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;;;BOSTON CITY COUNCIL  
;;;7/10/2018

TEST CAPTION

>> GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I'M FLAHERTY -- MICHAEL FLAHERTY JOINED BY MY FELLOW COUNSELORS. WE'RE HERE TO DISCUSS DOCKET 0240 AN ORDER FOR A HEARING FOR VOTING RIGHTS FOR IMMIGRANT WITH LEGAL STATUS AND OTHER PRACTICES. THIS WAS MENTIONED BY ANDREA CAMPBELL REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE AND THE HEARING IS A DISCUSSION ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF ALLOWING IMMIGRANT WITH LEGAL STATUS TO VOTE IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS AND EXAMINE OTHER INCLUSIVE PRACTICE. AN IMMIGRANT WITH LEGAL STATUS IS PERMANENT RESIDENTS PROTECTED STATUS RECIPIENTS AND PROTECTED CHILD FOR ARRIVAL RECIPIENTS. TO REITERATE THERE'S NO PROPOSED LEGISLATION ON THE TABLE THIS IS AN ORDER FOR A DISCUSSION. THE HEARING IS BEING RECORDED BUT BROADCAST AT A LATER DATE AND STREAMLINED ON THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL TV AND JOINED BY MY COLLEAGUE ANNISSA ESSAIBI GEORGE AND JOSH ZAKIM AND ANNISSA ESSAIBI GEORGE SENT A LETTER SHE REGRETS SHE'S UNABLE TO ATTEND TODAY'S HEARING AND HAD MADE A PREVIOUS COMMITMENT TO HOST AN EVENT WITH CHINK AT THE MILDRED HAILEY HOUSING AT JAMAICA PLAIN AND HOPES THE DISCUSSION AND TESTIMONY ARE PRODUCTIVE AND WILL RESERVE A RESPONSE UNTIL AFTER WATCHING THE HEARING AND RECEIVING NOTES IN ITS ENTIRETY. ALSO AS A MEMBER WE SIGNED ONTO THE ORDER BY ANDREA CAMPBELL AND WE ED DID WE ED -- WE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM TIMOTHY McCARTHY SHE IS AT A FAMILY REUNION AND

VOTING IS A RIGHT AND PRIVILEGE  
FOR THOSE WHO TOOK THE PLEDGE TO  
BE SILT ZEB -- CITIZEN AND  
SINCERELY TIM McCARTHY AND I'LL  
MAKE SURE MY COLLEAGUES GET A  
COPY AND I'LL TURN IT ORE TO THE  
LEAD SPONSOR ANDREA CAMPBELL  
THANK YOU TO FELLOW COUNCILOR  
ANNISSA ESSAIBI GEORGE WHO  
COULDN'T BE HERE AND TODAY'S  
HEARING IS A CONVERSATION.  
I GOT INTO THIS WORK OF BEING A  
COUNCILOR TO HAVE AN IMPACT ON  
THE RESIDENTS IN MY DIRECT AND  
ON THE LIVES OF THE FOLKS WHO  
LIVE IN MY DISTRICT INCLUDING  
MATTAPAN, DORCHESTER AND JAMAICA  
PLAIN AND ROSLINDALE AND THAT  
MEANS TAKING ACTION WHETHER  
PRODUCING MORE HOUSING OR  
FUNDING FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS OR  
TAKING STEP TO PUT FORTH POLICY  
TO ADVANCE WOMEN OR PEOPLE OF  
COLOR OR WORKING ON LOCAL  
INITIATIVES THAT CAN POTENTIALLY  
CHANGE THE WAY WE DELIVER  
EDUCATION, ALL OF THIS IS  
DESIGNED TO HAVE AN IMPACT ON  
THE RESIDENTS OF BOSTON.  
NOT NOT MERELY AN IMPACT PEOPLE  
CAN FEEL BUT OPPORTUNITIES THAT  
OUR RESIDENTS CAN RECEIVE.  
WHILE I DO NOT HAVE AUTHORITY  
OVER FEDERAL IMMIGRATION  
POLICIES AND I RECOGNIZE THAT, I  
THINK WE DO HAVE THE AUTHORITY  
TO DO A FEW DIFFERENT THINGS ON  
THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL ONE IS  
TO HOLD HEARINGS ON ISSUES THAT  
MAY BE DEEMED CONTROVERSIAL AND  
PASS LEGISLATION TO CHANGE THE  
LIVES OF FOLKS IN THE CITY OF  
BOSTON AND IMPACT ON THOSE ON  
THE LIVES WHO LIVE HERE AND AS  
WE CONTINUE TO FOLLOW NEWS OUT  
OF WASHINGTON.  
WE'RE CONSTANTLY TALKING ABOUT  
THE NEWS EVERY WEDNESDAY IN THIS  
CHAMBER TYPICALLY.  
WATCHING FAMILIES BEING  
SEPARATED AND CHILDREN TORN FROM  
THEIR PARENTS.  
THOSE WHO SERVE IN OUR MILITARY  
BEING ABRUPTLY DISCHARGED

WITHOUT CAUSE AND ROUNDING UP CERTAIN IMMIGRANT AND SHIPPING THEM BACK AND PULLING IN LOCAL AGENCIES SOMETIMES SCHOOL DEPARTMENTS TO BE PART OF THIS MALICIOUS PLAN AND WE HAVE TO ASK OURSELVES WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT THIS AND GIVEN THE DEMOGRAPHICS IN THIS CITY AND MY DISTRICT, IMMIGRATION IS IMPORTANT NOT ONLY FOR THOSE SEEK CITIZENSHIP BUT ALSO FOR CITIZENS.

I LIVE IN A NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE SOME OF MY NEIGHBORS ARE PERMANENT LEGAL RESIDENTS OR SEEKING CITIZENSHIP OR ON A PATHWAY TO CITIZENSHIP AND THEY'RE SOMETIME IN FEAR AND DISTRESS AND WE FEEL WE IN THIS COUNTRY ARE AT A CROSS ROADS. I CANNOT KEEP GOING TO RALLIES, MARCHING OR SENDING RESOLUTIONS TO PRESIDENT TRUMP.

I DON'T THINK HE IS READING THEM SO FOR ME THIS HEARING SABA -- IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO MORE THAN GOING TO MARCHES AND RALLIES AND HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT INCLUSIVE PRACTICES WHICH MAY BE VOTING, I DON'T KNOW, BUT INCLUSIVE PRACTICES WE CAN MAKE AVAILABLE TO YOUR IMMIGRANT AND TO THOSE WHO ARE HERE LEGALLY IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN PAYING TAXES, WHO SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO OUR SCHOOLS, WHO RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS AND MAYBE EVEN ON SOME BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AND HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THE CITY FOR YEARS AND DECADE.

I THINK WE OWE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE THE HEARING AND I'M HAPPY TO HAVE IT AND HAVE THE CONVERSATION.

I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN THIS CITY.

MY FATHER WAS BORN AND RAISED IN ROXBURY IN 1933.

THIS CITY HAS A RICH HISTORY. WE KNOW IRISH, JEWS, ITALIANS CAME HERE SEEKING BETTER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THEMSELVES AND

THEIR CHILDREN AND MANY ARE DOING THE SAME TODAY BUT BASED ON WHAT IS COMING OUT OF WASHINGTON, IT'S UNPREDICTABLE AND THE WAY IN WHICH YOU BECOME A CITIZEN IS CHANGING AND THE PROCESS IS CHANGING. AND PEOPLE SIGNED UP AND WENT THROUGH A PROCESS TO BECOME A CITIZEN AND ALL OF A SUDDEN THEY HAD TO GO THROUGH A NEW PROCESS AND WE WANT YOU TO BE A PART OF SOME OF THE CONVERSATIONS AND I HAVE TO GIVE A LITTLE BIT OF CREDIT TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO ACTUALLY PROBABLY SPARK THIS CONVERSATION WITHIN MY OFFICE. WE HAD A RALLY OR A GET TOGETHER RIGHT HERE IN CITY HALL AND ONE OF THE FOLKS WHO WAS LEADING THE CONVERSATION WAS PACKED BY THE WAY, SOMEONE SAID I'M TIRED OF OUR ELECTIVES SHOWING UP IN IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES ONLY IN RESPONSE. I RECEIVED A LOT OF E-MAILS, A LOT OF CALLS. THEY'VE ACTUALLY NOT ALL BEEN NEGATIVE. SOME HAVE BEEN POSITIVE IN TALKING ABOUT THE VALUE OF CITIZENSHIP AND WHAT IT MEANS AND FOR SOME THEY FEEL AS THOUGH THIS MAY Demean THEIR CITIZENSHIP. I LIKE TO THINK SOME FOLKS VIEW THEIR CITIZENSHIP DIFFERENTLY. SOME SAY BEING A CITIZEN IN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VOTING IS ONE THING AND THEY'RE HAPPY ABOUT THAT. SOME THINK TRAVELLING FREELY ACROSS THE WORLD IS THE BEST BENEFIT YOU GET. THIS CONVERSATION TODAY WILL EXTEND NOT EVERY POSSIBILITY OR EVERY PRIVILEGE OR RESPONSIBILITY, I SHOULD SAY, IS AFFORDED A U.S. CITIZEN BUT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF VOTING IN LOCAL ELECTIONS NOT STATE OR FEDERAL ELECTIONS BUT IN OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT THESE COMMUNITIES AND

THAT MAY MEAN HAVING A  
MULTI-LINGUAL CAMPAIGN THAT SAYS  
YOU'RE WELCOME HERE AND MAY MEAN  
DOING MORE FOR STUDENTS IN BPS,  
IT MAY MEAN HAVING MUNICIPAL  
I.D. CARDS OR HAVING MOMENTS  
WHERE LONG-TIME RESIDENTS  
CONNECT WITH NEWCOMERS.

IT'S A HOST OF THING AND THE  
ADMINISTRATION TODAY WILL  
ADDRESS THOSE POSSIBILITIES AS  
WELL AS OUR CONSTITUENTS NOT ALL  
VIEW IT BEING THE SAME WAY.

TODAY IS A CONVERSATION I LOOK  
FORWARD TO HAVING IT AND I'M  
NEVER AFRAID TO HAVE A  
CONVERSATION AND I'D LIKE TO  
THANK ANY COLLEAGUES IN ADVANCE  
FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION.

>> WE'VE BEEN JOINED BY OUR  
COLLEAGUE.

WE HAVE A CHAIR RECOGNIZING  
COUNCILOR ED FLYNN.

>> THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY  
TO SPEAK ON THISSISH PUP THANK  
YOU, COUNCILOR PRESIDENT  
CAMPBELL FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP AS  
WELL.

I'D LIKE TO SAY THAT MY POSITION  
IS THAT I AM OPPOSED TO A  
MEASURE THAT WOULD ALLOW  
NON-CITIZENS TO VOTE IN OUR  
ELECTIONS.

I DO FEEL THE RIGHT TO VOTE  
SAY -- IS A PRIVILEGE RESERVED  
FOR U.S. CITIZENS AND RESERVED  
FOR THOSE INDIVIDUAL WHO'S HAVE  
GONE THROUGH THE EXTENSIVE  
CITIZENSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS,  
HOWEVER, I DO NOT WANT TO STIFLE  
DISCUSSION OR OTHER PEOPLE'S  
POSITION AND OPINIONS.

I THINK THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL  
DOES AND SERVES AS AN EXAMPLE AS  
A WAY TO HAVE DEBATE AND  
DISCUSSIONS WITH DECENCY AND  
CIVILITY TOWARDS ONE ANOTHER.

SPLAY DIFFERENTING --  
DIFFERING OPINIONS.

OVER THE COURSE OF THE YEAR AS  
AN ELECTED OFFICIAL I'VE STOOD  
HERE TO HIGHLIGHT MY FAMILY'S  
RESPECT FOR IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY  
AND THEIR ENORMOUS CONTRIBUTION

TO OUR CITY AND NATION.

I TALKED ABOUT THE IMMIGRANT  
GATEWAY PLAQUE DEDICATED BY  
MAYOR FLYNN IN 1991.

I DENOUNCED THE ACTION AT THE  
BORDER TO SEPARATE CHILDREN FROM  
FAMILIES.

MANY TIMES I'VE SUPPORTED  
EFFORTS TO MAKE SAVE THOSE  
TEMPORARY STATUS FOR HAITIAN  
EARTHQUAKE IMMIGRANT AND PART OF  
THE EFFORT IN THE RELIEF EFFORT  
IN THAT COUNTRY.

TO THE SEEKING ASYLUM SHOULD BE  
ALLOWED IN THE UNITED STATES AS  
A BEACON OF HOPE AND TO THE  
UNITED STATES AND CITY OF  
BOSTON.

I PROUDLY SERVED IN THE MOST  
DIVERSE ORGANIZATION IN THE  
WORLD THE UNITED STATES  
MILITARY.

I SERVED IN THE NAVY FOR 25  
YEARS ALONG SIDE MANY IMMIGRANT  
ON THE IRAQI OIL PLATFORMS  
THROUGHOUT THE PERSIAN GULF.  
IMMIGRANTS SERVED OUR NATION  
BRAVELY AND HONORABLY.

I'VE SEEN FIRST-HAND IMMIGRANTS  
SERVING OUR COUNTRY AND PUTTING  
OTHERS BEFORE THEMSELVES AND  
WITNESSED THEIR BRAVERY AND  
LOVELY OF AMERICA.

I RECOGNIZE THE ENORMOUS  
CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY IMMIGRANT  
TO OUR COUNTRY AND FEEL THE  
RIGHT TO CAST THE VOTE AS A  
MENTIONED AT THE BALLOT BOX IS  
RESERVED FOR THOSE WHO OBTAINED  
THEIR CITIZENSHIP.

IN SUCH A PROUD MOMENT IN THEIR  
LIVES AND A PRIVILEGE THEY  
WORKED SO HARD TO EARN.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR FLYNN.

COUNCILOR AYANNA PRESSLEY.

THANK YOU TO COUNCILOR ANDREA  
CAMPBELL FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP IN  
OFFERING THIS HEARING ORDER AND  
IT IS A TIMELY DISCUSSION WHEN  
WE ARE AT AN ACROSS RODS.

YOUR CORRECT THIS HAS STIRRED A  
GREAT DEAL OF PUBLIC OPINION AND  
MANY CALLS AND EMAIZE TO ALL OF

OUR OFFICES.

VOTING IS A WAY TO HAVE OUR VOICES HEARD AND IF MY SOURCES IS CORRECT DESPITE THE FACT WE HAVE 418,000 REGISTERED VOTERS, ONLY 109,000 PARTICIPATED. THAT'S 20%.

THOUGH IT'S A SACRED RIGHT MANY PEOPLE ARE NOT EXERCISING THEIR RIGHT.

VOTING IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT WAYS TO HAVE THEIR VOICES HEARD.

THE DIALOGUE DOES NOT END ON ELECTION DAY.

IT'S THE HIGHEST IDEALS OF THE COUNTRY.

WE ALL DESERVE A SAY IN OUR WE GOVERN OURSELVES AROUND WHY I SUPPORT THE INTENT BEHIND THIS HEARING ORDER.

OUR IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES CONTRIBUTE TO THE VIBRANCY OF OUR COMMUNITY.

I BELIEVE THEY DESERVE A SAY IN WHO REPRESENTS THEM.

WHILE PEOPLE AT THE DECISION MAKING TABLE AND CORNERS WHO TOWER MAKE DECISIONS EVERY DAY ABOUT THEIR DESTINY AND QUALITY OF LIFE.

AS A COUNCIL BODY WE STOOD IN SOLIDARITY WITH DREAMERS AND TPS HOLDERS AND OTHER IMMIGRANT GROUPS UNDER ATTACK FROM THE WHITE HOUSE AND ADMINISTRATION AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERING PROACTIVELY WITH INTENTION EVERY AVENUE TO BE A MORE INCLUSIVE CITY AND ACTUALIZE THE VALUES THAT WE ESPOUSE.

I LOOK FORWARD TO THE TESTIMONY AND WILL REMAIN FOCUSSED ON ENSURING TODAY AND BEYOND EVERY BOSTONIAN HAS A VOICE IN THEIR GOVERNMENT.

>> COUNCILOR JOSH ZAKIM.

I WANT TO ECHO MY COLLEAGUE'S COMMENTS AND LOOKING BACK ON THE ACTIONS THIS BODY HAS TAKEN CERTAINLY IN THE FOUR AND A HALF YEARS I'VE BEEN HERE OF STANDING WITH OUR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS AND WHETHER IT WAS THE ACT AND

OPPOSING PRESIDENT TRUMP'S  
POLICY OF SEPARATING FAMILIES AT  
THE BORDER SUCH ABHORRENT  
BEHAVIOR EVEN THE WHITE HOUSE  
STOPPED DOING.

