



Greater Boston
Chamber of Commerce

Small Business Policy Webinar

Chris Eicher, Vice President, Government Relations

Brian O'Connor, Senior Manager, Government Relations



Greater Boston
Chamber of Commerce

Agenda for Today's Webinar

- **About the Chamber's Policy Team**
- **Boston City Council**
 - Boston City Council Process
 - What can we expect from the City of Boston?
- **State Legislature**
 - Legislative and Budget Process
 - What can we expect from the State House?
- **Open Q&A Discussion**

Purpose for Today's Webinar

- Provide our small business members with an overview of the high-level basics of policymaking in the City of Boston and at the State House
- Webinar is for the benefit of small business members who may not have the time or resources to devote to closely following public policy developments
- Highlight proposals that may impact your business.
- Hear from you!
 - We cannot do our work without your feedback!

Boston City Council





Boston City Council Members

At-Large Members of the Boston City Council



At-Large Councilor,
Council President
Ruthzee Louijeune



At-Large Councilor
Julia Mejia



At-Large Councilor
Henry Santana



At-Large Councilor
Erin Murphy

District Councilors



Councilor Gabriela Coletta (D1)



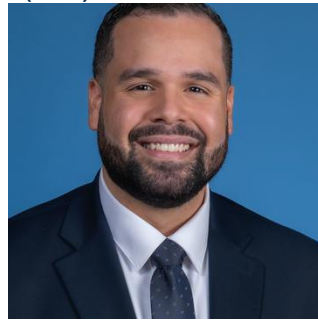
Councilor Ed Flynn (D2)



Councilor John FitzGerald (D3)



Councilor Brian Worrell (D4)



Councilor Enrique Pepén (D5)



Councilor Benjamin Weber (D6)



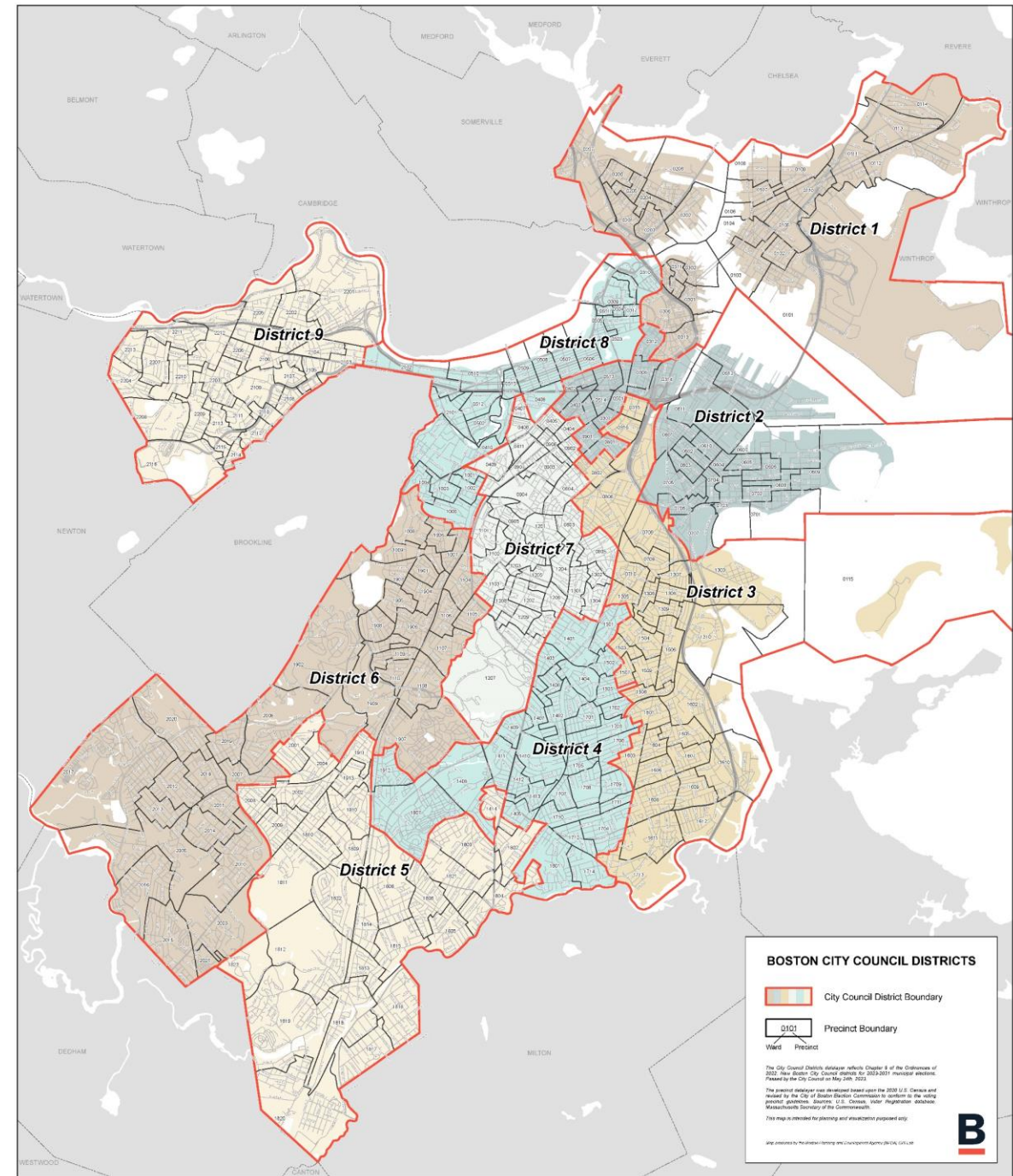
Councilor Tania Fernandes-Anderson (D7)



