

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ED FLYNN



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS PEDESTRIAN CROSSING SIGNALS, TRAFFIC CALMING, AND VISION ZERO

WHEREAS: Pedestrian safety is a critical component of public safety and overall quality of life for our residents, and the City of Boston is committed to pedestrian safety as part of Vision Zero - the goal of having zero traffic fatalities; *and*

WHEREAS: As our city becomes more developed and densely populated, our neighborhoods have more vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and many areas of our streetscape need improvement and change in order to ensure that our pedestrians are safe in our community; *and*

WHEREAS: Last week two pedestrians were struck by a van in Fort Point, and one of them tragically passed away due to her injuries; *and*

WHEREAS: Residents throughout the city have called attention to pedestrian signals that allow for crossing the street at the same time that vehicles have a signal to turn at an intersection; *and*

WHEREAS: Crashes that occur in Boston remind us of the work that must be done to realize Vision Zero, and the measures needed to address pedestrian and traffic safety not just in the Downtown and Fort Point areas, but also in neighborhoods across the city where traffic has grown over the years; *and*

WHEREAS: While lowering the speed limit and the Slow Streets initiative are great measures to ensure pedestrian safety, we should also look at changes to our built environment and measures such as speed humps, raised crosswalks, rapid flash beacons, changing all traffic lights to red when pedestrian crossing signal is activated, and other safety improvements; *and*

THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss ways to improve pedestrian safety in our city. Representatives from the Boston Transportation Department and other relevant and interested parties shall be invited to testify.