

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BRIAN WORRELL, BENJAMIN WEBER, COLETTA ZAPATA, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, LOUIJEUNE AND DURKAN



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS BOSTON'S FY26 BUDGET

WHEREAS, Boston's Fiscal Year 2025 budget totals more than \$4.64 billion; *and*

WHEREAS, Mayor Michelle Wu is expected to announce the FY26 budget on April 9, and the Council is expected to take action on the FY26 budget on June 4, with final action on June 25; *and*

WHEREAS, For Fiscal Year 2025, the City Council focused on its priorities of housing, quality of life issues, community safety, and college and career readiness; *and*

WHEREAS, The Boston City Council successfully collaborated with Boston Public Schools earlier than usual during the FY25 budget process and is in the midst of earlier collaboration for BPS' FY26 budget, thus providing a blueprint for earlier collaboration with the entire administration; *and*

WHEREAS, In FY24, actual revenue collections exceeded budget by \$176 million, according to its year-end report, including \$133 million more in investment income, \$50 million more in room taxes, meal taxes, and jet-fuel taxes, \$20 million more in PILOT payments, and \$18 million more in motor vehicle excise taxes, thus showing the strength of the City's revenues and finances; *and*

WHEREAS, According to the Boston Municipal Research Bureau, FY25 marked the highest share of the property tax levy paid by residential property owners and the lowest share paid by business property owners in at least four decades; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston should continue to invest in its residents, with schools, parks, streets, libraries, housing, climate resiliency, community safety, and more in its FY26 operating and capital budgets; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the Ways & Means Committee of the Boston City Council hold multiple hearings and public testimony sessions regarding city revenues, the current status of the annual operating budget and preliminary plans for the upcoming budget, and that representatives of City of Boston and other interested parties be invited to attend.

Filed on: January 24, 2025