

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ERIN MURPHY, ED FLYNN, ENRIQUE PEPÉN,
COLETTA ZAPATA, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, MEJIA, SANTANA, WEBER,
WORRELL AND LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS ENHANCED PUBLIC SAFETY MEASURES DURING LARGE EVENTS IN BOSTON

WHEREAS, The City of Boston is home to numerous large public events, including parades, festivals, and open street activities, which attract significant numbers of residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, The safety and security of attendees at these events is of paramount importance to the City of Boston; and

WHEREAS, Recent incidents, such as the tragedy in New Orleans where a truck drove into a crowd, underscore the critical need to explore additional measures to protect large gatherings from potential threats; and

WHEREAS, The use of physical barriers, including strategically placed vehicles, has been identified as an effective method to deter and prevent vehicular threats in crowded areas; and

WHEREAS, The Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC) collaborates closely with local, state, and federal agencies to enhance situational awareness and provide actionable intelligence that supports law enforcement and public safety officials in maintaining peace and security during large public events; and

WHEREAS, Proactively implementing enhanced safety measures, informed by BRIC's intelligence and expertise, could strengthen the City's preparedness for large-scale events and improve public safety outcomes; now, therefore, be it

ORDERED, That the Boston City Council's appropriate committee is requested to hold a hearing to discuss enhanced public safety measures during large events, including the feasibility and logistics of using vehicles or other physical barriers to secure public spaces; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, That representatives from the Boston Police Department, Boston Transportation Department, Mayor's Office of Emergency Management, and other relevant agencies and stakeholders, as well as public safety experts and event organizers, be invited to participate and provide testimony.

Filed on the 8th day of January, 2025