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>> MICHAEL FLAHERTY CHAIR OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE AND TODAY WE ARE HERE TO DISCUSS DOCKET 01 6 ORDINANCES AND INCREASING ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION. THIS WAS SPONSORED BY JOSH ZAKIM REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BACK ON JANUARY 24 OF 2018. FOR ANYONE WHO HAS THE RIGHT TO VOTE, THE LANGUAGE PROPOSED IS TO REQUIRE THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BRANCHES TO MAKE VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE IN VISIBLE LOCATIONS. ALSO TO REQUIRE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE VOTER REGISTRATION FORM TO PARENTS AND LEGAL GUARDIANS AS WELL AS PREREGISTRATION FORMS TO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS. THIS PROPOSAL ALLOWED BPS STUDENTS TO START SCHOOL A LITTLE LATER ON ELECTION DAY PROVIDED THEY CAN PROVE THAT THEY TOOK TIME OUT OF SCHOOL TO GO VOTE. AND RETURN WITH AN I VOTED STICKER. REQUIRE THE BOSTON TRANSPORTATION TO PROVIDE VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS TO RESIDENTS SEEKING PARKING PERMITS OR UPDATING THEIR PARKING PERMIT APPLICATIONS AND UPDATE FORMS NECESSARY FOR VOTER REGISTRATION AND PROVIDE A MECHANISM TO SHARE DATA WITH THE ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT. ON A HOUSEKEEPING NOTE I JUST WANT TO REMIND FOLKS THAT THIS HEARING IS BEING RECORDED AND WILL BE BROADCAST ON CALL CAVS 8, RCN82 AND PROVIDES A FORM ON-LINE. PLEASE SILENCE CELL TONES AND -- PHONES. SIGN IN AND CHECK OFF THE BOX IF YOU WISH TO TESTIFY SO WE CAN

INCLUDE YOU.

LASTLY FOR ALL COUNCIL AND GUESTS PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH THE MICROPHONES UNTIL IT'S YOUR TURN TO SPEAK.

AT THIS TIME I'M GOING TO RECOGNIZE MY COLLEAGUES AND HOW THEY ARRIVED CITY COUNCILOR JOSH ZAKIM IS OBVIOUSLY THE LEAD SPONSOR.

COUNCILOR ED FLYNN, KIM JANEY, MCCOTTER THEY, CAMPBELL AND CITY COUNCILOR O'MALLEY.

WITHOUT FURTHER ADIEU IF I CAN TURN IT OVER TO LEAD SPONSOR FOR OPENING COMMENTS.

>> THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN.

THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE.

VERY BRIEF AT THIS POINT AND I KNOW WE'LL HAVE A LOT OF DISCUSSION ABOUT THIS.

THIS CAME OUT OF THE HEARING WE HELD LAST YEAR THAT MANY OF YOU PARTICIPATED IN ABOUT WAYS WE COULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR RHESUS DIBILITIES OF THE CITY OF BOSTON CAN REGISTER TO VOTE AND MAKE SURE THEY PARTICIPATE ON MUSCLE ELECTIONS AND FEDERAL ELECTIONS AS WELL.

WE CAME UP WITH GOOD IDEAS FROM A LOT OF THE FOLK WE'LL BE HEARING FROM LATER FROM THE ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS.

FOR SIMPLE COMMON SENSE STEPS WE CAN TAKE AT MINIMAL COST TO JUST MAKER IT EASIER FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE REGISTERED TO PARTICIPATE WHETHER IT'S AT THE LIBRARY, IN SCHOOLS.

AND THIS IS WHERE THIS CAME ABOUT I WANT TO THANK THE CHAIRMAN FOR SWIFTLY RESCHEDULING THIS HEARING AFTER THE STORM A WEEK AND-A-HALF AGO THAT DELAYED US.

AS WE SEE NATIONALLY AND IN MASSACHUSETTS, PEOPLE ONE TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR ELECTIONS. LAST WEEKEND WE SAW SO MANY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE REGISTERING TO VOTED IN THE MATCH FOR OUR LIVES.

WE NEED TO MAKE SURE WE'RE

PROVIDING THE INFORMATION AND
RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE TO
REGISTER.

THESE ARE JUST SOME SMALL ENTRY
POINT PEOPLE HAVE CONTACT AND
THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO.

I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING YOUR
THOUGHTS.

I WANT TO THANK MY COLLEAGUES
AND LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING BACK
ON THIS BOTH FROM OUR PANELISTS
AND THE ADMINISTRATION AND OF
THE ACTIVISTS WHO WILL BE
SPEAKING NEXT AND GETTING SOME
LEGISLATION HAMMERED OUT.

>> VERY GOOD.

ANY INITIAL OPENING COMMENTS AT
THIS TIME?

COUNCILOR ANDREA CAMPBELL AND
COUNCILOR JANEY.

>> FIRST I WOULD JUST SAY THANK
YOU TO YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN AND TO
COUNCILOR ZAKIM FOR SPONSORING
THIS IMPORTANT POST OF
LEGISLATION.

VOTING IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT.
I GREW UP IN A HOUSEHOLD WHERE
WE VOTED TOGETHER AS A FAMILY SO
AS A YOUNG ADULT IT WAS KIND OF
A BIG DEAL TO KIND OF GO WITH MY
GRANDMOTHER, GO WITH AUNTS AND
UNCLES, BRING MY DAUGHTER.
WHEN SHE BECAME OF AGE MAKING
SURE SHE UNDERSTOOD THE
IMPORTANCE OF THIS.

WE KNOW THAT WE NEED TO MAKE
VOTING EASIER FOR PEOPLE.

IN THE COMMONWEALTH THERE'S A
LOT MORE WORK THAT NEEDS TO BE
DONE.

I'M VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE
OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE THIS
HEARING.

GRATEFUL FOR THE ADVOCATES HERE
TODAY IN WORK THAT THEY DO.
THIS IS SOMETHING THAT HAS BEEN
IMPORTANT TO ME THROUGHOUT MY
ADULTHOOD AND I'VE SERVED ON THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR MASS VOTE
AND APPRECIATE ALL OF THE WORK
YOU DO.

SO I'M JUST LOOKING FORWARD TO
HEARING THE GREAT IDEAS AND
COMMENTS FROM NOT ONLY MY

COLLEAGUES BUT PEOPLE ON THE
PANEL.

SO THANK YOU.

>> COUNCILOR ANDRE AWE CAMPBELL.

>> I WANT TO THANK COUNCILOR
ZAKIM FOR CONTINUING TO PUSH ON
THIS ISSUE BUT PARTICULARLY
TAKING THE HEARING AND TURNING
INTO SOME ACTION STEPS.

I AGREE.

I THINK THEY ARE SMALL ENTRY
POINTS AND I FULLY SUPPORT THEM.
WE WILL VIEW THE RECORDING OF
THIS BECAUSE I HAVE TO ACTUALLY
CUT OUT FOR ANOTHER MEETING BUT
I WANT TO THANK YOU GUYS FOR
BEING HERE AND THANK YOU FOR NOT
ONLY BEING HERE FOR THE
ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT BUT ACROSS
DEPARTMENTS TALKING ABOUT BEING
ABLE TO DO THIS.

THERE'S ALWAYS MORE THAT WE CAN
DO BUT WHAT'S IMPORTANT WHAT CAN
WE DO WITH ANY AUTHORITY WE HAVE
AT THE LOCAL LEVEL.

THANK YOU GUYS FOR YOUR
COMMITMENT.

THANK YOU FOR THE WORK YOU DO
ESPECIALLY AROUND EARLY VOTING.
THANK YOU COUNCILOR ZAKIM FOR
YOUR LEADERSHIP ON THIS.

LOOK FORWARD TO REVIEWING THE
TAPE BUT ALSO SUPPORTING YOU AND
GETTING THIS DONE AND THANK YOU
COUNCILOR FLAHERTY FOR THE CALM
SO QUICKLY AFTER THE STORM.

>> THANK YOU.

ANY OTHER ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.
WELCOME GOOD EVERYONE TO YOU AND
IRISH ELECTION COMMISSION.
WE HAVE A GREAT TEAM OF FOLKS
HERE.

I SEEMAN CULL ROBERTS FROM BPS,
AND FLYNN FROM LIBRARY SERVICES
ALONG WITH PATRICIA ALONG WITH
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES AND
OFFICER OF THE PARKING CLERK.
I'LL TURN IT OVER TO YOU FOR
OPENING COMMENTS AND THEN WHERE
YOU THINK WE SHOULD ROLE FROM
THE ADMINISTRATION STANDPOINT TO
MAKE IT INTO Q&A.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON COUNCILMAN
FLAHERTY AND OTHER MEMBERS OF

THIS ESTEEMED BODY AND THOSE
HERE OR WATCHING FROM HERE.
I'M THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ELECTION
DEPARTMENT AND ELECTION
COMMISSION.

THANK YOU FOR ASKING ME TO
TESTIFY ON AN PATIENT THAT'S
IMPORTANT TO MAYOR WALSH.
HE'S A LONG TERM SUPPORTER
EXPANDING ACCESS TO VOTE THROUGH
A VARIETY OF INITIATIVES.

I'M JOINED TODAY BY OUR RED
REGISTRAR AND ONE OF OUR UNSUNG
HEROES AND TAKE AN OPPORTUNITY
TO HIGHLIGHT SOME OF THE STAFF
OF THE ELECTION DEPARTMENT.

I'VE BEEN THERE SINCE 2015.
BEFORE GOING TO THAT DEPARTMENT
I DIDN'T HAVE A FULL
APPRECIATION FOR THE WORK THEY
DO THERE SO I WANT TO JUST GIVE
A SHOUT OUT TO THE STAFF OF THE
ELECTION DIE.

AND WHEN ALSO TO THE MANY CITY
AGENCIES THAT COLLABORATE TO
ADMINISTER ELECTIONS.

IT'S UNBELIEVABLE.

ALMOST EVERY CITY DEPARTMENT HAS
SOME ROLE IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER
IN HELPING TO DELIVER DEMOCRACY.
AND SO OBVIOUSLY VOTER
REGISTRATION IS AN IMPORTANT
PART COMPONENT OF OUR DEMOCRACY
AND WE BELIEVE THAT IT SHOULD
NOT BE ANYMORE DIFFICULT THAN
NEEDS TO BE.

SO THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THIS
HERE, THIS ORDINANCE FORWARD SO
WE CAN HAVE THIS PUBLIC
CONVERSATION AND CONTINUE TO
EXPLORE WAYS THAT WE CAN FURTHER
OUR CLABBATIONS AMONGST CITY
AGENCIES TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN.

