

# CITY OF BOSTON

## IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION OF COUNCILOR TIMOTHY McCARTHY

#### National Emergency Medical Services Memorial

**WHEREAS:** The National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation (NEMSMF) was established on July 6th, 2007 with the sole purpose of designing, building and maintaining a permanent EMS memorial in Washington D.C., as the prestige of the Nation's capital makes it the most appropriate site for a National monument; and

**WHEREAS:** Emergency Medical Services providers from Boston, Delaware, New York, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Detroit spearheaded this effort to create this national memorial, which has grown exponentially and now enjoys enthusiastic support from numerous individuals, communities and organizations from coast to coast, especially national organizations representing Police, Fire and EMS providers; and

**WHEREAS:** Emergency Medical Services is a crucial element of the Nation's infrastructure and homeland defense strategy, as the men and women of EMS are often our nation's first line of defense in the prevention and mitigation of risk from terrorist attacks, man-made incidents, and natural disasters, putting their lives on the line every day in order to provide critical care for their patients; and

**WHEREAS:** Each year, more than 860,000 EMS providers, dedicated and courageous men and women, answer more than 30 million calls to serve over 22 million patients in need of emergency pre-hospital care at a moment's notice and they do so without reservation and with little regard for their personal safety; and

**WHEREAS:** According to the Department of Labor and the National Highway Safety Administration, EMS providers die in the line of duty at a rate more than twice the national average for all occupational fatalities and seven times higher from violence than all other health care workers and during their careers, EMS providers experience an injury rate of virtually 100 percent; and

**WHEREAS:** The National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation seeks to establish a National EMS Memorial in Washington D.C. consistent with the Commemorative Works Act in order to guarantee that these men and women, their families and their loved ones are properly recognized for their ultimate sacrifice and to honor the valor, hard work and dedication of all EMS providers, as even those that were killed in 911 were "never remembered"; and

**WHEREAS:** There is no National Memorial that acknowledges and exalts the heroism and outstanding dedication to public service of EMS providers, most especially the long overdue exaltation of the more than 600 men and women of our nation's emergency medical services that have made the ultimate sacrifice while performing their duties; and

**WHEREAS:** The people of Boston and Massachusetts are fortunate to have skilled, highly qualified and committed EMS providers, that protect and ensure the safety of the communities they serve 24/7 on the air, land and sea, especially the men and women of the Boston Emergency Medical Services (Boston EMS) which provides emergency medical services throughout all the neighborhoods of Boston, responding to 911 calls alone or with the Boston Police and/or Boston Fire Departments depending on the nature of the incident, Boston EMS is recognized as one of the best in the Nation and on April 15, 2013, the Boston EMS was the primary medical emergency response agency to the Boston Marathon bombing, rushing to the vanguard, letting the world know that Boston shines and is Boston Strong; and

**WHEREAS:** An EMS provider fits the definition of a noble hero, one who runs to danger when others run away, one who runs to assist others without armor or weapon, every day in their countless encounters with the afflicted and injured they use their talent and training to save lives and alleviate suffering, often dealing with many ills and scourges afflicting our society, racing towards places known for repeated calls for assault or domestic violence, drug locations, gang turfs, they show up to help, they perform with professional zeal to aid cardiac arrest patients, people with infectious diseases and those plagued by the growing epidemic of opioid addiction, just to name a few; and

**WHEREAS:** Congressman Stephen F. Lynch introduced H.R. 1037, a Bill to Establish a National EMS Memorial, this bill seeks to authorize the National EMS Memorial Foundation to undertake the effort of designing, siting, and creating a memorial in Washington, D.C., to honor the service and sacrifices of our nation's emergency medical service providers; therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council strongly supports The National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation's efforts to establish a National EMS Memorial in Washington D.C. and the Boston City Council applauds Congressman Stephen F. Lynch for his leadership on this matter and stands with him in full support of H.R. 1037, a Bill to Establish a National EMS Memorial in Washington D.C.; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council urges all Bostonians and residents of Massachusetts to recognize the meritorious work of EMS providers and to support this endeavor; and that the Boston City Council calls on all municipal, state and federal elected officials to actively support The National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation in its efforts to establish a National EMS Memorial in Washington D.C.; and that the Boston City Clerk send a copy of this resolution to the Massachusetts congressional delegation, requesting their support and assistance in order to ensure that this well-earned and long overdue National EMS Memorial be erected in Washington D.C, the Capital of the United States of America.