

Offered by Councilor Timothy P. McCarthy and Councilor Ed Flynn



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING CONCURRENT JURISDICTION OF MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY CONTROLLED PROPERTIES LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF BOSTON

WHEREAS, The Boston City Council is dedicated to working in partnership with the city and law enforcement agencies to reduce crime, minimize public safety concerns, and improve the overall quality of life for the city's population; and,

WHEREAS, The Boston Police Department's mission is to ensure the safety and well-being of visitors, residents, and businesses located in the City of Boston; and,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to section 110 of chapter 205 of the acts of 1996, the Massachusetts State Police is the sole police authority of the General Edward Lawrence Logan international airport and the Massachusetts Port ("MassPort") Authority properties located within a municipality; and,

WHEREAS, The Boston Police Department does not have jurisdiction on MassPort properties in the city. Prohibiting the Boston Police from responding to incidents on MassPort properties creates public safety concerns and may place the city at risk of litigation if the Boston Police respond to situations on MassPort properties; and,

WHEREAS, This type of jurisdiction is specific to MassPort properties only. The State Police and local police have concurrent jurisdiction on all other state property including DCR property, MBTA property and state roads; and

WHEREAS, The proposed legislation does not take away the authority of the State Police, it only gives the Boston Police the same police jurisdiction as the State Police in the City of Boston; and

WHEREAS, This proposed amendment grants jurisdiction to local law enforcement, and requires the establishment of roles and responsibilities between the State Police and local law enforcement, in consultation with MassPort; This proposal ensures that all citizens, businesses, and visitors receive the same police services in all neighborhoods of Boston

NOW,

THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED.

That the appropriate committees of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the issue of shared enforcement jurisdiction between the Boston Police Department and the State Police Department over MassPort and other state-controlled properties within the City of Boston. Representatives from the Boston Police and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed: May 07, 2018