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Dear neighbors,

Over the past two months, the City Council has been working hard in reviewing and amending the FY2023 budget. Since mid-April, the Council has conducted 30 Ways & Means Budget hearings on the City's departmental budget and capital projects.

At last week's Council Meeting, we approved a \$1.3 billion budget for the Boston Public Schools. This funding will be an important step towards delivering the much-needed investments in our children, our schools and facilities. The City Council has also submitted amendments to the Operating Budget to add more funding on areas such as pest control, pedestrian safety, small businesses, and other issues impacting our city, and the Mayor will soon return with an Operating Budget with modifications for our approval. We will also have the final vote on the Capital Budget by the end of the month.

June is Pride Month. After a two year hiatus, I am delighted to see so many Pride events and activities take place around the City once again. I was proud to join my City and Council colleagues at the Pride Kickoff at City Hall Plaza earlier this month. Boston celebrates and stands committed to equity and equality for our LGBTQ+ community. You can show your support to our LGBTQ neighbors by attending the many events planned in partnership with the City. Happy Pride!

Take care,

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## City and District Updates

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### BPDA Meetings

- [475-511 Dorchester Avenue Public Meeting](#)
  - Wednesday, June 15th, 6:00 to 7:30pm

### Abutters Meetings

- [150 M Street, South Boston](#)
  - Wednesday, June 15th, 6pm
- [11 Fan Pier Blvd, South Boston Waterfront](#)
  - Thursday, June 16th, 3pm
- [429 West Broadway, South Boston](#)
  - Thursday, June 16th at 4:30pm
- [2 Drydock Ave](#)
  - Tuesday, June 21st at 3pm
- [70 Pier 4 Blvd](#)
  - Tuesday, June 21st at 4:30pm

### Connect Downtown: Cambridge Street

- In-person "pop-up" session at the intersection of Joy St & Cambridge St
  - Thursday, June 30th from 7:45 to 9am

### MassDOT Meeting

- [Vent Structures Repair & Rebuild Project, Chinatown & Leather District](#)
  - Thursday, June 16th at 6:30pm

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### COVID-19 latest & testing

[According to the Boston Public Health Commission, there has been a 11.1% increase in COVID-19 cases over the past two weeks and community positivity is at 9.3%.](#) If you are feeling unwell, please get tested and wear a mask. The BPHC provides free testing in the City. Please visit [boston.gov/covid19-testing](https://boston.gov/covid19-testing) for available testing sites. I encourage those of you who are not vaccinated or boosted to receive your shots. Vaccines will reduce your risk of COVID-19 infection, and prevent severe illness, and hospitalization.

### Vaccine & Booster latest

Children ages 5 to 17 are eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Children ages 5 to 17 who completed their primary COVID-19 vaccination series for at least 5 months can also get a booster. Please note those aged 5-11 can only get a Pfizer booster. Second boosters are also now available for those who are ages 50 or older and anyone immunocompromised from the age of 12 and upwards who received their first booster at least 4 months ago.

Free COVID-19 vaccine and booster clinics are available in the City. Please visit [boston.gov/covid19-vaccine](https://boston.gov/covid19-vaccine) to find a vaccine clinic. You should contact the vaccine sites for more information.

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>

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### **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/>

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### **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](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_B12DiEy2QZKoe3LjC71yQQ)

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

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### **\*NEW\* Food Waste Collection Program**

The City is piloting a new Curbside Food Waste Collection program to reduce Boston's reliance on landfills. This program will collect food waste on the same day as trash and recycling pick up and make it easier for Boston residents to sustainably dispose of food scraps that can be used to make compost. Any Boston resident who lives in a residential building with six units or less is eligible to enroll. If you are interested, please visit:

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/public-works/curbside-food-waste-collection>.

