



**Offered by Councilors Lydia Edwards and Julia Mejia, Bok, Arroyo, Baker, Breadon, Fernandes Anderson, Flaherty, Lara Louijeune, Murphy, Worrell and Flynn**

## **City of Boston**

**WHEREAS:** Boston Logan Airport contracted service workers such as Aircraft Cleaners, Security Guards, Ramp Agents, Cargo Agents, Wheelchair Agents for elderly and disabled passengers, and Baggage Handlers help ensure that the airport is safe, healthy, and well-functioning for the travelling public; and

**WHEREAS:** Aviation service workers, who are majority immigrant, Black, brown or female, performed essential work during the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore many workers were exposed to the virus or became ill, while others had hours drastically reduced or were laid off; and

**WHEREAS:** From 2014 to 2020 the Massachusetts Port Authority required Logan Airport operators to provide competitive wages because of the critical importance aviation service worker play in the safe & efficient operation of Logan Airport, but has not increased the basic wage since January 2020 (therefore airport workers will earn the state minimum wage starting January 1, 2023); and

**WHEREAS:** Bostonians are experiencing the worst inflation in over 20 years, and as such airport workers are having trouble paying for essential household items in a city where housing costs alone are over 100% higher than the national average; and

**WHEREAS:** There are promising signs for Boston Logan Airport's recovery as mid-March 2022 saw the highest outbound passenger volume since early March 2020, part of a trend from 2021 to 2022 when passenger volume was higher than Massport's predictions, moreover, the JetBlue partnership with American Airlines will mean significant growth for Boston; and

**WHEREAS:** Massachusetts is first in the United States in terms of a worker shortage, and as such aviation service employers have complained about their inability to recruit workers, and airport workers report understaffing;

**THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council recognizes airport service workers for their essential contributions during the pandemic and supports them in advocating for a family sustaining wage, and further urges the Massachusetts Port Authority to pass a higher wage standard so that current and future workers see Boston Logan Airport as an attractive and stable place to work.