



The City of  
**Medford**  
Massachusetts

02155

September 2, 2022

### Message from the Mayor



Hello everyone!

School is back in session and summer is coming to an end. It's been an eventful season here at City Hall. We've held a number of amazing events, including the City's first ever Pride celebration. Now as we look to the fall, we're gearing up for another big first for Medford—the Run Medford 5K and 8K Road Race, organized by Dave McGillivray on Sunday, September 18th at 1pm.

As you can see from the items below, there is no slowing down on our progress. A few highlights of the work we've been doing:

- I signed plans to bring Freedom Way under the control of the City and designate it as a public way. With so many public spaces on the route, we've made this a priority in our multi-tiered approach to tackling the backlog of road repairs outlined in our assessment.
- We're adding three new Bluebike stations to the community, expanding on our green infrastructure plans and working to reduce the public's reliance on fossil fuels.
- We secured over \$1 million in funding to expand and increase our resiliency networks through the state's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program.

While there's a lot to be happy about, we're also closely monitoring the Orange Line and Green Line shutdowns that the MBTA announced earlier this month. We're about two weeks in and although things are going about as smooth as we could've hoped for, we haven't reached Labor Day yet and traffic could certainly see a boost. Visit [medfordma.org/orange-line](https://medfordma.org/orange-line) for info and tips on how to make your commute more manageable.

If you have any questions, comments or want to learn of ways you can get involved, please email me at [mayor@medford-ma.gov](mailto:mayor@medford-ma.gov).

I hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer!

*Bruce Kol*

## Recent News

**Medford Outlines Pavement Plan  
for Freedom Way**



## Orange Line Shutdown Information

The Orange Line began its full closure on August 19, and is scheduled to last for 30 days. The Green Line closed from Government Center to Union Sq earlier in August as well, and has the same month long timeframe.

Free shuttle buses replaced Orange line and Green line service during the duration of the shut down. Shuttles are available at Green line T stops between Government Center and Union Square stations, and Orange line T stops between Oak Grove and Government Center, and Forest Hills to Copley stations.

The West Medford Commuter Rail station is free to riders who show their CharlieCard or CharlieTicket to conductors. This applies to all commuter rides in Zones 1a, 1 and 2.

Riders who require wheelchair accessible vehicles will be able to request a ride through a T employee on site at each T stop location, the MBTA has said. There are 20 buses with wheelchair accessibility, in addition to the shuttle buses, to assist commuters during the shutdown.

Free 30-day Bluebikes passes are available during the closures for unlimited trips up to 45 minutes. Sign up starting Friday, August 19, through the Bluebikes app, or go to [bluebikes.com/join](https://bluebikes.com/join) and select "Monthly Membership."

More info is available at:  
<https://medfordma.org/orange-line/>  
<https://www.mbta.com/projects/building-better-t-2022>

## Charlie Card Info

The City received a few hundred refillable Charlie Cards courtesy of the

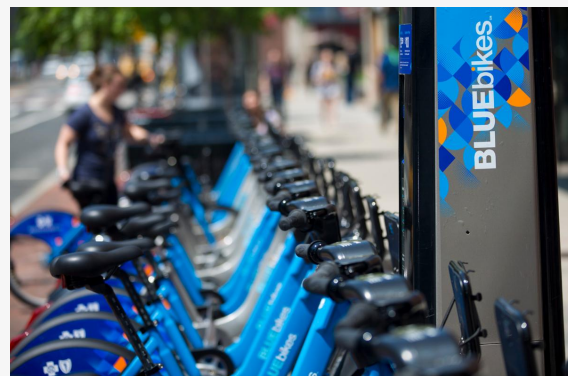


Freedom Way, a high trafficked private way that residents travel daily on to access the Andrews Middle School, McGlynn Elementary and Middle School, Hormel Stadium and LoConte Rink, was officially accepted as a public way at the request of Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn at the City Council's July meeting.

With this new designation, the City can now begin its plan to repair, repave and ultimately rebuild this route which has been the cause of much frustration and angst for residents for years. The Engineering Department, working with the Department of Public Works, will begin the process of milling the road and adding a new top layer of asphalt this fall.

[More info](#)

## Medford to Add Three New Bluebike Stations



The City is adding new Bluebike docking stations to three high density locations through a regional metro planning grant, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced. Medford currently has one docking location at the MBTA Wellington Station that was installed through a partnership with the City of Everett.

