

;;;BCC 190211

.>> GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE, MY NAME IS MICHAEL FLAHERTY, THIS PROPOSAL WOULD ALLOW AN INDIVIDUAL ONLY TO SEEK THE POSITION OF ONE ELECTED OFFICE AT THE SAME MUNICIPAL ELECTION. DOCKET 0313, ACT CONCERNING A VACANCY, REGARDING A CITY COUNCILOR AT LARGE AFTER 365 DAYS UNDER THE CURRENT LAW THERE IS NO ELECTION FOR THIS OFFICE AS THE VACANCY OCCURS, RATHER THE CANDIDATE THAT RECEIVES THE NEXT HIGHEST NUMBER OF VOTES WOULD THEN SERVE.

ALL THREE ARE HOME RULE PETITIONS THAT ARE SPONSORED BY OUR COLLEAGUE AND CANDIDATE ANDREA CAMPBELL.

TURNOUT IN FAIRNESS TO VOTERS.

THE COUNCIL DID ACT RELATIVELY TO THE MANY TECHNICAL LANGUAGE CHANGES BUT THESE POSITIONS DID NOT PASS AT THE STATE HOUSE.

HENCE THE REPROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN SET FORTH BY OUR PRESIDENT.

AT THIS TIME WE ARE JOINED BY LEAD SPONSOR COUNCILOR ANDREA CAMPBELL, COUNCILOR TIM McCARTHY, ED FLYNN, CHRISTINA ZAKIM AND

WU, WE'LL TURN IT OVER FOR INITIAL COMMENTS AND THEN SHOULD NOTE OBVIOUSLY WE'RE HERE WE ARE JOINED BY DION IRISH OUR ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND ALSO HIS TRUSTED RIGHT HAND ASSISTANT MR. PIAMONTE.

RECOGNIZE COUNCIL PRESIDENT, ANDREA CAMPBELL.

>> THANK YOU FOR MY COLLEAGUES FOR BEING HERE, I ALSO WANT TO THANK THE ADVOCATES IN THE VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE IN THE ROOM TODAY FOR THEIR WORK WITH RESPECT TO ELECTION AND ELECTION REFORMS.

YOU KNOW AS WE MOVE FORWARD AS POOH BODY, THE EARLY VOTING PETITION, WHERE THERE WAS ALREADY A HEARING AND I WAS PROUD TO PARTNER WITH COUNCILLOR

ZAKIM AND COUNCILOR JANEY ON THAT.

IT IS AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT I'VE ALWAYS BEEN PASSIONATE NOT JUST ABOUT TALKING ABOUT MY DISTRICT IN PARTICULAR, THE NEIGHBORHOODS OF DORCHESTER AND MATTAPAN SPECIFICALLY, BUT HOW TO STRENGTHEN THE COUNCIL AS INSTITUTION.

UNDERSTANDING WE ARE NOT GOING TO CHANGE OUR CHARTER OVERNIGHT, THIS IS A STRONG MAYOR CITY I UNDERSTAND THAT, I GET THAT ALSO VIA OUR CHARTER AND PAPERWORK, BUT THERE ARE WAYS I THINK THAT WE CAN CHANGE SOME OF OUR ELECTION PROCEDURES TO ALLOW FOR GREATER PARTICIPATION, INCREASED CIVIC TURNOUT, SAVE THE CITY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS AND STRENGTHEN THE COUNCIL AS A BODY INCLUDING MAKING IT MORE AUTONOMOUS.

I AM GOODS TO HOPEFULLY WITH THE SUPPORT OF MY COLLEAGUES ON THE COUNCIL PUSH FOR US TO CHANGE A RULE THAT CURRENTLY ALLOW FOR A CANDIDATE TO RUN FOR BOTH MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL.

THIS BODY PASSED IT BEFORE BUT IT WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL AT THE STATE HOUSE.

A SECOND PIECE OF LEGISLATION HAS TO DO WITH THE TERMS OF OFFICE FOR CITY COUNCIL.

RIGHT NOW THE COUNCIL SERVES TWO YEARS, THE MAYOR SERVES FOUR.

THE GOAL IS, FRANKLY ONE, TO ALLOW THE COUNCIL'S TERM OALIGN WITH THE MAYOR, HOPEFULLY, GIVING THE COUNCIL MORE AUTONOMY.

THE TURNOUT FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON IS USUALLY AT ITS LOWEST.

JUST TO GIVER YOU SUM NUMBERS, JUST IN MY DISTRICT ALONE IN 2017, WHEN THERE WAS A MAYORAL RACE THERE WAS A 26% TURNOUT.

IN 2015 THERE WAS A COMPETITIVE WORK TON GROUND, 17% TURNOUT.

IN 2013 WHEN THERE WAS A MAYORAL RACE AND A COMPETITIVE RACE, IT WAS 34% TURNOUT.

IN 2011 IT WAS 15%.
FOR MANY DISTRICTS IT IS LESS
THAN 10%.
AND IF WE KNOW THAT TO BE TRUE
AND WE ARE NOT GOING TO CHANGE
THAT OVERNIGHT, WHY NOT NOT ONLY
ALLOW THE COUNCIL'S TERM WITH
THE MAYOR'S OFFICE, GIVE THE
COUNCIL THE AUTONOMY IT NEEDS,
IN REPRESENTING ITS RESIDENTS.
ALSO SAVE THE CITY MILLIONS OF
DOLLARS, INCREASE THE VOTER
TURNOUT AND RAISE THE ISSUE OF
VOTER FATIGUE.
SUCCESSFUL HAVING A LONG TERM,
ALSO ALLOWS COUNSELORS TO BE
ABLE TO BE EFFECTIVE IN THEIR
JOBS.
RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE A TWO YEAR
TERM SO IF YOU ARE TRYING TO
PLAN SOMETHING OF SIGNIFICANCE
OR TO MOVE A POLICY INITIATIVE,
IT CAN BE VERY HARD.
TWO YEAR TERM YOU'RE RUNNING,
YOU'RE WORKING FOR ONE AND THEN
THE NEXT TERM YOU'RE WORKING AND
YOU'RE RUNNING.
IT'S HARD TO BE EFFECTIVE IN THE
WORK IF YOU ARE LITERALLY
WORKING FOR ONE YEAR AND THEN
THE SECOND YEAR YOU'RE WORKING
OUTSIDE AND WORKING ON THE
INSIDE.
SO WE HOPE THAT THIS WILL CHANGE
THAT.
AND LASTLY, THE LAST PIECE OF
LEGISLATION THAT HAS MRS. BEEN
ALSO BEEN AT THIS BODY OR BEFORE THIS BODY
BEFORE, FOR COUNCILOR O'MALLEY
AND COUNCILOR BAKER, IF I WAS TO
SUDDENLY VACATE MY SEAT, THERE
WOULD BE A DISTRICT ELECTION FOR
FOLKS TO RUN FOR HAD A SEAT.
CURRENTLY WHEN THERE'S A VACANCY
FOR THE AT LARGE SEAT THERE IS
NO SPECIAL ELECTION, THE NEXT
AT-LARGE VOTE GETTER JOINS THE
COUNCIL.
IF IT WERE ALIGNED TO THE
SPECIAL ELECTION RULES FOR THE
DISTRICT SEAT, IT IS A NEW
CONTEXT, A NEW DYNAMIC THAT BE
SAY THE PREVIOUS ELECTION.
YOU MAY GET FOLKS WHO ARE

INTERESTED IN RUNNING THE SECOND TIME AROUND IF THEY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A CONVERSATION ON THAT RULE. LIKE I SAID AT THE COUNCIL MEETING, THIS IS NOT ABOUT COUNCILOR GARRISON, WE WILL WELCOME HER TO THE COUNCIL AND I WILL MAKE SURE SHE IS SUCCESSFUL IN ALL THE WORK SHE INTENDS TO TAKE ON FOR HER CONSTITUENTS. I THINK STRENGTHENING THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS FOR ALL OF OUR CONSTITUENTS.

THANK YOU, COUNCILOR FLAHERTY FOR ALLOWING ME TO TALK A LITTLE BIT LONGER THAN USUAL AND THANK YOU AS WELL FOR CALLING FOR THIS HEARING SO QUICKLY SO THAT WE CAN TRY TO GET THESE MEASURES PASSED ALONG WITH THE EARLY VOTING LEGISLATION AND SEND IT UP TO THE STATE HOUSE AT THE SAME TIME, WHERE I HOPE, BECAUSE THEY GO AT THE SAME TIME, AND THE STATE HOUSE IS READY AND ABLE TO RECEIVE THEM AT THE SAME TIME, THAT WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL THIS TIME AROUND SO THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR CAMPBELL.

