

September 17: Letters To the Editor

Tuesday, September 17, 2013

Climate fix for all

In a post-debate column for the Herald, Ray Flynn says the mayoral candidates should talk more about the concerns of the poor, elderly and jobless (“Focus needed on poor, elderly ... and jobs,” Sept. 10). The former Boston mayor didn’t specify how. But it is the poor and elderly who will be most severely hurt by climate change. Extreme heat and air pollution are dangerous to the elderly in particular, and the poor will be deeply affected as well.

As for jobs, a recent study by Regional Economic Models Inc. indicates that, if Massachusetts were to institute a carbon tax and simultaneously lower income tax, corporate tax and sales tax, the economy would grow and many new jobs would be created while our emissions would drop. A revenue-neutral carbon tax, for both the state and the nation, is one way to begin to address the issues raised by the former mayor.

— Judy Weiss, Brookline

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