



The City of

Medford

Massachusetts

02155

February 24, 2023

Message from the Mayor



Hello Medford!

Spring is on the horizon but we still have some winter weather to deal with. February was a busy month with lots of events, projects and news happening in the City.

We've been celebrating Black History Month with several events throughout the City for everyone. We've also selected an architect for the new Fire Headquarters, launched a Job Readiness Program, and released our Comprehensive Plan!

As you can see from the items below, we've been working on a lot and have a ton in the pipeline for the spring. Here are a few highlights:

- The Galante Architecture Studio, Inc. has been selected to envision the new Medford Fire Headquarters. This project has been in the works for a while, so we're excited to finally see it realized.
- The City has adopted the final version of the Comprehensive Plan, which is intended to guide the long-range vision of Medford for the next 30 years and details a 10-year action plan in seven key development areas.
- Medford is also awarding ARPA funding to nonprofits that serve our community in the areas of food insecurity, housing, and social services - areas informed by our ARPA survey from the fall. Applications open March 9, with an information session on March 8.

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

I hope you have a great rest of the month!

Bruce E. Kohl

Recent News

Medford Selects Architecture Firm to Design Fire Station Headquarters

Medford to Award ARPA Funding to Nonprofits Aiding in Pandemic Recovery



The City has selected the architectural design firm The Galante Architecture Studio, Inc. (TGAS) to design and envision the potential new Medford Fire Department Headquarters, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced. The selection of an architect comes as multiple other improvement projects for Medford's fire stations are funded, finished and/or in progress, including the hiring of an Operations Project Manager (OPM) who assisted in the hiring process.

"Our fire department was not being well served with many of its current facilities including an antiquated and inefficient headquarters," said Mayor Lungo-Koehn. "For the past three years, I've been working with my team, led by the City's Chief of Staff Nina Nazarian, to bring our fire stations up to current standards and develop a plan to create a state-of-the-art headquarters that meets our public safety and emergency response needs."

[Read more here.](#)

Medford Offering Discounted Rain Barrels for 2023 Season



The City of Medford is again offering residents access to discounted rain barrels through vendor partner, The Great American Rain Barrel (TGARB) for

The City of Medford is launching its ARPA subrecipient grant award program for eligible nonprofits that serve the Medford community, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced. By utilizing a portion of its remaining federal funds, the City will award one-time grants to nonprofits that were affected by the pandemic as well as servicing people and opportunities in recovering from COVID-19 related hardships.

"We're investing a percentage of our ARPA funding to assist area nonprofits as they navigate programming and recovery operations from the pandemic," Mayor Lungo-Koehn said. "This funding opportunity will make a direct impact on the lives of our most vulnerable community members and work toward addressing the needs identified in our community survey."

[Learn more here.](#)

Medford Releases Final Version of Comprehensive Plan



The City of Medford has released and adopted [the final version](#) of the Comprehensive Plan, a document that will guide Medford and help create a long-range vision for development and policy over the course of a decade, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced.

For roughly the past 18 months, City staff and external stakeholders worked collaboratively to form the foundation of the document with the input and guidance of community members. The plan engages seven core areas of development for Medford over the next 30 years, and includes a 10-year action plan.

[Learn more about the plan here.](#)

Medford Launches Job

2023, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced. The barrels are being offered at \$84 for unpainted and \$89 for painted/colors. Orders must be submitted by April 30th at midnight and picked up at the distribution event on May 10th from 5pm-7pm at Medford High School.

“It’s no secret that our weather patterns are changing, and the spring and summer months are getting increasingly hotter and drier leading to water scarcity in many parts of the state,” Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn said. “With this rain barrel program, our community can conserve water usage, mitigate flooding events and help protect our waterways from pollution. I’m thrilled we’re able to provide this cost-saving program again this year.”

