

BCC180507

>> I'm Mark Ciommo the chairman of the ways and means.

Today is Monday, May 7.

We are here with our friends from the environmental department including Inspectional Services pertaining to dockets 05590563.

Orders for fiscal year 19 operating budgets and department operations, for the school department and appropriations for other post employment benefits appropriation for certain transportation and public ground improvements and appropriation for certain park improvements.

Dockets 05640565, capital budget appropriations.

And I would remind folks it is a public hearing, both being broadcast live and recorded on RCN channel 82, Comcast channel 8, Verizon 1964, and streamed at [Boston.gov/citycouncilTV](http://Boston.gov/citycouncilTV).

That is my colleagues and folks in the chamber, silence any electronic devices.

At the conclusion of the departmental presentation and questions and answers from my colleagues, we will take public testimony.

There's a sign in sheet to my left by the front door.

I ask you state your name, affiliation, residence, and please check the box if you do wish to testify.

This budget review will encompass over 36 hearings.

We strongly encourage residents, whether here in the chamber or at home, to take a moment to engage in this process by giving testimony for the record in several ways.

Come to a hearing and sign in and testify publicly before us, come to the hearing dedicated to public testimony on Tuesday, June 5, anytime from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Send your testimony by mail to the committee on ways and means, Boston city hall, 1 city hall plaza, Boston 00201, or email the committee at [ccc.wm@Boston.gov](mailto:ccc.wm@Boston.gov).

I will introduce my colleagues in order of their arrival.

To my left, councilor Ed Flynn, Timothy McCarthy, atlarge councilor Michelle Wu.

To my immediate right, Michael Flaherty, to my left again councilor Lydia Edwards and my immediate left, councilor Frank Baker.

I want to welcome chief and commissioner and it's all yours.

>> Thank you very much, councilor and thanks for having us here today.

I am very, very privileged to be joined here with some of my colleagues from Inspectional Services who I get a chance to work with at well, the teams at park and rec, and teams at the environment department and happy to answer any questions you have on that.

Focused on making Boston a healthy, innovative and thriving city.

Protecting consumers through restaurant and price scanner inspections, issuing permits during the construction and play a crucial role in the city's vitality.

This year's recommended budget allows us to build on the success we had in previous years.

In this budget, improving and hastening services to customers, getting new vehicles to support teams at animal care and control, as well as environmental services for road and abatement work.

Although we are proud of the progress we made at ISD we are dedicated to further improvement to make the customer experience more efficient and the city safer.

With that brief introduction, I thank you for your time.

If it pleases the chair, I'd like to have commissioner Christopher give an opening statement, introduce the team and give details on the plan for FY19.

>> Good morning.

I always look forward to the hearings, an opportunity to talk about the great successes we're something at Inspectional Services.

Structure, how we implement work and record our accomplishments.

It's not always about adding staff or budgeted items, it is more about officially handling constituent complaints and concerns.

The team before you right now is responsible for the analytical department and I am very proud to say they have done a spectacular job and we really look forward to a good hearing.

With me is Mary Morgan and patty, thank you.

>> And we have just been joined by the councilor Matt O'Malley.

How many planned examiners

>> In we added two this year.

>> According to my review of the differences between last year and this year, did you add four health inspectors this year?

And five building?

>> We added five building this year.

>> OK.

>> Not the health inspectors.

>> And is that answers patient or in reaction to trends going on?

>> It is helping us implement a new program of how we're going to inspect buildings throughout the city of Boston.

Previously, it was all based onwards where an individual inspector was identified into award.

And a number of the councilors got calls about us not having enough.

We have five major districts and now have teams of inspectors that work in the five districts.

We hope to keep a common face in the wards because it does create a synergy that's really important for the relationship of our community with contractor and development.

And also with the Advent of the five new positions, are actually creating a complaint team.

A form of this existed in the past, but this is going to be specifically dealing with those concerns that come in so that we can address them quickly, as well as maintain a constant inspection program for the rest of the city.

>> To that point, when you said "quickly" I'm just thinking of a situation that literally just happened last Thursday and Friday.

And I want to commend, especially those who got out there. Somebody was preparing their yard to be totally paved over, got the call from the residents, abutting residents. They were out there the very next day, and got the call I think midafternoon and they were out there the first day, the next day. Shut them down. Those are the kinds of issues, as you know, that come up. And, you know, we don't want to come in after they pave it. I think it creates more of a problem for, you know, rectifying, mitigating it, fines and such if we can get to them before it happens.

>> It's always other goal, you know, enforcement through assistance. And because of the restructuring we have done at ISD, we are able to respond a lot quicker to a lot more projects. I love hearing issues that resolve within 24 to 48 hours. And those that we can, we do I am implement. And there are some that are more involved, involve more negotiations, but overall I think the department is very, very expensive. As a whole ideological change we are there to assist, opposed just issuing fines kind of approach.

>> Are you finding challenges with positions though?

>> Yes.

>> It seems there has been some.  
Is it a matter of just not being able to accrue the right people?

>> There are two departments where the skill sets are very, very unique. And they have come to the table with five years of supervisory experience in that field. They are reviewed by the state for their certification. They then have to pass an exam, I believe 18 months, that is statecertified. In the planning and zoning department, it's even more difficult because we have a higher bar they have to obtain. We do a lot of outreach. We reach out to a lot of universities, reach out to industry. There are usually two profiles of people that come into our world. Those people that are latter in their career and have a wealth of experience and knowledge, as well as those young people looking to build a career within the city.

>> Let me move on and I will come around for more questions.  
Councilor Ed Flynn.  
Oh, and we have been joined by atlarge city councilor, Annissa Essaibi George.

>> Thank you councilor, and thank you commissioner for being here.  
A couple of questions.  
I know you mentioned the complaint team that you have.  
Can you give us a little bit of background about the complaint team as it relates to especially nonworking traditional working hours?  
Whether it is weekends or after hours.

>> Afterhours permits there are a body of people that either through ignorance or by choice feel they need to work on weekends. There are situations that we absolutely allow it, if there is a critical path involved in the project. If a contractor has worked with the community to identify the period they need to go out and do some specialty work. If it involves the public safety, erection of a crane or street cutting that would cause more public harm during the week, we will allow that. There have been certain neighborhoods throughout the city that asked us to specifically limit work in a very big way, and we do respond to that. We do internally publish a list of those job sites that are able to work on the weekends. If we have a question about it, we defer the project to the office of neighborhood as far as so we can make sure that the community is in understanding about what's going to happen. But there are, also, a group of people that just choose to work. I will not stop establish who's a homeowner that's working on residing their house during the course of the weekend and I think that's totally within the guidelines of zoning and building code. But if it is a forprofit individual that's doing work, purely for the selfish reason of their schedule, yes, we deal with that very quickly. There is a \$300 fine for doing it. If there are repeat offense, I actually remove the building permit from the site, and then they have to come in and explain to us what it is they did and why they think it's OK.

>> Thank you commissioner.  
One more question.  
It relates to animal control.  
You're having a hearing May 18 on the recent stay voltage incidents in the city of Boston impacting pets, and I hope this session will allow us to work with the city of Boston departments, state government agencies, utilities companies, to try to come up with a solution about what's happening.  
But do you have any background information that might be helpful to us?

>> We're very aware that, you know, the unfortunate age of a lot of our systems have left situations so they have the idea of a dog being shocked is a reality.  
There are two recent cases.  
In both cases it was after a period of rain.  
Water is a great conductor.  
So frayed or aged electrical lines will cause a problem.  
This is an interdepartment and also state and local and collaboration.  
A lot of the walking paths not on city land, they do have lighting.  
And the only answer I can give you to this effect, the more we know about it, the more we can do about it.  
I know the state and parks department and DCR are addressing this trying to deal with their infrastructure.  
But if there is a case, we hope to hear about it quickly so we can work on it immediately.

>> Thank you, commissioner.

>> Thank you.  
Councilor McCarthy.

>> Thank you stretch, Mr. Chair, and welcome commissioner chief.  
Just a couple of things.  
I always like to start with thank yous, because we do an awful lot of work, and certainly a lot of work with ISD.  
They have been instrumental in district five helping us, answering calls immediately, answering our emails back.  
And so importantly, especially on the calling, the constituent services, they get it.  
They understand that when Mrs. Jones calls about a small incident, that might be the only time she calls in 60 years.  
And it's not a small incident to her, and it's important that Inspectional Services answers the call and I want to give them a shout out and thank them very much.  
And want to make sure they call me back next week, too.  
I really have more concerns than criticisms.  
With air B&B coming in, more students, marijuana coming in, construction boom continuing, I am still concerned, and I said to you offline, I am still concerned that you're the athlete that's taking on more and more issues, more and more moving parts without enough people.  
So I am concerned about how many people you have and how many people you're adding on.  
So can you talk a little bit about that for me?

>> I hear about this almost every day from both staff in ISD and others.  
And I think I stated last year at this hearing, it is not always about just throwing bodies at a situation.  
It is analyzing the situation for the resources we have, deployed in the most efficient manner.  
The reorganization of the building department itself is a major issue.  
We have a senior manager team, and 10 people that have all been empowered so that within their divisions they can make logical decisions, without being bottlenecked as we go forward.  
Issues such as recreational cannabis, air B&b.  
It is always analyzed and looked at.  
Air B&B is not fully resolved yet.  
Going back and forth with the council to determine the right policy we want in place.  
At that point we will determine what enforcement will be.  
That has not been included in our budget this year at all because we really don't know what the magnitude of that is.  
The cannabis situation is a very big one.  
We work very closely with our partners at the BRA to determine what makes sense in terms of zoning.  
Moving forward I think we have written a really good policy around that as we go forward.  
It, like many things, is in its infancy right now.  
We don't know how this is all going to play out.  
We've analyzed all the cities around the country that have been dealing with this.  
Colorado being the leader in this right now.

We modeled a lot of our answers based on a lot of data that they collected.

In general across the municipality.

I think we're prepared to bring it on.

But, as always, as we move forward we want to make sure that we have the ability to manipulate our enforcement packages so we do it properly, so it's not just haphazard or wasteful efforts.

I honestly believe the culture at ISD has changed radically.

I gave mayor Walsh credit for that.

And the response time.

We understand that someone's small issue in the bigger city issues is no small issue to them.

And the staff, I have to commend them as they treat each issue that way.

I think we are marching in the absolute right direction.

Through the management policies last year we actually came up with a deficit in our budget, which was really good.

We have staffing situations that are challenging.

The assistant commissioner for HR is constantly trying to find the right people to do the right jobs.

I refer to take a little bit more time to make sure that I have the right personalities in that position, rather than I would just to plug it with a body and not deal with those issues.

>> Good morning.

I want to echo the thanks from all of our colleagues.

You have all been extremely responsive and it has been great to work on such a wide variety of issues over the last couple of months.

I wanted to start with some of the performance measures numbers.

Just to get a sense on the page where it talks about DBA appeals files and the DBA decision files it looks like you are predicting a big drop in decisions and appeals.

Is that just because there will be less projected fewer projects in the pipeline?

Or going from 980

>> In general, council, I think wait that zoning is dealt with now, some of the newer zoning we have written in south Boston is really lending itself to being more developmentfriendly.

I also think the educational piece about how zoning works is helping and lots and lots of people are really sculpting projects so we can have more projects rather than appealsism think the planning and zoning department in and of itself has really prioritized how they deal with projects.

If we can knock off easier ones, we do, so efficiency numbers.

The board of appeals with the subcommittee has proved to be an excellent way of dealing with a lot of projects.

So those projections are not based on limitation of new projects developed.

We see the city growing at a tremendous rate.

>> Thank you.

So overall it is sound like it's not that the sort of development it is not that the market is not necessarily slowing down, that's what the number are reflecting, more of the efficiency of the department and move towards trying to agree on the planning ahead of time, rather than sort of duking it out in the appeals process every time.

>> Absolutely.

>> OK.

And then in terms of the restaurant inspections, decrease in the number of inspections predicted between FY17 and 18.

>> I don't necessarily agree with that number.

I think the inspections are going to be the same because we are required to visit every restaurant during the year.

We do see the profile of restaurants changes.

That number fluctuates up and down.

I think overall again, through the outreach programs, we're having less problems with them.

The actual numbers will not change though.

>> OK.

How is the grading program going?

>> Tremendously.

All of the changes we made in the beginning, the number coming out is tremendous.

Seeing a lot of tourism is using this information to select restaurants, feeling it is safe and comfortable.

And the restaurant industry doing a wonderful job of coming to the plate and being more active in their resolve before it becomes an issue.

>> So every restaurant has been through that now?

>> Yes.

Mandatory now.

We're in the phase where it has to be posted.

>> And I guess it's a larger question about given the pace of development, particularly in some of the neighborhoods outside of downtown now that we're seeing a lot going on in district five and, you know, further from downtown.

What is the process like of inspections being able to mind of match and check to make sure everything was built according to what as approved, the specific design details or height or something else.

>> Those standards have not changed at all.

We're in the ninth edition of the building code right now.

The changes are really not that.

It is really dealing more with energy efficiency, probably one of the paramount conditions in the building code.

