



Dear Friends,

At the outset of this newsletter, I wanted to make sure you are all aware that there is a **very important community meeting regarding the Edison Project at 776 Summer St this Wednesday evening, September 19th from 6PM-8PM at the Tynan School (650 East 4th St) in South Boston.** If you are able to do so, I respectfully ask that you join me in sharing your concerns regarding this project. You may also email your concerns to me at [Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov](mailto:Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov) or call 617-635-3203.

My staff and I continue to work hard on behalf of each of the neighborhoods in District 2. With summer winding down and fall fast-approaching, here's an update as to what we had been working on earlier in the season:

### **Budget**

Due to the relentless advocacy of community leaders like Marleen Neinhuis and the Friends of the South End Library, we were able to work closely with Mayor Walsh and his budget staff to help secure \$400,000 for the South End Branch of the Boston Public Library. Thank you again to Mayor Marty Walsh, Boston Public Library President David Leonard, my colleagues on the Boston City Council, President Andrea J. Campbell, fellow District Councilors City Councilor Kim Janey, Boston City Councilor Frank Baker. Thank you also to the At-Large Councilors - Councilor Michelle Wu, Councilor Michael Flaherty, Councilor Anissa Essaibi George, Councilor Ayanna Pressley & Friends of the South End Library for your advocacy to secure funding & investment in the future of this exceptional library and the residents of the South End. [You can read more in the Boston Sun here.](#)



#### South Boston:

- BCYF Curley Community Center – Renovations
- Union Cemetery – Repairs for historic cemeteries
- South Boston Education Complex – repairs and security upgrades
- Condon School – Replace roofs
- Orton Field – Improve playing fields and other amenities at the park
- Flaherty Park – Renovations including play lot, pathways, and passive areas
- Martin’s Park – Creation of new major park near Children’s Museum
- Northern Avenue Bridge – Refurbish and restore existing bridge

#### Downtown & Surrounding Areas:

- Christopher Columbus Park - Address drainage & pavement issues
- A-1 Police Station – Repairs, new roof
- Engine 4 – Roof and masonry repairs
- Boston Common – Study on utility needs (drainage and electric)
- Frog Pond pavilion – Study to evaluate mechanical systems
- Public Garden – Repaid and backfill granite around lagoon

#### Chinatown:

- Neighborhood Slow Streets for Chinatown streets between Kneeland & Marginal Street
- Josiah Quincy Upper School – Security upgrades
- Marginal Road – placed on accelerated repair project

#### South End:

- Peter’s Park – Improvements to pathways and passive areas
- D-4 Police Station – repairs

- South End Library – upgrades and funding pledges. Interior reconfiguration project.
- South End Library Park – Renovate park including pathways and landscape

## **Community Preservation Act**

Projects Approved in District:

Historic Preservation:

- Vilna Shul (Jewish Cultural Center on Beacon Hill) - \$500,000
- South End House - \$46,260
- St. Augustine’s Chapel & Cemetery - \$307,000
- Old Josiah Quincy School - \$71,733
- Otis House Museum - \$43,552

Recreational Use and Open Space

- Martin’s Park - \$500,000
- Spectacle Island - \$48,720
- McDonough Sailing Center - \$78,783

## **Support for Working Families**



I was proud to march with Massachusetts Nurses Association (MNA) President Donna Kelly-Williams and alongside working people recently in solidarity with 1,200 members of USW Local 12003 and 12012 as we continue to stand for social and economic justice. Working men and women of this city and state deserve to be treated with dignity and respect.

With the recent Supreme Court decision in Janus v. AFSCME, it should be clear to all that, now more than ever, we must continue to support the labor movement and stand with working families. National Grid had a 24% increase

in profits this year. It is unconscionable for them to lock out hard-working utility workers and suspend their healthcare benefits.

We once again called for fair wages, affordable healthcare and decent pensions for all of their workers. It is essential to public safety that we ensure a highly-skilled, properly trained and professional workforce deal with these potentially dangerous situations. This is not a job you can contract out to the lowest bidder. It requires professionals like Boston Gas Local 12003 and 12012.



## BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

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June 26, 2018

Ms. Marcy Reed, Massachusetts President  
National Grid USA  
48 Sylvan Road  
Waltham, MA 02451

Dear Ms. Reed:

We, the undersigned members of the Boston City Council, wish to express our concern regarding the current collective bargaining negotiations between National Grid and workers represented by United Steelworkers Locals 12003 and 12012. We believe National Grid has an obligation, as a public utility, to bargain in good faith. We hope that this matter is resolved swiftly, equitably and does not result in any impact on public safety nor loss of utility service for our constituents.

The contract between a public utility and its frontline employees is a matter of great public interest. It is incumbent on all parties, workers and management alike, to approach such contract negotiations with a spirit of fairness and compromise. We are concerned that any delays in the collective bargaining process could result in work stoppages, lock outs and/or other labor related actions that would diminish service in large segments of the Commonwealth and threaten public safety.

The very nature of live gas-line work including: making repairs, fixing leaks, marking out the location of pipes and connections in our neighborhoods and near our schools, hospitals, etc., makes this work particularly sensitive. We need National Grid to ensure that gas work is done by knowledgeable experts with years of experience. The trained workforce traditionally under contract with National Grid is already the best safeguard against potentially catastrophic accidental harm. Any substitute for this experience and professionalism would be irresponsible.

As such, we ask that National Grid and members of Local USW Locals 12003 and 12012 continue to negotiate in good faith to come to an agreement that is equitable and fair to the workforce as well as the consumers of Massachusetts.

As National Grid negotiates with the gas workers of Locals 12003 and 12012, we hope the corporation will keep in mind critical elements of any fair labor contract:

- Protect healthcare benefits for current employees and retirees
- Stop erosion of pay thresholds for new hires
- Make certain that incoming long-term employees are shielded against wage and benefit cuts

We thank you for your attention in this matter. If you would like to further discuss, please contact Councilor Ed Flynn at (617) 635-3203; Ed.Flynn@boston.gov.



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Sincerely,

Michael Flaherty  
Boston City Councilor At-Large

Annissa Essahib George  
Boston City Councilor At-Large

Ayanna Pressley  
Boston City Councilor At-Large

Michelle Wu  
Boston City Councilor At-Large

Lyella Edwards  
Boston City Council  
District 1

Ed Flynn  
Boston City Council  
District 2

Frank Baker  
Boston City Council  
District 3

Andrea Campbell  
Boston City Council  
District 4

Tim McCarthy  
Boston City Council  
District 5

Matt O'Malley  
Boston City Council  
District 6

Kim Lapan  
Boston City Council  
District 7

Josh Zakim  
Boston City Council  
District 8

Mark Ciommo  
Boston City Council  
District 9

Cc:  
Sir Peter Gershon, Chairman  
John Pettigrew, CEO  
Dean Seavers, President, US Operations

In June, I sent a letter on behalf of my fellow City Councilors urging National Grid to approach these negotiations in good faith and the spirit of fairness. Together we will continue to fight for fair and living wages, affordable healthcare, and decent pensions for all workers until we end this lockout.

My father, former Boston Mayor Ray Flynn, recently wrote about the outpouring of support for these workers in the Boston Herald. He called attention to the values of the labor movement and the enormous contributions its made to the middle class and workers in Boston, across the United States and the world. The determination of these working families inspires me just as



the striking shipyard workers Mayor Flynn & I witnessed under oppression in Gdansk, Poland. [You can read more about this rally for the locked out workers in the Boston Herald here.](#)

Councilor Matt O'Malley & I offered a resolution in August support supporting these workers locked out by National Grid. In my speech, I called attention to the significant public safety concerns and how critical it is to put them back to work on our gas lines. You can view my remarks here:



Proud to march recently on several occasions with the men & women of UNITE HERE Local 26. These workers, many of whom are women & immigrants, deserve to be treated with dignity & respect. They work extremely hard in the hotels and restaurants of Boston.