I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM  
OUR ADMINISTRATION  
REPRESENTATIVES ON ADDRESSING  
ISSUES OF PROVIDING DOCUMENTS IN  
MULTIPLE LANGUAGES AND  
INTERPRETIVE SERVICES REGARDLESS  
OF IMMIGRATION STATUS OR ABILITY  
TO VOTE IN MUNICIPAL ELEMENTS --  
ELECTIONS PEOPLE CAN ACCESS  
IMPORTANT INFORMATION WHETHER  
IT'S ABOUT SCHOOLS OR POLICE  
DEPARTMENT OR PUBLIC WORKS OR  
TRASH PICK-UP SCHEDULES.  
THEY'RE ALL THINGS THAT IMPACT  
FOLKS' EVERYDAY LIVES AND MAKE  
SURE IT'S AVAILABLE IN THE  
APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE, ONLINE  
LOW PRESSURE LANGUAGE AND  
-- LANGUAGE AND ONLINE AND I  
LOOK FORWARD TO BEING HERE  
TODAY.

>> I WANTED TO SAY THANK YOU TO  
THE CHAIR AND PRESIDENT CAMPBELL  
FOR THIS IMPORTANT CONVERSATION.  
I WANTED TO JUST ABOUT THE  
IMPORTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF  
IN IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS, FAMILY  
MEMBERS HERE IN BOSTON.  
AND WANT TO MAKE SURE IMMIGRANT  
CAN PARTICIPATE.  
ONE WAY IS THROUGH VOTING BUT  
THERE ARE MANY OTHER WAYS AND I  
ALSO WANT TO LET FOLKS KNOW  
THERE'S OTHER FORMS OF VOTING.  
PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING AND IT'S  
A WAY CITY HAVE IMPLEMENTED  
ALLOWING PEOPLE AS YOUNG AS 12  
YEARS OLD TO VOTE ON.  
IT'S A TIME OF CREATIVITY.  
I DO NOT WANT TO ENTERTAIN ANY  
ANTI-IMMIGRANT VOICES IN THE  
CONVERSATION.  
IT'S NOT ABOUT WHAT WE AREN'T AS  
A CITY BUT WHAT WE CAN BE AND  
WHEN IT COMES TO THE IMMIGRANT  
WHO MAY NOT HAVE THEIR  
CITIZENSHIP YET BUT WILLING TO  
DIE FOR THE DEMOGRAPHIC THAT  
ALLOWS THE PROCESS TO HAPPEN,



THEY'RE SERVING IN OUR  
U.S. MILITARY AND THOSE NOT YET  
U.S. CITIZENS, I FIRMLY THINK IF  
THERE'S ONES THING THE SIT --  
ONE THING THE CITY CAN GIVE THEM  
SAY VOICE I'M FINE WITH THAT.  
AND I'M THE DAUGHTER OF A  
VETERAN AND GREW UP ON MILITARY  
BASES.

DID I NOT SERVE IN IRAQ BUT MY  
FRIENDS DID AND WE HAD THERAPY  
SESSIONS AND WERE NOT CONCERNED  
OF THE STATUS OF THE PERSON'S  
MILITARY AND I'M BEING HONEST  
WHERE I COME FROM.

I'M NOT YET MOVED ON FOLKS WHO  
ARE NOT YET IN THE MILITARY OR  
SERVING BUT I WANT TO BE CLEAR,  
IF THIS SAY CONVERSATION ABOUT  
CIVIC PARTICIPATION FOR ALL, I'M  
EXCITE TO HAVE IT.

>> THANK YOU.

WE'VE BEEN JOINED BY COUNCILOR  
JANY.

YOU'RE COMING IN AT THIS TIME.  
ANY OPENING COMMENTS?

VERY GOOD.

HAVE YOU THE FLOOR.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR AND  
THANK YOU, COUNCILOR CAMPBELL  
FOR INTRODUCING THIS IMPORTANT  
HEARING ORDER.

AS SOMEBODY ALREADY MENTIONED WE  
RECEIVED A LOT OF INPUT FROM  
RESIDENTS OF THE CITY AND  
RESIDENTS AND THOSE FROM BOSTON  
DON'T WANT TO ENTERTAIN A  
CONVERSATION HOW CAN WE CALL  
OURSELVES A DEMOCRACY IF WE'RE  
NOT EVEN WILLING TO HAVE A  
CONVERSATION ABOUT OUR  
DEMOCRACY.

IF WE'RE NOT WILLING TO HAVE A  
CONVERSATION ON WHO CAN  
PARTICIPATE IN VOTING AND  
ELECTIONS.

I THINK VOTING IS PROBABLY ONE  
OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS WE  
CAN DO AS RESIDENTS OF A CITY  
WHO CARE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS.  
WE HAVE A CITY OF IMMIGRANT AND  
A LARGE IMMIGRANT POPULATION.  
I'M INTERESTED IN HEARING WHAT  
OUR PANEL HAS TO SAY ABOUT THIS

AND I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS.  
MOSTLY I'M HEAR TO LISTEN BUT I  
JUST WANTED TO PUT ON THE RECORD  
HOW DISCOURAGING AND  
DISHEARTENING IT'S BEEN TO HEAR  
THE NASTINESS THAT WE HEAR ABOUT  
IS IN D.C. AND IT'S HERE IN YOUR  
BACKYARD.

>> WELCOME TO THE FIRST PANEL.  
WE'LL GET INTO A PANEL  
DISCUSSION.

WE HAVE TWO PANELS AND PUBLIC  
TESTIMONY.

I ASK FOLKS TO BE COGNIZANT OF  
THAT.

WE HAVE A HEAVY AGENDA AND WOULD  
LIKE IT GET IN AS MUCH AS  
POSSIBLE IF PEOPLE CAN BE AS  
BRIEF AS POSSIBLE IS HELPFUL.  
AND JOINING US WE HAVE DIRECTOR  
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF IMMIGRATION  
ADVANCEMENT AND THE CITY'S  
ELECTION COMMISSIONER.

WELCOME TO ALL AND YOU HAVE THE  
FLOOR IF YOU WANT TO TAKE THE  
LEAD THERE, CHIEF.

>> SIR.

SO GOOD AFTERNOON.

>> CHAIRMAN FLAHERTY AND FELLOW  
COUNCILORS I WANT TO BE ABLE TO  
EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO HAVE AN  
OPPORTUNITY TO THINK ABOUT ALL  
THE INCLUSIVE PRACTICES AND THE  
WORK AND THE CITY HAS DONE TO  
SUPPORT OUR IMMIGRANTS IN OUR  
COMMUNITY.

I THINK WE ALL KNOW AND  
UNDERSTAND THAT BOSTON IS AND  
ALWAYS WILL BE AN IMMIGRANT  
COMMUNITY.

IT'S A COMMUNITY THAT'S WORKED  
HARD TO ENSURE THERE ARE  
PRACTICES, SERVICES AND  
RESOURCES THAT SUPPORT IMMIGRANT  
THROUGHOUT THE CITY GOVERNMENT  
WHETHER IT'S THROUGH PUBLIC  
SAFETY OR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND  
DEVELOPMENT OR HEALTH AND HUMAN  
SERVICES AND OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MAKING SURE IMMIGRANT ARE  
SERVED, ENGAGED AND CONNING  
THEED AS PART OF OUR CORK AND A  
VALUABLE PART WE ALL HOLD TRUE.  
AS A MEXICAN AMERICAN MYSELF

WHOSE BOTH PARENTS WERE BORN IN MEXICO AND IMMIGRATED TO THIS COUNTRY THESE ISSUES ARE PERSONAL TO ME I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SIT HERE TODAY WITHOUT THE ACCOMPLISH OF IMMIGRANTS WHICH IS TRUE FOR ME AND MANY HERE AND AS A MEMBER OF THE ADMINISTRATION I STAND TO SHARE SOME OF THE PROCESS HAVE COME INTO PLAY AND SOME THEFT COMMITMENT WE HAVE AS A CITY GOVERNMENT.

COUNCILOR EDWARD MENTIONED SOME THINGS THAT ENGAGE IMMIGRANTS AND ONE IS PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING.

MANY MAY BE FAMILIAR WITH THAT. WE HAVE PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING AND YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO SPEND \$1 MILLION OF THE CITY'S BUDGET AND ACTIVELY ENGAGED AND CONNECT AND ABLE TO STEVE RESOURCE TO PLACES MORE FAMILIAR AND WE'RE ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE SURE PEOPLE HAVE A VOICE AND THERE'S OTHER EXAMPLES IN ADDITION TO SOME OF THE OTHER OPPORTUNITIES AND IT HAS TO DO ENSURING IMMIGRANTS HAVE ACCESS TO HOUSING AND RESOURCES FREE OF DISCRIMINATION AND THEY CONTINUE TO WORK WITH AND INVESTIGATE ANY HOUSING DISCRIMINATION HAPPENS IN THE COMMUNITY ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO DISCRIMINATION THAT HAS TO DO WITH NATIONAL ORIGIN OR IMMIGRATION STATUS AND ENSURE THERE'S ACCESS TO THE RESOURCE. THERE'S AN ARRAY OF PROGRAMS WITHIN THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADVOCATE AND MOST IS LED BY THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND I'LL LET HER SHARE MOST OF THOSE PIECES BUT I WANT TO PRIORITIZE THE OTHER PIECES WHETHER IT'S THE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE COURSES THAT RUN TO ENGAGE THE IMMIGRANT POPULATION.

WE KNOW LEARNING ENGLISH AND MASTERING ENGLISH IS A HUGE STEP IN BEING ABLE TO BE ENGAGED AND PARTICIPATE IN ANY PROCESS. SO THAT'S A HUGE COMMITMENT MADE

THROUGH BCYF AND PARTNERS  
THROUGH THAT PROGRAMMING AND  
HEALTH COMMISSION WHETHER IT'S  
PROGRAMS THROUGH RECOVERY OR  
OFFICE OF RECOVERY SERVICES OR  
FOOD ACCESS OR DELIVERING MEAL  
PROGRAMS TO YOUTH ACROSS THE  
CITY.

ALL SERVICES ACCESSIBLE TO  
PEOPLE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION  
STATUS AND DOCUMENTATION.

WE CONTINUE AS AN ADMINISTRATION  
TO BE A CITY THAT PRIORITIZES  
THE NEEDS OF ALL RESIDENTS AND  
WE'VE DONE THAT AND WILL  
CONTINUE TO DO THAT WHETHER IT'S  
OUR VETERAN SERVICES OFFICES  
WORKING WITH FOLKS TO ENSURE  
EVERYONE CAN ACCESS CHAPTER 115  
BENEFITS AND SERVICE AVAILABLE  
REGARDLESS OF WHERE PEOPLE COME  
FROM OR STATUS OR WHAT THEY'RE  
ABLE TO ASCERTAIN OR TAKE  
ADVANTAGE OF AND WHAT'S BEEN  
CENTRAL STO THIS IS ENSURING OUR  
OFFICES ARE DIVERSE AND WE HAVE  
ACCESS TO LANGUAGE CAPACITY AND  
DOCUMENTATION THAT IS TRANSLATED  
AND ACCESSIBILITY FOR MEETINGS  
AND RESOURCES AND ENSURING  
THERE'S A VOICE.

ONE OF THE PIECES I WANT TO  
LEAVE YOU WITH IS WE REMAIN  
COMMIT TO ALLOWING PEOPLE TO  
HAVE THEIR VOICES RAISED AND  
ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT AND CONNECTION  
TO OUR CITY GOVERNMENT.

THE ADMINISTRATION AND MAYOR  
WALSH REMAIN COMMITTED.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO ENSURING THE  
ACCESS TAKES PLACE AND ARE EAGER  
TO ENGAGE IN THIS CONVERSATION  
WITH THE COUNCIL, LISTEN, LEARN  
AND UNDERSTAND WHERE YOU ALL ARE  
WITH YOUR EFFORTS BUT TRUST  
REGARDLESS OF WHERE WE ARE IN  
THIS CONVERSATION THIS  
ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES IT BE A  
CHAMPION AND ENSURE ALL OF OUR  
SERVICES ARE ACCEPTABLE AND NOW  
I WOULD ASKAL -- ASK ALEJANDRA  
TO SHARE MORE WITH YOU.

>> THANK YOU FOR HOSTING THE  
HEARING AND DISCUSSION.

I'M GOING GO OVER A HIGHLIGHT OF THE WORK WE DID IN FY18 A LOT OF WHICH IS CONTINUING IN FY19 AND GIVE BACKGROUND ON NON-CITIZEN VOTING AND IN PARTICULAR WAYS WE CAN ENCOURAGE CIVIC PARTICIPATION REGARDLESS OF STATUS.

I RECENTLY HAD A BUDGET HEARING SO I WENT OVER THIS -- I DON'T WANT TO GET TOO MUCH INTO THE DETAILS I KNOW WE'RE SHORT ON TIME AS WELL, AND I WILL SAY ECHO IN TERMS OF ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY AND MAKING SURE

IMMIGRANT HAVE A VOICE AND SO MUCH WHATEVER WE'VE BEEN DOING OVER THE PAST 18 MONTHS IS DEFENSE WORK AND WE HOPE TO CONTINUE TO TAKE PROACTIVE MEASURES TO SUPPORT OUR IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY.

SOME OF THE WORK WE'VE DONE AS PART OF OUR IMMIGRANT ADVANCEMENT INITIATIVE IS MUNICIPAL LEADERS FOR THE IMMIGRATION ADVANCEMENT SUMMIT AND CREATED A FUND FOR DACA RENEWALS BECAUSE THEY'D HAVE TO RENEW SOONER THAN EXPECTED AND A PUBLIC ART CAMPAIGN AND OUR ANNUAL CITIZENSHIP DAY WE DO EVERY YEAR IN COLLABORATION WITH PUBLIC CITIZENSHIP AND LAST YEAR IN SEPTEMBER WE HAD 375 APPLICANTS AND 60 COUNTRIES AND \$65,000 IN FEES SAVED.

WE HAD LARGE-SCALE IMMIGRATION CLINICS FOR OUR CURRENT TPS HOLDERS KNOWING THEY'RE AT RISK OF LOST THEIR STATUS JANUARY 2019.

WE'RE AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE WELCOMING NEST TRANS-ATLANTIC CHANGE WHERE WE EXCHANGE IDEAS WITH OUR COUNTERPARTS IN GERMANY.

WE HOST THE FIRST CITIES TAKING ACTION CONVENING OF THE OFFICES ACROSS THE COUNTRY TO COME TOGETHER AND ADMINISTERATE -- STRATEGIZE HOW WE'D WORK TO SUPPORT IMMIGRANT RESIDENTS AND

PROTECT THEM FROM WHAT'S COMING  
DOWN THE PIPELINE FROM THE  
ADMINISTRATION.

OUR IMMIGRATION CORNER IN EVERY  
PUBLIC PUBLIC LIBRARY AND TWO  
YMCAs PROVIDING CITIZENSHIP TO  
LAWYER REFERRALS TO LOCAL  
NON-PROFITS THAT HELP AND  
ENGLISH ESL CLASSES.

WE WERE CRITICAL IN ESTABLISHING  
THE GREATER BOSTON IMMIGRANT  
LEGAL DEFENSE FUND AS MANY OF  
YOU KNOW.

THE CIVIL IMMIGRATION  
PROCEEDINGS ARE CIVIL SO THERE'S  
NO RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY AND THE  
DIFFERENCE FROM HAVING AN  
ATTORNEY AND NOT HAVING ONE IS  
ASTRONOMICAL.

IT'S 10 TIMES MORE CHANCE OF  
WINNING YOUR CASE THAN IF YOU DON'T  
HAVE SO HAVING AN ILLEGAL  
DEFENSE FUND TO HELP IN  
DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS HAS BEEN  
A HUGE PART OF WHAT WE'VE BEEN  
DOING.

WE'RE BOSTON GALA WHICH RAISES  
FUNDS FOR THE IMMIGRANT  
INITIATIVE AS WELL AS RAISES  
FUNDS FOR CRITICAL NEEDS IN THE  
COMMUNITY LIKE ENGLISH FOR NEW  
BOSTONIANS, PRO BONO AND ADVICE  
CLINICS AND RESPONSE AND  
ASSISTANCE FOR PUERTO RICAN  
COMMUNITIES.

