

ED ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FLYNN



Dear neighbors,

I hope you and your families are enjoying the season as we prepare for Thanksgiving. Earlier this month, I was re-elected to the Boston City Council to serve as your District 2 City Councilor for a fourth term. I would like to sincerely thank you for your continued trust and confidence in me; I am deeply humbled by your support and I will continue to listen and advocate for you on constituent service matters and quality of life issues.

Last weekend, I joined Mayor Wu, Veterans Commissioner Robert Santiago for the Veterans Day Parade and various veterans events around the City. Our veterans are an integral part of our community; we recognize them for their service and sacrifice each and every day. Recently, I was also honored to be sworn in as a member of the Governor's Advisory Council on Veterans Services. Together with members on the Advisory Council and the Committee on Women Veterans, we will advise and provide recommendations to the Governor on issues impacting veterans across the Commonwealth.

At the City Council this month, I was proud to work with my colleagues to unanimously adopt several key items, including a gun trafficking ordinance to study the flow of illegal firearms, an anti-bullying policy, and a resolution in support of the Seaport Hotel Banquet Workers. The adoption of the gun trafficking ordinance is a critical step to track annual data relating to the flow

of firearms and inform our future policy making, and the passage of the anti-bullying policy provides a strong foundation to address and prevent future workplace bullying and harassment and build towards an inclusive and respectful working environment. We also stand by our hotel workers to ensure that they are provided the opportunity for a vote to unionize when they choose to do so.

As we gather for the holiday season, I would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving with friends and family. For those who are able and interested, there are many wonderful opportunities to help the less fortunate and those in need throughout District 2. With temperatures dropping, I encourage everyone to stay up to date with the flu shot and the latest COVID-19 boosters ahead of the winter holidays.

Happy Thanksgiving,
Ed

City and District Updates

BPDA Meetings:

Squares + Streets Zoning Community Office Hours

- Tuesday, November 21, 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM & 6:00 PM to 7:30PM
- Wednesday, November 29, 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM & 6:00 PM to 7:30PM

11-21 Bromfield Street Public Meeting

- Tuesday, November 28, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

244-284 A Street (Channelside) Open Space Workshop

- Tuesday, November 28, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Public Meeting on Zoning Code Amendment to 80B-5.2: Affordable Housing Waiver

- Thursday, November 30, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

CORE on the DOT Phase 1 Public Meeting

- Monday, December 4, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Squares + Streets Citywide Draft Zoning Amendment Public Meeting

- Tuesday, December 5, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Long Wharf Flood Resilience Planning & Feasibility Public Meeting

- Wednesday, December 6, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Abutters Meetings:

64 Telegraph Street Abutter's Meeting

Tuesday, November 21, 6:00 PM

Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82172990567>

Meeting ID: 821 7299 0567

158 Athens Street Abutter's Meeting

Wednesday, November 29, 6:00 PM

Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89671262627>

Meeting ID: 896 7126 2627

847 E Fifth Street Abutter's Meeting No. 2

Wednesday, November 29, 7:00 PM

Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87171135908>

Meeting ID: 871 7113 5908

31 Marine Road Abutter's Meeting

Thursday, December 7, 7:00 PM

Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89015845747>

Meeting ID: 890 1584 5747

185 E Street Abutter's Meeting

Wednesday, December 13, 6:00 PM

Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86440932614>

Meeting ID: 864 4093 2614

84 A Street Abutter's Meeting

Wednesday, December 13, 7:00 PM

Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87519757014>

Meeting ID: 875 1975 7014

429 W. Broadway Abutter's Meeting

Thursday, December 14, 6:00 PM

Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89069212816>

Meeting ID: 890 6921 2816

335 K Street Abutter's Meeting

Thursday, December 14, 7:00 PM

Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89938082290>

Meeting ID: 899 3808 2290

Holiday Lightings

- Lighting Of The Trellis At Christopher Columbus Park
 - Monday, November 20, 5–6 p.m | 110 Atlantic Avenue, Boston
- The Nova Scotia Tree For Boston Arrives
 - Tuesday, November 21, 11 a.m. | Boston Common
- Lighting Of The Ship At Martin's Park
 - Saturday, November 25, 4–6 p.m. | 64 Sleeper Street, South Boston
- Boston Common Tree Lighting
 - Thursday, November 30, 6–8 p.m. | Boston Common