Zoning, we are in an active discussion so that we are able to deal with issues before they become issues.

The reorganization of the building department for the actual field inspections is already starting to show some really improvements.

Under the old system if your inspector was on vacation, you didn't get an inspection.

We all felt that was unreasonable.

So what we are doing by creating teams, each team will have four or five, in some cases six wards.  
And those inspectors will cover for each other so that you should not see a down time in the inspection response time.

>> I wanted to check, a photocopy, it is hard to read the small numbers. It says in 17, FY17 there was 7800 restaurant inspections and 825 projected in 18, and 825 targeted in 19 is that a typo?

>> You realize we have the projected, the inspections we know we will do. Also a whole series of reactive inspections and that's the number we can't control.  
Every time we get the complaints we're out there right now.  
I don't understand why there is such a huge differential, but I will check into it.

>> OK.

And my final point was on construction litigation this overlap with the environmental sustainability piece.

I am hearing a lot from residents, and I hear about the one right next door to me a lot from the person who lives in my bedroom with me, about the construction then causing to erode into the street, the mud all over our area.

What's the ability to make sure that, you know, getting built according to the specs, but with more storms with more rain we're not seeing all the runoff then dramatically increase.

>> None of that runoff is legal.

The construction site is not allowed to adversely affect, whether it is another resident or the city.

Each project has an onsite mitigation program they go through during construction.

If you're seeing an adverse effect, that is a problem and the city were notified, 311 does a fabulous job in hours.

>> I will talk to the counselor about that.

>> Councilor Flaherty.

>> Good morning to everybody.

I have to say that particularly the commissioner, you have been the most visible, most accessible and most proactive commissioner I know in at least my time here, arguably here in the city.

And many predecessors would be chained to the desk and only come out when the TVs are rolling.

And you are everywhere.

I think it is a testament to your work commitment, but also the commitment to the city.

>> They told me that was the deal when I came on.

>> You having to be everywhere.



And you being on the other side of the counter a think is a big part of that when we think of future leaders and commissioner and superintendents, you have been a consumer on the other side. And you had a jump start to what was not working and made great strides. And you have a great team.

Not only the teams that you have here.

But a shout out to the utility infielders for the team there, they are tremendous.

Always a late Friday afternoon or sometime over the weekend, or it's a first thing Monday morning.

But they get right after it.

So I just want to

>> I appreciate that, councilor, but I would be remiss if I didn't say there are a whole body of other people that you don't even know the names of.

The administrative staff, the people who actually step up and the quality of personel that I see that I see in my private life never experienced before.

I appreciate you bring it up.

>> There are so many.

>> Absolutely.

>> And I ask this every time, Boston's nemesis, the Norwegian rat.

I know we were making great strides with dry ice and somebody asked us to put the brakes on that.

>> We are getting closer to the dry ice.

There is a case in California where one company was given the exclusive rights to promote and sell dry ice.

And the local department said you can pursue that same Avenue.

That is not what the plan was.

The plan was to make dry ice available to everybody.

The chemical composition is dry ice, frozen CO<sub>2</sub>, that's all it is.

We are working right now, my department working very closely with the department of agriculture.

We're getting much closer.

>> OK.

>> It takes forever, but I am hoping it will be this year that dry ice will be just another tool in our tool box that we'll be able to work with.

>> Probably one of the most effective tools in the war against the rats.

>> It is environmentally friendly, costeffective, all the right things.

>> And as soon as it hits your desk

>> You will be a party, Michael.

This has been a long one.

>> And shifting gears, we inspect lots of stuff.

Restaurants, gas stations.

But do we inspect, you know, the dog grooming places?

The hair and nail salon places?

the massage parlors

>> Or defer to the state on that?

>> There is an overlap.

A lot of licensed by the state, beauty parlor, massage parlors as far as the pets, if they harbor I think it is nine animals overnight they are a kennel.

We certificate kennels going forward.

We investigate the places, but looking at it from a building and health point of view not from licensure point of view.

>> Is that something we would give thought to?

I think we are in the best position in the neighborhoods having the city oversee it opposed to the state.

>> Animal care control is really strong because for all the pets in our city.

And they do a tremendous job getting out there.

Yet a lot of times it is complaintdriven and there may be a grooming center we don't even know about until somebody brings it to our attention.

Yes, I think that's something that warrants more attention.

>> And also have some shady stuff that goes on in Barber shops and hair and nail is a saloons.

We have seem some stings, and local law enforcement cracking down.

>> It is unfortunate.

I would never target one industry we see a number ever people who choose to play outside of the rules of the game, and we try to deal with them as effectively we can.

Close relationships with the fire department, the police, social health so if it is a regular regulation we may enforce.

>> Planning and zoning, how much moment comes in with respect to permitting?

>> Permitting, I defer.

I believe last year was \$50 million overall?

>> I am getting it.

>> For the department.

>> \$68 million.

>> And it comes in fees and signs fines I guess.

>> It is all over the place.

>> What are the fees the developers have to play?

>> The average permit cost is \$10 per thousand.  
A filing fee, occupancy, micro film fee.  
That's on the positive side.  
The negative side, afterhours fees that are paid to play.  
And also category fire escapes and building facades and the whole violation piece that comes into play.

>> And that all falls under the \$68 million.

>> Yes.

>> Is that on par  
>> We're growing.  
A couple of years ago we saw a tremendous spike, but we are seeing it continue to project upward.

>> The time they go over and they file the paperwork to the day they receive  
>> I wish I could answer that with one sentence.  
It depends on what they're doing.  
The reality is that permit averaging 27 days, we is tremendous.  
Board of appeals averages 75 days providing there aren't glitches.  
And that's the time it lives at ISD.  
We are now tracking the time that if a more information letter is issued because the package is incomplete, it goes back to the applicant.  
We don't track that time because we had projects where we asked for information and not got it back for six months.  
And then the complaint comes out to us well, it's taking you eight months to get a project through.  
Well it has only been at ISD for six weeks and we are able to process it.  
So a lot of that is just the analyst as it sits inside of ISD.

>> And don't see excuse of when the struck Inspectional Services Department gets sued and you do, and who handles that?  
The law department that defends you guys or have your own  
>> In the ISD there is our own department that comes under.  
They are dedicated to not only the litigation but prosecution of housing and health regulation.

>> And listed at FY19 recommended 1700.

>> What happened in the last fiscal year the responsorial responsibility for the legal department has gone back to the legal department, and the staff is still dedicated to ISD.

>> When did it happen?

>> Four or five months ago.  
I noticed it is not in here and it's a new change and you sent legal liabilities, excuse, courts, took it out of ISDle and send it over there.

>> Yes.

>> And a fairly significant numbers in years past.  
Do you take the company line on this one, but I think is your'  
understaffed and I think we would love to see more people just because of  
the volume.

\$68 million is a lot of balloons.

And extra hands makes a lot of work for other folks.

It is streamlining it and getting the 27 days down to 7 days.

The 75 days down to you know then hopefully we can get stuff done.

>> We compare ourselves to other cities across the country and doing  
pretty good.

We have been doing a lot of research about the business plan at ISD and  
how things happen.

And that is a lot of reform to our processes.

And for right now that's really where my focus is, to have the team to  
reanalyze just about every process that exists at ISD.

And we're reevaluating them.

>> Thank you.

>> I just want to make with your point of clarification.

The city is prevented from using dry ice, but residents aren't, correct?

>> I am glad you said that

>> Just so everyone knows I don't have a canister of dry ice at my house.

>> And we are joined by council president Andrea Campbell and I will  
recognize councilor.

>> Thank you for your work.

You took a whole line of questioning about the north end, rats and  
die dry ice and rats and we did meet to talk about your commitment to  
making sure this becomes a citywide program but also being willing to  
come out to the north end and come out and work with residents.

If they want a private means of going about this I commend you on that  
again.

And what goes to what Flaherty said about your accessibility and  
dedication.

Going through questions specifically about my district but helping me get  
educated about where you guys are working.

My colleague, councilor Wu, talked about your inspection of restaurants.

Does it include popup restaurants and food trucks?

How are you adjusting to that economy?

>> Any place the food is consumed or processed onsite.

The food trucks there is a process where we have a department making sure  
that the food trucks are certified going forward.

And the popup restaurants, a new event in our city which the mayor wholly  
supports.

We work very closely with them.

We have done things like the taste of Dorchester.

And the way it was done before we felt was absolutely ridiculous.

Every vendor had to come in and apply for their own license.

So through really good business practices we have it down so there is one application that comes forward. All the vendors have to be listed and give it to us the day we require, but the financial impact of it, it is always felt it was for some sort of charity or event that the money is going somewhere. And he would saw no reason for us to add to that, because we're able to achieve it upped one permit.

>> I think that is a balanced approach to ensure safety, but not kill economics.

>> Absolutely.

>> And specifically I noticed that the department's goal for fiscal year 18, I guess last year, inspect 4800 units out of 10,000 registered. Did you achieve that goal?

>> Our inspections under the rental registry program about 7,000 plus or minus.

>> On an annual basis?

>> On an annual basis.

>> That's excellent.

Do you think, is there something else that could help us, or that we could do to help you get to one day hopefully being able to inspect all the units?

>> Yes.

What we're looking at, we looked at the rental registry ordinance in and of itself and added things we hope will be brought to the council this year to redefine the goal for that.

When the first 10,000 projected number was put into place, it was purely an estimate and had no basis in reality.

Now we had three to four years of really doing it.

So we have some real numbers of what it could take.

>> In terms of does your department deal with ADA accessibility in restaurants?

>> It's not ADA, this is the lesson I give to everybody.

>> I appreciate it.

>> ADA is the civil rights law we are unable to force, only a judge can do that.

MAB is the building code.

Yes, we are responsible to enforce that.

We do it both from the planning stages of the project and the final construction phases of the project.

>> But only new projects, right?

Not retrofitting?

A lot of restaurants

>> They are triggers, yes.

If you spend \$100,000 or more on a project you have to have a path of accessibility in the facility.

If you spend more than I believe 33%, the value of the project you have to bring the entire project up to accessibility standards.

There are those in the middle we deal with all the time.

>> Is there a way to get ahead and hopefully either provide what we do for homeowners, some sort of loan or financial support, to get the restaurants to go ahead and take the initiative to become accessible?

I say this because in the north end there's a particular person who made it a business model to point out the fact that if it is inaccessible, suing them.

And he negotiates for the pay.

>> That is all done through the ADA.

>> But I am thinking, if there is a way in which we move our restaurant and business owners towards accessibility and provide them either the financial or some sort of method to get ahead of that.

>> I think the biggest piece of that is more about education.

When you're going to do something, you have to have an eye towards accessibility.

And sometimes some very subtle changes in your plan and approach make a huge bit of difference to somebody who has mobility issues.

We're only too happy to work with them on that, but we have no ability to assist financially.

We can give advice and education, but that's about it.

>> Just talking a little bit about east Boston, with our growing population, I think in 2010 at 40,000.

And I think we're above that now, and we're going to continue to grow with all of these different areas of growth and development.

My understanding, we have one inspector.

Will we be getting no, we have more?

>> Under the new plan it will be regional.

It will be at least I believe minimal four inspectors assigned to each district.

>> Which district are we?

>> I would have to look at the map.

I forget what number we gave it.

>> its own district?

>> Geographically we redefined.

And a section of downtown and a section of the north end.

>> There would be about four folks dedicated to that issue.

Are they going to be have a specialty, one dealing with

>> They are all special.

>> They are all special.  
But in terms of their dedication?

>> The education, the uniform education of all of the inspectors, I believe it is 43 CEU's every three years.  
So their education is constant.  
This is the inspectors themselves.  
We try to keep that information flowing back and forth to each other.  
The biggest thing about, you know, accessible design, the design alternatives and that usually ends up going back to planning and zoning.  
Because now building inspectors are literally black and white.  
It meets or doesn't meet it.  
Planning and zoning is a little more understanding in trying to layout paths of success opposed to just saying yes or no.

>> OK.  
And tell me a little bit more, I would love to hear a little bit about the ultimate fallout or ultimate ending to the building that collapsed if you recall.

>> Yep.

>> And so it was bought by a developer, under construction at the time of the collapse, I believe it was on a Sunday.

>> It was, Sunday morning.

>> You and talked a little bit about weekend construction.  
And so in your investigation of what happened, what caused it, and then could you help me?

>> Sure.  
That project was fully permitted.  
They were not working.  
They had put a bracing system inside of the building.  
That was marginal at best.  
That's an area that had a lot of vibration because of the trains in the area.  
It is called the double width bracing wall, which is in and of itself has no lateral stability whatever.  
What happened, the straw that broke the camels back.  
One small section of the brick on the Maverick side of the building dislodged for whatever reason.  
I don't know why it dislodged but that brick fell down and that was the first report we got around 11:00.  
When we got out there, we made an immediate assessment of the building and, you know, I had determined that the building was unstable.  
The bracing in the building concerned us.  
We tried to work with the owner of the building in my usually delicate fashion.  
I hold them they had an hour to give me a plan, what are you going to do?  
That was not successful from the advocate's point of view.

