

ED ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FLYNN

Dear Friends,

I hope you are having a great start to the summer! I wanted to send you a quick update on what my office has been working on.

First off – if you wrote or called me about regulation for short-term rentals on platforms like Airbnb in the City of Boston – thank you! This has been a long debate and my staff and I truly appreciate receiving your feedback and comments.

I would also like to thank Mayor Walsh for his leadership on this issue and Councilor Flaherty for his work as Chair of the Committee on Government Operations. The Council has held many productive hearings and working sessions on this topic. I am thankful to my City Council colleagues for their contributions to these important policy discussions.

I will be supporting the Mayor's ordinance on Airbnb and short-term rentals. This proposed ordinance will work to remove investor units in Boston and allow owner-occupants to participate in short-term rental activity. I believe this ordinance will strike a reasonable balance to regulate the industry. It also addresses the needs of the community by allowing for short-term medical stays, or institutional and business stays.

Since last fall, I have issued multiple statements about investor units and their impact on housing, the rental market, and local residents in our district. I have also raised concerns about the negative effects they have on public safety, inspection, and quality of life in our communities, and how these units have created many issues for residents including increased noise late at night, uncollected trash barrels, and parking issues.

I believe regulation of short-term rentals is necessary, just as regulation of ride-sharing was necessary in the past. My office will continue to address concerns around short-term rentals, and I look forward to voting in support of the Mayor's ordinance on Wednesday.



This week, the Council received public testimony from constituents and community groups as we enter the final stages of the City's budget process.

Below is a brief list of some of the priorities I have been working to include in the budget:

- Year-round hokies to keep our streets clean;
- Traffic planning and studies across the District;
- Cleaning up our parks;
- Increasing language access services in our schools and in City government;
- Securing funding for the South End Library and the Curley Recreation Center;
- Ensuring that residents are able to register their feedback and comments on the Moakley Park Vision Plan; and
- Address flooding and climate change in the Fort Point area

You can view the City's proposed FY19 Budget [here](#). If you have any concerns about the budget, feel free to email my office at Ed.Flynn@Boston.Gov.



Recently, the Council held a hearing on the implementation of Community Choice Energy in Boston. I was glad to participate in this hearing chaired by Councilor O'Malley and sponsored by Councilor Wu. Previously, the Council voted to implement Community Choice Energy. The goal of this policy is to give Bostonians the opportunity to control what kind of energy they receive by offering greener options than many local power generators would provide.

I will continue to keep you updated on how the City is implementing Community Choice Energy and meet the goal of a 25% carbon emissions reduction by 2020.



This week, I was also glad to welcome the Disabled American Veterans National Adjutant and CEO Marc Burgess, to meet with Boston City Councilors and the City's Veterans' Services Department. We discussed the issues impacting Boston Veterans and Military Families. Thanks to Mayor Walsh's leadership on Veterans issues, Boston has a strong veteran community. I am proud of the leadership my fellow Veterans in City government like BPDA Director Brian Golden and Veterans Services Commissioner Giselle Sterling exhibit everyday.

I was also proud to honor our Country's Veterans and Military Families during this past Memorial Day weekend. I had the opportunity to visit Medal of Honor Park in South Boston and to join the South Boston Community, Senator Nick Collins, and members of the Thomas J. Fitzgerald Post as we laid a wreath at the South Boston Vietnam Veterans Memorial.



I also had the honor of meeting with Veterans from the Chinatown American Legion Post #328. We shared stories and spoke about the contributions and sacrifices our Chinese and Asian-American Veterans have made throughout our

Country's history.



I was happy to join Mayor Marty Walsh, Congressman Capuano, Suffolk Sheriff Steve Tompkins, Representative Jeffrey Sanchez, Representative Byron Rushing, Representative Cullinane, and Veterans Services Director Giselle Sterling to honor Puerto Rican Veterans at the South End's Puerto Rican Veterans Memorial. I am humbled by all of my fellow Veterans and their families. There are few higher callings than service to our country, and I thank them for their selfless service and sacrifice.



Thank you to the tenants of Tai Tung Village, volunteers from WinnCompanies, and members of Chinatown ACCESS for hosting a community clean up in Chinatown. This great event celebrated Earth Day and raised awareness of the environment in Chinatown. I was very happy to attend this event and proud of all the volunteers who helped organize this great day!



Last week, I joined concerned residents from South Boston en Acción. These local activists work hard for their community and I was proud to join them along with Boston Police Captain Boyle, Senator Nick Collins, and Councilor Frank Baker. We had a very productive discussion about public safety and community policing. Working together, we will address violence and crime in our community. I look forward to our next meeting!



I had a great time at Josiah Quincy School's 171st Anniversary Celebration! This school has a long history in the community and I was proud to celebrate with them. We had a great time speaking with teachers, parents, administrators, and the many friends we have made since our son, Stephen started attending this wonderful school!



I was also happy to attend the Boston Fire Department's annual Ball & Awards Ceremony. We were honored to be with so many members of the Boston Fire Department and local 718. They work hard for our City and events like the this help raise awareness of the health and wellness programs that our firefighters depend on.



Thank you to the Chinatown and South Cove Neighborhood Council for hosting a productive public safety meeting last week. It is very important that we continue to work together to address crime, public safety, and quality of life issues across the district. I am glad I can work with Captain Fong from the Boston Police and the local community to address these issues.



Finally, I'd like to wish everyone a very happy Pride month. I was glad to attend the Pride flag raising at City Hall and to march in the AIDS Walk at Boston Common. I was also honored to sign the memorial wall with so many fellow Bostonians and march with my wife Kristen and many others in the Boston Pride Parade.



Thank you and if I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 635-3203 or at Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov.