[More information on the lighting can be found here.](#)

Boston Youth Poet Laureate

The city is looking for its next Youth Poet laureate to act as an advocate for poetry, language, and the arts. Boston residents between the ages of 13-19 who

are committed to the local literary community and are comfortable serving in a public facing role are encouraged to apply. The Youth Poet Laureate serves a maximum of two, two-year terms, and will receive a \$1,500 honorarium each year, for a total of \$3,000. **Application due Thursday, November 30, 2023, at 11:59pm.** [More information here.](#)

2023 Annual Medicare Open Enrollment Events

South Boston Neighborhood House,
136 H St., South Boston
Wednesday, December 6, 10:00 am -
3:30 pm

The 2023 Annual Medicare Open Enrollment begins October 15 through December 7, where residents can join or renew their enrollment in Medicare. The Age Strong Commission will be hosting eight workshops citywide to assist with open enrollment. To schedule an appointment to make a counseling appointment for another time, please call us at 617-635-4366.



2023 ANNUAL MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT EVENTS
OCTOBER 15 - DECEMBER 7



Medicare Health Insurance
JOHN L. SMITH
TEGATESMK73
HOSPITAL (PART A) 03-01-2016
MEDICAL (PART B) 03-01-2016

- Meet with trained SHINE* counselors to find the best coverage for the least cost
- Review your overall medical and prescription drug coverage

Call 617-635-4366 to schedule your appointment for these events or to make a counseling appointment for another time.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 10am - 3:30pm East Boston Senior Center 7 Bayswater St., East Boston	THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 10:30am - 3:30pm West Roxbury Branch Library 1961 Centre St., West Roxbury
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25 10am - 3:30pm Kroc Center 650 Dudley St., Dorchester	MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20 10am - 3:30pm Veronica B. Smith Senior Center 20 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2 10am - 3:30pm Central Boston Elder Services 2315 Washington St., Roxbury	WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29 10am - 3:30pm Grove Hall Branch Library 41 Geneva Ave., Dorchester
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8 10am - 3:30pm Mattapan Branch Library 1350 Blue Hill Ave., Mattapan	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6 10am - 3:30pm South Boston Neighborhood House 136 H St., South Boston

WHAT TO BRING: LIST OF PRESCRIPTIONS, MEDICARE/OTHER INSURANCE CARDS, YOUR MEDICARE.GOV USERNAME/PASSWORD IF ALREADY SET UP

*Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone

CITY of BOSTON | AGE* | Age Strong | City of Boston Public Health Commission | esac | ETHOS

Getting the Annual Flu Vaccine

As we enter into the colder months, the Boston Public Health Commission is hosting free, walk-in flu vaccination clinics for people of all ages at the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building clinic in Nubian Square and City Hall. Walk-ins are welcome, and no appointments or proof of insurance are needed. You can also visit your local pharmacy, community health center, or contact your primary health care provider to set up an appointment. For more, [visit here.](#)

Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, 2300 Washington St., Roxbury
Open Thursdays - Saturdays from 12 pm - 6 pm

City Hall, Haymarket Room (2nd Floor) 1 City Hall Square, Boston
Open Mondays from 7 am - 1 pm and Wednesdays from 12 pm - 5 pm

Stay Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines

The CDC recommends the 2023–2024 updated COVID-19 vaccines: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, or Novavax, to protect against serious illness from COVID-19. You can find a vaccine location near you at: [vaccines.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html), or you can visit a doctors' office, pharmacy, or health clinic in your community. For more on CDC guidance, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>

Curbside 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>
Getting the flu vaccine in September or October helps ensure strong protection from the virus before peak flu activity begins. As it gets colder, the risk for infection and severe illness increases.