SO THERE'S A SNAPSHOT.  
IN TERMS OF SOME BACKGROUND,  
SOME NUMBERS FOR YOU AS WE  
ENGAGE IN THE CONVERSATION ON  
WHO WOULD BE IMPACTED, SO  
INFORMATION COMES TO THE  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU.

WE HAVE 90,000 NON-CITIZENS WHO  
ARE 18 PLUS.

OF THOSE, 43% ARE LEGAL  
PERMANENT RESIDENTS, ABOUT  
38,000.

18,000 HAVE STUDENT VISAS.  
14,000 HAVE H1B VISAS AND THEN  
21% HAVE OTHER IMMIGRATION LEGAL  
STATUS OR NO STATUS AT ALL.

39% OF THE EAST BOSTON  
POPULATION OF ALL AGES ARE  
NON-CITIZEN.

34% OF ADULT HISPANICS AND 40% OF ADULT ASIANS ARE NON HISPANIC.

AND BETWEEN 1776 AND 1926, 40 STATES ALLOWED NON CITIZENS TO VOTE IN ELECTIONS AT SOME POINT. LOCAL, STATE, EVEN FEDERAL.

WE MENTIONED SOMEONE WOULD COME IN FROM MARYLAND AND IT SHOULD BE VIEWED THEY LOOKED AT THAT AND IN CHICAGO PARENTS CAN VOTE FOR SCHOOL COUNCIL MOMENT BER. IN SAN FRANCISCO ALL IMMIGRANT CAN VOTE IN LOCAL ELECTIONS REGARDLESS OF STATUS.

WE RECOGNIZED THERE'S A LOT OF WAYS TO PROMOTE INCLUSIVITY FOR NON-CITIZENS THAT GO BEYOND VOTING.

WHEN WE SUPPORTED THE CITY INCLUDING THE SAME-DAY VOTER REGISTRATION AT EVERY NATURALIZATION CEREMONY WHICH IS SOMETHING THE NON-PROFIT SPONSORS ARE GOOD AT AND IN APRIL OF THIS YEAR THE COUNCILOR PASSED ROUTINE CITY INTERACTIONS.

SOME BEST PRACTICES FOR IMMIGRANT RESIDENTS INCLUDE THINGS THAT WE'RE ALREADY DOING INCLUDING PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR IMMIGRANT AND AN IMMIGRATION 101 WORKSHOP AND DO WORKSHOPS FOR TRAINED INDIVIDUALS AND FUNDING THAT WE PROVIDE TO BOSTONIANS FOR OUR ESOL OF PARENTS OF 8 OR 12 STUDENTS IS HOW WE ENGAGE STUDENTS OF ALL STATUS.

IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE THEY HAVE A DEPARTMENT THAT FUNCTIONS THROUGH SEVEN SESSIONS THAT MEET MONTHLY.

TORONTO, CANADA BRINGS TOGETHER LEADERS AND THE COMMUNITY-BASED SECTOR AND SCHOOL BOARD TAKE ACTION ON SYSTEM WIDE ISSUES THAT EFFECT NEWCOMERS AND THEIR SETTLEMENT AND HAVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CITY PROGRAMS AND POLICIES, LEVERAGED TO RESOURCES TO ENHANCE ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND CITY SERVES AND PROVIDE GREATER PARTICIPATION IN

PROCESSES.

IN CALIFORNIA THERE WAS A BLOCK LEADER PROGRAM TO BUILD COHESION AMONG RESIDENTS.

IN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, IN 2010 AFTER ASIAN IMMIGRANTS EXPERIENCED SOME ASSAULTS THEY CREATE THE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM WHERE THEY WERE EMPLOYED BY THE CITY BY CRAFTING MULTI-CULTURAL COLLABORATION.

ANOTHER THING FOR THE MUNICIPAL I.D. PROGRAM AND THE FEASIBILITY STUDY WILL INCLUDE FIVE DELIVERABLES AND TECHNICAL SECURITY AND PRIVACY STANDARDS AND AN EVALUATION PLAN AND THE GROUP TASKED WITH PUTTING THIS TOGETHER WILL BE ABLE TO DELIVER THOSE SHORTLY.

THE LANGUAGE ACCESS AND THE ABILITY FOR ALL RESIDENTS TO ENGAGE WITH THEIR LOCAL OFFICIAL AND ADMINISTRATION IS HUGE IMPORTANT AND WHY KE -- WE CONTINUE TO BE ACTIVE IN OUR LANGUAGE ACCESS AND COMMUNICATIONS PLAN AND THERE'S A STRATEGIC PLAN AND THE BEGINNINGS PILOT PHASES AND AN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN IS TO ABOUT TO BEGIN TO MAKE SURE LIMITED ENGLISH RESIDENTS ARE AWARE AND IT'S A WAY OF FACILITATING COMMUNICATION AND TRUST BETWEEN IMMIGRANT AND OFFICIALS.

>> WELCOME BACK.

ANYTHING TO ADD?

>> FIRST, MICHAEL FLAHERTY AND TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

IT GIVES ME PLEASURE TO BE HERE TODAY BECAUSE WE'RE ALL DEDICATED ADMINISTERING DEMOCRACY AND MAKING SURE THERE'S ACCESS TO VOTING.

IT GIVES US PLEASURE TO BE A PART OF THE CONVERSATIONS INCLUDING ONE LIKE THIS THAT SEEMS TO HAVE ATTRACTED SO MUCH ATTENTION.

I AGREE, COUNCILOR, CAMPBELL, I HOPE THIS TURNING INTO MORE PEOPLE CURRENTLY ELIGIBLE TO



PARTICIPATE.  
THERE'S LOTS OF ROOM FOR GROWTH  
AND THAT'S THE FOCUS OF THE  
ELECTION DEPARTMENT.  
WE'RE FOCUSSED ON  
OPERATIONALIZING THE POLICIES  
WE'RE TASKED TO ADMINISTER AND  
THAT IS OUR FOCUS IS TO MAKE  
SURE ALL OF OUR ELIGIBLE VOTERS  
ARE REGISTERED AND UP TO DATE  
AND WE'RE HAPPY INCREASE VOTER  
ACCESS AND HAVE ALREADY BEGUN  
THAT WORK TO WORK WITH THE  
BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO MAKE  
SURE REGISTRATION IS PART OF  
THEIR WELCOME CENTERS AND IT'S  
PART OF THE WORK CENTER AND THE  
BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARIES ARE

INCORPORATING VOTER REGISTRATION  
AND SAME WITH OUR TRANSPORTATION  
DEPARTMENT WHEN THEY INTERACT  
WITH THOSE UPDATING PARKING  
PERMITS AND WE ALSO WORK WITH  
THE NON PROFIT GROUPS DOING  
REGISTRATIONS AT NATURALIZATION  
CEREMONIES AND ANYONE WHO  
REACHES OUT TO US WE'LL SUPPORT  
THEM DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WITH  
VOTER ACCESS EFFORTS.

CURRENTLY WE'RE CONDUCTING VOTER  
RIGHTS WORKSHOPS IN VARIOUS  
COMMUNITY AND OUR ENGAGEMENT  
DOESN'T STOP THERE.

WE'RE ALSO WORKING WITH STUDENTS  
TO ENGAGE THEM TO HELP THEM TO  
BE VOLUNTEERS AND HOPEFULLY  
PARTICIPANTS AND WHETHER IT BE  
VOTING OR ANOTHER CAPACITY.

WE TAKE ENGAGEMENT TO BE AN  
IMPORTANT PART OF THE WORK AND I  
LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING THE REST  
OF THE TESTIMONY ESPECIALLY FROM  
MARYLAND WHO I KNOW HAVE  
NON-CITIZEN VOTING.

WE'RE READY TO HEAR THE  
TESTIMONY.

>> THAT WILL BE PART OF THE  
SECOND PANEL SO HOPEFULLY YOU'LL  
BE ABLE TO STICK AROUND AND  
WE'LL GET THE FOLKS FROM TACOMA  
PARK.

THE LEAD SPONSOR WILL DEFER  
QUESTIONS AND THEN WE'LL GO TO

THE SECOND PANEL.  
COUNCILOR FLYNN ANY QUESTIONS  
FROM THIS PANEL?  
>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR  
FLAHERTY.  
I WANT TO ENCOURAGE THE ELECTION  
DEPARTMENT TO CONTINUE TO REACH  
OUT TO RETURNING VETERANS THAT  
ARE NOW LIVING IN BOSTON  
ENSURING THEY HAVE ACCESS TO  
VOTING AND IF WE CAN CONTINUE  
DOING MORE OUTREACH TO OUR  
HOMELESS VETERANS.  
WE'VE GIVEN THEM ACCESS TO THE  
BALLOT BOX AS WELL.  
I KNOW TOP PRIORITY OF MAYOR  
WALSH IS MAKING SURE THAT OUR  
HOMELESS VETERANS HAVE HAD  
HOUSING AND HE'S BEEN A REAL  
LEADER ON THAT THROUGHOUT THE  
COUNTRY AND I WANT TO ENCOURAGE  
YOU TO CONTINUE NHE SAME EFFORTS  
AS IT RELATES TO ELECTION AND  
VOTING AS WELL.  
>> THANK YOU.  
ANY QUESTIONS OF THIS PANEL AT  
THIS TIME?  
>> THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS ON  
OUTREACH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT.  
I'VE HAD TE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK  
WITH ALL OF YOU ON VARIOUS  
ASPECTS OF THIS.  
COMMISSIONER, IT'S GREAT TO  
HEAR OUR ACT TO MAKE IT EASIER  
IS BEING PRESENTED TO FOLKS AND  
SEEING THE SET-UP FOR VOTER  
REGISTRATION IN CITY HALL PLAZA  
IS ANOTHER IMPORTANT ASPECT AND  
I WANT TO THANK COUNCILOR FLYNN  
MAKE SURE FOLKS CURRENTLY  
SERVING IN THE AND SERVICES BUT  
ARE RESIDENTS AND ELIGIBLE TO  
VOTE AND SOMETIMES WHEN THEY  
FIND THEMSELVES ON THE INACTIVE  
VOTER LIST BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T  
RECEIVING -- RECEIVE THEIR FORM  
YOU MAKE SURE THOSE ELIGIBLE TO  
PARTICIPATE IS CONE ENCOURAGING  
AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK.  
>> ANY QUESTIONS?  
THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES COUNCILOR  
JANY, ANY QUESTIONS?  
>> THANK YOU FOR THE AMAZING  
WORK YOU DO.

YOU MENTIONED 40 STATES HAVE  
VARIOUS DEGREES OF VOTING FOR  
NON CITIZENS.  
>> THAT ENDED IN 1926.  
>> 1926.  
>> YEAH.  
>> OKAY.  
>> IT HASN'T BEEN AROUND FOR A  
WHILE.  
>> IN TERMS OF MUNICIPALITIES  
ANYTHING HAPPENING?  
>> NO, BECAUSE A COUPLE TOWNS  
HAVE VOTED.  
I KNOW --  
>> AMHERST DID AND CAMBRIDGE  
DID.  
>> IT GOT STUCK IN THE STATE  
HOUSE.  
>> NOTHING IN THE COMMONWEALTH?  
>> NO.  
>> OKAY.  
IS THIS A CONCEPT THAT YOU HAVE  
THOUGHT ABOUT?  
NON CITIZEN VOTING AND IF SO,  
WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE?  
HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT IF YOU'VE  
LIVED IN THE CITY OF BOSTON FOR  
FIVE YEARS OR THE COUNTRY FOR 10  
YEARS --  
>> FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE, ANY  
PROPOSAL THAT WOULD COME FROM A  
COUNCILOR WE'D WANT TO LOOK AT  
AND THE MAYOR WOULD WANT TO LOOK  
AT TO BETTER UNDERSTAND IT.  
WE'RE STILL FOCUSSED ON THE  
ENGAGEMENT AND ACCESS TO  
SERVICES AND RESOURCES AND THAT  
IS WHAT WE'RE FOCUSSED IN BUT  
GENERALLY WE'D WANT TO SEE ANY  
PROPOSAL AND WOULD CONSIDER IT  
AND LEARNING MORE WHERE YOU ALL  
LAND ON THE ISSUE.  
>> THANK YOU.  
>> I APPRECIATE THE WORK YOU'RE  
DOING TO ENGAGE ALL RESIDENTS  
BUT PARTICULARLY OUR IMMIGRANT  
COMMUNITY SO THANK YOU FOR THE  
WORK THAT YOU'RE DOING,  
ALEJANDRA.  
AS A COUNTRY AND CITY, WE SHOULD  
BE TRYING TO EXPAND  
OPPORTUNITIES GENERALLY  
SPEAKING.  
I DON'T KNOW WHERE FOLKS ARE

GOING TO LAND IN THIS,  
INTERESTED IN HEARING MORE AND  
UNDERSTANDING WHAT IS OUT THERE  
AND WHAT HAS WORKED IN OTHER  
PLACES.

AGAIN, THANK YOU.

>> I ECHO THE SENTIMENTS OF MY  
COLLEAGUE AND THANK YOU ALL FOR  
YOUR PERSONAL DEDICATION ON  
ISSUES TO STRENGTHEN YOUR  
DEMOCRACY AND BE MORE INCLUSIVE.  
SINCE WE DO HAVE THE PLATFORM  
AND THE OPPORTUNITY I WANTED TO  
BETTER EDUCATION MYSELF THE  
POPULATION OF INCARCERATED  
INDIVIDUALS.  
AS MUCH AS I'D LIKE CORRECTIONAL

FACILITIES TO PROVIDE ON-SITE  
VOTING, HERE THEY CAN VOTE AS  
THEY INTEGRATE BACK INTO  
SOCIETY.

I FIND THERE'S A LOT OF  
MISINFORMATION ABOUT THAT.  
HERE IN THE COMMONWEALTH AND  
ACROSS THE COUNTRY INDIVIDUALS  
CAN HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE.  
I BETTER WANTED TO UNDERSTAND  
WHAT AN EDUCATION OUTREACH WHAT  
WE'RE DOING AND WHEN PEOPLE ARE  
RELEASED ARE THEY PROVIDED WITH  
A VOTER REGISTRATION FORM OR  
ANYTHING LIKE THAT?

>> THE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT  
COORDINATOR HAS BEEN DOING WORK  
WITH OFFICE OF RETURNING  
CITIZENS SO THEY'RE GETTING THE  
VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION  
UPON RETURN AND I WANTED TO  
MENTION THAT IN TERMS OF  
MILITARY SERVING OVERSEAS AND AS  
OF TOMORROW WE PLAN TO BEGINNING  
OFF BALLOTS.

>> THANK YOU.

>> CHAIR RECOGNIZES ANDREA  
CAMPBELL.

>> I'LL KEEP IT SHORT GET TO  
THE -- SHORT TO GET TO THE  
SECOND PANEL.

IF YOU HAVE TO LEAVE I  
UNDERSTAND.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TESTIMONY AND  
THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU GUYS  
DO.

I KNOW IT'S NOT EASY WORK  
PARTICULARLY THE INCREASE AND  
FOLKS COMING TO YOU GUYS WHETHER  
IT'S NOT JUST SOME OF THE  
POLICIES IN D.C. BUT SOME OF THE  
WEATHER AND HURRICANES IN OTHER  
COUNTRIES PUT BURDEN ON YOUR  
OFFICE SO THANK YOU FOR THE WORK  
YOU DO.

I HAVE A COUPLE QUESTIONS.  
IT WAS MENTION EARLIER AND I WAS  
GOING BRING IT UP PARTICIPATORY  
BUDGETING ARE THERE WAYS FOR  
FOLKS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON TO  
WEIGH IN ON A POLICY TO, WEIGH  
IN ON A BUDGET DISCUSSION OR  
SOMETHING ELSE?

CAN WE SPEAK TO WHAT THE DIRECT  
PARTICIPATION LOOKS LIKE AND THE  
SECOND QUESTION IS AND WE'LL  
HEAR FROM FOLKS SPECIFICALLY ON  
THE VOTING PIECE, BUT BEFORE  
THERE'S EVEN A PROPOSAL HAS  
THERE BEEN DISCUSSIONS  
INTERNALLY WITH FOLKS ABOUT THIS  
GIVEN THE OFFICE THAT YOU SIT  
IN.

I ALREADY KNOW EVEN FOLKS THAT  
COULDN'T ATTEND TODAY BECAUSE OF  
THE HOUR OF THE HEARING, PEOPLE  
HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT THIS FOR  
A WHILE.