Councilor Sharon Durkan (D8)



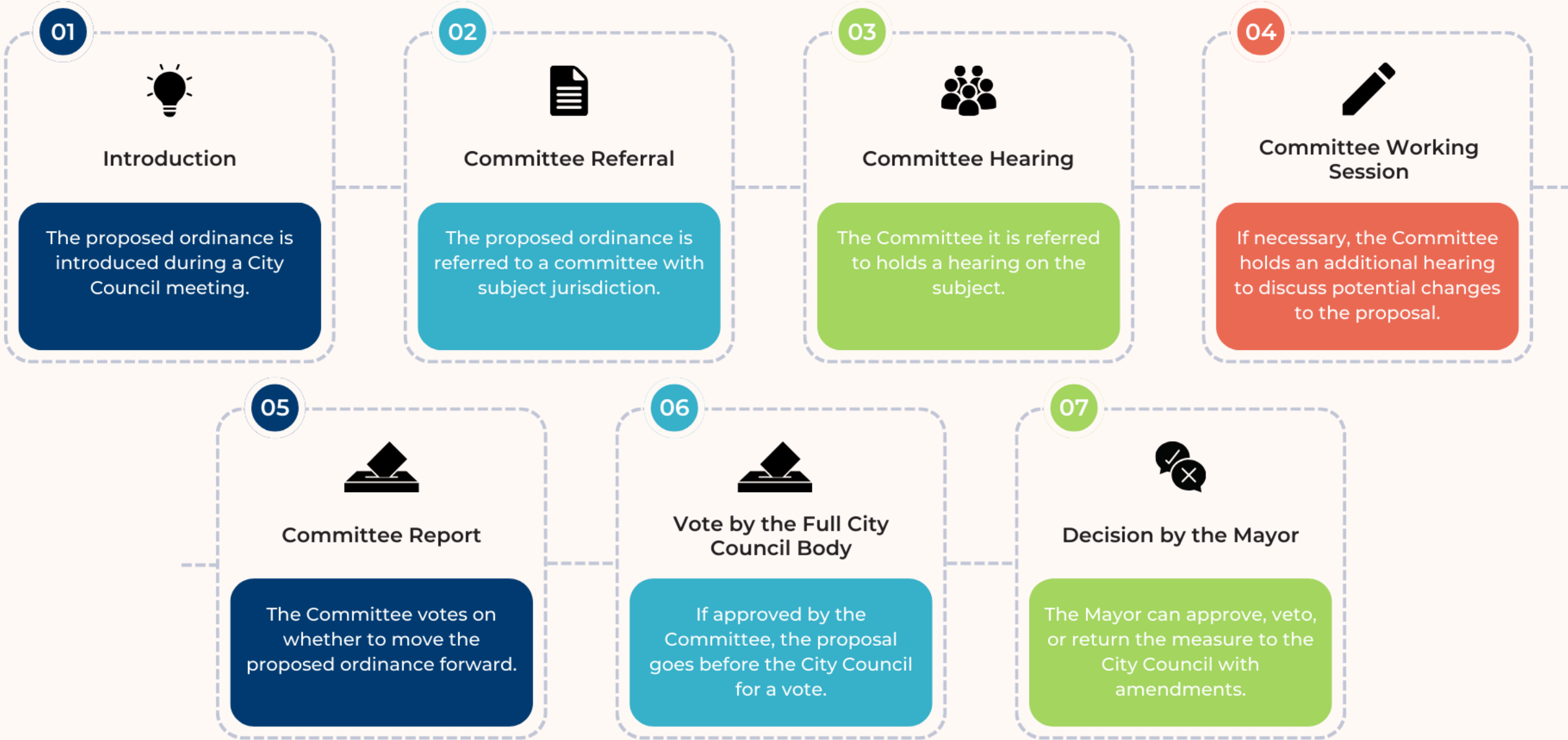
Councilor Liz Breadon (D9)



