; 05/18/17 12:55 AM; ; ;;;;bcc 11 am >> THIS IS THURSDAY

>> THIS IS THURSDAY, MAY 18.
WE'RE HERE WITH THE INSPECTIONAL
SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND
ENVIRONMENT.

THIS IS A PUBLIC HEARING.

IT'S BE RECORDED.

I'D ASK FOLKS IN THE CHAMBER TO SILENCE THEIR ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PRESENTATION AND QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM MY COLLEAGUES, WE'LL TAKE PUBLIC TESTIMONY.
THERE'S A SIGN-IN SHEET TO MY LEFT BY THE FRNT DOOR .

WE ASK THAT YOU SIGN IN.

AS I STATED WE'RE HERE TO REVIEW THE BUDGET FOR THE INSPECTIONAL SERVICES AS THEY PERTAIN TO 0536-0538.

ORDERS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 18 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION FOR SCHOOL DEPARTMENT AND APPROPRIATION FOR OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AS WELL ALWAYS DOCKETS 0539-0543.

CAPITAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS INCLUDE LOAN ORDERS AND LEASE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS.

I AM HERE JOINED BY MY GOOD FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE FROM DISTRICT 8, JOSH ZAKIM.

I GUESS I'LL HAND IT OVER TO

>> SURE.

YOU.

>> CHIEF BLACKMON, THANK YOU.

>> MY PLEASURE.

COUNCILLORS, THANKS FOR JOINING US TODAY.

MY PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH THE TEAM AT ISD.

I'D LIKE TO RECOGNIZE NOT ONLY THE TEAM AT ISD FOR THE GREAT WORK THAT THEY HAVE DONE BUT THE STAFF AT THE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE OVER THE CHIEF'S LEADERSHIP AND HELPING US PREPARE THE RECOMMENDED BIGOT -- BUDGET FOR ISD.

WE'RE TRYING TO MAKE BOSTON A MORE INNOVATIVE AND THRIVING CITY.

FOR PROTECTING OUR CITY AND ISSUING PERMITS THROUGH CURRENT CONSTRUCTION BOOM, ISD HAS AND WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE TO THE CITY'S CONTINUED SUCCESS.

IN THIS RECOMMENDED BUDGET, WHILE IT ALLOWS US TO BUILD ON THE SUCCESS OF OUR LAST YEAR. WE'VE SURPASSED THE NUMBER OF PERMITS ISSUE FROM FY 16. TO DEAL WITH THIN CREASED ACTIVITY, WE HAVE INCREASED STAFF TO THE CALL CENTER AND CUSTOMER SERVICE LOCATIONS. WORKING WITH OUR PARTNERS AT THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT, POLICE DEPARTMENT, LOCAL UNIVERSITIES, WE STAGGERED STUDENT MOVE-IN WEEKS LEADING TO FEWER DISRUPTIONS AND LESS OVERTIME EXPENDITURES. I WANT TO THANKS THE COMMISSIONER FOR HIS LEADERSHIP THERE.

ISD HAS ROLLED OUT THE RESTAURANT GRADING SYSTEM GIVING RESTAURANTEURS THE CARE THEY NEED.

OUR POLICE COMMISSIONER AND I ARE DEDICATEDED TO MAKE FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO MAKE OUR CITY SAFER.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.
IF IT PLEASES THE CHAIR, I'D
LIKE TO HAVE CHRISTOPHER
COMMISSIONER MAKE AN OPENING
STATEMENT AND GIVE MORE DETAILS
AND PLANS FOR FY-18.

>> THANK YOU.

COUNCILLORS, FIRST I WANT TO MAKE A STATEMENT ABOUT THE STAFF IN ISD, THE LEVEL OF COMMITMENT AND TO CHANGE AND HARBOR NEW CONCEPTS AND NEW RULES.
REALLY EXEMPLARY.

IT'S NOT A LOT OF STUFF THAT GETS HEADLINES OR A LOT OF FOCUS.

THE REALITY OF IT IS, THEY HAVE MADE A TREMENDOUS DIFFERENCE IN

OUR CITY.

YOU WILL REMEMBER THAT ISD IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BUILDING PERMITS, HOUSING, ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL.

THE NUMBER OF CASES THAT WE PROCESS HAVE ALL BEEN DOCUMENTED AND GIVEN TO YOU AND IT'S DONE WITHOUT A LOT OF FANFARE.
WE HEAR ABOUT THOSE CASES BUT

WE HEAR ABOUT THOSE CASES BUT THE VAST MAJORITY OF THEM ARE HANDLED IN A PROFESSIONAL AND FRIENDLY MANNER.

AS CHIEF BLACKMON HAS SAID, THE MAJOR FOCUS IS REALLY ON CONSTITUENT SERVICES.

WE HAVE FORTIFIED OUR FRONT-LINE RESOURCES IN THE FORM OF THE CALL CENTER AND CONSTITUENT SERVICES.

THERE'S ADDED STAFF ACTUALLY TO THE DEPARTMENTS.

RATHER THAN JUST THROWING RESOURCES AND STAFFING AT A SITUATION WE'RE REANALYZING THE WAY THE BUSINESS PROCESS TAKES PLACE AT ISD.

WE'RE IN THE PROCESS OF DOING AN IN DEPTH AUDIT THAT IS REVIEWING AND HIGHLIGHTS THE PROCESS OF WHAT WE DO.

WE'RE IN THE PROCESS OF ORGANIZING HOW BUILDING INSPECTORS ARE DOING THEIR JOB IN THE SUPPORT THAT THEY NEED SO THEY CAN FOCUS THEIR TIME ON THEIR PRIMARY TASK.

WE HAVE THREE YEARS WORTH OF DATA AND WE REALLY UNDERSTAND A LOT MORE ABOUT HOW THAT SHOULD WORK AND WHAT REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS FOR THAT ARE. RIGHT NOW WE HAVE ABOUT 116,000 UNITS REGISTERED, WHICH IS AN ALL-TIME HIGH.

INSPECTIONS ARE 16,000 TO 17,000 A YEAR, WHICH IS REALISTIC TO WHAT WE'RE DOING.

WE'RE LOOKING AT THE ORDINANCE
ON THE WAY IT WAS WRITTEN.
WE HAVE A LOGICAL, RESPONSIVE
WAY TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION
AS WE MOVE FORWARD.
WE'VE BEEN HIGHLIGHTS OUR

INTERACTIONS NOT ONLY WITH, YOU KNOW, THE UNIVERSITIES AND STUDENT HOUSING, BUT WE HAVE MONTHLY MEETINGS WITH ARCHITECTS AND LAWYERS AND GOOD DISCUSSIONS.

MONTHLY MEETINGS WITH DEVELOPERS TO DISCUSS THINGS.

THIS IS A FORUM THAT IS BENEFICIAL TO US BECAUSE THEY FULLY UNDERSTAND WHAT OUR EXPECTATIONS ARE.

WE LISTEN AND BRINGING INTO THE FOLD THE CONCERNS AND PROBLEMS THAT DEVELOPERS AND PEOPLE JUST DOING BUSINESS IN THE CITY HAVE. WE'RE TAKING THAT INFORMATION VERY SERIOUSLY TO REDEFINE OUR BUSINESS ROLE.

WE'RE MAKING IT VERY CLEAR TO PEOPLE WHAT IS EXPECTED WHEN THEY SUBMIT FOR A PERMIT AND WHAT THEY CAN EXPECT IN RETURN. SO AGAIN, I JUST WANT TO SAY I THINK THE STAFF HAS DONE AN UNBELIEVABLE JOB.

MY POSITION HAS BEEN FORTIFIED BY THE ASSISTANCE OF CHIEF BLACKMON AND THE EVER-PRESENCE OF THE MAYOR'S GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR CITY AND THE WORK THAT WE'VE DONE WITH THE COUNCIL AS WELL.

I'D LIKE TO OPEN IT UP TO QUESTIONS IF YOU'D LIKE.

>> THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER. LET ME ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE'VE BEEN JOINED BY DISTRICT 4 CITY COUNCILLOR ANDREA CAMPBELL.

OUR LAST MOVE IS ALWAYS -- COULD BE A VERY DISRUPTIVE MORE THAN DAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

DEPENDS WHERE IT LANDS.

ALL KINDS OF DYNAMICS THAT SET OFF DEPENDING ON WHERE THE 1st FALLS.

YOU ADD SO MANY OF YOUR STAFF OUT THERE, MAKING CONNECTIONS WITH FOLKS AND IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS AND DEALING WITH THEM IN REAL TIME.

AND IT WAS A GREAT COLLABORATIVE EFFORT.

AS YOU SAID, IT WAS BOSTON

POLICE, PUBLIC WORKS, ALL OF THE DEPARTMENTS WORKING TOGETHER. IT WAS AN OUTSTANDING EFFORT. I APPRECIATE THAT.

I'M JUST GOING TO GET INTO A
COUPLE QUESTIONS ON THE BUDGET.
YOU KNOW, THE BUDGET PAGE
INDICATES THAT YOUR DEPARTMENT
IS SEEING A CUT OF ABOUT 1.29%.
PLEASE INFORM US OF HOW THAT
IMPACTS YOU DELIVERING THE
SERVICES THAT YOU MENTIONED,
WHICH ARE MANY, AND MANY OF THEM
ARE CRUCIAL TO PEOPLE'S HEALTH
AND SAFETY.

SO HOW ARE YOU DEALING ->> THE NUMBER DOESN'T REPRESENT
THAT GOES ON IN ISD.

WE HAVE HAD A NUMBER OF STAFF THAT HAVE RETIRED AT TOP OF THEIR LEVEL.

SO THEIR PAY SCALE WAS MUCH HIGHER.

BUT IT HAS NOT AFFECTED THE STAFF.

THERE'S NO LAY-OFFS.

WE'RE CONTINUING TO OPERATE ISD AS WE HAVE.

SO THE REPRESENTATION ON A MAP EQUATION CLEARLY SHOWS THAT THERE'S A 1.59% REDUCTION.
THE REALITY OF SERVICES BEING PROVIDED AND STAFFING AVAILABLE HAS NOT ALTERED AT ALL.
WE HAVE ACTUALLY ADDED STAFF TO ISD IN A LOT OF ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS.

>> AND I DID SEE THAT IN YOUR PACKET, THAT THE STAFFING LEVEL SEEMS TO BE STABLE.

IT'S 224.

IF YOU ADD IN THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS --

>> 224 IS A SNAPSHOT OF THE BUDGET OF WHAT ACTUAL FTES WE HAVE IN THE DEPARTMENT. TECHNICALLY THE OVERALL NUMBERS

ARE 245.

THERE ARE -- THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, 16 MEMBERS.

AND THEN THERE'S THE BOARD OF LICENSURE, WHICH IS ANOTHER THREE MEMBERS THAT HAVE FALLEN TO US.

WE HAVE LOST NO PERMANENT STAFF IN THE PROCESS OF REDEFINING THIS.

WHAT OUR APPROACH IS, WE HAVE A NEW DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS. HE'S JOINED US TO HELP US ON THE SENIOR MANAGEMENT SIDE SO AGAIN, WE CAN ALLOCATE RESOURCES

MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE CAN ANALYZE THE DATA COMING IN.

PROPERLY.

WHERE THE PROBLEMS, WHAT ARE THE ISSUES, ARE THEY BEING DEALT WITH IN A PROPER SENSE.

I DO HAVE TO SAY, THE INTERDEPARTMENT RELATIONSHIPS NOW THAT WE HAVE ARE UNBELIEVABLE.

WE PARTNER WITH NOT ONLY POLICE BUT PUBLIC WORKS, WATER AND SEWER.