So then the city steps in and took over control of the demolition of that building.

I saw no feasible way for that building to be saved, nor was it worth saving.

And in its original state prior to us demolishing, it posed a real danger to the abutting properties.

We had to evacuate an apartment building, close five businesses, not to mention the traffic impacts we had with that.

Again, working very closely with the fire department, we brought instructional engineers to do a very quick analysis.

We made a prediction of what was going to happen to that building.

I will be honest I didn't expect it would happen in 15 seconds, I thought it would take longer to take the building down, but as absolutely predicted, its demolition, it was down and within an hour everything was on the road back to reoccupying the programs and getting the patents back.

>> And the costs were

>> I don't know if I can share that.

The cost of that, the city of Boston bore zero dollars.

The developer paid the entire cost of that.

>> Which would include the fire department, include

>> All the fines and fees associated.

To include all the specialty equipment we brought in to do that.

>> And it there any event further followed with that development as they continue to buy, work.

>> The developer was involved in time other projects in east Boston.

Every project was immediately shutdown.

Each project was then totally reevaluated.

The fire departments, the 241 plan, a fire protection program during construction.

As far as we can go with construction methods, we do not get involved in means and methods of construction, but overall concept of buildings.

The other four projects were be able to back online within three days because we went through our evaluation.

The project in question right now has been given permits to clean the site.

And they are coming back in with a new project, because part of their project was to revitalize one of the buildings.

There were two buildings that actually came down.

But that will be a total new project for evaluation.

>> OK.

And then just to talk a little bit about your constituent services.

I think on your website you have a goal, I'm sorry, the target is at 98%.

>> Uhhuh.

>> I am just wondering what your metrics were for your responsiveness.

>> That is in our paper work.



The response times are very good while ISD is open.  
It goes into 311 backup when we close.  
A call center made up of I think six people.  
And take immediate responses from constituent services.  
The department is one, two, three, four five people.  
One vacantly in the department now because one was just promoted to an assistant director position.  
And it is their responsibility not necessarily to solve the problem.  
What they do, they do the historical research on the project to see if it is permitted, what the limits of it are, and they dispatch the appropriate inspector to the field to see if there is followup.

>> In terms of the 98% and the goal, within the day, how you are meeting that.

>> Yes.

>> OK, thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Good morning.

Thank you for coming out today.

Buddy, you generate \$68 million a year

>>

>> Yes.

>> And your budget here for this year is about, this coming year about \$20 million.

What happens with the other \$48 million?

Where does it go?

>> Into the central funds to help support projects and programs within the cities that do not generate funds.

It's a delicate balance.

You look at those numbers that way, boy does it look disproportionate and ISD should be living in the world of lavender.

And the reality, credit the department and mayor for balancing out the real needs of the city.

The central budget supports all kinds of programs across the city.

As much as I advocate for my staff, which I always do, I think the appropriation and the way money is handed out in the city is responsive.

And always trying to improve timeframes, but in the requirements of our city it may not be the most important thing in our city.

The public safety, fire department, EMTs, public health, our school systems, these are all things that need additional assistance and don't necessarily have the revenue.

>> That is a good answer, buddy.

I disagree with you, just because you heard it already, different people talking about not having enough.

It doesn't seem like you guys are staffed enough where rental inspections, now we're talking about air B&B, another thing.

How we plan on enforcing that, I think is you talk about what you said, going to enforce through the data and going to have people on computers enforcing.

I don't see that happening.

I won't beat this too much, buddy, but you guys should have more of that, if the math is correct, \$48 million going to the general fund.

I think you guys need more of that.

I don't know why we do this every year, I don't know why you're not

>> Last year we actually ended up with revenue at the end of our fiscal year because the team that's in front of you right now spends every dollar the most efficiently as we can.

And as I say, adding bodies, although that's the common thought pattern, usually doesn't solve the problem because it parties don't have a direct plan, aren't managed efficiently.

I don't know what we are adding September next year, to I would love to see that you can walk in and walk out with a permit, I would love to see that but I also realize the nuances of very complicated things like zoning, like building code.

They prevent these bids from being instantaneous, but at the same time provide safety.

And I am very proud to say that there has not been a fatality due to a building, at least since I have been commissioner.

And so that's something I take pride in the staff's ability to analyze the situation and provide the safest environment possible.

>> Thank you, buddy.

Back to the dry ice, do you just pat that down the holes?

Is that how

>> It is the simplest technology, I love it at my level.

You find a rat hole, fill it with dry ice.

You kick some dirt over the top of it.

As it starts, you know, turning to a gas, it will show you where other rat holes are on that berm, repeat the process.

And go away for 48 hours.

When you go back, any rat holes disturbed because you kicked dirt over it, the dry ice will be gone.

You redo the process and one of the nicest thing is that the rat is already buried.

>> Good point.

Because it is the springtime.

I am starting to get those calls now.

>> Yeah.

>> Will you talk a little bit about your external funds?

Where do they go?

LIKE ARE THEY JUST YOUR 09:00:29:11

REVOLVING FUNDS FOR ANIMAL 09:00:31:07

CONTROL, FORECLOSURE FUNDS? 09:00:33:12

HOW MUCH DO YOU USE? 09:00:40:12

>> THE ANIMAL CONTROL WHICH I 09:00:41:05

KNOW IS A SEPARATE HEARING BUT 09:00:42:27

BASICALLY THAT'S THE MONEY 09:00:45:00

THAT'S USED TO PAY FOR OUR VET, 09:00:46:09  
FOR OUR MEDICINES, THAT'S 09:00:49:21  
GENERATED 50 SALE OF LICENSES AS 09:00:51:14  
WE GO -- GENERATED BY THE SALE 09:00:53:21  
OF LICENSES. 09:00:58:12  
WE'VE HAD A BUDGET FOR THREE 09:01:00:07  
YEARS, THE ANIMAL CARE IS 09:01:02:03  
DIFFERENT THAN WHAT THE BUDGETS 09:01:04:08  
WAS BEFORE. 09:01:05:13  
THE CITY'S APPROPRIATED \$100,000 09:01:06:03  
TO DO THIS ANALYSIS SO THAT WE 09:01:09:26  
CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT THE RIGHT 09:01:11:15  
PLACE FOR ANIMAL CARE AND WHAT 09:01:12:24  
IT SHOULD LOOK LIKE. 09:01:14:09  
SO THAT'S ONE OF IT. 09:01:15:08  
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES, THEIR 09:01:17:04  
RESIDUAL FUNDING COMES FROM 09:01:19:26  
FINES AND FEES. 09:01:21:22  
THAT'S ALL BUT INTO THE 09:01:22:28  
REINVESTMENT OF THAT DEPARTMENT. 09:01:24:14  
THEY HAVE SOME VERY SPECIALIZED 09:01:26:19  
TOOLS AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, 09:01:28:18  
WEIGHTS AND VOLUME METERS, AND 09:01:30:28  
UNIFORMS THAT THEY WEAR. 09:01:33:24  
WE HAVE A COUPLE OF TRUCKS THAT 09:01:34:23  
ARE USED FOR HEAVY-SCALE 09:01:36:11  
BALANCING. 09:01:39:16  
THAT ALL GOES BACK INTO THAT. 09:01:40:12  
IN THE FORECLOSURE FUND, DOES 09:01:43:27  
ALMOST GO RIGHT BACK INTO THE 09:01:46:15  
LEGAL DEPARTMENT, PRIMARILY, 09:01:48:21  
BELIEVE IT OR NOT FOR PROGRAMS, 09:01:51:18  
EXOWRT PROGRAMS AND WHATNOT TO 09:01:53:18  
MAINTAIN THE BEHAVES OF THE 09:01:55:20  
FORECLOSURE FUND WHICH WE SEE 09:01:58:17  
RAPIDLY DECREASING. 09:02:00:06  
>> WILL YOU TALK ABOUT THAT A 09:02:03:15  
LITTLE BIT? 09:02:05:21  
>> THAT'S A REALLY GOOD THING. 09:02:06:04  
EACH PROPERTY THAT GOES INTO 09:02:08:03  
FORECLOSURE, SUPPOSED TO NOTIFY 09:02:09:25  
IST, I BELIEVE IT IS A \$100 A 09:02:12:18  
MONTH FEE THEY PAY US TO 09:02:15:09  
MAINTAIN THAT. 09:02:17:18  
THAT INDICATES TO US THAT THERE 09:02:18:08  
ARE LESS FORECLOSURES. 09:02:19:29  
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A ROCKET 09:02:21:17  
SCIENCE TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON 09:02:23:26  
IN BOSTON AND EVERY SINGLE 09:02:26:10  
COMMUNITY. 09:02:28:00  
AS WE SEE THAT GO DOWN, THAT 09:02:28:11  
MEANS LESS ABSENTEE LANDLORDS, 09:02:30:24  
LESS CONSTITUENTS, IT IS A 09:02:33:22  
SMALLER PART OF OUR BIGGER 09:02:38:29

PROBLEM BUT STAYING VERY 09:02:41:09  
POSITIVE. 09:02:42:16  
>> STAYING ON FORECLOSURES, 09:02:43:00  
NUMBER 88 MILTON STREET WHICH WE 09:02:47:29  
WERE ABLE TO TAKE OVER AND NOW A 09:02:50:03  
FIRST TIME HOME BUYER IS IN 09:02:53:15  
THERE. 09:02:55:08  
ARE WE COMING, I'LL CUT TO THE 09:02:55:24  
CHASE, I HAVE A BUILDING WHERE A 09:02:58:06  
MAN WAS IN THERE FOR HIS WHOLE 09:03:00:18  
LIFE, NO AIRS, HE WAS A HOARDER, 09:03:02:14  
HOUSE IS ON A NICE STREET, HE'S 09:03:06:29  
BEEN DEAD FOR TWO YEARS NOW, 09:03:10:04  
THERE'S RACCOONS IN THERE AND 09:03:12:16  
EVERYTHING ELSE. 09:03:15:01  
WHAT DO YOU HAVE LIKE TO HELP US 09:03:15:21  
IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD MOVE THAT 09:03:17:06  
PROPERTY ALONG? 09:03:18:24  
WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE TO LOOK 09:03:19:20  
AT IT OR THE TEN YEARS LIKE WE 09:03:22:04  
DID. 09:03:24:13  
>> YOU MAY HAVE TO LOOK AT IT 09:03:24:23  
FOR TEN YEARS. 09:03:26:18  
UNFORTUNATELY IF THERE'S NOT A 09:03:28:14  
CLEAR TITLE OF OWNERSHIP, THAT 09:03:30:00  
TAKES FOREVER. 09:03:31:29  
THE COMMITMENT FROM ISD IS, WE 09:03:32:25  
FIRST TRY TO LOCATE THE 09:03:36:00  
RESPONSIBLE PARTY. 09:03:37:16  
IN SOME CASES THE BANK HOLDS THE 09:03:38:13  
MONEY. 09:03:40:09  
SOMETIMES THERE'S A TURF THAT IS 09:03:40:28  
SET UP THAT -- TRUST THAT'S SET 09:03:42:18  
UP THAT WE CAN TAP INTO. 09:03:45:07  
THEY DO HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY 09:03:46:23  
EVEN THOUGH THE LITIGATION IS 09:03:48:08  
GOING ON OVER THE OWNERSHIP OF 09:03:49:08  
THE PROPERTY TO MAINTAIN A SAFE 09:03:51:12  
ENVIRONMENT, MAINTAIN THE YARD 09:03:53:04  
AND THE BUILDING IS SUPPOSED TO 09:03:54:20  
BE SEALED. 09:03:55:28  
>> SUPERIF THERE'S NO OWNERSHIP, 09:03:57:17  
IF THE GENTLEMAN LIVING IN THERE 09:03:59:18  
PASSED AWAY, PROBABLY NO 09:04:00:28  
MORTGAGE ON IT, JUST SITTING 09:04:03:12  
THERE. 09:04:04:26  
SO -- 09:04:05:19  
>> WE HAVE TO GET CLEAR TITLE 09:04:06:06  
THROUGH COURT SYSTEM. 09:04:08:01  
>> AND THAT'S -- IS THAT WITH 09:04:09:08  
LEASE OP AND WITH THAT BE A 09:04:13:15  
SIMILAR THING? 09:04:18:00  
>> I TRY TO BE POSITIVE OF 09:04:19:03  
EVERYTHING. 09:04:21:22

>> HOW IS THAT WORKING FOR YOU? 09:04:22:05  
>> OTHERWISE, I'D BEING 09:04:24:14  
SUICIDAL. 09:04:26:16

-- I'D BE SUICIDAL.

THE HOUSING COURT JUDGES  
UNDERSTAND THIS, THERE IS ALWAYS  
THE ONE-OFFS THAT CAUSE THE  
BIGGEST AMOUNT OF PUBLIC  
AWARENESS.

WE DO

HAVE SUCCESS WITH THIS.

THE BAD ONES ARE BAD.

WE FIGHT, PUT A LOT OF RESOURCES  
INTO THAT, BUT IT IS OUR HOPE  
THAT PEOPLE ARE RESPONSIBLE.