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>

Council Hearings and Resolutions

Passage of the ordinance requiring the Boston Police Department to have an annual report on the trafficking of illegal firearms

The City Council voted to pass this ordinance, sponsored by myself and Councilor Brian Worrell, at its November 15th meeting, which will require the Boston Police Department to have a study and annual report with data on the flow of illegal firearms into our city. Gun trafficking and illegal flow of firearms is a major contributor to gun violence, with the Boston Police recovering more than 900 firearms in 2022. Having a comprehensive study and review of the flow of firearms into the City of Boston would help law enforcement and policymakers better understand the impact of illegal gun trafficking, and help us develop strategies on gun violence prevention. This passage follows the unanimous adoption of a City Council Resolution declaring gun violence as a public health emergency last October.

Passage of an anti-bullying policy in the Boston City Council

The City Council voted unanimously at the November 15th meeting to adopt an Anti-Bullying Policy for the City Council, which was sponsored by myself in May. The vote came after three working sessions chaired, and numerous input from City Councilors. This policy is part of his emphasis on creating a safe and healthy work environment, and is an important step in preventing workplace bullying. This policy includes potential examples of what workplace bullying may look like, and serves as a value statement from the City Council that workplace bullying is not tolerated. After passage, Councilors, staff, interns, and volunteers will sign this to acknowledge that they have read this, and the receipt will be kept in their personnel file. New Staff information sessions hosted by Central Staff will also include information on this policy.

Resolution In Support Of The Seaport Hotel Banquet Workers

I have sponsored a resolution to support our hardworking Seaport Hotel banquet workers at last week's City Council meeting also. In July 2023 the Seaport Hotel banquet workers petitioned to join UNITE HERE Local 26, the hospitality employees union, yet, since then, the Seaport Hotel has delayed the union vote through legal maneuvers. We need to support our hotel workers, and ensure that they can unionize when they choose to, and this resolution expresses support for the Banquets and Convention Services workers at the Seaport Hotel, as well as call on the hotel owner Fidelity to let the banquet workers vote in a free and fair union election.

Resolution commemorating Veterans Day and honoring all those who served our country

This is a resolution sponsored by myself and Councilor Erin Murphy. This is to honor and thank those who have served and continue to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, and recognize our veterans for their bravery and service for our country. We must recommit ourselves in supporting our veterans and military families. It is not enough to just recognize our veterans on Veterans Day or on holidays, we need to do all we can to ensure that they get the full services and resources that they earned, at the city, state, and federal levels.

In the Community



It was an honor to join Korean War Veteran and American Legion Past National Commander John "Jake" Comer and the American Legion Boston Chinatown Post 328 for the Veterans Day Parade. We recognized the contributions and sacrifices of veterans and military families.



At the end of October, we had an excellent turnout of South Boston neighbors to “Save Sr. Mary Veronica Park”. South Boston neighbors and elected officials, including Mayor Michelle Wu, are working together toward our shared goal to preserve this beautiful park for future generations.



A few days ago, I had the opportunity to attend the informative National League of Cities City Summit conference in Atlanta with City Council Chairs and Presidents from other cities. We discussed the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, strategies to address public safety challenges, housing, digital equity and civility in the public arena.



I enjoyed meeting with our residents with disabilities for Boston Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities's Civic Engagement Day 2023. This event was a great opportunity to learn about all the ways they can get involved with their local government.



Recently, I joined teachers, parents, staff, and friends of the Josiah Quincy Elementary School for their annual banquet to support this inclusive school community. Schools like JQS help anchor a neighborhood and bring it so much life and vitality!



