If no, explain why no such system exists.

XXII. ASSET MANAGEMENT, USEFUL LIFE, AND FORESEEABLE FAILURE

98. Expected useful life of each elevator

For each elevator at Ruth Barkley, state:

- a. installation date
- b. manufacturer
- c. expected useful life (data and source to back this)
- d. date the elevator exceeded its useful life.

99. Capital planning recognition of end-of-life elevators

State when BHA first documented that each Ruth Barkley elevator was at or beyond its useful life.

Produce the capital plan, memo, report or correspondence reflecting that recognition.

100. Deferral of replacement or modernization

For each elevator that exceeded its useful life, explain why replacement or full modernization was deferred.

Identify budgetary, administrative, or policy reasons and decision-makers.

101. Risk assessment of continued operation

State whether BHA conducted any risk assessment regarding continued operation of elevators beyond their useful life.

- If yes, produce it
- If no, explain why no assessment was performed.

102. Forecasting of outage risk

State whether BHA forecasted increased outage risk due to age, deferred maintenance, or component obsolescence.

- If yes, produce forecasts
- If no, explain why foreseeable failure was not modeled.

103. Emergency planning for end-of-life assets

State whether BHA developed contingency or emergency plans specifically for elevators operating beyond useful life.

- If no, explain why.

104. Executive awareness of foreseeable failure

Identify when senior BHA leadership was first informed that Ruth Barkley elevators were operating beyond useful life and at heightened risk of failure.

Identify who was informed and what actions were taken.

105. Executive failure to act to restore redundant elevator service

For each building at Ruth Barkley Apartments with more than one elevator, identify any period from January 1, 2019 to the date of response during which a redundant elevator remained out of service for an extended or indefinite period, including but not limited to 42 Harrison Archway and others reported to MAAB.

For each such building and elevator, provide:

- a. the start and end dates the elevator was out of service
- b. the total duration of the outage
- c. the reason the elevator was not restored to service
- d. whether the outage was classified internally as temporary, long-term, or indefinite
- e. the names and titles of BHA leadership with authority to authorize repair or replacement during each period of service interruption
- f. whether authorization to repair or replace was requested, deferred, or denied, and by whom
- g. what information was communicated to residents regarding the outage, timelines, or lack thereof
- h. whether BHA evaluated the impact of prolonged loss of redundant elevator service on residents with disabilities or mobility impairments, and if so, describe how the evaluation was conducted, including the data considered, the staff or officials involved, and any conclusions or actions taken; if no such evaluation was conducted, state that fact and explain why.



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BILL SD.3607: AN ACT PROTECTING ACCESS TO JUSTICE

- WHEREAS,** Equal access to the courts is a foundational principle of democracy and residents must be able to appear in court, seek protection, and resolve disputes without fear of civil arrest or intimidation; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** Over the past few months, there have been many reports of residents being detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), while entering or leaving courthouses across the City of Boston, including in East Boston, without a judicial warrant for their arrest, causing fear, separating families, and leaving communities feeling unsafe and unprotected; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** Deterring and terrifying residents from reporting crimes or seeking justice, undermines public safety and leaves entire communities vulnerable. Fear-driven barriers to the courts erode trust in public institutions and prevent survivors, witnesses, and families from accessing the protections they deserve; *and,*
- WHEREAS,** Senate Docket No. 3607, An Act Protecting Access to Justice, is an was filed on January 20, 2026 by Senator Lydia Edwards and Senator Patricia Jehlen, and is currently before the Massachusetts Legislature; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The legislation requires any local, state, or federal law-enforcement representative entering a courthouse to observe or detain an individual to self-identify, state their purpose, and provide any warrant or order for judicial review, prohibits arrests in courtrooms during proceedings, and bans face coverings that obscure identity in the courthouse, unless medically necessary; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The bill establishes that individuals attending court proceedings, whether as parties, witnesses, family, or household members, shall not be subject to civil arrest at or while traveling to or from court without a judicial warrant or order; *and*
- WHEREAS,** SD.3607 also includes public-safety exceptions for individuals convicted of specified serious violent offenses or identified through federal terrorist screening

processes; *and*

WHEREAS, The bill establishes transparency and accountability by requiring the Supreme Judicial Court to maintain copies of all warrants or orders presented, publish an annual public report, and adopt implementing rules; *and*