I ALSO, I WANT TO POINT OUT A
COUPLE THINGS BEFORE I TURN IT
OVER TO.

OTHER COLLEAGUES TO TALK
SPECIFICALLY ABOUT THE THINGS
THEY'RE GOING TO BE DOING THIS
RESPONSE TO THIS ORDINANCE.

I WANT TO HIGHLIGHT THE PART
SHINE THAT WE HAVE AT THE BOSTON
PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT THAT WE
LAUNCHED IN 2017.

TO HAVE STUDENT WHO ARE 16 AND OLDER BE WORKING ON ELECTION DAY.

LAST SEPTEMBER OR THOF WE HAD ABOUT 41 STUDENTS WHO WORKED THE ENTIRE DAY JUST LIKE ANY OTHER COWORKER FROM 6:00 IN THE MORNING UNTIL CLOSING AT NIGHT. AND THEY ALSO WERE TRAINED ON ELECTIONS LAWS.

VERY EYE OPENING PROCESS TO THEM.

AND WE'RE HAPPY TO BE WORKING WITH THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT ON THAT INITIATIVE.

THE STUDENT WHO COMPLETED THE PROGRAM ARE SO HAPPY WITH IT THAT THEY DO NOT WANT TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH US TO SEE HOW THEY CAN HELP REGISTER STUDENTS AND TO BE POLL WORKERS IN THE COMING YEARS.

I WANTED TO SHOUT OUT FOR THAT. ALSO I WANT TO TOUCH ON ONE OF THE COMPONENTS OF THE ORDINANCE AS PROPOSED IS TO HAVE AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION DONE THROUGH THE PARKING CLERK AND FOLKS GETTING RESIDENT PARKING PERMITS.

I JUST WANT TO POINT OUT THAT THE STATE VOTER REGISTRATION DATABASE THAT WE USE IS PART OF A STATE'S SYSTEM IT'S CENTRALLY MANAGED BY THE STATE. CURRENTLY THE ONLY AGENCIES ABLE TO INPUT INFORMATION INTO THAT SYSTEM IS RIGHT NOW THE REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

THERE'S A BILL THAT THE STATE HEALTH IS LOOKING TO EXPAND THAT AND MAKE THAT PROCESS ALLIC AND TO ALSO INCLUDE THE MASS HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND POSSIBLY IN THE FUTURE OTHER DEPARTMENTS OF AGENCIES WOULD BE ABLE TO AUTOMATICALLY REGISTER VOTERS. WHAT HAPPENS ONCE IT GETS REGISTERED THROUGH THESE AUTOMATIC CHALLENGES IT GOES INTO A COMMUNITY.

IN BOSTON WE HAVE OUR QUEUE AND WE SEE WHAT REGISTRATION WE RECEIVE THROUGH THAT QUEUE AND

THEN WE FINALIZE THE PROCESSING
OF THEM AND ADD THEM TO OUR
ROLLS.

I JUST WANT TO HIGHLIGHT THAT AS
SOMETHING THAT'S NOT CURRENTLY
AVAILABLE FOR THE PARKING CLERK
TO BE ABLE TO DO BUT THEY DO
WORK IN OTHER WAYS AND WE'RE
HERE TODAY TO TALK ABOUT THE
THINGS THAT WE CAN DO.

SO WITH I'LL CLOSE FOR NOW AND
TURN IT OVER TO MY COLLEAGUES.
>> WHEN YOU SET UP A CENSUS
INFORMATION, YOU HAVE TO FILL
OUT WHETHER OR NOT YOU'RE
REGISTER AND WHAT YOUR PARTY
AFFILIATION IS BASICALLY UPDATED
BUT YOU GUYS COULD SEND OUT A
REGISTRATION FORM WITH THAT
PACKET SINCE IT'S ALREADY GOING
TO THE HOUSEHOLD.

IN THE EVENT THAT SOMEONE IS
ALREADY NOT REGISTERED.
SO YOU'RE GETTING INFORMATION
FROM THE ELECTION DEPARTMENT
FROM THE CENSUS TO VERIFY HOW
MANY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN IN THE
HOUSE, THEY WANT TO KNOW HOW
MANY DOGS YOU HAVE, THEY WANT TO
KNOW WHEN YOUR FORT AFFILIATION
AWE FILL --YOUR PARTY AFFILIATION IS.
YOU STILL DON'T HAVE --

>> WE DO CURRENTLY ASK THEM TO
LET US KNOW IF HE THIS WOULD
LIKE A REGISTRATION FORM.
WE MAIL IT OUT TO THEM AT NO
COST.

WE ALSO ADVISE THEM OF THE
OPPORTUNITIES FOR THEM TO
REGISTER ON-LINE.

WE COULD LOOK AT THAT FURTHER
BUT WE ASKED THEM ABOUT 400,000
PIECES OF INFORMATION SO THAT
WOULD BE A LOT OF REGISTRATION
FORMS TO SEND OUT FOR SOME FOLKS
WHO MAY NOT EVEN NEED A FORM.

>> WHICH WAY DO YOU WANT TO GO.
DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE RIGHT
OR THE LEFT?

>> WE'LL GO ON THE LEFT.
>> VERY GOOD.

MONICA ROBERTS WHO IS THE AWE
ISANT SUPERINTENDENT OF THE
ENGAGEMENT OF BPS WELCOME AND

YOU HAVE THE FLOOR.

>> YES, THANK YOU.

GOOD AFTERNOON.

CHAIRMAN FLAHERTY AND OTHER
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

PLEASED TO BE HERE ON BEHALF OF
THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

WE'RE VERY SUPPORTIVE OF THIS
EFFORT TO INCREASE VOTER
REGISTRATION IN THE CITY OF
BOSTON.

WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE
POSSIBILITY OF PARTNERING.

WE'RE LOOKING AT HOW WE CAN
SUPPORT -- 10,000 FAMILIES A
YEAR.

WE'RE COMING IN TO REGISTER
CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL OR TO CHANGE
INFORMATION.

SO WE BELIEVE THAT'S A GREAT
PLACE FOR OUR FAMILIES TO GET
ACCESS INFORMATION ABOUT VOTING
AND REGISTERING TO VOTE.

WE ALSO KNOW WE HAVE A LOT OF
VISAS ON OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL
MEDIA SO WE INTEND TO USE THAT
THAT -- AS A PLATFORM --

>> I HAVE A QUESTION.

IT'S GREAT TO HEAR THE NUMBERS
OF HOW MANY STUDENTS PARTICIPATE
ON ELECTION DAY.

WAS THAT CREDIT OF SOME KIND,
WAS IT THROUGH A CLASS?

HOW DID THAT WORK?

>> SO THE OUTREACH WAS DONE TO
EVERY SCHOOL AND SO IT WASN'T
ISOLATING A PARTICULAR SCHOOL.
THE STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATED
DID RECEIVE SCHOOL CREDIT FOR
NOT BEING PRESENT THAT DAY.
AND THEY ALSO HAD TO COMPLETE A
REFLECTION PROJECT AS WELL.
SO IT INCLUDES, THE HOURS THAT
WEREN'T SCHOOL HOURS THEY
RECEIVED A SMILE STIPEND.
SO THEY WERE REWARDED IN A
NUMBER OF WAYS FOR
PARTICIPATING.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

I'M DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBORHOOD
SERVICES OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC
LIBRARY.

PART OF OUR COMMISSION IS
OBVIOUSLY -- WE MAKE IT OUR

DAILY JOB TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERY ONE OF OUR PATRONS AND PEOPLE THAT WALK ENTHUSE THE DOORS GET AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE.

WE CONSIDER GETTING ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS AS ONE MORE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE SURE OUR PATRONS ARE INFORMED AS POSSIBLE.

WE HAVE 26 LOCATIONS AND WE ALSO WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THE LINK FOR ON-LINE REGISTRATION THROUGH OUR E CARD PROCESSES.

>> PEOPLE SIGN YOU FOR E CARTED IT'S -- E CARD IS NOT JUST FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON BUT THE ENTIRE STATE.

WE PROVIDE THEM A LINK WHICH IS BETTER THAN THE CITY OF BOSTON. RIGHT NOW WE HAVE OVER 290,000 ACTIVE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY CARDS.

EVERY TWO YEARS PEOPLE HAVE TO COME IN AND PROVE THEIR ADDRESS AND SO THAT'S ANOTHER PLACE WHERE WE CAN HAND OUT VOTER RECOMMEND ADMINISTRATING CARDS.

>> THE PARKING CLERK HOW NIFTY IS IT --

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

YES.

WE HAVE THE FORMS AVAILABLE AT OUR RESIDENT PARKING COUNTERS, OUR TICKET INFORMATION COUNTERS. WE HAVE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF RESIDENT PARKING STICKERS IN THE CITY ON A ROTATING BASIS SO THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE THAT COME IN AND OUT OF OUR OFFICE DOWNSTAIRS AS WELL AS WE COULD PUT A LINK ON OUR WEBSITE. WHEN THEY ARE RENEWING, THERE WILL BE A LINK THERE FOR OUR RESIDENTS TO SIGN UP FOR VOTER REGISTRATION AS WELL.

>> LAST YEAR WE DID A MOBILE, WE HAD THE SORT OF MAYOR'S OFFICE THE MOBILE UNION WENT OUT SO PEOPLE CAN CONDUCT CITY BUSINESS WHETHER IT'S PARKING TICKETS OR LIBRARY.

