



Boston City Council
ED FLYNN
Councilor - District 2

April 7, 2025

Mayor Michelle Wu
1 City Hall Square, Suite 500,
Boston, MA 02201

David Leonard, President
Boston Public Library
700 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116

Dear Mayor Wu and President Leonard,

As the FY26 Budget Process begins shortly, I am writing to advocate and ensure that there are sufficient funds allocated for the South End Branch of the Boston Public Library in FY26.

As you know, in April 2022, a flood in the South End Branch of the BPL destroyed all the mechanical infrastructure in the basement and shuttered the branch. In 2023, a second flood at the location further damaged the building. As a result of the floods, the South End has been without a library for three years now, and I have heard directly from many South End residents, community leaders, families and seniors who have expressed the urgent need for the construction of a new library.

Over the last year, while the South End Library has been on an accelerated process to be rebuilt - with the design phase of the library expected to be finalized this June - I would like to highlight the critical importance of having sufficient funds for the construction of the library in this year's FY26 Capital Budget, so that we do not further delay the timeline of this project. Residents are eager to see the re-opening of the library and access its services soon.

Our neighborhood branch libraries are welcoming places and they are a treasured resource and well-loved by the community. I hope there will be sufficient allocation of funds in the FY26 Capital Budget for the construction phase so that we can all see the completion of the South End Library as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Ed Flynn
Boston City Council Councilor,
District 2