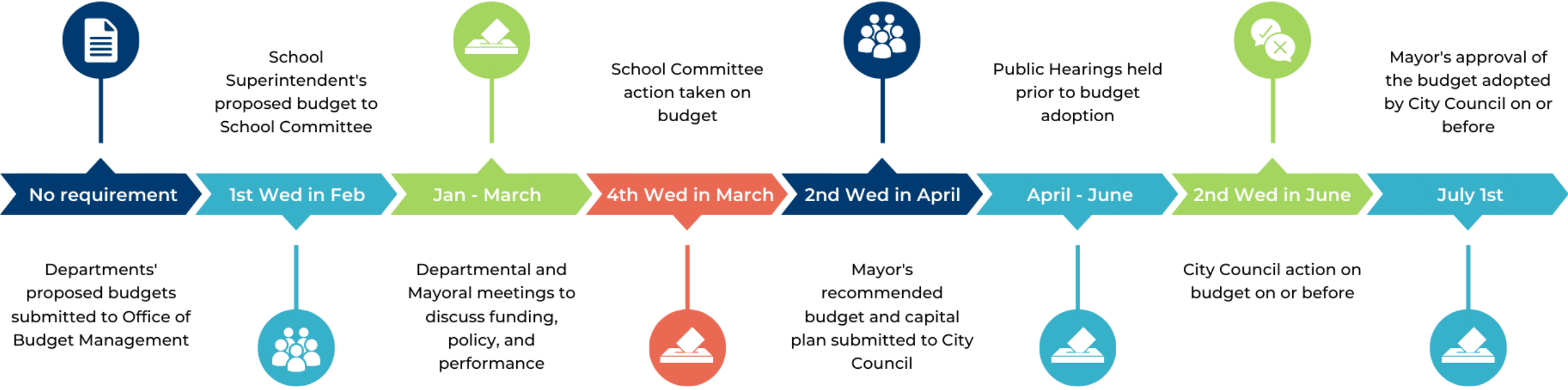


Council Legislative and Budgetary Procedure

CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE



CITY COUNCIL BUDGET PROCEDURE



Proposals from the City of Boston

Proposals from Councilors

- **Equity in City Contracting**
 - *Order for a hearing regarding equity in city contracts* (Docket #0173, Worrell)
- **Barriers to Business**
 - *Order for a hearing regarding barriers to business* (Docket #0186, Worrell)
- **Street Food Enterprises**
 - *Ordinance Establishing Street Food Enterprises in the City of Boston* (Docket #0170, Coletta, Mejia, Worrell)
 - Establishes sidewalk vending zones
 - Creates a Non-motorized Street Food Carts Committee
 - Codifies rules and regulations into law

