**Offered by Councillors JOHN R. CONNOLLY and AYANNA PRESSLEY** Ross, Feeney Linehan, Murphy, Yancey, Turner, Arroyo, Ciommo, LaMattina and Consalvo

# CITY OF BOSTON
# IN CITY COUNCIL

## ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXAMINE SUSTAINABLE FOOD POLICIES IN BOSTON

*WHEREAS,* There is a growing need in Boston to improve the availability of fresh, nutritious, locally and sustainably grown food at reasonable prices for all residents, particularly families with lower incomes; and,

*WHEREAS,* The availability of a wide variety of safe, nutritious, and sustainably grown food available to all residents of Boston will have a positive affect on the City's efforts to reduce energy consumption as well as have a positive impact on our local economy; and,

*WHEREAS,* A 2008 report produced by Children's Sentinel Nutrition Assessment Program at Boston Medical Center and the Philadelphia Grow Project at Drexel University, found that over 35.5 million people in the United States have limited or uncertain access to enough nutritious food for all household members to lead an active and healthy life; and,

*WHEREAS,* According to the Boston Indicators Report there is a gap of $2,250 in Boston between the costs of healthful nutrient-rich foods and the annual Foods Stamp Benefits for a family of four; and,

*WHEREAS,* The City can have a positive impact on the way our community shops for, cooks, eats and relates to the food that is grown and produced in and around Boston; and,

*WHEREAS,* Policymakers should understand the barriers to expanding and encouraging urban growing and residents who have been working on these issues are an excellent source of information.

*THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED,*

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to examine and discuss how the City of Boston can encourage local and sustainable food. Interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: April 27, 2010