GATHER ING A LOT OF RESOURCES FROM VENUES THAT ALLOWS TO EXECUTE OUR JOB IN A BETTER SENSE.

>> CAN YOU TOUCH MORE ON THE AUDIT?

WHEN DID IT START?
WHEN IS IT GOING TO BE
COMPLETED?

WHAT IS THE HOPES OF THE FINDINGS, I GUESS?

>> THE AUDIT IS OUT RIGHT NOW FOR AN RFP.

WE HOPE TO HAVE THAT IN THE NEXT MONTH.

WE FIGURE IT WILL BE A SIX-MONTH REVIEW.

IT'S ON THE GROUND AUDIT.

IT'S NOT A HIGH LEVEL.

IT'S THE ACTUAL BUSINESS

PRACTICE THAT TAKES PLACE IN ISD.

THE PATH OF PERMITS, THE REVIEW OF INSPECTIONS.

SO THAT WE CAN SEE WHERE THE

REAL BOTTLE NECKS ARE.

WE'RE VERY COMFORTABLE THAT WE'RE ADDRESSING THE LARGER

ISSUES IN A MORE PROACTIVE WAY.

WE THINK THE MANAGEMENT OF THE

RESOURCES IS REALLY THE PRIMARY ISSUE AS WE GO FORWARD.

ONE OF THE THINGS WE'VE DONE IN

ONE TIME, COMPLAINT AND REINSPECTIONS WERE ALL SENT TO THE BUILDING INSPECTORS. WITH THE ADDITIONAL STAFF IN CONSTITUENT SERVICES NOW, COMPLAINTS GO TO CONSTITUENT SERVICES FOR VETTING BEFORE WE TAKE THE TIME OF AN INSPECTOR TO LOOK AT THE BUILDING. WE'RE FINDING BETWEEN 30 AND 35% OF THESE COMPLAINTS ARE ADMINISTRATIVE. SOMEONE DOESN'T HAVE A PERMIT, EXCEEDING THE TERMS OF A PERMIT AND WE CAN HAVE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REVIEW THE RECORDS TO ANSWER THAT CONSTITUENT AND THEN THE BALANCE OF THOSE BUDGETS END UP GOING TO AN INSPECTOR. AGAIN, IT'S MORE ABOUT EFFICIENCIES RATHER THAN -->> RIGHT. TO THAT -->> I WAS GOING TO ADD TO THAT.

I WANT TO COMMEND COMMISSIONER. IN ADDITION TO REALLY BEING SPEAR HEADING THIS AUDIT PROCESS AND HELPING US LEARN WHAT WE CAN DO, THE COMMISSIONER AND I HAVE ALSO TAKEN THE TIME TO REALLY LEARN FROM SOME OF OUR OTHER FELLOW CITIES, DENVER, ATLANTA. THAT'S SOMETHING THAT WE'RE GOING TO CONTINUE TO DO TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCIES AT ISD. >> I LIKE THE FACT THAT YOU'RE TRIAGING THINGS. SOMETIMES LIKE ADMINISTRATIVELY. LET ME FIRST SAY THAT THE INSPECTORS IN MY DISTRICT DESERVE A LOT OF CREDIT BECAUSE THEY'RE VERY RESPONSIVE. YOU KNOW, SOME OF THESE CASES, YOU KNOW, MAY BE TRUE OR NOT TRUE OR JUST MISINFORMATION. I JUST WANT TO -- LIKE JOHN O'BRIEN AND SEAN WHO I HAVE BEEN WORKING FOR MANY YEARS, EXEMPLARY EMPLOYEES THAT ARE DEDICATED AND COMMITTED AND VERY RESPONSIVE. I WANT TO GO ON RECORD WITH YOU

I ALSO WANT TO THANK COUNCILLOR

FOLKS.

ZAKIM AND YOU, COMMISSIONER, FOR WORKING VERY HARD TO, YOU KNOW, COME UP WITH THE -- AN ISSUE THAT WE SHARE, STUDENT HOUSING ISSUE.

YOU KNOW, TRYING TO MAKE IT SAFE, HABITABLE AND REDUCE OVERCROWDING.

SOME OF THE TRAGIC EVENTS THAT CAN COME FROM OVERCROWDING AND SUBSTANDARD HOUSING.

JUST WANTED TO GET A SENSE FROM YOU ABOUT THE AMENDED UNIVERSITY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT TO TRY TO PROVIDE BETTER INFORMATION, MORE TARGETED.

WE WENT DOWN A ROAD A COUPLE YEARS AGO OF LIKE TRYING TO INSPECT.

IT SEEMED TO BE MORE OF A FEW -- FUTILE ATTEMPT.

WITH THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE UNIVERSITIES AND -- IN OCTOBER TO GET A HEAD START TO RAISE RED FLAGS AND GO AFTER THEM.

THAT IS OUR -- I THINK, IF I'M CHARACTERIZING CORRECTLY, RATHER THAN JUST KIND OF BROADLY APPLYING IST TO STUDENTS HOUSING, WE KIND OF TARGETED BY REALLY IDENTIFYING ADDRESSES THAT SHOW THAT FIVE KIDS ARE LIVING THERE OR SIX KIDS ARE LIVING THERE.

AND THEN GOING AFTER THEM.
CAN YOU GIVE US A SENSE OF NOW
THAT WE'VE KIND OF HONED IN ON
THAT, HOW WE'RE DOING WITH
IDENTIFYING --

>> WE'RE DOING VERY WELL.

LAST YEAR'S MOVE-IN WAS IN MY
OPINION THE PINNACLE OF WHAT
WE'VE BEEN DOING WITH STUDENT
HOUSING.

WE TOOK WHAT WAS A THREE-DAY CHAOTIC EVENT ACROSS THE CITY, COMMUNITIES THAT WERE TOTALLY INUNDATED BY THE MOVE-IN, TOOK IT FROM THREE DAYS TO A THREE-WEEK PROCESS.

THE UNIVERSITIES WERE TREMENDOUS PARTNERS, THE LANDLORDS WERE TREMENDOUS PARTNERS AND THE

STUDENTS AND THE PARENTS WERE PART OF IT.

I KNOW THAT LAST YEAR ON SATURDAY MORNING, I WAS IN THE GAP.

THE POLICE WERE TAKING DOWN THE BARRICADES.

WE RETURNED THAT NEIGHBORHOOD BACK TO BEING THE NEIGHBORHOOD IT SHOULD BE.

SO WE SAW THAT AS A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS AND REDUCTION IN OVERTIME COST FOR INSPECTORS. THE APPROACH WE'RE TAKING, WE'RE NOT LOOKING AT IT JUST IN SEPTEMBER.

WE'RE LOOKING AT IT ALL YEAR LONG.

WE'RE WORKING WITH THE LANDLORDS SO THEY'RE REPAIRING, MODERNIZING, TAKING CARE OF GENERAL MAINTENANCE OF THEIR PROPERTIES.

STILL BRINGING IN 11 TONS OF GARBAGE OVER THE THREE-WEEK PERIOD.

BUT IT'S THREE WEEKS, NOT THREE DAYS.

SO WE THINK WE HAVE IT IN A PLACE THAT MAKES SENSE.
THE LANDLORDS HAVE REWRITTEN LEASES SO IT DOESN'T END AT

QUARTER OF 12 AND START AT A OUARTER AFTER 12.

THEY PUT TWO OR THREE DAYS IN THERE, WHICH ALLOWS US TO GET IN AND DO INSPECTIONS.

PARTNER WITH THE POLICE AND THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

WE PUT TOGETHER A FORM OF TRIAGE TEAMS THAT GO INTO THE NEIGHBORHOODS BEFOREHAND TO LOOK AT THESE SITUATIONS AND TALK TO PEOPLE.

WE'VE MADE IT A REAL FOCUS IN ADDITION TO TALKING TO THE STUDENTS THAT WE ALL LOVE, THEIR PARENTS ARE FAR MORE VALUABLE TO

WE EXPLAIN TO THEM THE SERVICES THE CITY CAN OFFER THEIR STUDENTS.

THEY'RE THE ONES THAT SEEM TO BE MORE REACTIVE TO THAT KIND OF

SESSION.

SO WHEN THERE'S A PROBLEM WITH HEAT STARTING IN OCTOBER, WE'RE ABLE TO RESOLVE IT RATHER THAN HEARING ABOUT A DEVASTATING CASE IN JANUARY WHERE THERE'S BEEN NO HEAT FOR THREE WEEKS.

SO AGAIN, THROUGH PROPER MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSTS OF DATA, WE'RE ABLE TO ADDRESS WHAT THE PROBLEMS ARE.

BOILS IT DOWN.

THERE ARE LANDLORDS THAT NEED EDUCATION AND UNDERSTANDING. THEY WERE COOPERATIVE AND WORK WITH US.

WE HAVE DONE SOME THINGS ON A MORE PROACTIVE SIDE.

IF YOU CHOOSE TO IGNORE ISD, WHICH SOME PEOPLE DO, WE'LL STOP ALL OF YOUR PERMITS UNTIL YOU RESOLVE YOUR VIOLATIONS.

A WEE THAT PEOPLE SEEM TO REACT WELL TO US.

I DO HAVE TO SAY OVERALL THROUGH AN EDUCATIONAL PROCESS, WE'VE HAD TREMENDOUS SUCCESS.

I LIKEN IT TO THE RESTAURANT RATING SYSTEM.

THAT EVERYBODY WAS VERY, VERY NERVOUS ABOUT IT WHEN WE FIRST STARTED DOING IT.

THE SUCCESS FOR THAT IS UNBELIEVABLE.

I LOVE NOTHING MORE THAN WALKING IN EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE CITY AND KNOWS WHAT IS IN THE WINDOW.

WE'VE HAD TOURISTS SAY HOW EASY
IT IS FOR THEM TO WALK DOWN THE
STREET AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A
RESTAURANT THAT THEY OTHERWISE
HAVE NO EXPERIENCE WITH, KNOWING
THAT THE HEALTH SITUATION IS
REALLY WORKING OUT, YOU KNOW,
VERY POSITIVELY AND
COMMUNICATION IS GOOD.
WE ALSO WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT

WE ALSO WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ON SOME OF THE SITUATIONS THAT WE RUN INTO RESTAURANTS.

WE'RE USUALLY TO RESOLVE THOSE IN DAYS.

WE'RE VERY HAPPY WITH THE WAY

THE MANAGEMENT STYLE IS WORKING WITH THE STAFF.

>> JUST FINALLY WITH THE LAST TIME THAT WE CAUGHT UP, YOU WERE IDENTIFYING SOME POTENTIAL OVER HOUSING OF STUDENTS ON THE LIST. I THINK IT WAS AROUND 300 OR -->> WE'RE DOWN TO 80 NOW.

>> 80.

>> THAT'S THE LATEST.

WE WERE AT 300 LAST YEAR.

DOWN TO 80.

WE WANT TO BE PROACTIVE IN OUR THE IT'S CONTRIBUTIONS.

LET'S GET IT RESOLVED BEFORE THE STUDENTS MOVE OUT THIS SEMESTER. A LOT OF TIMES IT'S WORKING WITH THE LANDLORDS.

WE DID DO A QUIET PROGRAM WHERE WE HAD THE MESSAGE CLEARLY TO THE REALTORS AND THE AGENTS THAT WERE RENTING PROPERTIES.

WE REMINDED THEM THAT THEIR LICENSE SAYS THAT THEY'RE VERY FAMILIAR WITH WHAT THE RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE OF THE CITY. VERY QUIETLY, A VERY POSITIVE THING.

WE'RE NOT OVERRENTING ANYMORE.
>> RIGHT.

