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Dear neighbors,

I hope that you and your families are enjoying the fall season and the great weather we have been having lately.

This past Veterans Days weekend, I was proud to honor and remember our veterans and military families for their incredible service and sacrifice for our nation. I attended various events including the city's Veterans Day parade and welcomed our veterans to a Veterans Day breakfast at the City Council. I also had the opportunity to attend the South Boston Fitzgerald Post Memorial Service and the Puerto Rican Monument Square Memorial in the South End.

Over the past month, I have been focused on the once-in-a-decade exercise of redistricting. Although the result was not what I had hoped for, I remain fully committed to represent all my constituents and advocate for my neighbors when it comes to city services, quality of life issues, public safety, education, language access, and other areas. It is critical that in spite of our differences, we all work together for Boston and treat each other with respect and dignity.

At the Council, I sponsored a hearing with Councilors Bok and Louijeune on trash containerization. We discussed active measures the Inspectional Services

Department is taking and longer term strategies that will reduce rodent populations in our neighborhoods. I continue to encourage residents to report pest control issues by calling 311 or using the 311 app so that the City can keep track of requests and problem areas.

Lastly, as we look towards the holiday season, I encourage everyone to stay up to date with the flu shot and latest COVID-19 boosters. I have included more details below.

Thank you,
Ed

City and District Updates

BPDA Meetings

- [22 Dry Dock Avenue Virtual Public Meeting](#)
 - Wednesday, November 16, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Abutters Meetings

- [185 E Street, South Boston Abutters Meeting](#)
 - Wednesday, November 16th, 5:30 - 6:30 pm
- [16 Piedmont Street, Bay Village Abutters Meeting](#)
 - Wednesday, November 16th, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
- [924 East 4th Street, South Boston Abutters Meeting](#)
 - Monday, November 28th, 5:30 - 6:30 pm
- [572 E Broadway, South Boston Abutters Meeting](#)
 - Tuesday, November 29th, 5:30 - 6:30 pm
- [599 - 601 East 5th St, South Boston Abutters Meeting](#)
 - Tuesday, November 29th, 6:30 - 7:30 pm
- [25 Colebrook St, South Boston Abutters Meeting](#)
 - Wednesday, November 30th, 5:30 - 6:30 pm
- [834-836 East Fourth Street, South Boston Abutters Meeting](#)
 - Wednesday, November 30th, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Cannabis Meetings

Proposed marijuana establishment community outreach meeting:

- [Seven Peaks, 52-60 Winter Street, Downtown](#)
 - Tuesday, November 15th at 6:00 pm
- [Holland Brands, 538 E. First Street, South Boston](#)
 - Tuesday, November 15th at 6:00 pm

Congress Street Reconstruction Project

Boston Transportation Department will hold a virtual meeting on **Wednesday, November 16 at 6:30 pm** about the Congress Street reconstruction project. The project will include new accessible sidewalks, crosswalks, street lighting upgrades, landscaping features and more. Register at <http://bit.ly/Congress-Nov16> to learn about the project and share your feedback.

City Hall on the go truck in District 2

I'm excited to partner with the Mayor's Office of Civic Organizing to bring the City Hall on the go Truck to District 2 this November. Last week, the truck stopped in South Boston and we had the opportunity to say hello and assist residents with various city services. I look forward to the next two visits in Chinatown and South End.

You can request for specific services in advance at <http://bit.ly/CityHallOTG>. For more information and requests for specific services, please email civicorganizing@boston.gov.

- Tai Tung Village, 230 Harrison Ave, Chinatown
 - Wednesday, November 16th, 5:30 - 7:00 pm
 - Villa Victoria, 640 Tremont St, South End
 - Tuesday, November 22nd, 3:30 - 5:00 pm
-

COVID-19 latest & testing

[According to the Boston Public Health Commission, COVID-19 positivity in the community is at 4.8%](#). 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 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 & Boosters

The Moderna and Pfizer vaccines have now been approved for children as young as 6 months to 17 years of age. For more about vaccine information for children, please check the following websites:

- [Children ages 6 months to 4 years](#)
- [Children and Youth ages 5-17](#)

Free COVID-19 vaccine and booster clinics are available in the City. Please visit boston.gov/covid19-vaccine to find a vaccine clinic. Do note that not all locations will carry vaccines for children. 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>

Monkeypox

[As of November 10th, there are 445 cases of Monkeypox in Massachusetts.](#)

Monkeypox symptoms include fever, headache, rash, muscle aches, exhaustion, backache, and swollen lymph nodes. It is contagious until the rash and sores have healed, and can be spread through close skin-to-skin contact with a monkeypox rash, sores, scabs and bodily fluids. It can also be spread through contact with clothing, bedding and surfaces used by someone with monkeypox. Vaccines can protect against Monkeypox. You can learn more about monkeypox on the [BPHC's website](#) and find out more about [frequently asked questions here](#).

Resources for Businesses

The Office of Economic Development hosts zoom calls for small business owners and provides information and resources. The calls takes place on the last Tuesday of the month at 3pm on Zoom and Facebook Live:

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

Metrolist

Affordable housing is one of the biggest issues we face in the City of Boston, and a top concern for many of our seniors, 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>

Affordable Housing

There are two income-restricted affordable home ownership units available for sale at 5-10 St. George Street, South End, for households earning up to 80%-100% AMI.