WE HAVE BEEN JOINED BY COUNCILOR KIM JANEY.

BASED ON THAT, WELCOME IT WILL L, GOOD AFTERNOON, COMMISSIONER, GOOD AFTERNOON, REGISTRAR, IF I CAN STATE YOUR OPINIONS ON THESE THREE, ALL THREE OF THEM TOQUE AND THERE WILL BE EXCHANGE OF YOUR WITH COMMENTS AND IDEAS. WHATEVER ONE YOU WANT TO TAKE FIRST BUT AS OUR COLLEAGUE HAD OUTLINED WHAT HER INTENTIONS AND WHY IT WAS FILED.

THERE WOULD YOU LIKE US TO STATE OUR NAME FOR THE RECORD?

>> GREAT.

>> DION IRISH.

THANK YOU, COUNCILOR FLAHERTY AND TO ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BODY, WE'RE HAPPY TO BE HERE TO PROVIDE OUR FEEDBACK FROM THESE ISSUES, FROM AN

OPERATIONAL STANDPOINT, AND TO SHARE WHATEVER THOUGHTS AND CONCERNS THAT WE HAVE.

0311, REGARDING THE TERMS OF CITY COUNCILORS, SAVING ABOUT \$1.6 MILLION IN SAVINGS.

DOCKET NUMBER 0312 WHICH IS THE --

>> SORRY, THAT SAVINGS BECAUSE IT WOULD BE CO-TERMINUS WITH A MAYORAL ELECTION, BIGGER TURNOUT?

>> EXACTLY.

THE SAME CYCLE AS THE MAYORAL PLEKS AND IT WOULD ELIMINATE THE -- ELECTION AND IT WOULD ELIMINATE THE AUDITOR OF ELECTIONS.

>> THANK YOU.

>> 0312, ESSENTIALLY PREVENT A CANDIDATE FOR SEEKING TWO MUNICIPAL OFFICES, AT THE SAME TIME.

THAT HAS THE POTENTIAL OF ALSO LEAD LEADING TO COST SAVINGS.

SHOULD A CANDIDATE BE SUCCESSFULLY ELECTED TO TWO MUNICIPAL OFFICES THERE WOULD BE A NEED TO A SPECIAL ELECTION CITYWIDE OR DISTRICT ELECTION AND COULD COST AS MUCH AS \$800,000.

>> AND FINALLY 0313, THE ISSUE OF A VACANCY OF COUNCILOR AT LARGE.

IF A VACANCY SHOULD OCCUR AFTER 365 DAYS, ONE QUESTION WE HAD IS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN LESS THAN 365 DAYS.

AND THE OTHER WHERE END OF THE SPECTRUM IS WHAT IF A VACANCY OCCURRED IN LESS THAN 180 DAYS PRIOR TO THE NEXT REGULAR ELECTION, WOULD THERE STILL NEED TO BE A SPECIAL?

CURRENTLY WRITTEN, WHEN THERE'S A DISTRICT COUNCILOR VACANCY, IF A VACANCY OCCURS LESS THAN 180 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DISTRICT ELECTION, THERE IS NO NEED FOR SPECIAL ELECTION.

>> INTERESTING.

>> THE OTHER THING JUST TO BRING INTO LIGHT, A DISTRICT VACANCY WOULD BE JUST DISTRICT-ONLY RACE

SO IT IS A SMALLER PART OF THE CITY.

WHEREAS AN AT-LARGE OPENING WOULD LEAD TO A CITYWIDE ELECTION WHICH WOULD OBVIOUSLY COST MORE THAN A DISTRICT ELECTION.

THE OTHER CONCERN I WOULD HAVE IS RIGHT NOW TO VOTE FOR CITY COUNCILOR AT LARGE IT IS THE VOTE FOR UP TO FOUR.

SO HAVING A SPECIAL ELECTION WHERE YOU ONLY HAVE TO ELECT ONE PERSON, YOU MAY WANT TO CHANGE HOW THAT WORDING IS PLACED RIGHT NOW.

>> THAT'S INTERESTING.

ANY OTHER CONCERNS?

>> NO, THAT IS IT FOR NOW.

>> MY COLLEAGUES, I KNOW WHY COUNCILOR CAMPBELL HAD OPENED IT UP, DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS RIGHT NOW?

IN ORDER OF HOW EVERYONE ARRIVED.

>> I'M AT THE END.

>> YOU'RE AT THE END.

SO EDDIE, ANY QUESTIONS AT THIS POINT OF THE PANEL?

>> I DON'T HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AT THIS POINT.

>> ANY COMMENTS ON THE THREE DOCKETS?

>> THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER, AND I WOULD JUST LIKE TO ADD, I AM INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THESE PROPOSALS, BUT AS A SIDE NOTE, I KNOW YOU'RE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS ON HELPING OUR VETERANS THAT ARE OVERSEAS, GAIN ACCESS TO VOTING.

IS THERE ANY UPSTAIRS ON WHAT THE LATEST IS IN TERMS OF DEPLOYED VETERANS, MAKING SURE THAT THEIR BALLOTS ARE -- GET INTO THE HANDS AT THE RIGHT TIME, ANY NEW INFORMATION ON THAT?

>> ONE THING TO CONSIDER, WE'RE CURRENTLY GAUGING IN ENGAGING WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE. ON THE CITY LEVEL TO EXPAND THE OPTIONS THAT ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE DURING STATE AND

FEDERAL ELECTIONS TO OUR
MILITARY SERVING OVERSEAS AND
ALSO OVERSEAS VOTERS, UNITED
STATES CITIZENS, OBVIOUSLY,
CURRENTLY THE TERM WE USE TO
REFER TO THEM, THEY HAVE OPTIONS
SUCH AS E-MAILING THINGS TO US
AND ALSO SCANNING THINGS THAT
WOULD SPEED UP THE PROCESS.
THOSE OPTIONS ARE NOT AVAILABLE
FOR CITY ELECTIONS AND SO WE'RE
LOOKING TO SEE, WE'RE
RESEARCHING THAT.
WE'RE ALSO MONITORING TRENDS IN
THE MASTER CITY ELECTION
INDUSTRY RECENTLY IN WEST
VIRGINIA.
THEY USED A MOBILE APPLICATION
THAT IS -- SEEMS TO BE VERY
SECURE AND CONFIDENTIAL.
AND AN OFFICIAL WAY.
AND FOR FOLKS TO CAST THEIR
VOTE, FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY.
THEY USE IT FOR FIRST TIME, AND
FEDERAL ELECTION, AND THERE'S A
REPORT COMING FORWARD TO EXPLAIN
HOW THAT WORKED AND HOW SECURE A
PROCESS THAT IS.
SO THOSE ARE SOME OF THE THINGS
THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT IN TERMS
OF SOME OF THE THINGS WE'RE
ACTUALLY DOING.
MILITARY VOTERS.
>> RIGHT NOW AS MILITARY VOTERS
REQUEST BALLOTS BE MAILED TO
THEM, WE WILL SEND OUT A BLAST
E-MAIL TO ALL THOSE FOLKS THAT
HAVE SUPPLIED E-MAIL ADDRESSES,
IF THEY THINK THEIR BALLOT IS
NOT GOING TO GET BACK TO US IN
THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF TIME.
THEY CAN ACCESS THAT THROUGH THE
FEDERAL WEBSITE BUT THAT'S ONLY
IF THEY THINK THAT THEIR BALLOT
WILL NOT RETURN TO US IN TIME.
SO THERE ARE SOME OPTIONS
AVAILABLE THE WAY THE LAW IS
CURRENTLY WRITTEN.
>> THANK YOU, THAT'S AN
IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR ME.
HI THE OPPORTUNITY SEVERAL TIMES
TO BE OVERSEAS, AND IN THE
MIDDLE EAST, AND IN THE
CARIBBEAN,.AND IT WAS ALWAYS

FRUSTRATING NO TRY TO GET MY
BALLOT MAILED TO ME, ESPECIALLY
SINCE WE'RE OFTEN MOVING AND NOT
AT ONE LOCATION AT THE SAME
TIME.

SO JUST WHATEVER WE CAN DO TO
MAKE IT EASIER FOR DEPLOYED
VETERANS TO VOTE WOULD BE VERY
IMPORTANT.

I KNOW YOU ARE MAKING PROGRESS
AND I JUST WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE
THAT.

THE OTHER ISSUE THAT IS
IMPORTANT TO ME IS MAKING SURE
THAT THOSE IN THE DISABILITY
COMMUNITY HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO
VOTING AS WELL.

