

Offered by City Councilor Julia Mejia and Councilor Gabriela Coletta, Louijeune, Lara, Fernandes Anderson, Bok, Arroyo, Flaherty, Murphy, Worrell, Flynn and Breadon



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

**ORDER FOR A HEARING ON GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY
AND TRANSPARENCY AROUND THE CLOUGHERTY POOL
CLOSURE IN CHARLESTOWN**

- WHEREAS,** In July of 2022, Boston experienced a week long heat emergency with temperatures continuing to remain in the upper eighties and nineties. This experience is lamenting how important public access to pools and other cooling centers is vital; *and*
- WHEREAS,** The Boston Center for Youth and Families have opened several cooling centers across the city to ensure that residents stay safe. Yet, the main cooling center in Charlestown, which is the Clougherty Pool, has been closed due to stated safety concerns; *and*
- WHEREAS,** In Charlestown, the Clougherty Pool is an important gathering space for connecting the community and providing a critical recreational area during the summer when the heat in Boston can get dangerous; *and*
- WHEREAS,** According to the Boston Center for Youth and Families The last time this pool was overhauled was in 1988 and the 20-year filtration system installed that same year had long-since expired; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Though 2.7 million dollars were first allocated in the City's 2014 Capital Budget towards the Clougherty Pool for the rehabilitation of the pool's bathhouse, its two pool shells, exterior pool deck, and mechanical systems, it is unclear how those funds were used to improve the Clougherty Pool since then; *and*
- WHEREAS,** It is important for the Council and the community to be given transparent and accountable updates regarding the establishment of deadlines and in sharing information like cost assessments, schedules, budgeting authorities, and financial expenditures, past, present, future; *and*
- WHEREAS,** It continues to be important to have transparency and accessibility of all information around the timetable for an assessment of the pool's problems, options for repair with cost analysis, and detailed reporting on the exact trail of

city funds designated for the Clougherty Pool in order to move forward with goal of receiving funding for both short and long term renovations; *and*

WHEREAS,

The Boston City Council has an obligation to ensure accountability, transparency, accessibility, over public community centers such as the Clougherty Pool, especially in regards to spending, safety, and community needs; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED:

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing on the accountability and transparency around the Clougherty Pool Closure in Charlestown. Representatives from the City of Boston including the Boston Center for Youth and Families, the City Audit Department, as well as community advocates are encouraged to attend.

Filed in Council: August 22, 2022