



**GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA
DISTRICT 1 BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR**

April 6, 2026

Sheila Dillon
Chief of Housing
One City Hall Plaza
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Chief Dillon,

I write to you in connection with the establishment and implementation of the East Boston Housing Stabilization Trust Fund. As this Trust is designed to play a critical role in stabilizing housing, preventing displacement, and advancing equitable access to homeownership and rental opportunities in East Boston, it is essential that its advisory and leadership structure reflect both deep subject matter expertise and strong ties to the community it is intended to serve.

To that end, I respectfully submit the following individuals for your consideration as advisory members or participants in the Trust's broader governance and implementation structure. Each brings demonstrated experience across key issue areas identified in the Trust's purpose, including environmental justice, affordable housing, homelessness prevention, immigrant rights, and city planning:

- **Noemy Rodriguez** – Environmental Justice and Immigrant Rights
- **John Walkey** – Environmental Justice and Immigrant Rights
- **Bill Masterson** – Environmental Justice
- **Valinda Chan** – Homelessness and Affordable Housing
- **Zachary Hollopeter** – Homelessness
- **Joseph Gaeta** – Affordable Housing
- **Frances Amador** – Affordable Housing and Immigrant Rights
- **Eny Lovo** – Affordable Housing and Immigrant Rights
- **Paola Villatoro** – City Planning
- **Rachael Edwards** – Affordable Housing and City Planning

Collectively, these individuals represent a cross-section of practitioners, advocates, and community leaders with both technical expertise and lived experience. Their inclusion would strengthen the Trust's ability to meet its stated goals particularly the effective deployment of funds to East Boston-based nonprofits, the prioritization of vulnerable populations, and the creation of transparent, accountable processes for fund distribution.

Given the Trust's mandate to operate in perpetuity, produce annual reporting, and ensure timely disbursement of funds, it is especially important that its advisory structure is grounded in both policy knowledge and community credibility. I believe this group reflects that balance. Thank you for your consideration and continued leadership on housing stability in our city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gabriela Coletta Zapata". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gabriela Coletta Zapata
Boston City Councilor, District 1