



Constituents, supporters & friends,

It's been an exciting fall, and we look forward to highlighting a few updates for you.

We're experimenting with newsletter formats in an attempt to more frequently communicate the

diversity and richness of our work serving the communities of the 15th Suffolk/Norfolk district. We've heard from many of you regarding constituent services, ranging from jobs to safe streets to housing. In recent months, your legislative advocacy calls and emails have informed us of your thoughts on a range of diverse and important issues, including the **ROE Act, The Safe Communities Act, ending life sentences without parole, granting drivers' licenses to residents regardless of immigration status, a roadmap to green energy, election day registration, and animal protection!** Thank you for your advocacy. It's important to us and to democracy!

In each newsletter, we will briefly highlight a few happenings, some historic (e.g., Student Opportunity Act) and others more everyday and typical. If you'd like us to highlight something in an upcoming letter, just shoot us a note. Enjoy!



Rep Nika was excited to be one of six Representatives to give their inaugural speech on the House floor in support of *The Student Opportunity Act*. You can watch [here](#), starting at 34:40 in Formal House Session Part Two.

📍 Neighborhood Spotlight! : *Mission Hill*

Rep Nika enjoyed a small business tour with Mission Hill Main Streets Executive Director **Ellen Walker** and Board Member **Dermot Doyne**. It's a welcoming, thriving, and growing business district with great food! Business owners confirmed Rep Nika's decision to make small business resources and development one of her top three district priorities in 2020.





One of our most diverse housing developments, **Mission Park**'s signature skills include throwing fun events! Rep Nika enjoyed their first ever **Diwali celebration** and the **Senior Celtics Fitness Day**. Indian treats and exercise with our seniors and with Lucky of the Celtics Dunk Team-- What more could a Rep ask for?!



It was great to see people from across the district and a van from RTH, Mission

Park, at the **Black and Latino Caucus Community Listening Session** at **Roxbury Community College**!



Congratulations to the **Tremont Street** businesses that had their ribbon cuttings on October 29th, along with the **Richard Rouse** (former Mission Hill Main Streets Director) bench dedication!

Be sure to check out *In the Cut* and *Boba Me* next time you're in the area!

Our office is excited for our second “**Walk-n-Roll**” event which will be a Disability Ride in Mission Hill happening today. This event was planned in partnership with the **Back of the Hill Apartments** at 100 South Huntington Street and its goals include promoting transit justice and resident engagement within our elder and disability community. Members of the elder and disability community, as well as elected officials and their staff, will walk, roll, and ride public transit, watching for areas where safety or usability should be improved.

State House Spotlight!

We've really enjoyed having our district's schools and young people visit us. We always teach them about their **constitutional rights to representation and equitable education**.



You may have [read about](#) three new legislators who were not allowed to speak while attempting to be heard on the House floor on October 16th. After speaking with many members of House leadership, Rep Nika feels encouraged, but says we have a long way to go. We are hoping to see clear and demonstrable shifts in House culture, and there are already some small signs of that.

!Thank You's!



Rep Nika was so grateful to the Boston Branch of the **National Association for the Advancement of Colored People** for naming her **The Roy Wilkins Next Generation Leadership Honoree**. She says, *"It's an honor, and with help from you and strong advocates like President Tanisha Sullivan, I hope to live up to the award's name."*

Thank you to the **Boston Cyclists Union** for the **Golden Cog Award**. Rep Nika says, *"It's such an honor, especially because I still need so much help becoming a better cyclist and advocate. BCU and their partners always have my back on that."*



Announcements!

District-related events community members asked us to highlight

Office Hours

We hold Office Hours monthly. Next month, they will be held this Saturday, December 14th from 10 AM to 12 PM in **Mission Hill**. Look for an announcement on our Facebook page.

Community Climate Workshop on November 21st at 1 PM!

At a workshop coordinated by **Communities Responding to Extreme Weather**, Rep Elugardo will help lead a discussion titled “Are you ready for climate change?” that will explore climate resiliency specific to Boston and Brookline. **A special thanks to Brookline Rep Tommy Vitolo** for coaching Rep Nika’s prep on the topic of climate resiliency. [See flyer for details.](#)

Arborway Road Safety Audit (RSA) Meeting

DCR is hosting a meeting in our district on Thursday, November 21st to go over the Arborway RSA at the Huvo’s Auditorium on the 3rd Floor of the Faulkner Hospital (1153 Centre St, Jamaica Plain).

Citizenship Classes at the Boston Public Library to prepare students for all parts of the Citizenship interview:

- Register: At the front desk of participating branches - Classes are free, Book charge \$25
- For more information: call 617-288-8515

If you’d like to learn more about our work in the building, in Committees and Caucuses, or in the district, please reach out to us.

You can reach the office at **617-777-2582**, or isabel.torres@mahouse.gov!

Follow us on social media!



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