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Dear neighbors,

I would like to wish our LGBTQ+ community a Happy Pride Month! Over the weekend, I joined our LGBTQ+ communities, Mayor Wu and our City and State officials for the Pride Parade. It was great to see this annual Parade return to Boston and to say hello to old friends and new along the way.

At the City Council, we are at the final stretch of the Budget process and will continue to work on budget amendments in the forthcoming days. At the Council Meeting last week, I filed a hearing order to discuss bringing back City of Boston Board Meetings, Abutters Meetings, City Council Meetings, and Related Businesses Back in Person with a hybrid option for public accessibility and persons with disabilities. I also filed a resolution recognizing Pride Month and a resolution calling on the Massachusetts Legislature to pass the act providing a local option incentivizing landlords to rent unsubsidized properties at below rent market.

There are many upcoming happenings and activities in the city for the summer, including the special elections to fill the District 8 vacancy. The special primary will be at the end of the month on June 27th and the special election will be on July 25th. There are also Summer Fitness Classes, youth sports programs for those who wish to get more active in the summer. I encourage residents and families to take advantage of these opportunities to enjoy the outdoors.

Thank you,
Ed

City and District Updates

BPDA Meetings

- [27 Farragut Road Public Meeting](#)
 - Wednesday, June 28, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Abutters Meeting

- [509 East 5th St., 02127 Abutters Meeting](#)
 - Monday, June 26, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Cannabis Meetings

- [Dragon Buds, 25-29 Beach St](#)
 - Thursday, June 29, 6:00 pm
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Other Upcoming Meetings

Curley Community Center

Opening June 15

Following a \$31.2 million renovation, the BCYF Curley Community Center will be open next Thursday, June 15th for self-workouts, with limited programming and classes starting on June 20th. The official ribbon-cutting will be announced in the following weeks. For more, please visit:

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/boston-centers-youth-families/bcyf-curley>

Inspectional Services Department Rodent Control Zoom Conference

Wednesday, June 14th from 6:00 - 7:30 pm

ISD will be hosting a zoom conference to discuss the importance of rodent control and what we can do to minimize rodent activity. [Register for the meeting here.](#)

OPAT Commission "Get to Know Commissioner Cox"

Thursday, June 15th from 6:00 – 8:00pm

The OPAT Commission will host a Community Meeting featuring Boston Police Commissioner Michael Cox at the Bolling Building, Boston School Committee Room, 2nd Floor, 2300 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02119. [A remote zoom option is also available here.](#)

Upcoming Special Election Dates

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

- Special Municipal Primary: June 27, 2023
 - Voter Registration Deadline: June 17, 2023
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Community Preservation Act 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 Committee. This deadline is **Thursday, August 31, 2023, at 5 pm**

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>.

Sports Programs for Youth

Register for youth sports programs in the Summer:

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

SuccessLink Summer Youth Employment Program

The city's annual SuccessLink Summer Youth Employment Program is now accepting applications. There are 5,000 youth jobs in partnership with local nonprofits and community organizations, and 2,000 City-based youth jobs this year. Check for your eligibility and apply at:

<https://boston.gov/departments/youth-employment-and-opportunity/successlink-jobs>

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 discuss connecting the bike network. 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, June 27
- 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>

Renew your MassHealth

The MassHealth redetermination period has started. Members should update their contact information and any changes in household, job, income, disability status, pregnancy to continue receiving benefits. Please ensure your health coverage is maintained. To renew your coverage, please visit:

<https://www.mass.gov/masshealth-eligibility-redeterminations>

For assistance, you can call the Mayor's Health Line at 617-534-5050 or visit:

<http://boston.gov/mayors-health-line>

Leaf and Yard Waste Collection

Leaf and yard waste curbside collection has resumed. Download the Boston Trash Day app for collection & drop-off dates or check here for the full schedule: <https://boston.gov/departments/public-works/leaf-and-yard-waste-schedule>

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>

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>

COVID-19 latest & testing

[According to the Boston Public Health Commission, COVID-19 positivity in the community is at 3.5%](#). 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>

Council Hearings and Resolutions

Resolution recognizing the contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) during AAPI Heritage Month

In May, we celebrated AAPI Heritage Month. Boston has the largest number of AAPI residents in the state, the third largest Chinatown in the United States, a vibrant Vietnamese community in Dorchester, as well as many other pockets of AAPI residents. We recognize the important contributions and sacrifices of our AAPI and immigrant neighbors, and we celebrate their rich and diverse cultural heritage.