ANY IDEA THAT HE GAVE THE SUCCESS RATE OF THE PEOPLE REG

REG -- REGISTERING TO VOTE.
>> I DON'T HAVE ANY SPECIFIC NUMBERS ON THAT BUT THAT'S STILL AN ONGOING PROCESS AND I CAN TELL YOU ON A REGULAR BASIS THE FOLKS FROM THE MOTOR VEHICLE ARE COMING INTO OUR OFFICE LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL FORMS. SO FOLKS ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THAT OPPORTUNITY.
>> THAT'S GREAT.
COURTROOM ZAKIM DO YOU WANT TO START.
>> THANK YOU.
>> MY APOLOGIES WE'RE JOINED BY CITY COUNCILOR BAKER AND COUNCILOR SAW E GEORGE.
>> I DON'T KNOW WHO THIS IS BEST FOR BUT THE ASPECT OF THIS ORDINANCE WITH RESIDENT PARKING TO REGISTRATION. COGNIZANT OF THE FACT WE HAVE ACTUALLY INPUTTING INTO THE STATE VOTER REGISTRATION FILE FROM THE COMPUTER TERMINAL. THAT'S NOT SET UP. BUT ADDING THE PROVISIONS IN HERE TO THE RESIDENT PARKING APPLICATION THAT PROVIDES ALL THE NECESSARY INFORMATION, I MEAN EVEN SO MUCH AS HAVING SOMEONE WALK THE STACKS OVER AT THE END OF THE DAY FROM YOU KNOW FROM BTD TO ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT TO BE SUBMITTED. IS THAT SOMETHING -- I THINK THAT'S SOMETHING I WANT TO MAKE SURE WE'RE ABLE TO DO THAT.
>> YES.
>> I KNOW MY COLLEAGUES WILL PROBABLY ASK SOME QUESTIONS.
>> WE ALSO HAVE GOOD LINES OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE CITY AND DURING SPEAK SEASONS WHEN WE HAVE LONG LINES WE ACTUALLY ESTABLISH A TABLE RIGHT OUTSIDE THE PARKING CLERK'S OFFICE SO FOLKS CAN REGISTER WHILE THEY ARE PROCESSING THEIR TRANSACTIONS.
>> I APPRECIATE HOW WILLING EVERYONE HERE IS TO WORK ON THIS AND SEEMS LIKE WE HAVE THE SHARED GOALS AND I'M OPTIMISTIC, I'M EXCITED TO SEE THIS AND

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR WORK.
>> ANY QUESTIONS FROM THE PANEL
AT THIS TIME?
>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.
I HAVE A COUPLE QUESTIONS FOR
THE COMMISSIONER.
I KNOW VOTING IS A SACRED RIGHT.
I CAN REMEMBER A YOUNG PERSON ON
ACTIVE DUTY TRYING TO REQUEST AN
ABSENTEE BALLOT WHILE MILITARY
ON USS ENTERPRISE AND OFF THE
COAST OF IRAQ OR OTHER
LOCATIONS.
AND SOMETIMES THE BATTLE WOULD
COME IN AND SOMETIMES IT
WOULDN'T COME IN.
IT COULD BE FRUSTRATING WHEN THE
BALLOT DIDN'T COME IN.
DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS, LONE TERM
PLANS TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR
VETERANS THAT ARE DEPLOYED TO
GIVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO
WEIGH IN ON VOTING, ESPECIALLY
BEING OVERSEAS WITH TECHNOLOGY
ISSUES, THE MAILS, THE PROBLEM.
WHAT CAN WE ALSO DO TO MAKE SURE
THOSE THAT ARE SERVING ON ACTIVE
DUTY HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO
VOTE.
>> THANK YOU FOR ASKING THE
QUESTION.
IT'S EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO US
AND WE DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO
MAKE THAT AS EASY AS POSSIBLE
FOR VETERANS AND FOLKS WHO ARE
NOT GEE PHOTOGRAPHALLY ABLE TO
VOTE HERE -- GEOGRAPHICALLY ABLE
TO VOTE HERE.
I WILL SAY IT IS A CHALLENGE
SOMETIMES WHEN WE'RE RELYING ON
THE POSTAL SERVICE SYSTEM AS
WELL.
I CAN TELL YOU THERE HAVE BEEN
COMES WHEN WE RECEIVED BALLOTS
THAT SHOULD HAVE GONE TO OTHER
COMMUNITIES THAT WERE LABELED
FOR OTHER COMMUNITIES AND WE
HAVE TO ASSIST IN MAKING SURE IT
GOES WHERE IT SHOULD HAVE GONE.
THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICES,
THEY'RE DOING A BETTER JOB WITH
THAT.
WE'VE HAD MEETINGS WITH THEM AND
TO TRY TO FINE TUNE THEIR

SERVICE AND ENSURING THAT THEIR FOLKS ARE HIGHLIGHTING ABSENTEE PLOTS TO MAKE SURE THEY GET TO US.

IN ADDITION THERE IS ACKNOWLEDGE ACKNOWLEDGE -- THERE IS AN E-MAIL PROCESS WHERE FOLKS CAN SMITH THEIR REGISTRATION THROUGH E-MAIL.

>> WILL THEY BE ABLE TO, IF THEY SUBMITTED TO YOU VIA E-MAIL, CAN THEY ALSO VOTE THROUGH E-MAIL TO YOU?

>> NO.

WE'D NEED, THEY NEED TO SEND THE BALLOT IN.

>> MY OWN EXPERIENCE IS WAITING FOR BALLOT NIGHT.

I THINK I GOT A BALLOT THREE MONTHS AFTER THE ELECTION WAS OVER.

IT'S VERY FRUSTRATING ESPECIALLY IN REMOTE AREAS OF THE WORLD. HOW CAN WE MAKE IT EASIER FOR THOSE THAT ARE ON ACTIVE DUTY IN REMOTE AREAS.

WE HAVE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.

CAN WE SEND THEM AN E-MAIL ATTACHMENT WITH A BALLOT SO THAT THEY CAN SEND THAT ATTACHMENT BACK TO YOU.

>> THAT WOULD BE SOMETHING THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE APPROVED AT THE STATE LEVEL.

ANOTHER THING THAT I'VE HEARD CONVERSATIONS ABOUT IS THE FACT THAT DURING STATE ELECTIONS, THAT PRIMARY AND FINAL ELECTIONS ARE PRETTY CLOSE.

OUR PRIMARY IS GOING TO BE SEPTEMBER 4TH THIS YEAR AND OUR FINAL ELECTION WILL BE NOVEMBER 4TH.

SO THERE'S A VERY SHORT WINDOW AFTER THE PRIMARY ELECTION TO GET BALLOTS DEVELOPED AND THEM PRINTED AS WELL.

IN MANY OTHER STATES, THE PRIMARY'S HELD IN THE OR MUCH SOONER THAN IT IS IN MASS.

I THINK WE'RE PROBABLY ONE OF FOUR STATES WHO HAVE THIS PARTICULAR CHALLENGE.

SO THAT'S THE PART OF IT BUT ALL

THE CHANGES THAT WOULD NEED TO BE MADE IN TERMS OF HAVING A BIGGER WINDOW BETWEEN ELECTIONS, THOSE THINGS WOULD EITHER REQUIRE STATE REGISTRATION ON THE STATE LEVEL OR FOR THE CITY, IT WOULD BE LIKE A CHANGE IN CHARTER AS WELL.

.SO THOSE ARE THINGS BEYOND MY DEPARTMENT BUT WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THOSE USING THE ABSENTEE PROCESS ABLE TO EXERCISE THEIR FRANCHISE.

>> WE COULD CONSIDER DOING SOME RESEARCH ON WHAT OTHER CITIES OR OTHER STATES ARE DOING THAT MAKE IT EASIER FOR THEM TO ASSIST VETERANS DEPLOYED GIVING THEM ACCESS TO VOTING.

WHAT'S WORKING WELL ACROSS THE COUNTRY WITH OTHER CITIES OR OTHER STATES.

>> ABSOLUTELY.

LIKE I SAY, ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE HAVE COME UPON IS THE FACT THAT THAT SHORT WINDOW DOES HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT BUT WE'RE HAPPY TO LOOK AT ANY OTHER THINGS.

I KNOW THAT THE POSTAL SERVICE IS A CHALLENGE BUT IT IS RARE THAT NOT EVERYTHING THAT WE SEND OUT ALWAYS GETS WHERE IT SHOULD GO AND VICE VERSA.

BUT I THINK FOR THE MOST PART, IT WORKS.

THE NUMBERS REFLECTED, WE HAVE A HEALTHY AMOUNT OF PEOPLE WHO ARE VOTING FOR THE ABSENTEE PROCESS.

>> I APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS. JUST FOR MY OWN EXPERIENCE, NOTHING MORE FRUSTRATING THAN REQUESTING A BALLOT AND THE BALLOT NEVER COMES AND YOU'RE NOT ABLE TO CAST A VOTE ON IMPORTANT ELECTIONS.

I JUST THINK WE NEED TO, WE CAN DO MORE TO MAKE SURE THOSE THAT ARE KEY EMPLOYED HAVE THE ABILITY TO CAST BALLOT.

THERE'S ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY WE CAN USE AND IT SHOULDN'T BE DIFFICULT.

WHETHER IT'S SCANNING A BALLOT

BACK AND FORTH OR USING OTHER TECHNOLOGY.
BUT IT'S SOMETHING THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT.
AGAIN VOTING IS SACRED AND IT'S ALSO SACRED TO PEOPLE ON ACTIVE DUTY AS WELL.
SO MAYBE I CAN WORK WITH YOU OVER THE NEXT YEAR.
I JUST DON'T WANT TO SEE THIS. IT WILL NOT TAKE PLACE.
IT'S TOO IMPORTANT TO NOT ALLOW OUR VETERANS TO CAST THEIR BALLOT.
>> I WILL BE HAPPY TO WORK WITH YOU ON THAT.
>> THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER.
>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR.
COUNCILOR JANNEY.
>> THANK YOU SO MUCH.
THE EQUITY IN HOW YOU'RE MAKING SURE THAT AREAS IN OUR CITIES THAT HAVE LOW REGISTRATION RATES OR LOWER TURNOUT RATES THAT FAMILIES THERE WILL HAVE ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION.
FOR EXAMPLE, THERE ARE TWO LIBRARIES INFORM ROXBURY THAT ARE CLOSE.
I KNOW PART IS MAKING SURE WE HAVE VOTER REGISTRATION CARDS IN ROXBURY.
THE DUDLEY BRANCH IS CLOSED MISSION HILL BRANCH IS CLOSED.
WHAT PLANS ARE IN PLACE TO ENSURE THAT THAT IS GOING TO BE MADE UP SOMEWHERE ELSE?
FOR RESIDENTS IN THAT COMMUNITY?
>> ASIDE FROM THAT, WE DO HAVE STAFF DOING OUTREACH IN THOSE AREAS AND WE CAN ONCE WE GET THAT BALLOT, THE APPLICATION, WE CAN HAVE THE STAFF THAT ARE DOING THE OUTREACH AT THE BUILDING IN DUDLEY SQUARE BRINGING THOSE APPLICATIONS WHEN THEY'RE DOING PROGRAMMING IN THE AREA.
WE HAVE THE DUDLEY PROGRAM WHICH GOES ALL OVER ROXBURY DOING CONCERTS AND OTHER PROGRAMS AND CAN MAKE SURE THAT THE STAFF MEMBERS SURE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM HAVE THAT INFORMATION WITH

THEM.