This month, I attended the Castle Cove Veterans Day breakfast and recognition ceremony. I had the wonderful opportunity to present a Boston City Council resolution to several veterans, and thank them for their service and sacrifice for our nation.



It was fantastic to see so many families enjoying Halloween last month. Thank you to the organizers and our public safety teams for bringing families together for a safe and enjoyable celebration and parade.



I was proud to support 32BJ SEIU commercial cleaners for their fight for a fair contract. Cleaners are essential workers. They deserve great wages and benefits for all their sacrifice and hard work!



Kristen and I started Veterans Day with a beautiful ceremony held at the Foley Apartments in South Boston. It was great to be with friends as we watched the sun over the ocean and honored our veterans and military families on this solemn day.



We had a wonderful evening at the Annual Dinner to support the Wang YMCA of Chinatown. The YMCA is committed to providing neighbors of all ages with access to essential resources and life-changing healthy living programs. Thank you YMCA for making Boston a better city!



Thank you to Governor Maura Healey and Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll for your longtime commitment and support to veterans and military families. I'm honored to be sworn in this month as a member of the Governor's Advisory



Earlier this month, I held an important discussion with Downtown partners, Boston Police, city and elected officials to discuss a coordinated response on homeless outreach, services and public safety in the Downtown neighborhood. Thank you to St. Francis House for hosting us.

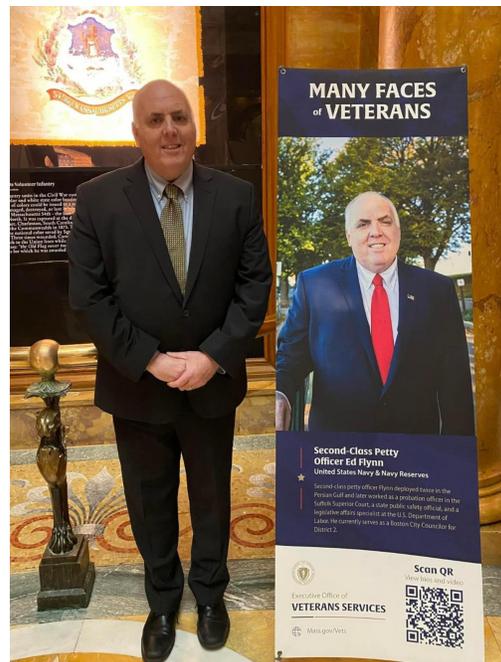


It was such a delight to spend time with residents of Chinatown and the South End for an annual Thanksgiving lunch sponsored by Chinese Progressive Association and the Chinatown Residents Association. Boston is home to a large immigrant community and I'm proud to represent many in District 2.



I was happy to join Chinatown residents for the opening of the “Dancing Dragon,” a public art project sponsored by Asian Community Development Corporation. This exhibit will bring opportunities to come together in community, reinforce Chinatown’s identity and improve access to open spaces.

Thank you to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans’ Services for highlighting what it means to serve and the diverse veterans community through the “Many Faces of Veterans” exhibit now on display in Memorial Hall at the MA State House. I am honored to have been invited to participate in this exhibit with fellow veterans throughout MA, and I encourage you all to view this exhibition in person or online at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/the-many-faces-of-veterans>



I was honored to represent the City of Boston at the Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans’ Services Annual Veterans Day Celebration at Faneuil Hall. Let’s ensure we respect our veterans, military families and all Gold Star Families.



Kristen and I enjoyed attending the gala dinner to support the Kwong Kow Chinese School in Chinatown recently. This exceptional program provides Chinese language and cultural education, academic support and recreational activity for Chinese children throughout Greater Boston.



I joined Chinatown residents for a rally in support of Boston zoning changes that protect the neighborhood. Let's not displace working families from Chinatown or disregard our commitment to seniors and immigrant neighbors!



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



Ed Flynn for Boston City Council | 254 Gold Street | Boston, MA 02127 US

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