



The City of

Medford

Massachusetts

02155

July 2, 2023

Message from the Mayor



Happy Summer Medford!

As June comes to a close, we're excited to share that the City Council has approved the FY24 Budget. Thank you to everyone that has worked so diligently to deliver the proposed budget to the Council at the earliest date in over 20 years.

Below are a few of our June highlights:

- As mentioned above, our FY24 Budget was passed by the City Council earlier this month. The City's operating amount totals \$179,607,106 and the Water Sewer Enterprise Budget Fund totals \$27,365,580.75. Read more in the 'Recent News' section below about the administration and Council leadership's compromise that addresses shared goals.
- We also named a new Poet Laureate, Vijaya Sundaram, who will take over the position from July 1, 2023 until July 2025. We will be hosting an installation ceremony in early August to pass the torch from our first Poet Laureate, Terry E. Carter.
- The City has also updated the Capital Improvement Plan to help guide long term development, infrastructure, and open space investments for the next six years. The administration worked with our Finance Department and other City departments to develop long-term needs and priorities under the CIP.

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

Thanks for reading!

Celebrating Pride in Medford!

We joined as one community to raise the Pride Flag and officially kickoff Pride Month in Medford!

This flag is a symbol of love, tolerance and acceptance. It lifts up voices, breaks barriers

and displays unity.

Thank you to the Pride Planning Committee, our Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Frances Nwajei and our community partners for organizing this wonderful event and many others throughout the month.

Thank you to our guest speakers, Jaclyn Torres of the Pride Planning Committee, Congresswoman Katherine Clark, the Medford High School Gay/Straight Alliance, Rev. Bruce Taylor from UUU Medford, Rabbi Jessica Dell'Era of Temple Shalom, Medford Police Chief Jack Buckley, our Poet Laureate Terry E. Carter and Rev. Wendy Miller Olipade of Sanctuary UCC!



The City continued more Pride celebrations throughout the month, including the Pride Festival on June 25. There was live music, drag performances, multiple vendors, and a DJ - fun for all ages!

In addition to our Pride Planning Committee, thank you to Boston Proud, For Pizza, and our Office of Prevention and Outreach for all the support in making this festival possible!



Honoring Juneteenth

In honor of Juneteenth, we raised the flag along with many members of the West Medford Community Center, including our Poet Laureate Terry E. Carter.

This is such a special holiday that signifies the end of Slavery in the United States and the continued journey to equality and justice.

Thank you to all who came to share in this meaningful celebration!



Medford's First-Ever Porchfest

Medford held its first-ever Porchfest multi-cultural celebration earlier this month and it was a huge success all around the City!

Thank you to all the organizers, volunteers and musicians who made today happen, I can't wait for next year.

Special shout out to my neighborhood where we had great music and food the whole afternoon!



Graduation Celebrations

We were able to celebrate so many accomplished Medford Public Schools graduates this year!

Congrats to the Medford High School Class of 2023, the Andrews and McGlynn Middle School eighth graders and the Roberts, Missituk, Brooks, and McGlynn fifth graders.



Best of luck in your next chapters - we are all so proud!



Gun Violence Awareness Day

June is National Gun Violence Awareness month and to help spread the word on this cause, I joined with the Medford chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America to advocate for increased gun safety measures and called for an end to gun violence.

We wear orange to stand in solidarity with those affected by gun violence and demand that their voices, experiences, and needs are recognized.

Thank you to Meghan Dowd Murray and Erin Dowd for leading this charge at the local level and to Alexis Smith for sharing her story.

To learn how you can help end gun violence visit momsdemandaction.org



Recent News

Medford Prevention and Outreach Manager Wins 2023 Community Champion Award



Medford's Office of Prevention and Outreach Manager, Penelope Funaiole, was awarded the Children's Trust Family

City of Medford Names Next Poet Laureate



The City of Medford, in partnership with the Medford Arts Council has named its next Poet Laureate, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced. Vijaya

Support Network 2023 Community Champion Award. The award was presented to Funaiole during the organization's annual Celebration Day on June 15 at a ceremony via Zoom.

The award recognizes Funaiole for her work as a family support professional, specifically her work with the Medford Family Network (MFN). She was nominated for the award by the MFN for her initiatives and vision to help strengthen the organization and its programming.

Read more [here](#).

Medford Seeks Applicants for Charter Study Committee

City Looks to Fill Three Open Positions

Applications are open for three available positions on the City's Charter Study Committee, Mayor Breanna Lungo-KoeHN announced.

The Committee has been comprehensively studying the City's current charter, gathering input from the community, and upon concluding their findings, will propose recommendations for a new charter.

Learn more [here](#).

City Council Approves FY24 Budget



The City Council has approved the FY24 budget, with the City's operating amount totaling \$179,607,106 and the Water Sewer Enterprise Budget Fund totaling \$28,965,580.75, at its June 20th meeting.