[Read more here.](#)

Readiness Program for People in Recovery

The City of Medford is launching its first Job Readiness Program (JRP) for job seekers in the early stages of substance use recovery, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced. The program is run by the City Health Department’s Office of Prevention and Outreach, in collaboration with the Bridge Recovery Center and Mass Hire.

The program is a two-day training, taking place on March 31st at the Bridge Recovery Center and April 7 at the Mass Hire Metro North Career Center. The program begins at 9am on both days, with transportation and lunch provided for attendees.

[Learn more here.](#)

Medford Residents Have Recycled 730 Pounds of Unwanted Clothing in January



Through its partnership with Helpsy, a textile recycling company, the city has been able to help residents recycle 730 pounds of unwanted clothing in January.

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.

As part of its environmental mission,

Medford Chamber of Commerce Looking for Citizen of the Year Nominations



DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 24th

The Medford Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations for their Citizen of the Year (COTY) award. Nominations must be submitted via the Chamber website, www.medfordchamberma.com. A nominee should be someone who distinguished themselves through sustained volunteerism, and/or whose dedication is substantially beyond the normal performance of one’s job description with an emphasis on community involvement and/or whose contribution is to the betterment of the City of Medford or to the welfare of the citizens of Medford. A person may only submit one entry. Members of the clergy, elected government officials and Officers and Directors of the Chamber of Commerce are not eligible. The former COTY winners meet and review the

Helpsy now requires a three bag minimum for pickups. The company is optimizing routes in order to use resources as wisely as possible and reduce environmental impact.

Read more about the Helpsy program [here](#).

submissions to determine who has provided outstanding service to the Medford community. The winning candidate is announced at the Chamber's Annual Banquet and Meeting on April 27, 2023, at Hilton Boston/Woburn in Woburn. Nominations must be submitted by February 24th.

[Read more here.](#)

Giving Back to the Bread of Life Soup Kitchen

Rolled up my sleeves and lent my limited culinary experience to Rev. Wendy, Rev. Tom and the team of volunteers at Sanctuary UCC and Hillside Community Church to help prep a pre-Valentine's Day meal for the Bread of Life Soup Kitchen.

This group meets every even numbered month (Feb, April, June, etc.) on the second Wednesday to prepare a meal and every second Thursday to serve it. If you're interested in helping out, please reach out to Rev. Wendy at wendy@sanctuaryucc.org



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**CHARLOTTE & WILLIAM BLOOMBERG
MEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Check out the **Medford Public Library's Newsletter!** The letter contains information on

Citywide Spring Cleanup



Mayor Breanna Lungo-KoeHN is holding another a citywide spring cleanup initiative on **Saturday, April 15th** - 10am 1 pm (rain date on Sunday, 4/16 also 10am-1pm).

This year's goal:

Pick up trash and debris that's accumulated!

How will the areas for the cleanup be chosen?

Through volunteer ambassadors. Each clean up area will have someone who has graciously volunteered their time to be the point person to a specific area of their choosing. Like last year, each ambassador will pass out supplies, be a liaison to DPW and will be giving suggestions to fellow volunteers on areas that need trash and debris removal.

If you're interested in this year, please email icolaianni@medford-ma.gov by Tuesday, February 28.

Fire Promotions

Earlier this month, we promoted three of Medford's bravest to leadership roles at the Fire Department. Congratulations to Lieutenant Samuel McLain, Captain Michael Halloran, and Deputy Chief Frank Giliberti III! I know you will continue to serve our community with integrity, respect and dedication.



Celebrating Black History Month in Medford

West Medford Community Center's Words and Music event was the perfect way to kick off Black History Month! Thank you



to all who joined us, including the talented Katani Summer (pictured below), with Mark Copeland on the keys. If you missed the event, you can still [watch it here](#).

There were a bunch of wonderful events all through this month, with more coming next week. I had a wonderful time at the Black History Celebration at the High School on February 17 and the Black Entrepreneurs Showcase & Sale hosted by the West Medford Community Center on February 18.

