

Offered by Councilors Matt O'Malley and Michelle Wu



**AN ORDER ON REQUIRING ALL NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS TO COMPLY WITH NET-ZERO-CARBON REQUIREMENTS IN BOSTON**

- WHEREAS:** The City of Boston is committed to reducing reliance on fossil fuels and achieving carbon neutrality by 2050; and
- WHEREAS:** Buildings contribute to over half of greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Boston; and
- WHEREAS:** Carbon neutrality, or having a net-zero-carbon footprint, refers to achieving net-zero-carbon emissions by balancing a measured amount of carbon released with an equivalent amount sequestered or offset; and
- WHEREAS:** The Committee of Environment, Sustainability and Parks of the Boston City Council has reviewed 2018 Docket #0263: the benefits of Net Zero Carbon requirements and incentives for the future construction in the City of Boston; and
- WHEREAS:** Cities and towns across the United States must be proactive in leading creative solutions in addressing pressing environmental issues and lead the way to 100% clean, renewable energy; and
- WHEREAS:** Cities such as Cambridge, MA, Portland, OR, Santa Monica, CA have established roadmaps for their commitment to reach net-zero-carbon municipal buildings; and
- WHEREAS:** Municipal buildings house City agencies, which contribute to the health, safety and wellness of Boston residents' daily lives, including the Boston Center for Youth & Families (BCYF), Boston Housing Authority (BHA), Boston Police Department (BPD), and Boston Public Library (BPL); and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Boston has often spearheaded on environmental initiatives and exhibited local leadership in combatting global climate change; and  
**THEREFORE BE IT**
- ORDERED:** The Boston City Council, hereby assembled, orders a hearing on the feasibility of requiring all new municipal buildings to comply with net-zero-carbon requirements in the City of Boston. Representatives from the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA), Environment, Energy, and Open Space Department (EEOS), Boston Clean Energy Coalition (BCEC), and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

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