ARE THERE ANY VOTING LOCATIONS
IN THE CITY THAT WE MAY JUST
LONG TERM PLANNING THAT WE MAY
HAVE TO THINK ABOUT TO MAKE SURE
IT'S ALWAYS ADA-COMPLIANT OR
DISABILITY PEOPLE HAVE EASY
ACCESS TO THE VOTING LOCATION?
VOTING POOL?

>> ALL THE LOCATIONS THAT WE
CURRENTLY USE ARE ADA COMPLIANT.

>> ANY LONG TERM PLANNING THAT
THAT COULD BE AN ISSUE, OR IS
THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU SEE THAT
COULD BE -- THAT COULD HINDER
THAT?

>> NO.

I THINK LONG TERM WHAT WE'RE
DOING IS, WE'RE LOOKING FOR
ADDITIONAL POTENTIAL LOCATIONS
AS THE CITY CONTINUES TO GROW,
WE'RE GOING TO MAKE SURE WE'RE
IDENTIFYING OTHER OPPORTUNITIES
TO CONTINUE TO MAKE VOTING
CONVENIENT AND ACCESSIBLE FOR
ALL OF OUR VOTE HOLDERS.

>> THE OTHER ISSUE THAT IS
IMPORTANT TO ME IS MAKING SURE
THAT THE ABSENTEE BALLOT PROCESS
IS IN LANGUAGES OTHER THAN
ENGLISH, IF REQUESTED, WHAT IS
THE LATEST ON THAT?

ANY UPDATES ON HOW WE CAN MAKE
THAT PROCESS EASIER FOR THOSE IN
OUR IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY?

>> YES, WE SHARE YOUR CONCERN.
IN HAVING ABSENTEE BALLOTS,
PARTICULARLY FOR REGULAR

ELECTIONS WE HAVE BALLOTS
AVAILABILITY IN ENGLISH,
SPANISH, CHINESE AND VIETNAMESE.
THAT IS ONLY FOR ELECTION DAY.
FOR ABSENTEE EARLY VOTING THOSE
LANGUAGES AREN'T AVAILABLE.
AS IT RELATES TO ABSENTEES, WE
ARE CONCERNED THAT SOMEONE WHO
IS VOTING NOT AT A POLLING PLACE
WHERE WE HAVE FOLKS THAT ARE
THERE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, THE
MORE THAT THEY CAN ACT
INDEPENDENTLY, THE BETTER.
SO HAVING LANGUAGE, OTHER
LANGUAGES AVAILABLE, WE THINK IS
VERY IMPORTANT AND THAT'S A
PRIORITY FOR US FOR THIS YEAR.
WE INTEND TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO
MAKE SURE THE MUNICIPAL BALLOT
IS ACCESSIBLE AND AT LEAST THOSE
LANGUAGES THAT I JUST MENTIONED,
AND WE'RE TALKING TO THE STATE
TO SEE IF THEY COULD CONSIDER
GOING FORWARD TO MAKING SURE
THAT'S ALSO THE SAME DURING
STATE RUN ELECTIONS.

>> IS THERE ANOTHER LANGUAGE
THAT WE ARE NOT INCLUDED AS PART
OF THAT ENGLISH-CHINESE,
VIETNAMESE, SPANISH, IS THERE
ANOTHER LANGUAGE THAT COULD BE
INCLUDED IN THAT?

>> WELL, I'M SURE THERE ARE MANY
OTHER LANGUAGES THAT COULD BE
INCLUDED BUT THE ONES WE'RE
REQUIRED TO DO MANY ENGLISH,
SPANISH, BASED ON DEPARTMENT OF
JUSTICE FEDERAL GUIDELINES AND
WE ALSO ESTABLISHED LOCAL STATE
GUIDELINES THAT REQUIRES CHINESE
AND VIETNAMESE BALLOTS.

SO WE WOULD LIKE TO AT LEAST BE
CONSISTENT AT THE POLLS AS WELL
AS THE SAME WITH ABSENT EBALLOTS
WITH THOSE FOUR LANGUAGES.

>> THANK YOU COMMISSIONER.
I THANK YOU FOR MAKING GOOD
PROGRESS ON THOSE ISSUES.
SO THANK YOU FOR TAKING MY
QUESTIONS.

>> COUNCILOR CIOMMO.

>> THANK YOU.

AT THE LAST HEARING WE HAD
REGARDING EARLY VOTING,

COMMISSIONER, I SEEM TO RECALL,
IT WAS 380,000 TO DO THE EARLY
VOTING.

DOES THAT SOUND ABOUT RIGHT?

>> YES.

>> AND YOU MENTIONED EARLIER,
\$800,000, THAT IS JUST FOR ONE
MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

>> THAT'S CORRECT.

>> SO JUST TO BE ON THE RECORD,
WE'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE, I THINK
IT WAS TWO YEARS AGO, I THINK A
HUGE MAJORITY OF THIS BODY
FORWARDED NOT UNANIMOUSLY, BUT
VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE FOUR YEAR
TERM, NOT VOTING FOR THE -- NOT
PROVIDING FOR TWO SEATS AT THE
SAME TIME, I WILL CONTINUE TO
SUPPORT THOSE.

I'M A LITTLE AGNOSTIC ON THE
FIFTH PLACE FINISHER AT THIS
POINT BECAUSE I SEE A WAY TO
PICK UP, YOU KNOW, WHEN WE HAVE
TO SPEND \$800,000 TO ELECT THAT
FIFTH MEMBER WHETHER WE'RE
PICKING UP THE \$800,000 BY
GETTING RID OF AN OFF-YEAR
ELECTION, JUST PUT THAT OUT THIS
JUST PURELY FINANCIAL-WISE.

THANK YOU.

>> AND RAISE A POINT, ANY
CONCERNS FROM THE DEPARTMENT IN
TERMS OF GOING TO RUN CITYWIDE
IN A SPECIAL, 255 WARDS, IN A
VERY CONDENSED PERIOD OF TIME,
THAT WOULD TELL ME, SOMEONE WITH
POLITICAL RECOGNITION OR FROM A
POLITICAL FAMILY, PROBABLY WOULD
HAVE A SIGNIFICANT LEG UP ON ANY
POTENTIAL OPPONENTS, BECAUSE
IT'S CONDENSED LESBIAN FRAME AND
RUNNING AGAINST THE CITY.

I DON'T KNOW IF THE ELECTION
DEPARTMENT HAS ANY THOUGHTS OR
SHE HAS ANY IDEAS ON THAT BUT
WHAT WOULD COME TO MIND?
YOU WOULD PROBABLY GET A LOT OF
INTEREST BUT IT WOULD MOST
LIKELY THE WIN ARE WOULD BE
SOMEONE THAT HAS SPHANT NAME
RECOGNITION OR HAS HELD OFFICE
BEFORE.

THAT IS MY THOUGHT, WHETHER OR
NOT THAT IS THE INTENT DOESN'T

SEEM THE POINT, BUT WE WOULD BE FOR MORE PARTICIPATION AND MORE ENGAGEMENT AND WE WOULD BE PROVIDING OPPORTUNITY FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS HIGH NAME RECOGNITION, MAYBE FROM YOUR VANTAGE POINT?

>> OUR THOUGHTS AND PERSPECTIVES OF THIS WOULD BE TO FOCUS ON OPERATIONALLY, WHAT ARE THINGS WE NEED TO DO TO PREPARE FOR THAT SPECIAL ELECTION.

>> IS THERE ANY IN THE HISTORY, HAS THERE BEEN ANY INSTANCES WHERE THERE WERE LIKE TWO VACANCIES AT LARGE IN A CALENDAR YEAR OR A YEAR APART?

NOT SINCE THE NEW FORM I GUESS BUT AT ONE POINT, FOR EVERYONE AT HOME DID FICTION, WE HAVE NINE DISTRICT AND FOUR AT LARGE, AT ONE POINT THE ENTIRE COUNCIL WAS AT LARGE UP UNTIL ABOUT I THINK BE 1983.

>> YES.

>> SO BASED ON HISTORY WAS THERE ANY SITUATION PRIOR TO 83 WHERE THERE WAS MORE THAN ONE AT LARGE TURNOVER?

I GUESS WHAT DID THEY DO THEN WHEN THEY WERE ALL AT LARGE?

IT WAS JUST REVERT TO THE 14th, 15th AND 16th I

GUESS FINISHER, IS THAT -- INTERESTING.

I'D LIKE TO KNOW THAT.

BUT COUNCILOR MATT O'MALLEY.