IT'S GREAT THEY'RE PLANNING A  
CONVERSATION ON IT SO I'D BE  
CURIOUS WHAT YOU GUYS ARE  
HEARING WHEN YOU'RE TALKING  
ABOUT THIS IN TERMS OF A  
POSSIBILITY?

>> IN TERMS OF NON-CITIZEN  
VOTING?

AND DIRECT DECISIONS IN THE  
PROCESSING.

TERM OF NON-CITIZEN VOTING,  
WE'RE THANKFUL WE'RE HAVING THIS  
HEARING AND STARTING THE  
CONVERSATION.

ONE THING THAT I NOTED BEFORE  
BUT IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IS THE  
LAST 18 MONTHS HAVE BEEN A  
DEFENSIVE OPERATION SO WE  
APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITIES TO  
BE PROACTIVE AND TO THINK ABOUT  
OUR PUSHING THE FORM IT WILL  
TAKE.

THERE HASN'T BEEN A WHOLE LOT OF DISCUSSION THAT I KNOW OF. I KNOW THERE ARE PEOPLE HERE WHO ARE GOING TESTIFY ON BOTH SIDES AND I THINK ONE THING THAT DEFINITELY COMES TO THE FOREFRONT IS JUST HOW ANYTHING WORKS WITHIN THE NEW CLIMATE WE LIVE IN WITH THE FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION AND BEING COGNIZANT OF THAT OF BEING THAT REALITY.

IN TERMS OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATING IN THE BUDGETARY PROCESS OTHER THAN THE PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING DO YOU WANT TO TAKE THAT ONE? >> SURE.

THE PIECE I WOULD ADD IS THAT -- AND AS EVERYONE HERE KNOWS BECAUSE YOU HAVE THEM IN THE COMMUNITY ALL THE TIME, THERE ARE A VARIETY OF COMMUNITY MEETINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES THAT DOES AN ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT TO ENGAGE PEOPLE WHETHER IT'S A DEVELOPMENT WHETHER IT'S GETTING FOLKS ENGAGED IN A COMMUNITY PROCESS, WHETHER IT'S TRYING TO ENSURE FOLKS HAVE ACCESS TO INFORMATION.

REGARDLESS OF WHAT THOSE PIECES ARE, THERE'S A STRATEGY TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE TO DO THAT WORK REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS OR THE VALUE BEING HOW DO YOU REACH DEEP IN THE COMMUNITY TO GET PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THOSE PROCESSES.

SO I THINK THAT'S HOW DO WE ENGAGE MORE PEOPLE IS ALWAYS THE QUESTION AND I THINK THE CITY WORKS HARD TO DO THAT.

SPECIFICALLY, I THINK WE COULD BETTER UNDERSTAND AND MAYBE THE CONVERSATION'S A PART OF IT, ARE THERE WAYS TO DO IT BETTER AND REACH DEEPER IN THE IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY TO ENSURE THEY HAVE A VOICE IN CERTAIN PROCESSES.

I'LL GIVE YOU ONE EXAMPLE THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND ENGAGEMENT.

THEY ACTIVELY THIS PAST YEAR,

WORKED TO MAKE SURE THEY HAVE  
MORE DIVERSE NEIGHBORHOOD AND  
MORE PEOPLE IN DIVERSE  
BACKGROUNDS BY GOING AROUND --  
AROUND AND ENGAGING STUDENTS IN  
DIFFERENT NEIGHBORHOODS TO HAVE  
MORE PEOPLE INVOLVED SO IT HAS  
TO BE DELIBERATE AND THAT'S PART  
OF WHAT THEY DID IN THIS WORK.  
I SUGGEST WE CAN PROBABLY LEARN  
TO FIND WAYS TO ACTIVELY ENGAGE  
FOLKS THROUGH THIS  
DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES.  
>> NOR -- FOR THE SAKE OF TIME  
TO GET TO THE NEXT PANEL, THE  
CIVIC PARTICIPATION THERE'S  
MEETINGS AND WE GO TO QUITE A  
FEW AND OUR INTENTION OF PULLING  
FOLKS IN THE COMMUNITY  
REGARDLESS OF THEIR STATUS TO BE  
PART OF DEVELOPMENT  
CONVERSATIONS, LICENSING AND  
ORDINANCE MAY BE FILED JUST TO  
SHOW UP IN SOME WAY WHETHER ON  
HOUSING OR THE PRESERVATION ACT  
THEY'RE INFORMAL.  
THEY CONNECT THEM IN A  
MEANINGFUL WAY WHEN IT COMES TO  
DECISION MAKING IN THE GLAD WE'RE HAVING THIS CONVERSATION BECAUSE I THINK  
WE  
NEED TO TAKE IT, I WOULD LIKE TO  
SEE US TAKE IT FURTHER TALKING  
ABOUT WHAT DOES INTENTIONAL  
PARTICIPATION LOOK LIKE WHERE IT  
HAS SOME VALUE AND SOME WEIGHT  
IN DECISIONS WE MAKE IN THIS  
CHAMBER AND IN THIS BUILDING.  
I THINK WHEN PEOPLE ARE TALKING  
ABOUT VOTING OR SOMETHING ELSE,  
THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE REFERRING  
TO.  
AND I THINK WE'VE TALKED EARLIER  
ABOUT FOLKS SERVING IN THE  
MILITARY AND THAT'S BEEN COMING  
UP QUITE A BIT, IN PARTICULAR IN  
THIS CONTEXT BECAUSE OF WHAT'S  
BEEN HAPPENING OF LATE.  
AND I THINK THAT'S ANOTHER  
REASON WHY WE SHOULD GIVE THIS  
SERIOUS CONSIDERATION AS WE ASK  
FOLKS TO GO SERVE IN THE WAR AND  
DIE.  
AT A MINIMUM WE SHOULD BE ASKING  
THEM OR ASKING OURSELVES WHAT

WOULD IT MEAN FOR THEM TO PARTICIPATE AT THIS LEVEL. WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT, I WANT TO MAKE THIS CLEAR, STATE AND FEDERAL ELECTIONS. WE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT, THE RISKS OF DOING THAT AND GERARDIZEING THEIR -- JEOPARDIZING THEIR APPLICATIONS TO BECOME CITIZENS WE DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN. AT THIS LEVEL WHERE THEY LIVE AND RUN BUSINESSES, WHERE THEY COME BACK TO AFTER THEY SERVE IN THE MILITARY, I THINK AT A MINIMUM WE SHOULD BE THINKING DEEPER AND MORE INTENTIONAL ABOUT THIS PARTICULAR PROPOSAL. IF THE ANSWER'S NO, THEN THE ANSWER'S NO AND PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW THAT TOO. THANK YOU GUYS.

>> THIS IS THE END OF PANEL ONE. WHOEVER WANT TO STAY BACK. WITH RESPECT TO THE SECOND PANEL, JEFF GROSS, POLICY CONSULTANT WORLD EDUCATIONAL SERVICES GLOBAL TALENT BRIDGE, IF YOU COULD COME RIGHT DOWN HERE AND TAKE THAT FIRST SEAT. CAROLINE'S LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE. WE'RE JOINED BY PHONE JESSIE. CAN YOU HEAR US JESSIE? JESSIE'S THE CLERK AT THE CLERK'S OFFICE AT THE CITY OF TACOMA PARK IN MARYLAND WHERE THEY HAVE THIS. GEORGE PILLS BE OF NON-PROFIT VOTE. IF GEORGE CAN MAKE HIS WAY DOWN, VERONICA, IF YOU WOULD BE KIND ENOUGH TO TAKE THESE FOUR SEATS. WE HAVE JESSIE CARPENTER'S JOINING US BY PHONE. JESSIE, YOU CAN HEAR US CLEARLY. >> YES, I CAN. >> WE'LL START WITH JEFF GLOBAL AT THAT TIME BRIDGE IF YOU CAN INTRODUCE YOURSELF WITH THE RECORD. GIVE US YOUR THOUGHTS. >> THANKS VERY MUCH TO THE PREVIOUS PANEL AND ALSO TO PRESIDENT CAMPBELL AND COUNCILOR



FLAHERTY FOR SPONSORING THIS MEETING.  
ABOUT MY OWN BACKGROUND.  
MY NAME'S JEFF GROSS.  
UNTIL LAST MARCH, I WAS DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICANS INTEGRATION INSTITUTE AT THE MASSACHUSETTS IMMIGRANT AND REJEW COALITION.  
COALITION--

REFUGEE COALITION IS TO PURSUE RESEARCH POLICY ADVOCACY AND PROGRAM PARTNERSHIPS THAT PROMOTE THE ECONOMIC LINGUISTIC SOCIAL AND CIVIC INTEGRATION OF IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IN THE U.S.

ALSO A PARTICULAR PRIVILEGE AT THAT POINT AS A NATIVE BORN AMERICAN TO BE WORKING TBL THAT ROLE AND WORKING WITH SO MANY IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY MEMBERS, COMMUNITY LEADERS AS PART OF THAT EFFORT.

I WANT TO SAY AFTER TODAY THEY ARE MY OWN, THEY'RE NOT IN ANY WAY REFLECTION OF THE COALITION OF THE TODAY.

JUST TO TALK ABOUT WHAT WE MEANT BY IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION.

IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION IS OFTEN DESCRIBED AS A TWO-WAY PROCESS, SOMETHING THAT STRENGTHENS THE POLICIES AND SYSTEMS OF IMMIGRANTS THAT PARTICIPATE FULLY IN THE FAMILY WORK AND COMMUNITIES THEY LIVE IN AND ALSO IN TERMS OF SOMETHING THAT BENEFITS ALL AMERICANS BY HELPING IMMIGRANTS CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNE FEAST IN WHICH THEY LIVE.

IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION IS VALUING WHAT NEWCOMERS BRING WITH THEM AS WELL AS EMPHASIZING WHAT'S NEEDING TO ENSURE THEIR SUCCESS HERE AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO LARGER COMMUNITY.

AND THAT'S SOMETHING THAT'S TRUE OF THE WELCOME THAT IMMIGRANTS HAVE RECEIVED IN BOSTON FOR THE MOST PART AND CERTAINLY FROM THE CITY.

WHAT I'M GOING TO TALK ABOUT HERE IS REALLY WHAT THE CITY

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE AND WHAT I'VE DONE, WHAT THE CITY AND COMMUNITY-BASED PARTNERS CAN DO TO FOSTER IMMIGRANT CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND INCLUSION BOTH WITH RESPECT TO NON-CITIZEN VOTING IN THE CONTEXT OF NON-CITIZEN VOTING AND MORE BROADLY.

WHAT I MEAN MORE BROAD MAINS NOT ONLY VOTING BUT HAVING IMMIGRANTS PLAY A MORE ENGAGED KNOWLEDGEABLE AND EFFECTIVE ROLE IN SHAPING THE LIMITATIONS THAT AFFECT THEIR LIVES AND REALLY ALL OUR LIVES LIVING IN THIS CITY.

THIS INCLUDES NOT ONLY ELECTIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUT MUNDANE AND DAY TO DAY CIVIC ENGAGE. BY PARTICIPATING IN PTA'S NEIGHBORHOOD SO INFORMATION, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, UNIONS, LOCAL PLANKING MEETINGS OR COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND THE MANY OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES THAT MAKE UP THIS CIVIC SPACE.

AND THAT LEADS TO HIGHER LEVELS OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT OVERALL INCLUDING VOTING.

WE'RE GOING TO TRY TO FRAME WHAT'S ACTUALLY A FAIRLY WIDE RANGING ISSUE AND THEN SUGGEST A FEW CONCRETE APPROACHES THE CITY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS CAN PURSUE TO SUPPORT CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND INCLUSION IN THIS LARGER SENSE.

SO MOST OF THE WORK AROUND CIVIC INTEGRATION ACTUALLY FOCUSES ON ECONOMIC SOCIALS AND LINGUISTIC PART OF THE INTEGRATION EQUATION NOT SO MUCH THAT ENGAGEMENT.

THAT'S NOT SURPRISINGLY ENHANCING CIVIC BUDGET IS IN MANY WAYS A MORE COMPLEX ISSUE. AND IT'S NOT SOMETHING THERE'S A LOT OF PUBLIC FUNDING FOR.

SO IT'S REALLY THE PROGRESS MATIC AND POLICY THAT GETS THE INTENTION SORT OF WHAT CHIEF MARTINEZ WAS TALKING ABOUT. SOCIAL SERVICES, FAMILY AND

CHILDREN, ACCESS TO HOUSING  
LEGAL SERVICES THAT SORT OF  
THING.

IT'S REALLY MUCH OF WHAT STATES  
AND CITIES LIKE BOSTON IN THE  
COMMUNITIES, COMMUNITY BASED  
GROUPS ARE ALREADY WORKING ON TO  
SUPPORT IMMIGRANT INCLUSION AND  
OFTEN QUITE WELL.

AND IN FACT DOING THIS WORK WELL  
IS REALLY CRITICAL TO  
STRENGTHENING STRONGER IMMIGRANT  
CIVIC PARTICIPATION UNLESS  
PEOPLE HAVE SOME PERSONAL AND  
ECONOMIC STABILITY IN THEIR  
LIVES AND HAD SOME COMFORT WITH  
THE SYSTEMS WITHIN WHICH THEY  
OPERATE, CIVIC AND POLITICAL  
ENGAGEMENT WILL LITERALLY BE  
SOMETHING THEY CAN'T AFFORD.  
THE CITY ALONG WITH MANY  
IMMIGRANT TRAINING AND SERVICE  
ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING --  
CITIZEN ASSISTANCE, SOMETHING  
THAT'S OBVIOUSLY KEY TO CIVIC  
PARTICIPATION AND CITY'S POWER  
ON THE MOST BASIC LEVELS, THE  
POWER TO VOTE.

ORGANIZATIONS LIKE MIRA AS WELL  
AS THE CITY AND MANY PARTNERS  
ALSO WORK TO REGISTER NEW VOTERS  
AND GET OUT THE VOTE AND MAKE  
SURE NATURALIZED IMMIGRANTS USE  
THIS POWER.

AND GOVERNMENT BODIES LIKE THE  
MAYOR'S OFFICE, IMMIGRANT  
AFFAIRS AND THE OFFICE OF  
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES VERY  
CRUCIAL ROLE IN MAKING SURE THAT  
THE VOICE OF INDIVIDUAL  
IMMIGRANTS AND IMMIGRANT  
COMMUNITIES ARE HEARD AND  
UNDERSTOOD BY THE CITY AND THAT  
THE NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF THE  
IMMIGRANTS WHO MAKE UP 28  
PERCENT PERFECT OF RESIDENTS OF  
THE CITY OF BOSTON ARE TAKING  
INTO ACCOUNT IN TERMS OF HOW  
BOSTON CITY GOVERNMENT WORKS.  
SO IMMIGRANT CITY ENGAGEMENT  
WHILE IT SITS ON A FOUNDATION OF  
STRONG SOCIAL ECONOMIC INCLUSION  
IS ALSO A KEY FACTOR IN  
PROMOTING THESE BENEFITS.

THIS IS NOT JUST IN TERMS OF SHAPING, HELPING SHAPE EMPLOYMENT OR HOUSING POLICIES BUT ON THE VERY PERSONAL LEVEL. THE PEOPLE THAT IMMIGRANTS LIKE MOST OF US WHO MEET AND WORK WITH IN CIVIC SETTINGS BECOME PART OF A NETWORK THAT HELP THEM NAVIGATE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SYSTEMS GET BETTER JOBS BUY NEW HOUSES FIND GOOD SCHOOLS FOR THEIR KIDS.

ARGUABLY FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN THIS FORM IS ACTUALLY MUCH MORE IMPORTANT FOR IMMIGRANTS THAN NATIVE BORN SINCE IMMIGRANTS HARDLY DON'T HAVE THE BENEFIT OF GROWING UP HERE, OF HAVING WELL ESTABLISHED PERSONAL NETWORKS AND SOCIAL CAP OR HAVING THE LUXURY TO TAKE FOR GRANTED THAT CIVIC AND INSTITUTIONS CIVIC AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS UNDERSTAND AND TAKE ACCOUNT OF THEIR NEEDS.

ALL OF THIS SAID, WHAT ARE SOME THINGS THAT THE CITY EITHER ALONE OR FROM MY POINT OF VIEW WORKING WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS CAN DO TO STRENGTHEN IMMIGRANTS OF CIVIC PARTICIPATION AT THESE AND OTHER LEVELS.