>> SO THE STAFF WILL HAVE THE VOTER REGISTRATION CARDS AND IT WILL BE PART OF THERE RESPONSIBILITY TO BRING THEM WHEREVER THEY GO WHEN THEY'RE DOING OUTREACH IN THE COMMUNITY.

>> YES.

>> WHAT IS IN PLACE NOW OR WHAT COULD BE IN PLACE TO HELP RESIDENTS WHO DON'T OWN CARS WHO MAY NOT BE GOING TO THE -- DON'T OWN CARS WHO MAY NOT BE GOING TO THE DMV TO REGISTER.

>> BASICALLY GOES WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THEIR NAMES.

PARKING TICKETS OR RESIDENT PARKING.

>> I WONDER, I GUESS I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS AROUND SCHOOLS AND OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

SO I'LL DIRECT THEM I GUESS TO YOU VERONICA.

HAS THE DISTRICT GIVEN ANY THOUGHT TO MAKING SURE THAT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES CAN BE AUTOMATICALLY REGISTERED.

LIKE THE HEAD MASTERS WOULD GIVE LIST OF ALL THE GRADUATES MAYBE TO THE ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT AND THEY WOULD BE AUTOMATICALLY REGISTERED.

HAS ANYONE THOUGHT ABOUT THAT, DO YOU KNOW?

>> I DON'T THINK WE'VE DONE ANY WORK AROUND AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION.

I KNOW THAT THE DEPARTMENT DOES HAVE STAFF THAT WORKS WITH PRINCIPALS TO GET INFORMATION IN THE HANDS OF OUR GRADUATING SENIORS AND THE SUPERINTENDENT ASKED ME THIS PAST WEEK TO DO SOME WORK ON LOOKING AT HOW WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FURTHER SHARE INFORMATION WITH OUR GRADUATE STUDENTS SO WE'RE LOOKING IN BOTH WAYS BUT WE HAVEN'T TALKED ABOUT AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION.

>> HOW MANY OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THE EARLY REGISTRATION, THE PREREGISTRATION.

>> I DON'T HAVE THOSE NUMBERS.
>> HOW LONG HAS THAT BEEN IN PLACE?

>> IN 2016, WE CAN GET YOU NUMBERS ON THAT BUT EACH YEAR WE GO, WE TRY TO GET INTO MOST OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM ABOUT MARCH UNTIL JUNE. AND WE'RE PREREGISTERING STUDENTS AND REGISTERING THOSE WHO ARE 28.

THE EVOLUTION OF THAT WAS THE STUDENT COWORKER PROGRAM WHERE WE WERE NOT ONLY TRYING TO GET THEM REGISTERED BUT WE ALSO WANT TO GET THEM ENGAGED BECAUSE WE KNOW NOT EVERYONE WHO REGISTERS VOTE SO WE WANT TO DO AS MUCH AS WE CAN TO REGISTER AND TO GET THEM TO NEW PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROCESS.

I ALSO WANT TO ADD ON TO THE ANSWERS, ONE OF THE QUESTIONS YOU ASKED IS HOW CAN WE REACH OUT THROUGHOUT THE CITY TO MAKE SURE THERE'S AN EQUITABLE AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERYONE TO GET REGISTERED.

WE ACTUALLY IN ADDITION TO DOING THE CENSUS MAILING TO EACH HOUSEHOLD IN THE CITY, WE ALSO GO DOOR TO DOOR.

TO EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD AND EVERY PART OF THE CITY, AT LEAST TWICE EVERY SUMMER.

SUMMER.

WE BEGIN ABOUT MID MAY.

WHILE WE'RE GOING OUT TO DO THE CENSUS SURVEY, WE'RE ALSO RIDGING STRANGE VOTERS AND WE HAVE REGISTRATION FORMS WITH US WHEN WE'RE KNOCKING ON DOORS.

>> THANK YOU I APPRECIATE THAT. I WONDER IN TERMS OF EQUITY, ARE YOU LOOKING AT SPENDING MORE TIME OR PUTTING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES INTO NEIGHBORHOODS THAT HAVE HAD LOWER REGISTRATION RATES. SO NOT JUST ABOUT WE GO TO EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD AND THAT'S THE EQUAL THING TO DO BUT HOW DO WE ENSURE THAT THE NEIGHBORHOODS THAT HAVE HAD LESS PARTICIPATION HISTORICALLY ARE GETTING MORE

ATTENTION?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT THAT?

>> ACTUALLY, OUR APPROACH HAS BEEN TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE IS GETTING THE ATTENTION THAT THEY NEED.

WE DO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK WITH SPECIFIC ADD CAN YOU TELL US OR ORGANIZANCES -- ADVOCATES OR ORGANIZATIONS WORKING IN SPECIFIC NEIGHBORHOODS. FOR EXAMPLE ROXBURY COLLATION IS THEY SIT ON OUR ELECTION COMMITTEE.

SAME RULES FOR MASS VOTES. WE TRY TO WORK WITH EVERY CONSTITUENCY WITH DISABILITIES. WE TRY TO GIVE AS MUCH TO EVERY PART THAT WE CAN.

>> THAT'S WONDERFUL TO HEAR, THANK YOU.

SPEAKING OF THAT, ARE BALLOTS MADE AVAILABLE IN DIFFERENCE LANGUAGES AND DIFFERENT POLLING PLACES.

>> YES, ENGLISH SPANISH, CHINESE AND VIETNAMESE.

THEY ARE PROVIDED BASED ON, WE ASCERTAINED WHAT BALLOTS ARE NEEDED WHERE.

WE MAY PROVIDE SOME EVERYWHERE BUT MORE IN AN AREA WHERE DEFINITELY BE USED MORE THAN OTHERS.

>> FOR NEIGHBORHOODS WHERE THERE ARE LARGE POPULATIONS OF CREOLE HAITIAN CREE ROLE ARE THERE BLOTH IN THOSE PLOTS.

>> THE REQUIRES WE HAVE ARE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS PROVIDING LANGUAGES.

>> WOULD WE HAVE TO THEN DO ANOTHER ORDINANCE TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE BALLOTS IN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES?

THERE ARE A LOT OF CREOLE SPEAKING RESIDENTS IN MY DISTRICT AND I IMAGINE THERE COULD BE LANGUAGE BARRIERS IN TERMS OF VOTING FOR THEM. WOULD THAT REQUIRE ANOTHER ORDINANCE?

JUST A COUPLE MORE QUESTIONS AND

I WANT TO MAKE SURE --

>> I WANT TO STAY ON THAT.
IS THERE A CRITERIA THAT IS MET
BEFORE A BALLOT GOES ON IT IN A
SPECIFIC LANGUAGE.

A THRESHOLD PERSON OF THE
POPULATION.

>> THESE TYPE OF THINGS NORMALLY
OCCUR OUT OF A NEED.

WHEN THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT
ENOUGH NEED THAT LEAST TO
REGISTRATION THAT LEADS TO THIS
BEING DONE.

I CAN TELL YOU THE ONE WE SHARE
THAT WE DO PROVIDE LINGUISTIC
SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE CITY.
WHEN WE'RE HEARING ABOUT 2000
VOLUNTEERS TO WORK ON ELECTION
DAY, ONE OF THE BIG FACTORS ARE
WE'RE LOOKING AT IS LANGUAGE
REQUIREMENTS.

IN A CAPE VERDIAN PREDOMINANT
PREVENT WE ENSURE WE HAVE PEOPLE
THERE WHO SPEAK THE LANGUAGE.
SAME WITH OTHER NEIGHBORHOOD
WHETHER IT'S RUSSIAN, FRENCH.
WE HAVE FOLKS WHO ARE SPEAKING
EVERY LANGUAGE AND ON TOP OF
THAT, AN ADDITIONAL LAYER IS IN
MY OFFICE WE HAVE A TEAM OF
ABOUT EIGHT TO TEN PEOPLE WHO
SPEAK DIFFERENT LANGUAGES WHO
ARE IN OUR OFFICE ON ELECTION
DAY JUST TO BE ABLE TO TRANSLATE
ANYTHING THAT WE CAN'T DO AT THE
POLLS.

WE'RE PRETTY WELL STAFFED AT THE
POLLS AND AS I MENTIONED WE HAVE
AN ADDITIONAL LAYER.

IN ADDITION TO THAT, AT EVERY
PRECINCT WE HAVE MACHINES THAT
NOT ONLY IS IT ABLE TO HELP
VOTERS WHO HAVE DISABILITY, IT
ALSO ADDRESSES LANGUAGE NEEDS AT
EVERY POLLING PLACE AND IT
TRANSLATES INTO I THINK ABOUT A
DOZEN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES.
AND IT ALSO HAS AN AUDIO
COMPONENT AS WELL.

I'M NOT SURE IF EVERY COMMUNITY
BUT WE CAN SAY IN THE CITY
OF BOSTON WE WERE ABLE TO MEET
LANGUAGE NEEDS OF ALL OF OUR
RUST DEPTS.

>> JUST ONE OR TWO MORE.
THE STUDENTS, SO STUDENTS WILL
PROVIDE PROOF THAT THEY VOTED,
THEY'LL BE ALLOWED TO COME TO
SCHOOL LATE PROVIDING THEY'VE
SHOWN THEY ACTUALLY VOTED BY
GIVING SOME SORT OF PROOF.
IS THAT THE STICKER AND IF IT IS
THE STICKER WHICH I THINK IT
DOES SAY HERE, IS THAT THE ONLY
KIND OF PROOF THAT WILL BE
REQUIRED OF THEM?

>> I THINK WE STILL HAVE THE
WORK OUT THE DETAILS ON WHAT
THAT LOOKS LIKE BUT WE ARE
SUPPORTIVE.

>> WHETHER IT'S ONLY GOING TO BE
IN THE MORNING THEY COULD LEAVE
EARLY.

SOME YOUNG PEOPLE MAY HAVE OTHER
RESPONSIBILITIES OF TAKING THEIR
YOUNGER SIBLINGS TO A SCHOOL BUS
STOP OR WALKING THEM TO SCHOOL
AND MAY NOT V I MEAN THEY ARE
VERY LATE FOR SCHOOL IF HAD HE
DO THAT AND THEN GO VOTE OR THEY
MAY WANT TO OPT FOR VOTER.

>> I WOULD CONCUR WITH THAT.
I WOULD LIKE TO SET UP SOMETHING
A LITTLE BIT MORE OR SOME TYPE
OF VERIFICATION WHERE THE
ELECTION DEPARTMENT INFORMS
BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR SOME
OTHER MECHANISM I GUESS.