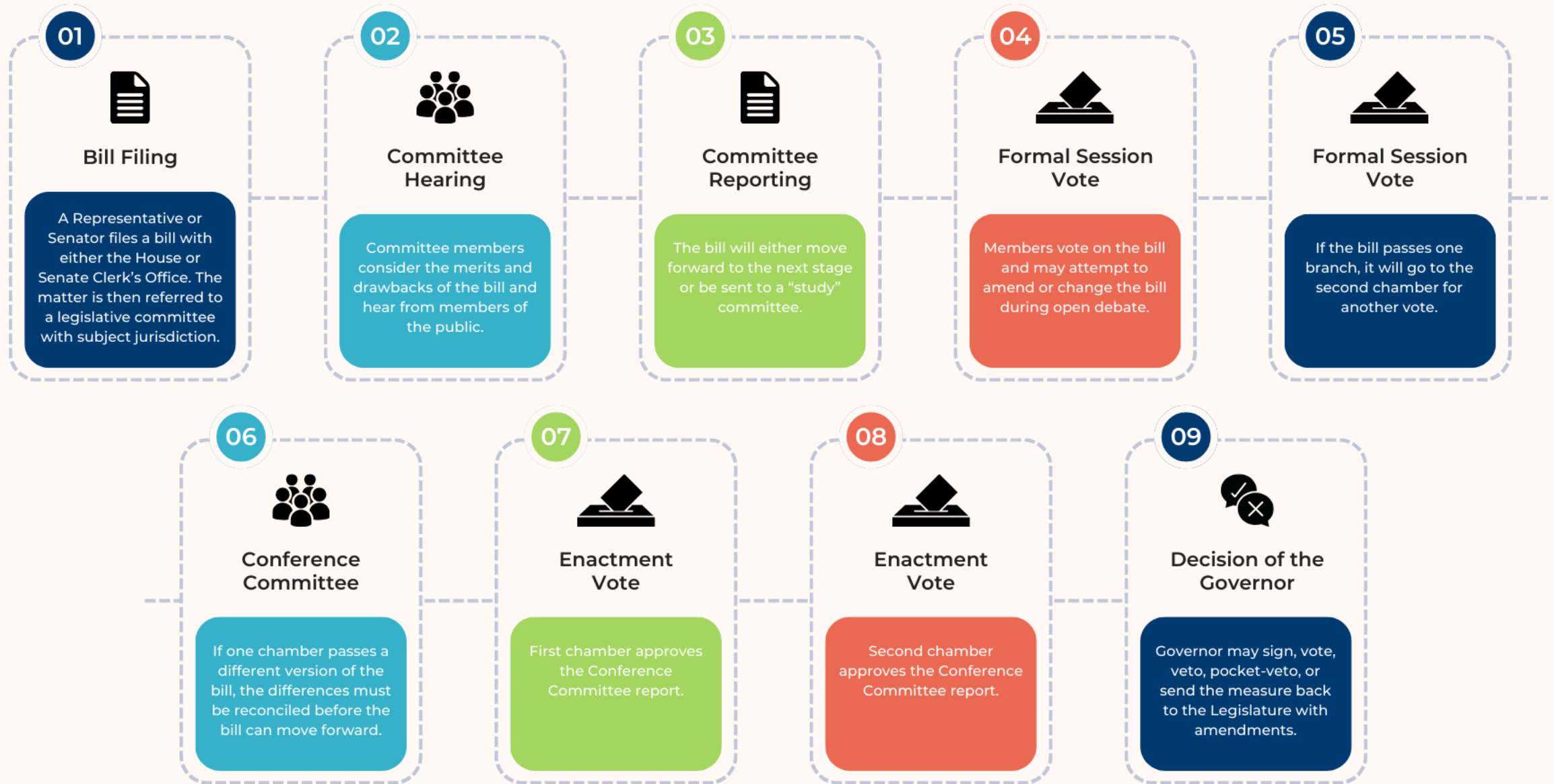
Proposals by the Administration

- **Modernizing the Boston Planning and Development Agency**
 - *An Act to improve and modernize planning and community development in the city of Boston* (H.4065, Representative Ryan)
 - *An Ordinance creating the Planning Department in the City of Boston* (Docket #0257, Wu)