HOW CAN WE HELP MAKE SURE THAT NEW BOSTONIANS FEEL PART OF AND ACTIVE IN A CITY WHERE THEY ALREADY HAVE SUCH A BIG ROLE. A LOT'S ALREADY HAPPENING AS WE'VE HEARD BUT THERE'S MORE TO DO WHICH IS WHY WE'RE HERE. AND HERE IT IS FOR MANY POSSIBLE DIRECTIONS THAT I WANT TO PROPOSE.

FIRST LANGUAGE ACCESS AND WE'VE ALREADY HEARD A LOT ABOUT THIS. PROBABLY THERE'S NOTHING MORE URGENT IN CREATING AN ATMOSPHERE THAT FOSTERS IMMIGRANT CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS THEN QUICKLY AND COMPREHENSIVELY IMPLEMENTING POLICIES LIKE THE COMMUNICATIONS ACCESS ORDINANCE WHICH THE COUNCIL SUPPORTED AND THE MAYOR SIGNED INTO LAW IN 2016. THIS POLICY MAKES SURE THEY ARE

COORDINATED IN ACCOUNTABLE LANGUAGE ACCESS SERVICE IN ALL CITY DEPARTMENTS OVERSEEN BY A LANGUAGE ACCESS COORDINATOR.

I WAS GLAD TO HEAR HOW THAT'S MOVING INTO ITS SECOND PHASE. THIS KIND OF PROCESS CAN ALSO SERVE AS A STARTING POINT MORE EFFECTIVELY ALONG A WIDE RANGE OF ACCESS AND EQUITY ISSUES.

HUMAN FINANCIAL RESOURCES IS OBVIOUSLY A CHALLENGE HERE BUT THERE ARE MODELS FROM OTHER LOCALES THAT CAN HELP.

NEW YORK CITY FOR EXAMPLE HAS AN NYC CERTIFIED PROGRAM THAT TESTS AND TRAINS BILINGUAL EMPLOYEES. MONTGOMERY COUNTY MARYLAND PRIORITIZES HIRING AND HAS A PAY DIFFERENTIAL FOR BILINGUAL EMPLOYEES.

SO SUCH POLICY ALSO ENCOURAGE BROADER CIVIC ENGAGEMENT BY HIGHLIGHTING THE VALUE OF IMMIGRANT SKILLS, THE SKILLS THEY BRING WITH THEM CAN SERVE BOTH CITY GOVERNMENT AND THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES.

SO SECOND, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT.

BOSTON IS A CITY WITH MANY STRONG AND EFFECTIVE IMMIGRANT LEADERS FROM CITY GOVERNMENT TO COMMUNITY BASED GROUPS TO STATE ORGANIZATIONS, THE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING EFFORTS FOR IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY MEMBERS INCLUDING IMMIGRANT YOUTHS ARE NEEDED TO SUSTAIN AND STRENGTHEN THAT LEADERSHIP ESPECIALLY IN A TIME OF CHANGE AND MANY CHALLENGES FOR THE COMMUNITY.

IN PHILADELPHIA, FOR EXAMPLE, IMMIGRANT LEADERSHIP AT THE WELCOMING CENTER FOR KNEWIANS KNEWIANS --PENNSYLVANIANS FOR GRASS ROOT LEADERSHIPS AND SOME GAPS UNDERSTANDING POLICIES, BUILDING NETWORKS AND ENGAGING WITH LOCAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT.

AT AN EARLIER HISTORICAL TIPPING POINT IN BOSTON, THE IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE LEADERSHIP

DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE WAS ACTIVE FROM 2000 TO 2006. THE INITIATIVE HAD THE SUPPORT OF THE HIGH END BOSTON AND STATE STREET FOUNDATION AND WAS THE EXISTING ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS AND IMMIGRANT SCIESMS. IT'S TIME TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO RENEW SUCH EFFORTS. SO FORWARD, INTEGRATIVE CIVIC PARTICIPATION COMPONENTS INTO TRAININGS AND OTHER IMMIGRANT EDUCATION INITIATIVES. THE CITY AS WE'VE HEARD COMMUNITY BASED GROUPS, FAITH ORGANIZATIONS AND MANY OTHERS HAVE STEPPED UP TO HELP MEET THE GROWING NEED FROM IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY MEMBERS INTERACTIONS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AND WITH ICE. KNOWING DEFENSIVE PURPOSES CAN BE THE FIRST STEP FOR PROACTIVE CIVIL ENGAGEMENT AND CIVIC ACTION. IN THE CURRENT ENVIRONMENT, FEAR AND EXPECTATIONS OF BIAS ARE AMONG THE BIGGEST BARRIERS TO IMMIGRANTS, DOCUMENTED AND UNDOCUMENTED IN PARTICIPATING IN ANY CIVIC ACTIVITIES WHETHER IT'S GOING TO A PTA MEETING OR ENTERING THE VOTING BOOTH. GROUPS HAVE LONG COMBINED TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR IMMIGRANT CIVIC EMPOWERMENT WITH TRAINING AND IMMIGRANT CIVIL RIGHTS AND IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION COALITIONS AND LOCALES DIFFERENT SHOWING HOW TRAINING OR ENGLISH LANGUAGING EDUCATION IS FOR TRAINING AND PRACTICE AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FROM GET OUT THE VOTE EFFORTS TO LOBBYING LEGISLATORS. FOURTH AND FINALLY, IT'S IMPORTANT TO BUILD CIVIC ENGAGEMENT ACROSS COMMUNITIES AND ACROSS MOVEMENTS IN A VERY DIVERSE CITY. IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES ARE NOT THE ONLY ONES THAT SUFFER FROM DISENFRANCHISEMENT AND LOW LEVEL FOR CIVIC BUDGET PARTICIPATION. MANY INTERESTS LINE MANY

COMMUNITIES OF COLOR EVEN AS  
POLITICAL RHETORIC SOMETIMES  
DIVIDES THEM.

AN ISSUE OF COLLECTIVELY  
BUILDING CIVIC ENGAGEMENT ACROSS  
COMMUNITIES IS A FAR BIGGER RAN  
THAN I COULD EVER BEGIN TO BRING  
HERE BUT I WANTED TO CLOSE BY  
POINTING TO THE RECENT SUCCESS  
OF A STATE-WIDE ORGANIZATION  
LIKE THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITY  
ACTION NETWORK IN HELPING STATE  
MINIMUM WAGE AND FAMILY  
LEGISLATION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
REFORM IN THE PAST SESSION.  
SESSIONPARTNERSHIP OF FIVE  
INTERSTATE CO-LIKSZ ACROSS THE  
STATE -- COALITIONS ACROSS THE  
STATE.

COLLECTED GRASSROOTS ENGAGEMENT  
HELPS GET THESE ISSUES ON THE  
BALLOT AND M CAM COMMUNITY  
LEADERS WORK CLOSELY WITH  
LEGISLATORS AND OTHER INTEREST  
GROUPS TO CRAFT THE FINAL  
CONFINES.

THERE'S A MODEL FOR THE CITY,  
ITS COMMUNITY BASED PARTNERS AND  
ACTIVISTS IN ALL EFFECTIVE  
COMMUNITIES.

SO THESE AS I SAID THERE'S A FEW  
OF THE MANY POSSIBLE DIRECTIONS  
THAT THE CITY AND PARTNERS CAN  
WORK ON TO SUPPORT BOSTON  
IMMIGRANTS IN BECOMING CIVICALLY  
ENGAGED CITIZENS.

THAT I WANT TO STRESS WORD  
CITIZENS IN AN INDIVIDUAL SENSE  
WHICH IS SIMPLY PEOPLE WHO MAKE  
UP A PARTICULAR CITY THEIR HOME.  
SO I HOPE THE CITY CAN CONSIDER  
THIS RELATED INITIATIVE IN THE  
FUTURE AND I LOOK FORWARD TO ANY  
QUESTIONS.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR  
TIME.

>> VERY GOOD.

THANK YOU JEFF AND WE'RE ALSO  
JOINED BY CAROLYN AND STATE  
REPRESENTATIVE BYRON.  
YOU HAVE THE FLOOR.

>> THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HAVING  
US HERE.

MY NAME IS CAROLYN AND I'M A

LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR.

THERE'S FILED LEGISLATION TO GIVE AUTHORITIES TO CITIES AND TOWNS TO ALLOW LEGAL RESIDENTS TO VOTE IN LOCAL ELECTIONS. HE WOULD BE HERE HIMSELF TODAY BUT THE HOUSE IS CURRENTLY IN FORMAL SEX SO HE'S A FEW BLOCKS AWAY -- FORMAL SEX SO HE'S A FEW BLOCKS AWAY.

HE'S SUPPORT OF THE CONVERSATION.

THERE ARE HOME RULE PETITIONS FROM FIVE CITIES OR TOWNS REQUESTING THE RIGHT TO ALLOW LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENTS TO VOTE IN LOCAL ELECTIONS. AM HURTS, BROOKLINE, NEWTON AND WAYLAND.

NONE OF THESE HAVE PASSED THE SCHOLAR.

REPRESENTATIVE RUSHING HAS FILED HIS LEGISLATION BUT THE HOME RULE PETITION IS NECESSARY. THE LEGISLATION WOULD REQUIRE THE LOCAL LEGISLATIVE BODY TO INITIATE THE POLICY ALLOWING NON-CITIZENS TO VOTE AND IT HAS TO BE ADOPTED BY VOTER REFERENDUM AND A CHANCE FOR DEEP PUBLIC INPUT AND VOTER CONSENT. OPPONENTS OFTEN IMPLY THIS LEGISLATION IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL. HOWEVER IT IS NOT PROHIBITED BY EITHER THE FEDERAL OR STATE CONSTITUTION.

IN FACT, UNTIL THE 1920'S, IT WAS COMMON FOR NON-CITIZENS TO VOTE.

I'M SURE OUR FRIENDS WHO HAVE ON THE PHONE FROM MARYLAND I BELIEVE NINE COMMUNITIES ALLOW FOR NON-CITIZEN VOTING WILL BE ABLE TO SPEAK MORE ON THIS POINT.

IMMIGRANT FAMILIES CONSTITUTE A LARGE PORTION OF WORKING FAMILIES IN THE COMMONWEALTH. THEY ARE PART OF OUR COMMUNITIES, PAY LOCAL PROPERTY TAXES AND SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO LOCAL SCHOOLS.

YET WITHOUT VOTING RIGHTS THEY HAVE NO VOICE IN LOCAL PUBLIC



POLICY-MAKING.

WHILE OUR OFFICE WILL CONCEDE THAT THIS LEGISLATION IS UNLIKELY TO PASS THE LEGISLATURE THIS YEAR, THERE ARE ONLY THREE REMAINING WEEKS IN THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

THE CITY OF BOSTON ENDORSING THIS LEGISLATION ARE PASSING THEIR INHOME RULE PETITION WILL HELP BUILD MOMENTUM.

BOSTON HAS A STRONG LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION AND SENDING THIS MESSAGE TO THE DELEGATION WOULD BE A MAJOR PART OF CREATING WIDE SPREAD SUPPORT IN THE LEGISLATURE.

OPPONENTS OF THIS LEGISLATION USES A COMMON TACTIC.

THEY WANT LEGAL AND NON-LEGAL IMMIGRATION TOGETHER AND LINK TRIAL TO IMMIGRATION.

THIS SENDS AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE THAT WE SEAL GRUNLTS ARE IMPORTANT BED ROCKS TO OUR COMMUNITY AND WE WELCOME THEM IN MASSACHUSETTS.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HAVING ME HERE TODAY.

UNFORTUNATELY I NEED TO LEAVE AND FINISH UP SOME WORK BUT I WILL BE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS FROM EITHER THE COUNCILORS OR THE PUBLIC IF YOU JUST CONTACT OUR OFFICE.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

NOW WE'RE JOINED BY JESSIE CARPENTER WHO THE CLERK AT THE OFFICE OF TACOMA PARK IN MARYLAND.

CAN YOU INTRODUCE YOUR SELF ON THE RECORD.

>> THANK YOU.

I'M JESSIE COMPARTMENT FOR THE CITY PARK IN MARYLAND.

I'M HERE NOT SO MUCH TO TALK ABOUT ADVOCACY BUT HOW NON-CITIZEN VOTING WORKS IN TACOMA PARK.

TACOMA PARK IS A DIVERSE COMMUNITY IS A CITY OF AROUND 18,000 LOCATED JUST OUTSIDE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND.  
WE HAVE ELECTIONS EVERY TWO  
YEARS FOR MAYOR WHO IS ELECTED  
AT LARGE AND SIX CITY  
COUNCILMEMBERS.

THEY ARE ELECTED BY WARDS.  
ALL SERVE CONTERRENT TWO YEAR  
TERMS AND ALL LOOKIONS ARE  
NON-PARTISAN.

THE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
MANAGES SCHOOL BOARD COUNTY  
STATE AND FEDERAL ELECTIONS, WE  
ADMINISTER OUR OWN ELECTIONS FOR  
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL.

EARLIER THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPTED  
NON-CITIZEN VOTING IN 1992 AND  
THE FIRST ELECTION WHERE  
NON-CITIZENS WERE ABLE TO VOTE  
WAS 93.

AT PRESENT THERE ARE AROUND 300  
NON-CITIZEN REGISTERED VOTERS IN  
THE CITY THAT ARE TOTAL VOTING  
POPULATION IS AROUND 11, 500.  
IT'S A SMALL RELATIVELY VERY  
SMALL NUMBER.

NON-CITIZENS WHO WISH TO VOTE IN  
CITY ELECTIONS REGISTER WITH MY  
OFFICE.

AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION WHEN  
THEY FIRST VOTE THEY PROVIDE  
PROOF OF IDENTIFICATION AND  
PROOF OF RESIDENCE IN THE CITY.  
REGISTRATION IS MAINTAINED AS  
LONG AS THE VOTER CONTINUES TO  
RESIDE IN THE CITY AND TO NOT  
BECOME REGISTERED WITH THE STATE  
AS A U.S. CITIZEN.

MY OFFICE RECEIVED THE VOTING  
REGISTRATION FORMS THAT  
MAINTAINS SUPPLEMENTAL RISKS AT  
TACOMA PARK EARLY VOTERS.

IN PREPARATION FOR CITY  
ELECTIONS, THE SUN PLEMENTAL  
LIST IS COMBINED WITH THE LIST  
OF VOTERS THAT WE RECEIVED FROM  
THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

VOTERS CHECK IN AND THERE'S NO  
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VOTERS WHO  
ARE CITIZENS EXPUNS VOTERS WHO  
ARE NOT CITIZENS.

WE WORK VERY HARD TO MAKE THE  
PROCESS FOR VOTERS SO THERE IS  
NO DIFFERENCE.

I WANT TO KEEP MY REMARKS FREE

SO I'M HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE.  
>> JESSIE, DO THEY HAVE TO SHOW IDENTIFICATION TO SHOW THAT THEY'RE FROM TACOMA PARK OR HOW DOES THAT WORK.  
>> THEY HAVE TO SHOW IDENTIFICATION TO SHOW WHO THEY ARE AND SOMETHING TO SHOW THEY ARE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF TACOMA PARK.  
SO JUST AS OFTEN TIMES IT'S A DRIVER'S LICENSE OR STATE OF MARYLAND ID BUT IF THEY DON'T HAVE THAT WE'LL TAKE OTHER FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION.  
IT CAN BE AS SIMPLE AS IF THERE'S NOTHING ELSE AVAILABLE, A UTILITY BILL RECEIVED WITHIN THE LAST THREE MONTHS AT AN ADDRESS WITH THEIR NAME ON IT. SO WE CAN BE SOMEWHAT FLEXIBLE IN TERMS OF ACCEPTING THAT PROOF OF RESIDENTS AND IDENTITY.  
>> WHAT PERCENTAGE OF VOTER IN THE AVERAGE MUNICIPAL ELECTION IS THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL, EVERY TWO YEARS OR EVERY FOUR YEARS.  
>> EVERY TWO YEARS.  
>> WHAT'S THE PARTICIPATION?  
>> FOR ALL VOTERS?  
>> YES.  
>> FOR ALL VOTERS, IT RANGES FROM AS LOW AS 10% AND AS HIGH AS 25%.  
DEPENDING ON CONTESTED VOTES MAKES A HUGE DIFFERENCE.  
>> WHAT WERE THE PERCENTAGES PRE1992?  
>> OH SIMILAR.  
I DON'T, I WANT TO SAY THAT VOTING DOES NOT HAVE A HUGE IMPACT ON VOTER TURNOUT HERE. I THINK IT'S MORE ABOUT INCLUSION AND NOT SO MUCH ABOUT INCREASING TURNOUT.  
>> DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.  
>> YES.  
JESSIE THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR JOINING US AND STAYING ON THE CALL.  
I REALLY APPRECIATE IT. JUST SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU WERE DOING.

