



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO

### ORDER REQUESTING CERTAIN INFORMATION UNDER SECTION 17F RELATIVE TO CENSUS DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

- WHEREAS,* Since nearly as early as its inception, the Boston Redevelopment Authority has conducted studies on the City's demographic statistics, frequently publishing reports timed with release of federal Census Bureau data, such as the Authority's "Data Processing Requirements: Population Analysis and Forecasts" in 1962, and its Planning Department's "Analysis of Preliminary Census Data on Population and Housing (1950-1970)" in 1971; *and*
- WHEREAS,* The Boston Redevelopment Authority Research Department in May 1983 published a report titled "Boston's 1980 Population by Electoral District: Selected Summary Tables from the U.S. Census," presenting detailed demographic data for each of that year's nine inaugural City Council districts by population, age, household composition, housing unit tenure, and more; *and*
- WHEREAS,* Councilor Bruce C. Bolling in March 1991 offered a hearing order requesting that representatives of the Boston Redevelopment Authority Research Department and Management Information Services "present data to the City Council showing total numbers of residents for each precinct and ward based on the 1990 Federal Census, as well as information reflecting total number/percentage of Black, Hispanic, and Asian populations in each precinct and ward"; *and*
- WHEREAS,* The City Council in June 1991 ordered that the Boston Redevelopment Authority and the Office of Management Information Systems provide the city council's Special Committee on Redistricting with "any and all information related to the 1990 Federal Census for the purpose of reviewing a possible redistricting of city council/school committee seats"; *and*
- WHEREAS,* The Boston Redevelopment Authority in May 2011 presented before a hearing of the City Council Committee on Census and Redistricting results of the 2010 Census and racial and ethnic distribution in wards and precincts; *and*
- WHEREAS,* 2020 Census data are reported in several geographic units including census tract, block group, block, and the City of Boston's then-255 electoral precincts, or Voting Districts (VTDs), prior to reprecincting conducted by the Boston Board of Election Commissioners in 2021 and 2022, resulting in 275 total present precincts in the City; *and*
- WHEREAS,* Understanding the totality of change over time, present conditions, and projected future changes in the City's population and built environment are essential considerations for the City Council in exercising its responsibility of redrawing electoral districts; *and*

*WHEREAS,* The Massachusetts Legislature through section 16 of chapter 190 of the Acts of 1982, commonly referred to as the Tregor Bill, strengthened what is known as section 17F of the Boston City Charter, inserting enforcement provisions and granting the City Council the right to request specific information, “within the control of any executive department or agency of the city, including the Boston Water and Sewer Commission and the Boston Redevelopment Authority, whether the information is in printed or electronic form”;  
*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT*

*ORDERED:* That under the provisions of section 17F of chapter 452 of the Acts of 1948, as amended by section 16 of chapter 190 of the Acts of 1982, and any other applicable provision of law, Her Honor, the Mayor, be, and hereby is, requested to obtain and deliver to the City Council as electronic files, within one week of the receipt hereof, the following information from the Boston Redevelopment Authority d/b/a Boston Planning and Development Agency, in its capacity as planning board of the City of Boston acting under chapter 652 of the Acts of 1960:

1. Decennial Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary Files for the City of Boston
  - a. Presenting the following data:
    - i. Total from the 2010 Census;
    - ii. Total from the 2020 Census;
    - iii. Total change between the 2010 and 2020 Census;
    - iv. Percent change between the 2010 and 2020 Census; and
  - b. Tabulated by the following fields:
    - i. Total population by race and ethnicity;
    - ii. Population age 18 years and over by race and ethnicity;
    - iii. Group quarters population by major group quarters type;
    - iv. Housing unit count and occupancy status; and
  - c. Aggregated by the following geographic boundaries:
    - i. Each of the two hundred and seventy-five (275) present voting precincts as most recently adjusted and adopted by the Board of Election Commissioners;
    - ii. Each of the nine (9) present City Council electoral districts as redrawn by chapter 6 of the Ordinances of 2012; and
2. Population and housing unit projections for the year 2030 for each of the nine (9) present City Council districts, with description of the methodology used.

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