SOME OF THE WORST CHARACTERS WE  
HAVE WERE ACTUALLY BANKS OUTSIDE  
THE CITY OF BOSTON.

THEY HAVE NO NEED AND THEY  
CONTROL A LITTLE BIT OF A LEGAL  
ARGUMENT AGAINST US AND IT  
FORCE-SALES THE PROS, SIX, TEN  
MONTHS AT A TIME, WE HAVE A  
COMMITMENT, THROUGH OUR BOARD-UP  
PROGRAM THAT RECEIVED MORE  
FUNDING THIS YEAR FROM THE CITY  
AS WELL.

SO IF WE GET A LANDLORD THAT IS  
TOTALLY NONRESPONSIVE OR LAID UP  
IN COURT WE WILL GO OUT AND  
BOARD UP PROPERTIES.

A CLEAN IT AND LIEN IT IS  
ANOTHER PROGRAM WE USE, WE'LL  
CUT THE GRASS, FIX THE DOORS,  
TOW THE CAR OFF THE LOTS, THEN  
WE PUT A LIEN AGAINST THE  
PROPERTY.

IT'S NOT THE BEST FINANCIAL  
COMMITMENT OF MONEY BUT I THINK  
IT'S ABSOLUTELY IMPERATIVE WE DO  
IT FOR NEIGHBORHOODS.

BECAUSE ONE OF THESE PROJECTS  
CAN ABSOLUTELY DESTROY A  
NEIGHBORHOOD.

>> I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU ONE  
ADDRESS AFTER WE'RE DONE.  
AUSTIN, WHAT ARE WE DOING WITH  
ORGANICS, KOSMOSING?  
COMPOSTING?>> WE HAVE A PROJECT OSCAR  
STARTED AS A PILOT PROGRAM A FEW  
YEARS AGO WHERE WE DO  
COMPOSTING.

A PROGRAM PEOPLE WITH A REAL  
PASSION ABOUT THIS, TAKE THEIR

LEFTOVER MATERIALS TO A  
COMMUNITY BIN AND THE COMMUNITY  
WORKS DEPARTMENT WILL COMPOST  
IT.

>> HOLD ON A SECOND.

PROCESS IT, HOW IS PUBLIC WORKS  
PROCESSING IT?

>>CY BELIEVE THEY TAKE IT TO  
SAVE THAT STUFF.

I WOULD HAVE TO DOUBLE CHECK  
WITH YOU ON THAT BUT THEY TAKE  
IT TO A THIRD PARTY VENDOR WHO  
TAKES THE COMPOST AND PROCESS  
IT.

>> I HAVE AN IDEA ON THAT.

THAT \$48 MILLION, CAN WE WILLED  
A COMPOSTING SITE AND CREATE  
JOBS AND START FOR REAL  
COMPOSTING, I WAS IN NEW YORK  
CITY, I WENT TO LOOK AT SOME OF  
THEIR -- THE WAY THEY'RE DOING  
THINGS SIMILAR.

SO THEY DO A COMMUTER DROPOFF.  
AT THE TRAIN STATIONS, YOU BRING  
A BAG, PUT IT IN, THERE'S CITY  
PEOPLE THERE FROM SANITATION AND  
THEN IT'S ATTACHED TO  
FOUNDATIONS THAT ARE DOING THIS  
WORK.

AND THEN THAT COMOAFIT GOES TO --  
COMPOST GOES TO A COMMUNITY  
GARDEN THAT DOES ALL THE  
COMPOSTING THEMSELVES.

IT DOESN'T GO TO A THIRD PARTY  
VENDOR, THEY LEVERAGE  
RELATIONSHIPS TO DO ALL THAT  
WORK.

AND I THINK IT'S TIME THAT WE  
START DOING SOMETHING FOR REAL.  
I KNOW COUNCILOR O'MALLEY AGREES  
WITH ME.

BUT I WOULD BE HARD PRESSED TO  
SUPPORT SOMETHING THAT  
COLLECTED COMPOST AND WE GO  
TO ANOTHER THIRD PARTY VENDOR.  
I THINK YEARS AGO, WE STOPPED  
DOING OUR OWN SNOW PLOWING, OUR  
OWN COLLECTIONS ANYMORE, NEW  
YORK CITY DOES ALL THEIR OWN  
TRASH COLLECTION, THEY DO ALL  
THEIR OWN TIPPING.

THEY DON'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH  
CONTRACTS.

AND I THINK IT'S -- WE HAVE AN

OPPORTUNITY IN FRONT OF US TO  
START THE DISCUSSION.  
\$48 MILLION EVERY YEAR THAT GOES  
INTO WHEREVER IT GOES, HE HAD A  
GOOD ANSWER FOR IT BUT I'M NOT  
SURE WHERE IT GOES, IT GOES INTO  
THE GENERAL FUND AND GETS  
SPRINKLED AROUND.

I THINK WE SHOULD BE TARGETED  
WITH THAT MONEY.

IF IT COMES ON YOUR DEPARTMENT  
IT MIGHT FALL ON YOU TO ADVOCATE  
FOR US THE CITY OF BOSTON TO DO  
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

LET'S BE A LEADER HERE AND I'M  
GOING TO RUN WITH THAT.

>> THANK YOU FOR YOUR ADVOCACY  
AS WELL.

THANKS FOR GOING TO NEW YORK AND  
AS YOU KNOW COUNCIL WE'RE DOING  
A ZERO WASTE PLAN IN  
COORDINATION WITH CHIEF OSGOOD  
WHO IS OVER IN PUBLIC WORKS  
AROUND TRANSPORTATION  
DEPARTMENT.

THAT IS A STUDY ONE OF THE  
THINGS THAT WE ARE LOOKING AT IS  
HOW WE CAN DO A BETTER JOB WITH  
OUR ORGANICS AND COMPOSTING  
WHETHER THAT IS A CURBSIDE  
PROGRAM OR OTHERWISE.

WE'VE GOT THE FOLKS WHO  
IMPLEMENTED THE PROGRAM FOR SAN  
FRANCISCO WORKING ON THAT FOR  
US.

THEY IN SAN FRANCISCO AS I'M  
SURE YOU KNOW COUNCILOR, THEY'VE  
GOT AN 80% DIVERSION RATE.

>> ACROSS THE BOARD?

>> ALL ACROSS THE BOARD.

80% OF THEIR WASTE GETS DIVERTED  
AWAY FROM LANDFILL.

BOSTON IF WE HIT 20% WE'RE  
HAVING A GOOD DAY.

THAT'S WHY MAYOR WALSH ASKED US  
TO DO THE PROCESS, HOW TO GET  
THE CITY TO BE CARBON NEUTRAL.  
AS THAT PLAN WRAPS UP, THE  
TIMING ON IT AS YOU KNOW OUR  
HAULING CONTRACTS ARE COMING UP  
TO BEING DUE.

SO WE WANTED THE RECOMMENDATIONS  
COMING OUT OF THIS PLANNING  
PROCESS READY TO GO SO WE CAN

INCORPORATE THEM.  
FIGURE OUT HOW TO MOVE THE  
NEEDLE ON ONE OF OUR WASTE  
PROCESSES, WE'LL KEEP YOU  
APPLIED ON ALL THE WORK WE'RE  
DOING ON THIS.  
>> I KNOW I SAID I WAS DONE BUT  
GIVE ME A MINUTE HERE.  
AGAIN WE GET BACK TO  
STREAMLINING, WE NEED LESS  
PEOPLE DOING THIS.  
I WAS IN A CITY DEPARTMENT THAT  
GOT STREAMLINED OUT OF ALL OUR  
JOBS.  
I CAN'T STRESS THIS ENOUGH.  
WE SHOULD BE ON THE FRONT END,  
WE SHOULD HAVE OUR OWN  
FACILITIES.  
BRUCE OUT THERE HE SHOULD BE  
SUPPORTIVE, YOU KNOW, WE SHOULD  
BE LOOKING AT THESE THINGS AND  
REALLY SUPPORT THEM REALLY GET  
BEHIND THEM THANK YOU.  
>> THANK YOU.  
I WOULD BE REMISS SINCE WE WERE  
DISCUSSING RODENTS AND SUCH, TO  
NOT RECOGNIZE THE WORK OF JOHN  
MEANY AND A CHILDHOOD FRIEND  
CHRIS McNALLY WHO RESPONDS  
VERY QUICKLY TO OUR NEEDS.  
>> AND LEO.  
>> AND LEO.  
I DON'T WANT TO GO DOWN THAT  
ROAD BECAUSE WE'LL NEVER END.  
COUNCILOR O'MALLEY.  
>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.  
THEY DO AMAZING WORE AND  
INCREDIBLY RESPONSIVE, GRATEFUL  
FOR THEM AMONG THE OTHERS.  
YOU KNOW OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE  
OTHER AREAS IN THE DEPARTMENT  
WHERE THERE'S ROOM FOR  
IMPROVEMENT AND I WANT TO BEGIN  
BY ECHOING THE SENTIMENTS MADE  
BY SEVERAL COLLEAGUES WHICH YOU  
DON'T HEAR AT MANY BUDGET  
HEARINGS, THE NEED FOR INCREASED  
STAFFING BECAUSE OF THE SHEER  
NUMBER OF THE SIZE OF THE  
PORTFOLIO THAT YOU HAVE TO  
OVERSEE.  
I APPRECIATE YOUR REMARKS,  
COMMISSIONER.  
AS YOU'VE SAID SEVERAL TIMES



BEFORE, IT'S NOT ABOUT THROWING  
MONEY AT A PROBLEM.  
IT'S ABOUT MANAGING PEOPLE  
BETTER.

I THINK THAT'S TRUE TO AN EXTENT  
BUT I DID THINK THERE ARE A  
NUMBER OF INITIATIVES, THAT'S  
HOW I WOULD LIKE TO START MY  
LINE OF QUESTIONING.

CHIEF I ASSUME THE PLASTIC BAG  
ORDINANCE WILL COME UNDER ISD.

>> A COLLABORATION WITH ISD.  
ISD.THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
COMPONENTS IN TERMS OF WORKING  
WITH OUR VENDORS OUR SMALL  
RETAIL SHOPS THAT'S GOING TO BE  
STAFFED OUT OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
DEPARTMENT AND THE MAYOR  
RECOMMENDED SOME FUNDING FOR  
THAT AS WELL.

>> OKAY, SO EITHER YOU OR BUDDY  
CAN YOU TALK ABOUT WHERE WE ARE?  
WE HAVE ANOTHER WORKING SLATED  
FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS FROM NOW.  
CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT WHERE WE  
ARE FOR ALERTING PEOPLE?

>> I'LL START IT AND THEN I'LL  
HAND IT OVER TO BUDDY.  
SO WHERE WE ARE AS I MENTIONED  
WE'RE GETTING THE RESOURCES TO  
DO THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.  
WITH YOUR APPROVAL AND THE FY 19  
BUDGET, WE'VE ALREADY STARTED  
THE PROCESS OF TRYING TO PUT  
TOGETHER A JOB DESCRIPTION FOR  
THAT ROLE.

>> SO YOU'RE GOING TO HIRE A  
PERSON, WHO'S GOING TO BE UNDER  
YOUR SHOP, WHO'S GOING TO SORT  
OF OVERSEE?

>> THEY'RE GOING TO BE IN THE  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT.  
BUT THEN THEY'RE GOING TO BE  
WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH  
COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER'S SHOP  
AS WELL.

WHERE WE'RE GOING OHAVE THE  
ENFORCEMENT START.  
COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER  
CHRISTOPHER'S TEAM HAS DRAFTED  
WHAT THE ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS  
WILL LOOK LIKE.  
AND WHICH SHOPS WE'LL START WITH  
BASED ON THEIR SQUARE FOOTAGE

AND THEIR RESOURCE HE ARE.  
HE AND COMMISSIONER SPECTER ARE  
GOING BACK AND FORTH ON BY THE  
TIME THE ORDINANCE TAKES FULL  
FORCE WE'LL BE READY TO  
GO. ANYTHING YOU WANT TO ADD TO  
THAT?

>> NO.

>> SO WALK ME THROUGH A LITTLE  
BIT HOW YOU'RE REQUESTING TO GO  
INTO THESE SHOPS.  
ARE WE SENDING LETTERS TO EVERY  
SHOP OWNER?

>> SO THE PLAN IS TO HAVE THE  
RESOURCE ON BOARD.  
OBVIOUSLY AS WE'RE TALKING ABOUT  
WE HAVE THE INSPECTORS GOING TO  
THESE LOCATIONS AND THEY HAVE A  
LOT OF WORK TO DO ALREADY.  
SO WE'LL HAVE THIS COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT PERSON THAT IS GOING  
TO START THAT PROCESS  
PARTICULARLY WITH THE SHOPS THAT  
ARE GOING TO BE UNDER THE  
ORDINANCE FIRST.  
AND HAVING THE CONVERSATION  
LETTING THEM KNOW THAT THE  
ORDINANCE IS GOING TO BE IN  
PLACE, WHAT THAT MEANS AND  
MAKING SURE THAT WE DO THAT IN A  
FASHION SO THEY CAN GO THROUGH,  
THEY CAN START PLANNING THEIR  
ORDERS FOR WHATEVER TYPES OF  
BAGS THAT THEY WILL BE PLANNING  
ON USING.