State Legislative Background and Procedure



HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

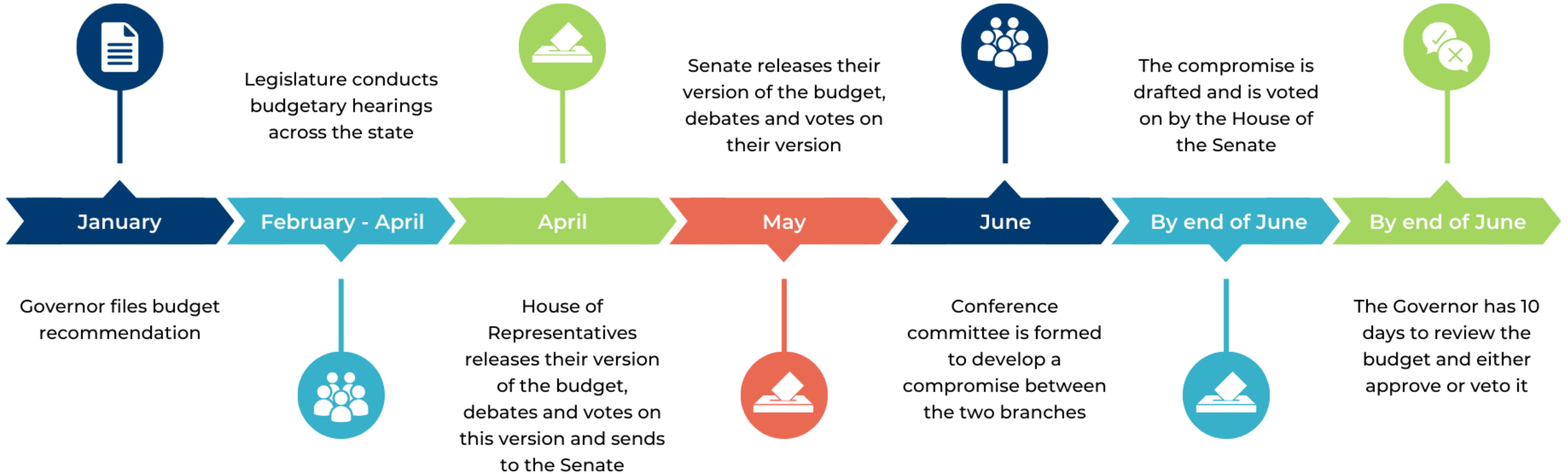


State Budget Procedure



TIMELINE

Massachusetts operates on a one-year budget with a fiscal year beginning July 1st and ending June 30th



Proposals from the State House

Large Proposals Under Consideration

- The Municipal Empowerment Act
 - **S.2571**, *An Act empowering municipalities and local government*
 - Empowers municipalities to increase local hotel and meals taxes, and impose a new local motor vehicle excise tax
- \$4.1 Billion Housing Legislation
 - **H.4138**, *The Affordable Homes Act*
 - Provides resources for Public and Affordable Housing, also makes changes to local zoning rules
 - Local-option transfer tax (.5%-2% on properties over \$1 million)
- \$3.5 Billion Economic Development Bill
 - **H.4459**, *An Act relative to strengthening Massachusetts' economic leadership*
 - Incentives for life sciences, climate technology, artificial intelligence, and several small business initiatives.
 - Grants for businesses receiving federal Small Business Innovation Research or Small Business Technology Transfer grants
 - Small business regulatory ombudsman, assistance and technical assistance for small businesses on public contracts, new definition of "micro business" to reach more businesses through the Office of Business Development

