



Boston City Council

Committee on Government Operations

Maureen Feeney, *Chair*

May 18, 2010

Dear Councillors:

The Committee on Government Operations held a hearing to discuss Docket #0259, An Ordinance Amending Penalties Related to Street Cleaning. This matter was sponsored by Councilor Bill Linehan, referred to this Committee on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 and heard at a public hearing on Monday, April 05, 2010 at which public comment was taken.

Docket #0249 is an ordinance that would create a new Transportation "Zone C" around what is the South Boston neighborhood within the City of Boston. In this newly created zone, there would be no towing of motor vehicles as an enforcement of street cleaning. Instead, a \$100 fine would be implemented for parking violations on a street that is schedule for sweeping. The purpose of the legislation is to eliminate towing by private contractors in South Boston, improve parking compliance with the street cleaning program, reduce idling of tow trucks, and capture new revenue.

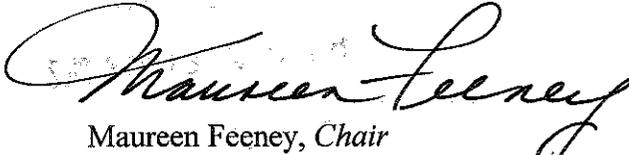
Boston Transportation Department Commissioner Tom Tinlin testified before the committee describing the current program as a successful one since 2007 after the towing program had been implemented citywide. Public Works Department Commissioner Joanne Massaro testified that the current towing program is effective allowing street sweepers to have access to curbs. Boston Police Department Deputy Superintendent John Daley testified that the police department works to ensure that cars are being towed for legitimate violations.

It was further discussed at the hearing that while the towing program has proven successful in certain neighborhoods, it is not without issues for some Boston residents and can be further improved. Although efforts have been made to promote and notify residents about the program, compliance is not uniform across the city suggesting that the city should look at other ways to promote parking compliance with the street cleaning program. Implementing a pilot program around the neighborhood of South Boston would not affect other areas of the city and can instead raise significant new revenue.

The Committee on Government Operations, to which the following was referred:

Docket #0259 An Ordinance Amending Penalties Related to Street Cleaning

based on information presented at the hearing and public comment gathered by the Committee and having considered the same, the Chair respectfully recommends that this matter ought to pass.


Maureen Feeney, *Chair*
Committee on Government Operations