A LOT OF SUCCESS ARE THROUGH THE STANDARDS THAT WE'RE SETTING. IT'S NOT ANY ONE.

IT'S A COMBINATION.

YOU KNOW, THE SUCCESS THAT YOU HAVE WITH THE FOLKS OUT IN THE FIELD IS IMPORTANT.

YOU HAVE SOME GREAT

REPRESENTATIVES LIKE I'M

THINKING ISM -- LESS AND CHRIS.
THOSE ARE FOLKS ON YOUR STAFF
THAT GO OUT DAY IN AND DAY OUT
AND ADDRESS THE QUALITY OF LIFE
ISSUES IN MANY NEIGHBORHOODS AND
PARTICULARLY AUSTIN, BRIGHTON.
>> THERE'S A NUMBER OF
INTANGIBLES THAT HAVE CHANGED AT
ISD.

AGAIN, IT'S THE EXAMPLE OF COMING OVER AND TALKING TO PEOPLE.

MAKING PEOPLE AWARE THAT WE'RE A CUSTOMER SERVICE BUSINESS AND

NOT JUST THE AUTHORITY THAT WILL TAKE YOUR BUILDING PERMIT AWAY. WE'VE SEEN AN OPENNESS OF CONSTITUENTS COMING TO ISD. WE'VE MADE AVAILABLE A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT LANGUAGES AT ISD SO PEOPLE ARE VERY COMFORTABLE. YOU KNOW, PEOPLE ARE INTIMIDATED COMING INTO ISD. IF WE CAN TAKE A LAYER OF ANXIETY AWAY FROM THEM AND IN THIS CASE, THE WAY THEY COMMUNICATE, MAKES THE SITUATIONS AND THE TRANSITION SO MUCH SMOOTHER AND SO MUCH MORE REWARDING. >> GREAT. THANKS, COMMISSIONER. WE'VE BEEN DISTRICT BY MAT

O'MALLEY.

LET ME RECOGNIZE COUNCILLOR ZAKIM.

>> THANK YOU, CHAIRMAN.

CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

PLEASURE TO SEE YOU AND YOUR TEAM HERE.

WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR THE MOVE-IN CHANGES.

VERY GRACIOUS ABOUT SEEING HOW MUCH OF A JOINT IT IS BETWEEN

ALL OF THE INVOLVED DEPARTMENTS.

IN THE FEW YEARS IT'S BEEN

DRAMATIC IMPROVEMENTS IN MISSION

HILL, THE SYMPHONY AREA.

FOR YOUR EFFORTS THROUGH BPD, IT'S BEEN AN IMPROVEMENT.

THANK YOU FOR THAT.

A COUPLE QUESTIONS.

CAN YOU TALK ABOUT WHAT THE PENALTIES ARE FOR FOLKS THAT

DON'T COMPLY?

BOTH FROM REGISTERING AND ALLOWING ACCESS FOR YOUR INSPECTORS.

HOW DOES THAT WORK?

>> ONE OF THE BIGGEST STUMBLING

BLOCKS IS STILL ACCESS.

WE'RE IN THE PROCESS NOW OF

TRYING TO GET THE LAW REDEFINED.

THE DECREE THAT CAME DOWN STATED CLEARLY THAT THE OCCUPANT HAD TO

BE IN THE UNIT IN ORDER FOR THEM

TO INSPECTED.

WE THINK THAT'S A TREMENDOUS

BURDEN FOR MOST PEOPLE, WHETHER YOU'RE A STUDENT OR WORKING. THE SCHEDULE IS VERY TOUGH. WE TRIED TO MAKE OURSELVES AVAILABLE NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS, WHAT DOES WORK.

WHAT WE'RE ASKING FOR IS THE JUDGE -- UNFORTUNATELY THE JUDGE THAT MADE THE RULING HAS RETIRED.

SO WE HAVE SOMETHING ELSE.
IT'S GOING TO TAKE AWHILE.
IT'S AT THE STATE LEVEL.
WE'RE ASKING THEM TO ALLOW FOR
THE POWER OF ATTORNEY SO THAT
THEY CAN GIVE THAT POWER TO
EITHER A ROOMMATE OR A LANDLORD
TO GET IN TO DO IT.
BUT THAT IS STILL OUR LARGEST

BUT THAT IS STILL OUR LARGEST PROBLEM.

>> SO IF WE'RE REQUIRING
INSPECTIONS ON THE FIVE-YEAR
SCHEDULE, DOES THAT MEAN THAT IF
AN OCCUPANT IS NOT THERE, THE
INSPECTIONS AREN'T HAPPENING?
>> IF WE DO NOT HAVE PERMISSION,
NO, WE CAN'T GO IN.

UNDER THE RENTER REGISTRY, WE HAVE A FIVE-YEAR CYCLE TO MAKES IT MANDATORY THAT THEY DO THAT. WHAT WE'VE DONE, WE HAVE SENT TO THE LANDLORDS, THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO GET US INTO THESE BUILDINGS.

SO WE GIVE YOU A ONE-YEAR HIATUS BEFORE WE START EMBARKING ON FINES AND PENALTIES.

MOST OF THESE LEASES ARE ONE YEAR.

SO IF YOU HAVE A LEASE THAT ENDS ON ONE DAY AND DOESN'T START FOR TWO DAYS, YOUR RESPONSIBILITY IS TO LET US KNOW AND BRING US IN. AT THAT POINT, THE LANDLORD IS THE OCCUPANT.

>> WHAT IS THE PENALTY IF THEY'RE NOT?

>> IT'S A \$300 FINE FOR THEM TO DO THAT.

THE REAL REALITY IS, I'M NOT IN FAVOR OF FINDING IN VIOLATIONS FOR THE SAKE OF FINDING THEM IN VIOLATION.

WE CAN TAKE THEM TO HOUSING

COURT.

WE HAVE DONE THAT TO MAKE IT WORK.

A JUDGE CAN ORDER, YOU KNOW, THAT WE BE ALLOWED INTO IT. IT'S A BIG STEP TO DO THAT BECAUSE IT'S A FIRST AMENDMENT

THEY DON'T WANT US TO VIOLATE THAT

THEY SAY WHAT IS THE BENEFIT? DOES IT CHALLENGE THE FIRST AMENDMENT?

SO IT'S A BIG ISSUE.

IT'S SOMETHING THAT HOPEFULLY WE'LL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO WORK ON.

ONCE THE CYCLE STARTS ROLLING, IF WE KNOW WE CAN GET IN THERE, WE CAN SCHEDULE OUR WORK AROUND THAT.

>> WHEN FOLKS ARE -- I GUESS AS AN EXAMPLE, FOLKS ARE DOING UNPERMITTED WORK, WHAT ARE THE REMEDIES WHAT ARE THE PENALTIES THAT CAN BE IMPOSED?
>> IT'S A STOP WORK ORDER THAT

>> IT'S A STOP WORK ORDER THAT FOR BIDS YOU FROM DOING ANYTHING.

THERE'S NO FINANCIAL PENALTY INVOLVED.

IF YOU CONTINUE TO IGNORE US, WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO BRING THE POLICE IN.

WE STOP YOU WORKING THE JOB.
WE BRING YOU INTO HOUSING COURT
AT WHICH POINT THE JUDGES TAKE
OVER AND THEY CAN ASSESS SOME
VERY SERIOUS FINES.

>> DOES THAT OFTEN HAPPEN OR -- >> VERY RARE.

VERY RARE.

>> AND I GUESS SIMILARLY ON THE POINT OF UNPERMITTED WORK, OFTEN WE'LL HEAR OVER THE WEEKEND, WE GET CALLS, TWEETS, E-MAILS ABOUT WORK HAPPENING IN THE NEIGHBORING UNIT OR THE WORK NEXT DOOR AND WE'LL FIND OUT THE PERMIT WAS NOT ISSUED FOR THE WEEKEND OR FOR 6:00 A.M. WORK. CAN YOU TALK ABOUT HOW YOUR DEPARTMENT RESPONDS WHEN IT'S THOSE HOURS AND WHAT THE

PENALTIES, IF ANY, ARE?
>> IF YOU'RE A HOMEOWNER AROUND
YOU'RE REPLACING THE SIDING ON
YOUR HOUSE ON A WEEKEND, AS LONG
AS YOU WORK BETWEEN THE HOURS OF
7:00 AND 6:00, WE DON'T GET
INVOLVED.

IF YOU'RE A CONTRACTOR WORKING, YOU'RE REQUIRES TO SECURITY AND AFTER-HOURS PERMIT.

THAT'S GRANTED DEPENDING UPON WHAT YOU'RE DOING.

WE HAVE A DELICATE BALANCE. OUR CITY IS GROWING AT SUCH A TREMENDOUS RATE, WE DON'T WANT

TO INTERFERE WITH THE

DEVELOPMENT OF OUR CITY BUT THE MAYOR SAID QUALITY OF LIFE HAS TO BE MAINTAINED.

IF SOLICITED, IT COMES TO MY DESK WHETHER THE PERMIT IS ISSUED OR NOT.

RIGHT NOW SOUTH BOSTON, THE SOUTH END, THEY HAVE SAID THEY WANT NO WEEKEND PERMITS.

I CAN'T PROMISE THAT.

I CAN PROMISE CONTROL ON IT.
IF A CONTRACTOR COMES TO ME AND

ILLUSTRATES THE WORK THEY'RE
DOING AND IS SAFE TO BE DONE ON

A SATURDAYER RATHER THAN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WEEK, I WILL ALLOW THEM TO DO THAT WITH CONTROLS.

IF THERE'S COMPLAINTS DURING THAT EVENT, WE WILL GO OUT AND STOP THE WORK.

THE PRESENT EXAMPLE IS THE ERECTION OF A CRANE.

IT TIES UP STREET TRAFFIC.

IF WE DID IT DURING THE NORMAL WORK WEEK, WOULD BE DISASTROUS TO THE COMMUNITY.

WE CAN DEAL WITH IT ON A SATURDAY.

WE TRY TO LIMIT IT.

WE'VE HAD WORK ON THE PIER 4
PROJECTS AND PROJECTS IN EAST
BOSTON THAT ARE AROUND TIDES.
THEY HAVE A VERY SMALL OF WINDOW
WHEN THEY CAN WORK.

I TRY TO BALANCE IT, LET THE CONTRACTORS MAKE A CASE WHY THEY HAVE TO DO THAT.

I TELL CONTRACTORS BECAUSE

YOU'RE BEHIND SCHEDULE IS NOT A SIGNIFICANT REASON FOR ME TO ALLOW IT.

>> SO WHEN SOMEONE IS OPERATING OUTSIDE OF THEIR PERMIT, YOU OBVIOUSLY HAVE PEOPLE TO RESPOND 24 HOURS.

>> WHAT HAPPENS?

THEY GET A STOP WORK ORDER?
THEY HAVE TO COME IN AND EXPLAIN
THEMSELVES?

FINED, LOSE THE PERMIT ALTOGETHER?

>> THE AFTER HOURS PERMIT IS USUALLY \$100 PER EVENT.

IF YOU WANT IT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, IT'S TWO EVENTS.
IF YOU CHOOSE TO DO THIS WORK WITHOUT THAT PERMIT, YOU ARE

YOU'RE BROUGHT IN.

WE HAVE A DISCUSSION.

DOUBLE-FINED FOR THAT.

IF YOU CONTINUE TO DO IT, WE WILL REMOVE YOUR BUILDING PERMIT.

I HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO TAKE BUILDING PERMITS AWAY.

SO AGAIN, IT'S IN RARE CASES.
USUALLY THAT'S ENOUGH TO WAKE
SOMEBODY UP AND SAY I'LL FOLLOW
THE RULES.

