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;;;BOSTON CITY COUNCIL (1PM)
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>> WELCOME FOR OUR HEARING ON
USE OF PUBLIC WAYS.
I'M CHAIRMAN WU.
I'M JOINED BY COUNCILLOR ZAKIM
AS WELL AS COUNCILLOR ED FLYNN.
I WANT TO REMIND EVERYONE THAT
THIS PUBLIC HEARING IS BEING
RECORDED AND BROADCAST LIVE AND
STREAMING ON THE CITY OF BOSTON
WEBSITE.

SO IF YOU COULD SILENCE YOUR
CELL PHONES AND OTHER DEVICES,
WE'LL MAKE SURE TO MOVE ALONG.
TODAY WE'LL START -- WELCOMING A
PANEL THAT WILL INCLUDE OUR
CHIEF OF ENVIRONMENT OF ENERGY
AND OPEN SPACE AND OUR DIRECTOR
OF TRAFFIC ENGINEERING.

THESE GENTLEMEN HAVE ALLOWED
FOR -- AGREED THAT WE'LL TAKE A
FEW MINUTES OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY
BEFORE WE GET TO THEM BECAUSE
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HAVE BEEN
WAITING A LONG TIME.

I'LL GIVE MY COLLEAGUES A CHANCE
TO GIVE AND OPENING STATEMENT
AND TAKE THREE MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC THAT WILL SPEAK AND HAND
IT OVER TO THE PANEL.

>> THANK YOU.

I WANT TO THANK EVERY ONE FOR
THEIR PATIENCE.

I'LL BRIEF AND LAY THE GROUND
WORK FOR WHY WE CALLED FOR THIS
HEARING.

IT'S -- OVER THE LAST FIVE PLUS
YEARS THAT I'VE BEEN PRIVILEGED
TO REPRESENT AMONG OTHER AREAS,
THE BACK BAY, DISTRICT 8,
THERE'S BEEN A PROLIFERATION OF
ROAD RACES, WALKS, PARADES, SOME
POLITICAL IN NATURE WHICH NOBODY
COULD HAVE PREDICTED AFTER --
PARTICULARLY AFTER 2016 AND
THAT'S THE KIND OF EXPRESSION

THAT WE WANT TO SUPPORT.
THERE'S DOZENS EVERY YEAR.
WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT
REALLY FROM THIS PANEL AND AS WE
CONTINUE INTO IN DISCUSSION,
WHAT THE GUIDELINES ARE, THE
FRAME WORK IS FOR APPROVING
PARTICULARLY NEW EVENTS IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD.
OBVIOUSLY THE WALK FOR HUNGER,
THE BOSTON MARATHON,
LONG-STANDING BELOVED
INSTITUTIONS NOT JUST ABOUT THE
CITY OF BOSTON BUT IN OUR
COMMUNITY.
WHAT THE PROCESS IS, WHO THE
FINAL DECISION MAKER IS AND WHAT
CAN BE DONE TO MITIGATE THIS.
IF THERE'S SIGNIFICANT
DISCUSSIONS AND HOW TO ENCOURAGE
EVENTS THAT MAY BE A GOOD FIT,
PARTICULARLY THOSE THAT REQUIRE
STREET CLOSURES.
BUT TO MITIGATE SOME OF THE
NEGATIVE IMPACTS WHAT ARE OFTEN
POPULAR AND POSITIVE EVENTS.
WE WANT TO FIGURE OUT THE
PROCESS, IF THERE'S A WAY TO
CHANGE IT FROM A POLICY
STAND-POINT LEAD AND MAKING SURE
THE THAT RESIDENTS ARE NOTIFIED.
NOT JUST IN DISTRICT 8 BUT
ACROSS THE STATE.
AND MAKE SURE THE COMMUNICATION
WITH TRANSPORTATION AND THE
POLICE DEPARTMENT AND A COMMON
SENSE APPROACH TO SOME OF THESE
ROAD CLOSURES.
MAKING SURE WE'VE HAD A LOT OF
SUCCESS WITH COMMISSIONER EVENTS
AND I HOPE TO CONSIDER THAT WITH
COMMISSIONER GROSS AND MAKING
SURE THAT PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO GET
IN AND OUT OF THEIR HOMES ON THE
SIDE OF COM AVE AND MAKING SURE
THE POLICE OFFICERS ON DETAIL
THERE'S HAVE THE DISCRETION.
SOMEONE SAYS I'M LIVING THERE,
CAN I COME IN OR OUT, TO DO THAT
IN A WAY THAT IS SAFE.
THERE'S A COMMON SENSE SOLUTION
TO THIS ISSUE TO UNDERTAKE.
I'LL END IT THERE AND SAVE THE
REST FOR QUESTIONS.

THANK YOU.

>> COUNCILLOR FLYNN?

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILLOR WU.

COUNCILLOR ZAKIM AS WELL.

MY ONLY COMMENT THAT I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IS I WANT TO THANK THE PANELISTS FOR BEING HERE AND MORE IMPORTANTLY FOR YOUR MANY YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AND LEADERSHIP IN HELPING OUR CITY, YOU KNOW, PUT A GREAT LIGHT ON THE CITY THROUGH THE TOURISM, THROUGH THE PARKS AND TRANSPORTATION.

YOU GUYS WORK GREAT AS A TEAM AND YOU WORK GREAT WITH THE NEIGHBORHOODS.

THERE'S A LOT OF EVENTS HAPPENING IN OUR CITY.

I THINK IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU AND YOUR STAFF THAT BOSTON IS DOING SO WELL.

BUT IT TAKES A TEAM EFFORT. IT'S ALSO WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE NEIGHBORHOODS.

I THINK YOUR STAFF HAS BEEN DOING THAT, AND I JUST WANT TO SAY THANK YOU FOR MANY YEARS OF HELPING THE RESIDENTS OF BOSTON.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILLOR FLYNN. SO NOW WE TURN TO PUBLIC TESTIMONY.

THERE'S ONE INDIVIDUAL SIGNED UP.

ELLIOT LAFFER AND I'LL TAKE UP TO TWO MORE INDIVIDUALS IF ANYBODY WISHES TO SPEAK WITH. AFTER WE'LL END IT UP AT THE END AS WELL.

>> THANK YOU.

I'M ELIOT LAFFER.

I'VE LIVED ON COMMONWEALTH AVENUE FOR 45 YEARS, WHICH IS AMAZING WHEN YOU'RE 12 YEARS. I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE WHAT A WONDERFUL STREET IS IN THE SPRING AND THE OTHER EVENTS THERE.

I WOULD WANT TO HAVE THEM THERE TOO, IF I WERE COMING FROM OUTSIDE.

ANY ONE OF THESE IS WONDERFUL. SOME OF THEM WE'VE CELEBRATED. YOU DIDN'T MENTION BASEBALL

TEAMS AND FOOTBALL TEAMS.
I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYBODY COMPLAIN
ABOUT THEM YET.

WHEN YOU HAVE THEM, WHAT SEEMS
LIKE ALMOST EVERY WEEKEND AND
FOR PEOPLE WHO NEED THEIR
WEEKENDS TO DO A LOT OF ERRANDS
THAT THEY CAN'T DO DURING THE
WEEK, IT CAN BE VERY
CHALLENGING.

