

Boston City Council
Committee on Planning, Development and Transportation
Councilor Michelle Wu, *Chair*

November 17, 2021

Dear Councilors:

The Boston City Council's Committee on Planning, Development and Transportation to which was referred the following:

Docket #1023 – Communication was received from Susan L. Sullivan executive Director Newmarket Business Association regarding the proposed petition for Newmarket Business Improvement District.

This matter was filed with the Council by the City Clerk upon the filing of a petition with the City Clerk seeking the City Council's approval of a proposed Business Improvement District (BID) and was referred to the Committee on Planning, Development and Transportation on September 29, 2021.

The Committee on Planning, Development and Transportation held a public hearing via zoom on November 8, 2021, to take testimony and consider the same.

The Chair read into the record formal language requirements outlined by the State according to MA General Law Chapter 40 O, which included:

- **Letter from the City Clerk stating that the petition to establish the Newmarket Business Improvement District meets all of the criteria for the establishment of a BID as set for forth in G.L. c. 40O §3**
- **Assessor Certificate from the Assessor for the City of Boston certifying that he has received and reviewed the list of fiscal year 2019 assessed real property and real property owners within the proposed Newmarket Business Improvement District, and that stated signatures exceed sixty percent (60%) of the real property owners within the BID and that they exceed the fifty-one percent**

(51%) of the assessed valuation of all real property within the BID

- **The Fee Structure as set for forth in G.L. c. 40O §8**

Documents read into the record (Attached)

Councilors Present: Chair – Councilor Michelle Wu, Vice-Chair Councilor Frank Baker, Councilor Ed Flynn, Councilor Michael Flaherty, Councilor Kenzie Bok, Councilor Julia Mejia

State Representative Liz Miranda; State Representative Jon Santiago; Suffolk County Sheriff Steven Tompkins and Andrew Grace, Director of Strategic Planning - Mayor’s Office of Economic Development attended the hearing and presented testimony in favor of the Petition to establish the Newmarket Business Improvement District, citing their familiarity with the mission, goals and aspirations of this project, their long term efforts and commitment, advocating and planning for a better future together, with residents, leaders, property and business owners, organizations and institutions, and the Newmarket Business Association. They pledged their full support in moving this matter forward and bringing it to fruition and urged the Boston City Council to approve the petition for the Newmarket Business Improvement District.

**Sue Sullivan, Executive Director - Newmarket Business Association
Ben Murphy, Program Manager - Newmarket Business Association
Ann Brake, Consultant for Newmarket BID and expert on BIDs:
Attended the hearing and presented documentation and testimony on the process and particulars of the Petition to Establish the Newmarket Business Improvement District, which included:**

The components of a Business Improvement District and the enabling legislation (Massachusetts General Laws – Chapter 40O)

The community outreach, education and partnership formation efforts

The data substantiating the well above required legal threshold to establish the Newmarket Business Improvement District

The description and maps of the proposed boundaries of the Newmarket Business Improvement District

The Mission and Goals: Better Quality of Life, Increased Safety and Security, Greater Area Cleanliness, Improved Transportation around the District, Advocacy for Local Businesses/Property Owners and Residents, Advocacy for Change in Homelessness/Addiction Crisis, And the Promotion of Business Growth

The proposed development and improvement plans for the Newmarket Business Improvement District

The overall associated benefits and enhanced programming, services, resources and activities brought about by the establishment of the Newmarket Business Improvement District

Copy of Newmarket Business Improvement District's presentation (Attached)

Public Testimony and Submittals to the Committee were reviewed and considered

Based on the documentation, information and testimony submitted and presented at the hearing and having considered the same the Committee determined that the petition seeking the formation of the Newmarket Business Improvement District satisfies the purposes set forth and the establishment criteria of G. L. c. 40O.

I respectfully recommend that the City Council vote to approve the petition to establish the Newmarket Business Improvement District, that a roll call vote be taken and that this matter ought to Pass.



**Councilor Michelle Wu, Chair
Committee on Planning, Development and Transportation**