IF THAT'S A CONCERN THAT THEY  
HAVE OR CHALLENGE THAT THEY  
HAVE.

GETTING THEIR FEEDBACK ON IT AND  
HELPING THEM FROM THAT POLICY  
PERSPECTIVE.

IN THE MEANTIME, BUDDY'S TEAM AT  
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES WILL BEING  
ABLE TO DO THE INSPECTIONS THAT  
THEY'RE DOING AND WE'LL GET THEM  
TRAINED UP ON HOW THEY DO THE  
ENFORCEMENT.

AND ONCE THAT COMES INTO PLAY  
THEN THEY'LL START THAT AND  
SHOULD BE SEAMLESS.

>> SO THIS PERSON WON'T BE HIRED  
UNTIL THE BUDGET IS PASSED?

>> THE REASON WHY WE'RE WORKING  
ON THE JOB DESCRIPTION NOW.

WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WE'RE  
READY TO GO ONCE WE HAVE THE  
RESOURCES IN PLACE.  
>> BUT THIS LAW GOES INTO EFFECT  
SEVEN MONTHS FROM NOW.  
>> RIGHT.  
THE BUDGET HOPEFULLY WITH YOUR  
APPROVAL, WILL GO INTO EFFECT IN  
A COUPLE OF MONTHS THE LAND  
SHOULD GIVE US TIME.  
>> WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THE  
PUBLIC PIECE WE'RE NOT INVOLVED.  
THE ORDINANCE IS WRITTEN, IN THE  
FINAL STAGES OF IT.  
WE'RE GOING TO STEP IT UP IN  
THREE DIFFERENT BASES, PART OF  
OUR CONSTITUENT SERVICES TEAM  
WILL BE BRINGING THIS  
INFORMATION OUT TO THE  
NEIGHBORHOODS.  
SO THAT THEY UNDERSTAND THAT  
THIS IS GOING INTO PLACE.  
WE'RE OBVIOUSLY STARTING WITH A  
MUCH LARGER YOU KNOW BOX STORES  
AND WORKING DOWN.  
>> HAS THAT STARTED ALREADY?  
>> NO IT HAS NOT STARTED.  
WE'RE IN THE LAST STAGES OF  
FINALIZING THE ORDINANCE NOW.  
>> THE ORDINANCE HAS BEEN  
FINALIZED --  
>> SORRY, THE PROCESS.  
>> I THINK WHAT BUDDY IS TALKING  
ABOUT --  
>> CAN BUDDY SPEAK FOR HIMSELF?  
>> I THINK WHAT HE'S JUST  
TALKING ABOUT IS IN TERMS OF  
WHAT LEVEL OF SQUARE FEET WE  
WERE GOING TO START WITH.ABOUT  
AND HOW LONG WE WERE GOING TO  
GIVE EACH OF THOSE DIFFERENT  
LOCATIONS TO COME ONLINE.  
>> OKAY IS THAT WHAT YOU MEANT  
BUDDY?  
>> YES.  
>> OKAY.  
WELL AS SOMEONE WHO WROTE THE  
ORDINANCE I THINK PROCESS WAS  
INCLUDED IN IT.  
AND THE DESCRIPTION WAS LEFT TO  
YOUR BOSSES, OPPORTUNITIES TO  
DECIDE PRIORITIZATION OF THE  
SIZE.  
>> FOR RECORD, MY BOSS IS THE

MAYOR.

>> FAIR ENOUGH.

WELL, THE MAYOR'S CHIEF OF ENERGY ENVIRONMENT, WHO'S SITTING NEXT TO YOU, IT SAYS SPECIFICALLY THAT HE OR SHE WHOMEVER HOLDS THAT POSITION, WILL PRIORITIZE REACHING OUT TO STORES.

NOW, THAT'S FINE.

AND IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THE ORDINANCE, THERE WAS A WHOLE TWO YEAR PERIOD WHERE YOU COULD HAVE WEIGHED IN ON THIS.

SO I'M A LITTLE BIT TAKEN ABACK WITH YOUR TONE TOWARDS HAD RIGHT NOW.

I THINK THAT WHAT -- TOWARDS THIS RIGHT NOW.

I THINK WHAT I'M FINDING A LITTLE BIT DISAPPOINTING IS WE'RE SEVEN MONTHS OUT FROM THIS GOING INTO EFFECT AND I UNDERSTAND THING POSITION NOT BEING FILLED YET BECAUSE OF BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS.

BUT I WOULD URGE YOUR INSPECTOR AND YOUR TEAM TO BEGIN THIS CONVERSATION NOW.

BECAUSE THERE IS A LOT OF TIME, THERE'S A LOT OF QUESTIONS.

I AM FIELDING QUESTIONS NOW.

IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT WE DESPITE MY REQUEST FOR A WEB PAGE TO BE PUT UP, THAT HAS NOT HAPPENED YET AND WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO THAT HASN'T BEEN DONE.

>> I'LL CHECK WITH THE STAFF.

I BELIEVE THAT THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE ON THE WEBSITE, COUNCILOR, I BELIEVE THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE UP AT SOME POINT THIS WEEK. IF IT'S NOT UP ALREADY WE'LL CERTAINLY GET AN UPDATE BACK TO YOU ON THAT.

>> ALL RIGHT.

THE OTHER ORDINANCE THAT I'M VERY PROUD TO HAVE WORKED WITH MY COLLEAGUES ON, PASSING THE PUPPY MILL BILL.

HAVE YOU HAD ANY INSPECTIONS?

I KNOW THERE'S AT LEAST ONE STORY IN THE CHAIRMAN'S

DISTRICT, HAVE YOU GONE IN THERE TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY'RE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAW?

>> THEY HAVE ONE YEAR TO COMPLY I BELIEVE WAS MY UNDERSTANDING FROM LAST COVERING THIS BUT WE HAVEN'T RUN INTO ANY PROBLEMS WITH THIS AT ALL.

>> HAVE YOU GONE INTO CHECK THE EXPIRATION IN JANUARY?

>> THE ADMINISTRATOR IS VERY PROACTIVE, I HAVE NO REPORT OF ANY VIOLATION OF THAT ORDINANCE AT ALL.

>> FINALLY DO YOU CURRENTLY HAVE A LIST?

ANOTHER THING WE'RE LOOKING AT, LOOKING AT THE VACANT PROPERTIES IN TERMS OF OUR BUSINESS PROPERTIES, DOES SUCH A LIST EXIST?

DOES IT COME UNDER YOU OR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT?

>> THAT DOESN'T COME UNDER US, WE DON'T MAINTAIN A LIST OF VACANCIES.

>> THAT'S ALL I HAVE NOW MR. CHAIRMAN.

>> COMG.

COUNCILOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE.>> I HAVE A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS, ONE ON THE ACTUAL BUDGET REPORTING NUMBERS.

YOU HAVE LISTED FY 17, ACTUAL FY 18, THE FY 17 ACTUALS, WAS THAT WHAT WAS SPENT OR APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL?

>> THAT IS WHAT WAS --

>> THAT IS WHAT WAS APPROVED?

CAN YOU TELL US WHAT WAS ACTUALLY SPENT?

I THINK THAT JUST LOOKING THROUGH SOME OF MY OLD NOTES IN THE REPORT IT'S OFF BY A LITTLE BIT BUT I AM CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT THE ACTUAL SPENT WAS.

>> I CAN GET BACK TO YOU ON THAT ONE.

>> THANK YOU.

IT'S MOST HELPFUL TO HAVE THE ACTUAL DATA AND ON THE FY 18, THE CURRENTLY FISCAL YEAR THAT WE'RE IN THE APPROPRIATION WAS 19-3 BUT I THOUGHT LOOKING THROUGH MY NOTES THAT WE

APPROVED 18-5, MAYBE THAT'S ME  
LOOKING BACK.  
MAYBE THAT'S 17.  
ARE WE ON PACE TO SPEND WHAT WAS  
APPROVED LAST YEAR?  
>> WE'LL HAVE THE SURPLUS.  
>> YOU'LL HAVE THE SURPLUS,  
GREAT.  
WHAT'S THE APPROXIMATE SPEND  
THIS YEAR?  
>> 18-FOWRVE.  
>> GOOD -- 18-4.  
>> GOOD TO KNOW.  
WE'LL REFER BACK TO WHAT WAS  
ACTUALLY SPENT, THAT'S AN  
IMPORTANT NUMBER, THAT'S THE  
PROJECTION, GOOD.  
THANK YOU FOR THAT.  
IN 311 AND THE CALLS RELATED TO  
ISD WHAT IS THE GENERAL  
BREAKDOWN FOR THE TYPES OF CALLS  
YOU GET FOR 311 COMMISSIONER?  
>> COUNCILOR, THEY'RE ALL OVER  
THE PLACE.  
OBVIOUSLY ON WEEKENDS IT IS  
ABOUT WORK WITHOUT PERMITS AND  
THE QUESTION OF WORKING WITHOUT  
PERMITS.  
WE ARE PART OF ANYTHING THAT  
HAPPENS IN THE FORM OF A FAILURE  
OR A DANGEROUS SITUATION TO A  
BUILDING.  
DURING THE WEEK THE PRIMARY  
THING IS, IS MY PERMIT FINISHED  
YET?  
>> THAT'S THE 311 CALLS?  
>> THAT'S THREFFN 311 CALLS-311  
CALLS.  
WE GET A HIGH PURGE BUT NOT IN  
THE PREMISE.  
>> ON SHARPS, WE TALKED LAST  
YEAR THERE ARE A LARGE NUMBER OF  
SHAMPTION THAT YOUR DEPARTMENT  
COMES ACROSS.  
CAN YOU TALK ABOUT YOUR  
EXPERIENCE THIS LAST YEAR?  
>> IT'S PRETTY MUCH THE SAME AS  
LAST YEAR, THE SHARPS PROGRAM  
HAS GROWN SO THEY'RE ABLE TO BE  
MORE RESPONSIVE IN PICKUPS.  
BUT WE ARE STILL DEFERRING TO  
THEM IN SITUATIONS WHERE WE RUN  
INTO SHARPS.  
>> AND DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE

COLLECTION NUMBER?  
THE NUMBER OF SHARPS?  
>> NO WE DON'T.  
>> WE THOUGHT MAYBE 30,000 LAST  
YEAR ACROSS THE CITY.  
AND WHAT'S THE DELAY IN A SHARPS  
ISSUE?  
INCIDENT?  
TO THE WORK OF YOUR EMPLOYEES?  
IS THERE A DELAY IN WORK WHEN  
THEY COME ACROSS THE SHARPS?  
IS THERE -- I THINK ONE OF THE  
INCIDENTS FROM LAST YEAR JUST  
REFERRING TO MY NOTES IS THERE  
WAS A HOARDING SITUATION WITH A  
RESIDENT, THEN THERE WAS ANISED  
CALL.  
IS THERE MAN HOURS -- AN F ISD  
CALL.  
>> WHEN WE GO INTO A SITUATION  
THAT WE KNOW IT'S HOARDING WE'LL  
NOTIFY PUBLIC HEALTH, SHARPS  
TEAM THAT WE'RE GOING IN THERE.  
IF WE RUB INTO A SITUATION WHERE  
WE DO HAVE ANEN ABUNDANCE OF  
SHARPS TO BE REMOVED, WE'LL WORK  
AROUND THAT SITUATION.  
THERE ARE A NUMBER OF THINGS WE  
CAN BE DOING.  
I THINK THE SHARPS RECOVERY TEAM  
HAS DONE A FANTASTIC JOB AND I  
KNOW IN DEALING WITH US THEY ARE  
VERY SPOIFER.

-- RESPONSIVE.  
>> NO DOUBT.  
HAS THE TEAM BEEN TRAINED IN  
NEEDLE DISPOSAL AND AWARE OF  
NEEDLE STICKS?  
>> THEY ARE AWARE OF THE  
SITUATION AND TRAINED OBACK OFF  
UNTIL IT'S CLEARED.  
>> NEEDLE PROTOCOLS?  
>> I HAVEN'T SAID WE WOULD  
NOTIFY THENLZ ON THE APPROPRIATE  
DETAILS SO THE PROPER PEOPLE CAN  
DEAL WITH IT.  
>> MANY HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN THE  
APPROPRIATE HANDLING OF NEEDLES,  
PARKS DEPARTMENT OR TEACHING  
STAFF HAS BEEN TRAINED IN NEEDLE  
PROTOCOL.  
IS THAT SOMETHING THAT'S WORTH  
THE INVESTMENT AT ISD TO TRAIN

YOUR EMPLOYEES AT PROPER  
DISPOSAL?

>> I THINK AWARENESS WOULD BE  
APPROPRIATE TO START DEALING  
WITH SHARPS, TAKE THESE PEOPLE  
AWAY FROM THEIR PRIMARILY REASON  
OF LIFE SAFETY IN THE BUILDING.

