

# ED ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FLYNN



Dear neighbors,

As we head into July Fourth weekend, I hope you and your family will enjoy upcoming celebrations and activities honoring our country while enjoying the summer weather.

In the City Council this week, I voted in favor of the FY22 City budget. It is not a perfect budget and there is much work to be done moving forward in terms of pedestrian safety and traffic calming improvements, public safety resources, enforcement from ISD on quality of life issues, our parks and urban tree canopy, the Human Rights Commission, digital equity for low income residents and communities of color, and services for our immigrant neighbors, our seniors and persons with disabilities. In the final analysis, I believe that this funding is critical at this moment in our city's economic recovery. [You can follow this link to my full statement here on twitter.](#)

As many of you know, I have long said that pedestrian safety is a Public Health Emergency and one of the most critical issues we face as a city. I continue to advocate for pedestrian safety and a combination of traffic calming infrastructure to our built environment, slower speed limits in our residential neighborhoods and strict enforcement. So, I want to take this opportunity to thank neighbors on First Street, the South Boston elected officials, the Boston Transportation Department and Public Works Department for the recent installation of an All-Way Stop at the notoriously dangerous intersection of East First St, Pappas Way & West First St.

Although this is an improvement at a known hotspot, we all know there is much work to be done. I met recently with over 200 neighbors at N St & East Broadway at the site of another tragic crash in South Boston. As I have relayed in previous, multiple [12 Point Plans to the city and my neighbors over several years \(You can read more here\)](#), it is long past time for our city's infrastructure to keep pace with the overdevelopment of the last 20 years. The City of Boston must fully embrace physical changes to our roads with speed bumps, raised crosswalks, curb extensions and rapid flash beacons on high traffic roads.

We cannot prioritize commuter trips over the safety of our families, neighbors, seniors, and persons with disabilities. I will be working with my colleagues to provide additional updates in the coming days and weeks about short term and long term plans.

In addition, Councilor Flaherty, the Community Preservation team and I will host a meeting next Wednesday, July 7th at 6pm on zoom regarding the upcoming round of funding for affordable housing, historic preservation, and open space. We hope that our civic and youth sports organizations will join us to take advantage of this opportunity to discuss the application process, eligibility guidelines, deadlines and other helpful information that the Community Preservation team can assist with. [You may register here.](#)

I hope everyone has a safe Independence Day weekend, and that we all take the time to enjoy the summer while working together on moving our city and country forward. For neighbors who have not been vaccinated yet, please find information below so that you can keep yourself, your families and community safe while fully participating in different activities as our city continues to reopen.

Thank you and stay safe,  
Ed

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## City and District Updates

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### **FY22 Community Preservation Funds**

Please note I will be partnering with Councilor At-Large Michael Flaherty and the Community Preservation Team to host a virtual CPA information session on **Wednesday, July 7th at 6pm.**

This meeting will look to provide helpful information and resources for our neighbors, civic groups, youth sports and other organizations who may want to apply for funding from the CPA for initiatives related to affordable housing, historic preservation, open space, and outdoor recreation facilities. Topics will include the application process, eligibility criteria, relevant deadlines and

other related information. Join us to learn more about the program. You may register for the session here: <https://bit.ly/2Tdf9K>



The Community Preservation rolling eligibility form is now open for the next funding round. If any neighbors or civic organizations are interested in applying for CPA funding for FY22, [you may complete the eligibility form here](#).

[You can also find additional information on the application process here.](#)

PLEASE JOIN COUNCILOR FLYNN,  
COUNCILOR FLAHERTY AND THE  
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION TEAM FOR A

### **COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT (CPA) INFORMATION SESSION**

Wednesday, July 7th at 6PM

Register on Zoom:

<https://bit.ly/2Tdf9K>

Come & learn more about eligibility and how to apply, application deadlines and the funding process.