>> JUST THE INTENT BEHIND MY
QUESTION.

I'M NOT TRYING TO CREATE A
BARRIER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN
TERMS OF PROVIDING PROOF, I
WANTED TO KNOW WHAT THE PROOF
IS, WHO GETS TO DECIDE WHAT THE
PROOF IS AND WHETHER OR NOT
YOUNG PEOPLE WILL HAVE THE
OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN
THAT DISCUSSION AROUND WHAT THAT
PROOF IS.

SO TO ME THAT WOULD BE IMPORTANT
TO MAKE SURE THEIR VOICES OF OUR
YOUNG PEOPLE STUDENTS ARE AT
THAT TABLE WHEN THAT DECISION IS
BEING MADE.

THAT'S IT FOR ME NOW.

>> COUNCILOR.

>> THANK YOU.

I THANK COUNCILOR ZAKIM FOR HIS LEADERSHIP.
THANK YOU ALL FOR THE GREAT WORK AND PR WORK YOU'RE DOING,
COMMISSIONER IRISH TO YOU AND FOR BEING ON YOUR TEAM, YOU GUYS DO EXCEPTIONAL WORK.
YOU DON'T OFTEN GET THE CREDIT YOU DESERVE BUT I DID WANT TO SAY I THINK ELECTIONS ARE RUN VERY WELL IN THIS CITY.
I THINK MOST OF YOU AND CERTAINLY MOST OF MY COLLEAGUES WOULD AGREE, WE NEED TO BE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN TO MAKE IT AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE FOR EVERYONE TO VOTE AND TO PARTICIPATE.
OREGON I BELIEVE WAS THE FIRST STATE TO IMPLEMENT A ROBUST AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION. WE NEED TO BE DOING THAT IN MASSACHUSETTS.
WE NEED TO MAKE IT AN OPT OUT SYSTEM SO EVERYONE IS JUST REGISTERED TO VOTE AND THEY OF COURSE FOR WHATEVER REASON COULD OPT OUT BEING REGISTERED BUT WE NEED TO MAKE IT EASIER NOT HARDER.
I KNOW WE'VE HAD GOOD REFORMS BUT I WANT THE THIS CITY AND THIS COMMONWEALTH TO LEAD WITH REGARD TO VOTER REGISTRATION AND VOTER PARTICIPATION.
SO THIS WILL HELP US GET THERE. IT'S NOT THE END ALL AND I HOPE WE CAN CONTINUE THIS AND I HOPE THAT MORE REFORMS CAN BE PUT INTO PLACE IN THE MONTHS AND YEARS AHEAD HOPEFULLY.
I RECOGNIZE THERE ARE CERTAIN THING WE CANNOT DO AS THE CITIES AND TOWNS IN THE COMMONWEALTH BUT WE CERTAINLY NEED SOME LEADERSHIP FROM THE STATE ON THIS.
THERE ARE THINGS WE CAN DO AND THIS IS AN EXCELLENT FIRST STEP AND OBVIOUSLY I SUPPORT IT UNCONDITIONALLY.
HOW MANY REGISTERED VOTERS DO WE HAVE IN THE CITY RIGHT NOW BALLPARK WOULD YOU SAY.
>> BALLPARK 400,000.

>> THE POPULATION'S PROBABLY NOW
650, 660 PERHAPS.

AND OBVIOUSLY NOT EVERY ONE OF
THOSE RESIDENTS WOULD BE AN
ELIGIBLE VOTER, THEY MAY NOT BE
OLD ENOUGH, THEY MAY NOT BE
CITIZENS.

SO WHAT WOULD IT COST TO MAIL A
THE VOTER REGISTRATION FORM TO
EVERY NON-REGISTERED VOTER?
WORE NOT TALKING MILLIONS, WE'RE
TALKING TENS OF THOUSANDS OR
HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF
DOLLARS.

>> WE ARE TALKING HUNDREDS OF
THOUSANDS.

BALLPARK I WOULD SAY AROUND 200.

>> HAVE WE EVER TRIED THAT?

HAVE WE EVER DONE THAT?

>> I'VE BEEN IN THE DEPARTMENT
SINCE 2015.

I WOULD HAVE TO DO SOME RESEARCH
TO SEE IF WE'VE DONE IT IN THE
MOST BUT WE HAVEN'T DONE IT
SINCE I'VE BEEN HERE.

>> I WOULD VENTURE A GUESS WE
HAVEN'T DONE IT.

WHY NOT?

THERE'S NOTHING TO PRECLUDE US.
I'M NOT MINIMIZING USING THE
SCHOOLS USING LIBRARIES USING
COMMUNITY CENTERS USING CITY
SERVICES THIS IS GREAT WE SHOULD
DO IT.

I THINK IN A BUDGET OF, YOU KNOW
THE CITY OPERATING BUDGET OF 3.2
OR HOWEVER MANY BILLION DOLLARS
SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS
EXPENDITURE COULD BE AN
INNOVATIVE WAY TO HELP GROW OUR
VOTER PARTICIPATION AND ACCESS
TO REGISTRATION.

SO IT'S A LITTLE OFF TONIC BUT I
THINK IT GETS TO THE HEART WHAT
WE WANT TO DISCUSS.

THAT IS SOMETHING I WILL
CERTAINLY BE ADD INDICATING
DURING OUR DELIBERATIONS OF THE
BUDGET BUT YOU KNOW YOU
MENTIONED ABOUT USING THE CITY
CENSUS PERHAPS AS A WAY TO MAIL
THAT AND THAT WOULD BE COST
PROHIBITIVE AND LESS COSTJUST
MAIL IT -- HOW MANY CITY --

>> WE SEBL IT OUT FIR HOUSEHOLD
SO IT'S 400,000.

>> I WOULD THINK, IT WOULD BE
DUPLICATIVE CLEARLY TO SEND
EVERYONE A VOTER REGISTRATION
FORM.

I PRIDE MYSELF ON CONSERVING
PAPER NOT WASTING IT BUT I THINK
THIS COULD BE AN OPPORTUNITY
THAT WE JUST TRY SOMETHING
THAT'S INNOVATIVE STRONG AND
ROBUST.

SO I JUST THINK IT COULD BE A
WAY TO HELP GET TO THE GOAL THAT
I KNOW WE ALL SHARE WHICH IS
MAKE IT AS EASY AS HUMANLY
POSSIBLE TO GET PEOPLE TO VOTE
AND THEN WHEN IT'S INCUMBENT
UPON US TO MAKE SURE THEY TURN
OUT AND VOTE.

YOU WALK THE WALK AND TALK THE
TALK COUNCILOR ZAKIM.

I WAS DELIGHTED TO BE WITH YOU
ON BOSTON COMMON ON SATURDAY AND
SEE YOU REGISTERING VOTERS.

THAT WAS AN INCREDIBLY,
COUNCILOR JANEY AS WELL,
COUNCILOR ESSAIBI GEORGE AS
OTHERS, AN INCREDIBLY MOVING
EXPERIENCE TO SEE THAT AND THE
YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE SO ACTIVE
AND INTERESTED MADE IT A REALLY
SUCCESSFUL DAY.

SO THANK YOU.

NO FURTHER QUESTIONS.

>> COUNCILOR BAKER.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.

MATT, GREAT WORDS THERE,
DUPLICATIVE, SENSEY, GOOD JOB.
DION, HOW ARE YOU DOING.

>> I'M DOING WELL.

>> LIKE COUNCILOR O'MALLEY SAID
GREAT JOB WITH THE ELECTION.

I THINK THAT'S MORE OF YOUR JOB
MAKING SURE THE ELECTIONS HAPPEN
CORRECTLY AND THERE'S NO KNOWN
KNOWN -- FUNNY BUSINESS.

PROBABLY MORE THAN VOTER
REGISTRATION BUT SOUNDS LIKE YOU
DO A LOT OF VOTER REGISTRATION
IN YOUR DEPARTMENT NOW.

>> EXPWRES.

YES.

WE SEE IT AS OUR JOB.

WE WANT TO GET VOKES TO REGISTER.
WE'RE PUTTING A LOT OF RESOURCES INTO ELECTION DAYS.
MY STAFF IS THRILLED WHEN WE HAVE BUSY ELECTIONS AND OUR PHONE IS RINGING NON-STOP.
>> VOTER REGISTRATION IS PART OF YOUR JOB AND YOUR DEPARTMENT'S MISSION.
>> YES.
>> OKAY.
GOOD.
ALL THE CENSUS WORKERS THEY WORK FOR YOU EVERY YEAR, DION.
>> YES.
>> AND TO JUMP ON TO COUNCILOR O'MALLEY AGAIN, I THINK SOMETHING THAT WE SHOULD BE FIGHTING FOR AS A BODY IS VERY SIMPLY IN THOSE CENSUS WOULD BE VOTER REGISTRATION.
IF THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT WERE STILL OPEN WE COULD JUST PRINT THEM ALL OVER THERE BUT THAT'S CLOSED TOO.
I APPRECIATE THAT.
SO THE ONLY INTERACTION THAT HAPPENS ON THE STATE LEVEL WHERE YOU CAN REGISTER TO VOTE WOULD BE TRANSACTIONS 2E REGISTRY.
SO LICENSE OR CAR REGISTRATION.
>> AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION.
NOW THERE ARE OTHER INTERACTIONS WITH AGENCIES WHO CURRENTLY REGISTER VOTERS AND THEY CEPT IT OVER TO US IN PAPER FORMAT.
SO MY COMMENTS WERE RELATIVE TO HAVING ON-LINE AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION GO INTO THE STATE REGISTRATION.
>> IS THERE ANYTHING ON THE CITY LEVEL THAT WHEN YOU MAYBE ENTER INTO WHATEVER PAGE THAT IT DIRECTS YOU TOWARDS VOTER REGISTRATION.
>> I'M NOT SURE OF THE QUESTION.
>> WHEN YOU'RE REGISTERING AND THEY ASK YOU DO YOU WANT TO REGISTER TO VOTE OR NOT.
IS THERE ANYTHING ON THE CITY LEVEL THAT ASKS THOSE QUESTIONS? WE'RE NOT ABLE BECAUSE WE'RE NOT A STATE.