I CAN REMEMBER WHEN I WAS
WORKING ONCE COMING HOME, THE
EVENING WHEN THERE WAS ONE OF
THESE 5:00 ROAD RACES AND HAVING
TO SIT A BLOCK FROM MY HOUSE FOR
AN HOUR WAITING FOR THE STREET
TO CLEAR.

I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS COMING.
I'M USUALLY FAIRLY INFORMED
ABOUT THIS.

SO NOTICE IS AN ISSUE, THE
ABILITY TO GET IN AND OUT OF
YOUR HOMES AND TO GET ACROSS THE
NEIGHBORHOOD.

THESE EVENTS SHOULD BE
DISTRIBUTED AROUND THE CITY.
WE'RE A BEAUTIFUL NEIGHBORHOOD,
WE'RE NOT THE ONLY BEAUTIFUL
NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE CITY.

I SUSPECT WE'RE NOT THE ONLY
NEIGHBORHOOD WITH LONG STREETS.
THESE EVENTS CAN BRING THEIR
BENEFITS AND ALSO WHATEVER
NONBENEFITS THEY HAVE TO OTHER
NEIGHBORHOODS AS WELL.

WE HAVE ONE OTHER ISSUE ABOUT
THE EVENTS PROLIFERATING.
THEY SEEM TO BE DRAWING
HELICOPTERS.

THE NOISE FROM THE HELICOPTERS
IS, AGAIN, IF IT WAS THERE FOR
TWO MINUTES, YOU WOULDN'T NOTICE
IT.

WHEN THEY'RE THERE FOR HOURS, IT
SEEMS TO HAPPEN.

IT STARTS TO BE VERY ANNOYING.
SO IT'S A QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUE.
THERE'S BIGGER QUALITY OF LIFE
ISSUES IN THE CITY AND IN OUR
NEIGHBORHOOD.

BUT IT'S AN IMPORTANT ONE AND WE
APPRECIATE YOUR TAKING THE TIME
TO DIG INTO THIS AND SEE IF WE
CAN DISTRIBUTE THE PLUSES AND

MINUTES AROUND THE CITY BETTER.
THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> THANKS VERY MUCH.

WOULD ANYONE ELSE LIKE TO SPEAK
AT THIS TIME?

THANK YOU.

WE'LL HAND IT OVER TO OUR
PANELISTS.

AND THEN TAKE QUESTIONS AND
ANSWERS FROM COLLEAGUES.

>> THANKS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO
TESTIFY TODAY.

MY POSITION WAS CREATED IN 2014
TO REFLECT THE MAYOR'S PROMISE
TO SEPARATE THE CITY'S
STRATEGIES FROM ARTS AND CULTURE
STRATEGY SO EACH CAN FOCUS ON
THEIR RESPECTIVE MISSIONS.
MY OFFICE FALLS UNDER THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT,
WHICH IS HEADED BY JOHN BARROS.
I WORK TO BRING ATHLETIC EVENTS
AND CONVENTIONS AND CONFERENCES
TO BOSTON AND MARKET THE CITY
NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY.
MY MISSION IS TO ATTRACT NEW
INVESTMENT AND INVITE THE WORLD
TO EXPERIENCE OUR CITY.

AS DIRECTOR OF THE SPORTS AND
ENTERTAINMENT, I HAVE THE
PRIVILEGE OF SERVING AS THE
CHAIR OF THE PUBLIC EVENT CITY.
YOU HAVE TO APPLIED FOR PERMITS
THROUGH THE PUBLIC EVENT
COMMITTEE.

WHETHER THE EVENT IS FREE OR
TICKETED, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC OR
INVITATION ONLY, DOESN'T MATTER.
IT'S STILL NECESSARY TO APPLY.
PUBLIC EVENTS INCLUDE ROAD
RACES, BLOCK PARTIES, FESTIVALS
AND PARADES.

IN 2018, WE OVERSAW THE
PERMITTING OF 568 PUBLIC EVENTS
IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.

THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE CITY.

IN 2017, WE HAD 545 PUBLIC
EVENTS.

THE COMMISSION OF MY OFFICE IS
TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATION IN
PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS FROM BOSTON
RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO OUR
CITY.

WE SUPPORT THE TOURISM TRY AND
SUPPORT TV, FILM AND PRODUCTION
AND MARKETING THE CITY TO
CONVENTIONS AND VISITORS AND
GUIDE EVENT PLANNERS THROUGHOUT
THE PERMITTING PROCESS.

DEPENDING ON THE TYPE OF EVENT,
AN EVENT PLANNER MAY NEED
PERMITS THROUGHOUT THE CITY.

MY OFFICE'S JOB IS TO HELP
PLANNERS NAVIGATE THE PROCESSES
THROUGHOUT THE CITY.

WE FACILITATE MEETINGS AND
GUIDANCE.

WE DO NOT ISSUE PERMITS.

WE USE OUR APPLICATION FORM TO
WALK PEOPLE THROUGH THE PROCESS
OF GETTING THE PERMITS NEEDED TO
HOST THEIR EVENT.

SINCE WE TAKE OUR ROLE AS
FACILITATOR SO SERIOUSLY, WE
HAVE A THOROUGH ONLINE FORM,
WHICH ARE SUPPOSED TO BE FILLED
OUT WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE
EVENT.

ONCE WE RECEIVE AN APPLICATION,
WE SET UP A MEETING WITH THE
PUBLIC EVENT COMMITTEE TO OUR
MEETINGS.

I'M CONTINUALLY IMPRESSED BY THE
HARD WORK OF THE REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE PUBLIC EVENT COMMITTEE.

THEY ENSURE THAT ALL OF THE
EVENTS TAKE PLACE IN THE CITY OF
BOSTON.

THE PUBLIC EVENT COMMITTEE IS
COMPRISED OF REPRESENTATIVES
FROM A DOZEN OFFICES THROUGHOUT
THE CITY.

THESE ARE THE FOLKS THAT COME TO
OUR WEEKLY EVENT MEETINGS.

THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT,
THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, FIRE
PREVENTION, THE TRANSPORTATION
DEPARTMENT, INSPECTIONAL
SITUATIONS, ISD, PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT, PARKS AND RECREATION
DEPARTMENT, PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
FOR ANYTHING THAT HAPPENS IN THE
CITY HALL PLAZA, EMS, DEPARTMENT
OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, WHICH
IS IF THEY'RE HAVING FOOD TRUCKS
AND ALSO LICENSING BOARD AND
LIQUOR COMMISSIONER FOR THE

ENTERTAINMENT AND LICENSING.
WE ALSO CONSULT WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD
SERVICES ON ALL OF OUR EVENTS
AND WE ALSO HAVE REPRESENTATION
FROM THE MBTA AND THE
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
CONVERSATION AND RECREATION.
I LOOK FORWARD TO ANSWERING ANY
OF YOUR QUESTIONS TO THE COUNSEL
AT THIS TIME OR AFTER CHRIS
SPEAKS.

>> THANK YOU.

JUST VERY BRIEFLY.

COUNCILLOR FLYNN, COUNCILLOR WU,
THANKS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO
TOUGH.

JUST A CONTEXT OF HOW BUSY OUR
CITY IS AND THE BREADTH OF THE
BOSTON PARKS AND RECREATION
DEPARTMENT.

YOU GET A SENSE OF WHAT OUR
RESIDENTS ARE PARTICIPATING IN
DAILY.

I HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING
AS THE COMMISSIONER OF BOSTON
PARKS AND RECREATION AND IN
CALENDAR YEAR 2018 ALONE, 4, 084
PERMITS WERE ISSUED BY BOSTON
PARKS.

OF THOSE, 1,351 WERE FOR ADULT
ATHLETICS.

991 FOR YOUTH.

194 FOR WEDDINGS AND 11 FOR
CLOSING AND RENOVATIONS OF OUR
PARKS.

THE NUMBERS, 4,084 PERMITS, DOES
NOT REFLECT ACTUAL INSTANCES OF
AN EVENT, A LITTLE LEAGUE COULD
PULL A PERMIT BUT HAVE AN ENTIRE
SEASON WITH THEM.

VERY BRIEFLY, I'D BE REMISS IF I
DIDN'T ACKNOWLEDGE THE HARD
WORKING FOLKS OF THE PERMITTING
DIVISION LEAD BY PAUL McCAFFREY.
OF COURSE, THEY'RE WORKING IN
CONCERT WITH THE SPECIAL EVENTS
DEPARTMENT AS DIRECTOR BRUSETT
MENTIONED.

AS A UNIVERSE OF PASSIVE AND
ACTIVE RECREATION THAT GOES
BEYOND THE PERMIT HOLDERS, OUR
PARKS ARE DESIGNED TO MAXIMIZE
RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR

OUR RESIDENTS, ESPECIALLY YOUTH.
IN RECENT YEARS THROUGH THE
MAYOR'S PARKS FIRST INITIATIVE
WITH SUPPORT FROM THE CITY
COUNCIL, THE DEPARTMENT HAS PUT
A SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON INCLUSIVE
DESIGN.

WE WANT TO ENSURE OUR OPEN
SPACES ARE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL
REGARDLESS OF ABILITY AND
SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE CITY HAVE
BEEN MAKING THE SAME COMMITMENT.

IT'S WITHIN THIS CONTEXT OF
ACTIVITY THAT BOSTON PARKS IS
OFTEN HOST FOR THE SETUP AND
FINISHING OF EVENTS THAT INVOLVE
THE CLOSING OR PARTIAL CLOSURE
OFF PUBLIC WAYS.

THE DEPARTMENT NEVER CLOSE AS
PUBLIC WAY FOR AN EVENT.

THAT APPROVAL IS ONLY GRANTED
THROUGH THE SPECIAL EVENTS
COMMITTEE PROCESS THEY MY
COLLEAGUE DESCRIBED.

AS THE DIRECTOR EMPHASIZED
PUBLIC SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT IN
THESE DISCUSSIONS.

THE PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL ARE
SECOND TO NONE AND I'M IMPRESSED
BY THE PROFESSIONALISM OF BOSTON
FIRE, BOSTON POLICE AND EMS AND
THE OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS HAND
COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

THE BOSTON TRANSPORTATION
DEPARTMENT, THE PUBLIC WORKS,
DCR AND MANY OTHERS.

BOSTON PARKS PARTICIPATES ON
SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE IN A
WEEKLY BASIS TO MAKE SURE THAT
THERE'S AS MUCH COORDINATION AS
POSSIBLE WITH THESE OTHER
DEPARTMENTS.

I'M HAPPY TO ANSWER YOUR
QUESTIONS AS WELL AS WE'RE
JOINED BY OUR HARD WORKING
COLLEAGUE, THE CHIEF ENGINEER
FOR THE BOSTON TRANSPORTATION
DEPARTMENT, EDDY HASPERT.

>> WE'RE LOOKING AT PLANS AND
THE OPERATIONS PLANS FOR A SAFE
EVENT IN COORDINATION WITH
BOSTON POLICE, BOSTON FIRE AND
EMS, ET CETERA.

SO WE HAVE A NICE WORKING

COMMITTEE.

MY ENGINEER IN CHARGE OF THAT IS
TIMOTHY BERBINE WHO DOES A GREAT
JOB PULLING THAT TOGETHER ON THE
TRANSPORTATION SIDE.

A LOT OF THOUGHT THAT GETS PUT
IN WITH THIS, THE WHOLE TEAM
PUTTING TOGETHER THAT PLAN
RELATIVE TO, YOU KNOW, ROADWAY
DETOURS, IMPACTS, ET CETERA THAT
POTENTIALLY COULD COME ABOUT.
WE WANT TO KEEP THE CITY OPEN
AND VIRAL.

THAT'S OUR MISSION WITHIN THE
TRANSPORTATION REALM.

WE STRIVE TO DO THAT.

I'M GLAD TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS
THAT YOU MAY HAVE.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

I KNOW HOW MUCH IS ON YOUR
PLATES.

OUR OFFICE IS ALWAYS REACHING
OUT TO YOU ON A WIDE VARIETY OF
ISSUES.

THANKS FOR MAKING TIME TODAY.
COUNCILLOR ZAKIM?

>> THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.

I HAVE SEVERAL QUESTIONS GOING
THROUGH THE APPROVAL PROCESS.

MAYBE THIS IS BEST TO YOU, KEN.

I'M NOT SURE.

WHO DECIDES?

IS IT THE SPECIAL EVENT
COMMITTEE TAKES A VOTE AND SAYS,
YOU KNOW, WE SHOULD ALLOW THIS
TO MOVE FORWARD, WHETHER IT'S A
RACE, WHETHER IT'S A PARADE,
WHATEVER IT IS?

IS THAT TYPICALLY HOW IT
HAPPENS?

>> YEAH, SOME OF THE QUESTIONS
YOU HAVE.

ANYONE HOSTING AN EVENT HAS TO
GO ONLINE AND APPLY FOR THE
EVENT.

WHETHER THE EVENT IS FREE OR
TICKETS OR OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

I MENTIONED PUBLIC EVENTS, BLOCK
PARTIES, FOOD AND BEVERAGES.

WHEN SOMEONE SUBMITS AN
APPLICATION, THEY HAVE TO HAVE
AN AGREEMENT, THEY HAVE TO HAVE
THE MAPS OF THE STREETS OR ROADS

AND THE SIZES AND DIMENSION OF A STRUCTURE THEY'RE BUILDING.

MANY EVENTS REQUIRE THE APPLICANT TO ENSURE THEIR EVENT AS WELL AS THE CITY OF BOSTON.

AFTER THEY APPLY ONLINE, MY OFFICE, JOYCE JUDGE, WILL CALL AND DISCUSS THE APPLICANT. SHE WILL APPLICANT COME IN WITH THEIR SITE PLAN AND ALL THE INFORMATION THEY HAVE FOR THE EVENT.

WHO THEY'RE REACHING OUT TO. WE SIT WITH THE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS AND THEN THEY GO AROUND AROUND EVERYONE INTRODUCES THEMSELVES TO EACH OTHER AS WHAT DEPARTMENT THEY'RE REPRESENTING AND THE APPLICANT GOES THROUGH THE ACTUAL EVENT. AT THAT TIME ANYONE FROM THE CITY WILL BE SIGNING OFF ON WHAT PERMITS THEY'LL NEED, WHETHER IT'S BUILDING STAGE, GENERATE PERMITS FOR FIRE, ISD, ET CETERA.

ONCE THAT HAPPENS, THEY HAVE TO BRING THE PERMIT AND HAVE THEM SIGNED OFF BY THE DISTRICT CAPTAIN IN EACH NEIGHBORHOOD. THEN THEY HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE PERMITTING PROCESS OF WHAT PERMITS THEY NEED.

ONCE THEY GET ALL OF THOSE PERMITS FROM ALL THE DIFFERENT AGENCIES IN THE CITY, THEY WILL END UP ON LICENSING ON THE EIGHTH FLOOR AND WILL ENTER A SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION OR ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE.

>> SO FOR A ROAD RACE, THEY GO TO THE LICENSING BOARD?

>> A ROAD RACE, FIRST THING THEY HAVE TO DO, SEND A LETTER IN ADVANCE TO THE COMMISSIONER. THEY WILL -- SHE WILL LOOK AT THE LETTER AND WORK WITH TIM. THEY WILL EITHER ACCEPT IT OR DENY THAT ROAD RACE DEPENDING ON WHAT IT IS.

THEY WOULD COME TO OUR MEETING. WHEN THEY COME TO A MEETING, WE HAVE AN EXCEL SPREADSHEET OF ALL EVENTS IN THE CITY, WHETHER IT'S

THE RED SOX, THE CELTICS, THE
BRUINS, ANY CONCERT AT THE
GARDEN, ANY CONCERTS AT FENWAY,
ALL PARKS EVENTS.

SO WE CAN GO THROUGH THAT LIST.
IF THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE A ROAD
RACE FOR SEPTEMBER 15, WE PUT
LAST YEAR WE PUT IN SEPTEMBER 15
THAT WE WERE NOT ACCEPTING MORE
APPLICATIONS BECAUSE THERE WAS
TOO MUCH GOING ON.

WE MONITOR THAT AND FIGURE OUT
WHETHER THAT CAN BE -- IF THE
RACE COULD BE FEASIBLE.

SINCE 2014, WE HAVE NOT ADDED
ANY ADDITIONAL ROAD RACES WITH
THE EXCEPTION OF A FEW ONE-OFF
EVENTS THAT HAVE COME, LIKE THE
REALTOR ARE UP LAST YEAR OR ANY
WALKS OR CELEBRATIONS.

THE GENTLEMAN TALKED ABOUT THE
HELICOPTERS.

THEY WERE FROM THE RALLIES AND
THE MARCHES THAT WOULD COME
THROUGH.

THEY -- OR A 10 K MARATHON ON
THE BAA.

THAT'S WHERE THE HELICOPTERS
COME THROUGH.

LIKE WHEN IT COMES DOWN IT TO,
IT IS THE COMMISSIONER FIANDACA
OR BMD WHO HAVE THE FINAL WORD
ON A ROAD RACE?

>> IT WOULD BE A WHOLE -- IT
WOULD JUST BE A WHOLE SLEW, IT
DEPENDS IF THEY RACED ON
JUNE 1ST AND THERE ARE ALREADY
TOO MANY EVENTS IN THE CITY WE
COULDN'T DO IT.

>> JUST TO CLARIFY ONE THING,
BUT WHEN THE REQUEST COMES IN
FOR A ROAD RACE, THAT IS THEN
FORWARDED TO THE SPECIAL EVENTS
COMMITTEE. THERE IS NO DECISION
MADE AT THAT TIME, IT NEEDS TO
BE WHOLLY VETTED THROUGH ALL OF
THE DIFFERENT AGENCIES AND
PUBLIC SAFETY ABOUT THE
VIABILITY OF THAT APPLICATION
BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER WOULD
SIGN OFF ON SOMETHING LIKE THAT
IS THERE A STAGE IN THIS
APPLICATION FOR A NEW EVENT,
WHETHER IT IS SPECIAL EVENTS

COMMITTEE OR ANYONE INVOLVE SAYS YOU SHOULD GO MEET WITH THE RELEVANT CIVIC ASSOCIATION? WE HAVE THE NEIGHBORHOOD 0 ASSOCIATION OF BACK BAY REPRESENTED HERE, YOU KNOW, I THINK THE LIST, TO THE CLOSURE LIST BPD PUTS OUT IS VERY GOOD. IT IS VERY USEFUL, ONE OF MY CONCERNS, THOUGH IS THAT IS OFTEN THE FIRST INFORMATION THAT I GET AS A DISTRICT CITY COUNCILOR AND I THINK PROBABLY THAT MANY OF OUR NEIGHBORS GET ABOUT THE EVENT, IT IS A GREAT SERVICE AND, YOU KNOW, TO THE EXTENT THAT MAYBE WE COULD INCORPORATE THAT WITH O AND S BECAUSE THEY PUT OUT THEIR WEEKLY UPDATES BY NEIGHBORHOOD, I THINK THAT WOULD ADDRESS SOME OF THE NOTICE ISSUES BUT NOT FULLY.

I DO THINK ONE OF THE STRENGTHS OF THIS CITY AND ONE OF THE REASONS I THINK OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ARE SO TRY BRANDT AND STRONG HAS BEEN THE ENGAGEMENT OF CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS AND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS, BLOCK ORGANIZATIONS, YOU KNOW, WHATEVER THEY CHOOSE TO STYLE THEMSELVES IN THIS PROCESS, AND AT LEAST GET NOTIFICATION EARLY ON, PERHAPS WHEN THEY COME TO THE SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE FOR THE FIRST TIME WOULD BE USEFUL. AND I WOULD ASK THAT YOU CONSIDER IMPLEMENTING THAT.

>> YES.

>> THANK YOU.

>> ANOTHER QUESTION, SOMETHING I HAVE RAISED IN THE PAST, HAVE THERE BEEN ANY EFFORTS OR SUGGESTIONS WITH EVENTS THAT ARE NOT QUITE AS ICONIC AS THE MARATHON, AS THE JUAN FOR HUNGER THAT ARE NOT GEOGRAPHICALLY -- TO EXPLORE OTHER VENUES.

I THINK IT WAS LAST YEAR WE HAD THE J.P. MORGAN CORPORATE CHANNEL AND THE BA A-10 K, VERY SIMILAR ROUTE IF NOT IDENTICAL WITHIN A COUPLE OF DAYS OF EACH

OTHER IN JUNE.

THOSE ARE BOTH INCREDIBLY WELL ATTENDED, 10-KS, YOU KNOW, A LOT OF PEOPLE GETTING THEIR IN, RAISING MONEY FOR A GOOD CAUSE, BUT THAT REALLY DO STRANGLE THE NEIGHBORHOOD. YOU KNOW, CORPORATE CHALLENGE SOUNDS TO ME LIKE SOMETHING THAT MIGHT MAKE SENSE IN A FINANCIAL DISTRICT, IN THE SEAPORT, YOU KNOW, AREAS THAT ARE VIBRANT, THAT ARE ACCESSIBLE THERE IS A LOT OF SPACE AND ON THE WEEKENDS THERE IS NOT A LOT GOING ON OVER THERE.

SO WHAT IS THE APPROACH TO SOMETHING LIKE THAT? HAS THAT BEEN BROACHED WITH SOME OF THESE ORGANIZERS AND HOW WOULD WE MOVE FORWARD WITH THAT?

>> WE HAVE -- WE HAVE MOVED SEVERAL RACES TO DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CITY, EAST BOSTON, FOR EXAMPLE.

