

# ED ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FLYNN



Dear neighbors,

I hope everyone had a good 4th of July. At the City Council, after a lengthy deliberation on the City's FY24 Budget, I was proud to join my colleagues in passage of Mayor Wu's Budget. As Council President, I am pleased that this Budget includes and restores critical funding for the needs of District 2 and our city, including for basic city services, law enforcement and first responders, emergency services, and veterans services.

In District 2, I was proud to support the addition of a \$4 million new Fire Station in the South Boston Waterfront. This accompanies the \$10 million in funding for an EMS Station in the Waterfront, which the South Boston Elected Officials and I advocated for and received funding for during last year's budget. Both Fire and EMS stations will be much needed to accommodate public safety concerns amid unprecedented growth in the area.

South End also received \$1.1 million to ensure the safety of the aging Shawmut Avenue Bridge, as well as \$2.4 million in funding for a feasibility study for a new park above the I-90 to connect Shawmut Avenue and Washington Street - an area that was historically once Chinatown.

I have included below a list of new District 2 capital projects, as well as the capital projects that are currently in construction:

## **New**

### *South Boston:*

- Seaport Fire Station, Programming and design for a new firehouse located in the Seaport, \$4,000,000

### *South End:*

- Shawmut Avenue Bridge, engineering and construction work to ensure the Shawmut Ave Bridge remains in a state of good repair, \$1,100,000
- Reconnecting Communities, conduct a feasibility study and initial design for a new park built on a deck over the 1-90 highway and MBTA tracks between Shawmut Avenue and Washington Street, \$2,400,000

## **In Construction**

### *Back Bay:*

- Copley Square Park, Complete park redesign to optimize resiliency to high traffic events and storm-water, \$18,850,000

### *Chinatown:*

- Josiah Quincy Upper School, design and construct a new facility for the Josiah Quincy Upper School. The MSBA will partner with the City in the development and funding of this new school, \$223,591,467

### *South End:*

- Washington Street/Traveler Street, roadway improvements to Washington Street from East Berkeley Street to Herald Street, and Traveler Street between Washington Street and Harrison Avenue. Improvements include resurfacing, pavement markings, and new traffic signals. \$1,750,000
- Tremont Street, redesign and reconstruction of Tremont Street, from Herald Street to Massachusetts Avenue, to include permanent safety improvements to crossings, accessibility upgrades, dedicated bicyclist space, and potential drop-off zones for ridesharing, \$10,539,452

### *West End:*

- Friend Street, reconstruct street and sidewalk on Friend Street from New Chardon Street to Causeway Street, \$1,750,000

The total amount of Capital Budget currently allocated to District 2 is \$429 million. To review the City's FY24 Capital Budget and projects that are new, in construction, and in design, please visit:

<https://content.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2023/04/5-Volume 1 - Capital Planning.pdf>

I believe this budget makes the necessary investments that will address some of the most pressing issues facing our city. I want to thank Mayor Wu for her positive leadership in this process and my fellow City Councilors for our continued work together.

There are many free events in the summer, including a summer concert series, movie nights and art workshops across the city. The special election for District 8 will be on July 25th. I have included more information on these events and activities below. I encourage residents to take advantage of these fun, family-friendly opportunities to enjoy the outdoors.

Thank you,  
Ed

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## City and District Updates

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### BPDA Meetings

- [125 Tremont Street Public Meeting](#)
  - Tuesday, July 11, 6:00 - 8:00pm

### Abutters Meetings

- [82 Baxter Street, 02127 Abutters Meeting](#)
  - Tuesday, July 11, 5:30 pm
- [526 East Seventh St., 02127 Abutters Meeting](#)
  - Wednesday, July 19, 5:30 pm

### Cannabis Meetings

- [Jenny's Seaport, 300 Northern Ave](#)
    - Wednesday, July 12, 6:00 pm
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### Upcoming Special Election Dates

**District 8 City Councilor** (to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Councilor Kenzie Bok)

- Special Municipal Election: July 25, 2023
  - Voter Registration Deadline: July 15, 2023
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### Sumner Tunnel Closure

Sumner Tunnel is closed for repairs until August 31. Travelers are encouraged to use alternative means of travel to driving. MassDOT will provide alternative commute options, and travelers can utilize MassDOT 511 to review traffic conditions.