>> NO, NOTHING PREVENT US FROM PROVIDING PEOPLE WITH INFORMATION AND MAYBE YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT REG STROKE. NOT ONLY REGISTERING BUT UPDATE CANNING THEIR INFORMATION. PEOPLE ARE MOVING AND ON REGISTRATION THEY HAVEN'T UPDATED THEIR REG ADMINISTRATION WHICH LEADS TO CONFUSION. TRANSPORTATION TAKES A LOOK TO SEE WHETHER THEY CAN ADD A MESSAGE FOR FOLKS TO REGISTER AND DIRECT THEM TO OUR REGISTRATION LINK AND SAME GOES FOR THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY. SO THERE'S SOMETHING THAT WE CAN CERTAINLY DO.

>> YOU CAN OBVIOUSLY REGISTER ON-LINE, CORRECT.

>> THAT'S CORRECT.

>> OKAY.

THANK YOU.

THANK YOU MR. CHAIR.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR.

ANY FINAL QUESTIONS OF THIS PANEL BEFORE WE GO INTO OUR SECOND PANEL.

>> COUNCILOR JANEY HAS SOME QUESTIONS.

>> YES.

SO BACK TO BPS.

THE REGISTRATION STHERS WILL HAVE VOTER REGISTRATION CARDS AND THE REGISTRATION CENTERS ARE WORKING HARD TO REGISTER FAMILIES OFTEN OVERWHELMED, TALKS A LOT OF CAPACITY ARE THESE REGISTRATION CARDS GOING TO SIT ON THE SHELF SOMEWHERE OR WILL THERE BE SOMEONE ENGAGING FOLKS.

WILL THIS BE A QUESTION THAT IS ASKED OF FAMILIES.

DO THEY NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE.

I SAY THAT BECAUSE I KNOW FIRSHAND THE TEAK THAT EXISTS ALREADY IN TERMS OF JUST THE CAPACITY ISSUES FOR THE REGISTRATION CENTERS.

ONE OF THE THING THAT WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO DO IS TO MAKE SURE AS OUR FAMILIES ARE COMING IN

THERE'S A WAITING PERIOD.
DURING THAT TIME WE LEVERAGE
THAT AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO
INTRODUCE THEM TO RESOURCES FOR
INFORMATION THAT I THINK IS A
OPPORTUNITY FOR ONE OF OUR STAFF
TO SAY IF YOU AREN'T REGISTERED
TO VOTE HERE'S INFORMATION.
>> WONDERFUL.
THIN FINALLY, WHAT ABOUT THE
COMMUNITY CENTERS?
WHY ARE THEY NOT ON THE LIST?
>> ACTUALLY I JUST MADE A NOTE
ABOUT THE COMMUNITY CENTERS TO
MENTION THAT.
THEY'RE NOT HERE BECAUSE THEY'RE
NOT ON THE LIST, THEY'RE NOT IN
THE ORDINANCE BUT THEY ARE ONE
OF OUR PARTNERS.
THEY REGISTER STUDENTS AND
INVITE US TO EVENTS TO REGISTER
STUDENTS.
>> THAT'S A GOOD POINT.
THANK YOU DION AND THANK YOU FOR
THE ENTIRE PANEL, MONICA, PRAW
CILIA AND STEVE FOR I DON'T
REMEMBER TIME AND ATTENTION TO
THIS MATTER.
I'LL GO TO THE SECOND PANEL NOW.
YOU'RE WELCOME TO STICK AROUND
FOR A LITTLE BIT.
WE HAVE SOME GREAT GUESTS THAT
HAVE SOME OPINIONS THAT MAY BE
HELPFUL AS YOU CARRY OUT YOUR
PRIMARY FUNCTION FOR THE CITY.
SO THANK YOU AND GOOD AFTERNOON.
>> THANK YOU.
>> AT THIS TIME I'M GOING TO ASK
SHARYL CRAWFORD TO COME DOWN
ALONG WITH JOHN DREW AND JOB -- JONATHAN
COHEN AND IF YOU CAN MAKE YOUR
WAY DOWN TO THE WELL IF YOU WILL
AND BE SEATED DIRECTLY ACROSS.
>> GOOD AFTERNOON, SHARYL.
ALWAYS A PLEASURE.
GOOD TO SEE YOU ALSO, JOHN AND
JONATHAN.
SO SHARYL, YOU HAVE THE FLOOR.
IF YOU COULD JUST INTRODUCE
YOURSELF AND YOUR AWE FILLATION
FOR THE RECORD AND GIVE US YOUR
THOUGHTS ON THIS PROPOSAL.
>> GOOD AFTERNOON.
THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO

ADDRESS THIS IMHOAT.

MY NAME IS SHARYL CRAWFORD, I'M THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MASS VOTE AN ORGANIZATION THAT WORKS TO REGISTER, EDUCATE AND MOBILIZE VOTERS WITH A FOCUS ON HISTORICALLY UNDER REPRESENTED COMMUNITIES IN MASSACHUSETTS ESPECIALLY THE RISE MASSACHUSETTS ELECTORATE.

I'M HERE TO TESTIFY IN SUPPORT OF DOCKET NUMBER 0166, AN ORDINARY INNOCENCE INCREASING ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION ACT.

THAT VOTE BELIEVES ABILITY FOR ALL ELIGIBLE TO PARTS PART IS A FUNDMENTED CIVIL RIGHT AND A PRINCIPLE OF OUR DEMOCRACY. MASS VOTE HAS BEEN FIGHTING FOR A LONG TIME ALONG WITH OUR COALITION PARTNERS AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP MARGINALIZE OUR VOTING LAWS AND REMOVE BARRIERS THAT PREVENT EVERY VOTER FROM HAVING THEIR VOICE HEARD AND COUNTED.

ALONG WITH CHELSEA COLLABORATIVE WE ARE CURRENTLY IN A BATTLE TO REMOVE THE VOTER REGISTRATION 20 DAY CUT OFF WHICH WE BELIEVE DISENFRANCHISES VOTERS AND THE JUDGE RULED UNCONSTITUTIONAL. AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. TO REMOVING ONE MORE OF THOSE BARRIERS THAT DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECT THE MOST DISINFRANCHED COMMUNITY.

IT IS OUR STRONG BELIEF THAT AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION IN MASSACHUSETTS WILL INCREASE VOTER PARTICIPATION AND TURNOUT WHILE CONTINUING TO MODERNIZE OUR ELECTORAL PROCESS.

IT WILL IMPROVE THE ACCURACY AND SECURITY OF OUR VOTING ROLES WHILE CREATING A MORE EFFICIENT AND RELIABLE VOTING SYSTEM THAT IS LESS COSTLY TO MASSACHUSETTS IN THE LONG RUN.

THERE ARE MANY REASONS TO SUPPORT AVR AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION PARTICULARLY THE

OPT OUT PIECE.

WE BELIEVE THAT THAT IS CENTRAL TO THIS WHOLE THING MAKING SURE THAT EVERYBODY'S ALREADY ON AND THEY HAVE THE OPTION TO GET OUT. WE'VE ALREADY NAMED A COUPLE OF THE REASONS WHY TO SUPPORT IT BUT ALSO THERE ARE SEVERAL STATES THAT HAVE ENACTED THIS REFORM WITH FAVORABLE RESULTS. FINALLY, WAY NEED AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION NOW.

WE HAVE MAJOR SUPPORT IN BOTH THE HOUSE, THE SENATE, THE MASSACHUSETTS TOWN CLERKS, ASSOCIATION TESTIFIED SAID THEY WERE FINE WITH THE BILL. LASTLY THE SECRETARY OF STATE IS IN SUPPORT OF IT.

AND AS ONE WHO IS TOTALLY COMMITTED TO INCREASING VOTER AND CITY PARTICIPATION, I STRONGLY URGE YOU TO VOTE FAVORLY ON DOCKET NUMBER 0166 AN ORDINANCE INCREASING ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION ACT RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED SHARYL CRAWFORD.

AGAIN I WANT TO THANK YOU COUNCILOR ZAKIM FOR ALL OF YOUR EFFORTS TOWARDS THIS.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH SHARYL. JOHN DREW PRESIDENT CEO OF ACTION BOSTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

WELCOME.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

MY GREAT GRANDMOTHER, MY GRANDMOTHER COULDN'T VOTE. WAY BACK WHEN THE CONSTITUTION PUT TOGETHER, FIRST VOTE WITH A HUNDRED ACRES. TOOK THEM ALL AWAY. NOT FAR ENOUGH.

I'M HERE TO SAY THAT I THINK EVERYBODY WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE SHOULD BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE WHETHER THEY SHOW UP TWO DAYS AHEAD OF TIME ONE HOUR AHEAD OF TIME OR 30 DAYS AHEAD OF TIME.

THAT BARRIER SHOULD BE TAKEN TOWN.

EVERY OTHER BARRIER TRYING TO

TAKE DOWN THE PAST, THE BARRIER
OF TOLL TAX, BARRIERS OF ALL THE
WAYS PEOPLE WOULD PUSH THEIR WAY
FROM THE POLLS OVER THE YEARS.
I'M IN SEARCH HERE.
I'M IN THE CHOIR.
A LOT OF PEOPLE THESE DAYS DO
NOT MIND IF WE CAN FIND WAYS TO
STIFLE VOTES.
WE HAVE TO BE VERY SYRINGE
LUNLT.
I'VE BEEN WITH ABCD BACK IN THE
60'S.
THE FATHER WAS AN INCORPORATOR.
HOW DID WE DO IT?
IN THIS THOUSAND 50, 60 YEARS
AGO.
SET UP COUNCILORS FOR THE FIRST
ELECTIONS WE EVER HAD.
YOU GOT ELECTED TO THE BOARD AND
THEN YOU SAT ON THE BIG BOARD
WHICH WE STILL HAVE WITH
5 MEMBERS.
GET MULTIPLE PARTICIPATION IN
PEOPLE'S LIVES AND HOW THEY CAN
ACT AND REACT.
OVER THE YEARS I TAKE EVERY
OPPORTUNITY WE DO EVERY ONE OF
THOSE YOUTHS THAT COME INTO OUR
PROGRAM SAY VOTE, REGISTER,
VOTE.
WHY?
YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH ELSE IN THIS
COUNTRY THAT'S GOT POWER.
TOO MANY PEOPLE DO NOT VOTE A
COUPLE YEARS AGO BECAUSE THEY
DIDN'T GET TO REGISTER IN TIME.
TOO MANY PEOPLE AT ANY TIME VOTE
BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T SEE THE
REASON TO VOTE.
MAYBE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN
WASHINGTON IS NOT HELPFUL.
I WAS DOWN THERE LAST WEEK.
BUT I COME TODAY WITH MY FRIENDS
AS WE ALWAYS HAVE DONE FOR ALL
THESE YEARS, TO PUSH PEOPLE TO
CAJOLE, TO EDUCATE.
MY FIRST VOTE I WAS 21 JOHN
KENNEDY.
MY SECOND VOTE WAS JOHN KENNEDY
FOR PRESIDENT.
WHERE I GREW UP EVERYBODY VOTED.
IF YOU DON'T VOTE, YOU DON'T GET
YOUR -- IT DOESN'T MATTER.