WHEREAS, Additionally, the legislation provides enforcement authority to the Attorney General, creates a civil cause of action for violations, and authorizes equitable relief and attorney's fees to prevailing parties; *and*

WHEREAS, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, like all law enforcement and public safety agencies, must be bound by the rule of law to ensure that community safety nets are preserved, constitutional rights are protected, and democracy itself remains a central pillar of American society; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, That the Boston City Council hereby expresses its strong support for Senate Docket No. 3607, An Act Protecting Access to Justice. The Council urges the 194th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to advance and enact this bill to safeguard access to justice, uphold due process, and protect the integrity of the Commonwealth's courts; and that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Chairs of the Joint Committee on Rules and the bill's sponsors.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR FLYNN



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING OPEN MEETING LAW VIOLATIONS

WHEREAS, The Massachusetts Open Meeting Law is a state law which is enforced by the Massachusetts Attorney General's office. This law governs how a municipal body meets and conducts business to support transparency and accountability. The Massachusetts Open Meeting Law states that no more than three Councilors can deliberate on a matter related to the business of the Council; *and*

WHEREAS, Boston residents have expressed concerns that there was a lack of transparency and backroom deliberations among city councilors, which skirted the spirit of the Open Meeting Law, leading up to the first Council meeting to determine who would be elected as President of the Boston City Council; *and*

WHEREAS, According to credible reports, over the weekend prior, city councilors met at the home of another city councilor to lobby them to run for President. Additionally, on the morning of the City Council election and at the outset of the Council meeting, city councilors were seen in public view deliberating at their council offices and outside the Iannella Chamber, a clear violation of the Open Meeting Law rule; *and*

WHEREAS, At the time of the vote, councilors publicly admitted to deliberations taking place throughout the process and the previous two months - but especially in the 24-48 hours prior to the vote. A series of incidents like this, has now paved the way for cynicism and the erosion of public trust between city elected officials and the residents of Boston that we serve. It is critical that the Boston City Council acknowledges years of ongoing public concerns on potential Open Meeting Law violations - and actively work to regain public trust and confidence through state training and recommendations on how to conduct this important process without breaking the law, and to conduct itself as a more open and transparent body; *and*

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the Boston City Council acknowledges violating the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law relating to the 2026 election of the Boston City Council President. As part of this acknowledgment, we respectfully ask the city clerk to forward a certified copy of this resolution directly to the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office of Open Government for further guidance.

Filed on: January 10, 2026



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

RESOLUTION URGING SUPPORT FOR THE 2026 BALLOT QUESTION ON RENT STABILIZATION TO PROTECT TENANTS IN MASSACHUSETTS

WHEREAS, The rapidly escalating cost of housing in Boston has created profound instability for renters—placing many seniors, essential workers, and families at risk of displacement and housing insecurity; *and*

WHEREAS, Residents across Boston consistently cite housing affordability as a top concern, and over 50% of renters in the Boston area are considered “cost-burdened,” paying more than 30% of their income on rent and utilities—with more than 27% severely burdened, paying over 50%; *and*

WHEREAS, Rent control was eliminated through a 1994 statewide ballot question by the aggregate of Massachusetts voters, despite Boston voters supporting the continuation of rent control by a significant margin; *and*

WHEREAS, Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston City Council voted on a home rule petition in 2022 to stabilize rents in Boston that was filed with the Massachusetts legislature and then sent to committee to study; *and*

WHEREAS, A coalition led by Homes for All Massachusetts has filed initiative petition language with the Attorney General to place a rent stabilization measure on the November 2026 statewide ballot, proposing a cap on annual rent increases tied to the Consumer Price Index—or, in any case, not exceeding 5% per year—with exemptions for owner-occupied buildings of four or fewer units and for newly constructed buildings during their first ten years. ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council hereby declares its support for the rent stabilization measure proposed for the 2026 statewide ballot; ***AND BE IT FURTHER***

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk is hereby requested to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Attorney General, the Boston delegation of the Massachusetts Legislature, the Mayor of Boston, and the Governor of the Commonwealth.

