



ENRIQUE PEPÉN
BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR DISTRICT 5

Mayor Michelle Wu
City Hall, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mayor Wu and Chief Franklin-Hodge,

This week's tragic death of a five-year-old child struck by a school bus in Hyde Park has devastated our community. As the District 5 City Councilor, I am grieving alongside this child's family and neighbors, and I know I speak for all of Boston when I say: this is a loss that should never have happened.

We cannot continue to wait for change.

This heartbreaking incident underscores the urgent and overdue need to prioritize pedestrian safety—especially for our children. I am calling on the City to act with the seriousness and urgency as this moment demands it. That means immediate investment in safe street infrastructure across my district, including traffic-calming measures like speed humps, raised crosswalks, and protected intersections in school zones and residential areas.

I am also calling on the Boston Police Department to immediately expand outreach and recruitment efforts to fill the remaining vacancies in the City's school crossing guard program. We must ensure that every crosswalk, especially those near our schools, are staffed and protected. No parent should fear for their children's life while walking to or from school.

This is a devastating moment not just for District 5, but for the entire City of Boston. We must respond with action, not just words. The safety of our children cannot wait.

I stand ready to work with your offices, our city departments, and our residents to make our streets safer and prevent tragedies like this from happening again.

Sincerely,

Enrique Pepén
Boston City Councilor, District 5

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