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.

Resolution recognizing June as Pride Month

During June, we recognize and celebrate the many contributions of the LGBTQ+ community to our city and country. Our LGBTQ+ neighbors enrich our city every day through their strength, resilience, and vibrancy. In recent years, there has been an alarming rise in anti-LGBTQ+ attacks. Evidently, there is still a need to fight for true equity where all of our LGBTQ+ residents, particularly those in communities of color, can live without fear and discrimination. This year, the Boston Pride Parade, organized by Boston Pride for the People, is returning after a pandemic hiatus. Additional activities will continue throughout June. I look forward to these events and I will continue to be an ally to the LGBTQ+ community.

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.

In the Community



I was honored to march at this weekend's Boston Pride Parade with my colleagues in government and the City of Boston employees. We had a wonderful day celebrating the LGBTQ+ community throughout Greater Boston!



We had a wonderful Peace Breakfast at St. Monica Church recently. I joined my colleagues in government, Boston Police Captain Boyle, and volunteers to congratulate Boston Housing Authority Administrator Kate Bennett on her exceptional career and dedication to public housing residents.



On Memorial Day, we came together as neighbors and veterans to honor and remember those who made the supreme sacrifice for our nation. As a country, we grieve alongside our Gold Star Families and will remain forever grateful.



Thank you to the South Boston Brownies for the invitation to their community service project, “Keep It Moving Southie” in May. These girls are helping to provide clothing to children and families in need. We are proud of them and their compassionate spirit and leadership!



I was honored to join City of Boston employees for the Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month celebration. Through music, dance, food and conversation, we celebrated the contributions and sacrifices of the AAPI community to our city and country.



I was grateful to attend a fun bowling banquet at the South Boston Yacht Club for the South Boston Special Kids and Young Adults athletes! Thank you to the dedicated volunteers who sponsor so many activities and programs for children and young adults in our neighborhood. South Boston is such a wonderful community because of your compassion!



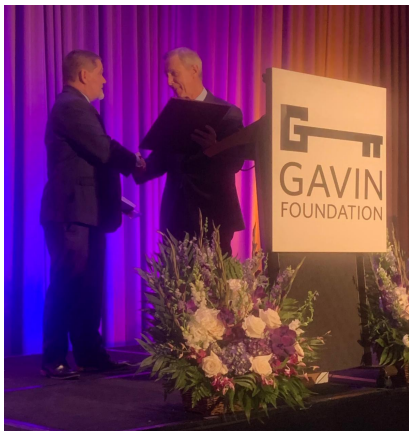
We had an informative public safety meeting sponsored by the Tenant Task Force members at the BHA Anne M. Lynch Homes at Old Colony in May. It was great to join residents, Boston Police C-6 Captain Boyle, Councilor Michael Flaherty, ONS Anna White and Mark McGonagle from the BPDA.



It was great to join Mayor Wu for the annual Polish Festival in Dorchester. We celebrated Polish culture through traditional music, dance, art, delicious food and engaging conversations with many throughout the Polish community of Greater Boston! Thank you to the Polish American Citizens Club Boston for organizing this wonderful event.



Thank you to the Office of Veterans Services for coordinating the recent Hero Square rededication ceremony in memory of Corporal Eugene Zanni. The Zanni family attended the ceremony in the Back Bay and told moving stories about their relative who made the supreme sacrifice for our nation in World War I.



Kristen and I were honored to attend the Gavin Foundation's recent gala to show our support. This agency provides comprehensive adult, youth and community education, prevention and treatment for those in recovery. Thank you to the friends and sponsors for supporting this outstanding organization!

Recently, I joined my Boston City Council colleagues and staff for a meeting and tour with the dedicated team at the City of Boston Office of Emergency Management. We discussed emergency management, preparedness and their communication strategy and

engagement.



It was wonderful to attend Mayor Wu's Coffee Hour reception at Hayes Park in the South End recently. Thank you to the many South End residents, dedicated city employees and Boston Public Schools students, along with preschool children from Villa Victoria who said hello and helped with the event!

I was honored to attend the United South End Settlements' Neighborhood Gala in May. USES continues its mission to harness the power of our diverse community to disrupt the cycle of poverty for children and their families. Let's continue this work together!



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

