

ED ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FLYNN



Dear neighbors,

At the Boston City Council Meeting last week, we voted unanimously to pass a resolution to condemn Russian President Vladimir Putin's unprovoked war and attack on Ukraine. We heard from Father Roman Tarnavsky of the St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Jamaica Plain, who led an emotional prayer for peace at our invocation. At a time of uncertainty in Eastern Europe, we stand firmly with the people of Ukraine as they fight for their sovereignty, freedom and democracy.

During the month of February, the Boston City Council partnered with the Mayor's Office of Budget Management to host four informative budget listening sessions in the Community. These sessions were well-attended and it was great to see so many residents engaged and advocating for improvements in their communities. Thank you to those who participated and provided valuable feedback on what they'd like to see in the upcoming budget.

With the decline in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, the City recently lifted both proof of vaccination for certain venues as well as the mask mandate on indoor public spaces. I continue to encourage those who are not vaccinated or have not yet received a booster to receive your shots, as vaccines are still the most effective way to combat COVID-19 and prevent serious complications, hospitalizations, and death.

March is Women's History Month and Irish-American Heritage Month. Let's

recognize and honor the women in our families, our workplaces, and our communities. We are also proud to celebrate the many contributions of Irish-Americans in the United States. After a two-year hiatus, we look forward to welcoming back the St. Patrick's Day Parade (Evacuation Day Parade) in South Boston next week.

Thank you and take care,
Ed

City and District Updates

BPDA Meetings

- [80 East Berkeley Street Virtual Public Meeting](#)
 - Monday, March 14th, 6:00 to 8:00pm
- [51 Melcher Street Virtual Public Meeting](#)
 - Wednesday, March 16th, 6:30-8:30pm
- [7-9 Hamilton Place Virtual Public Meeting](#)
 - Wednesday, March 16th, 6:00-7:30pm

Community Meeting

- [Moakley Park Community Engagement Meeting](#)
 - Wednesday March 23rd, 2022, 6:00 to 7:30pm
-

COVID-19 latest

Due to a significant decline in the positivity rate and hospitalizations, please note the City's proof of vaccination policy and public indoor mask requirement have been lifted.

Residents and visitors will no longer be required by the City to wear a face covering in indoor public spaces, such as gyms, bars and restaurants, museums, and entertainment venues. The masking requirement will also be lifted at City buildings including for City employees, except for Boston Public Schools and Boston Public Health Commission. Masks are recommended in city buildings where vulnerable populations are served, such as Boston Public Library branches and BCYF community centers.

Vaccine & Booster Update

Children ages 5 to 17 are now eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine. COVID-19 boosters are now available for people ages 12 and above. Young people between 12 and 17 years of age are eligible for the Pfizer booster only.

Boston Public Health Commission and Boston Public Schools are providing FREE vaccine clinics to anyone ages 5+. You can check upcoming vaccine clinics on their calendar here: <http://bostonpublicschools.org/vaccines>

People who are 18 and older can get any vaccine. Eligible people age 18 and older can get any booster (Pfizer, Moderna and J&J). If you are unsure whether you are eligible for a booster or which booster to get, the State website provides more information here: <https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine>

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on boosters can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-booster-frequently-asked-questions>

[Here is a list of locations which provides COVID-19 vaccines in the City of Boston.](#) Please note not all locations will carry vaccines for children ages 5 to 11. You should contact the vaccine sites for more information.

For updates on the vaccines, list of vaccine sites, and daily walk-in clinics, please check: <https://www.boston.gov/departments/public-health-commission/covid-19-vaccine-boston#>

COVID-19 Testing

Regardless of whether you are experiencing symptoms, the City encourages everyone to consider getting tested for COVID-19. Here are a list of free COVID-19 testing sites:

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/public-health-commission/covid-19-testing-sites#testing-sites>

At-home test kits

Residents can sign up to receive free COVID-19 at-home test kits. 4 kits are included per household and ships in 7 to 12 days. Sign up here:

<https://www.covidtests.gov/>

COVID-19 Resources for Businesses

The Office of Economic Development host 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 and you can pre-register here to join:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_B12DiEy2QZKoe3LjC71yQQ

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

Community Preservation Funds for FY2023

Please note Community Preservation funding for the financial year 2023 is now open. To apply for this funding round, visit Community Preservation Act's [How to Apply Page](#) and complete a [Rolling Eligibility Form](#).

