



BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

Committee on Ways and Means
Benjamin J. Weber, Chair

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

June 10, 2026

Dear Councilors:

The Committee on Ways and Means was referred the following dockets for consideration:

Docket #0741, message and order authorizing a limit for the Boston Public Schools revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to support the maintenance and repair for BPS facilities, including custodial and utility costs for extended building time, floor refinishing, landscaping and building repairs, with expenditures not to exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00).

Docket #0742, message and order authorizing a limit for the Boston Public Schools revolving fund for the Fiscal Year 2027 for Boston Public School Transportation costs, including bus and public transportation costs, with expenditures not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00).

Docket #0743, message and order authorizing a limit for the Boston Public Schools revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to repair and purchase Boston Public Schools computer technology, including computers, mobile devices, and instructional software, with expenditures not to exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00).

Docket #0744, message and order authorizing a limit for the Environment Conservation Commission revolving fund for the Fiscal Year 2027 for the purpose of securing outside consultants including engineers, wetlands scientists, wildlife biologists, or other experts in order to aid in the review of proposed projects to the Commission, per the City's ordinance protecting local wetland and promoting climate change adaptation, with expenditures not to exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00).

Docket #0745, message and order authorizing a limit for the Distributed Energy Resource Revolving Fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to facilitate the purchase of offsets of greenhouse gas emissions which shall be associated with a portion of the electricity consumed by the City annually, and to operate, maintain, monitor, and expand the City's existing solar arrays and Boston Public Schools' combined heat and power facilities, with expenditures not to exceed One Hundred-Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00).

Docket #0746, message and order authorizing a limit for the Equitable Emission Investment (BERDO) revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to incur liabilities against and spend monies from such fund consistent with the Ordinance, with expenditures not to exceed One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000.00).

Docket #0747, message and order authorizing a limit for the Boston Centers for Youth and Families revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to pay salaries and benefits of employees and to purchase supplies and equipment necessary to operate the City Hall Child Care, with expenditures not to exceed One Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,100,000.00).

Docket #0748, message and order authorizing a limit for the Law Department revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to purchase goods and services for repairs to city property, with expenditures not to exceed Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00).

Docket #0749, message and order authorizing a limit for the Boston Police Department revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to pay salaries and benefits of employees and to purchase supplies and equipment necessary to operate the Police Department Fitness Center, with expenditures not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00).

Docket #0750, message and order authorizing a limit for the Boston Police Department revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to support the Canine Unit's training program for officers and police dogs from non-City of Boston law enforcement agencies, with expenditures not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00).

Docket #0751, message and order authorizing a limit for the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to purchase goods and services to support public art to enhance the public realm throughout the City of Boston, with expenditures not to exceed Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.00).

Docket #0752, message and order authorizing a limit for the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to purchase goods and services to support the operation of the Strand Theatre, with expenditures not to exceed Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00).

Docket #0753, message and order authorizing a limit for the Mayor's Office of Tourism revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to purchase goods and services to support events and programming on and around City Hall Plaza to advance tourism and promote participation in public celebrations, civic, and cultural events, with expenditures not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00).

Docket #0754, message and order authorizing a limit for the Boston Transportation Department revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2027 to support the operation of the bikeshare program within the City of Boston, with expenditures not to exceed One Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,400,000.00).

These matters were sponsored by Mayor Michelle Wu and were referred to the Committee on April 8, 2026. Dockets were heard as part of public hearings on topics including Boston Public Schools (BPS), Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment, Environment Department, Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF), Boston Police Department (BPD), Boston Transportation Department (BTD), Law Department, and Office of Arts and Culture, on April 16 (BPS), April 30 (Tourism), April 22 (Environment), May 18 (BCYF), May 7 (BPD), May 4 (BTD), April 23 (Law), and April 30 (Arts and Culture).

Summary of Legislation

Dockets #0741-0754 are authorizations of revolving fund limits for FY27. Annual authorization of the dollar-limit for each of these revolving funds is required by their enabling legislation, Section 53E½, Chapter 44, Massachusetts General Laws. Revolving funds are an important budgetary tool for departments, as they allow for better financial flexibility in the management of unpredictable and self-sustaining activities. The Committee on Ways and Means has formalized and standardized the review process for these funds by running reviews concurrent with the annual budget review process and departmental budget hearings, with the intent to maintain transparency and accountability in the annual review and authorization of these funds.

Dockets #0746 and #0754 are new revolving funds being authorized for the first time in FY27.

Docket #0746 allows the City to create a revolving fund to incur liabilities against and spend monies consistent with the BERDO ordinance. It will be funded by receipts from the Alternative Compliance Payments (ACPs). ACPs are an approved emissions mitigation pathway that consists of payments equal to the average cost per metric ton of CO2 to decarbonize buildings. The Environment Department will be the only department authorized to expend from the fund and such expenditures shall be capped at \$1,500,000.

Docket #0754 allows the City to create a revolving fund to support the establishment and operation of the bikeshare program within the City of Boston. It shall be funded by system-generated user revenues, sponsorship revenues, and advertising revenues. The Transportation Department will be the only department authorized to expend from the fund and such expenditures shall be capped at \$1,400,000.

Information Received at Hearings

These funds are sources of additional funding for departments, as such the Committee heard dockets together with the relevant departments' budgets. For revolving funds, standardized reporting information consisting of a summary of each revolving fund and the fund's previous year's revenue and expenditures was shared with the Committee for review.

Committee Chair Recommended Action

As Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means, I recommend moving the listed dockets from the Committee to the full Council for discussion and formal action. At that time, my recommendation to the full Council will be that these matters **OUGHT TO PASS**.



Benjamin J. Weber, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means