>> I HEAR FROM FOLKS, THEY'RE ALWAYS CONCERNED WHAT HAPPENS. I CALL 311, I CALL THE OFFICE. WHAT HAPPENS?

SO GOOD TO HAVE THAT BACKGROUND. I APPRECIATE THAT.

I'D SAY IF THERE'S REPEATED

SCOFF LAWS -- I DON'T KNOW IF

THERE'S A FORMAL PROCESS, MAKING
IT TOUGH TO APPLY IN GENERAL IF

SOMEONE IS CONTINUALLY

DISREGARDING NEIGHBORS -
>> IT'S UNFORTUNATE, THE

COMPLAINTS WE GET ARE ABOUT BAD

WE CAN'T REGULATE A GOOD NEIGHBOR.

BEHAVIOR.

SOMETIMES WE WISH WE DO.
WE DO HAVE ENOUGH AUTHORITY IN
OUR PROCESS THAT WE CAN MAKE IT
VERY UNCOMFORTABLE FOR THEM TO
CONTINUE WORKING IN THAT VEIN.
STOP WORK ORDERS ARE A VERY

SERIOUS THING.

IT HAS FINANCIAL IMPACTS ON PROYES, SIR.

PEOPLE LISTEN THEN.

>> IT IS A VERY SPECIFIC ISSUE. I HAVE A CO-OP BUILDING ON MASS AVENUE AND FENWAY.

IT'S AN AGING POPULATION IN THE BUILDING AND THEY'RE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WAYS TO MAKE IT MORE ACCESSIBLE.

A CHAIR LIFT IS WHAT THEY'RE LOOKING AT.

THERE IS NO -- THEY'VE BEEN TOLD THEIR STAIRCASE IS NOT WIDE ENOUGH FOR THE BUILDING CODE TO DO IT, BUT THAT PHYSICALLY THEY CAN MAKE IT WORK.

I WAS WONDERING, WHO IS THE BEST PERSON FOR THEM TO MEET AND TALK ABOUT THAT?

>> THE OFFICE OF HANDICAP SERVICES.

WE HAVE DESIGNERS THAT WILL WORK WITH THEM.

THERE ARE REAL CONTRADICTIONS THAT TAKE PLACE, PARTICULARLY IN OLDER BUILDINGS.

YOU DO HAVE TO MAINTAIN A 36-INCH WIDTH FOR CLEAR ACCESS. CHAIR LIFTS ARE QUITE LARGE. EVEN WHEN THEY'RE IN THE CLOSED POSITION.

THEY HINDER THE USE OF HANDRAILS.

IT'S THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMUNITY THAT HAS TO BE CREATIVE IN RESOLVING SOME OF THESE ISSUES. WE WILL ACCEPTED ALTERNATIVE DESIGNS TO MAKE THINGS WORK. THE ADA HAS AN ORDINANCE TO ENFORCE BUT THE CIVIL RIGHTS LAW, THEY ALLOW CERTAIN RECONSIDERATIONS.

TOM HAWKINS IS THE DIRECTOR OF THAT BOARD WHO IS TREMENDOUS. IF PEOPLE HAVE THESE ISSUES, THEY CAN GO TO HIM AND WORK IT OUT.

WE'LL SIT WITH PEOPLE TO SEE IF WE CAN COME UP WITH A WAY -- >> IT'S POSSIBLE THAT MIGHT NOT EVEN HAVE TO GO THAT FAR.
THEY MIGHT NOT BE AWARE OF WHAT

THE CURRENT RULES ARE.

I'M CERTAINLY NOT AN EXPERT.

SO I'LL FOLLOW UP WITH YOU.

- >> PLEASE DO.
- >> THANK YOU ALL.
- >> THANK YOU.

COUNCILLOR CAMPBELL.

- >> THANK YOU.
- >> GOOD MORNING.

THANK YOU GUYS FOR BEING HERE.

COMMISSIONER AND CHIEF, THANK

YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR WORK.

COMMISSIONER IN PARTICULAR, YOUR DEPARTMENT.

THANK YOU AND YOUR TEAM FOR ALL

OF THE WORK THEY DO.

WE PROBABLY RELY ON ISD PROBABLY

THE MOST FOR ISSUES, CONSTITUENT SERVICES AND QUALITY OF LIFE

ISSUES OUT OF DISTRICT 4.

SO IT'S NOT EASY WORK THAT

YOU'RE ENGAGED WITH.

WE DO CONSIDER YOU GUYS

PARTNERS.

- SO THANK YOU.
- >> THANK YOU.
- >> I JUST HAVE SORT OF A

DIFFERENT GROUP OF QUESTIONS.

ONE HAS TO DO WITH INSPECTORS IN GENERAL.

HOW MANY INSPECTORS DO YOU HAVE?

- IS IT BROKEN DOWN BY DIVISIONS?
- >> YES, IT IS.
- >> HOW THEY'RE ASSIGNED?
- >> IN THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT,
- WE HAVE 20 INSPECTORS.
- IN THE ONE SUPERVISOR AN
- ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER AND

DIRECTOR OF STRUCTURES, WE HAVE

ONE SUPERVISOR IN THE ELECTRICAL

DEPARTMENT, EIGHT INSPECTORS.

PLUMBING DEPARTMENT HAS SEVEN INSPECTORS.

>> I'M SORRY.

- 20 IN THE BUILDING --
- >> THERE'S A TOTAL INCLUDING

SUPERVISORS 24.

IN ELECTRICAL, WE HAVE NINE.

THE PLUMBING/GAS DIVISION, WE

HAVE EIGHT.

HOUSING WE HAVE 28.

HEALTH, WE HAVE 18.

ENVIRONMENTAL, WE HAVE 18.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES WE HAVE

SEVEN.

OUR LEGAL DEPARTMENT IS FOUR ATTORNEYS.

ANIMAL CARE, WE HAVE SEVEN DOG OFFICERS, WE HAVE FOUR ANIMAL ROOM ATTENDANTS A SUPERVISOR THERE A DIRECTOR AND A SENIOR DOG OFFICER.

>> OKAY.

PARTICULARLY FOR I GUESS
HOUSING, HOUSING, ENVIRONMENTAL
BUILDING, THE DEPARTMENTS THAT
GO OUT THE MOST IN COMMUNITY,
ARE THEY ASSIGNED BY
NEIGHBORHOODS OR ARE THEY JUST
DISPERSED AS A CASE COMES IN?
>> RIGHT NOW THE BUILDING
DEPARTMENT IS ASSIGNED BY WARDS
WITHIN THE CITY.
THAT'S SOMETHING THAT IS BEING

THAT'S SOMETHING THAT IS BEING REEVALUATED.

THE CHIEF AND I RIGHT NOW ARE THINKING OF A NEW WAY OF ORGANIZING THAT INTO TEAMS. HOUSING IS ASSIGNED BY NEIGHBORHOODS AND DEPENDING ON WHAT IS REQUIRED, HEALTH HAS A ROUTINE SCHEDULE OF INSPECTIONS FOR RESTAURANTS AND ALL FOOD PROCESS PLACES.

PLUS, IN ALL THREE OF THOSE DEPARTMENTS, WE HAVE A REACTIVE TEAM THAT IF THERE'S A COMPLAINT FILED, WE CAN DISPATCH PEOPLE OUT IMMEDIATELY.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES IS COMPLAINT DRIVEN.

DEPENDING ON WHAT'S GOING ON IN NEIGHBORHOODS.

RATES AND MEASURES, DEPENDING ON WHAT TIME OF THE YEAR IS WHAT THEY'RE DOING.

THEY MANAGE EVERYTHING FROM HOW MUCH GAS THE GAS TANK IS DISPENSING, IS IT A GALLON TO SCANNERS IN STORES, ARE THEY ACTUALLY READING THE CORRECT NUMBER ON THE SHELF AS WELL AS WHEN THEY GET TO THE CASHIER. THEY ALSO MANAGE THE BIKE SAFETY PROGRAM.

CONTRACTS WITH THE CITY. LEGAL.

GOD KNOWS HOW THEY DO WHAT THEY

DO.

WE HAVE 1,500 CASES THAT ARE WORKING RIGHT NOW.

OUR ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER DOES A TREMENDOUS JOB PRIORITIZING THEM.

WE'RE TRYING TO REANALYZE ALL OF THE CASES SO THAT THE ONES THAT WE THINK WE CAN WIN EASILY, WE'RE TRYING TO PUSH THOSE TO THE TOP OF THE PILE.

THE PROJECTS THAT WE THINK HAVE THE BEST YIELD FOR SOLVING A REAL PROBLEM, THAT'S GETTING PUSHED TO THE TOP.

A LOT OF NUISANCE CASES THAT WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH, WHAT, WHERE, THAT KIND OF THINGS.

THEY NEED TO PERPETUATE THEMSELVES.

ANIMAL CARE IS COMPLAINT DRIVEN. WE DO HAVE A SCHEDULE TRYING TO KEEP DOGS ON LEASHES AND PEOPLE CLEANING UP AFTER THEIR DOGS. WE RANDOMLY HIT DIFFERENT PARKS THROUGHOUT THE CITY.

>> IN PARTICULARLY FOR THE
HOUSING INSPECTORS BY
NEIGHBORHOOD, SAY FOR EXAMPLE -OBVIOUSLY I HAVE LARGELY
DORCHESTER, MAT -- MATAPAN.
>> EIGHT ARE DISTRICTED BY
ORDINANCE.

THAT LEAVES TEN INSPECTORS. WE'VE BROKEN THEM UP TO TEAMS OF TWO.

THEY'RE ASSIGNED THROUGHOUT THE CITY AS THE NEED HAS TO GO FORWARD.

>> OKAY.

>> ONE OF THE BIGGEST ISSUES -- I GUESS TWO.

ONE HAS TO DO WITH RODENTS.
THE OTHER HAS TO DO WITH EITHER
VACANT PROPERTIES OR PROPERTIES
THAT HAVE TENANTS IN THEM BUT
POSING A PROBLEM TO THE
COMMUNITY.

STARTING WITH THE RODENT ISSUES. LEO IS OUT THERE.

I DON'T KNOW HOW HE DOES WHAT HE DOES.

WHAT DOES HIS TEAM LOOK LIKE? THESE PARTICULAR

NEIGHBORHOODS -- YOU KNOW THE NEIGHBORHOODS ALREADY.

>> WELL.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT IS MADE UP OF LEO.

THERE'S ONE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT.

12 ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTORS THAT INSPECTS 1.

THEY HAVE DIFFERENT LICENSES TO MAKE THINGS HAPPEN.

WE HAVE TWO MEMBERS THAT ARE TECHNICALLY PART OF CODE ENFORCEMENT.

THEY DEAL WITH THE GARAGES AND AUTO REPAIR PLACES.

WE HAVE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS IN NEIGHBORHOODS.

DISTRICT FOUR IS ONE AREA WITH A LOT OF ISSUES.

THERE'S ANOTHER AREA WITH A LOT OF ISSUES, WE CAN HELP.

FOR US TO INDIVIDUALLY GO AND ATTACK A HOTSPOT JUST MOVES THE PROBLEM.

THE COMMUNITIES HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER SO THAT WHEN WE CAN GET LANDLORDS TO WORK WITH US SO THERE'S A PROGRAM IN A BLOCK AND WE DEAL WITH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AREAS, WE ACTUALLY AFFECT CHANGE WITH THAT.

IN MOST CASES, WE WILL DEAL WITH THEM AS WE CAN.

IT'S NOT A STANDARD ON US BECAUSE WE'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

THE ACTUAL RAT NUMBERS -- WE DO HEAT MAPS TO MANAGE THEM.