Filed in Council: January 28, 2026

BOSTON CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL

January 20, 2026

Councilor Breadon

ORDERED: That effective Saturday, January 24, 2026 the following named person be, and hereby is, appointed to the position set against their name until Friday, March 13, 2026.

BiWeekly Payroll

Moira Carragee	Secretary	\$3,269.24	full time
Matthew D. Costas	Administrative Asst.	\$3,961.54	full time

BOSTON CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL

January 14, 2026

Councilor Breadon
(Councilor Mejia)

ORDERED: That effective Saturday, January 24, 2026 the following named person be, and hereby is, appointed to the position set against their name until Friday, March 13, 2026.

BiWeekly Payroll

Ericson Hilaire	Secretary	\$1,384.62	full time
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BOSTON CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL

January 22, 2026

Councilor Breadon
(Councilor Durkan)

ORDERED: That effective Saturday, February 7, 2026 the following named person be, and hereby is, appointed to the position set against their name until Friday, March 13, 2026.

BiWeekly Payroll

Jessie Frasier	Secretary	\$2,423.08	Full time
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Boston City Council

Legislative Calendar for the January 28, 2026 Session

Sixty Day Orders¹

¹**Section 17E of Chapter 452 of the Acts of 1948 (as amended):**

The mayor from time to time may make to the city council in the form of an ordinance or loan order filed with the city clerk such recommendations as he may deem to be for the welfare of the city. The City Council shall consider each ordinance or loan order so presented and shall either adopt or reject the same within sixty days after the date when it is filed as aforesaid. If such ordinance or loan order is not rejected within sixty days, it shall be in force as if adopted by the city council unless previously withdrawn by the mayor.

Section 15 of Chapter 190 of the Acts of 1982 (as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 701 of the Acts of 1986) *The city council shall take definite action on any supplementary appropriation order and any order for a transfer of appropriations by adopting, reducing or rejecting it within sixty days after it is filed with the city clerk; and in the event of their failure to do so, such supplementary appropriation order or transfer as submitted by the mayor shall be in effect as if formally adopted by the city council.*

Assigned for Further Action

Unanswered Section 17F Orders²

²Section 17F of Chapter 452 of the Acts of 1948 (as amended):

The city council may at any time request from the mayor specific information on any municipal matter within its jurisdiction, and may request his presence to answer written questions relating thereto at a meeting to be held not earlier than one week from the date of the receipt of said questions, in which case the mayor shall personally, or through a head of a department or a member of a board, attend such meeting and publicly answer all such questions. The person so attending shall not be obliged to answer questions relating to any other matter.

³**Section 22 of Chapter 190 of the Acts of 1982:**

Every order of the city council approving a petition to the general court pursuant to Clause (1) of Section 8 of Article 2 of the amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth shall be presented to the mayor who shall forthwith consider the same, and, within fifteen days of presentation, either approve it, or file with the city council a statement in detail of his reasons for not approving the same, including any objection based on form, on content, or both; provided, that no such order shall be deemed approved or in force unless the mayor affixes his signature thereto.