There will be Community Engagement Meetings and Workshops starting in May 2022, which includes going through the CPA process, the law, how to preserve your neighborhood, application requirements, and the decision-making process. [Please visit the CPA's website for updates and events.](#)

CPA Projects funded in the FY2022 round

Thank you to all the District 2 organizations who applied for Community Preservation funding for FY2022. I was proud to support these projects, including the \$650k rehabilitation of the baseball field at N Street in South Boston, submitted by the South Boston Little League and Coach Joe.

Open Space & Recreation:

- South Boston - Christopher Lee Playground - Little League Field, \$650,000
- South Boston - Boston's Children's Museum, \$100,000
- South Boston - Barnard Place Park, \$34,390
- South End - Crite Park, \$250,000

Affordable Housing:

- Chinatown - 288 Harrison Residence, \$2,000,000

Historic Preservation:

- Chinatown - 95 Hudson Street, \$150,000
- South Boston - Congress Street Fire Station - Boston Fire Museum, \$327,000
- South End - South End Historical Society - Francis Dane, \$300,000

For more details of the projects that are awarded funding, please visit:

<https://www.boston.gov/news/mayor-wu-recommends-community-preservation-act-funding-52-projects-totaling-more-27-million>

2022 Temporary Outdoor Dining Program

The 2022 Outdoor Dining Pilot Program is open for application now, on a rolling basis. The program will begin on Friday, April 1st and last until December. [In order to be considered for the 2022 season, applicants must register to attend one of the Zoom informational sessions here.](#) If you are unable to attend one of these sessions, you can contact OutdoorDining@boston.gov. Restaurants that participated in 2021 must re-apply. For more information and to apply, please visit: <https://www.boston.gov/departments/licensing-board/2021-outdoor-dining>

Rental Relief Fund

The Rental Relief Fund is still available for eligible residents who have difficulty paying their rent, utilities, and moving costs. The fund can provide up to \$17,000 in assistance for eligible households for up to 18 months. To learn more, please go to: <https://www.boston.gov/departments/housing/office-housing-stability/rental-relief-fund>

Small Business Relief Fund

The City is offering another round of Small Business Relief Fund with \$5 million to help additional local, small businesses as Boston continues its recovery. For more information on how to apply, please visit: <https://www.boston.gov/departments/economic-development/small-business-relief-fund#application>.

Metrolist

Affordable housing is one of the biggest issues we face in the City of Boston, and a top concern for many of our working families, low income neighbors, communities of color, and immigrants. The City of Boston provides a resource called Metrolist that helps you find housing based on your income and provides the most recent affordable housing listings. Please take a look and consider filling out an application for an opportunity to access affordable home

ownership. For more information, please go to:
<https://www.boston.gov/metrolist>

Apprenticeships

Please note that Heat & Frost Local 6 has a new apprenticeship opportunity available for young adults looking for career paths with outstanding union support for working families, training, and benefits. Applications are now open until March 31st online at <https://insulators6.org/apprenticeships/>.

Council Hearings and Resolutions

Order for a hearing to discuss ways for the city to increase communications access for People with Disabilities to Public-Facing Televisions.

As TV programming is an important part of relaying information, especially in this pandemic, it is critical that our residents with disabilities are able to access information from televisions in public spaces. This hearing order aims to discuss ways for the City of Boston to expand communications access through public facing televisions and ensure that persons with disabilities have access to information and resources shared to the public.

Order for a Committee Meeting to discuss the organization of quasi-public and semi-independent entities related to the City of Boston.

This order for a committee meeting is intended to be an information session for all Councilors and the public to learn more about the organization and structure of semi-independent and quasi-public entities such as the Boston Planning and Development Agency, Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Water and Sewer Commission, Boston Housing Authority, and others.

The City Council has varying degrees of oversight over these entities in terms of nominating authority and financial oversight of their budget. As we enter the budget season, we will continue to work with these entities. It would be very useful to learn more about them in a committee meeting.

Resolution in Support of H. 3115 “An Act Ensuring Equitable Representation in the Commonwealth”.

I was proud to sponsor and pass a Boston City Council resolution in support of a bill by MA State Representative Tackey Chan to ensure accurate and equitable demographic data collection. This allows us to better understand the needs of our different communities and make them more visible.