THE ACTUAL NUMBERS HAVE NOT GONE UP.

I APPLAUD AND THANK 311 BECAUSE IT'S SO EASY FOR CONSTITUENTS NOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT BUT NOT UNCOMMON FOR US TO GET FIVE 311 COMPLAINTS ABOUT ONE INCIDENT. SO IF YOU LOOK AT THE COMPLAINTS, THEY'RE UP BUT THE INCIDENTS ARE NOT UP. SOME OF THE BIGGEST ARE THE MANAGEMENT OF TRASH, YOU GET A RAT A PLEASE TO EAT, SLEEP, PLACE TO GET WE'RE, THEY'RE HOPE.

THOSE ARE SOME OF THE THINGS THAT WE LOOK AT MOST AGGRESSIVELY.

STANDING WATER IS ALWAYS A PROBLEM.

TRASH BARRELS THAT ARE NOT CLOSED PROPERLY OR THE WRONG TIME OF TRASH BARRELS.

DUMPSTERS OVERFLOWS, WE HAVE SOME AREAS IN DOWNTOWN BOSTON WHERE WE HAVE TO WORK REGULARLY WITH LANDLORDS AND COMMERCIAL OWNERS ABOUT THE MANAGEMENT OF THEIR DUMPSTERS.

WE'RE CONSTANTLY DEALING WITH IT.

>> THIS IS GOOD.

ONE THING THAT WE FOUND -- I DON'T WANT TO ASSUME THERE'S LANDLORDS THAT DON'T WANT TO HELPFUL.

TERESA AND THEM, THEY HAVE STEPPED UP.

WE'RE CONTINUING TO MEET WITH THEM.

THEY HAVE CLEARED OUT THE BACK OF THE BUILDING.

THEY'VE DONE SOME INCREDIBLE THINGS.

WE CAN'T BE HELPFUL IF WE DON'T HEAR FROM YOU.

THAT'S BEEN GREAT.

BUT FOR THOSE PROPERTIES WHERE THE LANDLORDS ARE NOT RESPONSIVE, WE REACHED OUT, THEY JUST FRANKLY DON'T CARE, WHAT CAN WE DO IN THE SHORT TERM AND LONG-TERM?

THAT'S THE BIGGEST FRUSTRATION THAT RESIDENTS HAVE.

FOR EXAMPLE, EVEN FOR SOME OF THE VACANT PROPERTIES,

NOTTINGHAM, FOR EXAMPLE, JUST A FATAL STABBING WAS THERE.

PEOPLE ON THAT STREET HAVE BEEN COMPLAINING ABOUT THAT PROPERTY FOR A LONG TIME.

WE HEARD THAT ABOUT OTHER PROPERTIES AND COMPLAINING FOR YEARS, EVEN BEFORE MAYOR WALSH GOT HERE.

I KNOW OUR HANDS ARE TIED BECAUSE OF THE AUTHORITY WE CAN AND CANNOT DO.

WHAT CAN WE DO SHORT TERM AND LONG-TERM CONSISTENTLY?

>> ONE OF THE BIGGEST THINGS,
FINDING OUT WHO THE OWNER IS.
WE FIND OUT ABOUT PROPERTIES
OWNED BY PEOPLE IN EUROPE,
PEOPLE THAT HAVE PASSED AWAY AND
OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS DON'T WANT
TO ABSORB THE OWNERSHIP OF THE
PROPERTY.

THOSE ARE THE PROPERTIES THAT WE GO AFTER IN THE HOUSING COURT TO APPOINT RECEIVERS SO THE BUILDING CAN BE FIXED AND DEALT WITH.

WE HAVE OTHER PROPERTIES THAT RARELY WE KNOW WHO THE OWNER IS. WE TRY TO DEAL WITH THEM. IF THEY DON'T DEAL WITH THEM, WE WILL STEP UP TO DO THINGS. WE PARTNER WITH THE COURT SYSTEM, WHICH SOMETIMES IS NOT AS FAST AS WE WOULD LIKE THEM TO BE

WE WILL GO ON TO PROPERTIES AND WE WILL DO RAT ABATEMENT AND BOARDING UPS.

WHEN WE DO THAT, WE PUT A LIEN AGAINST THE PROPERTY OWNER. IF THE PROPERTY OWNER OWNS MULTIPLE PROPERTIES, IT TIES UP ALL OF ORDINARY PROPERTY SO THEY CAN'T DO THE BUSINESS THEY LIKE TO DO, BECAUSE THEY CAN NO LONGER GET CLEAR TITLE ON THE PROPERTY.

THAT'S AN EFFECTIVE TOOL.
>> SO JUST GOING BACK TO WHEN
IT'S DIFFICULT TO FIND AN OWNER
AND YOU HAVE TO GO THROUGH A
COURT PROCESS.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?
>> I WISH I COULD GIVE YOU A
STRAIGHT ANSWER.

I CAN'T.

WE'VE HAD SOME THAT I CAN THINK OF ONE RIGHT OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD, AT A COMMUNITY MEETING THAT IT'S BEEN 13 YEARS.

>> AND THEREIN LIES THE PROBLEM. WE HAVE ONE OWNER THAT IS VERY FAMILIAR WERE THE COURT SYSTEM. HE'S SEEING ME ON A RICO CHARGE AND THAT I'M CONSPIRING TO TAKE

IT WAY AND SELL IT TO MY FRIENDS.

WE DEAL WITH A LOT OF THIS. A LOT OF TITLE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ISSUES.

SO IT'S DIFFICULT FOR US TO DEAL WITH THAT.

THE JUDGES ARE SYMPATHETIC TO BOTH SIDES OF THE DISCUSSION. SOMETIMES WE FEEL IT'S A FAILURE.

SOMETIMES WE CAN MAKE A SMALL STEP.

WE GOT A JUDGE AFTER -- IT
WAS -- WE WERE GOING TO RIP IT
DOWN 1 1/2 YEARS AGO.

GOT A COURT ORDER THAT THE CITY COULD NOT BE INVOLVED IN THE DEMOLITION OF THAT BUILDING.

MAYOR WALSH WAS GOING TO RIP DOWN A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.

WE FINALLY GOT IT OUT OF COURT.

WE HAD A THREE-DAY WINDOW.

WE GOT A COURT ORDER.

WE WENT IN, ABATED, BOARDED UP. THE JUDGE REFUSED TO GIVE US A NO TRUSS PASS ON THE PERSON.

THE BUILDING IS DEEMED UNSAFE BY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

FIREFIGHTERS WILL NOT ENTER IT.

IT'S DEEMED UNHABITABLE BY ISD. THESE ARE THE MORE HORRIFIC

SITUATIONS WE RUN INTO.

THE BIGGEST THING THAT I WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND AND I TALK TO ALL THE COUNCILS ABOUT THIS, THE MORE YOU TELL US ABOUT IT, THE MORE WE GET INVOLVED.

SOMETIMES IT'S -- WE HAVE TO CUT DOWN WEEDS.

THE POLICE ARE TREMENDOUS PARTNERS IN TRYING TO KEEP PEOPLE OFF PROPERTY.

BUT IT IS -- OWNERSHIP IS THE BIGGEST PROBLEM.

WE HAVE BANKS THAT OWN BUILDINGS THAT DON'T RESPOND TO US.

>> AND I'LL END WITH THIS.

THE CHALLENGE IS -- OBVIOUSLY MY TEAM IS ON IT.

WE BOTHER YOU GUYS ALL TIME.

>> NEVER A BOTHER.

>> WE'RE CALLING YOU GUYS.

CALLING SOME FOLKS THAT SAY THAT

IS NOT REALLY OUR JOB.
BUT THEY STILL HELP US.
MY CHALLENGE IS COMMUNICATING
WITH RESIDENTS AND SEE THESE
PROPERTIES -- USUALLY THE ONE
PROPERTY ON THE STREET THAT IS
THE PROBLEM PROPERTY.

TALKING THEM THROUGH HOW LONG IT CAN TAKE.

WHILE IT'S GREAT -- PARTICULARLY I WAS AT THE MEETING RELATED TO MOUNT IDA.

THE MAYOR SAID I'M SO FRUSTRATED, I'M GOING TO DO A, B AND C.

I HAD TO TELL MY CONSTITUENTS, THAT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU SHOULD EXPECT FOR EVERY PROPERTY.
BECAUSE FRANKLY, THERE'S SOME LEGAL QUESTIONS ON WHETHER OR NOT WE CULLED DO WHAT WE DID.
SO THIS IS HELPFUL TO KNOW IN THE SHORT TERM, WHICH WE CAN GO ON PRIVATE PROPERTY AND DO RAT BAITING AND CLEAN IT UP AND ALL OF THAT.

>> WE HAVE TO DEEM IT A PUBLIC NUISANCE.

WE DON'T DO IT LIGHTLY.

WE'RE CHALLENGED IN COURT ON THAT ALL THE TIME.

WE HAVE PEOPLE CHALLENGING US WHEN I CAN DEEP A BUILDING INHABITABLE.

THEY CHALLENGE ME ON MY AUTHORITY TO DO THAT.

WE'VE NEVER LOST A CASE IN THAT DEPARTMENT.

IT'S THE KIND OF THING THAT IT DOES PRO TRACT THE RESULTS BECAUSE EVERYTHING STOPS THE JUDICIAL PROCESS.

>> HOW LONG DOES IT DECLARE A PROPERTY UNSAFE, A PUBLIC NUISANCE?

>> IT'S AWFUL.

CAN'T GIVE DEFINITIVES.

IT DEPENDS ON THE SEVERITY OF THE BUILDING.

WE HAD THE FIRE ON MAURICE STREET.

THAT WAS A PROBLEM PROPERTY FOR A LONG TIME.

THE OWNER STARTED DOING SOME

WORK.

THAT WAS THAT FIRE THAT TOOK PLACE.

THEY -- THE OWNERS HAVE BEEN

VERY RESPONSIVE FOR US. THEY HAVE PERMITS FILED.

THEY'RE RESPONDING TO IT.

THE BUILDING WAS KEPT SAVE.

IT WASN'T A PUBLIC NUISANCE, BUT

IT WAS VACANT.

WE KNOW THAT'S NOT GOOD.

WE HAVE NO ABILITY TO FORCE A

LANDLORD TO FIX A BUILDING.

WE CAN FORCE THEM TO KEEP IT SAFE, RODENT FREE AND CLEAN, BUT WHY CAN'T MAKE THEM REVITALIZE THE BUILDING.

THOSE PROPERTIES HAVE THE BEST VIEW OF BOSTON'S INNER HARBOR. I KNOW THEY COULD BE SOLD FOR A REAL PROFIT.

A LOT OF THESE OWNERS FOR WHATEVER REASON DON'T WANT TO DEAL WITH IT'S.

>> I WANT TO MAKE SURE I GIVE COUNCILMAN O'MALLEY SOME TIME.
I'M A FIRM BELIEVER OF VIOLENCE AND CRIME HAPPEN IN COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE THE SORT OF HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES THAT GO UNA DRESSED FOR SO LONG.
IT'S NOT BECAUSE NEIGHBORS AND COMMUNITIES DON'T CARE.
RESIDENTS SHOW UP ALL THE TIME.
FRUSTRATING ME TREMENDOUSLY TO HAVE THE PROPERTIES SITTING

IT UP HER AND THERE.
LET'S NOT DO ANYTHING MEANINGFUL
TO IT.

VACANT AND LANDLORDS CAN CLEAN

PEOPLE LOOK AT A HOME THAT IS DILAPIDATED AND THINKING A NEIGHBORHOOD IS A CERTAIN WAY. BRINGS IN CERTAIN NEGATIVITY THAT LEADS TO A WHOLE HOST OF PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES. SO THESE QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES

SO THESE QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES HAVE TO GO AWAY.

