



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
MICHELLE WU

October 17, 2022

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

I return herewith undersigned and disapproved the amended Docket #0920, "An Ordinance Amending City of Boston Code, Ordinances V, Section 5-5.10 regarding Salary Categories for Certain Offices, and City of Boston Code, Ordinances, Chapter II, Section 2-8.1, Salary of City Councilors, and Section 2-7.11, Salary of the Mayor," regarding compensation adjustments for Mayor, City Council, and other City appointed positions dictated by municipal code passed by your Honorable Body on October 5, 2022. I am vetoing these pay raises for the reasons set forth in this letter.

When this Administration assumed office on November 16, 2021, we faced a series of immediate and pressing issues, but one of the most challenging was the fact that every single collective bargaining agreement with our City unions had expired—an unprecedented situation. The overwhelming majority of our City workforce had been working without any pay increase since 2019, then served on the frontlines of the pandemic.

Over the last ten months, our Administration has moved aggressively to settle expired collective bargaining agreements. We now have the vast majority of our City workforce under contract, and we are working diligently to settle the remaining open contracts. Boston's municipal workforce, like our residents, also now face growing inflation and staggering public transportation challenges.

Like all workers, our elected officials should receive salary increases, but they should square with the increases that our frontline workers have received and are receiving in the contracts that we continue to settle. Respectfully I urge this Honorable Body to adopt our original recommendation.

Thank you for your service and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston