

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL



ORDER OF CITY COUNCILORS MATT O'MALLEY AND KIM JANEY

Essaibi-George Pressley Baker Ciommo Edwards Flaherty Flynn McCarthy Wu Zakim Campbell

- WHEREAS:** Violence is an ongoing issue that creates a cycle of trauma on families and communities in the City of Boston; and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Boston encourages a public health approach to youth violence prevention and focuses on using City resources to connect youth with social services and jobs in the summer; and
- WHEREAS:** Communication and collaboration with civic leaders, City agencies and other community based organizations encourage trust and innovative safety techniques, such as the Text-A-Tip Program; and
- WHEREAS:** Improving coordination between City and State agencies including Boston Housing Authority police, District's Attorney's Office, and Municipal Courts can better integrate the prevention and response to violence; and
- WHEREAS:** The Boston Police Department's Neighborhood Watch Unit strives to empower residents to work on issues related to crime and safety on a block-by-block and street-by-street basis; and
- WHEREAS:** The Boston Police Department will host its 35th Annual National Night Out this summer in partnership with the community, youth, law enforcement, City and State agencies, and community based organizations; and
- WHEREAS:** In 2010, the Boston Police Department created "Operation Hoodsie Cup" which has encouraged engagement between BPD officers and children in the City of Boston and they have handed out more than 150,000 Hoodsie cups; and
- WHEREAS:** The Boston Police Athletic League, Inc. (PAL) program is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to the positive development of the youth of Boston and offers educational, athletic and civic engagement programs including the summer program, Junior Police Academy; and
- WHEREAS:** With the summer approaching, every young person should be protected from gun violence, and violence of all kinds; **THEREFORE BE IT**
- ORDERED:** That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss summer violence and explore ways to strengthen community engagement, and that representatives from the Boston Police Department, Office of Public Safety, Boston Public Health Commission, the Boston Housing Authority, the Neighborhood Watch Unit, Boston Police Athletic League, Inc., community members, and any other stakeholders be invited to testify.