### Across The District

I was proud to join the Massachusetts Fallen Heroes & Dan Magoon to welcome the USS Ramage (DDG 61) and Commander Paul O'Brien to the South Boston Waterfront, as we honored the memory of our fallen men & women. The USS Ramage was commissioned in Boston in 1995. We're proud of the legacy of the City of Boston in welcoming our sailors and the Navy. Thank you to the outstanding commitment of so many in our city, including Mayor Marty Walsh & Commissioner Sterling of Veterans Services, to ensure our returning veterans & military families are treated with dignity, respect & provided access to services they earned. [You can read more at WCVB here.](#)

Thank you to the residents of the Foley Apartments and West 4th Street for inviting me to their annual cookouts and ice cream socials. I enjoyed listening to your concerns about quality of life issues, including pedestrian safety.







Thank you also to the Pine Street Inn for having me over for dinner on Independence Day at the Emergency Shelter.



It was an honor to join my colleagues this summer at the Shaw & 54th MA Regiment Memorial in a reading of Frederick Douglass' powerful speech from July 5, 1852, "What to the American Slave is the Fourth of July?" Thank you to the Museum of African American History - Boston and Nantucket and all who attended.

We had a great soccer weekend over the summer at Moakley Park. Boston's Inaugural Unity Cup brought Boston's diverse communities, cultures and nationalities together around a shared passion for sports. Thanks to Mayor Marty Walsh, New England Revolution, Telemundo and other sponsors.



Enjoyed spending time at St. Monica's Church for the monthly Peace Breakfast for kids and families. Thanks to the Archdiocese of Boston, Boston Police Department, Boston Housing Authority and South Boston community leaders for bringing us all together. Our City works best when we work together!



Thanks to Chinatown Main Street for sponsoring the 15th annual festival. This organization provides exceptional support to the neighborhood. I enjoyed listening and talking with many residents of Chinatown about our parks, open space and services for our seniors.



I joined Boston Harbor Now recently for the launch of their web tool <http://bostonharborwalk.org> regarding public amenities along the waterfront. I am proud of Boston Harbor Now for their work to ensure children have access to the harbor islands & educational programs to expose them to the ocean & sciences.





Kristen and I enjoyed talking with South End residents at Hayes Park recently. We enjoyed the conversation, music and friendship. It was also great to be with the Hayes family at this beautiful park.



It was a beautiful evening talking with residents of the South End and Villa Victoria at O'Day Park for the Tito Puente Latin Music concert. Thanks to Boston Parks and Recreation Department, Boston Police Department and IBA - Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción. Everyone had a great time and I even learned a few steps of dancing.



Thank you to the volunteers of the Chinatown Neighborhood Watch for your outstanding work in the community. And thanks to Boston Police Department for positive relations with the residents, neighborhood organizations & business community. A great visit & enjoyed meeting new friends.



I enjoyed discussing quality of life issues with constituents during our neighborhood office hours at the South End Library. Thank you to everyone that joined me!





Some great baseball over the summer at Moakley Park in Southie. We enjoyed watching the South End vs. Dorchester in the Mayor's Cup baseball tournament. It was also great to see Mayor Marty Walsh, a former youth baseball coach, enjoying the game as well. Thanks to Boston Parks and Recreation Department.



Thank you to the residents of the Saint Botolph St. Apartments Boston Housing Authority for inviting me to talk with residents recently. I enjoyed our discussions and will continue to work with both the BHA & residents on improvements to this beautiful housing development in the Back Bay

I was honored to participate in a Sing Home project, sponsored by Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center - BCNC and the Pao Arts Center. Listening to some of the songs in Chinese (with translated words),



reminded me of traditional Irish music. We have much in common: a love of family, culture and community.



I enjoyed speaking with residents for neighborhood office hours at Cranberry Cafe in Southie. Some of the topics discussed included pedestrian safety, our youth sports programs and services for our seniors. Thank you for stopping by!