TO YOU IT WAS IMPORTANT TO VOTE
NO MATTER WHAT YOUR ECONOMIC
CIRCUMSTANCES.
I'VE BEEN DEALING WITH ISSUES
REGARDING
POFORTS POVERTY AND RACE AND ALL
THOSE THINGS THAT KEEP PEOPLE
UNDER THE THUMB OF THIS ECONOMY.
I REFLECT BACK TO EARLY '50S.
WHEN THE CONGRESS HAD RUN BY
WHITE SOUTHERNERS,
SEGREGATIONISTS AND ALL THE
COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND WE STARTED
TO BUILD UP THE SUBURBS AFTER
THE WAR, PEOPLE WENT OUT AND
BUILT HOUSING AROUND EVERY CITY
CENTER, THE SUBURBS, HOUSING,
BUILT THE MIDDLE CLASS.
AND THAT MONEY WAS GIVEN TO THE
FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION
TO GIVE LOANS TO BUILDERS AND TO
GIVE LOANS TO HOMEOWNERS.
IN THAT LEGISLATION INSTRUCTIONS
TO THE FHA WAS YOU COULD ONLY DO
THIS FOR WHITE PEOPLE.
WE LEFT EVERYBODY ELSE BEHIND
WHO COULDN'T GET ACCESS TO
HOUSING.
SO WE HAVE NOW A SEGREGATED
SOCIETY IN PART.
WE'RE TRYING TO BREAK DOWN THE
BARRIERS BY TELLING PEOPLE ON
BOTH SIDES, I'M FROM BE AN
ELECTED SCHOOL COMMITTEE, I'M
SORRY, I'M FOR AN ELECTED
ANYTHING THAT PEOPLE CAN
PARTICIPATE IN THEIR OWN LIVES.
SO WHEN IT COMES TO VOTING, WE
ARE DOING ONLY VOTING IN
ROXBURY, WE HAVE PLACE OPEN FOR
VOTING, WAY BACK BEEN YOU DON'T
KNOW HER, DORIS USED E-USED TO
RUN THE BINGO FOR US, SHE KEPT
THE MONEY AND SHE RAN, THE
VOTING BECAUSE IT'S IMPORTANT
BECAUSE PEOPLE THEN NEVER START
A POLL, THERE WAS NO POLLS CLOSE
TO THEM.
SO WE'VE MADE A LOT OF ROG.
THEY'RE GOING TO TEAR -- A LOT
OF PROGRESS.
THEY'RE GOING TO TEAR DOWN ANY
REMAINING BARRIERS.
THEY ARE GOING TO ENCOURAGE

YOUNG SISTERS.
ABOUT 300 WE BROUGHT UP TO THE
STATE HOUSE AND STOOD UP THERE
WITH THE LEGISLATORS.
AND WHAT DID THEY DO FOR THAT
TIME?
LEARN CIVICS.
HOW DOES YOUR GOVERNMENT REALLY
OPERATE?
WE STOPPED TEACHING THAT IN
SCHOOL.
SO I WOULD SAY THAT WE GOT A BIG
LIFT AHEAD OF US, WE CAN DO IT.
WE HAVE TO OPEN THE GATES TO
SAY, VOTING IS A RIGHT.
IF YOU DON'T THINK OF WHAT YOU
CAN DO TO THE DAY OF VOTING YOU
CAN STILL GO.
NOT FEEL LIKE YOU'VE BEEN TURNED
AWAY LIKE 5,000 PEOPLE WERE A
COUPLE OF ELECTIONS AGO.
I DON'T HAVE WHAT THE LAST PANEL
HAD BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE
PROBLEM OF CARRYING THIS OUT.
BUT YOU KNOW WHAT?
THEY'RE GOOD PEOPLE ON HOW TO DO
IT.
THEY KNOW HOW TO DO IT.
AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FILED
SOMETHING WITH THE LEGISLATURE.
I DON'T WANT TO WAIT UNTIL 2024.
OR 2026.
I WANT 2020.
I'D LIKE 2018.
2020, TO GET SOMETHING PASSED UP
THERE TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO
VOTE.
THESE ELECTIONS COMING UP ARE
CRITICAL.
THE ELECTION BACK WHEN NIXON WAS
HERE WAS CRITICAL.
THIS ONE IS A BEAUTY.
WE'VE GOT EVERYBODY OUT WHO
WANTS TO VOTE, WE CAN MOTIVATE
THE VOTE.
I WANT ALL THE KIDS WHO ARE
GOING UP TO 18 IN MARCH AND TALL
OTHER KIDS I WANT THEM VOTING
BECAUSE THAT TELLS THEM THEY
HAVE A PIECE OF THE ACTION IN
THIS COUNTRY.
I THINK PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF AND
OTHERS WHO REMOVED THESE
BARRIERS WILL BE WELL RECEIVED.

REMEMBER WHAT THEY SAID, THEY'LL
BE RUNNING FOR YOUR JOB.

SO ONE WAY I THINK YOU CAN HELP
US ALL IS TO PASS WHATEVER
NECESSARY TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR
LEGISLATORS KNOW HOW IMPORTANT
IT IS FOR THEM TO SPEED UP
WHATEVER THEY'RE DOING SO THAT
WE CAN GET MORE PEOPLE TO THE
POLLS IN 2020.

I'D LIKE TO MAKE IT RETROACTIVE
TO 2016, AND A LITTLE LEVYING
BUT I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR 45,
47 YEARS, WE ALL MOVE OFF THE
VOTE, WE ALL KNEW WE HAD TO GO
OUT AND VOTE.

THE FIRST MAYOR I WORKED FOR AND
I DID IT BECAUSE I COULD GET
SOME LUNCH, WAS THE MAYOR, BUT
HE WAS IN JAIL.

JAMES MICHAEL CURLEY.

SO WE'LL GET PEOPLE IN OFFICE,
HAVE ALL KINDS OF BACKGROUNDS.
BUT THE FACT IS, VOTE AND ALSO,
PARTICIPATE.

THAT'S WHAT WE TELL KIDS, THE
YOUNGSTERS, PARTICIPATE.

BE PART OF THE PROCESS, IT WILL
I PAY OFF.

I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING MORE BUT
PLEASE PLEASE LET US MOVE THE
DIAL UP AND MAKE IT MORE
AVAILABLE AND I WOULD APPRECIATE
IT AND ALL OF THE PEOPLE THAT
ARE OF MY GENERATION AND
GENERATION UP TO IT AND CURRENT,
WE ALSO APPRECIATE IT.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH, JOHN AND
JONATHAN, WELCOME.

PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS.

>> THANK YOU, THANK YOU
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FLAHERTY,
THANK YOU AND COMZ FOR FILING
ORDINANCE AND COMJ, BAKER NOSH
BEING WITH US.

PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS,
CHAIRMAN OF THE WARD 4
DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BOTH
ORGANIZATION HE SEE INCREASING
REGISTRATIONS.

KIND OF BUNDLES IN OUR
PROGRESSIVE PLATFORM FOR GOOD
GOVERNMENT.

OUR WEST ROXBURY BE ROSLINDALE,

ABOUT THE SIZE OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

BOSTON IS A YOUNG CITY.

WE HAVE THE LARGEST POPULATION OF YOUNG MANY WITH RESIDENTS. AN ESTIMATE OF THE TWO-THIRDS OF TRP CITY'S 165,000 APARTMENT LEASES TURN OVER ON SEPTEMBER 1st.

THOSE NEAR SYMPHONY HALL AND FENWAY AREA I'M KIND OF SHOCKED THAT IT'S THAT LOW.

AMONG THE GENERATION, MY AGE A LITTLE BIT YOUNGER, NOTORIOUSLY LOW.

I KNOW 2008 OFTEN GETS DISCUSSED AS A HIGH MARK, AND THE U.S. CENSUS THAT WAS ONLY 44% OF THOSE 18 TO 24 YEARS OLD REPORTED VOTING IN THAT ELECTION.

ABOUT 53% REPORTED BEING REGISTERED.

AND WHAT'S STRIKING IS IF YOU LOOK AT I IN THAT CONTEXT, ABOUT 83% OF THOSE ACTUALLY REGISTERED DID VOTE.

PROBLEM IS MANY SO FEW WERE ACTUALLY REGISTERED IN THE FISHES PLACE.

NOW THERE ARE LIMITS TO SELF-REPORTING AS WE ALL KNOW BUT THAT TREND IS SPECIFIC AGAINST DEMOGRAPHICS.

THE DISPARITIES AROUND GENERATIONAL, RACIAL, INCOME, EDUCATIONAL IN VOTER TURNOUT HAVE THEIR DISPARITIES IN VOTER REGISTRATIONS RATES.

AND WHEN THEY ARE NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE THEY ARE IN PART INVISIBLE TO POLITICIANS.

DURING THAT CYCLE THEY WON'T BE ASKED FOR THEIR NEEDS THEIR CONCERNS THEIR PROBLEMS THEIR IDEAS AND THAT WEAKENS THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS ITSELF.

WE AS A CITY STATE COUNTRY, CAN TAKE ALL POSSIBLE TO INCREASING ENGAGEMENT TO OUR ELECTIONS.

TO THE POINT OF THE ORDINANCE, WHEN THE CITY'S ALREADY INTERFACING RISK, CITIZENS OF BOSTON WOULD ALREADY GET

INFORMATION ABOUT THE ADDRESS,
WE SHOULD BE PROVIDING
REGISTRATION AS THE FIRST STEP
TO ENGAGEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY.
INSOFAR AS WE CAN HAVE THINGS IN
AN OPT-OUT PROCESS INSTEAD OF
OPT-IN IT CAN MAKE THINGS MORE
EFFICIENT.

BECAUSE ANY STUDY WILL SHOW YOU
YOU'RE LIKELY TO GET PEOPLE TO
DO THINGS IF IT'S OPT-OUT RATHER
THAN OPT-IN.