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### **Hazardous Waste Day**

The City holds hazardous waste drop off days four times a year, and the next one is coming up on June 18th. Residents can drop off hazardous waste, paper shreds, textiles, and electronics. To drop off unwanted materials, you must provide a photo ID, utility bill, or a lease as proof of residency. For more information, please visit <https://www.boston.gov/departments/public-works/get-rid-household-hazardous-waste> or email [publicworks@boston.gov](mailto:publicworks@boston.gov).

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### **Community Preservation Funding for FY2023**

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

There will be upcoming Community Engagement Meetings, which include going through the Community Preservation Act (CPA) process, the law, how to preserve your neighborhood, application requirements, and the decision-making process.

### **Community Preservation Virtual Meet and Greet**

Wednesday, June 22nd at 6:00 pm-7:30 pm [RSVP](#)

### **2022 SuccessLink Youth and Young adult jobs**

Applications for 2022 Boston SuccessLink Summer Youth Jobs are now open. Every Summer, the City partners with 200 community-based organizations to employ Boston's youth. This year, there are 6,000 summer job opportunities for Boston youth ages 14-18 to develop their skills and network. For more information and to apply, please visit: [boston.gov/departments/youth-engagement-and-employment/successlink-jobs](https://boston.gov/departments/youth-engagement-and-employment/successlink-jobs) or contact [successlink@boston.gov](mailto:successlink@boston.gov).

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### **BCYF Lifeguard Applications**

Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) is hiring lifeguards. There are over 25 positions available. Apply at [Boston.gov/Lifeguard-Jobs](https://boston.gov/Lifeguard-Jobs) and keep swimmers safe this summer!

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### **2022 Summer Eats Program**

The Boston Summer Eats program provides nutritious breakfast and lunch at no cost to youth ages 18 and under. The Office of Food Justice is currently recruiting for organizations interested in becoming a meal site to distribute free meals. If your organization is interested, please submit a form here: <https://bit.ly/3OLj7LI>. For more information, contact [Kibeh@ymcaboston.org](mailto:Kibeh@ymcaboston.org).

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### **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>

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### **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>.

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### **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>

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### **Affordable Housing for rent**

There is a new opportunity for **income-restricted rental housing** at 21-33 West Second Street, South Boston. There are seven units available for rent and applications close Wednesday, June 29th. To request an application, please fill out the form at <https://bit.ly/3GXNawk>. For more information, please visit [www.ZeroAthensLottery.com](http://www.ZeroAthensLottery.com). If you have any questions please email [ZeroAthens@maloneyproperties.com](mailto:ZeroAthens@maloneyproperties.com) or call 617-639-3064 (ext 717).

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## **Council Hearings and Resolutions**

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### **Order for a hearing to discuss the possibility of allocating ARPA funds for the expansion of South Boston Community Health Center**

Serving a diverse group of patients, South Boston Community Health Center (SBCHC) is the sole provider of preventative care in South Boston. Over the last few years, especially in light of Covid-19, it has come to the forefront that there is a great need for expansion of the health center. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds would greatly help and support the expansion of the SBCHC so that it can continue serving our communities. I have called a hearing to discuss how the SBCHC can tap into the ARPA funds and get the crucial help it needs.

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### **Petition for a special law regarding an Act to make certain changes in the law relative to the Historic Beacon Hill District**

The Historic Beacon Hill District is currently protected by the City of Boston through the “Enabling Act”. With various development projects happening around the neighborhood and along Cambridge Street, it is crucial to protect a forty-foot wide area along the Hill between Charles Circle to Bowdoin street from current and future development. This law will protect the Historic Beacon Hill District and maintain the rich history of Boston for generations to come.

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### **Resolution Recognizing The Contributions Of Asian Americans And Pacific Islanders During Asian Pacific American Heritage Month In May**

May is Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Month. According to the 2021 Census Bureau population estimates, Asian Americans are the fastest growing racial or ethnic group in the country, and the City of Boston has the largest number of AAPI residents in Massachusetts. The AAPI community has made significant contributions to our city and country and has enriched many parts of our culture and history. Despite so, AAPIs have continued to face anti-Asian racism and discrimination, especially over the last two years. This resolution not only recognizes the immense contributions of the AAPI community to our city and country, but also celebrates their strength, resourcefulness and resilience in adversity. We must continue to stand in solidarity with them and call out anti-Asian hate and racism.

