

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS MICHELLE WU AND MATT O'MALLEY



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ADOPT COMMUNITY CHOICE ENERGY

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Restructuring Act of 1997 established Community Choice Energy, authorizing municipal governments to use bulk purchasing power to set an alternative electricity contract on behalf of residents and small businesses, including the ability to specify a higher level of renewable energy sourcing than required by state law; *and*,

WHEREAS: The City Council held a working session on April 25, 2017 that demonstrated public demand to explore Community Choice Energy in Boston for its potential to increase demand for renewables as well as strengthening consumer protection, transparency in energy consumption, and stability in the energy market; *and*

WHEREAS: Adopting a green Community Choice Energy plan is an action within municipal jurisdiction that represents the fastest way for a municipality to surpass state minimums for renewable energy and brings energy decisions into local control rather than by an investor-owned utility; *and*

WHEREAS: State law outlines the process for approving Community Choice Energy, with the first step requiring an affirmative vote by the City Council authorizing the municipality's administration to proceed with research, procurement, *and* community outreach; *NOW*

THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the Boston City Council hereby authorizes Mayor Martin J. Walsh to direct appropriate departments to research, develop, and participate in a contract, or contracts, to aggregate the electricity load of the residents and businesses in the City and/or other related services, and authorizes the Mayor to execute all documents necessary to accomplish the same; *and*

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED:

That the City of Boston solicit bids for a default aggregation of at least 5% Class I renewables sourcing above the Renewable Portfolio Standard as well as bids for a 100% renewable opt-in aggregation option; *and*

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED:

That the Boston City Council recommends that the Mayor form a working group that includes Council members and community stakeholders to provide input into the development of a plan to aggregate the electricity load.

Filed: August 2, 2017