



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

December 15, 2003

**RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCILORS MICHAEL ROSS, STEPHEN MURPHY,
CHUCK TURNER, MICHAEL FLAHERTY, ROB CONSALVO, MAURA HENNIGAN,
FELIX ARROYO, AND MAUREEN FEENEY
TO PREVENT FORCED PRIVATIZATION,
MAINTAIN FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES,
AND ENSURE LOCAL ZONING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**

WHEREAS, the Boston City Council has always taken a strong and active role in protecting the rights of city workers against the privatization of city services that are provided by employees of the City of Boston; and

WHEREAS, the Boston City Council has proudly passed ordinances to protect workers in the City of Boston such as the Living Wage ordinance and advocated for Project-Labor Agreements (PLA's) to ensure that capital projects undertaken by the City of Boston respect the rights of workers and unions in the City of Boston; and

WHEREAS, draft provisions of the Free Trade Area of the Americas Agreement (FTAA) could lead to the forced privatization of services like public education, public school transportation, water and sewer, and other basic city services provided by local governments including the City of Boston; and

WHEREAS, draft provisions of the FTAA would allow foreign corporations to sue the Federal Government, thereby forcing the City of Boston to overturn local zoning codes and environmental regulations designed to protect the citizens of Boston; and

WHEREAS, the proposed FTAA is being opposed by numerous Boston churches, Boston based locals of labor unions, and this effort is being organized locally by many diverse organizations including the Massachusetts AFL-CIO, Immigrant Community Organizations, Massachusetts Jobs With Justice; and

WHEREAS, the FTAA is being negotiated behind closed doors without the input of local governments, including the City of Boston, that will be directly impacted by the agreement should it be approved; and

WHEREAS, [that] the Boston City Council opposes any effort to force the privatization of services currently provided by the City of Boston, and the City of Boston should have a greater voice in the discussions about the proposed FTAA and similar agreements that would override local control over

zoning and environmental regulations and would inhibit the ability of the City of Boston to regulate employment practices and safeguards; [and] now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Boston City Council opposes the FTAA and stands for workers' rights, local control, and the input of the city of Boston into trade agreements that may affect its city services, zoning and environmental regulations, employment practices, and citizens.

RESOLVED, that the Boston City Council communicates this position to the State Legislature, the Governor of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation , the United States Department of Labor, the United States Trade Representative, and the President of the United States.