>> THANK YOU, FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP ON THESE ISSUES AND CHAIRMAN FOR CALMING A QUICK HEARING.

WE ARE HOPEFUL TO DEAL WITH THESE ISSUES AND THE GREAT WORK BY COUNCILOR CAMPBELL AND COUNCILOR JANEY AS WELL.

THE COST RELATED TO A SPECIAL ELECTION OR THE FACT THAT IT MAY INDEED ALLOW FOR A CANDIDATE, I'M TALKING ABOUT 0313 RIGHT NOW, A SPECIAL ELECTION MAY BENEFIT A MORE POLITICALLY CONNECTED INDIVIDUAL.

THAT'S LESS OF MY CONCERN, I THINK RECENT HISTORY ELECTIONS

IN THIS CITY HAS DEMONSTRATED TO US THAT THERE IS AN INCREASED SENSE OF EXCITEMENT AND AWARENESS.

WE HAVE SEEN VOTER TURNOUT AND PARTICIPATION RATES FAR EXCEED WHAT MANY OF THE PROGNOSTICATORS SAID WOULD HAPPEN.

UPSETS OF CHALLENGERS DEFEATING INCUMBENTS ON THIS BODY, FOLKS WHO HAVE LEFT THIS BODY, ET CETERA.

SO I THINK THAT I'M A BIG PROPONENT OF DOCKET 0313, I THINK THAT ELECTIONS COST MONEY. WE RECOGNIZE THAT.

BUT THE FACT FACT THAT WE CAN HAVE A FAIR, MORE EQUITABLE SCENARIO IN PLACE WHERE THERE IS ALTHOUGH VACANCY IN PLACE AND WOULD ALLOW FOR A CANDIDATE TO PUT HIS OR HER NAME ON THE BALLOT, RUN IN AN ALBEIT SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, THERE WAS A MAJORITY OF DISTRICT COUNCILORS WHO HAD ONE THEIR SEATS THROUGH SPECIAL ELECTIONS.

I MAY BE THE LAST ONE SITTING OR STANDING.

AND IT IS'S BEEN RATHER FRUSTRATING TO ME THAT WE SEEM TO HAVE TWO DIFFERENT SETS OF RULES FOR CITY COUNCILORS, IF IT WAS LESS THAN 180 DAYS FROM THE SPECIAL ELECTION THE SEAT WOULD REMAIN VACANT.

I THINK THAT RULE SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO THE AT-LARGE AS WELL.

THAT'S HOW WE FIGURE IT OUT. TO BE CANDID, A POINT I HAD NOT THOUGHT OF BEFORE, WE DO ELECT UP TO FOUR CANDIDATES IN THE NORMAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN THE AT-LARGE FILED.

OTHER CITIES HAVE DONE THIS AND AGAIN WE ALL YOU ALL CAN WORKING IN CONCERT WITH US CAN MAKE THOSE DETERMINATIONS IN THOSE RULES.

IF IT'S ONE VACANCY, IT OBVIOUSLY SHOULD BE FOR ONE SEAT.

THAT IS SOMETHING I'M VERY

HOPEFUL WILL BE PASSED AT THIS
BODY AND AT THE LEGISLATURE.
DOCKET 311, GOING FROM A
TWO-YEAR TO A FOUR-YEAR TERM, I
THINK THAT MAKES SENSE.
AGAIN I THINK WE HAVE TO BE
CAREFUL NOT BEING HYPOCRITICAL,
WHEN MANY OF US SUPPORT HAVING A
SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR A VACANCY
OF AN AT-LARGE CANDIDATE OR
COUNCILOR.
SO THE BETTER ARGUMENT IN MY
OPINION OF GOING TO A FOUR YEAR
TERM IS THAT IT WILL ALLOW FOR
MORE WORK TO GET DONE WITH LESS
OF AN ONUS ON CAMPAIGNING.
WE CAN SET THESE TERMS, WE CAN
SET THESE RULES.
IT IS A TOUGH VOTE TO TAKE
BECAUSE WE CAN SKI THIS AS SELF
SERVING, LANGUAGE THAT IT WOULD
NOT BE PUT INTO EFFECT UNTIL X
YEARS FROM NOW.
THE CITY WOULD BE BETTER SERVED
BY THAT CHANGE.
TO BE CANDID, TO USE COUNCILOR
CIOMMO'S LINE, I FEEL A LITTLE
AGNOSTIC ON DOCKET THREE 12,
RUNNING FOR MORE THAN ONE SEAT,
I'M NOT AN ATTORNEY, SEVERAL OF
MY COLLEAGUES ARE.
I WONDER IF THAT COULD BE
CHALLENGE OF THE
CONSTITUTIONALITY OF PREVENTING
SOMEONE FROM SEEKING MORE THAN
ONE OFFICE.
I WORRY THAT IT WOULD THEN
PERHAPS PREVENT ANY OTHER
ELECTED OFFICIAL FROM SEEKING
ANY OTHER POSITION DURING THE
COURSE OF HIS OR HER TERM.
I UNDERSTAND WHY IT WAS PUT INTO
PLACE POOL I'M OLD ENOUGH TO
LIVE THROUGH AN ELECTION THE
ONLY ONE IN RECENT HISTORY WHEN
THE CANDIDATE SOUGHT TWO OFFICES
ON ONE BALLOT.
THE VOTERS WERE NOT HAPPY WITH
THAT AND MAYBE THAT'S A PROBLEM
THAT SORT OF TAKES CARE OF
ITSELF.
I DON'T NEED TO OVERSIMPLIFY IT.
BUT OF THE THREE DOCKETS BEFORE
US, THAT IS ONE I HAVE

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT.
SO I GUESS FROM YOUR PE
PERSPECTIVE, COMMISSIONER,
REGISTRAR, DOCKET 311 REALLY
WOULDN'T AFFECT YOU OTHER THAN
IT MIGHT MAKE YOUR JOB A LITTLE
BIT EASIER THAT THERE WOULD BE
ENSURE ELECTIONS.

HOPEFULLY, AND THEN I -- THAT
MIGHT BALANCE IT OUT.

312, WOULD ALSO NOT BE
DETRIMENTAL IF IT WERE TO
BECAUSE BECAUSE IT AGAIN THIS
ISN'T AN ISSUE THAT IS THAT
PREVALENT BUT IT'S PREVALENT
ENOUGH THAT IT WOULD MAKE IT
EASIER ON YOUR COLLEAGUES IN THE
ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT AND THEN
313 OBVIOUSLY WOULD PROBABLY BE
THE MOST IMPACTFUL OF ALL,
BECAUSE IT WOULD IT NECESSITATE
A SPECIAL ELECTION.

I THINK SABINA WOULD CORRECT ME
IF I'M WRONG, A FIFTH POSITION
WHERE A COUNCILOR HAS ASCENDED
TO THE COUNCIL.

SINCE 1983, THE FIFTH TIME.

SO I GUESS THAT IS LESS THE
QUESTIONS FROM ME BUT SORT OF MY
THOUGHTS.

>> COUNCILLOR ZAKIM.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN, I
WANT TO THANK THE GENTLEMEN AND
THE ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT FOR
EVERYTHING YOU HAVE DONE FROM
IMPLEMENTING EARLY VOTING AND TO
EXPANDING ACCESS.

I WAS PLEASED ABOUT THE OUTCOME
OF OUR HEARING ABOUT THE BILL
FOR EARLY VOTING, I LOOK FORWARD
TO WORKING WITH OUR COLLEAGUES
ON GETTING THAT DONE UP AT THE
STATE HOUSE SO THAT WE CAN HAVE
IT IN PLACE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

I APPRECIATE THE COUNCIL
PRESIDENT'S BRINGING THESE
MATTERS FORWARD, AND HER EFFORTS
TO I THINK MODERNIZE AND IMPROVE
HOW THIS BODY OPERATES AND HOW
WE INTERACT WITH OTHER CITY
AGENCIES AND THE PUBLIC.