### *Leaf and Yard Waste Collection*

Due to the state's closure of the Sumner Tunnel for restoration work, please be advised that curbside leaf and yard waste will be collected on Saturdays ONLY beginning on July 15 and ending on August 26. To view the updated calendar: <https://boston.gov/departments/public-works/leaf-and-yard-waste-schedule>.

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### Block Party Applications and Grants

Block parties are one of the most delightful ways to connect neighbors, build community, and have fun! Applications are now open for Boston residents to host summer block parties, and new this year — we're offering block party mini-grants to help you plan the fun. If you are interested in hosting a block

party, find more information at:

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/transportation/how-host-block-party>.

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### **Garden Contest**

Mayor Michelle Wu is holding a garden contest as a citywide celebration of urban gardening. Categories include porch, balcony, or container gardens, vegetable or herb gardens, and small, medium, and large yard gardens. The entry deadline is **Wednesday, July 12**. To learn more and enter, please visit: <http://boston.gov/garden-contest>.

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### **Household Hazardous Waste Day**

The next Household Hazardous Waste Day is **Saturday, August 12**, at 315 Gardner Street (Millenium Park) in West Roxbury, from 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. We accept clothing and textiles, electronics, tires, and more. Find the full list of accepted items at: <http://boston.gov/hazardous-waste>.

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### **Clothing and Textile Recycling**

In compliance with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's policy, beginning November 1, the City of Boston will not accept clothing and textiles in curbside trash. To help residents comply with this state policy, the City of Boston is offering drop boxes conveniently located throughout the City for residents to dispose of their unwanted clothing and textiles. Find a drop-off location or schedule a pickup at: <http://boston.gov/textiles>.

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### **Mattress Recycling**

The Public Works Department now provides a free citywide curbside mattress and box spring recycling service for those living in a building with 6 units or less. You can schedule your pick up appointment by dialing 311. To learn more, visit: <https://www.boston.gov/departments/public-works/mattress-recycling>

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### **Project Oscar Compost Program**

Project Oscar is Boston's 24 hour community compost program. The Project has 15 bins across the city which can be used to compost personal food scraps by anyone who lives in Boston. Most bins are unlocked and open to residents for use at any time. To learn more, visit: <https://www.boston.gov/departments/public-works/project-oscar>.

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### **Community Preservation Act (CPA): FY 2024 CPA Eligibility Determination Form**

To apply for CPA's FY2024 Funding Round, please review their [Eligibility Determination Packet](#), their [How to Apply Page](#), and complete an [Eligibility Determination Form](#) online.

The CPA Office will determine if a project meets the eligibility criteria of the CPA statute. If your project is eligible, you will be invited to submit an application for consideration to the nine-member Community Preservation

### **Connect Downtown: Charles Street South & Tremont Street**

The Boston Transportation Department will be hosting a number of in-person events for Connect Downtown: Charles Street South & Tremont Street to address pedestrian safety, look at curb ramps that do not meet accessibility standards, and other issues. There will be a few drop by sessions on the corner of Charles Street South and Warrenton St/Melrose St from 4:00 - 6:00 pm on the following dates:

- Tuesday, July 18
- Tuesday, August 15

Residents can also schedule virtual office hours every other Wednesday from 3:00 - 7:00 pm. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/transportation/connect-downtown#charles-south--tremont>

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### **Boston Community Choice Electricity**

BCCE is the largest municipal aggregation program in Massachusetts. It allows the city to secure electricity at a competitive rate and aims to provide affordable and renewable energy to the program's customers. Through offering Boston residents a reliable, not-for-profit electricity option, BCCE strengthens consumer protection, reduces carbon emissions, and prioritizes local energy sources. To opt-in to the program, visit:

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/environment/community-choice-electricity>

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### **Affordable Housing**

There is a new opportunity for income-restricted rental housing at 235 Old Colony Avenue, South Boston. Thirty-seven units are available for rent and their applications close **Wednesday, July 26**. To request an application, fill out [this form](#). For more information, please visit

<https://www.maloneyaffordable.com/rental-properties/south-standard/>. If you have any questions please email [southstandard@maloneyproperties.com](mailto:southstandard@maloneyproperties.com) or call 617-639-3064.

