



Are you on board?

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December 11, 2019

Via email: Andrea.Campbell@boston.gov

City Council President Andrea Campbell
One City Hall Square, Suite 550
Boston, MA 02201

Re: Docket #0250, An Ordinance Protecting Local Wetlands and Promoting
Climate Change Adaptation in the City of Boston,

Dear Councilor Campbell,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding the proposed Local Wetlands Ordinance, sponsored by Councilor Michelle Wu and Councilor Matt O'Malley.

Boston Harbor Now is a non-profit civic organization that plans, activates, and advocates for a thriving waterfront, harbor, and islands in Boston Harbor to ensure that it remains welcoming to all and resilient in the face of climate change and sea level rise. Ensuring that local ordinances and state regulations carefully consider waterfront protections and climate change preparedness is essential to the success of this critically important mission.

The importance of proactive protection of coastal areas and addressing climate change impacts through the Climate Ready Boston plans and the appropriate use of natural systems cannot be overstated. We know that work will continue in 2020 to resolve questions of coastal marsh loss from sea level rise.

Since August 2018, Boston Harbor Now has publically supported the creation of a Local Wetlands Ordinance for Boston and testified at previous hearings. We are pleased to see that the current version now before the council reflects a wide range of stakeholder impact. We support passage of the ordinance and look forward to continued positive collaboration on these issues in 2020.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. You may reach out to me with any questions at 617-223-8104 or kabbott@bostonharbornow.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Abbott".

Kathy Abbott
President and CEO