FIRST HOW DID THIS EVEN COME ABOUT?

I'M JUST CURIOUS WHAT THE CONTEXT WAS, WHAT THE CONVERSATIONS WERE IN THE COMMUNITY BEFORE THIS ACTUALLY HAPPENED.

>> SO THIS HAPPENED TO BE AN AREA IN THE 80 'S [INDISCERNIBLE] IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

MANY SALVADORIANS LANDED HERE. SO IT WAS CONTROVERSIAL. IT DIDN'T PASS UNANIMOUSLY. THERE WAS AN ADVISORY REFERENDUM.

THERE WAS ALSO AN ATTEMPT BY THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO OVERTURN OUR ABILITY TO HAVE VOTING MAKE IT OUT OF COMMITTEE. SO SINCE THAT TIME I WANT TO SAY IT'S NOT VERY CONTROVERSIAL ANYMORE.

ONCE IN A WHILE YOU START TO HEAR FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE REALLY UPSET THAT WE DO THIS BUT GENERALLY IN A WAY WE'RE FORTUNATE THAT WE STARTED THIS SO LONG AGO I THINK. JUST ROUTINE FOR US NOW.

>> JUST SOME MORE LOGISTICAL QUESTIONS.

HOW LONG DOES SOMEONE HAVE TO BE A RESIDENT IN TACOMA.

>> WELL 21 DAYS BUT THAT'S FOR A CITIZEN OR A NON-CITIZEN.

>> HOW DO YOU DEFINE NON-CITIZENS?

>> OKAY.

SO WE DEFINE IT AS SOMEONE WHO IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN.

SO, AS A SANCTUARY CITY WE DON'T ASK FOR INTEGRATION STATUS INFORMATION.

>> DO YOU MAKE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN A PERSON WHO IS UNDOCUMENTED AND A PERSON WITH SOME FORM OF LEGAL STATUS.

>> NO THERE WOULD BE NO DISTINCTION.

>> I CAN COME BACK AROUND JESSIE BUT OBVIOUSLY FOLKS CANNOT VOTE IN THE STATE, IN FEDERAL

LICKIONS SO HOW DO YOU MANAGE  
THOSE RISKS, WHAT'S THE OUTREACH  
TO FOLKS TO ENSURE THEY CAN ONLY  
VOTE LOCAL ELECTIONS, CAN WE  
TALK A LITTLE BUILT ABOUT THAT.  
THERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY FOR  
CONFUSION BUT WE ALSO PROVIDE  
INFORMATION TO LET FOLKS KNOW TO  
MAKE SURE THEY KNOW THEY COULD  
HAVE IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES IF  
THEY WERE TO VOTE IN THE STATE  
OF FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

AND I HAVE TO SAY AFTER ALL  
THESE YEARS I'M NOT AWARE OF IT  
EVER HAPPENING BY ACCIDENT OR ON  
PURPOSE IF THAT EVER HAPPENS.

>> DO FOLKS STILL SEEK TO BECOME  
CITIZENS.

>> ABSOLUTELY, YES.

I MEAN, IT'S QUITE COMMON FOR ME  
TO HAVE TO PREPARE A LETTER FOR  
SOMEONE WHO HAS VOTED AND  
RESPONDED TO THAT QUESTION ON  
THAT THEY FILL OUT SO I WRITE A  
LETTER EXPLAINING THEY ARE  
PERMITTED TO VOTE IN OUR LOCAL  
ELECTIONS.

>> JUST ONE MORE QUESTION.

I HOPE YOU CAN STICK AROUND  
BECAUSE WE HAVE MORE FOLKS ON  
THE PANEL BUT JUST ONE MORE  
QUESTION.

ONE OF THE THINGS THAT PEOPLE  
HAVE BEEN SAYING AND I'M SURE  
YOU HAD TO RESPOND TO IT AT SOME  
POINT OR TWO THINGS IS THIS IDEA  
OF DIMINISHING THE VALUE OF WHAT  
IT MEANS TO BE A CITIZEN.

I'M CURIOUS IF YOU HAD TO  
ADDRESS THAT AND WHAT FOLKS  
TALKED ABOUT DURING THIS  
CONVERSATION WHILE THIS IS SORT  
OF HAPPENING.

>> I WANT TO SAY THAT, SO THE  
DATE OF FEDERAL ELECTION BUT  
THEY CERTAINLY ARE CITIZENS OF  
THE CITY OF TACOMA PARK.

IT'S A RIGHT THAT THEY THINK  
IT'S RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF  
TACOMA PARK.

>> LASTLY I WILL JUST ADD MAYBE  
YOU CAN ADDRESS TOO.

ANOTHER PERSON IS THAT OBVIOUSLY  
SOMEONE CAN MOVE IN, BECOME A

RESIDENT IN 21 DAYS.  
THEY DON'T REALLY HAVE AN ATTACH  
TO THE COMMUNITY.  
I'M JUST REFERENCING SOME  
CONCERNS THAT CAME TO ME AS A  
COUNCILOR AND I'M SURE SOME  
OTHERS.  
THEY DON'T REALLY HAVE AN  
ATTACHMENT, THEY HAVEN'T BEEN  
THERE ARE FOR A LONG PERIOD OF  
TIME SO CONVERSATIONS AROUND 21  
DAYS OR REQUIRING THAT SOMEONE  
LIVED THERE LONGER OR NOT.  
HOW DID YOU ADDRESS THAT.  
>> SO IF YOU'RE A U.S. SILL SUN  
WHO LIVED IN TACOMA PARK FROM  
BOSTON YOU ONLY HAVE TO MOVE  
HERE FOR 21 DAYS AND YOU CAN  
VOTE.  
IT'S A BIG DIFFERENCE.  
>> CAN A NON-U.S. CITIZEN RUN  
FOR OFFICE IN TACOMA PARK.  
>> NO.  
>> YES.  
>> NO?  
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.  
YOU LEARN SOMETHING NEW EVERY  
DAY.  
BUT THAT HAPPENS.  
>> EXCUSE ME?  
>> IT HASN'T HAPPENED.  
>> BUT THEY ARE ELIGIBLE.  
>> YES, THEY WOULD BE ELIGIBLE.  
>> JUST FOLLOWING ON THE 21 DAY  
PIECE THE QUESTION REALLY CAME  
OUT OF THIS IDEA COMING AND  
VOTING AND LEAVING TACOMA.  
SO THIS IDEA OF INFLUENCING YOUR  
ELECTION BY NOT ONLY BEING  
COMMITTED TO TACOMA BUT TO THIS  
COUNTRY.  
>> I DON'T SEE THAT AS AN ISSUE.  
WHY WOULD SOMEONE DO THAT?  
>> I MEAN, I HEAR YOU BUT THAT'S  
VERY HELPFUL.  
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.  
>> QUESTIONS ABOUT COLLEAGUES.  
>> STAY WITH US FOR A SECOND  
JESSIE.  
>> CAN YOU HEAR ME?  
>> YES.  
>> ALL RIGHT.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
PARTICIPATION.

I JUST HAD A QUESTION ABOUT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION SIDE OF THINGS THAT I'M SORRY IF I MISSED IT IN YOUR PRESENTATION. COULD YOU SPEAK TO ME OR SHARE WITH US WITH A YOUR STAFFING LEVELS ARE OR WHAT YOUR OPERATING BUDGET IS.

>> WE'RE A CITY OF 18,000 PEOPLE THE ELECTIONS RUN OUT OF THE CITY COLLECTOR'S OFFICE AND WE HAVE TWO FULL TIME EMPLOYEES AND AROUND LOOKION TIME ALSO AT LEAST ONE PART TIME EMPLOYEES. AND WE HAVE A BOARD OF ELECTIONS THAT FULLY PARTICIPATES AROUND CONDUCTING THE ELECTION.

OUR ELECTIONS ARE INEXPENSIVE. 10 TO \$15,000 IS WHAT WE PAY.

>> A LITTLE ENVY, A LITTLE MUNICIPAL ENVY OVER HERE.

10 TO 15,000 DOLLARS.

>> I HAVE TO SAY.

WE TOOK A PAPER BALLOT AND HAND BALLOT IN TACOMA PARK.

SO WE HAD IN OUR LAST ELECTION 2500 VOTERS.

IT'S MANAGEABLE AT THIS POINT. WE HOPE FRANKLY IN 2020, WE'RE GOING TO BE CHANGING TO EVENING ELECTIONS AND WE WILL BE SIDE BY SIDE AT EACH PRECINCT IN THE CITY.

AND I THINK AT THAT POINT THE HEAD COUNT WON'T DO ANYMORE BECAUSE I SUSPECT IT WILL DOUBLE OR TRIPLE TURNOUT AT THAT POINT.

>> DO YOU HAVE A SPECIFIC LINE ITEM THIS YOUR BUDGET THAT IS DEDICATED TO EDUCATION OR OUTREACH SPECIFICALLY.

>> NO, NOT SPECIFICALLY.

I HAVE TO SAY WE'LL DO ENOUGH OF IT; IT'S A CHALLENGE OUTREACH OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT.

IT'S IMPORTANT AND IT'S A CHALLENGE TO DO AS MUCH AS WE NEED TO.

>> ALL RIGHT.

I APPRECIATE YOUR CANDOR THERE.

MY FINAL QUESTION SINCE YOU ALREADY SPOKE TO, WELL MY QUESTION WOULD HAVE BEEN IN TERMS OF JEOPARDIZING OR

COMPROMISING ANYONE'S  
APPLICATION OR PATHWAY TO  
CITIZENSHIP BY ACCIDENTLY  
PARTICIPATING IN A FEDERAL  
ELECTION, YOU UNPACK THAT FOR US  
AND AGAIN I APOLOGIZE IF I  
MISSED YOUR PRESENTATION BUT  
COULD YOU TALK ABOUT WHAT  
PROTECTIONS FOR JOHN CITIZENS  
VOTING TO MAKE SURE THAT  
INFORMATION IS NOT BEING SHARED.  
WELL SO IN TERMS OF OUR  
ELECTION, THE INFORMATION CAN BE  
SHARED BECAUSE IT'S A LIST OF  
VOTERS, ES NOT A LIST OF  
NON-CITIZENS, IT'S CERTAINLY NOT  
A LIST OF UNDOCUMENTED  
RESIDENTS.

IT'S LOOKING AT REGISTERED  
VOTERS IN THE CITY.  
>> THEY'RE NOT CODED DIFFERENTLY  
OR ANYTHING.  
>> PARDON?  
>> THEY'RE NOT VIDEOEDED  
DIFFERENTLY.

>> IT'S COMPLETELY SEPARATE FROM  
STATE AND FEDERAL ELECTIONS SO  
THAT IT'S COMPLETELY SEPARATE SO  
WE DON'T HAVE THE CHALLENGE OF  
CHECKING IN AND GETTING THE  
WRONG BATTLE.

IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY HERE.  
WE'RE RUNNING OUR OWN ELECTIONS  
BUT OF COURSE WE USE THE VOTER  
LIST FROM THE STATE AND WE  
COMBINE THAT FROM OUR LIST OF  
NON-CITIZEN VOTERS AND CONDUCT  
OUR ELECTIONS.

>> HOW DO YOU MAKE SURE IT'S NOT  
SHARED AND VULNERABLE.  
JUST IN THIS CLIMATE.

>> ABSOLUTELY.  
IT IS SOMETHING WE'RE CONCERNED  
ABOUT BUT IN TERMS OF RUNNING AN  
ELECTION, THE INFORMATION CAN'T,  
IT'S NAME ADDRESS AND DATE OF  
BIRTH IS WHAT YOU HAVE.  
IT'S NOT NAME AND ADDRESS OR  
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OR NAME AND  
ADDRESS AND STATUS.

I'M SORRY.  
>> THAT'S FINE.  
THANK YOU.  
>> THERE'S AN ALARM GOING OFF.



THANK YOU FOR HANGING IN THERE  
WITH US.  
>> THERE WASN'T A CITY IN TACOMA  
PARK AND IT DOESN'T IDENTIFY  
ANYTHING SPECIAL ABOUT THEM.  
>> OKAY, VERY GOOD.  
THANK YOU.  
>> JUST TO QUALIFY, DO THEY  
ALLOW PEOPLE TO VOTE FOR  
DECEASED PEOPLE LIKE THEY DO  
HERE IN BOSTON.  
>> NOT HERE, NOT IN TACOMA PARK.  
>> AN IRISH TRICK UP HERE.  
CITY COUNCILOR JANEY.  
>> THANK YOU SO MUCH.  
YOU MAY HAVE KURVED THIS ALREADY  
AND I APOLOGIZE IF IT'S A  
REPEAT.  
HAS THERE BEEN AN INCREASE IN  
VOTER PARTICIPATION.  
>> NO WE WORK HARD TO JUST AS  
I'M SURE YOUR ELECTION  
DEPARTMENT DOES, WE WORK HARD TO  
GET PEOPLE TO COME OUT AND VOTE  
BUT IT'S HARD TO GET PEOPLE  
INTERESTED IN ELECTIONS.  
>> SO YOU HAVE NOT SEEN AN  
INCREASE.  
ALSO, COULD YOU SPEAK TO THE  
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR MOST OF  
THE NON-CITIZENS IN YOUR TOWN.  
>> WELL, SO IT VARIES.  
WE HAVE A LOT OF OF CONSULTANT  
-- AFRICANIMMIGRANTS.  
WE ALSO HAVE, I WANT TO SAY  
BECAUSE WE ARE RIGHT BY  
WASHINGTON D.C., WE HAVE A LOT  
OF PEOPLE WHO ARE HERE AS WELL  
AS STAYING HERE BECAUSE WHERE  
THEY ARE LOCATED.  
AND SO THEY MIGHT BE LIVING HERE  
BUT THEY'RE NOT U.S. CITIZENS.  
THANK YOU JEALSY, YOU'RE WELCOME  
TO STAY WITH US.  
>> WE'RE GOING TO GO TO GEORGE.  
WELCOME, GOOD TO SEE YOU.  
>> THANK YOU COUNCILOR FLAHERTY  
AND COUNCILOR CAMPBELL.  
IT'S GOOD TO BE HERE.  
I'M FOUNDER OF NASH VOTE,  
NON-PROFIT VOTE.  
FULL DISCLOSURE KIM JANEY IS A  
FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER OF MASS  
VOTE.

SO SHE KNOWS A LOT ABOUT MY BACK  
GROUND.

WE PROVIDE NON-PART SUB VOTER  
TRAINING AND RESOURCES TO  
NON-PROFITS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS  
IN BOSTON IN ALL 50 STATES.

WE MANAGE NATIONAL VOTER  
REGISTRATION DAY CAN WHICH IS ON  
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER AND WE DO THAT  
IN COORDINATION WITH LOCAL  
ELECTION OFFICES.

WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON THIS  
ISSUE BUT WE DO A LOT OF POLICY  
WORK, ESPECIALLY FOR NEW VOTERS  
HELPING THEM VOTE BECOME ACTIVE  
PARTICIPATION FOR DEMOCRACY.  
VOTER REGISTRATION TO VOTING TO  
VOTING MESSAGE.

THERE ARE CERTAINLY A LOT OF  
IDEAS HOW THE THERE.

THIS ONE RESIDENT VOTING IS A  
LOT MORE INTEREST.

THAT'S DUPLICATING OR I WANT TO  
ADD A COUPLE MORE IDEAS HERE ONE  
ON THE SUBJECT OF HOW THIS  
PROPOSAL MIGHT COMPARE TO OTHER  
FORMS OUT THERE.

MORE GENERALLY.

AND THIN SOME STRATEGIES TO  
CONSIDER IN MOVING A POLICY LIKE  
THIS FORWARD.

I THINK THAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT  
IN THIS ENVIRONMENT AND ANY  
ENVIRONMENT TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT  
HOW THIS, HOW YOU EDUCATE THE  
PUBLIC ABOUT THIS ISSUE.

NOW, WE ANALYZE LECTURE REFORMS  
THROUGH THREE LENSES.

IS THE POLICY WELL GROUNDED AND  
IS THE POPULAR OR POTENTIALLY  
POPULAR.

THE RATIONALE HAS BEEN ADDRESSED  
AND I THINK IN OTHER FORMS AND I  
COULD GET INTO THAT OR CONTEST  
IT BUT THERE'S A RATIONALE FOR  
IT.