It was great to join Southie neighbors in talking with the Boston Police Department about public safety issues throughout the neighborhood. Thanks to BPD for sponsoring coffee with a cop at Broadway's Pastry & Coffee Shop. Thank you also to Commissioner Gross for joining us and for your leadership & partnership with the community.



An informative meeting this summer at the Curley Recreation Center in Southie with MassDOT & DCR regarding the Day Boulevard Targeted Safety Improvement Project. We discussed data from their Road Safety Audit and recommendations while also providing an opportunity for resident feedback.



Outstanding neighborhood outreach this summer at the Condon K-8 School Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) Block Party. Many city departments, neighborhood organizations, working together to provide outreach & services for the residents. Thanks Mayor Marty Walsh, Chief Martinez from Health & Human Services, Boston Housing Authority and the residents of South Boston.



Thank you to IBA - Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción and Vanessa Calderon-Rosado for hosting me at the Tito Puente Music Series in Boston Parks and Recreation Department O'Day Park. This event brings the community together through music & dance. Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción provides so much to the South End & we are so proud of their work!



It was an honor to listen to participants from the Abcd boston leadership program. Many of the participants are enrolled in Boston Public Schools, & they are determined, hardworking & dedicated to our city. Thanks to Council President Campbell for working with these young adults & on this visit







Thank you to the many volunteers & staff at Boston Veterans Services for outstanding outreach recently for Operation Thank A Vet. With great support from the men & women of Boston Police Department, volunteers thanked veterans & military families in Southie & informed them of services and programs they earned.

It was great to see so many friends and neighbors recently at the Moakley Park Vision Plan Open House. Thank you to Boston Parks and Recreation Department for working with the neighborhood. Together we will work towards a sustainable park that all can enjoy including children, the elderly and disabled.



It was an honor to participate in Festival Betances in Villa Victoria this summer to celebrate the outstanding contributions made by the Puerto Rican community in Boston. Thanks to Mayor Marty Walsh, IBA - Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción & Vanessa Caldero-Rosado for outstanding leadership in this neighborhood.





It was great to see so many young athletes participate in the Boston Triathlon this summer at Carson Beach. A great group of athletes all enjoying a beautiful Southie day. Thanks to Governor Charlie Baker, Senator Nick Collins and the MA Dept. of Conservation & Recreation (DCR). The beach and surrounding parks looked great!



I was proud to attend the annual raising of the Puerto Rican Flag at Boston City Hall with Mayor Marty Walsh, City Councilor Michael Flaherty, City Councilor Matt O'Malley, Representative Jeffrey Sánchez, and Representative Liz Malia. It was wonderful to celebrate the Puerto Rican culture and honor the contributions Puerto Ricans have made to the City of Boston and our country. While in the U.S. Navy, I served with members of the Puerto



Rican Army National Guard in Joint Taskforce Guantanamo. I saw the dedication and professionalism many Puerto Rican soldiers brought to their work and was proud to serve with them. I have also been proud to honor Puerto Rican Veterans at events at the Puerto Rican Veterans Memorial with friends like Tony Molina.



I enjoyed celebrating the 28th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and "ADA Day" at City Hall. Thank you to Mayor Marty Walsh, the Boston Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities and the Mass Rehabilitation Commission for your work and advocacy on behalf of persons with disabilities. It's so important for us to remember this milestone, to be mindful of the issues our disabled communities face, and to always renew our commitment to ensuring accessibility and inclusion for all citizens regardless of age or abilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act significantly improved the lives of our disabled community by providing civil rights protections and guaranteeing equal opportunity. It's critical for us to always focus on inclusion and accessibility when it comes to the general welfare of the public, so that all of our citizens are treated with the respect and dignity they deserve.



Thank you to the dedicated staff Boston Parks and Recreation Department and Southie residents for attending a meeting about renovations to John J. Flaherty Park and Playground on B Street. It was an informative discussion & an opportunity for neighbors to provide their vision for the park.



