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Dear neighbors,

As October comes to a close, I hope you and your family are staying safe and healthy. With COVID-19 cases on the rise again locally, I would like to remind everyone to remain careful, especially with colder weather and the holiday season fast approaching. Please continue to practice physical distancing and mask-wearing, as well as avoiding large crowds and gatherings.

There have been many issues across District 2 that my team and I have focused on in recent weeks. Earlier this month, I met with over 90 neighbors on Zoom, the Boston Police Department and the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) regarding concerns that large house parties could potentially trigger COVID-19 superspreader events. We also discussed the loud noise levels and trash debris issues that are having a negative impact on the quality of life of our residents. Captain Boyle (C-6) has encouraged residents to continue contacting 911, and ISD has advised residents to reach out to their office to check whether repeat offenders are on the Problem Properties List at Aisha.Miller@boston.gov. With winter coming and recent data indicating that young people are driving the single biggest rise in cases, it is critical that we discuss this public health issue. I filed a hearing order with Councilor Flaherty and Councilor Breadon, and we

will have a public hearing next Friday, November 6th at 11am. [\(You can read more in the Boston Globe here\).](#)

I also met with concerned parents across District 2 on Zoom to discuss BPS reopening plans. I also sponsored a Council hearing with Councilor Essaibi-George about services for dyslexic students in our schools, and we held a hearing to discuss how to better support our students with disabilities with BPS staff, concerned parents, advocates, and Boston Teachers Union President Jessica Tang. As part of this hearing, we also discussed services for autistic students, the current state of our Inclusion Classrooms, as well as having full time mental health and social emotional support specialists for our students.

We've also seen tragic and serious crashes in South Boston in recent weeks, at Andrew Square and on First St, vehicles driving off the road and into businesses like McGoo's Pizzeria at Perkins Square, into a house at L & 3rd St, a two-car crash at Old colony Ave & Dorchester St, and another vehicle crash into a fence at the same intersection. There was also a car crash on East Broadway. This situation is untenable and I am advocating for our unsafe roads to be declared a Public Health Emergency [\(Read more here\)](#). I also recommended an updated Safe Streets 12 Point Plan to the city from my proposal 2 years ago, aimed at infrastructure improvements, slower speeds and enforcement [\(You can read my updated 12 Point Plan here\)](#).

To improve pedestrian safety in South Boston and across the city, we all need to continue to work together to slow down traffic and increase awareness for others on our roads. It will take all of us as a community to implement traffic calming policies to help try and realize Vision Zero – the goal of no serious or fatal crashes in the City of Boston.

I would also like to respectfully remind those of you who have not yet voted to vote early or to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3rd. Just as we have in other uncertain times in our country's history, it is critical that we all participate in our democracy and make our voices heard. Let's exercise our right to vote.

Thank you and stay safe.

Ed

City and District Updates

Ballot Dropboxes

Ballot dropboxes are available at Boston Public Library, South Boston Branch of the Boston Public Library and Boston City Hall until Election Day, Tuesday November 3rd at 8pm.

Please note that on Halloween this Saturday, October 31, ballot dropboxes across the state are emptied and locked by 5pm until Sunday morning because of security concerns. If you plan to drop off your ballot in one of the City's dropboxes this weekend, please do so on Saturday morning or Sunday.

Abutters Meeting

- 50 Rogers St (Wednesday, November 4, 5:00 - 5:45 pm)
 - 22 Rogers Street (Monday, November 9, 5:30 - 6:15 pm)
 - 527-532 E Seventh Street (Monday, November 9, 6:30 - 7:15 pm)
 - 138-138A D Street (Monday, November 9, 7:30 - 8:15 pm)
 - 613 East Broadway, American Provisions (Tuesday, November 10, 5:30 - 6:15 pm)
 - 313 Old Colony Ave, Supreme House of Pizza (Tuesday, November 10, 6:30 - 7:15 pm)
 - 246 Dorchester Street, Bells Market (Tuesday, November 10, 7:30 - 8:15 pm)
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BPDA Virtual Public Meetings

- [80 West Broadway Virtual Impact Advisory Group & Public Meeting](#) (Wednesday, November 4, 6:00 - 8:00 pm)
 - Toll-free call-in number: 833.568.8864
 - Meeting ID: 161 027 7029
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Moakley Park Open House

Boston Parks and Recreation Department has begun their [Moakley Park Open House series](#). Tune in and offer your feedback on the future of Moakley Park.

Moakley Talks:

- Sports and Stadium (Tuesday, November 10, 6:00 - 7:00 pm)
 - Community and Play (Tuesday, November 17, 6:00 - 7:00 pm)
 - Public Health and Environment (Tuesday, November 24, 6:00 - 7:00 pm)
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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.

Community Preservation Act Application Deadline

I hosted a District 2 Information Session with the City of Boston Community Preservation Act team this month. We discussed affordable housing, open space, historic preservation, funding timeline, and eligibility requirements. If you have already submitted your eligibility form and have received eligibility confirmation from the CPA Team, please note the application form is due Friday, November 13. Please reach out to Thadine Brown, Director of Community Relations at thadine.brown@boston.gov or 617-635-0545 for any CPA-related questions.

Boston Water and Sewer Commission Update

Please note that the Boston Water and Sewer Commission will be conducting water main flushing in South Boston from now through November 18th to improve the quality of drinking water for residents and businesses. This will occur between the hours of 10pm to 6am, and may cause discoloration in your water and a reduction in pressure. Please note this is temporary and not harmful. If these conditions persist, please call 617-989-7000.

