



#### Administration

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Edward Flynn  
City Councilor, District 2  
Boston City Hall  
Boston, MA 02201

June 22, 2026

#### **Re: Boston City Council Docket #0221**

Dear Councilor Flynn —

While the Boston Housing Authority is not included among the enumerated agencies covered by the 17(f) provision of the Boston City Charter, we still try to courteously respond to Councilors' requests for information, in a spirit of partnership. As you know, on this same inquiry, BHA previously responded to your 22-question 17(f) request in December 2025. This new 17(f), sent in January of 2026, appears to be a re-filed and much longer version of the original, now totaling 105 questions.

Not only would an itemized response be prohibitively taxing on BHA's very limited staff resources, including all of the staff who work hard every day, often for extended hours, to support our elevator portfolio, but a large number of the questions are unfortunately not appropriate for a 17(f) request. They demand the agency offer an opinion, belief, or judgment about an asserted legal claim, or are framed akin to interrogatories in a legal case. We previously omitted responses to such questions in our December 2025 reply, but given that in this new version the number of such inapposite questions has significantly increased, we are compelled to address the issue directly.

The BHA notes that the questions in this 17(f) request bear a strong resemblance to inquiries raised by a third-party litigant of whom we are aware. It would not be appropriate for a City Councilor to indirectly initiate a legal discovery process on behalf of a third-party under the guise of the 17(f) process. Councilors may find it helpful to review "Advisory 88-01: Municipal Employees Acting as Agent for Another Party," which lays out the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A § 17(c).

We share a strong interest in investing in the BHA's elevator portfolio and in ensuring that all our BHA residents have reliable access to their homes. We stand ready to engage productively with you in a spirit of partnership on this matter, but are unable to do so within a framework contrary to our legal obligations to the Authority. Please consider this communication our response to Docket # 0221. I also reattach our prior response from December 2025 to the October 17(f) request, for your ease of reference.

Sincerely,



Kenzie Bok

Administrator & CEO  
Boston Housing Authority

CC: Boston City Council President Liz Breadon, District 9  
Michelle Goldberg, Staff Director, Boston City Council  
Meghan Kavanagh, Staff Counsel, Boston City Council

Michael Firestone, Corporation Counsel, City of Boston  
Ricardo Patron, Chief of Intergovernmental Relations, City of Boston