Bluebikes operate through a 'docking'

MBTA and are distributing them to the public at the following locations:

- Council on Aging
- Medford Public Library
- West Medford Community Center
- City Hall (Mayor's Office)

People can add value to these cards at MBTA T stations and bus stations. But a nice perk of the Charlie Card during the Orange Line shutdown is that riders can simply show the card to conductors to ride the commuter rail in zones 1A, 1 and 2 at no charge. Find a map of zones [here](#). And for more info on Charlie Cards, click [here](#).

## Medford Partners with Textile Recycling Company Helpsy to Pick Up Unused Clothing

**Recycle Your Clothes For FREE  
with Helpsy Home Pickup Service**



**SIGN UP**

Go to [helpsy.co/medfordma](https://helpsy.co/medfordma) to easily sign up for your free home pickup



**BAG UP**

Clean out your closet and bag your unwanted clothing\*



**PICK UP**

Place your labeled bags by your front door before 7 AM on your scheduled day

You will get a confirmation email and a reminder on the day of pickup.

\* We accept clothing, accessories, shoes, linens, blankets, quilts, table linens, stuffed animals, curtains, and more!

To learn more please visit [helpsy.co/medfordma](https://helpsy.co/medfordma)

The City of Medford has partnered with Helpsy, a textile recycling company, to offer a free and easy home pickup clothing recycling service for the community, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced.

As the largest clothing collector in the Northeast, Helpsy partners with municipalities and organizations across 11 states to collect unwanted clothing and other textiles in order to keep clothes out of landfills. In 2021, the company diverted nearly 30 million pounds of textiles from landfills through a combination of clothing drives, home pickups, thrift store partners and clothing receptacles.

Read more [here](#).

## City Partners with Garbage to Garden to Offer Compost Collection Service to Income-qualified Residents at a Reduced Rate

system, meaning the bikes must be taken from and returned to a designated station. Riders can pay per ride or by securing a monthly or annual membership. Medford joins other Boston area communities such as Arlington, Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Newton, Revere, Salem, Somerville, and Watertown.

[Read more here.](#)

## Medford's Solid Waste Task Force Releases Survey to Gauge Community Needs and Priorities

The City's Solid Waste Task Force, a nine-member group consisting of local officials, community advocates and concerned residents has released resident focused and business-owner focused surveys to solicit input, gather data and ultimately learn more about the waste removal needs and priorities ahead of the City negotiating a new vendor contract next year.

The Solid Waste Taskforce and the City will use the information gathered from the surveys to shape the direction of the City's next waste hauling contract—understanding the priorities of residents while balancing the costs of disposal. Following the close of the survey, the City will convene a public meeting to get more feedback from our community.

[Resident survey](#)  
[Business survey](#)

The survey is also available in multiple languages:

- [Español](#)
- [Português](#)
- [Kreyòl Ayisyen](#)
- [عربي](#)

More info [here](#).

## Reminders and Updates on Parking Appeals Process

The City's newly formed Parking Department has been fully operational for several months and has been issuing tickets, accepting payments and educating the public on the policies and procedures. Now, as the public is getting acclimated to this new parking system, the City is providing a reminder on the



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Read more [here](#).

## Help Us Water Our Young Trees!



Tree Warden Aggie Tuden, our TreesMedford volunteer group and Mayor Lungo-Koehn invite residents and business owners to help support our young City trees by watering them through the current drought and high heat conditions, and possibly until the drought is expected to subside in the fall.

Contractors who planted new Medford trees in Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 have been filling the green irrigation bags (gator bag shown) several times in the last two weeks. Our City Forestry, Parks and Highway departments have also assisted with watering and removing outdated tree stakes, guy wires and gator bags, when staffing and time allow. Still, the drought conditions across 90% of Massachusetts, including Medford, have persisted for over four months, leaving our young trees, especially those beyond contractor warranty, 2-3 years old now, at high risk.

appeals process and information on when an appeal is successfully granted.

When a violation is issued, regarded as the first notice, you have 21 days to appeal the decision. The easiest, fastest and most efficient way to appeal, is to do so online at [medfordma.org/parking](https://medfordma.org/parking). If you cannot access the internet and must mail your appeal to the department, include your violation along with a letter outlining why the ticket was issued erroneously.

[Read more here.](#)

## We Want Your Feedback on How to Spend COVID-19 Federal Stimulus Funding

The City has published community input surveys to engage and solicit feedback from the public on where to invest federal COVID-19 response funding as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced.

Medford is receiving over \$48 million in ARPA funds, distributed in installments until 2025, and after allocating a percentage to existing fiscal needs such as revenue replacement (over \$19 million), some of the over \$20 million remaining will be invested directly into community projects, programs and initiatives.