I THINK AS WE GO THROUGH THE
DIFFERENT DOCKETS AND I PREVENT
HOW COUNCILOR O'MALLEY WENT ONE

BY ONE AND DISCUSSING THEIR FEELINGS ABOUT IT, I THINK FOR 0311 THE FOUR YEAR TERMS I DO HAVE SOME HESITANCY ON THAT. I DO THINK THAT PERHAPS, AND THIS WOULD BE SOMETHING FOR THE BILL'S AUTHOR THE COMMITTEE CHAIR THAT IF SOMETHING WERE TO MOVE FORWARD ON THIS FRONT PUTTING IN A PROVISION THAT THERE WOULD BE STILL ONE FURTHER MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON THE TWO-YEAR TERMS, BEFORE THE FOUR YEARS GO INTO EFFECT, I THINK THAT'S SOMETHING THAT COUNCILOR O'MALLEY MAY HAVE ALLUDED TO AND THE ISSUE OF THIS BEING SOMETHING THAT IS NOT DIRECTLY IMPACTING THE FOLKS WHO VOTE ON IT, THAT THERE WOULD BE ANOTHER MUNICIPAL ELECTION, STAY THIS PASSIONS AT THE STATE HOUSE TOMORROW WE STILL HAVE TO GO THROUGH 2019 AND THEN 2021 WOULD BE THE FIRST. THAT'S JUST SOMETHING WOULD I SUGGEST AS WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THIS AND TO MAKE SURE THAT IN THE INTEREST OF GOOD GOVERNMENT AND TRANSPARENCY THAT THE PEOPLE WHO WE ARE THROUGH ALL THESE EFFORTS TRYING TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR THEM TO HOLD THEIR ELECTED OFFICIALS ACCOUNTABLE, WHEN WE PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCESS THAT WE'RE MINDFUL OF THAT. AND I THINK THESE ARE GOOD DISCUSSIONS TO BE HAVING. I DO I -- I THINK COUNCILOR, YOU MENTIONED THIS, WHEN SOMEONE IS ON THE BALLOT FOR TWO OFFICES THE VOTERS MAYBE SOMETIMES TAKE CARE OF THAT PROBLEM THEMSELVES. IT'S CERTAINLY SOMETHING WORTH DISCUSSING AND I THINK IN GENERAL WE'RE TALKING ABOUT ELECTION MODERNIZATION, ACCESS TO EVERYONE IN THE CITY AND TO COUNSELOR FLYNN'S COMMENTS, FOR PEOPLE SERVING OVERSEAS, THAT IS OF PARAMOUNT CONCERN TO ME AS CHAIRMAN OF OUR CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE, THAT EVERYONE HAS ACCESS.

THAT IS THE LENS THROUGH WHICH I'M VIEWING ALL THE PROPOSALS, I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR DEBATE ON THESE ISSUES.

MECHANICALLY SPEAKING, THESE ARE ALL DOABLE, FOR VOTERS, AS WELL AS WHAT WE'RE DOING UP AT THE STATE HOUSE.

I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING THESE CONVERSATIONS BUT THESE ARE BIG DECISIONS TO MAKE AND HOW WE GONE OURSELVES AND THE CITY.

I WANT TO BE MINDFUL OF THAT, THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

>> IS IT THE LEAD SPONSOR'S DESIRE THAT IT BE CO-TERMINUS WITH THE MAYOR'S RACE OR NOT TAKE EFFECT UNTIL 2021?

NEXT MAYORAL ELECTION?

CHAIR RECOGNIZES COUNCILOR MICHELLE WU.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN AND MADAM PRESIDENT FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP ON THIS.

I JUST, I SUPPOSE MORE OF A STATEMENT THAN ACTUALLY I'LL HAVE ONE QUESTION AT THE END. BUT I JUST WANTED TO GET ON RECORD HERE, THAT I COMPLETELY AGREE WITH THE INTENTION BEHIND TRYING TO MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE BEING EXTREMELY RESPONSIBLE ABOUT CITY FUNDING, AND THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH ELECTIONS AND RUNNING AND TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE HIGHER THE VOTER TURNOUT, THE MORE MEANINGFUL FEEDBACK THERE IS.

I DO WANT TO JUST STATE THAT I HAVE CONCERNS WITH ALL THREE DOCKETS, AND FEEL MY CONCERN IS THAT EACH OF THESE IN SOME WAYS GETS CLOSER TO RESTRICTING BALLOT ACCESS THAN EXPANDING IT. AND PARTICULARLY NOW, IN THIS MOMENT, WE SHOULD BE DOING EVERYTHING TO TAKE DOWN BARRIERS FOR PARTICIPATION.

BUT JUST GOING ONE BY ONE, AND I THINK SOME OF THIS IS JUST IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THINKING ABOUT IN PRINCIPLE AND PHILOSOPHICALLY AND IN REALITY,

KIND OF WHAT THE ACTUAL MECHANISMS ARE AND WHAT INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCES ARE. SO I'LL GO THROUGH ONE BY ONE, 0311, TWO YEAR VERSUS FOUR YEAR TERM, I UNDERSTAND WHERE THE PROPONENTS ARE GOING THROUGH IN COST AND GIVING MORE TIME. BUT THE REALITY IS THAT UNLESS THERE IS CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM THIS WILL MEAN THAT INCUMBENTS HAVE MORE TIME THE BUILD UP WAR CHESTS AND IT WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT FOR NEWCOMERS TO TRY TO RAISE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY NEEDED TO COMPETE AND POTENTIALLY RUN FOR OFFICE AGAIN AGAINST AN INCUMBENT. SO ABSENT CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM, I WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THAT ONE. THE SECOND ONE, I THINK I FEEL THE LEAST STRONGLY ABOUT, SIMILAR TO COUNCILOR O'MALLEY, IN SOME WAYS IT'S A STATEMENT TO THE VOTERS ABOUT YOUR INTENTION. BUT AT THE SAME TIME, I WOULD ESPECIALLY IN THIS MOMENT ERR ON THE SIDE OF JUST LETTING PEOPLE MAKE THEIR CHOICES AND THEN PUTTING THAT UP FOR A VOTE. AND THEN FINALLY, 0313, THE SPECIAL ELECTION FOR AT LARGE, I THINK COUNCILOR FLAHERTY, I THINK THIS IS JUST OUR EXPERIENCES COLORING THIS VERSUS DISTRICT COUNCILORS, IT IS INCREDIBLY INTENSE TO RUN A CITYWIDE ELECTION. I DO WORRY THAT IF THERE WERE A PERIOD IF IT WERE THE SPECIAL ELECTION IN THE SAME TIME FRAMES, I DON'T KNOW HOW SOMEONE COULD KIND OF EMERGE WITHOUT ANY PRIOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND THEREFORE IT WOULD FAVOR THOSE WHO EITHER CAME IN FIFTH PLACE TO BEGIN WITH, OR HAVE SOME OTHER CONNECTIONS OR POLITICAL INFLUENCE. AND SO IN SOME WAYS, MY THINKING IS THAT THE CURRENT SYSTEM MAKES IT SUCH THAT RUNNING FOR OFFICE, EVEN IF THERE ARE FOUR

INCUMBENTS RUNNING AT LARGE, IF THERE IS VALUE TO CHALLENGING AND BEING PART OF THAT CONVERSATION AND MAKES THESE REGULAR AT-LARGE ELECTIONS MORE MEANINGFUL, WITH MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR TAKING ONE OF THOSE SEATS OR TAKING THAT FIFTH PLACE SLOT, SO THAT I WORRY THAT IF WE DID THIS, IT WOULD ALSO MEAN THAT YOU KNOW PEOPLE WOULD BE LESS LIKELY TO CHALLENGE AGAINST THE INCUMBENTS AND JUST KIND OF WEIGH AND THEN IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO RAMP UP THE ELECTION AGAIN GIVEN THE REALITIES OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE, AND WHAT OUR EXPERIENCES HAVE BEEN IN REAL LIFE.

SO I AGREE WITH THE INTENTION BEHIND TRYING TO KIND OF STREAMLINE AND STRENGTHEN THE COUNCIL.

BUT I JUST THINK THAT WE SHOULD ERR, ENTIRELY, TON SIDE OF OPENING UP THE BALLOT AT THIS POINT AND BRINGING IN NEW VOICES AND NOT AT ALL ANYTHING THAT WOULD POTENTIALLY STRENGTHEN INCUMBENCY OVER POTENTIAL CHALLENGERS.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCIL PRESIDENT CAMPBELL.

>> THANK YOU MY COLLEAGUES FOR WEIGHING IN WP RESPECTFULLY, COUNCILOR WU, WE AGREE TO DISAGREE, IN TERMS OF THE REALITY PIECE.

I THINK MR. IT'S LOOKING AT MY RACE IN PARTICULAR AND CHALLENGING A 32-YEAR INCUMBENT OR SOME COMMENTS FROM COLLEAGUES WHO ARE NOT PRESENT HERE AT THE COUNCIL MEETING AROUND THE DIFFICULTY IN INCUMBENCY, WHETHER IT IS A TWO YEAR TERM OR FOUR YEAR TERM, IT'S HARD ALL AROUND.

