BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice
Henry Santana, Chair

One City Hall Square 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02201 ◊ Phone: (617) 635-3040 ◊ city.council@boston.gov

REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

June 13, 2025

Dear Councilors,

The Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice was referred the following docket for consideration:

Docket #1133, Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($550,000.00) in the form of a grant awarded by the Cummings Foundation. The grant will fund the City of Boston's violence prevention work including activations and events, community outreach, block parties and the Youth Options Unlimited program, and other efforts consistent with the City's summer safety plan and Plan to End Violence.

This matter was sponsored by Mayor Michelle Wu and was referred to the Committee on June 4, 2025.

Summary of Legislation
Docket #1133 authorizes the City of Boston to accept and expend a grant awarded by the Cummings Foundation in the amount of $550,000. The purpose of this grant is to support the City of Boston's violence prevention work including activations and events, community outreach and engagement, block parties, the Youth Options Unlimited program, and other efforts consistent with the City's summer safety plan and Plan to End Violence.

Information Received
The Committee received additional information regarding this grant from the Administration stating that the City of Boston has been awarded this philanthropic gift from the Cummings Foundation to support and expand its comprehensive, year-round violence prevention strategy - Boston's Plan to End Violence. The total amount of this funding, $550,000, will be allocated immediately to support the City's Summer 2025 Safety Plan aimed to activate public spaces, engage youth, and enhance neighborhood safety through a community-led approach. Of this grant, $250,000 will be used to fund jobs for proven-risk youth through Youth Options Unlimited (YOU); $25,000 will be used to fund Boston After Dark - through the Office of Youth Engagement and Advancement; $100,000 will be used to fund Summer Activations - through the Community Safety Team; $50,000 will be used to fund Neighborhood Block Party Grants - through the Office of Civic Organizing; $50,000 will be used to fund Boston Police Department community events and outreach; and $75,000 will be used to fund built environment safety improvements in high-need areas.

Committee Chair Recommended Action
As Chair of the Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice, I recommend moving the listed docket from the Committee to the full Council for discussion and formal action. At this time, my recommendation to the full Council will be that this matter **OUGHT TO PASS.**

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Committee on Planning, Development, and Transportation