



Offered by Councilor Timothy McCarthy and
Council President Michelle Wu
O'MALLEY, FLAHERTY, CIOMMO, PRESSLEY AND JACKSON

CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING INCONSISTENCIES IN COMMUTER RAIL FARES AND THE EFFECT OF THIS POLICY ON LOCAL COMMUNITIES

- WHEREAS, Commuter Rail fares are based on a "Zone" and "Interzone" system with Zone 1A servicing Greater Boston area and Zones 1-10 servicing communities outside of Boston; and
- WHEREAS, Some Greater Boston Neighborhoods are in Zone 1 and there are inconsistencies and inequities in fares between stations in the same neighborhoods, some less than one half mile apart with fares from one station to the next more than double; and
- WHEREAS, These fare differences place an unfair burden on Boston residents and their communities creating overcrowding in some stations and long waits in others; and
- WHEREAS, This difference in fares is also reflected in the use of Commuter Rail parking lots. In Hyde Park, where two lines are a quarter mile from each other, one parking lot is over filled and the other empty. This makes traffic congestion and parking on residential streets by commuters a constant problem for residents living in that section of the neighborhood; and
- WHEREAS, In other areas such as Roslindale, which is Zone 1, the station is about a quarter mile from Forest Hills which is Zone 1A. The Forest Hills area is overburdened by commuters looking to park; and
- WHEREAS, The MBTA has been slow to address these concerns,

NOW,

THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED.

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss fare rates and parking concerns and the impact on Boston neighborhoods. Representatives from Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.