WE HAVE MOVED A LOT OF RACES OVER THE SOUTH BOSTON WHERE WE USE STATE BOULEVARD WHICH IS STATE WHICH IS WHY WE HAVE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION COME IN, BECAUSE THEY ARE THE ONES WHO WILL SAY WHETHER OR NOT A RACE COULD BE HAD.

WE MOVE RACES OVER TO FRANKLIN PARK, AND THERE IS ALSO A 5K ROUTE THAT WE LOOKED AT OVER IN EAST BOSTON WE ARE TRYING TO NAVIGATE ALL OF OF OUR 5K WALKS TO GO OVER.

THERE ARE NO NEW EVENTS OVER THERE IN THE AREA, EVERYTHING THAT HAS BEEN THERE HAS BEEN THERE FOR 10, 15 YEARS.

THEY HAVE BEEN DOING THOSE RACES.

>> AND SO I WOULD SAY THAT THERE IS A STRONG INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE TO MOVE IT TO OTHER GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE CITY AND FRANKLY, WORKING WITH SOME OF OUR REGIONAL PARTNERS TO REALLY EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND THE CITY

LIMITS AS WELL, LIKE WE WANT TO RECEIVE THE ECONOMIC COBENEFITS OF THESE EVENTS, HOWEVER WE DO REALIZE THAT SOME OF THE ROOTS ARE BIG ENOUGH THAT THEY CAN BE A BURDEN HONESTY RESIDENTS, SO THE PLACES WITHIN THE CITY THAT WE HAVE BEEN PROMOTING AS A SPECIAL EVENT LOCATIONS ARE PLACES LIKE MILLENNIUM PARK AND WEST ROCKS ROSS, THE 5K ROUTE WHICH INVOLVES THE EAST BOSTON GREENWAY, THAT THE DIRECTOR MENTIONED AND THEN ANY OPPORTUNITIES ALONG THE COAST OF DORCHESTER AND SOUTH BOSTON AS WELL. I WILL SAY, AND THIS WILL COME AS NO SPRINGFIELD, THAT THERE IS A STRONG DESIRE, URGE FOR NEW EVENTS COMING TO THE CITY TO REALLY PARTICIPATE IN THAT ICONIC GEOGRAPHY AND THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE BACK BAY, THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT WE SHOULD NECESSARILY ACCOMMODATE THEM.

>> I APPRECIATE THAT AND I APPRECIATE HEARING ABOUT THE EFFORTS TO DISTRIBUTE THESE A LITTLE MORE.

I WOULD SAY AND I HAVE GOTTEN, YOU KNOW, GIVEN THE TIMING OF THIS AS MANY FOLKS -- I HAVE A STACK OF WRITTEN TESTIMONY.

>> MANY OF THEM HAVE SUGGESTED THE ES SPLA MAD, I KNOW THAT IS .. STATE PROPERTY, BUT NOT DISRUPTIVE TO TRAFFIC, NOT DISRUPTIVE TO ACCESS TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

I THINK YOU JUST MENTIONED DADE BOULEVARD, SIMILARLY, YOU KNOW, ANOTHER AREA TO LOOK AT, NOT JUST FOR THESE NEW APPLICANTS BUT FOR FOLKS THAT HAVE BEEN IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD USING IT FOR A WHILE, I WILL SAY THIS CERTAINLY ISN'T ON ANY OF YOU THREE.

I AM DISAPPOINTED THAT IT IS POLICE DEPARTMENT IS NOT HERE TO TALK ABOUT THIS.

I THINK BOTH FROM A DECISION MAKING STANDPOINT IT IS OR ON OR IMPORTANT TO HAVE THEM AT THE TABLE BUT ALSO ONE OF THE

EASIEST WAYS TO MITIGATE
NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF THIS IS FOR
THE POLICE OFFICERS WHO ARE
ENFORCING THE ROAD CLOSURES TO
HAVE SOME DISCRETION FROM
COMMAND STAFF TO OBVIOUSLY
CONSISTENT WITH PUBLIC SAFETY IF
THERE IS A BREAK, YOU KNOW, FOR
A WHILE IN THE RUNNERS, MAYBE,
YOU KNOW, THE FASTEST FOLKS THEY
GOT THERE AND THEN WHERE I WOULD
BE IN THE MIDDLE, BACK OF THE
PACK THERE IS A BIT OF A GAP,
YOU KNOW, AND I SEE THAT
SOMETIMES AND THERE ARE
SOMETIMES DISCRETION MAYOR
EXERCISE BUT THAT NEEDS TO COME
FROM THE TOP.

I THINK PEOPLE WANT TO MAKE SURE
THAT THEY ARE DOING WHAT THEY
ARE SUPPOSED TO DO AND DOING
THEIR JOB, SO I WOULD HOPE THAT
WHETHER IT IS DISTRICT CAPTAIN
OR IT IS DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT
IN PLANNING OR IT IS THE
COMMISSIONER, WHOMEVER IT IS,
DOES PARTICIPATE IN THIS,
BECAUSE I THINK THAT ALONE COULD
GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS MITIGATING
THE IMPACT, IT DOESN'T MITIGATE
THE NOISE AND THE HELICOPTERS
AND I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY
DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FAA, WITH
THE STATE OVER THE YEARS ABOUT
HELICOPTERS, YOU KNOW, ON
FENWAY, BACK BAY, BEE BEACON
HILL, THAT MAY BE, BEACON HILL,
THAT MAY BE SOMETHING BEYOND US
AS A CITY RIGHT NOW BUT THERE
ARE SOME THINGS WE CAN DO WITH
THE EXISTING THINGS AND WE HAVE
HAD SUCCESS AROUND THE MARATHON
WHICH IS GREAT AND I THINK PART
OF THE SUCCESS OF THAT IS
BECAUSE IT IS SUCH A WELL-KNOWN
EVENT THAT WE CAN PLAN FOR IT
PRETTY SUCCESSFULLY AND I WOULD
LIKE TO SEE THAT, YOU KNOW, FOR
MANY OF THESE EXISTING RACES
THAT DO REQUIRE SIGNIFICANT
CLOSURES, AND LISTEN A 5K THAT
IS HAPPENING FROM 7:30 A.M. TO
9:00 A.M. OR WHATEVER IT IS ON A
SUNDAY HAS A SIGNIFICANTLY

DIFFERENT AND LESSER IMPACT THAN THE J.P. MORGAN CORPORATE CHANNEL WHICH I BELIEVE IS IN THE EVENING, A 10-K, SO I GUESS A BIG GOAL OF THIS HEARING IS TO, ONE, MAKE SURE WE ARE THINKING ABOUT THESE THINGS, BUT ALSO ALMOST EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THESE E-MAILS I RECEIVED TALK ABOUT IN GLOWING TERMS HOW PEOPLE LOVE THE VIBRANCY OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

THEY WANT TO SUPPORT THESE CAUSES BUT THAT THERE ARE THINGS WE CAN TWEAK TO MAKE IT BETTER AND THE NOTICE GOES A LONG WRAY TO DO THAT, SO IT IS ENCOURAGING TO HEAR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO WORK ON THAT.

>> I THINK YOUR POINT IS WELL MET, COUNCILOR.

