

Offered by City Councilors Michelle Wu and Michael Flaherty



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING REDUCING THE CARBON FOOTPRINT OF BOSTON CITY HALL AND OTHER MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

WHEREAS: On June 1, 2017 President Donald J. Trump announced that the United States will withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement, marking a clear retreat at the federal level from climate adaptation and mitigation progress; *and*

WHEREAS: Local and state governments across the country have expressed a commitment to carrying on ambitious carbon reduction goals regardless of federal inaction, including Mayor Martin J. Walsh on behalf of the City of Boston and Governor Charlie Baker on behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; *and*

WHEREAS: Mayor Walsh and his administration have already taken numerous steps to enhance Boston's climate resiliency, including updating the ambitious goals of Boston's Climate Readiness plan and other green initiatives; *and*

WHEREAS: While many of these initiatives and goals require collaboration with the private sector and/or changes in behavior from residents to reduce our carbon footprint, a significant action entirely within city government's control is the greening of Boston City Hall and other municipal buildings; *and*

WHEREAS: The City could reduce our carbon footprint at municipal buildings by examining our maintenance and operations, including: energy efficiency in heating and cooling systems, water management, lighting and electricity usage, green roof programs, single-stream recycling, and more; *and*

WHEREAS: These climate adaptation and mitigation practices would not only contribute to the City of Boston's climate readiness goals by reducing our carbon footprint, but would also save the City and taxpayers in maintenance and energy costs and create a healthier work environment for City employees; *NOW,*

THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED,

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to understand current practices and possible improvements for reducing our carbon footprint at municipal buildings, and that representatives from the Property Management Department, Mayor's Cabinet on Energy and Environment, and other interested parties and members of the public be invited to testify.

Filed on: June 5, 2017