Matters in Committee

The following matters were previously filed with the City Council and have been referred to a committee. Matters in committee can be brought back before the City Council pursuant to City Council Rule 24. The following *definitions* describe different types of matters in committee:

- Ordinances:*** Local laws enacted by the Boston City Council and the Mayor that become part of the City Code of Ordinances.
- Loan Orders:*** Authorization for the City of Boston to incur debt and expend money for projects, purchases, or other obligations.
- Orders:*** Directives that authorize action. Orders are legally binding but are not part of the City Code of Ordinances.
- Home Rule Petitions:*** Requests for special acts that concern a particular municipality. Home Rule Petitions require approval of the Boston City Council and Mayor, as well as passage by the state legislature.
- Order for a Hearing:*** A formal request sponsored by a councilor that a committee of the Boston City Council conduct a hearing about a particular matter, issue, or policy that impacts the City of Boston. An Order for a Hearing is not a law and is not voted on by the City Council. The only action concerning an Order for a Hearing that can be taken at a City Council meeting is the administrative action of placing it on file.
- Legislative Resolution:*** A recommendation concerning policy issues that may urge action on particular matters. Legislative resolutions have no legal effect. Legislative resolutions represent a particular position or statement by a Councilor, Councilors, or the City Council as a whole.

2026 Matters in Committee

Committee	Docket #	Sponsor	Co-Sponsor(s)	Docket Description	Date referred Hearing(s)	Notes
Whole	0112	Murphy		Order for a hearing regarding parking access for traveling Boston Public Schools employees.	1/5/2026	
Whole	0113	Murphy	Flynn, Mejia	Order for a hearing to examine Boston Public Schools closure and merger actions related to the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years and transparency in the Long-Term Facilities Plan.	1/5/2026	

City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



Official Resolution

Presented by

COUNCILOR GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council Honors

Jason Aluia

In Recognition of:

a lifelong commitment to caring for others and giving back to the community, and as the recipient of the Ferdinand Carangelo Humanitarian Award. A proud lifelong North Ender, Jason Aluia has shown unwavering dedication through his service with NEW HEALTH, his leadership on the Board, and his constant presence in the community. His compassion, generosity, and genuine care for others have made a meaningful and lasting impact on the lives of many.

And be it further Resolved that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____

Date: _____

City of Boston

IN CITY COUNCIL



IN TRIBUTE

THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS ITS
DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO YOU AND YOUR
FAMILY IN THE PASSING OF YOUR LOVED ONE

Judy A. Gray

IN WHOSE MEMORY ALL MEMBERS STOOD
IN TRIBUTE AND REVERENCE AS
THE COUNCIL ADJOURNED ITS MEETING OF

January 28, 2026

SINCERELY,

CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Attest

Presented By

Galvinda Colette Zapata

City of Boston

IN

CITY COUNCIL



Official Resolution

Presented by

COUNCILOR GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council Honors

Richard McGuinness

In Recognition of:

his outstanding leadership and commitment to climate resilience and environmental planning, and his lasting contributions to a more sustainable Boston.

And be it further Resolved that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____

Date: _____

City of Boston

IN
CITY COUNCIL



IN TRIBUTE

THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS ITS
DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO YOU AND YOUR
FAMILY IN THE PASSING OF YOUR LOVED ONE

Barbara Ann Sutera

IN WHOSE MEMORY ALL MEMBERS STOOD
IN TRIBUTE AND REVERENCE AS
THE COUNCIL ADJOURNED ITS MEETING OF

January 5, 2026

SINCERELY,

CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Attest

Presented By

Gabriela Coletta Zapata



Official Resolution Presented by Councilor Miniard Culpepper

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council extends its Gratitude to:

Arthur M. Rose

In Recognition of:

His 107th birthday and his service to our country

be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council hereby recognizes Arthur M. Rose, a longtime resident of the City of Boston and a distinguished World War II and Korean War Veteran, for his extraordinary life and service. Mr. Rose served

honorably in the United States Navy, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Commander, and participated in the June 6, 1944 Allied invasion of Normandy, France

and be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for your continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: _____

President of the City Council

Attest: _____

Clerk of the City Council

Offered by: _____

Date: _____

City of Boston

IN
CITY COUNCIL



IN TRIBUTE

THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS ITS
DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO YOU AND YOUR
FAMILY IN THE PASSING OF YOUR LOVED ONE

