



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS SECURITY AT HIGH-RISE GARAGES IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

**WHEREAS:** Over the period of seven months, three separate incidents involving five deaths have occurred at the Renaissance Park Garage owned near Ruggles Station, all of them are suspected suicides, and earlier this month, Boston Police stopped a man from jumping from a six story parking garage in Brighton; *and*

**WHEREAS:** These tragic incidents have called attention to the lack of security at parking garages and measures to prevent people from jumping; *and*

**WHEREAS:** While most tall buildings and bridges have barriers or fencing to prevent people who are distressed from jumping, parking garages are often accessible to the public with minimum security or barriers, making it harder to prevent people in distress, or with mental health issues, from jumping; *and*

**WHEREAS:** There are measures for suicide prevention at parking garages aside from installing fencing, including using signage to direct people with suicidal thoughts to call the suicide prevention hotline, installing cameras to monitor top levels, putting landscaping to block an open landing area, and training parking garage staff on suicide prevention; *and*

**WHEREAS:** The city should work with parking garage operators to prevent tragedies like those that occurred at the Renaissance Garage from happening again, and discuss measures to secure high rise garages and help prevent suicides at these sites; *and*

**WHEREAS:** There should also be a broader conversation about access to mental health resources and counseling, as well as how high rise facilities such as parking garages can employ measures that help prevent suicides; *and*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:**

That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss security at high-rise garages in the City of Boston and measures to suicide prevention at these sites. Representatives from the area parking garage operators, Boston Police, Boston Health Commission, and other relevant and interested parties shall be invited to attend.