



OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ED FLYNN AND MICHAEL FLAHERTY  
Breadon, Essaibi-George, Wu, O'Malley, Bok, Arroyo, Edwards, Mejian, Campbell and Janey  
**CITY OF BOSTON**  
**IN CITY COUNCIL**

**ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS ZONING AND THE  
COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROCESS FOR LIFE SCIENCES  
LABORATORIES IN THE CITY OF BOSTON**

**WHEREAS:** Boston is a hub for the science and technology industries, and we have seen in recent years that there are multiple proposals from various companies that hope to construct life sciences laboratories in the City of Boston; *and*

**WHEREAS:** With the recent development boom, there are many changes to the landscape of our neighborhoods, and areas currently zoned for industrial and manufacturing use may now directly abut residential areas; *and*

**WHEREAS:** Last year, a life sciences laboratory began construction right next to a residential building without a thorough community process in South Boston because the laboratory was in an area zoned as Restricted Manufacturing, allowing the proponent to bypass a community process because the project was deemed as zoning compliant; *and*

**WHEREAS:** Residents have expressed concerns about the lack of a community process with such projects, especially during a pandemic and residents are not clear on the types of testing that would be conducted in the laboratory; *and*

**WHEREAS:** Residents should have a say in what gets built in their community, especially if it is a laboratory that can potentially impact public health and safety in the area ; *and*

**WHEREAS:** We should consider amending the zoning code and setting forth policies to ensure that residents are afforded the opportunity to have input when a laboratory or similar development is being proposed in their area; *and*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:**

That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss the community outreach process for laboratories in the City of Boston, the Boston Planning and Development Agency, the Zoning Commission, and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: February 10, 2021