OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ERIN J. MURPHY, EDWARD M. FLYNN, BREADON, CULPEPPER, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, LOUIJEUNE, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

Resolution Calling for an Immediate Briefing on Boston's Summer Safety Plan and a Collaborative Review to Strengthen Public Safety

WHEREAS, protecting the safety of Boston residents, visitors, businesses, neighborhoods, and first responders is the most fundamental responsibility of municipal government; and

WHEREAS, Boston has experienced repeated incidents of violent crime throughout the year, including shootings, assaults on Boston Police officers, and other serious public safety incidents that have heightened concern among residents across the City; and

WHEREAS, over the Fourth of July holiday weekend, multiple shootings occurred across the City of Boston, resulting in thirteen individuals being shot and two people being killed, while officers also faced dangerous conditions, including fireworks being thrown or shot at them during public safety responses; and

WHEREAS, these incidents are not isolated, but part of a larger and deeply concerning pattern that demands a clear, coordinated, and accountable response from city leadership; and

WHEREAS, effective public safety requires prevention, intervention, enforcement, community partnerships, adequate staffing of the Boston Police Department, and continued support for Boston Fire, Boston EMS, and violence prevention organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Boston City Council has both a legislative and oversight responsibility to ensure that the City's public safety strategies are transparent, accountable, responsive to changing conditions, and reflective of the needs of residents in every neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the people of Boston deserve leaders who work together to keep every neighborhood safe and who are committed to taking proactive steps to prevent violence before tragedy strikes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Boston City Council respectfully requests that Mayor Michelle Wu, Boston Police Commissioner Michael Cox, and the appropriate public safety officials provide an immediate briefing to the full Boston City Council on the City's current Summer Safety Plan, including police deployment, staffing levels, violence prevention and intervention efforts, community engagement initiatives, emergency response coordination, the effectiveness of current strategies, and any additional actions or resources needed to address recent incidents of violence; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Boston City Council calls upon the Administration to work collaboratively with the City Council, Boston Police Department, Boston Fire Department, Boston EMS, violence prevention organizations, neighborhood associations, faith leaders, educators, youth-serving organizations, residents, and state and federal public safety partners to review and strengthen Boston's citywide public safety strategy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Boston City Council encourages the convening of a citywide Public Safety Summit to evaluate current strategies, identify opportunities for improvement, and develop additional recommendations to reduce violent crime, support first responders, and improve public safety in every neighborhood; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Boston City Council calls upon its members to join Councilor Erin Murphy and Councilor Ed Flynn in supporting this Resolution and in urging the Administration to provide the requested briefing, engage in a collaborative review of the City's current public safety efforts, and work together to strengthen public safety for every neighborhood in Boston.

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