



Boston City Council
ED FLYNN
Councilor - District 2

September 5, 2025

Michael Cox
Commissioner, Boston Police Department
1 Schroeder Plaza
Boston, MA 02120

RE: Pedestrian Safety for the 2025-2026 School Year

Dear Commissioner Cox,

As our youth embark on the 2025-2026 school year, I write to you regarding the need for increased traffic enforcement throughout the city. For years, due to speeding cars, the rise of rideshares unfamiliar with our roads or pulling over in the middle of the street, and the need for traffic-calming infrastructure - pedestrian safety has remained one of the top issues we face in the City of Boston. Over the last couple of years, the issues of our pedestrian safety crisis have become even more complex with the development of third party food delivery via mopeds and e-bikes that consistently flout basic traffic laws. With all of these concerns in mind, it is all the more critical to ensure the safety of our children and families as they go to and from school every day.

Many neighbors, parents with young children, our seniors and persons with disabilities contact me to report speeding cars flying by them while crossing East Broadway at both the M street and N Street intersections on their way to Medal of Honor Park in South Boston. That's only a block or two from South Boston Catholic Academy. There are similar concerns on D Street & West Broadway, which is close to the Condon School.

I have also met with parents from Chinatown and Bay Village regarding how difficult it is to cross Tremont Street & Charles Street South with speeding cars as they take their children to the Josiah Quincy Elementary School, which is two blocks away. In the South End, parents and families are also highlighting the dangerous situation at Ellis Learning Center, with speeding cars on Lawrence Street & Berkeley Street. I recently wrote a letter to Chief Franklin-Hodge requesting the immediate installation of speed humps on Lawrence Street, and I respectfully ask the Boston Police Department to deploy extra enforcement in this area as the school year begins.

We must take proactive rather than reactive steps to ensure our students' safety. While I continue to advocate for a combination of traffic-calming infrastructure and slower speeds in our neighborhoods - I am also respectfully requesting that Boston Police implement increased enforcement to address speeding cars and reckless driving in proximity to our school zones. I look forward to working with you to explore how we can have the safest pedestrian environment possible for our families and children this school year.

Sincerely,

Ed Flynn
Boston City Councilor, District 2