



Boston City Council
Erin J. Murphy
Councilor At-Large



Boston City Council
ED FLYNN
Councilor - District 2

March 26, 2025

Dear Commissioner Eneida Tavares,

We hope this letter finds you well. As Boston City Councilors dedicated to upholding the integrity of our city's electoral process, we are writing to request detailed information regarding the recent state receivership of the Boston Elections Commission.

Following significant issues during the 2024 elections—including widespread ballot shortages and communication failures—we have sought clarity on the measures being implemented to address these challenges. Despite filing a hearing order to discuss these matters, we recognize that the Elections Department may not be willing to appear before the Council at this time. Therefore, we are seeking written responses to the following inquiries to ensure these concerns are addressed on the public record:

1. **Clarification of the Receivership:**

Please provide details regarding the scope, authority, and duration of the receiver's role in overseeing the Boston Elections Commission.

2. **Identified Deficiencies and Required Reforms:**

We request a comprehensive overview of the issues that led to the ballot shortages and communication failures, and the specific corrective actions mandated by your office.

3. **Implementation Plan:**

Kindly share information on the timeline, resources, and strategies for implementing the required reforms to ensure compliance with state election laws and to prevent future operational issues.

4. **Impact on Upcoming Elections:**

Please assess how the receivership and planned reforms will affect the administration of elections in 2025 and beyond, including measures to safeguard against similar problems.

5. **Public Communication and Transparency:**

What strategies are in place for keeping the public informed about these changes, ensuring transparency in the process, and rebuilding trust in the city's electoral system?

6. **Financial Implications:**

We seek an overview of the costs incurred by the city in addressing the identified deficiencies, including any expenditures related to hiring external auditors or consultants to assist in rectifying the issues.

Your prompt attention to these matters is crucial for us to fulfill our duties as City Councilors and to restore public confidence in Boston's electoral system. We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to your detailed response.

Sincerely,

Erin Murphy
Boston City Councilor, At-Large

Ed Flynn
District 2 City Councilor