



**For Immediate Release
June 17, 2021**

**Media Contact: Kelley Chunn
Lee4citycouncil@gmail.com
(cell) 617/388-7148
<https://leonardlee4citycouncil.com>**

\$400 Million Federal Dollars To Go for Pandemic Relief in Boston How Do Boston Residents Get Their Fair Share?

(Boston, MA) The City of Boston is set to receive more than \$400 million dollars as part of President Joe Biden's American Rescue Plan. Leonard Lee, candidate for the District Four City Council seat, asks, "How will the city spend these federal stimulus dollars? The \$400 million averages out to some \$45 million per district. The people who live in the districts need to have a say in how the dollars are spent. Who's talking about how to ensure that those hardest hit by the pandemic receive help?"

Lee is urging current City Councilors to hold public forums to hear what city residents have to say about how the funds can best be allocated. Lee says, "We all know that the pandemic laid bare a host of economic, educational and health disparities which must be addressed. As the Commonwealth's state of emergency is lifted, going back to normal is not an option – especially for the underserved in our city. We need to create a new normal. The federal Covid-19 pandemic relief money can help."

Lee plans to convene a community wide forum so residents can mobilize and discuss how to best allocate the federal funds for all constituents in the City of Boston.

For example, Lee points to a series of initiatives in need of financing including more affordable housing, mental health services and shelter for people suffering homelessness and drug addiction and more support for local entrepreneurs. Another option calls for equal distribution of funds throughout the city council districts to ensure that each district has an opportunity to meet its individual needs.

-More-



About Leonard Lee

Throughout his 30 year career, Lee has been passionate about serving his community in the public, private and non-profit sectors. He worked as Director of the Division of Violence & Injury Prevention for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. There, Lee managed on a variety of community health issues including Suicide Prevention, Youth Violence Prevention, Sexual Assault, partner violence, Safe Spaces for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and/or questioning, intersex, asexual and/or allied (LGBTQIA+), Older Adult Falls Prevention, Sports and Recreation Injury Prevention.

Lee also served as former Deputy Commissioner of Public Health for the state of Connecticut, Executive Director of the ABCD Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center, Odwin Learning Center, and Executive Director of the Roxbury YMCA.

He currently serves as Manager of the Melnea Cass Recreation Complex and Curator for the Roxbury Heritage State Park. He is also Commissioner on the City of Boston Parks Commission, the City of Boston Human Rights Commission and many other community boards. He has received a number of national, city and state community awards and citations. Lee is a graduate of Johnson & Wales University and studied business management at Boston University. A native Bostonian who grew up in the Franklin Field housing development in Dorchester, Lee is also a former foster parent and has raised three children of his own.

-End-

The Committee to Elect Leonard Lee

11 Mather Street, Dorchester 02124

Phone: 617-203-2050

Leadership ★ Commitment ★ Experience



LEONARD LEE
BOSTON CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