Suzanne Comtois


IN WHOSE MEMORY ALL MEMBERS STOOD
IN TRIBUTE AND REVERENCE AS
THE COUNCIL ADJOURNED ITS MEETING OF

January 28, 2026

SINCERELY,


CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT



Attest 
City Clerk

Presented By



City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

OFFERED BY

Councilor Sharon Durkan

The Boston City Council hereby celebrates and honors
Brigadier General Enoch “Woody” Woodhouse II on the occasion of his:

99th Birthday

WHEREAS, General Woodhouse, born January 14, 1927, in Roxbury, is a distinguished member of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen, the nation’s first Black military aviators who served with exceptional honor in the 332nd Fighter Group during World War II; *and*

WHEREAS, At seventeen, he enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps to earn his commission as a Second Lieutenant, serving with excellence and integrity as a finance officer for the 332nd Fighter Group; *and*

WHEREAS, The General has devoted his life to educating the public, advocating for justice, and for nearly a century has embodied the highest ideals of moral leadership, leaving a lasting legacy that continues to inspire communities throughout the City of Boston; *and*

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Boston City Council extends its warmest wishes to Brigadier General Enoch “Woody” Woodhouse II on his Ninety Ninth birthday and expresses the deepest gratitude for his lifetime of service to our city, our Commonwealth, and our nation.



By: Elizabeth Breen
President of the City Council

Attest: Alex S. Santos
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: Sharon Durkan

Date: January 14, 2025

City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



OFFICIAL RESOLUTION OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council
Extends its Recognition to:

Historic Twelfth Baptist Church

In Recognition of:

Your historic legacy and enduring commitment to justice, service, and community leadership. As the Boston church home of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during his doctoral studies, your institution helped shape the vision of the Beloved Community and its lasting influence on social progress in Boston and throughout the country. For more than 185 years, your work has strengthened communities and advanced equity in the City of Boston and beyond.

and Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____

Date: _____

City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

OFFERED BY
COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council
Extends its Recognition to:

AMERICAN LEGION FOGG- ROBERTS POST 78

In Recognition of:

Your outstanding support and advocacy of Veterans and military families throughout Hyde Park and the City of Boston, demonstrated through years of dedicated service, community leadership, and an unwavering commitment to honoring those who have served and sacrificed for our nation.

and Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____

Date: _____

City of Boston IN

CITY COUNCIL



OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council
Extends its Recognition to:

THE BASE

In Recognition of:

Your continued commitment to empowering youth and strengthening our community through education, career access and wellness. By hosting the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

College, Career, and Wellness fair, The Base honors Dr. King's legacy of education, excellence and equality while creating meaningful opportunities for future generations. Your leadership and advocacy have made a lasting impact on young people throughout the City of Boston and Commonwealth of Massachusetts. We extend our deepest gratitude and respect for the difference you continue to make.

and Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____

Date: _____

City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

OFFERED BY
COUNCILOR ED FLYNN

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council
Extends its Recognition to:

DIANE & BRIAN YANOVITCH

In Recognition of:

A night for Diane and Brian to support this wonderful couple and to recognize their contributions to South Boston neighbors, celebrating the joy, kindness, and community spirit they bring to everyone around them.

and Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____

Date: _____



OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

PRESENTED BY

COUNCILOR AT-LARGE RUTHZEE LOULJEUNE

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL
EXTENDS ITS CONGRATULATIONS TO

Géraud Charles

IN RECOGNITION OF:

**Your dedication to education, public service, and democratic
engagement in Haiti. Through leadership, you have made lasting
contributions to national development and civic life, both in Haiti
and within the diaspora**

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS ITS
BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS; THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE DULY
SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND ATTESTED TO AND A
COPY THEREOF TRANSMITTED BY THE CLERK OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF BETTY JEAN CHISOLM

WHEREAS, Betty Jean (Compton) Chisolm was born on August 28, 1946, in New Orleans, Louisiana, and made Boston, Massachusetts her home, where she lived a life rooted in faith, family, public service, and community; *and*