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### **BPDA Meeting**

- [Virtual Public Meeting: 244 - 284 A Street \(Open Space & Resiliency\)](#)
  - Monday, July 12th, 6pm to 8pm
- [Virtual Public Meeting: 244 - 284 A Street \(Urban Design & Ground Floor Activation\)](#)
  - Monday, July 26th, 6pm to 8pm

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### **COVID-19 Vaccination Information**

All City of Boston residents ages 12 & over are now eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine. You can pre-register for a COVID-19 vaccine appointment at a mass vaccination site and be notified when it's your turn for an appointment, or find a local provider as well. Find more information here:

<https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/>

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### **Rental Relief Fund**

[The City of Boston has provided an additional \\$50 million in federal stimulus funding from the American Rescue Plan to the Boston Rental Relief Fund in an effort aimed at housing stability for neighbors impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.](#) This new funding will help residents who are in need pay their rent and assist in preventing evictions. Please note that the federal eviction moratorium now expires on July 31st. [Please visit this page to apply or check if you are eligible for the Rental Relief Fund.](#)

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### **COVID-19 Resources for Businesses**

The Office of Economic Development hosts weekly calls for small business owners and provides information and resources on reopening guidance and support services. Their weekly calls are on Tuesdays at 3pm.

You can pre-register here to join:

They also offer various Business Relief Funds such as:

- [Certified Business Fund](#)
- [Commercial Rental Relief Fund](#)
- [High Road Kitchens Restaurant Relief Fund](#)
- [Reopen Boston Fund](#)

For more information, please visit: <https://www.boston.gov/news/covid-19-resources-businesses>

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## Scam Resources for Seniors from Age Strong Commission

Age Strong Commission has provided some good resources relating to scams on elders. Please visit the following websites to read about the different types of scam fraud:

- [AARP Fraud Watch](#): At the bottom of the website, there is information on different scams. AARP also has volunteers who can give scam presentations.
  - [Federal Trade Commission](#)
  - **Boston Police Department Community Service Officers**: Many BPD CSOs also give presentations on scams to community groups.
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## Council Hearings and Resolutions

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### **Order for a hearing regarding maximizing workforce development opportunities in biotechnology for Boston residents. Sponsored by Councilors Baker and Flynn.**

This month, together with Councilor Baker, I called this hearing to start a conversation on how we can improve access and opportunity for employment in the biotechnology industry. Boston is a hub for the biotech and life sciences industry, and in District 2 in particular, there are a number of existing and proposed developments and offices for biotech or life sciences. There are high paying jobs and careers in the biotech industry, yet it can be difficult for residents from low to middle income families to find a pathway into these jobs. Our residents deserve a fair shot at getting into this industry, particularly neighbors from working families, immigrant communities, and persons of color. We should therefore think about ways that can provide the training and education to prepare our residents for the biotech industry.

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**Order for a hearing on domestic violence and sexual assault in the City of Boston. Sponsored by Councilors Flynn and Campbell.**

At the Boston City Council last week, I was proud to join Councilor Campbell to refile the hearing order on domestic violence and sexual assault. We previously held a hearing with survivors and advocates at Northeastern University School of Law. There has been a surge of reports during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will continue to discuss support and reporting opportunities for all, including immigrants and LGBTQ+ neighbors.

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**Resolution in support of S.1669 - An Act Relative to Providing A COVID-19 Retirement Credit to Essential Public Sector Workers. Sponsored by Councilors Baker and Flynn.**

I was proud to join Councilor Baker to pass this resolution to support our essential workers. During this pandemic, our essential public sector workers often risked their health to work in person in order to deliver the services that our constituents need, and they deserve to be recognized for their contributions. With bill S. 1669, employees who have volunteered to work or who have been required to work at their respective worksites would allow them to get a three year retirement credit. This bill is filed by Senator Collins, and is supported by organizations such as the MBTA, Suffolk County Sheriff's Department, and others.

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## **In the Community**

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It was great to see and speak with many tourists and residents of Boston at City Hall Plaza in celebration of Boston Pride Month. Let's continue working together in support of the LGBTQ+ community, in advancing equality and ensuring acceptance. Thank you Boston Pride!



I was proud to join Mayor Kim Janey and State Senator Joe Boncore for the exciting groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the new Josiah Quincy Upper School. Thank you to this important city and state partnership and the Chinatown community for never giving up on the dream for a new school.



I was honored to join Boston Veterans Commissioner Robert Santiago and United States Air Force Lt. Col. Woodhouse, a Tuskegee Airman, to welcome U.S. Army OCS Class 508 to Boston for their reunion. The OCS committee presented an award to the men and women at the Boston Police Department for their service and professionalism to the people of Boston.



I enjoyed visiting Lulu Green on West Broadway in South Boston yesterday with Mayor Kim Janey. It was great to meet the owner and employees of this

cafe! Small businesses drive the economies of our neighborhoods and enrich the lives of all of us in Boston.