It was an honor to join Boston residents recently, as well as the Friends of the Public Garden & Mayor Marty Walsh, in celebrating the rededication and restoration plans for the MA 54th Regiment Memorial. These Soldiers, one of 1st all black regiments in the US military, served with honor & distinction in the Union Army.





Proud to recently attend the ceremony and beginning of the Run To Home Base with my daughter, Caroline. Thank you to the volunteers, runners, sponsors and the Boston Red Sox for your support of the Home Base, a Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital Program, helping our nation's veterans and military families with access to counseling and services.



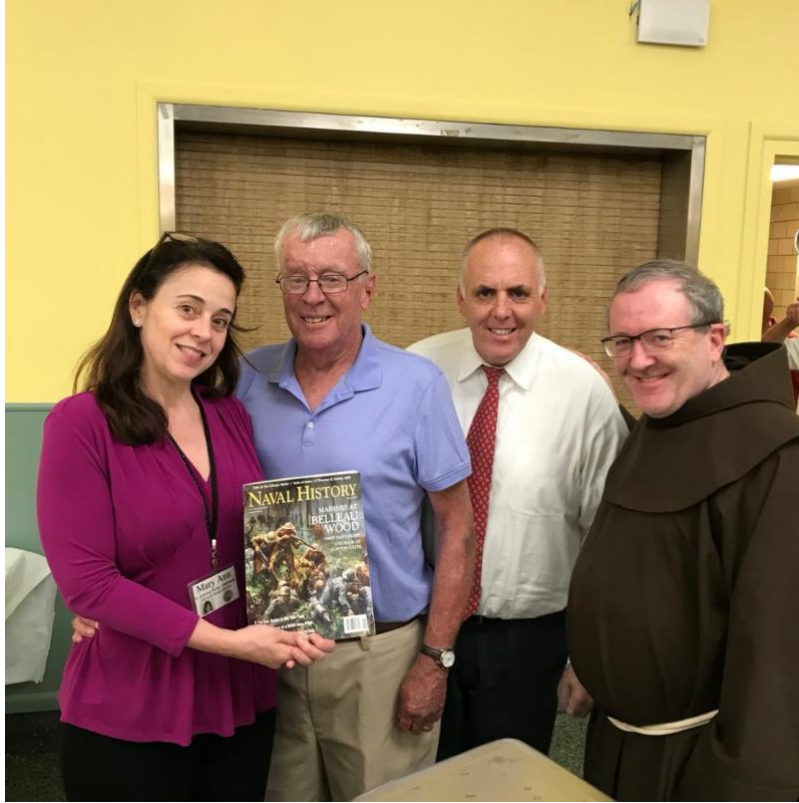
I enjoyed being with residents of the Mary Ellen McCormack Boston Housing Authority recently for the Annual Community Day. Thanks to South Boston En Accion for organizing the event & to BHA Administrator Bill McGonagle for joining us & for your dedication and commitment to all residents of public housing. Glad to also be joined by Boston Police Department, Boston Parks and Recreation Department, Action for Boston Community Development, and South Boston Community Health Center.

Following a recent basketball game between Boston Police Department Officers and youth from Condon Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) & West Broadway Boston Housing Authority, both teams gathered for a cookout

and talked. Thanks to BPD for joining us & working with the residents & youth of our neighborhood.



I was honored to march this year in the Puerto Rican Parade with Boston Police Commissioner William Gross and the Latino Law Enforcement Group of Boston. We were proud to celebrate the outstanding contributions made by Puerto Rican people to our city every day. Thank you to all the City of Boston departments that made the day safe & fun for all.



Great to volunteer recently with US Navy Capt (Ret) Tom Kelley (Medal of Honor recipient), Fr. Tom Conway, Mary Ann Ponti and St. Anthony Shrine for the monthly lunch for the many veterans living at the New England Center and Home for Veterans. Proud of our city and state leaders who work tirelessly for our homeless veterans.

My wife Kristen and I recently took Caroline and Stephen to Blackbird Donuts in the South End for breakfast. We all enjoyed the donuts and Blackbird is a great community spot with excellent food and staff!



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).

