

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS FRANK BAKER, ED FLYNN, LIZ BREADON, KENZIE BOK

Essaibbi-George, Arroyo, Campbell, Edwards, Flaherty, Mejia, Wu and O'Malley



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING MAXIMIZING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN BIOTECHNOLOGY FOR BOSTON RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, The City of Boston is currently undergoing a massive boom in the development of laboratory and other high-tech manufacturing facilities. In many instances previously planned residential projects are being converted to office or biotechnology uses; and

WHEREAS, Many low and moderate income Boston residents have been shut out from the jobs and workforce development opportunities in our booming high tech economy; and

WHEREAS, Many Boston residents have experienced income and job loss as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Boston's low- and moderate-income residents should directly benefit from large-scale real estate development in their city. This should include direct employment opportunities, job training, and related services; and

WHEREAS, The City of Boston has a unique opportunity and an obligation to ensure that a broader group of Bostonians sees the economic benefits resulting from these and future development projects; and

WHEREAS, The City of Boston should collaborate with neighborhood groups and workforce development and job training nonprofit organizations in order to maximize access to these new jobs and workforce development opportunities to provide the greatest benefit to the City of Boston and its residents;

THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to further discuss how best to improve access and opportunity for employment in the biotechnology industry for all Bostonians, to ensure that economic benefits of new laboratory and high tech real estate developments are broadly shared, and that representatives from the Boston Planning and Development Agency, workforce development and training agencies, and other interested parties be invited to testify.

Filed on: June 9, 2021