

Offered by Councilor Kenzie Bok, Arroyo, Baker, Breadon, Campbell, Edwards, Essaibi-George, Flaherty, Flynn, Mejia, O'Malley, Wu and Janey



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

**ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING POTENTIAL
ZONING AMENDMENTS TO BE PROPOSED BY THE
BOSTON GROUNDWATER TRUST**

WHEREAS: The Boston Groundwater Trust is a crucial steward of a shared public good, the groundwater levels on which the pile integrity of many buildings throughout the City of Boston depends; *and*

WHEREAS: The Groundwater Conservation Overlay District (GCOD) zoning measures were adopted as Article 32 of the Boston Zoning Code in 2006 and last amended in 2007, since which time the Boston Groundwater Trust has compiled a great deal of additional information about water and wood pile cutoff elevations across the City; *and*

WHEREAS: A number of parts of areas of the city now known to contain wood-pile-supported structures are not currently included in the Groundwater Conservation Overlay District (GCOD), including Audubon Circle, the Central Waterfront, parts of the South End, and portions of East Boston; *and*

WHEREAS: The ability of the Boston Groundwater Trust to safeguard the shared public resource of Boston's groundwater levels through building requirements and careful monitoring would be enhanced by several proposed updates to Article 32 of the Boston Zoning Code; *and*

WHEREAS: Many neighborhoods of Boston have a vital interest in regulations concerning groundwater, and will wish to be informed and included in public discussion of any amendments to improve said regulations; *NOW THEREFORE BE IT*

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss potential amendments to Article 32 of the Boston Zoning Code, concerning a Groundwater Conservation Overlay District, and that representatives from the Boston Groundwater Trust and the public be invited to testify.

Filed on: January 10, 2020