WHILE THERE IS STRONG COORDINATION AROUND THE EVENT LOGISTICS THEMSELVES AND WHAT IS GOING TO MAKE FOR A SUCCESSFUL EVENT, WE COULD CERTAINLY ENGAGE WITH BPD AND THE BFS, BPD TO TRY TO APPLY THE SAME LEVEL OF ORGANIZATION WE DO AROUND THE MARATHON PLANNING, TO SOME OF THESE SMALLER EVENTS TO MAKE IT EASIER ON THE BURDEN ON THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

>> AND I DO THINK -- THIS WILL BE THE LAST TIME I SAY IT, I DO THINK IF WHOMEVER IS IN CHARGE, WHETHER IT IS THE DISTRICT COMMANDER, D 4, IN THIS CASE, OR ELSEWHERE,, YOU KNOW,, TO GIVE THE WORD TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT WHO ARE OUT THERE PROTECTING THESE EVENTS AND MANNING THE TRAFFIC PAIR YEARS, BARRIERS, LISTEN, USE YOUR JUDGMENT IF SOMEONE LIVES RIGHT THERE, AND I PERSONALLY HAVE HAD SOME MIXED SUCCESS OVER THE YEARS ON THAT FRONT, SO I DO WANT TO SAY TO THAT, THAT GOES A LONG WAY TOWARD RESOLVING SOME OF THESE CONCERNS.

I THINK THAT IS PROBABLY -- FROM MY QUESTIONS RIGHT NOW, I DO

THINK -- I DO APPRECIATE THIS.
I APPRECIATE YOUR ATTENTION TO
THIS AND WILLINGNESS TO WORK
WITH US AND AS I SPRAYED THE
BEGINNING, IDEALLY, YOU KNOW,
SOME OF THESE MINOR POLICY
CHANGES CAN BE PUT IN PLACE ON
YOUR SIDE OF THINGS AND THERE
WON'T BE A LEGISLATIVE PROCESS.
WE DON'T NEED TO DO THIS, BUT
GETTING THOSE GUIDELINES OUT
THERE, WORKING THE NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATIONS, PROGRAMS THE
DISTRICT CITY COUNCILORS, AND AT
SOME LEVEL AND, YOU KNOW, I KNOW
IT WAS 4,084 PERMITS A YEAR, WE
DON'T NEED TO BE A PART OF EVERY
ONE OF THOSE, BUT CERTAINLY, YOU
KNOW, I APPRECIATE YOUR
ATTENTION, I DO APPRECIATE, IT
IS GOOD TO SEE THE DATA AND I
ALSO WANT TO THANK MY STAFF WHO
PORED OVER YEARS OF THIS DATA
THAT WAS PROVIDED TO PUT THIS,
YOU KNOW, A READABLE FORM FOR ME
TO BE INFORMED ABOUT THIS.
I KNOW THERE IS A LOT THERE, BUT
LIKE I SAID FROM THE BEGINNING
THIS IS SOMETHING I THINK SOME
COMMON SENSE FIX ACCOUNTS REALLY
ADDRESS AND IMPROVE QUALITY OF
LIFE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
>> I JUST WANTED TO MENTION ONE
THING.
ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE,
THROUGH SOME OF THE CONFERENCE
CALLS WE GET INTO, WE ARE
INVESTING IN A DESTINATION
MARKET EVENT IMPACT CALCULATOR
WHICH IS GOING TO BE BASICALLY
GIVE US THE OVERALL ECONOMIC
IMPACT OF SOME OF THESE EVENTS.
>> I WANT TO RECOGNIZE THAT
COUNCILOR ESSAIBI GEORGE HAS
JOINED US AS WELL.
OKAY.
SO I HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS THAT
BUILD ON WHAT COUNCILOR ZAKIM
WAS SAYING.
SO FIRST IS, WOULD IT BE
POSSIBLE JUST TO PROVIDE, I
DON'T KNOW IF IT IS WRITTEN DOWN
IN ONE PLACE, BUT SORT OF A SET
OF STEPS FOR WHAT THE DIFFERENT

PERMITS OR, YOU KNOW, WHERE PEOPLE -- WHERE DO THEY SEND THE LETTERS TO FOR EACH OF THE DIFFERENT TIMES OF EVENTS, JUST SO WE KNOW WHAT THE DIFFERENCE IS BETWEEN BLOCK PARTY, ET CETERA.

>> IF YOU GO ON TO TOURS AND SPORTS WEBSITE THERE IS A SECTION CALLED HOW TO, AND HOW TO FILL OUT A PUBLIC EVENT APPLICATION AND BRING YOU THROUGH THE THREE DIFFERENT STEPS AND TELL YOU THE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS I MENTIONED POLICE, FIRE, IFD, ET CETERA AND GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF WHAT PERMITS YOU MIGHT NEED SO WHEN YOU ARE COMING INTO THE SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PULL THAT UP AND IT IS ALL ONLINE.

>> OKAY.
GREAT.

IS IT -- JUST A ONE-PAGER SOMEWHERE OR IS IT YOU HAVE TO CLICK THROUGH STEP-BY-STEP OR DOES IT LIVE IN --

>> IT IS RIGHT ON THE SITE.

>> OKAY.

>> WE WILL BE HAPPY TO PROVIDE IT --

>> ANYTHING YOU HAVE WOULD BE GREAT.

I THINK AS WE ARE TRYING TO THINK ABOUT THIS, EVEN THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN DIFFERENT TYPES OF PUBLIC EVENTS IS HELPFUL.

SO IS THERE ANY CONSIDERATION NOW OF KIND OF WHAT IS A REASONABLE NUMBER OR FREQUENCY OF EVENTS PER GEOGRAPHY, PER NEIGHBORHOOD OR SOMETHING THAT -- PER BLOCK?

>> WE TOOK THE WHOLE CITY AND WE FIGURED OUT HOW MANY EVENTS WERE IN EACH 0 NEIGHBORHOOD, WE FIGURED HOW MANY EVENTS AND HOW MANY CLOSE, HOW MANY ROAD CLOSURES IN EACH NEIGHBORHOOD.

>> COUNCILOR ZAKIM IS A POPULAR DISTRIBUTE.

WE TRY TO STEER THEM INTO

DIFFERENT BARTZ OF THE CITY,
ROXBURY, HYDE PARK, ROSLINDALE,
SOUTH BOSTON, SOMETIMES IN THE
SEAPORT WE DO SOME STUFF, BUT WE
WANT TO SEPARATE AS MUCH AS WE
CAN OUT OF THIS DISTRICT.

>> SO JUST TAKING COUNCILOR
ZAKIM'S DISTRICT OR EVEN A BACK
BAY AS KIND OF THE ONE END OF
THE SPECTRUM, HOW OFTEN IS IT
EVERY SINGLE WEEKEND?
EVERY SINGLE WEEKEND DAY OR WHAT
IS THE KIND OF FREQUENCY?

>> WE COMPRISED A LIST OF ALL OF
THE EVENTS IN 2017, 2018 OF HIS
DISTRICT AND WE CAN GET YOU THAT
EXACTLY WHAT WAS THERE AND WHAT
WAS NOT.

WE DID INCLUDE SOME EVENTS IN
THE SOUTH END, SO THEY ARE IN
THERE BUT WE CAN GET THAT TO
YOU.

OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>> BUT IT IS MOST WEEKENDS, IT
IS MOST WEEKENDS.

>> FROM WHAT MONTH --

>> ROADWAYS -- THE MARATHON
STARTS.