I'D LOVE TO CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT WE CAN DO FROM THE COUNCIL'S PERSPECTIVE.

MAYBE IT IS PUTTING TOGETHER LEGISLATION, EVEN THOUGH THAT

WOULD TAKE PLACE FOREVER.
MAYBE IT'S A CONVERSATION ABOUT
WHAT CAN HAPPEN IN THE COURTS.
A PUBLIC CAMPAIGN THAT WE CAN DO
WITH OUR RESIDENTS TO PUSH THE
COURTS TO BE MORE RESPONSIVE?
THEY'RE CREATING PUBLIC SAFETY
ISSUES.

PEOPLE ARE DYING.

THE GLOBE REPORTS ON SOME OF THESE PROBLEMS WHERE CRIME IS OCCURRING, BUT A LOT OF THEM, PARTICULARLY IN DORCHESTER AND MATTAPAN BUT ACROSS THE CITY. PARTICULARLY IN DORCHESTER. I WORRY THAT EVEN WITH THE TOOLS WE HAVE, FRANKLY IT'S NOT ENOUGH.

THE FACT THAT A PROBLEM PROPERTY SITS FOR TEN YEARS IS RIDICULOUS.

SO CONSIDER ME A PARTNER IN THE WORK AND WE'LL CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION.

>> COUNCILLOR, ANY EFFORT THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE MOVING FORWARD, WE'LL LOVE TO HAVE YOU A PART OF THE TEAM.

THIS IS A TREMENDOUS WASTE OF RESOURCES.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT DOES AFFECT QUALITY OF LIFE IN NEIGHBORHOODS.

SO IT BECOMES DIFFICULT.

>> THE CASE OF MOUNT IDA, IF WE CAN GET THE JUDGE TO GIVE US A NO TRESPASS, WE CAN GET THIS GENTLEMEN ARRESTED.

WE MIGHT GET HIM SOME REAL ASSISTANCE.

THERE'S A NUMBER OF ISSUES GOING ON WITH THIS GENTLEMAN.

WE CAN'T EVEN OFFER THAT HELP BECAUSE HE'S RESISTANT.

VERY COMPLICATED BUT YES, I WANT TO RESOLVE THAT.

- >> THANK YOU.
- >> COUNCILLOR O'MALLEY.
- >> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.

GOOD AFTERNOON.

GREAT TO BE WITH YOU.

I WANTED TO ECHO A COUPLE

SENTIMENTS FOR YOU.

MY QUESTIONS, COMMISSIONER, THE

FIRST IS I APPRECIATE THE WORK THAT ISD HAS DONE AND WORKING WITH OUR OFFICES.

THAT IS A NEW PHENOMENON THAT WE'VE SEEN AND IT'S VITALLY IMPORTANT.

I WANT TOPPED POINT OUT CALL LEAN, BRIAN AND FRANK AND AMANDA KENNEDY FROM ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL FOR BEING -- AMANDA IS HERE AS WELL.

I DIDN'T SEE YOU THERE.
JUST BEING -- AND YOURSELF AS
WELL.

I'VE GOTTEN CALLS BACK FROM YOU AT 7:00 ON A FRIDAY NIGHT SO FROM YOUR OFFICE.

SO I APPRECIATE THE GREAT WORKS THAT WE HAVE -- I WOULD SAY THAT IT'S GOTTEN BETTER. THERE'S STILL A LOT OF

IMPROVEMENT THAT CAN BE UNDERTAKEN THERE.

THAT'S NOT AN INDICTMENT.
THAT'S BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT

YOU ALL ARE UNDERSTAFFED.

I THINK WE NEED TO GROW THE NUMBER OF INSPECTORS.

YOU'RE DOING A LOT WITH A RELATIVELY SMALL WORK FORCE.

PARTICULARLY WITH THE

DEVELOPMENT AND GIVEN THE FACT THAT WE'RE SEEING SUCH UNPRECEDENTED DEVELOPMENT.

MY OFFICE HEARS FROM DEVELOPERS, FRUSTRATED THAT THEY CAN'T GET

AN INSPECTOR OUT AND RESIDENTS FRUSTRATED FOR THE SAME REASON ON DIFFERENT SIDES OF THE COIN.

I WOULD ADVOCATE FOR AN INCREASE IN YOUR OVERALL BUDGET.

AS YOU SAID, FOR THE BUILDING INSPECTORS INCLUDING SUPERVISORS IS 24 RIGHT NOW.

>> YES.

IS THAT -- IS THAT NUMBER BEEN STATIC THE -- SINCE YOU'VE BEEN COMMISSIONER?

>> ONE OF THE THINGS I HAVE TO SAY BECAUSE I HEAR THIS A LOT FROM A LOT OF PEOPLE, WE NEED MORE PEOPLE.

WE NEED MORE PEOPLE.

I'M NOT OF THAT SCHOOL.

I THINK THAT PEOPLE WORKING EFFECTIVELY ARE A BETTER WAY TO DEAL WITH THINGS.

THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF BUSINESS PRACTICES THAT HAVE BEEN IN PLACE AT ISD FOR A REAL LONG TIME.

THEY WERE SET UP UP A DIFFERENT PROFILE AND DEVELOPMENT.
THEN FINALLY LAST YEAR THIS BOSTON PASSED THE SO-CALLED PUPPY-MILL BILL WHICH HAS GONE INTO EFFECT.

I BELIEVE THERE WAS ONE IN COUNCILOR CIOMMO'S DIRECT GRANDFATHERED IN THROUGH THE CALENDAR YEAR.

CAN YOU TALK ABOUT THE ISSUE AND THERE SEEMS TO BE MORE THAN ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE OF DOGS BEING SOLD BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD OR AN EMPTY PARKING LOT.

>> AMANDA HANDLES THAT.

WE AGREE WITH THE ORDINANCE.
WE SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF IT.
THE NEXT ORDINANCE I REALLY WANT
TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THOUGH IS
MORE GERMANE TO THE DOGFIGHTING
AND THAT BREEDING SITUATION
BECAUSE I THINK THAT'S ANOTHER
MAJOR, MAJOR PROBLEM AS FAR AS
ANIMAL CARE IS CONCERNED WE'RE
TRYING TO DEAL WITH.

I CAN ASK AMANDA IF SHE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT.

WE'VE ORDAINED THE ORDINANCE THERE'S NO MORE SALE OF ANIMALS. SORRY, SHE WASN'T PREPARED TO DO THIS.

>> THE OFFICERS WERE TOLD ABOUT THE ORDINANCE AND ACTIVELY TRYING TO FIND SITUATIONS BUT AS OF YET WE HAVEN'T HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO CITE ANYONE BUT WE'RE HIGHLY AWARE OF IT. WE HAVE IDENTIFIED I THINK THERE'S MORE WORK THAT CAN BE DONE IN A SIMILAR VEIN IN TERMS OF THE ORDINANCE FOR PEOPLE THAT ARE BREEDING ARE DOING IT APPROPRIATELY AND COME UP WITH A BETTER MATRIX ON WHAT THAT LOOKS LIKE.

CURRENTLY IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN

FOUR DOGS TO HAVE A KENNEL LICENSE.

THAT DOESN'T ENCAPSULATE WHAT PEOPLE ARE DOING WITH THOSE ANIMALS.

IF SOMEBODY IS BREEDING THAT'S SOMETHING WE CAN LOOK AT TO MAKE SURE WE'RE PROTECTING CONSUMER AND THE ANIMALS.

NOT TO KEEP PEOPLE FROM DOING THAT PRACTICE BUT MAKING SURE THERE'S CHECKS AND BALANCES IN PLACE.

>> I APPRECIATE YOUR GREAT WORK ON THAT.

I'VE SEEN AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DOGS LICENSED IN THE CITY.

CONGRATULATIONS, THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT.

IS IT BETTER OUTREACH OR SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS OR MORE?

>> WE'VE SEEN A 10% INCREASE IN LICENSING AND MANAGING OUTREACH PROGRAMS TO THE COMMUNITY AS WELL AS STAFF BEING SO ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY AND HAVING TO CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG.

WE ARE FINING PEOPLE NOW FOR NOT DOING THAT.

WE'RE FINING PEOPLE FOR DOGS OFF LEASH IN AREAS THAT IT'S NOT ALLOWED.

I THINK WE'VE SEEN A TREMENDOUS UPTAKE IN THE WAY ANIMAL CARE IS RESPONDED TO.

>> AND YOU'RE MOVING THE SHELTER?

>> WE'RE WORK ON IT.

>> OK.

KEEP US POSTED AND THANK YOU. YOU OBVIOUSLY HAVE A WIDE PORTFOLIO.

I KNOW YOU COVER A LOT OF THINGS AND COVER IT WELL.

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

>> COUNCILOR FLAHERTY.

>> THANK YOU.

IT'S GREAT TO SEE YOU,

COMMISSIONER, AND YOUR TEAM AS WELL.

I FIND YOU TO BE SUPER RESPONSIVE.

WE TALK ALMOST EVERY DAY ON THE

VOLUME OF DEVELOPMENT AND VOLUME OF PERMITS FLOWING SO I APPRECIATE THE RESPONSIVENESS FROM YOU AND YOUR TEAM.
I ALSO ADMIRE THAT WHEN YOU SHUT

I ALSO ADMIRE THAT WHEN YOU SHUT DOWN THE RESTAURANT YOU'RE THE FOOD TESTER AND YOU GO OUT FIRST AND TEST THE FOOD.

>> JUST WHEN HE'S MAD AT ME.
>> WHICH IS A TESTAMENT TO THE
FACT THAT I THOUGHT WAS A GREAT
SELECTION BY MAYOR WALSH BECAUSE
YOU'VE BEEN ON THE OTHER SIDE OF
THE COUNTER.

I WISH WE'D DO THAT MORE OFTEN IN GOVERNMENT WHEN THERE'S A COMMISSIONER OR CHIEF WE GO TO THE CONSUMER AND CUSTOMER BECAUSE THEY KNOW IT BETTER THAN ANYBODY.

YOU GOT RIGHT IN THERE AND WERE ABLE TO PUT IN NEW PROTOCOLS AND RULES AND REGULATIONS THAT HAVE I THINK MADE INSPECTIONAL SERVICES MORE EFFICIENT.
A SHOUT OUT.

I KNOW IT WAS JOE GREGORIO IS SUPER RESPONSIVE AND LEO WITH RESPECT TO THE RODENT CONTROL AND BOBBY CHAN, A REAL PEOPLE PERSON AND THEY UNDERSTAND THE ISSUES AND GET OUT THERE AND DIVE INTO IT.

DANNY IS ANOTHER ONE, DANNY MANG -- MANNING WHEN HE'S OUT CYCLING AROUND THE CITY -- >> OR THE WORLD.

>> ENGAGES ON ISSUES OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS IN BOSTON AND HOW I.S.D. CAN PLAY A ROLE IN THAT AND TALKING TO THE CHAIRMAN HOW WE REGISTER OUR CARS, WE REGISTER BOATS, WE REGISTER APARTMENTS.

WE'RE PROBABLY ON THE ROAD TO REGISTERING BIKES.

AND IT FLOWS THROUGH CITY COUNCIL AND IT'S UNDER YOUR PURVIEW.

HAVE YOU SEEN ANY BENEFITS OF HAVING THE OVERSIGHT?
I THINK IT'S A TREMENDOUS RESOURCE.

SHE'S WELL ORGANIZED AND

HOPEFULLY WE'RE SUPPORTING HER IN HER MISSION BECAUSE I KNOW SHE SUPPORTS I.S.D. IN ITS MISSION.

THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS IN PLANNING.

YOU PERSONALLY I'D LIKE TO THANK BECAUSE OF THE NEW ZONING WE'RE DOING IN SOUTH BOSTON AND YOUR INVOLVEMENT WITH IT HAS BEEN ON A MACRO AND MINI LEVEL AND AS WE DO A BROAD SPECTRUM OF CHANGE WE'RE STILL LOOKING AT THE SMALL INDIVIDUAL EVENTS AND YOU BROUGHT A NUMBER OF THINGS TO LIGHT ON THAT SO THANK YOU ON THAT.

>> I APPRECIATE IT.

AS GO ACROSS THE CITY AS AN AT-LARGE NEIGHBORHOOD THEY'D LIKE THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS REZONED SO FOR PEOPLE WATCHING AT HOME WE OVERSEE AN AREA OVER 50 PLUS YEARS OLD AND IT'S BEEN CONVERTED TO ARTICLE 68 WHICH ARGUABLY SOLVES 85% TO 90% OF THE PROBLEM AND YOU AND YOUR STAFF HAVE BEEN PATIENT. ONE ISSUE I WANT TO DRAW TO YOUR ATTENTION AFTER THE COMMUNITY PROCESS AND THEY GOT THE DENIAL THEY STARTED WITH THE OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES AND WITH THE B.R.A. AND PROJECTS ARE APPROVED AND THEN GO TO DESIGN REVIEW AND THEN CHANGE BUT THEY DON'T GO BACK TO THE COMMUNITY. I CAUTION THAT SOME FOLKS WILL INTERPRET THAT AS SHENANIGANS TOOK PLACE, SOMETHING SHADY. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE ANSWER SO THAT IS BUT WHEN HAVE YOU A PROJECT THAT GOES THROUGH INSPECTIONAL SERVICES AND GOES THROUGH THE COMMUNITY PROCESS AND THEN TO THE ZONING AND GETS APPROVED WITH THE CAVEAT IT HAS TO GO TO DESIGN REVIEW WE'RE SEEING PROJECTS AND BUILDING MATERIALS COME OUT OF DESIGN REVIEW COMPLETELY DIFFERENT THAN WENT THROUGH YOU GUYS IN THE CITY.

THAT'S VERY PROBLEMATIC FROM MY

STANDPOINT.

WE WANT TO HAVE MORE TRANSPARENCY.

>> THE DESIGN REVIEW PROCESS IS THE AESTHETIC PIECE OF THE ARCHITECTURE.

THE BUILDING CODE REVIEW IS PURELY REGULATORY, ARE THEY MEETING ZONING AND BUILDING CODE AND IT'S NEEDED AND THE BPDA CANNOT CREATE A NEW ZONING IN THEIR DESIGN REVIEW.

IT'S ABOUT MATERIALS, IT'S ABOUT COLORS, IT'S ABOUT SOME OF THE INTANGIBLES IN HOW THE BUILDING INTERACTS WITH THE STREET.
THESE ARE NOT THINGS I SEE LOOKED AT BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT

THEY'RE MORE SUBJECTIVE.

REGULATED.

IF A PROBLEM HAS SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGED I FIND THE MAJORITY OF DEVELOPERS WILL GO BACK TO THE COMMUNITY.

IF THERE'S A CHANGE IN NUMBER, DENSITY OR MASSING THE MAJORITY OF THE PROJECTS GO BACK.
THE OTHER THING TOO IS THE MAJOR PROJECTS THAT GO THROUGH REVIEW WHETHER IT'S A LARGE OR SMALL PROJECT REVIEW THEY HAVE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN THAT. I THINK THAT'S GOOD.

THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT WHEN WE DO A PROJECT I KNOW THE COMMUNITY GETS VERY UPSET WE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT.

THAT'S THE WAY THE REGULATIONS ARE WRITTEN IF YOU'RE WITHIN THE GUIDELINES OF ZONING.

IF YOU'RE WITHIN THE GUIDELINES OF THE BUILDING CODE YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE THAT BUILDING. >> WE'VE GONE THROUGH THE COMMUNITY PROCESS AND THERE'S BRICK AND GLASS AND STEEL AND AFTER IT COMES OUT IT'S PURPLE OR YELLOW AND THE NEIGHBORHOOD GOES WHOA.

THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY AND WE WANT TO AVOID THAT.

>> A PROJECT IN ROXBURY IT WENT THROUGH THE PROCESS AND THEN THE OWNER -- THE DEVELOPER DECIDED TO CHANGE IT TO ALUMINUM SIDING WITHOUT A BUILDING PERMIT AND IT'S BEEN TIED UP FOR A YEAR NOW BECAUSE UNDER THAT REGULATORY PROCESS THESE ARE THE DESIGNS AND MATERIALS APPROVED. YOU DO NOT HAVE THE ABILITY TO CHANGE IT.

IN THIS CASE WE HAVE THE FIRE REGULATIONS THAT HELPED US BECAUSE IT'S A BOARD THAT DOESN'T BURN AND ALUMINUM SIDING WILL MELT.

WE'RE TRYING TO BE MORE RESPONSIVE AND US PARTNERING WITH THE B.R.A. IS WORKING OUT WELL.

OUR REVIEWERS NOW MEET MONTHLY TO DISCUSS THINGS AND NUANCES OF ZONING AND THE CONTINUUM OF STREET SCAPES AND THINGS LAID OUT BUT I GET THOSE CALLS. >> THE PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION WAS DOWN TO MORE WHO YOU KNEW OR WHO YOU HIRED OR WHO'S SIGN YOU HELD AND WHO'S BREAKFAST EVENT YOU WENT TO AND IT'S A BREATH OF FRESH AIR THEY'RE ON THE MERITS AND WE'RE INTERPRETING THE CODE AND MERITS OF THE CODE AND LARGELY BECAUSE OF YOU BEING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COUNTER AND THAT'S BEEN HELPFUL. I WANT TO TOUCH ON MY BIGGEST NEMESIS AS WELL AS THE CITY, THE NORWEGIAN RAT.

WE WERE ON TOP OF THEM BEING ABLE TO SPRAY THE DRY ICE AND THEN GOT HELD UP ON A COURT ISSUE.

CAN YOU UPDATE US ON THAT.

>> THE DEPARTMENT.
ENVIRONMENT HERE IN
MASSACHUSETTS WE DISCOVERED IT.
YOU KNOW THE STORY.
WE STARTED USING IT TREMENDOUSLY
SUCCESSFUL, NEW YORK WAS USING
IT AND FLORIDA AND WE'VE HAD
NOTHING BUT ACCOLADES FOR THE
IDEA.

THERE WAS A COMPLAINT FILED WITH THE STATE THAT THIS WAS NOT LISTED AS AN ACCEPTED PESTICIDE. I TRIED TO MAKE THE ARGUMENT IT WASN'T A PESTICIDE BUT A
DETERRENT AND THEY CHANGED THE
LANGUAGE TO INCLUDE DETERRENT
THEY'RE WORKING WITH US.
THE E.A.P. HAS WRITTEN AND
UNDERSTAND WE'RE IN A REGULATORY
OOPS SO THEY'RE WORKING WITH US.
WE HAVE REGULAR DISCUSSIONS WITH
THE STATE.

THEY'RE HELPING US REDEFINE WHAT THE ISSUE IS TO GET IT APPROVED BUT IT'S OUR EXPECTATION TO GET THE DRY ICE BACK TO OPERATION. IT'S NOT THE PANACEA AND KILL ALL THE RATS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON BUT IT'S AN EFFECTIVE TOOL THAT'S SAFE IN SO MANY WAYS.

- >> YOU HAVE THE NORWEGIAN RAT USE TO INGESTING A MATERIAL AND WE'RE SEEING THE NEXT GENERATION OF RAT LAUGHING AT THE STUFF WE'RE PUTTING OUT.
- >> I LEARNED MORE ABOUT RATS THAN I EVER EXPECTED TO IN MY LIFE.
- I CAN TELL YOU THIS AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN IF YOU WANTED TO USE DRY ICE IN A RAT HOLE IN YOUR YARD THERE'S A REGULATION AGAINST THAT.
- WE AS A CITY THOUGH HAVE BEEN TOLD WE HAVE TO GET IT PROPERLY REGULATED AND WE'RE IN FAVOR OF THAT.
- >> IS THERE A TIME LINE ON DEALING WITH THE ISSUE.
- >> WE'RE DEALING WITH THE STATE AND GOVERNMENT.
- I'M NOT SURE HOW THE LINES WILL WORK.
- >> IT WILL BE A SNOOZE FEST.
- >> AUSTIN IS WORKING WITH HIS COUNTERPARTS AT THE STATE LEVEL, I.S.D. IS WORKING AT THE LOCAL LEVEL.
- WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER BUT I DO NOT KNOW.
- >> WHEN YOU GET AN UPDATE ON THAT THAT'D BE GREAT.
- AND AUSTIN ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL STUFF THE STEPS YOU'RE TAKING WITH RESPECT TO CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES AND THE SEA LEVEL RISE IN

HAVING THAT COMPONENT BEING TAKEN SERIOUSLY AT ALL LEVELS PARTICULARLY AROUND THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR. ANY UPDATES IN TERMS OF THE APPROACH WE'RE TAKING AND FOLKS COMING IN TO PUT TOGETHER WHETHER IT'S A SMALL OR BIG PROJECT AND THEY HAPPEN TO BE ALONG THE WATER FRONT. >> I CAN GIVE A BRIEF UPDATE ON THAT AND GIVE CONTEXT. YOU MENTIONED WE RELEASED OUR REPORT FOR CLIMATE READY BOSTON IN DECEMBER OF LAST YEAR. ONE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A QUICK WIN IN TERMS OF HOW TO MAKE THE CITY A SAFER PLACE TO LIVE AND BE PREPARED FOR CLIMATE CHANGE IS TO LOOK AT OUR POWER AND ZONING IN HOW TO EFFECT DEVELOP THE COMMUNITY UNDERSTAND HOW TO MAKE THEIR BUILDING SAFE FROM CLIMATE CHANGE AND NOT ONLY BASED ON THE HISTORIC PROJECTIONS BUT WHAT WE EXPECT TO HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE. SO OVER THE LIFE TIME OF A BUILDING MOVING FORWARD. SO IN CONJUNCTION WITH I.S.D., THE ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS THE BOSTON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY IT'S A PROCESS WE'RE KICKING OFF TO UNDERSTAND HOW WE CAN LEVERAGE THE ZONING CODE AND UPDATES TO THAT TO HELP OUR DEVELOPERS IN THE CITY MAKE THEIR BUILDINGS MORE PROTECTED. >> PROTECT OUR INVESTMENT AS

>> OF COURSE.

WELL.

IT'S NOT JUST THE DEVELOPERS
IT'S THE LONG-TERM TENANTS OF
THE BUILDINGS WHO ARE ULTIMATELY
IMPACTED.

>> AND THE FINANCING OF THE BUILDING KNOWING IT'S NOT GOING TO BE UNDER WATER AT ANY PARTICULAR POINT IN TIME DURING THE LIFE OF THE LOAN.

>> THE INSURANCE COMMUNITY ARE STARTING TO PAY MORE ATTENTION. THERE ARE CERTAIN WAYS THE

INCENTIVES ARE A BIT BLURRED EVEN IN THE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY.

AS YOU KNOW MANY WILL DEVELOP IT AND SELL IT TO A LONG-TERM HOLDING COMPANY THAT MAY NOT BE AS FAMILIAR AS THE ISSUES AS IT RELATES TO SEA LEVEL RISE IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.