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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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## **Summer Events in the City**

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## **Summer Concerts, Movie Nights, and Art Workshops**

This summer, Boston is hosting free public concerts, movie nights, and art workshops in our neighborhood parks:

### *South End*

- Concert: Tito Puente Latin Music Series, “Pura Vida”
  - Thursday, July 13, 7:00 pm, O’Day Playground
- Concert: “Conscious Reggae”
  - Wednesday, July 26, 7:00 pm, Blackstone Square
- Arts Workshop: Arts and crafts workshop
  - July 27, August 3 & 10, 10:00 am, Hayes Park
- Puppet Show: Marionette Puppets
  - August 3, 11:00 am, Hayes Park
- Movie Night: “Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile”
  - Tuesday, August 22, 8:00 pm, Peter’s Park
- Arts Workshop: Watercolor painting workshop
  - September 24, 10:00 am, Ringgold Park

### *South Boston*

- Arts Workshop: Arts and crafts workshop,
  - July 27, August 3 & 10, 10:00 am, Medal of Honor Park
- Concert: “Gospelfest”
  - Sunday, July 30, 5-9 pm, the Lawn on D
- Movie Night: “Minion: The Rise of Gru”
  - Tuesday, August 8, 8:00 pm, Moakley Park
- Concert: “Be Kind Rewind 90s”
  - Wednesday, August 9, 7:00 pm, Medal of Honor Park

### *Downtown*

- Concert: Tito Puente Latin Music Series, “Tito Puente Jr with Edwin Pabon”
  - Thursday, August 10, 7:00 pm Boston Common
- Movie Night: “The Super Mario Brothers Movie”
  - Friday, September 1, 8:00 pm, Boston Common Parade Ground
- Arts Workshop: Watercolor painting workshop
  - September 16, 10:00 am, Boston Public Garden

Learn more about any of these events here:

[https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2023/04/\\_23\\_Summer\\_Guide.pdf](https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2023/04/_23_Summer_Guide.pdf)

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## **Boston Park Summer Fitness Series**

The 2023 Boston Parks Summer Fitness Series is here! This includes virtual and in-person classes across the city. All classes are free and open to the public. You can view the full list of classes at <http://boston.gov/fitness>.

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## **Sports Programs for Youth**

Register for youth sports programs in the Summer:

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/parks-sports-and-activities>

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# Council Hearings and Resolutions

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## **Order for a hearing to discuss public safety and quality of life issues for our residents in public housing**

I joined Councilor Erin Murphy and Councilor Michael Flaherty in filing for this hearing to assess the response procedures and protocols relating to public safety in Boston Housing Authority (BHA) units, particularly the safety of children in BHA housing. BHA provides public and affordable housing options to thousands of our most vulnerable residents. They are responsible for maintaining and, importantly, inspecting BHA housing developments. The overall quality of life and safety of our public housing residents is of the utmost importance to us. It is imperative that there are reviews on the BHA's protocols to maintain accurate lists of tenants, that there are enforcement mechanisms to ensure that all leaseholders are in compliance with BHA policies, and that all children in BHA housing are accounted for and safe.

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## **Order for a hearing to bring City of Boston board meetings, abutters meetings, City Council meetings, and related business back in person with a hybrid option for accessibility**

With the federal government having recently announced the end of national and public health emergencies, I filed this hearing to reevaluate the practice of remote-only City of Boston meetings in an effort to return to a sense of normalcy. This also comes in response to reports of high office vacancies and a slower economic recovery of the Financial District and Downtown Crossing. In recent weeks, business leaders have expressed serious concerns about the future of the city's office space, and asked for assistance from local, state, and federal officials to play a key role in helping to bring more workers and foot traffic back Downtown. I look forward to having a discussion with my colleagues on this issue.

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## **Resolution in support of local option to incentivize landlords to rent below market**

The shortage of affordable rental homes for low-income households, particularly households with incomes at 30% of the area median income, has led to a housing crisis in the Commonwealth. Many families and seniors do not qualify for housing voucher programs but also cannot afford market-value rents. Allowing a tax credit for landlords who rent below market will improve housing supply and stability for our working families, seniors, and immigrant neighbors. Bill S 1795/H2969 would issue a state tax credit to landlords that rent below market to vulnerable groups; municipalities can opt-in to offer additional tax credits. The passage of this legislation can help alleviate our housing crisis by incentivizing landlords to rent below market rate, hence increasing the amount of affordable housing for seniors and families.

