



# BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

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November 4, 2024

Mr. Alex Geourntas  
City Clerk, City of Boston  
One City Hall Square, Room 601 Boston, MA 02201

RE: Concerns Regarding Council President's Conduct in Meetings

Dear Mr. Geourntas,

We are writing to formally express our concerns regarding the conduct of the current Council President during our City Council meetings. As you are aware, our operations are governed by the Boston City Charter, the rules of the Boston City Council, and Robert's Rules of Order. It is imperative that we uphold these guidelines to ensure fair and orderly proceedings.

The Council President frequently engages in commentary following the remarks of certain councilors, particularly myself and Councilor Flynn, which undermines the impartiality expected of the presiding officer. This behavior raises concerns about adherence to our established rules, specifically regarding the expectation that the Council President must step down from the dais to express personal opinions that are not procedural in nature.

Several colleagues and members of the public have noted this behavior and expressed their discomfort with the perceived bias. It is essential that all councilors feel respected and treated equally, without fear of being undermined or receiving negative commentary from the presiding officer. The role of the Council President is to facilitate discussions, not to take sides or add personal critiques to the proceedings.

We urge you to consider these concerns seriously, as they affect the integrity of our council and the public's perception of our work. It is our hope that we can foster a more collaborative environment where all voices are heard and respected, adhering strictly to the rules that govern our conduct.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your support in ensuring that our council meetings are conducted fairly and respectfully.

Sincerely,

Erin J. Murphy  
Boston City Councilor  
At Large

Edward M. Flynn  
Boston City Councilor  
District 2