AND FRANKLY, I THINK IT WAS COUNCILOR O'MALLEY WHO SPOKE TO -- COUNCILOR McCARTHY TOO, NOT ONLY TO SAVE MONEY FOR THE CITY FOR THESE ELECTIONS, I'M IN D-4,

I WORKED REALLY HARD TO MAKE SURE THAT TURNOUT WAS HIGH, YOU DO THE SAME THINGS, AS DO ALL THE COLLEAGUES ON THE COUNCIL. BUT, IT IS FOR ME ABOUT SAVING MONEY AND ALL THESE BILLS FOR ALIGNMENT, IF WE HAVE A MAYOR FOR FOUR YEARS, I WANT US TO BE ALIGNED BECAUSE I THINK THAT ALLOWS THE COUNCILORS TO GEP GET MORE THINGS DONE AS AN INSTITUTION.

AND I THINK ALIGNMENT ALLOWS US TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN THE WORK.

WE HAVE ONE YEAR BUT THAT OTHER YEAR IS REALLY SPENT WORKING AND CAMPAIGNING AT THE SAME TIME, WHICH IS INCREDIBLY CHALLENGING. WE HAD COUNCILOR BAKER SPEAK AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ABOUT A DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN HIS DISTRICT WHERE HE WANTED TO BE EXTREMELY ACTIVE AND PROACTIVE AND TRYING TO GET SOMETHING DONE WITH RESPECT TO THAT PROJECT AND I THINK IT WENT ON FOR SIX YEARS.

THE REALITY IS, WITH RESPECT TO THE WORK, IT IS REALLY DIFFICULT TO FOLLOW SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE THE WAY WE WANT IF YOU ARE RUNNING EVERY OTHER YEAR.

I THINK WITH RESPECT TO MY COLLEAGUES, WE ARE GOING TO AGREE TO DISAGREE.

BUT WITH REGARD TO EVERYONE HERE, A FEW QUESTIONS I HAD WITH RESPECT TO SOME OF THE POINTS THAT YOU MADE COMMISSIONER, WITH RESPECT TO DOCKET 0313, THE WHOLE GOAL IS TO ALIGN IT WITH THE DISTRICT SEAT RULE.

AND SO IF WE HAVE TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS TON 180 DAYS, VERSUS 365, WILLING TO DO THAT.

THE PROCESS SHOW UP THE SAME WAY WITH RESPECT TO AT LARGE IN THE DISTRICT SEAT.

I'M JUST CURIOUS, HOW MANY, WHEN HAS THIS RULE SORT OF BEEN TRIGGERED?

I THINK COUNCILOR O'MALLEY GOT TO THIS, MANY OF THOSE WHO

JOINED OUR RANKS, ACTUALLY, I
DON'T KNOW IF THEY HAD MUCH NAME
RECOGNITION BEFORE, CAME AS A
RESULT OF THIS SPECIAL
ELECTIONS, WHO WOULD HAVE KNOWN
WHO WOULD HAVE RAN, I KNOW IT
WAS TRIGGERED A LITTLE BIT MORE
WITH THE DISTRICT SEAT, AND I'M
OURS WITH THE AT LARGE RULE
OUTSIDE OF OBVIOUSLY CONGRESSMAN
CONGRESSMANPRESSLEY, IF WE CHANGE SOMETHING
AND WE ARE SEEING, YOU KNOW WHAT
THIS IS DISASTROUS, MAYBE WE
NEED TO REVISIT.

WE DO THAT QUITE A BIT WITH A
LOT OF LEGISLATION FRANKLY
AROUND HERE, TO REMAIN OPEN
MINDED AND TO TRY SOMETHING
ELSE.

BUT I'VE HEARD AT LEAST, THAT IT
IS MORE DEMOCRATIC TO ALIGN
THESE PROCESSES TO ALLOW MORE
FOLKS TO PARTICIPATE IN A
GREATER WAY.

I'M CURIOUS TO HEAR A LITTLE BIT
MORE ABOUT WHEN THIS HAS
ACTUALLY HAPPENED AND WHEN THE
RULE IS TRIGGERED.

ESPECIALLY WITH RESPECT TO THE
AT LARGE.

>> OR DISTRICT SPECIAL?

>> BOTH.

>> AT LARGE LAST TIME IT WAS
MAYBE 15 YEARS AGO.

LAST TIME IT WAS TRIGGERED WAS
THE RESULT OF STEVE MURPHY I
BELIEVE CAME IN.

>> I BELIEVE WHETHER MICKEY
ROACH WAS ELECTED ADMINISTER OF
DEEDS.

FATHER OF THE MOST RECENT --

>> THE ONE PRIOR TO THAT --

>> IT WAS MURPHY AND BEFORE THAT
IT WAS IF I MAY MR. CHAIRMAN, IT
WAS WHEN BRUCE BOLLING WAS THE
FIFTH, DISTRICT COUNCILOR, AT
LARGE, CAME IN FIFTH PLACE AND
THEN ASCENDED.

>> GREAT STORY.

>> THANK YOU TO MY COLLEAGUES.

;;; lost captions

THIS IS BOSTON CIt RECOGNIZES
COUNCILOR WU.

>> IN DOCKET 0313 SO THE

LANGUAGE WAS WRITTEN SO THAT THERE WOULD BE ONLY ONE ELECTION, ONLY A PRELIMINARY ELECTION, IF THERE WAS AN AT LARGE VACANCY AND NOT A PRELIMINARY AND THEN A FINAL, IS THAT THE INTENTION?

>> I THINK YES, BUT I THINK THROUGH SOME FEEDBACK FROM HERE AND SOME OTHER CONVERSATIONS WE CAN MAKE SOME CHANGES. BUT I'D BE CURIOUS TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS.

>> OKAY.

JUST -- I MEAN, I DON'T KNOW, IF IT'S GOING TO MIRROR, I THINK IT SHOULD MIRROR.

BUT AGAIN I THINK IT'S A LOT TO PUT SOMEONE THROUGH IN A VERY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME AND SHORTLY SET UP.

>> CHAIR RECOGNIZES COMU. COUNCILOR WU.

>> I WOULD VERY MUCH STRONGLY THINK IT WOULD BE THE PRELIMINARY AND THE MUNICIPAL. IT GUARANTEES THAT THE WINNERS OF THE ELECTION WOULD GET THE MAJORITY OF THE VOTE. I THINK THAT IS CRUCIALLY IMPORTANT.

ONE OF THE REASONS I SUPPORT 0313 SO STRONGLY IS THAT IT WILL MAKE SURE THAT A CANDIDATE RECEIVES THE MAJORITY OF THE

VOTE, WHICH ISN'T THE CASE RIGHT NOW.

AND JUST FINALLY, I APPRECIATE AGAIN, I THINK THERE WAS SOME REALLY GOOD FEEDBACK.

I LIKE AND RESPECT ALL MY COLLEAGUES IMMENSELY, APPRECIATE THEY'VE GIVEN ME A LOT TO THINK ABOUT.

I WOULD JUST PUSH BACK ON THE NOAKS THAT A SPECIAL ELECTION WOULD SOMEHOW RESTRICT A VOTER PARTICIPATION PROCESS WHEN THAT SOUNDS RATHER COUNTERINTUITIVE. WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DO HERE, I WOULD ARGUE THAT THE CURRENT SYSTEM ACTUALLY RESTRICTS VOTER

ACCESS.

I WOULD SAY THIS AS SOMEONE WHO UNSUCCESSFULLY RAN FOR STOIRNL AT LARGE, BEFORE I RAN FOR THE DISTRICT SEAT, THE AWESOME TASK IT IS TO RUN CITYWIDE, THE SYSTEM DOESN'T ALLOW FOR THE SAME LEVEL OF DIRECT REPRESENTATION WE'RE TALKING ABOUT IN THIS REFORM HERE.

FANNED WE WERE TO SAY WELL IT WOULD BENEFIT, A SPECIAL ELECTION WOULD BENEFIT TO ABILITY TO RAISE MONEY, I WOULD ARGUE THAT ANY RUNNING AT LARGE ANY CAMPAIGN THAT IS TRUE, IT IS CERTAINLY UP TO THE INDIVIDUAL TO MAKE THAT CASE.

WE HAVE SEEN EXAMPLE AFTER EXAMPLE OF PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T RAISE AS MUCH MONEY, OFTEN RUN SUCCESSFULLY.

I TAKE ISSUE WITH FOLKS SAYING ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL ELECTION WHICH WOULD GUARANTEE A CANDIDATE WOULD GET A MAJORITY OF THE VOTE BECAUSE OF A SYSTEM THAT WE HAVE WITH THE PRELIMINARY AND THEN A FINAL, SOMEHOW RESTRICTS VOTER ACCESS, THAT'S NOT THE CASE.