Proposals from the State House

Proposals from the FY25 Budget and other appropriations bills

- Small Business Technical Assistance Grant Program (7002-0040)
- Pending – Outdoor Dining and To-Go Beverages
- Policy Proposals
 - Online Lottery (Sections 7-9)
 - Tax Amnesty Program (Section 91)

Other Proposals from Legislators

- LLC Filing Fee Legislation
 - **H.3010, H.3011, H.1092** *An Act reducing certificate of organization fees for limited liability companies*
- Streamlining Licensure Practices
 - **H.349**, *An Act relative to streamlining licensure, compliance, and contracting opportunities*
- Credit Discrimination in Hiring Decisions
 - **H.1434**, *An Act reducing barriers to employment through credit discrimination*

Open Q&A



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

Stay in touch:

Policy Department Contact Information

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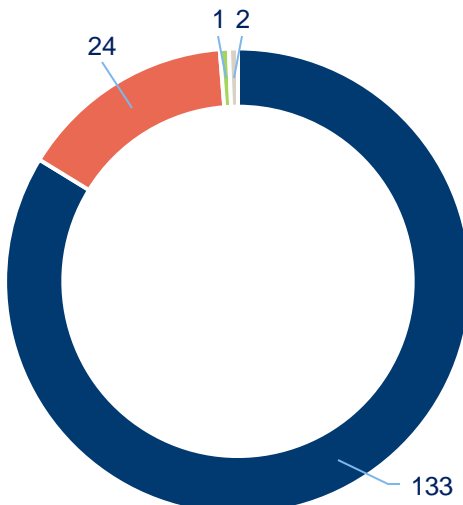
Appendix A: State Budget Spending Overview

State Organization	FY2025 Recommendation	Percent
Judiciary	\$1,300,000,000	2.00%
Independent Agencies and Constitutional Officers	\$4,200,000,000	7.00%
Administration and Finance	\$4,700,000,000	8.00%
Executive Office of Technology Services and Security	\$100,000,000	0.17%
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs	\$570,000,000	1.00%
Executive Office of Health and Human Services	\$30,700,000,000	53.00%
Department of Veterans' Services	\$190,000,000	0.33%
Massachusetts Department of Transportation	\$1,300,000,000	2.00%
Executive Office of Economic Development	\$140,000,000	0.24%
Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities	\$1,100,000,000	2.00%
Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development	\$100,000,000	0.17%
Executive Office of Education	\$11,800,000,000	20.00%
Public Safety and Security	\$1,600,000,000	3.00%
Legislature	\$88,000,000	0.15%
Total	\$58,000,000,000	

Revenue Source	Amount
FY25 Consensus Revenue Estimate	\$42,000,000,000
Tax Transfers	\$8,400,000,000
Other Tax Revenue	\$185,000,000
Total Direct Revenue	\$33,000,000,000
Indirect Revenues	\$25,000,000,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$58,000,000,000

Appendix B: Legislative Size and Partisan Breakdown

Massachusetts House of Representatives Partisan Breakdown



■ Democrats ■ Republicans ■ Unenrolled ■ Vacant

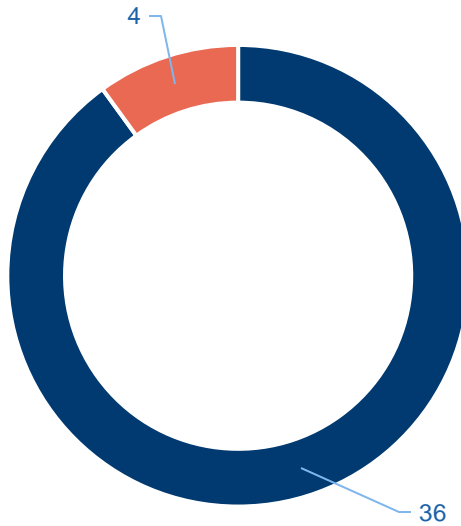


House Speaker
Ron Mariano (D)



House Minority Leader
Brad Jones (R)

Massachusetts Senate Partisan Breakdown



■ Democrats ■ Republicans



Senate President
Karen Spilka (D)



Senate Minority Leader
Bruce Tarr (R)

