



Boston City Council
ED FLYNN
Councilor - District 2

March 2, 2026

Dear Mayor Wu and Chief Gove,

I'm writing today to respectfully request that the City temporarily suspend concurrent phasing traffic signals in the days and weeks following significant snowstorms and snow removal operations in Boston. Additionally, I ask that the City prioritizes snow removal at intersections with concurrent traffic signals during the interim. Please note city residents highlighted this issue becoming exacerbated with Boston having experienced two significant snowstorms in a short period of time.

As you know, I recently met with Cassandra Xavier of Boston, an educator, civil rights leader, and strong advocate for persons with disabilities. We discussed issues related to accessibility for visually impaired neighbors. She reported that it's extremely difficult to cross the street at this time, with significant snowbanks reaching almost a story tall, and intersections with concurrent phasing traffic signals. It is difficult to see past a snowbank for anyone, and even more so for some of our neighbors and persons with disabilities.

Following a significant snowstorm, it becomes even more difficult for residents to look past large piles of snow or snowbanks before crossing the street. However, this is especially concerning at intersections with concurrent phasing traffic signals, as pedestrians crossing the street have their field of vision blocked by a large snowbank while a motor vehicle is allowed to turn.

At a time of increased speeding with cars, distracted driving and walking, rideshares, and mopeds and e-bikes for food delivery - safety concerns on concurrent phasing traffic signals become exacerbated by the presence of large snowbanks on street corners. In light of these issues and in the interest of pedestrian safety, I am respectfully requesting that, in the days and weeks following significant snow removal operations, the City of Boston temporarily replace concurrent pedestrian phasing traffic signals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Flynn".

Ed Flynn
Boston City Councilor, District 2