The surveys are available in 5 languages.

- [Medford ARPA Survey](#)
- [Encuesta de Medford sobre ARPA](#)
- [Sondaj ARPA Medford](#)
- [Pesquisa ARPA de Medford](#)
- [استبيان خطة الإنقاذ الأمريكية في ميدفورد](#)

[Read more.](#)

## Reminder: Plan Ahead for Fall Street Sweeping!

We're still a few months away from the "Big Sweep" fall street sweeping, but it's never too early to plan ahead!

As a reminder, the "Big Sweep" is conducted on all side streets twice each year - once in the spring and once in the fall. Usually beginning in mid-November

If there's a young tree in your area that you could water once a week for the next few weeks, you could literally save a young tree that we might otherwise lose!

Find a map of tree locations [here](#).

and continuing for approximately 3 weeks, the Medford DPW will conduct street sweeping on all secondary roads in the city. During scheduled street sweeping, street parking is restricted on the day your street is assigned to be swept. Plan ahead by making sure you're signed up for city alerts at [www.medfordma.org/alerts](http://www.medfordma.org/alerts),

## Superhero Summer Ice Cream Social at Tufts Pool

The Superhero Ice Cream Social was a HUGE success on August 7th thanks to Medford Recreation and Colleen's Ice Cream Shop.

You couldn't have picked a better day for ice cream and a visit to Tufts Pool!



See more City news at [www.medfordma.org/news](http://www.medfordma.org/news)

## Fond Farewells



John and Pattie Costas have given so much to Medford from volunteering at all of our vaccine clinics to serving on our Welcoming Committee and so much more. Now as they enter retirement, we



After two decades of service to the people of Medford, our City Solicitor Kim Scanlon is moving on to a new opportunity.



thought it was fitting that the City gave something back.

I was tremendously proud to present John and Pattie a key to the City. I've never given one out but if there's anyone who is deserving of this recognition, it's them.

Kim began her career in Medford as an intern for the Board of Health, moved over to the Law office and eventually was chosen to lead the department.

Congratulations Kim on your impressive career and service to the community!



## So Long Assistant Library Director Kathleen Kane

After 21 years of serving the public, Assistant Library Director Kathleen Kane is officially calling it a career.

I stopped by her retirement party and thanked her for all the tremendous work she has done for the community. The Medford Public Library will not be the same without her.

She has very big shoes to fill but I know Samantha Sednek, who heads up the Children's section, is up to the job and will be a fantastic Assistant Director! Congratulations Kathleen and enjoy your retirement!

### STAY INFORMED!



[www.medfordma.org/alerts](http://www.medfordma.org/alerts)

## Sign up for City Alerts!

Want to stay up-to-date with all the latest news, events and info from the City?

Sign up to receive alerts through our reverse 911 system. You can receive notifications by phone, text or email, or all three!

Visit [medfordma.org/alerts](http://medfordma.org/alerts) for more info!

## Planning + Sustainability

### Medford Secures Over \$1 million in MVP Grant Funding

The City has received over \$1 million in funding in Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grants that will go toward resiliency networks and communication resources in the community.

The Board of Health secured \$417,000 to advance racial and health equity through expanding and strengthening a network of community resiliency hubs. “We will use this grant to continue building and expanding our climate resilience and emergency preparedness operations,” said Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn. “This funding helps us advance climate and economic justice in Medford through effectively engaging residents with broad cultural and language backgrounds.”

In addition to the regional grant, the City also secured an individual MVP grant to further flood and heat resilience projects.

“An earlier MVP-funded regional vulnerability assessment we participated in showed that losing electricity and cell phone service are disproportionately hard on our low-income residents and workers,” said Alicia Hunt, Director of Energy and Environment. “This \$671,000 grant will help us install solar panels and battery storage at the Andrews School Emergency Shelter.”

Read more  
here

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## Real time view of City's Solar projects

The City of Medford has committed to the goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050. This means that our infrastructure must rely on other low-emission energy systems. Solar energy will play an important role in meeting this target, and Medford has already started to invest in solar systems for our public buildings. These systems additionally benefit the City by providing electricity at a lower rate, creating savings on our energy bills.

If you're interested in exploring more of Medford's renewable energy infrastructure you can learn about our wind turbine [here](#).