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Last week, I listened and spoke with City Point neighbors regarding pedestrian and public safety issues. Thank you Boston Transportation Department, Boston Police and South Boston elected officials for attending. We need to continue to make traffic calming infrastructure improvements such as speed humps and raised crosswalks, reduce the speed limit in our residential neighborhoods, and have strict enforcement as well, with a focus on Vision Zero - no serious or fatal crashes in the city of Boston.

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I was proud to join Councilor Michael Flaherty, State Senator Nick Collins, and State Representative David Biele to present the Boston Youth Lacrosse team with a resolution at their end of season banquet at Moakley Park. Thank you Coach Erin Brogan, sponsors, volunteers, parents and referees for organizing an outstanding season for the youth of our neighborhoods.

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We coordinated with Chinatown Main Street, CCBA, and Chinatown Business Association every Saturday this month to encourage tourists and Boston residents to return to Chinatown and visit the outstanding restaurants and small businesses. I'm proud to represent Chinatown and D2. Let's continue working together!

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I joined Wharf District residents and business owners for a meeting about pedestrian safety in the neighborhood. Thank you Boston Transportation Department and Boston Public Works for attending. Let's continue working together to improve pedestrian safety and quality of life issues.

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One of the best days of the year for me is thanking the young women of South Boston for participating in the annual Kick-Off for Kids flag football tournament. This event raises funds for various nonprofits in the neighborhood. Thanks to Allison, Barbara, the referees, sponsors and the athletes!

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It was great to join teachers, faculty, parents and students of St Peter Academy South Boston for their End of Year Event at The Lawn On D this month. Thank you to the St. Peter Academy team for your exceptional work in the community and educating our children. South Boston works best when we work together!



Proud to Serve: LGBTQIA+ Veterans Town Hall, 6/30/21

Thank you to Commissioner Santiago and the Office of Veterans Services, and our panelists for coming together today and participating in this townhall and discussion.

As we celebrate the Pride Month in June, we must recognize the work and sacrifice that our LGBTQIA+ veterans made in order to serve our country, and ensure that their right to live and to love who they want is protected, and that they are being treated equally and fairly in and out of the military.

As someone who served in the U.S. Navy for nearly 25 years, I have witnessed the evolving policies for our LGBTQIA+ members of the military. From outright banning LGBTQIA+ people from serving in the military, to “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” and its eventual repeal. To allowing transgender military members to serve openly, then its reversal under the Trump administration, then the Biden Administration allowing transgender military members to serve openly again.

We see not only progress made, but also that protections for our LGBTQ+ community can unfortunately still be taken away. This is why we need to have ingrained policies and measures in place to ensure that we have long lasting protections in place for our LGBTQIA+ members and groups who are facing discrimination, including our immigrant neighbors.

I’m committed to working with our Office of Veteran Services, advocates, and veterans to ensure that the rights of our LGBTQIA+ veterans are protected. Looking forward to hearing from the panelists about their experience.

I was honored to attend this week’s Proud to Serve LGBTQ+ Veterans Town Hall. I’m committed to working closely with advocates, Boston Veterans Commissioner Santiago and veterans to ensure the rights of LGBTQ+ veterans are protected. This is about respect and dignity for LGBTQ+ Veterans.

I was honored to attend a Flag Day Ceremony sponsored by P&G Gillette's Veterans Reservist Affinity Network. I was proud to join State Senator Nick Collins to thank these dedicated employees and veterans for their service to our country and for supporting military families in the community.



What an awesome time in Chinatown last weekend! We supported small business owners at Chinatown Main Street, marched in a Lion Dance parade and talked with residents, students, restaurant workers, tourists and artists at Asian Community Development Corporation. Let’s continue to work together to support



I was honored to attend Blackstone & Franklin Square Neighborhood Association's annual scholarship award presentation to deserving students of Boston this month. Congratulations to the award recipients for your hard work, dedication and perseverance.



Thank you to the Boston Transportation Department and Boston Public Works for working closely with neighbors, the South Boston Elected Officials and I on an All-Way Stop at the dangerous intersection of East First, Pappas Way, and West First Street. I will continue to advocate for traffic calming infrastructure, such as speed humps and raised crosswalks, to slow down cars, as well as additional enforcement.

This month, I joined South Boston neighbors and members of South Boston Citizens' Association in recognizing the 2021 Evacuation Day Essay and Poster Contest Winners. This annual event recognizes the history of South Boston and Dorchester Heights. Congratulations to the award recipients and their families!



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