FINALLY, I UNDERSTAND IT'S A SHORTER PERIOD OF TIME, ANY SPECIAL ELECTION IS.

WE DO SPECIAL ELECTIONS FOR CONGRESSIONAL SEATS.

WE DO SPECIAL ELECTIONS FOR UNITED STATES SENATE SEATS NOW SO THE SIZE OF THE DISTRICT I THINK IS NOT REASON ENOUGH TO PREVENT IMPLEMENTING SOME PRETTY EFFECTIVE ELECTIONS REFORM HERE.

THANK YOU.

>> ALL RIGHT, SEEING THIS OR NO ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS FROM MY COLLEAGUES, I KNOW WE HAD INVITED SOME FOLKS TO OFFER SOME TESTIMONY, OUR POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER, FOR MASS VOTE, PROBABLY JUST TO MAKE IT EASY IF YOU WANT TO COME RIGHT DOWN TO THAT PODIUM RIGHT THERE AND OFFER PUBLIC TESTIMONY IF YOU WANT THAT MAKES IT EASIER.

WELCOME TO THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL AND GOOD AFTERNOON. STATE YOUR NAME AND AFFILIATION FOR THE RECORD EVEN THOUGH I JUST DID.

>> GREAT, GOOD AFTERNOON, MY NAME IS BETH WONG AND I'M DIRECTOR OF THE MASSACHUSETTS VOTER TABLE, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR INVITING ME TO SPEAK. THE MASSACHUSETTS VOTER TABLE IS A COALITION, SOME OF WHICH YOU MAY BE FAMILIAR WITH, THAT FIGHTS FOR REPRESENTATION FOR COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, WORKING FAMILIES, LOW INCOME PEOPLE OF ALL AGE.

WE SEEK TO INCREASE CIVIC ACCESS, ENGAGEMENT AND REPRESENTATION, TOWARDS ACHIEVING A MULTIRACIAL DEMOCRACY.

BY CIVIC ACCESS, I MEAN ANYONE WHO WANTS TO VOTE CAN VOTE, CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IS EVERYONE WHO WANTS TO VOTE, OR EVERYONE WHO CAN VOTE SHOULD VOTE AND CIVIC REPRESENTATION, IF YOU UNDER YOUR COMMUNITY VOTE THEN YOU SHOULD BE REPRESENTED IN THE HALLS OF POWER INCLUDING CITY HALL, THE STATE HOUSE AND MORE.

WE WORK WITH THE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, TO INCREASE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN EVERY CERTAINLY ELECTION FROM THE PRELIMINARY ELECTION, IN OFF, OFF YEARS, TO THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

14 OF OUR 17 COALITION MEMBERS HAVE SOME KIND OF MEMBERSHIP OR BASE IN THE CITY OF BOSTON, IN 2018, OUR COALITION MEMBERS CONTACTED OVER SUBPOENA, 000 VOTERS, AND NEARLY -- OVER 17,000 VOTERS AND NEARLY 73% OF THOSE TURNED OUT, WHICH IS A 73.5% VOTER PARTICIPATION RATE WHICH IS 13 POINTS HIGHER THAN THE STATE WIDE AVERAGE.

WE TARGET VIOLATORS WHOSE CAMPAIGNS TYPICALLY DO NOT REACH.

THESE ARE THE QUOTE UNQUOTE LOW PROPENSITY VOTERS WHO ARE

DISPROPORTIONATELY RENNERS, LOW INCOME PEOPLE, YOU IN CITIZENS AND PEOPLE OF COLOR.

IN 2017 WE CONTACTED A LITTLE OVER 20,000 WITH VOTERS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.

WE ALL KNOW THAT TURNOUT IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IS OFTEN ABYSMALLY LOW, ESPECIALLY IN THE OFF OFF YEARS WHEN THERE ISN'T A MAYORAL ELECTION, EVEN WHEN THE MAYOR IS ON THE BALLOT, TURNOUT IS USUALLY AROUND 30%.

AND FOR THE MOST PART VOTERS IN THOSE OFF OFF YEARS TEND TO BE HOMEOWNERS WHO, IN A CITY LIKE BOSTON THAT HAS SO MANY RENTERS, PEOPLE WHO OWN HOMES DISPROPORTIONATELY HAVE MORE WEALTH AND GIVEN A CITY WITH SUCH HIGH RACIAL --WEALTH BASE BASED OFF OF RACE TEND TO BE WHITER AND OLDER. THAT'S ONE OF THE REASONS WHY WE SUPPORT AN ACT REGARDING THE TERMS OF OFFICE FOR CITY COUNCILORS.

THIS IS A SMALL TWEAK IN THE TIMING OF ELECTION THAT WILL ALLOW MORE PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE.

THIS IS PART OF THE HABIT OF VOTING.

I DO AGREE THAT THESE RACES ARE LIKELY TO BECOME MORE EXPENSIVE WHICH IS WHY WE NEED TO ADVOCATE FOR INCREASED MORE EXPANSIVE REFORMS SUCH AS THE VOUCHER SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC FINANCING THAT SEATTLE HAS.

AND THEN SECOND, ON DOCKET 0313, IF WE CHANGE THE LENGTH OF THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR OUR, TO FOUR YEAR IT WOULD MAKE A LOT OF SENSE TO IMPLEMENT SPECIAL ELECTIONS.

WHEN I THINK OF THE ISSUE WITH LOW TURNOUT IN SPECIAL ELECTIONS, I THINK A LOT OF THE PROBLEM IS THAT PEOPLE DON'T KNOW IF THEY LIVE IN THE TRIX. IN AN AT-LARGE ELECTION IT'S OBVIOUS YOU LIVE IN THE DISTRICT.

ARE YOU A RESIDENT IN THE CITY

OF BOSTON, YES.

THEN YOU CAN VOTE IN THE SPECIAL ELECTION.

THE ISSUES WITH TURNOUT ARE A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT WITH THE SPECIAL ELECTION FOR AT-LARGE SINCE IT'S SO OBVIOUS WHETHER PEOPLE LIVE IN THE CITY OR NOT OR IF IT'S REALLY NOT OBVIOUS IF SOMEONE LIVES IN A SPECIFIC DISTRICT.

SO THAT'S WHY I THINK THAT OUR SPECIAL ELECTION ESPECIALLY IF THERE'S A FOUR YEAR CITY COUNSEL TERM SPECIAL ELECTIONS OFFER MORE DEMOCRATIC PATHWAY TO ELECTING THE NEXT AT-LARGE CITY COUNSELOR.

I DEFINITELY HEAR THE POINTS ABOUT PEOPLE WITH GREATER INFRASTRUCTURE ARE LIKELY TO BE ELECTED AT AN AT LARGE.

THAT'S WHY I THINK, AND CONSIDERING HOW CROWDED THE FIELD IS FOR THE AT LARGE ELECTION FOR LATER THIS YEAR, THAT'S WHY I THINK THAT WE NEED TO AGAIN WORK TOWARDS MORE EXPANSIVE VOTING REFORM LIKE CHOICE VOTING.

THERE WOULD BE SO MANY PEOPLE WHO I THINK WOULD VIE FOR THAT ONE OR MAYBE TWO AT-LARGE POSITION.

AND THEN FINALLY WE SUPPORT AN ACT RELATIVE TO ELECTION PROCEDURES IN THE CITY OF BOSTON IS ANOTHER COMMON SENSE REFORM. SINCE WE BELIEVE THAT LEADERS SHOULD COMMIT TO ONE TYPE, ONE ROLE INSTEAD OF FINDING WAYS TO PLAY A GAME OF GETTING MANY ROLES.

WE ARE SUPPORTIVE OF ALL THREE MEASURES AND REALLY THINK COUNSELOR PRESIDENT CAMPBELL FOR TAKING, FOR ADVANCING THESE CIVIC ACCESS AND ENGAGEMENT REFORMS.

WE DO THINK THAT THESE ARE IMPORTANT STEPS AND WE NEED TO TAKE A LOOK AT OTHER WAYS TO BROADEN CIVIC ACCESS AND ENGAGEMENT.

SO THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR TAKING
THESE UP AND IT'S VERY
INTERESTING HEARING YOUR
DISCUSSION ON THIS.
THANKS.

>> THANK YOU.

YES, COUNSELOR PRESIDENT
CAMPBELL IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
RESPOND.