WE'RE STARTING TO SEE INSURANCE COMPANIES WHO ARE BY STATUTE REQUIRED TO LOOK AT HISTORICAL RISK NOT FUTURE RISK.

AS THEY EVALUATE THE PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENT THEY'RE STARTING TO SAY WE MAY HAVE TO BASE OUR RATES BASED ON HISTORICS BUT WE CAN CHOOSE IN THE TO INSURE YOU UNLESS YOU MAKE YOUR BUILDING MORE CLIMATE PREPARED.

WE'RE STARTING TO HEAR ANECDOTAL NOTES AND MORE ON THE TENANT SIDE THE LEGAL COMMUNITY IS GETTING INVOLVED, WRITING IN CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS OUT IN LEASES IF A BUILDING BECOMES UNFINANCEABLE AS A RESULT OF CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS.
WE'RE SEEING THE CLAUSES GO INTO LEASES AS WELL.

IT'S NOT JUST A CITY THAT WANTS TO LEAD THE EFFORTS.

WE WANT TO WORK WITH THE COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPERS AND FINANCIERS AND INSURANCE COMMUNITY AS WELL AS THE LEGAL COMMUNITY TO HELP PROTECT THE CITY FROM IMPACT.

>> THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

BEFORE I CLOSE OUT THE COUNCIL'S REVIEW OF THE FISCAL BUDGET FOR I.S.B. AND RECONVENE FOR THE RESOLVING FUND IN MINUTES.
THERE'S PEOPLE I WANT TO MENTION THAT WORK FOR YOU WHO HAVE BEEN SUPER RESPONSIVE, BRIAN OLIVERY AND JOHN MEAN AND SUSAN RICE AND YOU MENTIONED ANDERA AND THE MANY WE DIDN'T MENTION WHO WORK HARD FOR US EVERYDAY.
WITH THAT I'LL ADJOURN THIS HEARING AND WE'LL RECONVENE IN FIVE.

THANK YOU.
[POUNDING GAVEL]

>> GOOD AFTERNOON. I'M DISTRICT 9 COUNCILOR MARK CIOMMO. WE'RE HERE TO DISCUSS REVOLVING FUND MESSAGE IN ORDER AUTHORIZING A LIMIT FOR THE INSPECTION OF SERVICES DEPARTMENT REVOLVING FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018 TO REIMBURSE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS TO THOSE CITY AGENCIES WHICH ENFORCE CBC SECTION 199 AND 1.9B FOR REGISTRATION FEES COLLECTED PURSUANT TO CHAPTERS 18 SECTION 1.46 THROUGH 10 AND FINES PURSUANT TO CBC CHAPTER 16, SECTIONS 1.9 AND 1.9B. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND SHALL NOT EXCEED \$300,000 PER YEAR. I'D LIKE TO REMIND FOLKS THIS SAY PUBLIC HEARING BOTH BEING BROADCAST AND RECORDED ON COMCAST CHANNEL 8 AND RCN82. WE'LL TAKE PUBLIC TESTIMONY AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATION AND QUESTION FOR MY COLLEAGUES. THERE'S A SIGN-IN SHEET SO MY LEFT FOR THE DOOR. WE ASK FOLKS TO STATE THEIR NAME, RESIDENCE, AFFILIATION AND I'M JOINED BY MY AT-LARGE FROM DORCHESTER ANNISSA ESSAIBI GEORGE AND WITH THAT COMMISSIONER IN -CHIEF TAKE IT >> IT HELPS US SUPPLEMENT THE NEED FOR THE ANIMAL CARE. THE PRIMARY EXPENSE THAT COMES OUT OF THIS IS FROM DOG LICENSING AND THE PRIME EXPENSES DEALING WITH THE VET AND VET TECH. WE HAVE COMMITTED TO THE COUNCIL AN ITEMIZED LIST AND A SUMMARY OF THE RESOLVING FUND. BASICALLY BASICALLY WE START WITH THE SURPLUS OF \$93,000. TO DATE WE HAVE COLLECTED \$168,687.

OUR EXPENDITURES ARE AT \$2,040 WE'RE RUNNING IN THE BLACK ROUGHLY BY \$50,000. WE HOPE TO MAINTAIN THIS BECAUSE THIS IS A CRITICAL PART OF ANIMAL CARE AND VET -- VETERINARY SERVICES ARE OFFERED WHEN WE'RE ABLE AND SPADING AND NEUTERING AND THINGS WE DEAL WITH.

>> I BELIEVE THAT WE ARE -- THIS IS PART OF THE MODERNIZATION ACT THAT WAS PASSED RECENTLY AT THE STATE HOUSE TO RE-EXAMINE THE FUNDS AND HOW THEY'RE USED. YOU REPORTED AT A 10% INCREASE IN FEES AND LICENSING. WHAT DOES THAT TRANSLATE INTO THE DOLLARS? DID YOU SEE AN INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF MONEY BROUGHT IN? >> YES.

>> WE'VE SEEN A SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF MONEY BROUGHT IN.

IT'S ALSO IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THERE WERE SOME CHANGES TO THE ORDINANCE ALLOWING RESIDENTS 70 OR OLDER TO HAVE A FEE-WAVED

LICENSING -- HAVING FEES WAIVED AND WE NOW HAVE OUR CITATIONS AND HAVE BEEN CITING FOR UNLEASHED AND UNVACCINATED. WE'LL SEE A GROWTH IN THAT IN PART BECAUSE MOST OF OUR FIRST FINANCE ARE WRITTEN WARNINGS. WE'RE SEEING CITATIONS BUT NOT A HUGE AMOUNT OF FUNDS BUT I THINK WE'LL SEE AN INCREASE NEXT YEAR. >> THE MORE YOU'LL SEE WITH A CHANGE OF BEHAVIOR. >> HOW MANY OFFICERS DO WE HAVE THAT GO TO THE PARKS? >> WE HAVE SEVEN ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS AND ONE SUPERVISOR CONTROL OFFICER STAFFED SEVEN DAYS A WEEK FROM 6:00 A.M. TO 8:45 P.M. THEY'RE GOING TO AS MANY PARKS THEY'RE ABLE TO IN BETWEEN OTHER EMERGENCIES.

>> IS THAT AN INCREASE?
I DON'T REMEMBER THAT MANY --

>> NO.

>> IS THAT A STANDARD STAFFING LEVEL FOR THIS FUNCTION?
>> THE NUMBER'S THE SAME.
ONE THING WE'VE WORKED OUT,
AMANDA AND I, WE ANALYZE THE WAY THE SHIFTS WORKED.
WE WERE CONCERNED WE DIDN'T WANT

WE WERE CONCERNED WE DIDN'T WANT
IT TO BE MORE THAN SIX TO EIGHT
HOURS WHICH IS THE DRIFT -INDUSTRY STANDARD BUT GOING TO A
FOUR-DAY WORK WE'VE AND LONGER
HOURS WE HAVE MORE COVERAGE.
>> NOT TO BRING UP A SORE SPOT
BUT OBVIOUSLY WE WERE CITED
SEVERAL YEARS AGO SO I WANT TO
START WITH THE WORK YOU TOOK ON
AND AMANDA, THANK YOU.
WHAT'S THE LICENSE FEE AGAIN?
>> IT'S \$15 IF YOU'RE DOG IS
SPAYED OR NEUTERED AND \$30 IF

THAT'S AN ANNUAL FEE.

THEY AREN'T.

>> THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TODAY.

I KNOW THERE'S BEEN CHANGES TO THE REVOLVING FUND SO I'M LOOKING AT PREVIOUS YEARS ACTUAL AND BUDGETED COMPARED TO THIS YEAR IT SEEMS WE'RE INCREASING QUITE A BIT.

IS IT BECAUSE OF A CHANGE IN THE WAY WE'RE MANAGING RESOLVING FUNDS OR JUST AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF BLOGS AND RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS?

>> A COUPLE THINGS, COUNCILOR. WE'VE HAD ANIMAL CONTROL NOW TWO YEARS AND AMANDA HAS BEEN WITH US JUST UNDER TWO YEARS.

WE'RE CHANGING THE WAY WE DEAL WITH THINGS.

THERE'S MORE PUBLIC EDUCATION IN LICENSING AND ONE THING AMANDA BROUGHT TO THE TABLE WAS LICENSURE IS NOT A PENALTY.

IT'S A WAY OF SUPPORTING AND PROTECTING YOUR ANIMALS.

AND SHE HAS HAD A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS RATE AT RETURNING LOST ANIMALS WHICH IS SOMETHING I THOUGHT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN.

BUT THROUGH THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND HER STAFF'S DILIGENCE

IN GOING OUT TO THE COMMUNITIES I THINK THEY'VE START TO SEE MORE INTERACTION WITH WHAT'S GOING ON.

WE'RE SEEING MORE PROACTION ABOUT THE LICENSING.

HER ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN TREMENDOUS.

>> WE'VE DEALT WITH AMANDA ON A FEW ISSUES AND SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN WONDERFUL AND HEARD GREAT PRAISE IN THE COMMUNITY AT-LARGE AND THE THINGS WE'RE HEARING IN THE DIFFERENT MEETINGS WITH THE OFF-LEASH DOG ISSUES IN SOME OF OUR PARKS AND SOME UTILIZED WHETHER IT'S ORGANIZED SPORTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES THERE'S OFTEN A CONFLICT BETWEEN OFF-LEASH PETS AND OTHERS. I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN DILIGENT IN YOUR OFFICE IN GOING OUT AND ENFORCING THE RULES. CAN YOU TALK ABOUT THE TICKETS OR THE CHANGE IN BEHAVIOR IT'S LENT TO.

>> WE'RE HAVING A BETTER SUCCESS RATES THAN I ANTICIPATED SO THAT'S BECOMING A LOT MORE REAL. AMANDA IS SCHEDULING DOG OFFICERS WHEN THEY'RE NOT ON CALL TO BE IN PARKS.
JUST THE SHEER PRESENCE OF THEM SOMETIMES MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE.

>> WE'RE DISPATCHING OFFICERS TO PARKS WHERE WE GET COMPLAINTS. AND TRYING TO UNDERSTAND TO SEND PEOPLE AT THE MOST EFFECTIVE TIMES.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER WITH EIGHT OFFICERS IT'S HARD TO IMPACT THE NUMBER OF PARKS WE HAVE.

>> THERE'S A BEAUTIFUL DOG PARK IN SOUTH BOSTON AND THE PARK CROSS THE STREET STILL THE HIGHEST CASE OF DOG OFF LEASH. >> GO FIGURE.

>> I SOMETHING SOME OF THE CALLS -- THAT'S AN EXAMPLE OF WHERE IT WOULDN'T MATCH UP.
IF WE UNDERSTOOD THE DATA OF WHERE THE CALLS WERE COMING

BECAUSE IT'S ANECDOTAL BECAUSE WE GET THE COMPLAINT AND REACH OUT TO YOU.

IF WE UNDERSTAND WHERE THE CALLS ARE COMING FROM OR COMPLAINTS ARE COMING FROM I THINK WOULD HELP PLAN MORE PROACTIVELY WHERE MORE APPROPRIATE SPOTS ARE.

>> THERE'S A PROGRAM WE USE WHERE WE'RE ABLE TO IDENTIFY AND GEOLOCATE WHERE THEY'RE TAKING PLACE AND THAT'S THE WAY SHE'S BEEN DISPATCHING HER OFFICERS.

THE LAYERS OF HIGHER INCIDENTS.

IT'S SOMETHING THEY DO BETWEEN

MORTGAGES

MORE EMERGENCY CALLS.
>> THIS CONCLUDES DOCKET 0553.
THIS HEARING'S ADJOURNED.