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## **In the Community**

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I was honored to join South Boston neighbors at Boston Housing Authority West 9th Street Apartments for their 4th of July cookout. I'm especially proud to represent residents in public housing and am committed to ensuring that all BHA residents live in communities that are clean, healthy and safe.

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Thank you to the Downtown Boston Residents' Association for bringing together public safety officials, social service providers, businesses, neighbors, educators and City and State officials for an informative public safety meeting. I was honored to participate in and moderate this forum with Representative Michlewitz.

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Last week, I joined Java with Jimmy at the Waterfront Community Family Day and Cookout at Moakley Park and Carson Beach. It was wonderful to see so many young people and families enjoying the beautiful evening, playing sports and celebrating a resilient and inclusive waterfront.

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Recently, I was honored to join my family to present a Boston City Council proclamation to the Boston Police Emerald Society on its 50th Anniversary. Thank you to this exceptional organization for your dedication, service and commitment to the residents of Boston!

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As we celebrate Independence Day, let's take a moment to reflect on the freedom, liberty, and democracy we hold sacred in our nation. Today and always, let's remember the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families, veterans, especially our Gold Star Families.

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Earlier this month, I joined my Council colleagues and the Authentic Caribbean Foundation for the National Caribbean American Heritage Month flag raising. Thank you for your contributions and sacrifices to the City of Boston.

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I met with Beacon Hill residents and members of the Beacon Hill Civic Association at their First Friday Coffee Hour at the start of the month. We talked about quality of life issues such as trash and pest control, transportation, pedestrian and public safety. Thank you for having me!

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I was honored to attend a wonderful breakfast to support the Asian Community Development Corporation this month. Since 1987, the ACDC has created vibrant communities by building affordable housing and preserving spaces where everyone is welcome to live, work and play.

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It was great to attend Monday's Summer Kick-off Barbecue at the Boston Housing Authority Mary Ellen McCormack Housing Development. Thank you South Boston Neighborhood House and South Boston en Accion, Inc. for bringing teens together and supporting them through education programs, athletics, and employment opportunities!

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Thank you to the Community Preservation Team for hosting an Information Session at the South Boston Public Library this month. It was great to join Councilor Michael Flaherty in sponsoring this informative discussion. The CPA program brings our city together in such a unique and positive way!

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It was an honor to attend the Installation of Officers of the American Legion Boston Chinatown Post 328 last weekend. Thank you to the American Legion for your unwavering support to those who have served and their families. These veterans are always giving back in service to others!

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Thank you to the Moms Club of South Boston for sponsoring South Boston Family Fun Day! This wonderful organization brings residents together from diverse backgrounds and they are passionate about making South Boston a



Earlier this week, I attended the symposium “Not All Wounds Are Visible” sponsored by the Office of Boston Veterans Services. Let’s continue working together to ensure every veteran has immediate access to medical care and mental health services. Thank you to our panelists and speakers from VA Boston Healthcare System, Boston Public Health Commission, Home Base Boston, New England Center and Home for Veterans.

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We remembered and honored the fallen and deceased firefighters and their families at the 130th Memorial Service presented by the Charitable Association of the Boston Fire Department recently. Let’s recommit ourselves to ensure all firefighters are treated with dignity!



I was honored to attend the Kwong Kow Chinese School graduation ceremony over the weekend. This school provides Chinese language and cultural education, academic support and recreational activities to children



in the Greater Boston area.  
Congratulations to these graduates!

Residents and members of the St. Botolph Neighborhood, Boston Transportation Department, Boston Police D-4 and I had a walkthrough of the neighborhood this month. We discussed traffic enforcement and pedestrian safety issues. Let's continue working together to make our streets safer!



It was an honor to join the Asian American Civic Association for their 2023 Gala and Auction. AACA is a beacon of hope throughout Massachusetts, providing critical programs, services and support to our immigrant neighbors and underserved communities.

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).