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## **In the Community**

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It was an honor to join Commissioner Dempsey, members of the Boston Fire Department, Boston Firefighters Local 718, and neighbors in South Boston for the Grand Opening of Barnard Place Park. We also joined friends and family of Lt. Scott Salman for a dedication of a Memorial Bench in honor of Scott, who passed away much too young. Barnard Place Park was funded through the City of Boston Community Preservation Act Program.

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We had a productive walking tour of various streets in Downtown Boston recently. We discussed public safety and quality of life issues. Thank you to the Downtown BID, Boston Police A-1, Boston Transportation Department, Downtown Boston Residents' Association, MBTA Police, Chinatown ONS Chulan Huang, and Chief of Streets Franklin-Hodge for attending the walkthrough.

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I had a great time attending a women's basketball tournament recently at the Kroc Center in Roxbury. Thank you to the coaches, organizers and sponsors of the tournament. Congratulations to the award recipients: Boston Police Superintendent Nora Baston, Anissa Essaibi George, Ms. Alfreda Harris, Roscoe Baker and former Mayor Ray Flynn for supporting women athletes.

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Recently, I attend the Latino Law Enforcement Group of Boston's Annual Gala at Mosley's on the Charles with Senator Lydia Edwards and Councilor Ricardo Arroyo. It was great to see and talk with many Latino public safety and law enforcement officials throughout Boston while promoting unity and diversity in law enforcement.





Take me out to the ball game! Take me out to the park! And that's exactly what took place for the opening day ceremony of South End Baseball at Peters Park. It was great to join the players, coaches, parents, sponsors, South End residents, Mayor Wu and Councilor Mejia.



I was honored to join hundreds of walkers for the 26th Annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace in Dorchester and to support the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute earlier last month. This institute serves as a center of healing, teaching and learning for families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief and loss.





Thank you to the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, Bunker Hill Community College, Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy and the Mayor's Office of Arts & Culture for supporting the Pao Arts Center. This center is Chinatown's first arts, cultural and education center in the neighborhood. Cultural centers such as this are vital to a neighborhood's fabric and identity.

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Recently, I joined Veterans Commissioner Rob Santiago, National Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Andrew Marshall and many DAV members throughout the country at the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial in Washington, D.C. for a rally to support federal legislation to ensure that veterans who were exposed to burn pits or military toxins receive the necessary and overdue veteran disability and health care benefits.

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Kristen and I enjoyed meeting with South End residents and the Friends of Hayes Park for a spring cleanup

recently. Thank you to the dedicated volunteers for your commitment to your park and your neighborhood! Our parks and open spaces provide places for both play and solitude.



It was great to join Chinatown residents to celebrate the community launch of the Chinatown Worker Statues by artist Wen-ti Tsen. They will be sited in Chinatown to celebrate workers who perform essential labor and the contributions of immigrants to our city and country.

Kristen and I had a great time attending the recent Club Tropicaliente fundraiser to support the Hurley K-8 School. Neighborhood Parents for the Hurley School (NPHS) hosted with the goal of funding engaging and inclusive after-school programs for students, such as chess, art, robotics and basketball.



It was a pleasure attending the lunch sponsored by the Asian Pacific Islander American Employee Resource Group recently. I enjoyed seeing the Josiah Quincy Elementary School students perform the exciting lion dance as part of the celebrations of AAPI Heritage Month at Boston City Hall. It is critical we stand with our AAPI neighbors and acknowledge anti-Asian racism, strive for a society that is inclusive and equitable, respects our diversity and treats our immigrant neighbors with dignity.



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).