WHEREAS, Ms. Chisolm graduated from Girls' High School of Boston in 1964 and devoted herself to raising and supporting her family, embracing her roles as mother, stepmother, grandmother, and great-grandmother with unwavering love and care; *and*

WHEREAS, Ms. Chisolm dedicated nearly three decades to public service at the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, beginning as a bus driver in 1978 and advancing to Chief Inspector at the Cabot Garage, from which she retired in 2006; *and*

WHEREAS, Ms. Chisolm was a trailblazer at the MBTA, becoming one of the first Black female inspectors in the agency's history, earning the respect of her colleagues and leaving a legacy recognized to this day; *and*

WHEREAS, Ms. Chisolm was a proud union member of Local 589 and Local 600 and exemplified professionalism, leadership, and mentorship throughout her career; *and*

WHEREAS, Ms. Chisolm was deeply committed to community service, including her leadership with youth programs, mentorship of young people, and long-standing tradition of volunteerism alongside her family; *and*

WHEREAS, Ms. Chisolm was a woman of faith, serving her church community through music and ministry at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church and Morning Star Baptist Church; *and*

WHEREAS, Betty Jean Chisolm will be remembered for her integrity, generosity, leadership, devotion to family, and lifelong commitment to service, leaving a lasting impact on the City of Boston and all who knew her; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED: that the Boston City Council hereby honors and commends the life and legacy of Betty Jean (Compton) Chisolm and extends its sincere condolences to her family, friends, and loved ones.



OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

PRESENTED BY

COUNCILOR AT-LARGE RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL
EXTENDS ITS CONGRATULATIONS TO

- 1. Patrick Tintin**
- 2. Roberto ROGA Gabriel**
- 3. Myrlène Legendre Désir**

IN RECOGNITION OF:

**Your artistic achievements and contributions to the Haitian Artists
Assembly of Massachusetts as it celebrates its 30th anniversary**

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL PRESIDENT LOUIJEUNE AND THE
ENTIRE CITY COUNCIL EXTEND THEIR HEARTFELT BEST WISHES, AND THAT
THIS RESOLUTION BE DULY SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL
AND ATTESTED TO AND A COPY THEREOF TRANSMITTED BY THE CLERK OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON.



OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

PRESENTED BY

COUNCILOR AT-LARGE RUTHZEE LOULJEUNE

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL
EXTENDS ITS CONGRATULATIONS TO

- 1. The Haitian Americans United, Inc. (H.A.U.)**
- 2. Dr. Hans Patrick Domercant**
- 3. Maître Theophile Pierre**
- 4. Beulah Fagan Providence**
- 5. Bay Cove Human Services**

IN RECOGNITION OF:

Your 27th Annual Haitian Independence Day Gala, Celebrating the historic victory of the Haitian Revolution (1791-1804), honoring the resilience, courage, and legacy of Haiti's ancestors, and commemorating the 222nd Anniversary of the Proclamation of Haiti's Independence

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS ITS BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS; THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE DULY SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND ATTESTED TO AND A COPY THEREOF TRANSMITTED BY THE CLERK OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



Official Resolution of City Councilors Enrique J. Pepén & Ruthzee Louijeune

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council
extends its Congratulations to:

Hydn & Rossemary Vales

In Recognition of:

**The beautiful, inclusive, and positive community you created with
V!Healthy that will thrive beyond the store!
We are grateful for the love and care you brought to Roslindale!**

Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.



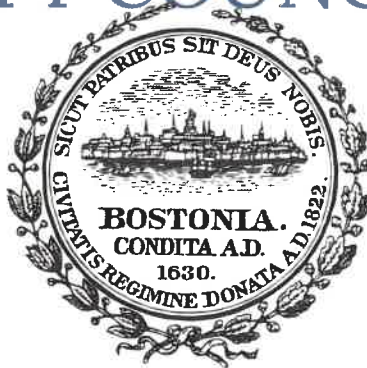
By: Elizabeth Breeden
President of the City Council

Attest: Ally Sautter
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: Enrique J. Pepén & Ruthzee Louijeune

Date: January 22, 2026

City of Boston
IN
CITY COUNCIL



**Official Resolution
of City Councilor Enrique J. Pepén**

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council
extends its Congratulations to:

Lucille Douglas

In Recognition of:

Your 100th birthday!

