

ED ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FLYNN



Dear neighbors,

With the holiday season here, I would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving. As we celebrate the holidays this year, I would also like to remind everyone to exercise caution as COVID-19 cases are rising locally to levels we witnessed during the spring. Please continue to wear a mask, practice physical distancing, and refrain from large house parties and gatherings, so that our communities stay healthy and we do not overwhelm our medical system and our frontline healthcare workers. I hope that you will take the necessary precautions from public health officials to protect your loved ones and neighbors. We must continue to work together as a city, extend a helping hand to those in need, especially our seniors and persons with disabilities, and stay focused on preventing the spread of the virus.

In the City Council, I've continued to focus on quality of life and public safety issues. I held a hearing to discuss large house parties that could potentially trigger COVID-19 superspreader events, and heard from our city officials about the steps that they are taking to address the issue. I held a hearing this week at the Council to discuss speeding cars as a public health emergency and the infrastructure needed to address pedestrian safety to help provide this issue the urgency and attention that it requires.

Now that the election is over, I would also like to thank the Boston Election Department Poll Workers for their efforts in making Election Day as safe as possible for our neighbors.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving,

City and District Updates

BPDA Virtual Public Meetings

- [Dorchester Bay City Virtual Public Meeting \(Housing & Economic Development\)](#)
 - Wednesday, December 2, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
 - PLAN: South Boston Dot Ave
 - Wednesday, December 9, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
-

Rental Relief Fund

The City of Boston Rental Relief Fund is now open and dedicating \$8 million in federal stimulus funds to help neighbors at risk due to COVID-19. [Please follow the link below for eligibility criteria and the application.](#) Thank you Mayor Marty Walsh, Department of Neighborhood Development, Boston Fair Housing and Equity, Metro Housing Boston, NOAH (Neighborhood of Affordable Housing) and Project Hope.

Council Hearings and Resolutions



Order for a hearing to discuss renewal fees for restaurants and food establishments during the COVID-19 pandemic

I called for a Boston City Council hearing to discuss renewal fees for restaurants and establishments during COVID-19, as an estimated 20% will close their doors for good. It is critical to discuss assistance as they are not only a critical part of our economic engine, but the social fabric and soul of Boston.

Resolution in support of Marriott Copley workers and support of a statewide 'Right To Recall' for Boston hotel workers

In the middle of both a public health and economic crisis that has disproportionately impacted communities of color, it is unconscionable that a

large corporation like Marriott Hotels, with \$100 million in profits and \$106 billion in cash reported for the third quarter, would offer little severance to its workers; many of whom are black, brown, immigrants and women with decades of service to the company. Our hotel workers are a critical part of our city's economic engine, and I'm proud to stand with them. It is critical that we also continue to advocate for a 'Right to Recall' for our workers, so that we ensure these good hospitality jobs continue to provide a path to the middle class, as well as an opportunity for wealth building and prosperity for our residents and families.

Resolution commemorating Veterans Day and honoring all those who served our country

I was honored to join Councilor Arroyo and Boston City Council colleagues in supporting a resolution to recognize Veterans Day. We are thankful for the service and sacrifices of our veterans and their families. Let's recommit ourselves to supporting military families with services and programs they earned.

Hearings Recently Held

Hearing to discuss house parties and gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic

I had an informative Boston City Council hearing on large house parties and concerns of potential superspreader events and quality of life issues during the pandemic. I was proud to join Councilor Flaherty and Councilor Breadon as a co-sponsor. Thank you to Boston Inspectional Services and Boston Public Health Commission for their testimonies and leadership. During these difficult times, it is critical that we work together. Please continue to call 911 to report this behavior and email aisha.miller@boston.gov for the ISD Problem Properties List.

Hearing to discuss speeding cars as a Public Health Emergency and address infrastructure improvements & Hearing to discuss pedestrian safety, traffic enforcement, and vision zero

On Monday this week, I held a hearing on pedestrian safety and speeding cars as a Public Health Emergency. [In case you missed it, I recently recommended an updated 12 Point Safe Streets Plan to the city for South Boston](#), aimed at infrastructure improvements (speed humps, raised crosswalks, rapid flash beacons, road diets, curb extensions), slower speed limits in our residential neighborhoods, and enforcement.

In the Community



Thank you Massachusetts Fallen Heroes and Dan Magoon for your generous donation of nutritious food to seniors and families in need earlier this month. Thanks also to our South Boston elected officials, Representative Lynch, State Senator Collins, State Representative Biele and Councilor Flaherty for helping to coordinate this effort.



It was great to join Boston Housing Authority Administrator Kate Bennett for a Thanksgiving lunch for residents of Torre Unidad in the South End this week. With the holiday season falling in the middle of a pandemic, food access and hunger have become a critically important issue. The people of Boston and our city will continue to show compassion and help those in need. Please consider assisting or donating if you're able to.



Thank you to Boston Rescue Mission for partnering with the South Boston Neighborhood House (SBNH) to assist families in need this Thanksgiving. No person should ever go hungry in our country. Thanks to the many businesses and nonprofits for helping so many neighbors during this pandemic. Kristen and I enjoyed our visit to the SBNH this past Sunday.



There was excellent community spirit throughout the South End this past weekend with many volunteers helping out with Fall Clean Up. Thank you to South End Civic organizations, Boston Parks and Recreation Department, Boston Public Works, Faisa Sharif, Deputy Director of Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, and residents for your hard work and dedication to caring for this neighborhood. Let's continue to work together!



It was great to join Mary Chin, members of the Asian American Civic Association, Lisa Hy, Chinatown representative of Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS), and graduate students from Tufts University School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program last week as we talked to Chinatown residents about Boston 311, constituents services, public health guidelines, and language access.

It was also an honor to join the Veterans Day ceremony at the Puerto Rican Veterans Memorial with the Puerto Rican Veterans Monument Square Association. We celebrated the service of Puerto Rican Veterans and their families, and the enormous contributions they have made to our nation. Let us recommit ourselves to ensuring all veterans are treated with dignity.



I attended informative meetings sponsored by Boston Parks and Recreation Department on the redevelopment plans for Moakley Park this month. It was great to join South Boston neighbors and all kinds of athletes as we discussed sports in the park. Let's work together to make this an accessible, sustainable and beautiful park.

I joined State Representative Biele for a visit to Condon K-8 School and Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) Condon Community Center recently. We talked to the dedicated school and BCYF team about the positive work that takes place daily in the building. From educating our children to food and clothing access, let's continue this progress!



It was great to join Fort Point Boston residents for a walkthrough recently. We discussed quality of life issues in the community. Let's continue to work together on neighborhood concerns. I'm proud to represent the Fort Point neighborhood.

On Sunday, my family enjoyed starting the day with Friends of Hayes Park in the South End for a Fall cleanup. This is a beautiful park in a vibrant neighborhood! The Hayes family has made extraordinary contributions and sacrifices for our city and country, and we are proud to call them friends.



During the month of November, I attended and participated in the following civic association meetings and events in District 2: Asian American Civic Association, Bay Village Neighborhood Association, Chinatown Neighborhood Council, Dorchester Heights Association,



Ellis South End Neighborhood Association, Fort Point Neighborhood Association, Friends of Copley Square, Mass/Cass Task Force, Massachusetts Municipal Association, South Boston Association of Nonprofits, St. Botolph Neighborhood Association, and West End Civic Association.

If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 617-635-3203 or ed.flynn@boston.gov.