>> I JUST WANT TO SAY THANK YOU
FOR THE WORK YOU'RE DOING AND
THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TODAY.
I AGREE WITH YOU AROUND SOME OF
THE OTHER REFORM THAT ARE
OUTSIDE OUR AUTHORITY THAT WE
WILL WORK WITH YOU AND MANY
OTHER ORGANIZATIONS ON AND
CONTINUE PARTNERSHIP WITH FOLKS
HERE INCLUDING COUNSELOR WU
DOING ALL THOSE THINGS TOO WILL
BE A SEPARATE HEARING WE FILED
AS WELL.

SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH BETH.
WE'RE ALSO JOINED BY IAN.

GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN IAN, TWICE
IN TWO WEEKS OR TWICE IN A WEEK.

>> I KNOW MOST OF YOU GUYS ARE
WORKING FOR SHARYL CRAWFORD BUT
YOU GET ME.

ANOTHER IRISH KID, SORRY.

ANYWAY, MASS VOTE AS MOST OF YOU
KNOW PROMOTES A CULTURE OF
ACTIVE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION
BY PROVIDING CIVIC
ORGANIZATIONS, THE FOOLS NEED TO
ORGANIZE, REGISTER AND EVENING
INDICATE OUR VOTERS.

WITH AN EMPHASIS ON HISTORICALLY
DISENFRANCHISED COMMUNITIES,
MASSVIC FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORM
THAT MAKE THE ELECTORAL PROCESS
ACCOUNT AND MORE ACCESSIBLE FOR
MORE PEOPLE.

WE SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING RHESUS
HOOTIONZ RECOMMENDED BY
COUNSELOR PRESIDENT CAMPBELL.
THE FOUR YEAR TERMS, I'M JUST
GOING TO READ THIS PREPARED
STATEMENT.

IN ORDER FOR OUR ELECTED
OFFICIALS TO PROPERLY OPERATE,
WE MUST GIVE THEM AN APPROPRIATE

TIME FRAME TO DO SO.
TOO LONG AND TOO OFTEN WE SEE
PUBLIC OFFICIALS HAVING TO
CAMPAIGN FOR HALF THIS TIME
INSTEAD OF FULL ME IMMERSSED IN
THEIR E HECKED TO THE TO CREATE,
REGULATE AND INNOVATE POLICIES
THAT WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO OUR
CITY AND THE FUTURE.

THIS IS NO FIGHT GIG.

I UNDERSTAND THIS POSITION OF A
COUNSELOR IS NUTS AND BOLTS
TIGHT AND A COUNSELOR'S JOB
DESCRIPTION ASK BE EVER SO
BROAD.

WE REQUIRE FULL TIME CITY
COUNSELORS AND WE NEED THEM TO
BE ABLE TO FOCUS ON THE JOB AT
HAND.

OUR COUNCILORS NEED TIME TO
OPERATE, PREPARE AND BE INFORMED
AND BE ABLE TO ACT WITHOUT
WORRYING AND FUND RAISING FOR
THEIR CAMPAIGN CHESTS HALF THE
TIME.

INDIANAPOLIS, NASHVILLE, KEN,
SEATTLE -- DENVER CASH D.C.
COLUMBIA I DON'T HAVE FOUR YEAR
TERMS AND RECOGNIZE THIS FACT.
THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS CREATE
CONFUSION FOR VOTERS AND BRING
WITH IT AN UNFORTUNATE HISTORY
OF LOW VOTER TURNOUT.

COINCIDING WITH THE MAYOR'S TERM
LENGTH BOSTON EXPERIENCED A
DISMULL TURNOUT IN THE MUNICIPAL
MID TERMS.

IN 20 1 THE CITY DID NOT HAVE
ONE FIFTH INPUT FROM ITS
REGISTERED VOTERS AND 2015 NOT
EVEN ONE SIXTH OF THEM CAST
THEIR CLOTHS.

IT IS MORE THAN HIKELY WE WILL
DISCOVER EVEN LOWER NUMBERS THIS
YEAR WITH NEARLY THE SAME
OPERATING COSTS AS WELL.

IT SHOULD BE SIMPLE AND
COUNCILORS SHOULD BE ABLE TO
HONE IN TO THEIR DUTIES ON THIS
CONSTITUENCIES.

IN REGARD TO THE SPECIAL
ELECTION 03 3 JUST LIKE MOST IF
NOT ALL VAC SEES WERE SPECIAL
ELECTIONS WHETHER AT THE FEDERAL

LEVEL OR STATE LEVEL WE RESPECT
THE CITIZENS INPUT ON OPEN SEATS
AND SHOULD EXTEND THIS ITEM TO
THE LOCAL LEVEL ESPECIALLY IN
REGARDS TO THE AT-LARGE
POSITION.

ALL OTHER MUNICIPALS AND TOWNS
DESERVE THE ABILITY TO CHOOSE
THIS VOICES AT CITY HALL.

SPECIAL ELECTIONS SHOULD INCLUDE
ALL OPTIONS AND NOT BE LIMITED
TO AN ARCHAIC MECHANISM THAT
DENIES OUR DEMOCRATIC PROCESS.
RUNNING FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICERS
AT ONES OR OFFICER OF SACRED
PRIVILEGE AND SHOULD BE TREATED
AS SUCH.

THE TWO POSITIONS AT ONE LEVEL
OF GOVERNS SHOWS A LACK OF
RESPECT TOWARDS THE ELECTED
OFFICE AND TOURED VOTERS.
TODAYS AND MORE EVERY TEE SIT
SUNS BECOME DISILLUSION BOY
POLITICS TO OCCURRENCES SUCH AS
THESE.

COLLECTIVE OFFICE IS NOT A GAME
AND SHOULD NOT BE TREATED AS
SUCH.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU IAN.

APPRECIATE YOUR TIME AND
ATTENTION AND TESTIMONY.
CHAIR RECOGNIZES COUNSELOR
PRESIDENT CAMPBELL.

>> THANK YOU IAN.

I KNOW -- WILL PARTICIPATE.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> ANYONE ELSE AT THIS TIME
WISHING TO OFFER PUBLIC
TESTIMONY?

>> I THINK I KNOW BUT WHAT WAS
THE ASTERISK NEXT TO NEW YORK
CITY.

>> NEW YORK IS A VERY EXTRATD
SYSTEM -- COMPLICATE SYSTEM AS
YOU GUYS PREBL KNOW.

THERE'S DIFFERENT METHODS
OBVIOUSLY FOR VOTING.

I'M NOT SURE OF THE SPECIFICS
BUT I KNOW THERE'S A LITTLE BIT
OF DIFFERENCE, A LOT OF
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OUR COUNCIL
AND THEIRS.

>> WE WORK HARD AND GET THING
DONE.

THAT MIGHT BE THE BIGGEST.
ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE MODEL
FOR AT-LARGE.

>> I AM NOT.

>> IT'S FOUR SEAT AT-LARGE LIKE
OURS AND TWO SEATS RESERVED FOR
FOLK REGISTERED WITH THE
NON-MAJORITY PARTY WHICH IS
INTERESTING.

I'M NOT SUGGESTING THAT.

>> MY HOME TOWN IS ACTUALLY
INDIANAPOLIS, THEY HAVE FOUR
YEAR TERM.

WE'VE ACTUALLY SEEN
PARTICIPATION IN THOSE ELECTIONS
INCREASE.

OBVIOUS ME JUST BECAUSE PEOPLE
UNDERSTAND THAT FOUR YEAR TERM
THERE ARE A LOT OF THING TO DO
AND THAT'S THE PART TIME
COUNCIL.

JUST SO YOU KNOW.

>> INTERESTING.

THANK YOU.

ANYONE ELSE WISHING TO OFFER
PUBLIC TESTIMONY MAY DO SO NOW
OR FOREVER HOLD YOUR PEACE.
ANY FINAL CONCLUDING WORDS FROM
EITHER THE COMMISSIONER OR
REGISTRAR ON THIS MATTER.

>> THANK YOU.

>> I APPRECIATE YOR TIME AND
ATTENTION TO THESE MATTERS
DOCKET 0311, 3012 AND 3013.
THE CHAIR WILL SPEAK TO THE LEAD
SPONSORS AND TRY TO GET THAT
REPORT PACK.

THERE'S A SORT OF ELECTION
PACKAGE IF YOU WILL FOR WAITING
TO BE SENT UP TO BEACON HILL SO
WE'LL SEE WHAT IF ANY OR ALL OF
THESE CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE
NEAR FUTURE.

SO I CAN APPRECIATE THAT.

WITH RESPECT TO DOCKET 03 1,
0 12, AND 0313 THE GOVERNMENT
OPERATIONS IS ADJOURNED.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

JZx÷xxxxxxxx÷x÷x@xx<xx÷x÷x