Don't forget that there are more Black History Month events in Medford this weekend! On Saturday, February 25 from 1pm to 3:30pm is An Ode to Belinda Sutton at the Royall House and Slave Quarters (15 George Street). Then, on Sunday, February 26 from 3pm to 5pm is the Interfaith Community Black History Month event. Hope to see you there!



Skating at LoConte Rink

Spent part of my Tuesday morning at open skate at LoConte Rink talking with neighbors and enjoying some time on the ice. Always a great time with kids and families here and I'm thrilled to see so many people utilizing this great resource in our community!

Check out the [Recreation Calendar here](#) for more fun activities.



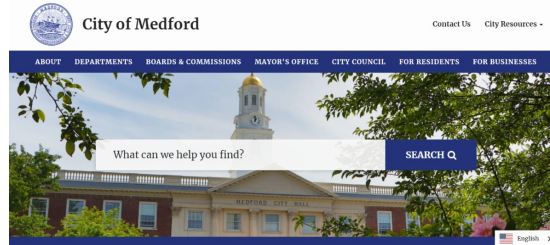
Turkey Earthquake Relief

Freerange Market in Medford has taken a leading role in the Greater Boston area's efforts to help those affected by the deadly earthquake in Turkey and Syria earlier this month. Donation are still needed, if you have the ability. Donations are shipped to Freerange Market (325 Rivers Edge Dr., Medford, MA 02155), sorted, re-boxed, re-labelled and sent to the earthquake zone via air and sea cargo by over 250 volunteers.

- [Amazon donation list](#)
- [Direct donations](#)

Our New Website is Live!

Check out our new City of Medford website, if you haven't had the chance already. The site can be found at the same link as before - medfordma.org. We also have a feedback form set up, so after you take a look, let us know what you think so we can work to improve it! [Take the survey here.](#)



Upcoming Events + Meetings

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

EVENTS/HOLIDAYS

February 25

- An Ode to Belinda Sutton
 - 1pm-3:30pm
- Royall House and Slave Quarters (15 George Street)

February 26

- Interfaith Community Black History Month Event
 - 3pm-5pm
- Shiloh Baptist Church (1 Holten Street)

March 1

- First Day of Women's History Month

March 12

- Daylight Saving Time Begins

March 17

- St. Patrick's Day

March 20

- First Day of Spring

MEETINGS

February 27

- **6:00pm:** School Committee Meeting

February 28

- **9:30am:** Retirement Board Meeting
- **11:00am:** Accelerating Climate Resilience Webinar: Resilience Hubs
- **6:00pm:** Committee of the Whole Meeting
- **7:00pm:** City Council Meeting

March 2

- **6:30pm:** Charter Study Commission Meeting

March 6

- **6:00pm:** School Committee Meeting
- **6:30pm:** Energy and Environment Committee Meeting

March 8

- **8:30am:** Commissioners on Trust Fund Meeting
- **6:00pm:** Medford Special Education Parent Advisory Council Meeting
- **6:00pm:** ARPA Subrecipient Information Session

March 9

- **6:00pm:** Historic District Commission Meeting

March 13

- **7:00pm:** Historical Commission Meeting

March 14

- **5:00pm:** Traffic Commission Meeting
- **7:00pm:** City Council 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 medfordma.org/jobs. The webpage is updated regularly, but current opportunities include:

Full-Time Positions:

- Director, Economic Development
- Chief Assessor
- City Solicitor (Law Department)
- Assistant City Solicitor (Law Department)
- Parking Control Specialist
- Staff Planner, Housing (Planning, Development, Sustainability Department)
- Information Technology Director
- Community Preservation Act Manager
- Benefits Administrator

Part-Time Positions:

- Home Maintenance Handyperson (Council on Aging)
- Van Driver (5 hours/week)

Other/Ongoing Positions:

- Traffic Supervisors

To apply, visit 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.