IN CITIES THAT HAVE NON-RESIDENT  
LEGAL AND NON-RESIDENT VOTING,  
YOU KNOW, WE'RE CLOSE TO  
ADOPTING IT WITH SOME EDUCATION  
SHOWN TO GAIN SOME REAL POPULAR  
SUPPORT.

I WANT TO REACH ACROSS THE  
BORDER ON THIS ONE BECAUSE THE

CITY OF VANCOUVER JUST PASSED IT  
A COUPLE MONTHS AGO AND THERE IS  
SOME POLLING ON THAT.  
VANCOUVER IS NOT BOSTON,  
VANCOUVER, CANADA, ANOTHER  
COUNTRY BUT IN MANY WAYS IT'S  
MORE SIMILAR TO BOSTON AND A LOT  
OF OTHER TOWNS AND CITIES MAYBE TACOMA  
PARK.

THERE, POLLING IS DIVIDE BUT  
IT'S 57% IN FAVOR OF  
NON-RESIDENTS VOTING.

SO I THINK IT'S GAINED  
POPULARITY THERE AND GAINED  
POPULARITY WHERE IT'S BEEN  
EDUCATION HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED.  
ANY RESIDENT OR COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT IS REALLY A CORE  
ELEMENT AND STRATEGY FOR HEALTHY  
NEIGHBORHOODS.

IT'S JUST A POSITIVE, IT'S A  
PLUS IDEA IF IT CAN WORK.  
THAT'S THE NEXT WEEK IS IT WORK  
KNOWLEDGE.

A LOT OF IDEAS REALLY AREN'T.  
THIS ONE REALLY HAS BEEN.  
THERE'S LOTS OF EVIDENCE AROUND  
THE WORLD, AROUND THIS COUNTRY  
AND OTHER PLACES.

THERE ARE IDEAS THAT HAVEN'T  
BEEN TESTED AND ONE WE HEAR ALL  
THE TIME WHY DON'T WE CHANGE  
TUESDAY VOTING TO THE WEEKEND  
AND THERE'S IDEA THAT'S BEEN  
TESTED.

IT TURNS OUT THERE'S NO  
DIRCHTSZ.

WE CAN SAY WE DON'T HAVE TO GO  
IN THAT DIRECTION.

I DON'T WANT TO DISAPPOINT  
PEOPLE WHO WANT ANOTHER HOLIDAY  
ON THE CALENDAR BUT HOLIDAY TOO  
IS A PLUS OR MINORS KIND OF MINUS  
KIND OF THING.

WE DON'T FOCUS ON THAT.  
THIS IS SOMETHING THAT HAS BEEN  
TESTED.

BY THE WAY, I JUST WANT TO THROW  
ONETON TOPIC THING AND THAT'S  
HAVING AN ELECTION AFTER, AFTER  
A THREE DAY LONG WEEKEND.

THAT'S NEVER BEEN DONE BEFORE  
AND I SAY GOOD LUCK TO YOU IN  
MANAGING THAT ONE.

SO, I THINK RESIDENT VOTING FOR ELECTIONS HAS BEEN TESTED AROUND THE WORLD THERE ARE A LOT OF MODELS BUT WE ARE CLOSER TO HOME IN MARYLAND, CHICAGO, NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO IS DOING THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

OTHERS ARE TRYING TO DO IT AND PLANNING TO DO IT.

11 CITIES IN CANADA WORKING ON IT.

RIGHT NOW THIS IS ALL NEW FOR CANADA IF IT'S NEW HERE.

THEY WEREN'T INTERESTED IN TEN YEARS AGO IN THIS ISSUE AND NOW THEY ARE.

THEY ARE LOOKING INTO IT.

IT'S CONTROVERSIAL AND THEY HAVE THE SAME ISSUE OF HAVING TO GET AUTHORITY.

THEY CAN PASS IT BUT THEY CAN'T IMPLEMENT IT WITHOUT HIGHER AUTHORITY.

AUTHORITY THAT'S ANOTHER KEY QUESTION IT DOESN'T REALLY INCREASE REPRESENTATION THAT PARTICIPATION PROVIDES BENEFITS. REALLY HARD TO MEASURE.

IT'S COME UP A COUPLE TIMES BUT IT'S DIFFICULT TO MEASURE IT FROM A ELECTION TO ELECTION.

IT DEPENDS A LOTS OF FORKZ BUT -- FACTORS BUT IF YOU ENCHANCE CHARACTERIZE IT YOU HAVE THE POTENTIAL FOR MORE PEOPLE TO VOTE.

IT PASSES THAT TEST AND CERTAINLY PASSES THE TEST OF INCLUDING MORE PEOPLE AND DIRECT REPRESENTATIONS.

IT HAS A LOT OF BENEFITS FOR THE PEOPLE THAT DO IT.

VOTING FOR ANY ACTIVITY REALLY HAS A LOT OF TANGIBLE BENEFITS.

WE HAVE A WHOLE SECTION ON THE WEST SIDE OF NON-PROFIT VOTE.

I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO IT HERE BUT YOU GO THERE AND LOOK AT ALL THE DIFFERENT BENEFITS OF VOTING.

VOTING IS CORRELATED WITH ENHANCED PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH.

MORE CONNECTION TO YOUR

NEIGHBORS, MORE LIKELY TO ENGAGE  
IN ACTIVITIES.

IF YOU'VE BEEN IN PRISON, YOU  
COME OUT AND YOU START VOTING  
YOUR REST LIKELY TO GO BACK TO  
PRISON.

IT DOESN'T RAISE AS MUCH LOWER  
TO END UP VOTING ONCE THEY LEAVE  
PRISON.

THERE ARE A LOT OF BENEFITS AND  
BUT I WANT TO GET INTO THE  
QUESTION OF, YOU KNOW, THE STUFF  
ISSUE IS CONTROVERSIAL.

HOW DO YOU PASSION IT.

HOW DO YOU MOVE IT FORWARD IN A  
NEW IDEA LIKE THIS.

I WANT TO THROW MY TWO CENTS IN.  
AGAIN NOT HAVING TAKEN AN  
OFFICIAL POSITION AND YOU KNOW  
IDEAS THAT YOU WERE GOOD WITH OR  
NOT.

AS A BELIEVER IN THE IDEA OF THE  
POLICY HAVING A GOOD  
CONVERSATION, WHAT WE TALKED  
ABOUT IN A TRIVIAL WAY I WOULD  
SAY COUPLE THINGS.

REALLY IT'S TO REVIEW THE MODELS  
THAT ARE OUT THERE AND THE  
CRITERIA THAT THEY USE AND NOT  
JUST OBVIOUSLY -- THERE ARE LOTS  
OF OTHER PLACES THAT IS ACTUALLY  
VERY DIFFERENT FROM CITY TO CITY  
IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

A LOT OF THE SAME ISSUES EXIST  
IN OS TRAIL NEW ZEALAND OR MA MA  
ROCCO.

IT'S WORTH LOOKING OUTSIDE THE  
COUNTRY AND WITHIN THE COUNTRY  
ON THAT.

THE SECOND THING IS THAT WHILE  
IT HAS HAPPENED, WE CAME UP  
EARLIER HISTORICALLY, YES, 40  
STATES HAD IT UP UNTIL 1926.

I DON'T THINK IT ACTUALLY HELPS  
ADVANCE THE ISSUE TO GET, GO  
BACK IN HISTORY AND THE HISTORY  
TODAY SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY OR  
MAYBE YOU KNOW, LAST YEAR BUT  
NOT MUCH LESS A HUNDRED YEARS  
AGO.

WE COULD THINK ABOUT AND  
CONTEMPLATE OUR HISTORY BUT IT'S  
LIKE ANY REFORM HAS TO BE  
GROUNDED IN TODAY'S REALITY AND

WHAT PEOPLE ARE THINKING ABOUT  
AND WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE AND  
CITIZENS, NEW CITIZENS  
NON-CITIZENS INSPIRES YOU THE  
GREAT GROUNDING AND IS REALLY  
THE BEST PATH.

OBVIOUSLY YOU'RE ALREADY FOCUSED  
ON MUNICIPALITIES AND THAT IS  
CLEARLY THE BEST PATH ON THIS  
ISSUE BECAUSE TALKING ABOUT THE  
STATE AND FEDERAL LEVEL DOESN'T  
REALLY MAKE SENSE AT THIS TIME  
AND THERE'S A LOT OF OPPOSITION.  
IT'S A DIFFERENT SITUATION  
THERE.

SOME CITIES HAVE TRIED BALLOT  
MEASURES AND THIS IS JUST  
TALKING ABOUT TAXES DOWN THE  
ROAD BUT I THINK ALL THE  
MEASURES ARE TRICKY ON THIS  
ISSUE.

IT'S A HEATED ISSUE.

THERE'S A LOT OF ISSUES.

CITIZEN SHINE IS CONTESTED A LOT  
NOW.

I THINK MAYBE YOU HAVE TO HAVE A  
BALLOT MICHIGAN.

I THINK IT'S AN ISSUE THAT LENDS  
ITSELF TO REALLY ROBUST WELL MUD  
RATED CONVERSATIONS IN THE  
NEIGHBORHOOD JUST GETTING PEOPLE  
GOING DIRECTLY TO THE  
NEIGHBORHOODS AND TALKING ABOUT  
IT.

ENGAGING RESIDENTS AND FOCUS  
GROUPS BUT REALLY COMMUNITY  
MEETINGS.

I THINK THAT'S A WAY TO GO IN  
THIS ISSUE.

FINALLY I WANTED TO SAY ONE MORE  
THING IS THE LANGUAGE IS QUITE  
CRITICAL IN MY OPINION AS THIS  
IS IN A LOT OF ISSUES AND  
REFORMS.

PROponents HAVE CONSIDERED IT.  
BUT FROM THE VOTING WORLD I  
THINK IT REALLY MAKES SENSE TO  
REALLY TALK, REALLY IT'S ABOUT  
RESIDENT VOTING OF LEGAL  
RESIDENTS.

JUST GETTING INTO NON-CITIZEN  
TERMINOLOGY OR EVEN BRANDING  
IMMIGRANT VOTING, YOU COULD HAVE  
RAISED TO BE QUESTIONS THAT

CAN'T BE ANSWERED QUICKLY.  
THE IDEA OF RESIDENTSY MEANS A  
LOT TO PEOPLE AND EXPANDING IT  
TO PEOPLE WHO ARE HERE LEGALLY  
IS A LITTLE MORE FEASIBLE.  
OBVIOUSLY PEOPLE WILL DEFINE IT  
HOWEVER THEY WANT.  
THEY.

>> R.D.: HAVE APPARENTLY  
-- -- PARENTALLY THEY HAVEALREADY.

TRANSLATORS ARE A ROLE ANYONE  
CAN PLAY BECAUSE YOU CAN'T BE A  
POLE WORKER BUT YOU CAN BE A  
TRANSLATOR.  
WE NEED THOSE IN OUR CITY ACROSS  
THE COMMONWEALTH.  
A WORKSHOP FINALLY IN ONE OF OUR  
STATE PARTNERS THAT THEY ARE  
TALKING ABOUT NON-CITIZENS I  
VOTED FIVE TIMES IN THE LAST  
ELECTION.

HOW DID YOU DO THAT.  
WELL BASICALLY OBVIOUSLY HE  
HELPED TAUGHT PEOPLE TO VOTE.  
HE WENT OUT AND TALKED TO HIS  
NEIGHBORS AND FAMILY, PEOPLE WHO  
ARE CITIZENS ENCOURAGED THEM TO  
VOTE.

IT'S BEING INVOLVED IN A  
CAMPAIGN TALKED ABOUT HERE CITY  
GOVERNMENT AND OTHER WAYS I  
THINK BEING INVOLVED IN POLITICS  
ITSELF.

IT'S JUST A GOOD EXPERIENCE FOR  
ANY YOUNG PERSON.  
SO OBVIOUSLY OUR DEMOCRACY HAS A  
LOT OF ROOM TO IMPROVE BUT ONE  
OF THE THINGS OF COURSE HERE  
IT'S INTERESTING HAVING THIS  
CONVERSATION HERE IN BOSTON.  
WE'RE THE CITY BACK IN THE  
1700'S WHEN THE REST OF THE  
WORLD WERE MONARCHIES OR WORSE,  
WE WERE HAVING THE CONVERSATION  
ABOUT DEMOCRACY AND THE  
ASPIRATIONS SO IT'S GREAT TO SEE  
THIS TOPIC BEING TALKED ABOUT  
TODAY AND JUST THANK YOU  
COUNCILOR CAMPBELL AND OTHERS  
FOR BRINGING THIS UP.

>> THANK YOU GEORGE AND THANK  
YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE VERONICA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PROJECT  
CITIZENSHIP.

SO YOU HAVE THE FLOOR.  
>> THANK YOU FLAHERTY AND  
COUNCILOR CAMPBELL.  
THE MIX IS TO OVERCOME BARRIERS  
AND ELIMINATE OBSTACLES ON THE  
PATH TO CITIZENSHIP FOR  
PERMANENT RESIDENTS.  
WE WORK TO ENSURE THAT ALL  
IMMIGRANTS UNDERSTAND AND HAVE  
ACCESS TO THE PATH TO  
CITIZENSHIP.  
WE BELIEVE STRONGLY IN THE  
INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION OF ALL  
IMMIGRANTS.  
HOWEVER, I HAVE BEEN MAJOR  
CONCERNS ABOUT THIS LEGISLATION.  
THE STWRAIF AND LOGISTICAL  
HURDLES IN IMPLEMENTING THE ACT  
REQUIRES FOR FULL PARTICIPATION  
BY NON-CITIZENS SO AS NOT TO BE  
JEOPARDY THE FUTURE ELIGIBILITY  
TO BECOME U.S. CITIZENS.  
PERMANENT SEEKING RESIDENCY  
AFTER HOLDING A GREEN CARD ARE  
FOO FIVE YEARS MUST COMPLETED  
APPLICATION FOR NATURALIZATION  
WHICH SPECIFICALLY ASKS WHETHER  
THE APPLICANT HAS EVER  
REGISTERED TO VOTE OR VOTED IN  
ANY FEDERAL, STATE OR LOCAL  
ELECTION IN THE UNITED STATES.  
A JUST RESPONSE TO EITHER  
QUESTION REQUIRES A WRITTEN  
EXPLANATION WITH THE BURDEN OF  
PROOF FALLING UPON THE APPLICANT  
TO PROVE SHE REGISTERED TO VOTE  
OR VOTER ILLEGALLY.  
FAILURE TO PRIED THIS EVIDENCE  
COULD RESULT IN THE DENIAL OF  
CITIZENSHIP.  
CRIMINAL PROSECUTION AND  
DEPORTATION.  
IGNORANCE OF THE LAW IS NO  
EXCUSE.  
MISTAKES ARE NOT FORGIVEN.  
THERE IS NO ROOM FOR ERROR.  
ANYONE WHO IS WRONGLY REGISTERED  
TO VOTE MUST UNREGISTER TO VOTE  
BEFORE BEING ELIGIBLE FOR  
CITIZENSHIP BUT SOMEONE WHO HAS  
WRONGLY VOTED IS FOREVER BARRED  
FROM BIOMARKERRING A U.S.  
CITIZENS.  
SINCE 2014 WE'VE ASSISTED OVER



4,400 IMMIGRANTS TO ACHIEVE  
CITIZENSHIP IN MASSACHUSETTS.  
AND I'VE PERSONALLY HAD TO TELL  
TWO IMMIGRANTS WHO HAVE IN FACT  
VOTED IN A FEDERAL ELECTION THAT  
THEY WERE FOREVER INELIGIBLE TO  
BECOME U.S. CITIZENS.  
REGISTERING TO VOTE NOW RIRLZ  
REQUIRES ONLY A STATEMENT.  
THERE IS NO IMMIGRATION STATUS  
IN MASSACHUSETTS .  
AS OF LAST WEEK THE UNITED  
STATES IMMIGRATION SERVICES UCIS  
ANNOUNCED IT WOULD BEGIN TO  
ISSUE A NOTICE TO APPEAR, A  
DOCUMENT COMMENCING REMOVAL  
PROCEEDINGS DEPORTATION, WHETHER  
IT'S ANY EVIDENCE OF FRAUD OR  
CRIMINAL ACTIVITY BY AN  
IMMIGRANT.  
ILLEGAL VOTING OR MAKING A FALSE  
CLAIM TO U.S. CITIZENSHIP WOULD  
CONSTITUTE SUCH FRAUD OR  
MISREPRESENTATION.  
ALLOWING NON-CITIZENS TO VOTE IN  
MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WITHOUT  
SPECIFIC AND THOROUGH PROCEDURES  
WOULD FAIL TO PROTECT THOSE  
NON-CITIZENS FROM DEPORTATION  
PROCEEDINGS.  
TO ENABLE NON-CITIZENS TO VOTE  
WHILE PROTECTING THEM FROM  
CASTING AN ILLEGAL BALLOT WOULD  
REQUIRE PROCEDURES TO ENSURE  
THAT A NON-CITIZEN UNDERSTANDS  
HE'S ONLY REGISTERED TO VOTE IN  
THE MUNICIPALITY OF BOSTON.  
PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT SHE  
UNDERSTANDS THAT SHE'S NOT  
ELIGIBLE TO VOTE OUTSIDE OF  
BOSTON, CHECKING IMMIGRATION  
STATUS AT THE TIME OF  
REGISTERING TO VOTE AND PERHAPS  
AT THE VOTING BOOTH.  
THE ACT IS CURRENTLY WRITTEN  
EXTENDS ONLY TO IMMIGRANTS WITH  
LEGAL STATUS SO SOMEONE WILL  
HAVE TO MAKE THAT DETERMINATION.  
AND I CAN TELL YOU AS AN  
ATTORNEY IT'S SOMETIMES  
DIFFICULT TO FIGURE OUT WHAT  
SOMEONE'S IMMIGRATION STATUS IS.  
SO IT'S NOT AN EASILY ANSWERED  
QUESTION.

