



*The Bummer City Historical Society's Civic Engagement Coalition presents...*

# ★ VOTING GUIDE ★

## FOR THE BOSTON MUNICIPAL ELECTION, 2017



The following is an informal guide to help Boston voters who do not feel confident about who to support at the polls this Tuesday.

We, The Bummer City Civic Engagement Coalition (BC.CEC), composed an ideal platform against which we scrutinized each candidate running for City Council in the city of Boston. Based on our research and deliberation, we are prepared to endorse candidates in each of the races. [\*Note that several district City Councilors are running unopposed so our list excludes those districts.\*]

That said, we encourage all voters to put pressure on these candidates to take stronger stances on the issues that matter most to you. None of these candidates have fully backed all of the core elements of our platform so we intend to follow up these endorsements, and our votes, with consistent engagement to press our representatives to do better for the city of Boston.

We hope you do too.

— The BC.CEC Team

## Summary:

**District 1** — Lydia Edwards

**District 2** — Mike Kelley

**District 7** — Kim Janey

**District 8** — Kristen Mobilia

**District 9** — Brandon Bowser

**At-Large** — Michelle Wu & Ayanna Pressley



## ★ *District City Councilors...*

### City Council, **District 1:**

We strongly endorse **Lydia Edwards** for District 1 City Councilor. We feel her experience as a public interest attorney and involvement with the Massachusetts Coalition for Domestic Workers makes her a candidate well-versed in community support, while her interest in improved tenant advocacy and neighborhood involvement in housing development projects further prove her commitment to public interests. She stands for quality public schools and wants to provide vocational training opportunities for students—which is great—but we would like to know more about her plan for improving education in her district.

### City Council, **District 2:**

We prefer **Mike Kelley** for District 2 City Councilor as he has good, innovative ideas on how to improve transportation and education in Downtown Boston, Southie, and the South End. However, he does not have concrete plans for increasing affordable housing, though he says it is an important issue. We cannot offer a strong endorsement as Kelley's ideas are sometimes vague, but he is nonetheless our preference over Ed Flynn.

### City Council, **District 7:**

We strongly endorse **Kim Janey** for District 7 City Councilor because of her commitment to affordable housing. We applaud her support for the Jim Brooks Stabilization Act that would prohibit no-fault eviction and grant protection to foreclosed homeowners and renters. We also support her efforts for universal pre-kindergarten services and a \$15 minimum wage.

## ★ *At-Large City Councilors...*

While district councilors are elected by the voters in geographically defined districts throughout the city, the at-large councilors are elected by all city voters and thus represent the entire city.

At the polls you can vote for four at-large councilors, however our team only felt strongly about two of the eight candidates running.

### City Council, **District 8:**

We strongly endorse **Kristen Mobilia** for District 8 City Councilor. We welcome Mobilia's support for the Safe Communities Act and praise her interest in expanding vocational and technical education. Mobilia's intention to forge new partnerships between our schools and local companies for internship programs is exciting and is an example of the sort of approach we need to take in order to diversify the educational experiences available to our students. She wants to increase affordable housing by creating mixed income homes for individuals and families as well as opportunities for rent-to-own and co-op housing. She wants to support transportation by updating information surveys, creating safe passage for bikes and exploring parking solutions since safe biking reduces parking availability. All of this is in keeping with the spirit of our platform.

### City Council, **District 9:**

We strongly endorse **Brandon Bowser** for District 9 City Councilor. Bowser is an outspoken defender of the arts community in Allston-Brighton and recognizes the ways that housing affordability, a development plan and process that is responsive to the needs of community members, opportunities for homeownership, improved transportation infrastructure, properly funded schools with properly supported students and teachers, and support for our artists all constitute critical parts of one single project—to make the city of Boston work better for its residents.

We strongly endorse **Michelle Wu** who has used her position as president of Boston City Council to advocate for workforce housing, arts education, transportation equity and expansion of transportation options, and transparency on Boston Public Schools' budget. Wu led on the Healthcare Equity ordinance that prohibits discrimination based on gender identity. We are confident Wu can carry her progressive vision forward for Boston.

We strongly endorse **Ayanna Pressley** whose advocacy for marginalized populations is evident in her record as City Councilor. A supporter of affordable rent and homeownership opportunities, artist spaces, better cycling infrastructure, and Boston Public Schools, Pressley has fought for a more equitable Boston.