

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BRIAN WORRELL, RUTHZEE LOULJEUNE, GABRIELA COLETTA, BREADON, DURKAN, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FITZGERALD, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, AND WEBER



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS AND OUTLINING BEST PRACTICES FOR CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

- WHEREAS,** The Mayor, Council, and City all rely heavily upon the organizing strength of our network of civic associations; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Civic associations provide critical venues for engagement, providing a platform for voices otherwise unheard; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Our civic associations often operate strictly off volunteer support and shoestring budgets; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Websites, marketing materials, and logistics are necessary for operational success yet often exceed budget; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City of Boston recognizes the importance of community engagement and the value provided by our civic associations; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City has the resources required to provide grants and technical assistance; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City often relies on civic associations to make connections with residents and communicate neighborhood happenings and developments; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The City empowers civic associations with a voice on many neighborhood changes, but doesn't always require those civic associations to provide outreach to all community members; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Providing civic associations with technical support and instruction on best practices will allow them to increase engagement and representation; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to explore providing funding for and directly providing technical assistance to civic associations, and also provide an outline of best practices for civic associations to follow in order to be eligible for funding and technical assistance. Representatives

from Civic Organizing, Community Engagement, Department of Language Communication Access, Neighborhood Services, and other relevant and interested parties will be invited to attend.

Filed on: Jan. 24, 2024