>> APRIL THROUGH OCTOBER.

>> OKAY.

SOME STUFF IN NOVEMBER BUT NOT A
LOT.

>> AND DURING THAT KIND OF APRIL
THROUGH OCTOBER WINDOW, IS IT
SAT AT A AND SUNDAY OR, SATURDAY
AND SUNDAY OR TRY TO RESERVE
SOME BLOCK OF TIME?

..

>> WE WILL SHARE THE CALENDAR
WITH YOU.

THE DIFFERENCE IS THAT A LOT OF
THE PARKS, A LOT OF THE EVENTS
ARE IMPACTFUL IN DIFFERENT WAYS.

>> YES.

>> SO THE SCOPE REALLY CHANGES
WITH THE TYPE OF EVENT.

FOR MAJOR EVENT THAT USED THE
COMAVE ROUTE, CORRECT ME IF I AM
WRONG BUT SIX OR SEVEN OF THOSE
THAT REALLY IMPACTED SOMEONE
GETTING OUT OF THEIR DRIVEWAY OR
ACCESSING THEIR CAR.

>> OKAY.

>> HOWEVER, BETWEEN THAT AND THE BLOCK PARTIES AND THE ADDITIONAL FACILITY OF THE EVENTS THAT HAPPEN ON 0 THE COMMON .. AS WELL AS ANY FILMING OR CONSTRUCTION THAT IS HAPPENING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD IT CAN GET VERY BUSY.

WHAT I WOULD ALSO ADD IS THAT IN THE BACK BAY YOU ALSO HAVE THE ADDITION OF COPLEY SQUARE SO, YOU KNOW, IF THERE IS A MAJOR EVENT HAPPENING AT COPLEY SQUARE THERE COULD BE A PARTIAL CLOSURE OF DARTMOUTH OR JUST AN IMPACT WITH LOADING IN AND LOADING OUT OF THE COPLEY SQUARE AS WELL.

>> WE TOOK A TALLY JUST TO KIND OF GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE IN 2017, WHICH IS RIGHT AFTER WE TALKED ABOUT THE ELECTION THERE, COUNCILOR ZAKIM'S DISTRICT HAD 16 BLOCKS THAT, AND THEN WE HAD [WALKS, AND SEVEN PARADES, THROUGHOUT THE SEVEN PARADES, THOSE WERE MORE OF THE PRO FEST PARADES, AND THAT DECREASED IN 2018.

>> OKAY.

AND SO THE WAY THAT IT WORKS NOW IS IT JUST FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE FOR A PARTICULAR TIME AND LOCATION?

SO FOR EXAMPLE IF THERE IS A WALK THAT HAS BEEN KIND OF GOING A COUPLE OF YEARS NOW AND SOMEONE ELSE WANTS TO DO SOMETHING IS IT -- DO YOU KIND OF REEVALUATE EVERY YEAR OR WHAT IS THE SCHEDULING PRIORITY?

>> LIKE FOR INSTANCE THE BAA, THE MARATHON, IT IS USUALLY --

>> YES, THE MARATHON ASIDE.

>> BUT WE WORK WITH ALL OF THE EVENTS COMMITTEES, WE WORK WITH WHOEVER IT IS, USUALLY IT IS A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS. AND ALSO EVENTS, AND DEPENDS ON WHEN THE EVENT IS GOING TO BE AND HOW MANY EVENTS ARE IN THE CITY.

WE HAVE TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION WHAT IS DOING ON AT FENWAY PARK.

>> I JUST WANT TO ADD ON TO WHAT THE DIRECTOR IS SAYING, THERE IS ALWAYS A DEFERENCE TO THE EXISTING EVENTS.

>> SO BASICALLY -- AND HOW FAR OUT ARE YOU SCHEDULING?

DO YOU ISSUE PERFORM --

>> ABOUT A YEAR.

>> A YEAR.

SO BASICALLY IF THERE IS MORE INTEREST IN ADDING EVENTS, YOU KIND OF HAVE TO, WHOEVER KIND OF LAYS CLAIM IN THE YEAR BEFORE ESSENTIALLY GETS THE RIGHTS OF FIRST REFUSAL OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT AND THEN OTHERS WILL GET RECOMMENDED TO A DIFFERENT LOCATION OR DIFFERENT DATE OR DO YOU EVER KIND OF FLAT OUT REJECT ANY OF THEM?

>> WE TRY NOT TO REJECT ANYTHING.

WE 32 I DO MAKE IT IF IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE IT CAN HAPPEN OVER THERE AND WE DID A LOT OF THAT WITH A LOT OF GROUPS FROM LAST YEAR.

>> SO TWO NEW THINGS THAT WE HAVE BEEN WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE TOURISM SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DEPARTMENT WITH IS CREATING A 5K ROUTE WITHIN THE COMMON ITSELF AND ALSO WITHIN FRANKLIN PARK TO TRY TO GET OUT OF THE BUSINESS OF CLOSING ROADS BECAUSE IT IS SO IMPACTFUL. THAT HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL, HOWEVER, THAT IS NOW STARTING TO RUN INTO THE TRADITIONAL YEARLY EVENT THAT WE HAVE AT BOTH OF THOSE PARKS, AND SO REALLY WE ARE AT CAPACITY AT THOSE.

>> AND THIS IS TANGENTIAL AND PROBABLY A TOPIC FOR A DIFFERENT DATE BUT IT FEELS LIKE THERE IS GOING TO BE NO STOPPAGE OF MORE INTEREST IN HOSTING EVENTS AND THERE WILL BE MORE AND MORE -- WHICH IS A GOOD THING FOR THE CITY PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER AND CREATING THESE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS, BUT THAT IF EVERY WOKE IN THE "TEAL

LOCATION, THE IDEAL TIME IS CLAIMED BY SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN THERE BEFORE, THERE JUST SEEMS TO BE SOMETHING .. INEQUITABLE ABOUT THAT AND WHETHER IT IS SOME FEEDBACK FROM THE PUBLIC OF, YOU KNOW, WE ARE THESE GOOD HOSTS IN A BAD NEIGHBORHOOD AND THAT MEANS THERE IS SUCH A HIGH DEMAND FOR PEOPLE WANTING TO DO SOMETHING IF THEY WEREN'T RESPONSIBLE ACTORS, MAYBE THEY SHOULDN'T -- TAKE A YEAR OFF AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS OR A DIFFERENT, THEY FALL DOWN IN PRIORITY THAT IS GIVEN, AND/OR EVEN ASSUMING EVERYONE HANDLES THE NEIGHBORHOOD A INTERACTION REALLY WELL AND THAT THERE ARE NO COMPLAINTS, EVEN JUST THE IDEA THERE SHOULD BE SOME FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNITY ON HOW THEY WANT THEIR KIND OF THE MITT GAIGHTS THAT THEY HAVE TO DEAL WITH, THE IMPACT THEY HAVE TO DEAL WITH, SHOULD THIS GO TO THAT, THIS OR THAT CAUSE? MAYBE THERE IS A LOCAL ORGANIZATION THAT WANTS TO DO A WALK THEY WOULD MUCH RATHER BE INCONVENIENCED FOR THAN SOME NATIONAL ORGANIZATION THAT IS COMING IN AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN.