PEOPLE'S FIRST EXPERIENCE WITH
VOTING SHAPE THEIR STEWED TO
VOTING FOR REST OF THEIR LIVES.
I WAS VERY HAPPY IN THE MARCH
THIS WEEKEND, REGISTERING YOU
Newshour VOTERS TO VOTE AND IT
WILL BE ENCOURAGING TO GET MORE
TO VOTE.

THANK YOU.

>> YOU HAD INTERESTING STAFTS.
OF THE 165,000 LEASES THAT TURN
OVER, DO YOU HAVE A DEMOGRAPHIC
BREAKDOWN ON THAT?

>> I DON'T.

I CAN SHOW YOU THE ARTICLE FROM
THE BOSTON GLOBE THOUGH THAT
DISCUSSED THAT.

>> VERY GOOD, ANY QUESTION OF
THIS PANEL?

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN, I
WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING
HERE AND GETTING US HERE.

I THINK IT'S YOUR WORK AND YOUR
EFFORTS BOTH HERE AND AT THE
STATE LEVEL.

I WAS PROUD TO LEAD THIS COUNCIL
LAST YEAR IN PASSING A
RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE
STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION
BILL, PASSING OUT OF COMMITTEE
AND MOVING FORWARD, WHICH WOULD
BE GREAT, AN IMPORTANT TOOL TO
ADD TO THIS PROCESS.

I THINK IT'S INCUMBENT UPON US,
COUNCILOR O'MALLEY SAID IT
EARLIER, WHEN PEOPLE ARE
INTERACTORRING WITH US THEY ARE
OFFERED THAT OPPORTUNITY AND I
WILL SAY I THINK IT'S DUE TO A
LOT OF YOUR EFFORTS AND CAVISM
CAVE --ACTIVISM OVER THE YEARS, THAT
THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN

SO RECEPTIVE TO THIS.

I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH MY COLLEAGUES AND THE CHAIRMAN HERE, AND WE'LL BE CREATING MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE SYSTEM. IT'S NOT REALLY A QUESTION BUT LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU.

GLBL.

>> RECOGNIZE ED FLYNN.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR AND COUNCILLOR ZAKIM, FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP ON THIS.

LIKE OTHER PEOPLE I HAVE TALKED TO PEOPLE IN ABOUT MY NEIGHBORHOOD ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF VOTING AND I SUPPORT GIVING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AS MUCH OPPORTUNITY AS WE CAN POSSIBLY GIVE THEM TO VOTE. BUT I ALSO HOPE WE DON'T LOSE FOCUS ON PEOPLE THAT ALREADY GAVE US THE RIGHT TO VOTE, OUR VETERANS, OUR DISABLED, OUR MILITARY FAMILIES.

I THINK THAT SHOULD BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION.

AND I DO LOOK FORWARD TO WORK WITH THE CITY COUNCIL AND WITH THE COMMISSIONER AS WELL TO SEE WAYS WHERE WE CAN MAKE SURE THAT OUR VETERANS, MILITARY FAMILIES ALSO ENJOY THE SAME RIGHTS AND ACCESS, ACCESS IS THE KEY DURING THIS PERIOD OF TIME, GIVING THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE. AND I THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS AS WELL.

>> THANK YOU, .

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR, THANK YOU AGAIN COUNCILLOR ZAKIM, MANY THANKS OTHIS COUNCIL, MR. CRAWFORD, MR. COHN, I NOT ONLY APPRECIATE YOU BEING HERE BUT THE WORK YOU DO EVERY SINGLE DAY.

AS PEOPLE KNOW, VOTING RIGHTS, VOAGHT ACCESS IS NEAR AND DEAR TO MY HEART.

I SPENT A GOOD CHUNK OF MY ADULT LIVE MAKING SURE THAT PEOPLE IN MY COMMUNITY HAVE CEASE TO VOTING.

-- ACCESS TO VOTING.

I CARE VERY MUCH ABOUT MAKE SURE THAT COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, THE IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES, DISABLED VETERANS, PEOPLE WHO SPEAK DIFFERENT LANGUAGES, HAVE THE SAME KIND OF ACCESS.

AND I KNOW YOU GUYS DO WORK IN THOSE AREAS SO I REALLY APPRECIATE THE WORK THAT YOU DO EVERY SINGLE DAY AND FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS PIECE OF LEGISLATION.

SO ONE, DEFINITELY, THANK YOU. BUT IF YOU HAVE IDEAS AROUND HOW WE DO MORE, DO BETTER TO SERVE THE COMMUNITIES THAT I'VE MENTIONED, AND I KNOW YOU'RE IN THAT SPACE, HOW THE CITIES CAN BE SUPPORTIVE, TO MAKE SLUR, I ASKED THE QUESTION EARLIER, HOW WE'RE ENSURING THAT COMMUNITIES WHERE THERE IS LOWER REGISTRATION THAT WE'RE REALLY KIND OF FOCUSING SOME SUBSTANTIATION THERE.

I'D BE INTERESTIN YOUR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS.

-- INTERESTED IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS.

DON'T FEEL LIKE YOU'RE ON THE SPOT AND HAVE TO ANSWER RIGHT NOW.

IF YOU HAVE THOUGHTS OR IDEAS ABOUT THAT I'D LOVE TO HARRY THEM.

>> JUST A QUICK THOUGHT, WE HAVE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS NOW RUN IMMIGRATION DAY, CITIZENSHIP DAY.

THE WHOLE PURPOSE FOR THAT, SOMEBODY CAN GET OFF THE GREEN CARD AND GET TO CITIZENS AND GET TO VOTE.

SOME OF THAT IS HELPFUL, I THINK WE COULD DO A LOT MORE OF THAT IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, ENCOURAGE PEOPLE WHO ARE LIVING MORE, TO BE CITIZENS AND ALSO WANT TO VOTE.

WE START BACK WITH THE PEOPLE WHO ARE GOING TO BE THE VOTERS AND GET THEM INTO THE SYSTEM AND WE'RE WORKING ON THAT AND WE'LL CONTINUE TO WORK ON THAT AS LONG

AS WE CAN AND HOPE OTHER PEOPLE
CAN JOIN US.
BECAUSE WHEN YOU ARE FISHING IN
THE TANK YOU GO ALL THE WAY TO
THE BOTTOM AND PULL PEOPLE UP
AND IT WORKS.
IT REALLY DOES WORK.
THEY FEEL GOOD ABOUT THEM.
SELVES.
THEY'RE GOING TO BE CITIZENS.
>> THE MECHANICS OF HOW IT WOULD
WORK IN BOSTON, THE ORDINANCE
THAT THE CITY PASSED A COUPLE OF
YEARS AGO, I THOUGHT WAS
INTERESTING, THAT CITY REQUIRED
THAT LANDLORDS INCLUDE VOTER
REGISTRATION IN THE PACTS, THERE
PACTS, -PACKETS, I REMEMBER
HAVING VARIOUS DOCUMENTS WHEN I
FIRST MOVED INTO MY APARTMENT
AND THAT COULD BE AN ADDITIONAL
ONE INCLUDED IN THAT.
>> SO THANK YOU FOR BOTH OF
THOSE.
AND AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR BEING
HERE AND THANK YOU FOR THE WORK
THAT YOU DO EVERY SINGLE DAY TO
CREATE MORE ACCESS FOR PEOPLE IN
OUR COMMUNITY TO VOTE.
AND THANKS AGAIN FOR THIS
ORDINANCE THAT WE JUST SIGNED
ON.
>> ANY FINAL THOUGHTS COUNCILLOR
ZAKIM?
>> NO, THANK YOU, I LOOK FORWARD
TO -- I THINK THERE ARE SOME
SMALL IDEAS, ADDING IN A NEW
DRAFT AND I'LL LEAVE THAT TO YOU
MR. CHAIRMAN.
THANK YOU.
>> THANK YOU CHERYL, JOHN AND
JONATHAN FOR YOUR INPUT AS WELL
AS THE ADMINISTRATION.
AND OBVIOUSLY WE GOT SOME GREAT
INPUT HERE REGARDING COMMUNITY
CENTERS, REGARDING VETERANS.
AND DION CAN COME UP.
SO BETWEEN OUR COMMUNITY
CENTERS, THOSE WHO FACE BARRIERS
TO ENTRY DUE TO LINGUISTIC IS
ISSUES, OUR VETERANS, THOSE
CURRENTLY SERVING OVERSEAS, TO
MAKE SURE THEY HAVE ACCESS.
LOTS OF GOOD STUFF THAT YOU

MIGHT BE ABLE TO ADD AND PRODUCE
A DOCUMENT IN A NEW DRAFT, AT
THE MAKER'S DISCRETION.

SO IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE LAST
WORD?

>> YES, JUST WANTED TO ADD ONE
MORE THING TO THE RECORD FOR
CLARIFICATION.

REGARDING MILITARY MEMBERS BEING
ABLE TO VOTE.

DURING FEDERAL ELECTIONS THEY
ARE ABLE TO VOTE BY SCANNING A
BALLOT, AND E-MAILING IT TO US
OR FAXES IT TO US.

SO THAT CURRENTLY STANDS FOR
FEDERAL ELECTIONS ONLY.

I'M HAPPY TO WORK WITH YOU TO
SEE HOW WE CAN EXPAND THAT FOR
OTHER ELECTIONS.

>> ONE QUESTION ON THE CITY OF
BOSTON VETERANS, THEY RECEIVE
CHAPTER 115 BENEFITS FOR
HOMELESS VETERANS.

ARE THEY REGISTERED TO VOTE WHEN
THEY PICK UP THEIR CHECK FROM
THE CITY?

THEIR STIPEND?

>> I CAN'T SAY SPECIFICALLY
THEY'RE REGISTERED TO VOTE BUT I
CAN TELL YOU SPECIFICALLY THAT A
PART OF OUR CENSUS IS COLLECTING
THAT FORECAST ON WHO OUR VET --
L INFORMATION ON WHO OUR
VETERANS ARE IN THE CITY AND WE
WORK WITH THE VETERANS
COMMISSION ON REGISTERING
VOTERS.

>> YES BECAUSE OUR HOMELESS
VETERANS CERTAINLY HERE ON COURT
STREET SHOULD BE PART OF THAT
PROCESS AS WELL.

>> SO THANK YOU ALL AGAIN FOR
YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION.
THANK YOU COUNCILLOR ZAKIM TO BE
THE LEAD SPONSOR AND WITH
RESPECT TO DOCKET 0166, BE
ACCESS TO ARE VOTER
REGISTRATION, THE COMMITTEE WILL
BE ADJOURNED.
THANK YOU.