>> I JUST WANT TO REITERATE  
THAT WE HAVE GOT LIBRARIANS AND  
LIBRARY STAFF THERE DISPOSING OF  
NEEDLES, CUSTODIANS REMOVING,  
PARKS STAFF REMOVING, WE'VE GOT  
FORECAST SHARED WITH PARENTS AND  
LITTLE LEAGUE COACHES ON PROPER  
DISPOSAL OF AND HANDLING OF  
SHARPS.

ON ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL,  
WHAT'S THE PERCENTAGE OF THE  
BUDGET THAT'S SPENT ON THAT  
DEPARTMENT?

>> BUDGET LINE ITEM IN OUR  
BUDGET ACCOUNT, WE CAN TELL YOU  
EXACTLY WHAT IT IS.

>> IT'S PART OF THE WHOLE  
BUDGET.

>> SO THERE ISN'T A SPECIAL -- A  
SEPARATE LINE ITEM FOR ANIMAL  
CONTROL?

>> YOU MEAN THEIR REVOLVE BEING  
FUND?

>> NOT THE REVOLVING FUND.  
HOW MANY -- HOW MANY HEARINGS OR  
HOW IS IT WITH ANIMAL CONTROL  
AND CARE, DOG NUISANCE CALLS OR  
OTHER?

>> YOU CAN TAKE IT UPPER, IT'S  
ON RAN AS NEEDED BASIS.  
WE DO NOT HAVE AS MANY ISSUES WE  
EVOLVE BY DISCUSSIONS -- RESOLVE  
BY DISCUSSIONS FROM SITUATIONS  
THAT DEVELOP.

>> HOW MANY DISCUSSIONS HAVE YOU  
HAD WITH ANIMAL CONTROL?

>> SO WE HAVE FOUR ANIMAL ROOM  
ATTENDANTS.

WE HAVE ONE DIRECTOR STAFF.

>> WHO DOES THAT?

>> AMANDA.

>> WHO IS WONDERFUL, GREAT.

>> WE HAVE AN ADMINISTRATIVE  
ASSISTANT STAFFER.

WE HAVE -- WE HAVE TWO  
SUPERVISOR DOG OFFICERS.

AND THE ACTUAL ALLOWANCE OF DOG



OFFICERS, HOLD ON ONE SECOND.

>> EIGHT.

>> SO THERE ARE 15 ALTOGETHER THAT ARE FOCUSED ON ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL.

>> AND ONE CLERICAL STAFF AT THE SHELTER AND TWO CLERICAL STAFF AT ISD THAT WORK DIRECTLY WITH ANIMAL CONTROL.

>> GREAT.

I THINK THAT AS THE -- I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO SAY THIS RIGHT -- WE GET CALLS INTO OUR OFFICE ABOUT CHALLENGES WITH OFF-HERE DOGS IN MANY OF OUR PARKS.

AND IT'S SOME DOGS THAT ARE WELL BASED AND SOME, THE OWNERS ARE BETTER BASED THAN OTHER OWNERS. BUT SORT OF BALANCING THAT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DOG OWNERS, DOGS OFF OF LEASH AND IN SOME OF OUR PARKS WHERE IT'S PROBABLY NOT MOST APPROPRIATE FOR DOGS TO BE, IF THERE'S Ç HAPPENING OR A SOCCER GAME HAPPENING.

THE CALL UNFORTUNATELY COULD GO IN ABOUT AN OFF LEASH DOG BUT WHEN WE'RE NOT NECESSARILY STAFFED 400% OR 800%, AT EVERY PARK AT THE CITY, IT IS ONE OF THE CHALLENGES WE FACE AS COUNCILORS FOR THE CALLS WE GET. BUT ALSO ADD AT THE BALL FIELD WITH THE KIDS, GETTING A QUICK RESPONSE IS REALLY DIFFICULT. SO I DON'T KNOW IF YOU COULD TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THAT.

>> WHAT WE'VE DONE IS WE'VE PRIORITIZED THE ANIMAL CALLS THAT COME IN.

AND OFF LEASH IS NOT A -- IT'S NOT THE NUMBER 1 OR NUMBER 2 RESPONSE TIME.

A DANGEROUS DOG SITUATION IS DEFINITELY NUMBER 1.

IF YOU ARE AT A BALLPARK AND THERE IS A DOG THAT'S EXHIBITING YOU KNOW AGGRESSION, AS FAR AS THE OFF LEASH DOGS WE'RE WORK HARD WITH THE PARKS DEPARTMENT AND IT'S ABOUT AN EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT GOES IN.

WE DO HAVE THE AUTHORITY AND  
ISSUE TICKETS TO PEOPLE WHO  
DON'T CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR PETS  
OR WHO ARE NOT ON LEASH.

AGAIN THAT'S ALMOST A  
CASE-BY-CASE STORY WHETHER IT'S  
SUCCESSFUL OR NOT.

>> CAN WE TELL WHERE SOME OF  
THOSE CALLS ARE COMING FROM THE  
MOST AND TO PRIORITIZE WHERE WE  
SHOULD BE ADDING DOG RUNS AND  
DOG PARKS?

>> WE DO, N TREAT PARK WAS THE  
BIGGEST AND WE HAVE THE BEST DOG  
PARK RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET.  
BUT M STREET WAS BY FAR THE  
BIGGEST RM RONAN PARK WAS  
ANOTHER ONE THAT HAD A LOT OF  
DOG CALLS.

WHEN THE OFFICERS ARE NOT BEING  
DISPATCHED ON THE CALL AND IN  
THE CITY, WE HAVE THEM LITERALLY  
WALK AROUND SO THEY ARE USING  
THEIR TIME.

>> I KNOW ONE OF THE MAYOR'S  
COFFEE HOURS AMANDA WAS THERE  
AND HAD TO WRITE A TICKET FOR  
SOMEBODY, FOR I THINK AN  
AGGRESSIVE DOG.

IT'S UNFORTUNATE BUT IT IS A  
COMBINATION OF EDUCATION AND  
GREATER AWARENESS.

MY LAST QUESTION IS ABOUT THE  
CAPITAL PROJECT FOR THE ANIMAL  
SHELTER AND THE BUILDING PROGRAM  
ANY ASSESSMENT OF SITING OPTION  
HE.

>> THE BUDGET OFFICE HAS STARTED  
AN INVESTMENT INTO THAT PLANNING  
DEPARTMENT, THEY'VE ALLOCATED A  
\$100,000 STUDY FOR SITE  
DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROJECT.

WE KNOW WE HAVE TWO SITES RIGHT  
NOW THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT BUT IT  
WAS FELT IT WAS MORE IMPORTANT  
TO DO A MORE COMPREHENSIVE  
CITYWIDE STUDY AS OPPOSED TO  
WORK WE HAD DONE AT ISD AND IN  
THE MEANTIME, PROPERTY  
MANAGEMENT IS MAINTAINING THE  
BUILDING AT MAHLER ROAD.

>> ARE WE LOOKING FOR A LOCATION  
THAT WE ALSO OWN?

>> WE HAVEN'T STARTED TO STUDY

IT COUNCILOR.

OBVIOUSLY, PREFER TO PRIORITIZE PROPERTY THAT WE OWN BUT IF IT PROVES THERE'S A BETTER LOCATION FOR ANOTHER REASON I'M SURE THAT'S NOT OFF THE TABLE.

>> JUST AS A CITY WE HAVE A LOT OF LEASES THAT WE'RE SPENDING SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF MONEY ON PROPERTY WE DON'T OWN AS A CITY. SO I WOULD -- I WOULD HOPE THAT THERE'S A PRIORITY, IF NOT ONLY AN EXCLUSIVE SEARCH OF PROPERTY THAT WE OWN AS A CITY OR IF THERE WAS A PARTNERSHIP WITH A STATE AGENCY, PERHAPS, SO THAT WE AREN'T LEASING, AND SPENDING RESOURCES FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY. THAT'S IT FOR ME CHAIR, THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> COUNCILOR CAMPBELL.

>> THANK YOU MR. CHAIR.

YOUR RESPECTIVE PHARMACISTS ARE AMAZING AND AMANDA IS VERY RESPONSIVE AND GETS A LOT OF THINGS DONE.

THANK YOU.

MOST OF MY QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ASKED AND ANSWERED.

I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE AS OF RIGHT HEARING WE HELD. COMMISSIONER THANK YOU FOR BEING THERE.

THE GOAL WAS TO TAKE SOME OF THE IDEAS WE HAD AND HEARING FROM FOLKS SINCE THAT HEARING TO COMPILE WHAT WE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT FOR SHORT TERM AND LONG TERM SOLUTIONS, EXPAND COMMUNITY PROCESS, I KNOW WE ALSO TALKED ABOUT ZONING AND CHANGING ZONING AND THE COMPLICATIONS AND THE HEAVY LIFT THAT THAT IS, PARTICULARLY HAVING TO INTERFACE WITH THE STATE HOUSE.

BUT AT SOME POINT LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVING A WORKING SESSION, HAVING YOU BACK TO TALK THROUGH SOME OF THESE IDEAS GIVEN YOUR EXPERTISE AND THOSE OF YOUR TEAM.

I'D BE CURIOUS JUST ON SOME OF

THE THINGS WE DID TALK ABOUT  
AROUND NOTIFICATION, WHETHER IT  
WAS E-MAILS GOING OUT, NOTIFYING  
NOT JUST OWNERS OF RECORD BUT  
TENANTS IN THE BUILDINGS WHO  
FRANKLY LIVE THERE AND THE OWNER  
MAY LIVE OUTSIDE OF BOSTON.  
I'M ASSUMING THAT'S GOING TO  
REQUIRE SOME LEVEL OF RESOURCE  
OR MAYBE IT WON'T BE.  
I DON'T KNOW.

>> I'VE HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH O  
AND S ABOUT THE BEST WAY TO  
DEVELOP THIS.  
FIRST PASS ON IT IS TO DEVELOP A  
WEB BASE PIECE OF INFORMATION.  
SO THAT EVERYONE COULD HAVE  
ACCESS TO IT.  
AS I DISCUSSED THAT NIGHT AT THE  
GREAT HALL, THAT WE DON'T KEEP  
RECORDS OF RESIDENTS.  
WE KEEP RESIDENTS OF OWNERS.  
SO THAT PIECE -- WE KEEP RECORDS  
OF OWNERS.  
THAT IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT, WE  
HAVE MORE RESIDENTS THAN WE DO  
OWNERS.

WE THOUGHT THE WEB BASED  
SOLUTION MIGHT BE THE BEST WAY  
FOR ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED TO  
BE ABL TO HAVE ACCESS TO THAT  
INFORMATION.  
>> AND IF WE SENT -- SO WE HAVE  
BUT FOR EXAMPLE, WE COULD SEE  
THAT OWNERS USE AN ADDRESS IN  
DORCHESTER AGAIN, OCEAN STREET,  
WE SEE THAT THE OWNER OF RECORD,  
ANOTHER ADDRESS POPS UP FOR THAT  
PERSON.

AND IN THAT CASE, WHAT MIGHT IT  
COST TO ACTUALLY SEND A MAILING  
NOTIFICATION TO THAT ADDRESS AS  
WELL AS THE OWNER OF RECORD AT  
THE OTHER ADDRESS?

>> WHAT ARE WE SAYING ON  
MAILINGS FOR THE BOARD OF  
APPEALS RIGHT NOW?  
>> BOARD OF APPEAL MAILING, UP  
FORMULATE, 000 A YEAR.  
>> THAT IS JUST FOR COURT OF  
PEAMS ACTION HE.  
>> I MEAN SOME OF THAT IS WHAT I  
LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING.  
>> -- APPEALS ACTION HE.

>> SOME OF THAT, I THINK SOME ARE REALLY REASONABLE AND WORTH IT. PARTICULARLY IF FORECAST SAID I DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT, ACTUALLY WE SENT INFORMATION OUT TO YOU, IF THEY DON'T SHOW UP THAT'S DIFFERENT.

>> WE ARE EXPLORING AS MANY POSSIBILITIES AS WE CAN. THE WEB IS ONE VERY EFFECTIVE TOOL NOT ALL ENCOMPASSING. THERE ARE OTHER METHODS THAT ARE BEING USED THROUGH OTHER DEPARTMENTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY THAT WE'RE LOOKING INTO NOW. EACH CARRIES A FINANCIAL BURDEN, WE'VE GOT TO ADDRESS, HOW DO WE PAY FOR THESE THINGS TO BE DONE. SO WE'RE HOPING TO HAVE SOME MORE STUFF.

SO THE WORKING SESSION WOULD BE THE BEST VENUE FOR US TO BE ABLE TO EXPLAIN AND DISCUSS THIS.

>> THAT'S GREAT, WEB BASED, THAT WOULD BE GREAT FOR PEOPLE TO GET THAT.

IF THERE'S A SYSTEM WHERE THEY CAN SORT OF GO INTO AS WELL AS CONSTITUENTS, THAT WOULD BE GREAT.

I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE QUESTIONS AFTER THAT.

I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION DURING THE WORKING SESSION.

