

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR FRANK BAKER



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT FINANCING (DIF) FROM KOSCIUSZKO CIRCLE THROUGH MORRISSEY BOULEVARD CORRIDOR

WHEREAS, Many areas in Boston are faced with blighted, distressed or simply underutilized areas; *and*

WHEREAS, From 2000 to 2015, the population in Dorchester grew by 4.7% and occupied housing grew by 6.7%; *and*

WHEREAS, Former Bayside Expo Center has been an underutilized site dedicated to parking, creating a barrier for public access to waterfront and existing green space and adding little vitality or public benefit to the community; *and*

WHEREAS, The area from Kosciuszko Circle through Morrissey Boulevard Corridor is poised to completely remake this significant parcel, with a major focus on public open space and multiple community benefits; *and*

WHEREAS, Updated plans for the area feature dynamic new open spaces and increase community benefits; *and*

WHEREAS, The project features an intentionally designed open space network developed to achieve multiple goals: inclusivity, accessibility, resiliency and safety; *and*

WHEREAS, Current Gross Tax values in the area valued at over \$6.2 million with projected rates of net new taxes at over \$136 million by 2038; *and*

WHEREAS, The city of Concord, New Hampshire used DIF as one of several tools to redevelop the site of an abandoned lumberyard and mill building; *and*

WHEREAS, The final result was a increase of \$40 million in tax base for the city, a flourishing project for the private developer, increased availability of elderly housing, creation of new jobs, and an attractive site that marks the entrance of Concord; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston must establish a funding stream for economic development activities that is linked to, and derived from, the results of economic development;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss using District Improvement Financing as a tool in connection with development from Kosciuszko Circle through Morrissey Boulevard Corridor. Representatives from Assessing, Budget, Boston Planning and Development Agency, and members of the public and other interested parties shall be invited to testify.

Filed on: February 10, 2023