SO I DON'T KNOW IF THERE IS ROOM FOR THAT CONVERSATION SOMEWHERE, BUT I THINK BACK BAY SHOULD BE ON THE TABLE WHEN IT COMES TO TALKING ABOUT THAT SINCE THEY THEY ARE THE EPICENTER OF THESE TYPE OF EVENTS BUT THINKING THROUGH CITY WIDE IF THERE IS A POLICY AROUND HOW -- REEVALUATION THAT HAPPENS YEAR AFTER YEAR, UNDERSTANDING THE ORGANIZATIONS NEED STABILITY TO CONTINUE GROWING EVENTS TOO, SO YOU ARE IN A TOUGH SPOT I KNOW, BUT JUST THROWING THAT OUT THERE.

>> ALL RIGHT.

I THINK YOUR POINT IS WELL MET. AND WE CERTAINLY LEARNED A LOT FROM COUNCILOR ZAKIM'S COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE PROCESS

OF DEALING WITH THE FREEDOM
RALLY ON BOSTON COMMON RECENTLY.
AND CERTAINLY, YOU KNOW, NO
EVENT SHOULD GET TO THAT POINT
BEFORE THE CITY TAKES ACTION, SO
I THINK THE MORE WE CAN
INCORPORATE THAT THOUGHTFULNESS
IN OUR APPROACH TO SCHEDULING
THESE EVENTS WE WOULD BE -- WE
BENEFIT FROM THAT.

>> THANK YOU.

COUNCILOR ESSAIBI GEORGE,
ANYTHING AT THIS POINT?

>> OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>> COUNCILOR ZAKIM, ANY OTHER
QUESTIONS?

>> NO, THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR.
THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN.

I APPRECIATE YOUR WILLINGNESS TO
LISTEN.

I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM THE
RESIDENTS AND THE OTHER FOLKS I
REPRESENT.

I FEEL ENCOURAGED BY THIS,
ESPECIALLY AS WE ARE GETTING
INTO THE SPRING SEASON.

SO I DO JUST WANT TO REITERATE
THAT TWO -- I THINK TWO OF THE
MOST CRUCIAL ACTION ITEMS THAT
CAN BE IMPLEMENTED, YOU KNOW,
MAYBE NOT OVERNIGHT BUT PRETTY
CLOSE IS TRYING TO INCORPORATE
THOSE ROAD CLOSURE LISTS WITH O
AND SS, OUTGOING NEIGHBORHOOD
E-MAILS, TRYING AND AGAIN SINCE
WE ARE PROBABLY ALREADY SET FOR
THIS YEAR BUT MOVING FORWARD, AS
NEW APPLICANTS COME IN, IF IT IS
OF A SIGNIFICANT SIZE AND I WILL
LEAVE IT TO YOUR JUDGMENT WHAT
QUALIFIES, LOOPING IN THE
RELEVANT CIVIC ASSOCIATION
AND/OR, YOU KNOW, OUR DISTRICT
CITY COUNCIL OFFICES AND
BRINGING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
INTO THIS DISCUSSION ABOUT USING
SOME COMMON SENSE DISCRETION ON
HOW FOLKS GET IN AND OUT OF
THEIR HOMES DURING THESE EVENTS
I THINK ARE THREE THINGS THAT
CAN HAPPEN FAIRLY EASILY THIS
PREPARATION FOR THE COMING
SPRING.

ABSOLUTELY.

>> ARE THERE ANY OTHER MEMBERS
OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO SPEAK?
>> FEEL FREE TO COME DOWN TO THE
MICROPHONE AT THIS TIME.

>>

>> THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIRMAN.
MY NAME IS MIKE GEORGE.

I AM HERE AT THE INVITATION OF
THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION OF
THE BACK BAY, WHICH I AM A
MEMBER.

MY COMMENTS ARE MY OWN.
AND WITH NAB, I HEAD UP A GROUP
OF CONDOMINIUM MANAGEMENT GROUP
THAT LOOKS AT HOW WE MANAGE THE
BUILDINGS.

I ALSO SERVE AS NABB'S
REPRESENTATIVE ON THE
ASSOCIATION FOR DOWNTOWN CIVIC
ASSOCIATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS
ADCO.

>> JUST TO SUMMARIZE A COUPLE OF
THINGS AND AT ADD DCO
TRANSITIONS FROM SUCCESSFUL
CAMPAIGN TO REGULATE SHORT-TERM
RENTALS INTO THE AREA OF
TRANSPORTATION, THERE ARE SOME
BROADER TRANSPORTATION ISSUES
THAT ARE RAISED BY THIS -- BY
THIS ISSUE TOO.

WHILE WE MAY BE THE MOST
AFFLUENT NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENTS
OF THE BACK BAY WE ARE ALSO THE
MOST MEDICALLY NEEDY AND AS THE
CONGESTION IN THE STREETS CLOGS
UP OUR NEIGHBORS, IT AT SOME
POINT IMPACTS THE ABILITY FOR
EMERGENCY VEHICLES TO GET
THROUGH.

I UNDERSTAND POLICE AND FIRE ARE
AT THE TABLE ON THESE MEETINGS
BUT WE ARE INCREASINGLY
CONCERNED ABOUT BEING ABLE TO
GET ACCESS TO THE GREAT MEDICAL
FACILITIES WE HAVE, YOU KNOW, IN
THE CITY.

THE SECOND I WOULD SAY IS THAT I
APPLAUD THE IDEA OF GETTING
ECONOMIC IMPACT INDICATOR, I AM
A RETIRED PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR,
25 YEARS IN THE STATE AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT, PAST PRESIDENT OF
THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC

ADMINISTRATION, MASSACHUSETTS
CHAPTER, AND UNDERSTAND THE
DIFFICULTY IN BRINGING IN
METRICS AND FACT FACED DECISION
MAKING INTO THE PUBLIC SECTOR.

I HAVE NOT HEARD A LOT OF --
WELL I HEARD SOME KIND OF
INITIAL ANALYTICAL APPROACH TO
THIS PROBLEM IN TERMS OF
COMPILING DATA AND COLLECTING
DATA.

I DIDN'T HEAR A LOT MORE ABOUT
METRICS, ABOUT A DECISION-MAKING
PROCESS THAT IS READILY
ACCESSIBLE.

SO I GUESS IF WE HAVE TO BUY
SOMETHING TO GIVE US THAT
SOMETHING THAT IS GREAT.

SO I APPLAUD THAT, SO WE CAN
MOVE TOWARD A MORE FACT BASED --
PARTICULARLY SINCE THE
IMPRESSION IS THAT THE
BUSINESSES DON'T PARTICULARLY
BENEFIT FROM THESE EVENTS, SO
THOSE WOULD BE A COUPLE OF
OBSERVATIONS I HAVE. YOU KNOW,
AND AS USUAL, WE ARE WILLING AND
VERY MUCH WELCOME THE ENGAGEMENT
AND THE PARTICIPATION OF THE
CITY AND APPRECIATE THE
UNDERSTANDING ON THAT.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC INTERESTED IN SPEAKING
NOW?

>> ANY FINAL COMMENTS FROM OUR
PANELISTS?

>> THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR
TIME.

THIS WILL CONCLUDE OUR HEARING
ON DOCKET NUMBER 0131, ORDER FOR
A HEARING REGARDING THE USE OF
PUBLIC WAYS, THIS HEARING IS
ADJOURNED.

>>