

**OFFERED BY COUNCILORS LIZ BREADON, EDWARD M. FLYNN,
COLETTA ZAPATA, CULPEPPER, FITZGERALD, LOUIJEUNE, MEJIA,
MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL**



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS THE STATUS OF THE BOSTON RODENT ACTION PLAN

- WHEREAS,* The City of Boston released the Boston Rodent Action Plan (BRAP) in 2024 to establish a coordinated, data-driven strategy for reducing rodent activity, improving public health, and strengthening neighborhood quality of life; *and,*
- WHEREAS,* The BRAP outlines key initiatives including enhanced inspections, improved trash and waste management practices, expanded data collection, targeted enforcement, and cross-departmental coordination led by Inspectional Services; *and,*
- WHEREAS,* In 2026, Rodent activity continues to be a significant concern for residents across Boston, with neighborhoods experiencing persistent issues related to trash storage, construction impacts, climate-related disruptions, and increased density; *and,*
- WHEREAS,* Allston–Brighton and Ward 3 (defined as the neighborhoods of: Downtown, Chinatown, North End, South End, and Haymarket) were identified as the two highest Priority Action Neighborhoods based on 311 and inspectional data, ISD inspector input and the results of surveys conducted by the BRAP team; *and,*
- WHEREAS,* These neighborhoods continue to experience significant rodent activity driven by high residential density, ongoing construction, large numbers of rental units, and chronic waste-management challenges, resulting in persistent quality-of-life concerns for residents; *and,*
- WHEREAS,* There has not been a substantive BRAP update since 2024 and residents and Council offices continue to request updates on BRAP implementation, including timelines, metrics, departmental responsibilities, and neighborhood-specific interventions;
- WHEREAS,* This week, the City of Boston will host the 2026 National Urban Rat Summit, bringing together national experts, researchers, municipal leaders, and public health professionals to share best practices and emerging strategies for urban rodent control; *and,*

WHEREAS, The Summit presents a timely opportunity for the City to evaluate progress on the BRAP, incorporate new evidence-based approaches, and strengthen interagency coordination; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the current status of the Boston Rodent Action Plan, including progress to date, challenges encountered, interdepartmental coordination, and neighborhood-level data, with particular attention to high-impact areas, and outline opportunities for community engagement, improved enforcement, and cross-agency collaboration, and that representatives from the administration, Inspectional Services, and other relevant City departments, and other interested members of the public are invited to attend.

Filed on: September 23, 2026