Offered by Councilor Salvatore LaMattina

Linehan, Murphy, Turner, Yancey, Yoon and Feeney

CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND NINE

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING SEGWAY USAGE ON CITY STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND FOOTPATHS

WHEREAS, Segways are two-wheeled, self-balancing electric vehicles used for personal transportation. These upright mobility devices can reach speeds up to nearly 13 miles per hour; and,

WHEREAS, Segways were initially utilized by government law enforcement agencies, but have now have grown into the business and general population market for daily use; and,

WHEREAS, Specifically, private tour companies have become increasingly more reliant on Segway guided tours throughout the city of Boston. Some Segway touring groups have disrupted parts of the North End and Beacon Hill neighborhoods with respect to pedestrian traffic; and,

WHEREAS, In other parts of the world and across the nation, Segways have come under greater regulation and have been restricted from sidewalks and footpaths in some communities; and,

WHEREAS According to the Governors Highway Safety Association, forty-two state and Washington D.C. have enacted legislation regulating Segways. Some states also require a minimum age for ridership; and,

WHEREAS Since the State of Massachusetts has been unable to enact legislation regarding this matter, the city of Boston must show leadership on this issue to ensure the safety and well-being of all residents and visitors; and,

WHEREAS, In an effort to preserve public safety on roadways, sidewalks and footpaths in all neighborhoods, the city of Boston must work with community stakeholders to establish a culture of safety for all pedestrians, motorists and Segway users; *NOW THEREFORE BE IT*

ORDERED, That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss and examine how the city plans to accommodate Segway users.

Filed on: September 9, 2009