South Boston Happy Haunting Halloween Car Parade

South Boston Moms Club will be holding a Happy Haunting Halloween Car Parade on Saturday, October 31, from 10AM to 11AM. [Please check here for more details of the event.](#)

Council Hearings and Resolutions



Order for a hearing to discuss pedestrian safety, traffic enforcement, and Vision Zero

Pedestrian safety and Vision Zero are one of the most important issues we face in the City of Boston. There have been multiple crashes in South Boston and Downtown recently. I have called a hearing order at the Boston City Council Meeting to discuss these critical issues. We must continue to work together on infrastructure improvements and traffic calming measures, slower speeds, and enforcement.

Order for a hearing to discuss house parties and gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic

I was proud to call for a hearing with Councilor Flaherty and Councilor Breadon regarding the issue of large house parties and public health. With restaurants and bars operating at limited capacity during COVID-19, and winter approaching, many neighbors are concerned about potential superspreader events and quality of life issues, such as noise and trash removal. The Governor has also stated for several weeks that the data indicates that our young people in their 20s to 30s are driving the increased positivity rate. We urge that you continue to call 911 to report this behavior and email aisha.miller@boston.gov for the Problem Properties List. We will have a public

hearing next Friday, November 6th at 11am.

Order for a hearing to discuss speeding cars as a public health emergency and address infrastructure improvements

With the unfortunate increases in vehicle crashes in South Boston of late, I have called for a hearing to discuss speeding cars as a Public Health Emergency and also recommended an updated Safe Streets 12 Point Plan aimed at infrastructure improvements, slower speeds, and enforcement. We all need to continue to work together to slow down traffic and increase awareness for others on our roads. It will take all of us as a community to implement traffic calming policies to help try and realize Vision Zero – the goal of no serious or fatal crashes in the City of Boston.

Resolution celebrating the centennial of Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

I was proud to pass a resolution celebrating the Centennial of Disabled American Veterans (DAV) at Boston City Council this month. DAV provides exceptional services and support for our disabled veterans and military families to obtain the benefits they earned in service to our country.

Resolution recognizing White Cane Safety Day on October 15

I joined Councilor Breadon in co-sponsoring a resolution to recognize White Cane Safety Day at the Boston City Council this month. Our blind neighbors have the right to carry a white cane, which symbolizes their ability to achieve a full life. We must always be mindful of persons with disabilities and ensure their equal participation in everyday life.

Resolution in support of naming the community room in the South End Library "The Marleen Nienhuis Community Room"

I was proud to join Council President Janey and Councilor Baker on a resolution in support of renaming the community room of the South End Branch of the Boston Public Library after Marleen Nienhuis. Marleen's leadership with Friends of South End Library deserves recognition, and her impact will be felt by neighbors for years to come.

In the Community



Thank you to the outstanding work of United Way of Massachusetts Bay, Greater Boston Labor Council and the Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (IBA) for your compassion and support to families in need. I was proud to join the food drive to assist Villa Victoria and Boston Housing Authority residents. There are still many who face food insecurity months into this pandemic. Everyone should have access to fresh, affordable, culturally appropriate and healthy food with dignity.

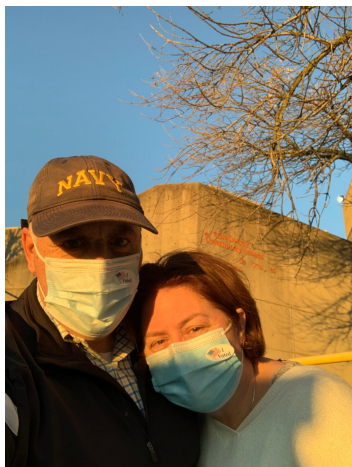
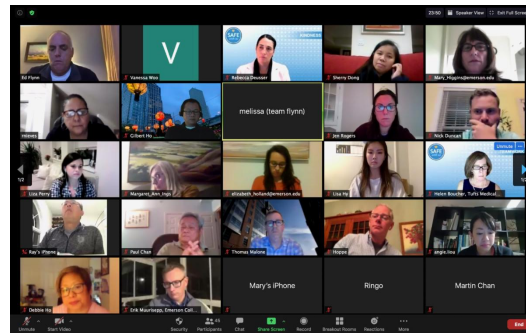


I joined Chinatown ONS Lisa Hy, members of Asian American Civic Association (AACA), and students from the Tufts University School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program for a 311 Community Education Day earlier this month. AACA is working closely with officials from the City of Boston on language access outreach, clean streets and sidewalks, and improving the Boston 311 system. Let's continue working together!



Thank you South Boston En Accion, Boston Housing Authority, and the Boston Police Department for the outreach to residents of West Broadway. It gave residents the opportunity to complete the 2020 Census and provide residents with healthy food. Thank you to sponsors Congressman Lynch, State Senator Collins, State Representative Biele, Councilor Flaherty, and Councilor Baker.

I joined Rita Nieves from the Boston Public Health Commission and residents of Chinatown for a discussion with Tufts Medical Center about their COVID-19 testing site and procedures. We also discussed the importance of language access and how important it is within public health initiatives.



Thank you to the Boston Election Department for the professional poll workers at Josiah Quincy Elementary School, where Kristen and I voted at. The early voting process was quick and easy without any line. The last day to vote early is Friday, October 30th. When voting, wear a mask and practice physical distancing. We can all vote safely in this election.

Kristen and I had a great time with South End residents at Hayes Park recently. We pulled the geraniums to make room for the tulip bulbs. Parks have always been important to us in Boston, but in the last 7 months, we

have come to appreciate them even more.



Thank you Chinatown Main Street, Fair Foods Inc, and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care for sponsoring last week's Food Access Outreach to seniors and families in need. It was great to join Chinatown ONS Lisa Hy, Department of Neighborhood Development, and other volunteers. Let's continue to work together to provide healthy food to all.

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