IN SHORT, ENSURING THAT NO  
NON-CITIZEN EVER MISTAKENLY  
REGISTERED TO VOTE OR ALLOWED TO  
VOTE AS A U.S. CITIZEN.

ONE OPTION IS THE SEPARATE  
MUNICIPAL ELECTION PRESENTED BY  
MS. CARPENTER.

THE OTHER OPTION WOULD BE TO  
HAVE ONLY ONE ELECTION AND  
DIFFERENTIATE THE BALLOT OF  
NON-CITIZENS FROM U.S. CITIZENS  
BY MAKING NON-CITIZENS STAND IN  
A DIFFERENT LINE WITH A  
DIFFERENT COLORED BALLOT.

TACOMA PARK IS AN EXCELLENT  
EXAMPLE THEY'VE ALLOWED NON-SIT  
STANCES TO VOTE SINCE 1991 THEY  
HAVE THOROUGH PROCEDURES TO MAKE  
SURE NON-CITIZENS DON'T FACE  
CONSEQUENCES IN FUTURE  
IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES SUCH AS  
NATURALIZATION.

TACOMA PARK HAS DIFFERENT VOTER  
REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS FOR  
U.S. CITIZENS AND NON-CITIZENS.  
IT'S IMPORTANT TO NOTE AS YOU'VE  
HEARD TACOMA PARK HAS A  
POPULATION OF 18,000.  
BOSTON HAS A POPULATION OVER  
673,000.

SO THE DIMENSIONS AND ENORMITY  
OF THE TASK ARE HUGE.

THE TACOMA PARK APPLICATION  
INDICATES THAT THERE IS NO NEED  
TO BE A U.S. CITIZEN JUST A  
RESIDENT OF TACOMA PARK.

THE NON-CITIZEN MUST EXPLAIN WHY  
HE IS JUST REGISTERING TO VOTE  
IN TACOMA PARK.

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION AND PROOF  
OF RESIDENCE IS REQUIRED TO  
REGISTER AS YOU'VE HEARD.

TACOMA PARK WARMS NON-CITIZENS  
OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF VOTING IN  
OTHER DISTRICTS AND PROVIDES A  
LETTER OF EXPLANATION TO THOSE  
UNDER GOING CITIZENSHIP PROCESS.  
SECOND TACOMA PARK MAINTAINS A  
SYSTEM FOR CONVERTING VOTERS  
FROM THE NON-CITIZEN ROLE TO THE  
CITIZEN ROLE ONCE THEY HAVE  
BECOME CITIZENS.

THIRD, TACOMA HAS A VOTER ROLE  
REGISTRATION MAINTENANCE PROCESS

TO ENSURE THE QUALITY AND  
ACCURACY OF VOTER REGISTRATION  
RULES.

THEY DEREGISTER NON-CITIZENS  
VOTERS BY SENDING MAIL THAT THE  
POST OFFICE WILL NOT FORWARD AND  
THEN DEREGISTER VOTERS BASED  
UPON THAT UNDELIVERABLE MAIL.

FINALLY, THE CITY CLERK  
REGULARLY WRITES LETTERS ON  
BEHALF OF IMMIGRANTS TO PREVENT  
MISUNDERSTANDINGS FROM FEDERAL  
AUTHORITIES WHEN REQUESTED BY  
THE IMMIGRANT.

TACOMA AND SEVERAL OTHER  
COUNTIES IN MARYLAND SUCH AS  
HYATT VILLE AND MOUNT HUH  
NEAR -- TACOMA HAS 300  
NON-CITIZENS INCLUDING  
UNDOCUMENTED AND DOCUMENTED  
NON-CITIZEN IMMIGRANTS OF 11,000  
VOTERS.

THAT SHOULD BE 18,000 ACTUALLY.  
HYATTVILLE HAS 33 NON-CITIZENS  
REGISTER.

33.

MOUNT RANIER HAS 20 NON-CITIZENS  
REGISTERED TO VOTER.

BOSTON AREA ALONE HAS 48,000  
LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENTS.

BOSTON WOULD BE LARGEST  
MUNICIPALITY TO GRANT  
NON-CITIZENS THE ABILITY TO  
VOTE.

IT WOULD BE THE FIRST.  
MUSES VOTER REGISTRATION WOULD  
NEED TO BE SEPARATE AND  
DIFFERENT.

IT WOULD NEED TO INCLUDE  
MULTILANG WUL NOTICES AND  
INFORMATION CORRECTS THE  
EXPLANATIONS TO AVOID CONFUSION  
AND WHERE AND HOW TO REGISTER  
FOR MUNICIPAL, THIS MUNICIPAL  
ELECTION.

ALSO NEEDED WOULD BE THE ABILITY  
TO TRACK THOSE WHO MOVE FROM ONE  
TOWN TO ANOTHER.

A PERSON WHO MOVES FROM EAST  
BOSTON TO CHELSEA OR REVERE JUST  
A SHORT COMMUTE WOULD NOT  
REALIZE THAT SHE IS NO LONGER  
LIVING IN BOSTON, CAN NO LONGER  
VOTE AND IS AT GREAT RISK WITH

SERIOUS REPERKUKSZ IF SHE WAS  
REG 12URD TO VOTE.

THIS IS LAUD MANY BUT IN MY  
MINUTE ALLOWING THOUSANDS OF  
NON-CITIZENS TO VOTE DOES NOT  
OUTWEIGH THE RISK TO EVEN ONE  
NON-CITIZEN OF BEING DENIED  
CITIZENSHIP OR BEING DEPORTED.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND THE  
OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THIS  
COUNCIL.

I WANTED TO THANK ELISE GUERRERO  
AS A SUMMER INTERN FOR DOING ALL  
THIS LEGAL RESEARCH.

>> THANK YOU VERONICA FOR YOUR  
COMMENTS.

ANY QUESTIONS FROM THIS PANEL?

>> THANK YOU VERONICA.

JESSIE, ARE YOU ON THE PHONE BY  
CHANCE?

>> I AM, YES.

>> SO I THINK OBVIOUSLY  
VERONICA'S BRINGING UP  
LEGITIMATE CONCERNS AND BOSTON  
IS OF COURSE A LITTLE BIT  
DIFFERENT IN THAT IF THIS WERE  
TO HAPPEN, THE SCALE OF IT WOULD  
EXPAND DRAMATICALLY COMPARED TO  
THE COUNTY'S THAT ARE CURRENTLY  
DOING THIS.

BUT I'M JUST CURIOUS IF YOU HAD  
ANY SORT OF THING YOU WANT TO  
SAY OR ANY COMMENT BASED ON  
SPECIFICS THAT WERE SET ABOUT  
TACOMA PARK.

>> [INDISCERNIBLE] I DID NOT  
KNOW HOW TO JOB CITY OF BOSTON  
BOSS[INDISCERNIBLE] IT IS SOMETHING  
TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT.

WE DO TRY HARD TO MAKE SURE THEY  
KNOW THIS IS THE ONLY ELECTION  
THEY CAN VOTE IN.

>> THANK YOU.

VERONICA JUST CURIOUS.

OBVIOUSLY WHEN LOOKING AT THE  
CITY OF BOSTON AND THIS IDEA OF  
JOINING YOU HERE, I UNDERSTAND  
THE CHALLENGES OF TRYING TO  
SCALE SOMETHING LIKE THIS IN THE  
THOUSAND OF BOSTON.

WE OF COURSE DON'T WANT TO  
JEOPARDIZE SOMEONE'S ABILITY TO  
BECOME A CITIZEN OF THIS COUNTRY  
BUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS IT WOULD

BE CURIOUS IF YOU HAD  
CONVERSATIONS WITH PEOPLE IN  
YOUR WET WORK WHO ARE EXCITED  
ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY BUT  
EXPLAINING THE RISK AND WHAT  
SOME OF THE CONVERSATION IS LIKE  
FOR THEM.

>> WHETHER IMMIGRANTS ARE  
MOTIVATED TO APPLY FOR  
CITIZENSHIP BY THE RIGHT TO  
VOTE, ABSOLUTELY.

IF YOU'RE ASKING IF WE TALKED  
ABOUT THE CONSENT OF NON-CITIZEN  
VOTING WITH OUR CLIENTS, I HAVE  
TO SAY NO.

>> THANK YOU.

>> IN THE INSTANCE WHERE SOMEONE  
WERE GOING TO VOTE AND THEY  
MOVED TO REVERE OR CHELSEA AND  
THEY GOT CAUGHT I GUESS EVEN AN  
TURN OR AFFIDAVIT, IT'S  
IRREVERSIBLE.

>> YOU CAN UNREGISTER TO VOTE SO  
YOU CAN CLEAN THAT UP BUT YOU  
CAN NEVER UNVOTE.

YOU ARE FOREVER BARRED IF YOU  
VOTE IN A LOCAL STATE OR FEDERAL  
ELECTION WHERE IT WOULD BE  
ILLEGAL.

>> ANY QUESTIONS.

>> THIS IS GREAT.

DOES ANYONE HAVE ANYTHING ELSE  
TO ADD.

I'M JUST CURIOUS ANYONE FROM THE  
ADMINISTRATION HAS ANY  
QUESTIONS.

>> I JUST WANT MINDFUL OF TIME  
FOR PUBLIC TESTIMONY.

>> I AGREE WITH EVERYTHING YOU  
SAID.

THE SURVEY IS INCREDIBLE.  
JUST QUICKLY I THINK THAT  
CHICAGO AND NEW YORK A LOT OF  
CITIES HAVE CITY WIDE  
NON-RESIDENT VOTING SO I THINK I  
WOULD BE CURIOUS HOW THOSE  
CITIES, SAN FRANCISCO AND NEW  
YORK.

>> OR CHICAGO.

>> HOW THEY'VE DONE IT.

>> I THINK IT'S BEEN APPROVED  
BUT IT'S BEEN PROPOSED BUT NOT  
IMPLEMENTED IS MY UNDERSTANDING.

>> SO THERE ARE OTHER

MUNICIPALITIES WHERE YOU CAN VOTE LIKE SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND OTHER THINGS LIKE THAT, YOU GUYS LOOKED INTO OTHER RISKS IN THOSE COMMUNITIES FOR FOLKS WHO ARE VOTING IN SCHOOL COMMUNITY ELECTIONS.

>> THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY RISK AROUND SCHOOL COMMITTEES BECAUSE THAT'S NOT A GOVERNMENT BODY. IF IT'S AROUND -- IT DEPENDS ON WHAT THE VOTE IS FOR.

>> RIGHT.

AS LONG AS IT'S ALLOWED, IT WOULDN'T BE ILLEGAL.

>> AN ELECTED SCHOOL COMMITTEE AS WELL.

>> BUT THEN YOU NEED TO HAVE DOCUMENTATION AND PROOF THAT YOU VOTED LEGITIMATELY.

>> DO YOU KNOW IF THOSE COMMUNITIES HAVE HAD FOLKS, I MEAN OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE RISKS THERE AS WELL OF FOLKS VOTING AND JEOPARDIZING THE ABILITY TO BECOME CITIZENS OR THEIR APPLICATION PROCESS.

THEY AND THESE OTHER MUNICIPALITIES ARE OF COURSE LARGER THAN THE ONES IN MARYLAND.

HOW HAVE THEY RESPONDED.

>> I DON'T KNOW IF ANY EXAMPLES OF DEPORTATION BASED UPON VOTING OR DENATURALIZATION BASED UPON VOTING.

THOSE AREN'T READILY AVAILABLE. IT WOULD BE IN THE MEDIA AND WE DID NOT FIND ANY.

>> WE CAN DO SOME OUTREACH AS WELL.

THOSE ARE OBVIOUSLY MORE COMPARABLE IN TERMS OF SCALE BUT I DO THINK THE CONVERSATION IS DEFINITELY WORTH OF HAVING.

THE GOAL WAS TO HAVE VARIOUS PERSPECTIVES TALK ABOUT THE RISK BUT ALSO NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT THE VOTING PIECE BUT TALK ABOUT YOU THING WE COULD BE DOING THAT WE AREN'T NECESSARILY DOING BUT WE DID AT ONE POINT IN THE PAST AND STOPPED FOR SOME REASON.

SO WE HAVE A LONG LIST AND THIS

WILL BE ONGOING IN TERMS OF WHAT WE CAN ACTUALLY CHECK OFF THE BOX.

BUT IN TERMS OF VOTING I THINK IT'S DEFINITELY WORTH CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION BUT I APPRECIATE THE VARIOUS PERSPECTIVES THAT WERE PRESENTED TODAY.

AND ALSO THE VARIOUS PERSPECTIVES THAT WE RECEIVED THE E-MAILS AND CALLS.

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT COUNCILOR JANEY ALL THE RESPONSES I GOT WERE NOT ALL NEGATIVE.

THERE ARE FOLKS WHO POINTED TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

A LOT OF FOLKS WITH LINKS TO IRELAND'S WEBSITE ABOUT THEIR NON-CITIZENS WHO ARE ALLOWED TO VOTE IN LOCAL ELECTIONS AND ONLY LOCAL ELECTIONS THERE.

SO I LEARNED A GREAT DEAL THROUGH THIS PROCESS SO THANK YOU GUYS AND THANK YOUR TEAM FOR THE RESEARCH.

>> THANK YOU TO JEFF.

THANK YOU TO JESSIE WHO IS JOINING US BY PHONE.

PHONEGEORGE,

CAROLINE AND VERONICA AS WELL.

NOW WE'RE MOVING INTO THE PUBLIC TESTIMONY PHASE.

ANYONE WHO WISHES PUBLIC TESTIMONY HAVE YOU TO SIGN IN. WE HAVE TO PODIUMS.

CARL BECKER, DAVID CANE.

I'M GOING TO TRY LENA DUARTE [INDISCERNIBLE] TONY MARIANO [INDISCERNIBLE] LOOKS LIKE LADY [INDISCERNIBLE].

PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELF.

ANY AWE FILL INFORMATION YOU HAVE.

JUST BE MINDFUL WE HAVE 20 PEOPLE OFFERING PUBLIC TESTIMONY.

WE DO HAVE A HARD STOP AT 5:30.

TWO TO THREE MINUTES IF THAT WORKS FOR YOU.

SO CARL'S GOING TO GO FIRST.

DAVID CANE IS SECOND.

LENA DUARTE IS GOING TO GO

THIRD -- IS GOING TO GO FOURTH.

TONY MARIANO -- IF I'M SAYING IT  
RIGHT.

PLEASE CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG.

>> MY NAME IS CARL BECKER I'M A  
RESIDENT OF DORCESTER.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE HERE TODAY  
FOR A CHANCE TO TALK POSITIVELY  
ABOUT INCREASED CIVIC ENGAGEMENT  
ESPECIALLY UPON IMMIGRANTS.

BOSTON IS IN A FIGHT WITHOUT  
TAXATION WITHOUT TAXATION BEGAN  
WAY BACK IN 1773.

MY WIFE HAS LIVED IN THE U.S.  
FOR OVER TEN YEARS AND IS  
CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING A FLAVOR  
OF TAXATION WITHOUT  
REPRESENTATION.

HOWEVER SHE KNEW THIS WHEN SHE  
SIGNED UP TO IMMIGRATE TO THE  
U.S.