To read more about the opportunity, please visit: <https://bit.ly/3UBB410>. Requests for applications are due on **Wednesday, November 16th**. If you have any questions, please email 1ostgeorge@maloneyproperties.com or call 617-639-3064.

Council Hearings and Resolutions

Order for a Hearing to Discuss the Safety of Light Poles, Bridges, and Other Public Infrastructure in the City of Boston

In late September, a pedestrian crossing the Evelyn Moakley Bridge in the South Boston Waterfront was injured after being struck by a falling light pole. This unfortunate incident shed light towards the safety of our light poles, bridges, and public infrastructure, especially against the harsh New England weather, sea air, and salt water. Councilor Flaherty and I are calling for a hearing to ensure the city is diligent in its inspection of all light poles, bridges, and public infrastructure and to make any necessary repairs in a timely manner. We will also work with our state and federal partners to ensure that an incident like this will not happen again.

Resolution in Support of Unite Here Local 26 Hyatt Centric Hotel Workers to Get a First Contract

I was proud to partner with Councilor Coletta and Councilor Louijeune to pass a resolution in support of our Unite Here Local 26 Hyatt Centric Hotel Workers to get a First Contract with similar wages, benefits and conditions as at other union hotels. Most of the Hyatt Centric Hotel workers earn four dollars less per hour than union hotel workers, and most of them are not on employer-

sponsored health insurance. I thank my Council colleagues for passing this resolution. We stand for social and economic justice, respect for workers of color, immigrants and women.

Resolution Declaring Gun Violence as a Public Health Emergency

Gun violence is a leading cause of death and injuries in the United States. In Boston, there have been 21 fatal shootings and 120 non-fatal shootings so far this year. The American Medical Association and the American Public Health Association has called gun violence a public health crisis, and the CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky has similarly called it a “serious public health threat”. These recent incidents remind us that there is significant work to do to address gun violence prevention and intervention. Declaring it as a Public Health Emergency will raise public awareness and elevate it to the attention and urgency required, and allow our dedicated city departments and the Boston Public Health Commission to work together to develop strategies to reduce and prevent gun violence.

In the Community



I was proud to join my colleagues in government for Veterans Day events across the City. Thank you Boston Vets and parade organizers for a wonderful parade. Let's continue to work together and support veterans and our military families.



For Hispanic Heritage Month, I was honored to host a luncheon at Boston City Council with neighbors, South Boston en Accion, Inc. and Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción. We celebrate our proud immigrant communities and their contributions to our city and country. Thank you to Central staff and Boston Vets Commissioner Santiago.



Kristen and I attended the National Faith and Blue Interfaith Celebration at The Lawn On D in October. Faith-based partnerships are effective in addressing some of the most challenging issues in our neighborhoods. When we work together, we can achieve positive solutions and build lasting relationships.



It was great to join Boston City Council colleagues and central staff for a visit to the Shaw 54th Regiment Memorial & Museum of African American History. Thank you to the museum staff and National Park Service for providing an inspiring visit and discussion of how a free Black community changed the course of American history.



I was proud to join my Council colleagues in sponsoring a forum for Boston Public Schools students to share their findings on Lower Roxbury's growing heat crisis. The BPS students worked in collaboration with UMass Boston and the BPDA on this environmental research project.



Recently, I joined Representative Aaron Michlewitz, residents from Chinatown, Leather District and the South End, for a community forum to discuss the future of the Reggie Wong Park. Let's work with MassDOT and residents to sign a lease that respects the community and our immigrant roots!



I enjoyed meeting with and thanking the Psi Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority for their outstanding contributions and leadership in our city. Thank you to Councilor Louijeune for inviting this exceptional group to the Council.



I had a great time with my colleagues at the 2022 Fire Ops on Boston Common. Thank you Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts, Boston Fire Department and several of the Massachusetts fire departments that made this event possible. This was a tremendous opportunity for elected officials to learn about fire operations in our cities.



Thank you to the Greater Boston Sickle Cell Disease Association, Inc for organizing a walk to raise awareness and support individuals affected by sickle cell in our community last month.



I joined residents of Villa Victoria and the South End for the first design meeting of O'Day Playground last weekend. We received many positive comments and recommendations from residents about how this park contributes to their overall quality of life.



I had a wonderful visit to the Perry K-6 School in South Boston with our new Boston Public Schools Superintendent Mary Skipper. We were able to visit many classrooms and talk and listen to our wonderful teachers and students.



It was great to join the Mayor's Office of Civic Organizing and South Boston ONS Anna White for last week's City Hall On The Go Truck visit on West Broadway. We had the opportunity to say hello and assist South Boston residents with many city services.



Kristen and I enjoyed attending the Josiah Quincy Elementary School's 175th Anniversary Celebration. This year's theme was "Together Again" as we reconnect in-person to celebrate this school's rich history, proud immigrant heritage and its vision for the future.

Thank you to the Bay Village Neighborhood Association for inviting me to your Annual Meeting. We had an informative discussion about quality of life issues in the neighborhood. I'm proud to represent this community and its wonderful people!



It was an honor to visit the Polish American Citizens Club Boston in



Dorchester to recognize the 41st Anniversary of Polish American Heritage Month. We celebrated the proud history, culture and exceptional contributions of Polish Americans to our city and country.

I joined Boston Police Department Commissioner Michael Cox and Captain Steven Sweeney for a walkthrough of Villa Victoria and the Ruth Barkley Boston Housing Authority apartments in the South End in October. It was great to meet and talk with residents about quality of life and public safety issues.



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



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