I WILL SAY I'M AN ENERGY PERSON SO THAT LITTLE TIT-FOR-TAT OR WHATEVER THAT WAS, FRANKLY WAS REALLY UNCOMFORTABLE BUT I WILL SAY WE ARE NOT ALWAYS GOING TO AGREE ON ALL THE ISSUES OR THE PROCESSES.

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.

I THINK WE EACH REPRESENT DIFFERENT DISTRICTS OR THE CITY AS A WHOLE SO HOW DO WE WORK TOGETHER TO MOVE THINGS FORWARD? HOW DO WE STAY IN COMMUNICATION AS WE'RE DOING THIS? HOW DO WE OF COURSE ACKNOWLEDGE THE HARD WORK YOU GUYS HAVE AND VICE VERSA, THE I GOT AN EMMY

E-MAIL FROM A GUY WHO KEPT GOING ON AND ON, AND WAS FRANKLY CRAZY.

PARTNERSHIP WITH YOU GUYS, IF THAT DOESN'T FEEL THAT WAY, LET'S CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION TO CHANGE THAT.

COMMISSIONER, THANK YOU FOR THAT, YOU GUYS THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR HARD WORK THAT YOU GUYS DO.

>> THANK YOU, COUNSELOR FLYNN.  
>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR CIOMMO.  
WATER AND SEWERS IN YOUR OFFICE AS IT RELATES TO FOUR POINT AND THE FLOODING THAT'S TAKING PLACE DOWN THERE?

WHAT STEPS ARE YOU TAKING?  
WHAT ARE SOME OF THE PUBLIC OUTREACH THAT YOU'RE DOING?  
I KNOW THAT YOU'RE WORKING HARD DOWN THERE BUT IF YOU CAN GIVE US A LITTLE BACKGROUND INFORMATION THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL.

>> SURE, ABSOLUTELY, BOSTON WATER AND SEWER IS ONE OF OUR MAJOR PARTNERS, CLIMATE RATE BOSTON, IN PARTICULAR AS IT RELATES TO THE FOUR POINT CHANNEL AND SOUTH BOSTON AS QUELL.

-- AS WELL.

WHERE WE ARE VULNERABLE TO IMPACTS OF SEA LEVEL RISE BUT ALSO FROM A CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS PERSPECTIVE AS WELL.

SO LOOKING AT THAT FROM OUR STORM WATER INFRASTRUCTURE WHERE WE WORK VERY CLOSELY WITH THE MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCE HE AUTHORITY AND THE BOSTON WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION.

THE FOUR POINT CHANNEL AS WELL AS SOME OF THE WORK WE HAVE DONE IN CHARLES TOWN AND EAST BOSTON, TO UNDERSTAND WHAT ARE THE CONCEPTUAL PROJECT THAT WE CAN DO, GET THOSE TO A PLACE WHERE THEY'RE SHOVEL READY SO WE CAN MOVE FORWARD AND IMPLEMENT THEM. WE'VE ANNOUNCED SOME PROJECTS IN EAST BOSTON AND CHARLES TOWN ALREADY, PROTECTING EAST BOSTON

WITH A TEMPORARY WALL AND SOLVENT SQUARE AREA AS IT RELATES TO THE FOUR POINT CHANNEL AND THE WORK WE'RE DOING THERE, ONE OF THE CHALLENGES IS WE HAVE GOT QUITE A FEW PRIVATE SEWERS THAT HAVE BEEN UNMARKED, AND SO THE BOSTON WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY IS CONTINUING TO EVALUATE SOME OF THOSE AREAS. BECAUSE IF THEY'RE NOT PROPERLY EQUIPPED THEY CAN ACTUALLY BE FLOOD-ENTRY PATHWAYS IF THE TIDE COMES HIGH ENOUGH.

EVEN IF YOU HAVE A FLOOD WALL OR ADDITIONAL PROTECTION, IF THE WEIGHT OF THE WATER CAN PUSH THROUGH, BE IN THROUGH THOSE CHANNELS THEN YOU CAN ACTUALLY GET BACK CHANNELS INTO THE STREET.

AND SO THAT'S A MAJOR COMPONENTS OF THE WORK THAT THE BOSTON WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION IS DOING.

WE WORK VERY CLOSELY AS WELL WITH THE BOSTON WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT.

WE HAVE MARTINS POINT, WE ARE MAKING EFFORT TO MAKE THAT PARK MORE CLIMATE RESILIENT AS WELL, AND WE WORK CLOSELY WITH THE BOSTON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AS THEY REVIEW PROJECTS AND HAVE CONVERSATIONS WITH SOME OUR PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON, THEY USE THE ANALYSIS AND THE PROJECTIONS THAT WE HAVE IN TERMS OF THE ELEVATIONS AND THE FOUR POINT CHANNEL SOUTH BOSTON AND ELSEWHERE TO HELP THE DEVELOPERS UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY NEED TO DO WITH THEIR SITE AND THEIR BUILDINGS IN ORDER TO MAKE THEM CLIMATE-PREPARED AS FAR INTO THE FUTURE AS POSSIBLE.

>> THANK YOU CHIEF.

I HAVE ONE FURTHER QUESTION FOR THE COMMISSIONER, I WAS IN THE SOUTH END DURING YOUR BLOCK CLEANUPS WITH SOME OF THE RESIDENTS THERE.

MANY CONCERNS ABOUT THE RAT PROBLEM.

ESPECIALLY IN CHINATOWN AND THE BAY VILLAGE AS WELL. ARE DEVELOPERS AND CONTRACTORS DOING ENOUGH EFFECTIVELY SETTING THE TRAPS MAKING I.T. EASIER TO CATCH THESE RATS OR DO WE NEED TO BE WORKING CLOSER WITH THEM TO GIVE THEM MORE INSTRUCTION ON HOW TO DO THIS?

>> ON A CONSTRUCTION SITE THEY'RE REQUIRED TO DO AN INSPECTION PRE-DEVELOPMENT. MAINTAIN CATCHING DURING THE PROJECT AND THEN POSTDEVELOPMENT POINT OF VIEW.

WE FOUND WHAT WORKED THE BEST IN CHINATOWN, WE DID A BLOCK BY BLOCK PROGRAM WHERE WE WENT OUT AND EXPLAINED HOW TO MANAGE SOME OF THE TRASH, WORKING WITH PUBLIC WORKS, WE ACTUALLY CHANGED SOME OF THE COLLECTION PROCESSES IN CHINATOWN. AND TO ME THAT'S THE BIGGEST THING.

SO I THINK CONTRACTORS ARE DOING THEIR JOB.

THEY COULD ALWAYS BE MORE VIGILANT AS WE DO IT.

BUT IT'S ALSO THE MANAGEMENT OF A LOT OF OUR TRASH IS THE SOURCE OF A LOT OF INACTION.

>> ONE STREET I WAS AT OVER THE WEEKEND, PRIVATE STREET, OXFORD PLACE IN CHINATOWN.

AND I WAS WALKING BY THERE ON SATURDAY, LOT OF RATS RUNNING AROUND.

BUT SINCE IT'S A PRIVATE STREET IS THERE STILL A RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON TO DO ANY SETTING OF TRAPS IN THAT AREA?

>> WE'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL PUBLIC WAYS.

SO WE DO THAT.

WE DO GO FURTHER INTO THE CASE WHERE THERE'S A DISPUTE OF OWNERSHIP OR ABSENTEE OWNERSHIP. USUALLY IF YOU SEE RATS, THERE'S NOT RATS BY THEMSELVES, USUALLY A TRASH SITUATION THAT'S ASSOCIATED WITH IT.

THAT'S THE THING WE CAN BE THE MOST PROACTIVE WITH.



TO KILL THAT SOURCE.  
>> THANK YOU COMMISSIONER, MAYBE WE CAN TALK OFFLINE, IT'S THERE, MAYBE WE CAN TALK ABOUT SOME TYPE OF PSA ANNOUNCEMENT FOR RESIDENTS. AND BUSINESS OWNERS, IN CHINATOWN, AS IT RELATES TO THIS ISSUE AND MAYBE I CAN GET A LITTLE BIT OF FEEDBACK FOR YOU AS WELL.  
>> WE HAVE OUR TEAMS COME OUT TO ANY GROUP THAT WANTS TO COME IT OUNDER TALK ABOUT IT. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE AN ORGANIZED BUSINESS ASSOCIATION, BUT A GROUP OF NEIGHBORS WANT TO GET TOGETHER OR BUSINESS OWNERS WE'RE MORE THAN HAPPY TO EXPLAIN IT.  
>> THAT WOULD BE GREAT. I'D LIKE TO MAYBE ARRANGE THAT OVER THE NEXT MONTH OR SO.  
>> ABSOLUTELY HAPPY TO DO SO COUNSELOR.  
>> THANK YOU COMMISSIONER.  
>> THANK YOU COUNCILOR WU.  
>> I'M GOOD, I'LL FOLLOW UP OFFLINE.  
>> COUNCILOR FLAHERTY.  
>> QUICK FOLLOW-UP ON MY NOTES HERE.  
STAY WITH ME ONE SECOND, I GOT TO FIND MY NOTES HERE.  
WE'RE GOING TO BE MEETING ON THIS FAIRLY SOON COMMISSIONER ON SANDWICH BOARDS.  
CAN YOU TELL US THE SUCCESS HOW IT STANDS NOW, CURRENTLY IN A PILOT FORM.  
>> YES.  
>> AND WE'RE LOOKING TO BE SORT OF --  
>> FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, CODE ENFORCEMENT IS THE RECORDING BODY OF VIOLATIONS AND THINGS. WE'RE TOLD BY THEM THAT THE VIOLATIONS ARE LESS THAN FIVE SINCE THE PROGRAM WENT INTO PLACE.  
FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW THE PROGRAM SEEMS TO BE WORKING.  
>> ONE OF THE CONCERNS WE HAD IF YOU RECALL IT, CIRNS OVER THE

LANDLORD -- CONCERNS OVER THE  
LANDLORD SORT OF DICTATING OR  
WHOEVER WAS PAYING THE HIGHEST  
RENT GOT THE BIGGEST SPOT ON THE  
SANDWICH BOARD.

ARE YOU SEEING ANY OF THAT?

>> WE'RE SEEING MULTIPLE  
SANDWICH BOARDS BASED ON THE  
NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS IN THE  
BUILDING.

THAT WAS THE BIGGEST COMPLAINT,  
THE CONCERN WAS ONE BILLBOARD OR  
ONE SANDWICH BOARD WOULD RESULT  
IN A COTTAGE INDUSTRY, THAT  
WOULD BE THE SPACE FOR  
ADVERTISING, WHEREAS WHEN  
EVERYBODY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS  
OWN, WE WOULD HOPE TO  
DEFEAT THAT BEFORE IT HAPPENED.

>> ESSENTIALLY BLOCK PEOPLE'S  
PATH -- PATHWAYS ON THE STREET.

>> WE HAVE LIMITED THE HEIGHT OF  
THE BILLBOARD, SIZE OF THE  
BILLBOARD.

SANDWICH BOARD THAT'S A BIG  
MISTAKE.

WE'RE NOT SEEING THE PROBLEM  
BEING REPORTED TO US.

WE WILL DOUBLE CHECK WITH CODE  
ENFORCEMENT BUT MY LAST  
DISCUSSION WITH THEM WAS VERY,  
VERY MINIMAL INFRACTIONS.

>> AND YOU WERE ON IT THIS YEAR  
AND OBVIOUSLY AS WE'RE MOVING  
FORWARD INTO THE FALL, THE FOCUS  
HAS BEEN, IT'S PRIMARILY BEEN  
IN.

COUNCILOR CIOMMO'S DISTRICT.  
MANY OF THE OTHER NEIGHBORHOODS  
ARE GETTING THE GRADUATE  
STUDENTS.

BUT IT SEEMS AS THOUGH OFF IN  
BRIGHTON AND MISSION HILL, WE  
ARE SEEING THAT SPREAD INTO  
OTHER POCKETS OF THE CITY.

>> OTHER PARTS OF THE CITY YES.

>> YOU WERE ON IT LAST YEAR AND  
I ASK YOU TO CONTINUE TO BE  
VIGILANT, SOUTH BOSTON, EAST  
BOSTON, CHARLESTOWN, HUGE  
INFLUX.