### Medford Police Station



The new Medford Police Station opened in December 2020. On its roof is a 60 kW solar system, fully owned by the city, which helps power the station. The building itself is highly energy-efficient and uses half the energy that it would consume if it was built to only meet the current energy code. The station uses zero fossil fuels for its heating, cooling, and ventilation systems, and instead, relies on heat pumps and a highly efficient energy recovery ventilation system.

The public view of the solar is can be [accessed here](#).

### Charlotte & William Bloomberg Medford Public Library



The new [Medford Public Library Building](#) opened in January 2022. The Library has 217 kW of solar, owned by the city, on the roof. The building is all-electric and with its on-site solar power, the Medford Public Library is the first net-zero public library in Massachusetts. Its energy-efficient and net-zero design qualified for LEED silver certification. More information about the sustainability features of the building design are on the [architect's website](#).

You can view the [public solar](#)

## COVID-19 News + Updates

### Rapid Tests Available for Residents

In need of a COVID-19 Rapid Test? The City has secured kits and is distributing them to the public at the following locations:

- City Hall, Room 303 (85 George P. Hassett Drive)
- Council on Aging (101 Riverside Avenue)
- Medford Housing Authority (99 Riverside Avenue)
- Medford Public Library (111 High Street)
- West Medford Community Center (111 Arlington Street)
- Medford Farmer's Market (2501 Mystic Valley Parkway)

Each kit consists of two tests and there's a limit of two kits per person. If you need help acquiring a kit, please call our multilingual resource line at 781-475-5644.

## Upcoming Events + Meetings

All events and meetings are listed on the City's online events calendar at [www.medfordma.org/city-events](http://www.medfordma.org/city-events). Meetings are added frequently, so please check the calendar for updates.

### EVENTS/HOLIDAYS

#### September 5th

- Labor Day (City Hall closed)

#### September 6th

- Primary Election Day (Click [here](#) for polling information)

#### September 7th

- **7:00 - 8:00pm:** Solid Waste Task Force Zoom info session (register [here](#))

#### September 8th

- **3:00 - 7:00pm:** Medford Farmer's Market (Condon Shell)
- **7:00 - 8:00pm:** Solid Waste Task Force in person meet and greet (Medford Public Library)

#### September 18th

- **1:00pm:** Run Medford Event (5K, 3K, Kids races. More info [here](#).)

### MEETINGS

#### September 8th

- **6:00pm:** Community Development Board Meeting
- **6:00pm:** Historic District Commission Meeting

#### September 12th:

- **6:00pm:** Community Meeting -- Mystic Avenue Redevelopment (278-326 Mystic Avenue)
- **6:30pm:** Energy and Environment Committee Meeting
- **7:00pm:** Historic Commission Meeting

#### September 13th

- **1:00pm:** Liquor License Meeting
- **7:00pm:** Oak Grove Cemetery Meeting

#### September 14th

- **5:00pm:** Virtual Community Meeting -- Mystic Avenue Redevelopment (278-326 Mystic Avenue)



**September 20th**

- **6:00pm:** Parks Commission Meeting

**September 21st**

- **6:00pm:** Elections Commission Meeting

**September 22nd**

- **9:30pm:** Medford Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

**September 28th**

- **7:00pm:** Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting

**September 29th**

- **7:30pm:** Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

## Job Opportunities

The City of Medford currently has several open job opportunities, and we encourage residents of all backgrounds to apply! Open positions, job descriptions, and materials are available at [www.medfordma.org/departments/personnel/jobs/](http://www.medfordma.org/departments/personnel/jobs/). The webpage is updated regularly, but current opportunities include:

**Full-Time Positions:**

- Assistant Assessor
- Chief Assessor
- COVID-19 Communications Specialist (Mayor's Office)
- Elections Manager
- Facilities Director (DPW)
- MVPHC Prevention Coordinator (Board of Health)
- City Solicitor (Law Department)
- Assistant Finance Director/Budget Manager
- Healthy Equity Coordinator (Board of Health)
- Parking Control Specialist
- Building Commissioner

**Part-Time Positions:**

- Circulation Assistant Youth Services (Library)
- Social Worker (Council on Aging)
- Zamboni Driver/Rink Supervisor (DPW)
- Inspectional Services Project Manager (Board of Health)

**Other/Ongoing Positions:**

- Firefighters
- Female Detention Attendant/Police Matron (Police Department)
- Police Officers
- Traffic Supervisors

To apply, visit [www.medfordma.org/departments/personnel/jobs/](http://www.medfordma.org/departments/personnel/jobs/), or contact the City's Office of Human Resources at 781-393-2406.

*Medford city services are available to all residents, regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, age, language ability, economic situation, or immigration status.*