Resolution condemning the unprovoked invasion and egregious act of aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation.

Last week, I joined Councilor Kenzie Bok and Councilor Liz Breadon to pass a resolution to condemn President Vladimir Putin’s unprovoked invasion and war in Ukraine. We stand with the brave Ukrainian people fighting for their sovereignty and democracy. It is critical for the world to isolate a dictator who

In the Community



I was honored to attend a lunch in honor of South Boston Excel High School JROTC students in February. I'm so proud of these Boston Public Schools students. This program helps motivate young people to become great citizens!



Thank you Boston Harbor Now and Boston Parks and Recreation Department for sponsoring the Winter Warmer at Moakley Park! It was wonderful to see so many families enjoying the park. It was great to join Councilor Louijeune, State Representative Biele, State Senator Collins and many of our South Boston community partners.



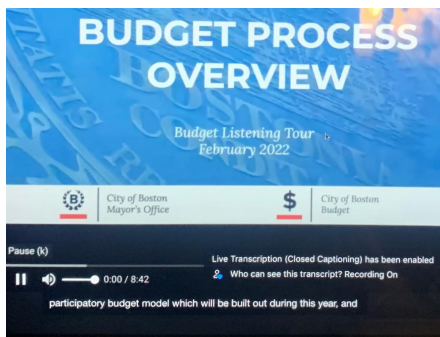
Last month, I was honored to join Mayor Wu, State Senator Collins, State Representative Michlewitz, State Representative Wong, Councilor Murphy and hundreds of Boston residents for the Lunar New Year Lion Dance Parade, sponsored by Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of New England. We also celebrated the contributions and sacrifices of the AAPI community in our city and country.



Kristen and I had a great time at the Tet In Boston festival at the Flynn Cruiseport Boston. The Vietnamese and Vietnamese-American communities of Greater Boston make our city and our state a better place. It was an honor to recognize their enormous contributions to our country.



I was honored to attend the grand opening of the Ollie Diaper Depot with State Representative David Biele at Moakley Park recently. Thank you to the compassionate team at the South Boston Neighborhood House and the generous sponsors of this critical program which will provide diapers and baby wipes to families in need.



In February, we had four informative budget listening sessions with Mayor Wu's Budget team, my Boston City Council colleagues, our Ways & Means Chair, Councillor Fernandes Anderson, civic organizations and Boston residents. Thank you to the administration and the Office of Budget Management for hosting these listening sessions.



I was proud to join my City Council colleagues for the Black History Month celebration program in honor of Black Artists in Boston. It was an honor to recognize Al McClain, an artist, athlete, mentor and coach.

Al continues to ensure Boston youth have access to athletic programs and education opportunities. Thank you for sharing your artistic and sports talents with us, Al!



It was great to visit South Boston youth and staff at the Condon Community Center recently. This community center provides critical programming and support to our youth, including various after school activities, basketball, swimming and computer and tutoring classes.



In honor of International Women's Day and Women's History Month, let's celebrate and recognize the strong women in our families, workplaces and communities who bring so much to our lives. Thank you to my wonderful staff, Sophia, Ana, Melissa and Vanessa, and most of all, thank you to my mom, sisters, wife Kristen and daughter Caroline.

I attended the South End, Newmarket, Roxbury and South Boston Working Group on Addiction, Recovery and Homelessness. During these challenging times, let's continue working together to support those in recovery, and work with neighbors and businesses on quality of life issues and public safety challenges.



I was honored to join the Painters and Allied Trades District Council 35, North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters, and UNITE HERE Local 26 in protest of the terrible record of the Copley Marriott Hotel. The Copley Marriott refuses to pay a decent wage to its workers and continues to disrespect union workers. We will stand with our workers seeking the dignity and respect they deserve.

I was honored to join Tufts University for their Lunar New Year Celebration. It was an informative celebration with the university community, Chinatown residents and partners. Let's continue to work together to address anti-Asian

racism and support our AAPI communities.



It was great to join the monthly Chinatown Neighborhood Safety Committee meeting recently. Thank you Boston Police Department A-1 for attending the meeting and working with Chinatown residents, business leaders, and community partners on quality of life issues and public safety challenges.

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