We wish you a happy centennial and many more years of blessings!

Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____

Date: December 3rd, 2025

City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



IN TRIBUTE

On behalf of Councilor Enrique J. Pepén

The Boston City Council Extends its
deepest sympathy to you and your family
in the passing of your loved one:

Smiler Haynes

In whose memory all members stood
in tribute and reverence as
the council adjourned its meeting of

Wednesday, January 28th 2026



By: Elizabeth Bresnan
President of the City Council

Attest: Alex Quintas
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: [Signature]

Date: January 28, 2026

City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



Official Resolution of City Councilor Enrique J. Pepén

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council
extends its Congratulations to:

JAM Optical

In Recognition of:

Your 1st anniversary! Thank you for becoming a neighborhood staple.

We wish you many more years of growing business!

Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____

Date: _____

City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



Official Resolution of City Councilor Enrique J. Pepén

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council
extends its Congratulations to:

Sant Belvi Center

In Recognition of:

**Your 17th anniversary! Thank you for the many years of medical and
rehabilitative support for our residents in need! And for being a space of
comfort for our Haitian community! Cheers to many more years!**

Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for
continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the
City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the
City of Boston.



By: Kathryn Foujaune
President of the City Council

Attest: Alex Grantas
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: [Signature]

Date: December 22, 2025

City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL



Official Resolution of City Councilor Enrique J. Pepén

Be it Resolved, that the Boston City Council
extends its Congratulations to:

Elisabeth Trupeí Talbot

In Recognition of:

**Being awarded the Boston Public Schools Counselor of the Year!
Your care for O'Bryant students' academic success creates their
foundation for rewarding and prosperous futures.
The City is grateful for your commitment and dedication!**

Be it further Resolved that the Boston City Council extends its best wishes for continued success; that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the City Council and attested to and a copy thereof transmitted by the Clerk of the City of Boston.

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____

Date: *December 22, 2025*

City of Boston

IN
CITY COUNCIL



IN TRIBUTE

THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS ITS
DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO YOU AND YOUR
FAMILY IN THE PASSING OF YOUR LOVED ONE

ROBERT FRANKLIN


IN WHOSE MEMORY ALL MEMBERS STOOD
IN TRIBUTE AND REVERENCE AS
THE COUNCIL ADJOURNED ITS MEETING OF
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28th, 2026

SINCERELY,


CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT



Attest


City Clerk

Presented By



OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BENJAMIN J. WEBER



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

WHEREAS, Tuesday, January 27, 2026 marked 81 years since the liberation of 7,000 prisoners from the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp in Poland; *and*

WHEREAS, The Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp resulted in the death of more than one million people at the hands of Nazi German forces; *and*

WHEREAS, Since 2005, the United Nations has recognized January 27 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day to commemorate those liberated from Auschwitz by Soviet troops; *and*

WHEREAS, International Holocaust Remembrance Day is designated as a time to remember the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and the millions of other victims of Nazi prosecution, including members of the LGBTQ community and people with disabilities; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council recognizes January 27 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day and commits itself to speaking out against antisemitism, bigotry, and hate.

Filed on: January 28, 2026

City of Boston

IN
CITY COUNCIL



IN TRIBUTE

THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS ITS
DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO YOU AND YOUR
FAMILY IN THE PASSING OF YOUR LOVED ONE

SUSANO AUGUSTO POLANCO

IN WHOSE MEMORY ALL MEMBERS STOOD
IN TRIBUTE AND REVERENCE AS
THE COUNCIL ADJOURNED ITS MEETING OF
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28th, 2026



SINCERELY,

CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Attest

City Clerk

Presented By

Resolution recognizing Stella Tate upon the milestone of her 99th birthday.