AS MORE JOBS ARE COMING HERE  
FOLKS WHO USED TO GET THE  
DIPLOMA AND HEAD BACK TO WHERE

THEY CAME IN ARE STAYING IN  
BOSTON AND STAYING IN MANY  
DIFFERENT NEIGHBORHOODS OUTSIDE  
THE TRADITIONAL WHERE THERE'S A  
HEAVY STUDENT POPULATION.  
>> STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT  
IS SHOWING TO US THERE'S A MIEG  
RACE ACROSS THE CITY.  
THE PAST THREE YEARS WE'VE --  
MIGRATION ACROSS THE CITY.  
WE'VE TAKEN GREAT PRIDE OF THE  
WORK WE'VE DONE  
INTERDEPARTMENTALLY ACROSS THE  
BOARD.  
WE'VE SEEN LESS OF AN IMPACT IN  
THE THREE PRIME NEIGHBORHOODS  
THAT WE'VE ALWAYS SEEN AS THE  
IMPACT.  
WE DO MONITOR ACROSS THE CITY  
AND EVEN AT WEEKENDS WE PUT  
TEAMS OUT IN ALL THE DIFFERENT  
AREAS.  
>> I KNOW COUNCILOR CIOMMO  
TELLING ME, TALKING ABOUT HOW  
MANY MOVING TRUCKS WOULD BE  
ROLLING IN AND AROUND THE STREET  
AND WE GOT A LITTLE BIT OF A  
TEAFERS OF IT.  
-- TASTE OF IT.  
>> SOUTH BOSTON IS ONE OF THE  
NEIGHBORHOODS WE SAW A LOT OF  
MOVING TRUCKS.  
NOT NEARLY THE CONCENTRATION  
LIKE MISSION HILL OR, YOU KNOW.  
WE ARE ON TOP OF THAT.  
>> THANK YOU.  
>> AND LET ME JUST FOLLOW UP TO  
SAY, THAT I'VE SEEN A TREMENDOUS  
IMPROVEMENT AND I THINK IT'S A  
LOT AND DUE TO THE THINGS WE DO  
IN ADVANCE OF THE FIRST OF THE  
YEAR HAVING YOUR INSPECTORS OUT  
THERE IN FULL FORCE DOING THE  
EDUCATION PIECE.  
AND I WANT TO APPLAUD YOU.  
IT'S BEEN VERY SMOOTH THE PAST  
SEVERAL YEARS.  
AND GREAT WORKING WITH YOU ON  
THAT.  
COUNCILOR BAKER.  
>> THANK YOU MR. CHAIR.  
MARY HOW ARE YOU TODAY?  
GOOD, JUST A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS  
QUICKLY UNDER CONTRACTED

SERVICES.  
TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS.  
WHAT LIKE CAN YOU EXPLAIN THAT  
TO ME?  
>> YOU MEAN THE INSPECTOR AMOUNT  
OR IN GENERAL?  
>> UNDER DEPARTMENT HISTORY  
CONTRACTED HISTORY LINE 5.2-800,  
TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS.  
>> THE MAJORITY OF THAT IS THE  
STIPEND THAT THE INSPECTORS GET  
FOR USING THEIR CAR TO DO  
INSPECTIONS.  
>> THEY'RE IN THEIR OWN PERSONAL  
VEHICLES SO THEY GET GAS MONEY  
AND THAT SORT OF STUFF?  
>> IT'S CONTRACTUAL.  
>> UNDER THAT LINE IT SAYS  
CONTRACTED SERVICES.  
WHAT WOULD THAT ENCOMPASS?  
IS THAT MOST OF THEIR I.T. OR --  
>> JUST SOME --  
>> LAWYERS?  
>> NO, THE BOARD OF APPEALS  
HEARINGS, IN THE BOSTON IS LIKE  
95,000, PRINTING, CONSTABLE  
SERVICES FOR THE INSPECTORS FOR  
LEGAL PROCESSES TO BE SERVED.  
SO JUST ODDS AND ENDS.  
>> HOW MUCH IS YOUR PRINTING  
THEN?  
>> \$30,000.  
>> YOU PROBABLY TO DO A LOT OF  
IT ON COPYING MCHES AND THAT -- MACHINES  
AND STUFF NOW.  
>> WE MISS NORTH STREET VERY  
MUCH.  
>> THANK YOU.  
BUDDY, WHO OWNS YOUR BUILDING  
YOU'RE IN?  
>> PROPERTY MANAGEMENT.  
>> IS THAT PROPERTY MANAGEMENT?  
>> YES.  
>> SO THEY ALSO OWN THE ANIMAL  
SHELTER?  
>> WHY.

-- YES.  
>> THEY MANAGE THE MAINTENANCE  
IN THAT BUILDING?  
>> THE SYSTEMS, YES.  
REFRIGERATE SYSTEMS THAT IS  
THEIR REFRIGERATION SYSTEMS.  
>> A DIFFERENT GROUP COMES IN

AND DOGS THE CLEANING.

>> SO THAT COMES OUT OF YOUR BUDGET?

>> NO.

WE PAY A PORTION OF THE BUILDING AS DO ALL THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS, AND THAT IS INCLUDED IN THAT.

>> AND SO THE LOT ACROSS THE STREET, THAT'S OWNED BY PROPERTY MANAGEMENT?

>> YES IT IS.

YOU.

>> YOU MAY KNOW, YOU MAY NOT KNOW, DISCUSSIONS AROUND IS THERE ANY DISCUSSION AROUND THAT?

>> THERE ARE A LOT OF DISCUSSIONS AROUND THAT, THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE INTERESTED IN THAT LOT GOING FORWARD. THE MAYOR HAS SET UP A COMMUNITY TO LOOK AT THE UNDERUSE OF CITY OWNED PROPERTIES AND/OR BUILDINGS.

SO THAT'S ONE OF THE LOTS THAT'S BEING CONSIDERED IN THAT PROGRAM AS WHAT WOULD BE A BETTER USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THAT BUILDING.

>> WHO'S ON THAT COMMITTEE?

DO WE KNOW?

DO WE HAVE A SENSE?

>> I'D HAVE TO GET BACK TO YOU ON THE EXACT FORECAST.

I KNOW IT'S 10-10 HAS COME UNDER QUITE A FEW DIFFERENT EVALUATIONS, ALONG WITH REVIEW BOSTON TRUST, IT IS ALSO PART OF AS COMMISSIONER CHRISTOPHER WAS MENTIONS, TO SEE IF CITY OWNED LAND COULD BE REDEVELOPED AS SOME OF OUR OTHER PARCELS AROUND THE CITY.

BUT IT'S ONE OF THE LARGEST OPPORTUNITIES WE HAVE BOTH IN TERMS OF ITS LOCATION AND ITS ENERGY USE TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS EITHER FOR HOUSING OR IN TERMS OF THE --

>> YOU TALKING 1010 OR THE PARKING LOT ACROSS THE STREET?

>> BOTH.

FROM AN ENERGY PERSPECTIVE, 10-10, BOTH THE PARKING LOT AS

WELL AS 1010 MASS AV AS WELL AS  
A HANDFUL OF PROPERTIES NEARBY  
THAT COMMERCE CHRISTOPHER  
MENTIONED.

>> I'M NOT SURE IT'S APPROPRIATE  
FOR HOUSING, MY TWO CENTS THERE.

>> IT'S IN THAT PROGRAM TO LOOK  
AT WHAT WOULD BE THE RIGHT USE  
THERE.

>> SO THIS BOARD, THEY'RE  
LITERALLY JUST GOING THROUGH  
PROPERTIES?

>> THE BIG ANNOUNCEMENTS TWO  
MONTHS AGO, THREE MONTHS AGO,  
WITH FIELDING SUGGESTIONS FOR  
PROPERTY, HE LISTED ALL OF THE  
CITY OWNED PROPERTIES.  
THERE WAS A PRESS RELEASE ON IT  
AND EVERYTHING, I DON'T KNOW THE  
EXACT DATE.

I CAN GET YOU A COPY OF IT.  
I KNOW I HAVE IT AT THE OFFICE.  
>> AND AGAIN ON THE SERVICES, I  
DON'T KNOW WHY WE HAVE  
MULTICOMPANIES IN YOUR BUILDING  
TAKING CARE OF THAT.

AGAIN WE SHOULD BE LOOKING AT  
HOW WE CREATE JOBS AND, YOU  
KNOW, THOSE COULD BE JOBS THAT  
WE COULD GIVE TO PEOPLE IN THE  
CITY.

>> THAT'S A BROKEN RECORD NOW  
SO.

>> THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME NOW.

>> COUNCILOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE?

>> I'M OKAY.

>> ANYBODY ELSE?

ALL SET, GREAT.

I JUST WANTED TO ASK YOU A  
COUPLE OF QUICK QUESTIONS.  
LAST YEAR AT THIS TIME YOU  
REPORTED I THINK 1 SCEARCH,000  
REGISTERED UNITS.

>> WE'RE UP TO ALMOST 170 AT  
THIS POINT.

>> IS THAT ALMOST 100%?

>> IT'S THE TARGET THAT WE'RE  
LOOKING AT.

I THINK OUR GUESSTIMATES ARE AS  
HIGH AS 234,000 AND A BIG  
PORTION OF THOSE ARE PUBLIC  
HOUSING AND THINGS THAT ARE  
EXPLODED.

>> I GOT YOU, YES.

>> LAST TWO YEARS WE HAVE BIG JUMPS BUT WE'RE CREATING A DATABASE AS WE ARE MOVING FORWARD.

>> WHAT ABOUT, I CAN GET THIS STUFF OFFLINE. PROBLEM PROPERTIES, INCREASE, DECLINES, FLAT?

>> WELL PUBLIC PROPERTIES IS ABOUT THE SAME. PROBLEM PROPERTIES THAT'S ALWAYS CHANGING. THEY HAVE DEFINED THEIR GOALS THAT WE HAVE GIVEN TO THEM.

>> THERE'S ALWAYS A REPLACEMENT.

>> ALWAYS A REPLACEMENT.

>> OKAY, AND THE FIVE YEAR INSPECTION, WE'RE KIND OF GETTING PASTE THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD -- PAST THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD.

WHAT PERCENTAGE DO YOU THINK WE'RE AT?

>> WE SEE A BIG INCREASE IN PEOPLE APPLYING FOR THEM. THE APPLICATION PROCESS IS A LITTLE MORE RIGOROUS THAN THE STANDARD INSPECTION, AND YOU HAVE TO HAVE A VERY CLEAN HISTORY ON YOUR PROPERTY TO BE PART OF THAT. BUT THE LARGER DEVELOPMENTS ARE SEEING THAT IT'S A REAL BENEFIT TO THEM, IT'S A BENEFIT TO US AS WELL.

WE ARE SEEING THAT STEADILY GROW.

>> COUNCILOR BAKER THAT IS ONE QUESTION.

>> ONE MORE QUESTION. BUDDY WITH EVERYTHING GOING OVER AT U \$MASS AND US -- UMASS AND US TRYING TO ADVOCATE COME IN FRONT OF US FOR PLANNING OR ZONING WHATEVER THAT PERMIT IS GOING TO LOOK LIKE DO YOU GUYS HAVE ANY ROLE IN ANY OF THAT BUILDING OR IS THAT ALL STATE?

>> IT IS ALL STATE PROPERTY. WE WILL SUPPORT OUR STATE COUNTERPARTS AS THEY ASK US TO, OCCASIONALLY THEY WILL, I KNOW WE'RE DOING ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS AT SOUTH STATION,

BUT THAT IS TOTALLY THE PURVIEW  
OF THE STATE.  
>> IF THAT GOES PUBLIC-PRIVATE  
AND THERE IS INSTITUTIONAL USE  
AND ALSO HOUSING AND WHATEVER  
ELSE HAPPENS OVER THERE THEY'LL  
INSPECT ALL OF THAT EVEN IF IT'S  
A PRIVATE DEVELOPER BUILDING  
HOUSING WE WON'T EVEN GET A LOOK  
AT THAT?  
>> THERE ARE SOME GUIDELINES  
THAT HAVE TO GO INTO ANY STATE  
LAND BEING DEVELOPED IN THE  
STATE.  
AND I CAN'T QUOTE IT EXACTLY BUT  
I KNOW THE STATE HAS TO OWN A  
PIECE OF IT IN ORDER FOR IT TO  
REMAIN OUTSIDE OF OUR REVIEW  
THROUGH THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT.  
>> OKAY.  
THANK YOU.  
>> GREAT.  
I'LL ADD MY VOICE TO THE CHORUS  
OF PEOPLE.  
LOOKING AT YOUR BUDGET BEING  
VERY FLAT, YOUR PERSONNEL LINE  
IS PROBABLY ONLY GONE UP TO  
SATISFY SOME CONTRACTS, UNION  
CONTRACTS.  
AND I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU'RE  
DOING IT BUT I THINK YOU HAVE A  
LOT OF SUPPORT HERE TO LOOK AT  
MORE EMPLOYEES AND WE HAD A  
CONVERSATION EARLIER DIFFICULT  
RECRUITING THEM RIGHT NOW BUT  
ANYTHING WE CAN DO TO HELP ISD  
IMPACTS THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF  
ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS.  
>> THE ONE REQUEST I ALWAYS HAVE  
IS NOTIFICATION.  
YOU SEE SOMETHING YOU GOT TO  
TELL US.  
AROUND THE SOONER AND MORE  
FREQUENT THE MORE WE'RE ABLE TO  
GET OUR RESOURCES OUT THERE.  
>> THANK YOU BUDSY, THANK YOU  
AUSTIN, MARY, THANK YOU TOO YOUR  
WHOLE TEAM AND ALL THE FOLKS OUT  
IN THE FIELD THAT RESPOND TO ALL  
OF THE COMPLAINTS WE GET ON A  
REGULAR BASIS.  
THIS HEARING IS ADJOURNED.  
[ GAVEL STRIKE ]