Sundaram will take over the position from the inaugural Poet Laureate Terry E. Carter, whose two-year term ends on July 1.

"I am beyond thrilled to have Vijaya as our next Poet Laureate," Mayor Breanna Lungo-KoeHN said. "Her unique voice coupled with her vision for the future of the arts in Medford made her an ideal choice to build upon the tremendous foundation that Terry Carter started."

Learn more [here](#).

Medford Releases Updated Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan Extending to 2028



The City of Medford has updated its Capital Improvement Plan to help guide long term development, infrastructure, and open space investments for the next six years, Mayor Breanna Lungo-KoeHN announced.

With guidance from Director of Municipal Services Sarah Concannon at the Collins Center for Public Management at UMass Boston, the administration worked with the finance team to craft a capital investment strategy based on financial forecasts and projected revenue resources. Once that was completed, departments were then tasked with developing long-term needs and priorities that could be sustained under the CIP.

Read more [here](#).

Medford Expanding its Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure with Three Additional Locations

The City has secured a \$100,000 state grant to expand its electric vehicle charging infrastructure, Mayor Breanna Lungo-KoeHN announced. With this

To help strengthen the City's budget process in the future, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn contacted each councilor and engaged with several Councilors prior to the vote on the 20th to determine essential needs and prioritize policies that will enable a more collaborative and constructive process for future years.

Learn more [here](#).

Mayor Lungo-Koehn Administration Reallocates Additional Funding for Schools, Library and Zoning in FY24 Budget

Over \$400,000 in funding has been reallocated by the administration to fulfill core needs as highlighted by the City Council during budget hearings for the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced.

The money, leveraged from a surplus of funding available in the Highway Department, will be invested across the School Department, Library and Legislative budgets and will be used to address key needs that were a priority of department heads, the City Council and Mayor.

Read more [here](#).

funding, the City will be breaking ground on three new EV charging stations—the West Medford Municipal Lot, Yale Street Municipal Lot and the Brooks Elementary School. The City is also in the process of breaking ground on a station at Tufts Park. The anticipated completion for the four funded stations is later this fall.

These stations will expand the total number of EV charging stations to 10, spread across several neighborhoods and transportation hubs throughout Medford.

Read more [here](#).

Medford Residents Have Recycled 1,191 Pounds of Unwanted Clothing in May

Through its partnership with Helpsy, a textile recycling company, the city has been able to help residents recycle 1,191 pounds of unwanted clothing in May.

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, 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.

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

More June Events

It wouldn't be spring without plenty of events, so here are just a few that happened throughout the City this month!

It was a fun afternoon strolling Medford Square for Circle the Square thanks to all the planning by CACHE in Medford.

Smiling faces and wagging tails were at every

turn!



This year's West Medford Open Studios was an amazing showcase of many of our local artists. The afternoon included poetry, music, food, local vendors and more!

An absolute beautiful day for the Cardboard Canoe Race hosted by Medford Recreation at Wright's Pond.

Such an awesome time watching all the boats that students made race across the pond!

The summer season at Wright's Pond officially kicked off on June 20 so be sure to pick up your passes [here](#).



A fun day for all the kids at Dugger Park playing basketball with former Boston Celtics player Shelden Williams, former WNBA and current pro Masseny Kaba, and Sam Newman-Beck of the Oklahoma City Thunder during the Hoops for Hope Event.

This amazing event never disappoints and I'm so happy to see so many smiling faces shooting hopes with the pros!

Thank you to all who organized the day for our youth.

Another wonderful morning to join

WalkMedford in the last Bike to School day for the year.

We are all excited for the Clippership Connector work to start, which will be an amazing addition to the route we took this day.

New update: The state has secured a contractor!



Stopped by the Medford Family Network's Teddy Bear Picnic with my favorite stuffy Sully.

Such an amazing turnout this year with about 280 families signing up! Marie Cassidy, Director of the MFN, and her team do incredible work organizing and supporting Medford families through events just like this. Thank you to Deloitte for volunteering and donating!

Officially cut the ribbon to start the season for the Medford Farmer's Market.

Every Thursday from 3pm to 7pm at the Condon Shell until October 12, local vendors specializing in food, beverages, sweets and other items will be here for all to enjoy!



Celebrate the Fourth of July in Medford!

The Royall House and Slave Quarters invites community members to gather on the lawn in front of the historic Slave Quarters building (15 George St., Medford) to read and/or listen to Douglass's "What, To The Slave, is the Fourth of July?" to honor the long history of Black activism, critique, and abolition on July 4th from 12pm-4pm.

This in-person program on the museum grounds is free and open to all. [Register here](#) to receive program updates.

The program will begin with a brief libation ceremony to honor the people who were enslaved on the plantation. Scholar/activist David Harris and members of the Mystic Valley Area NAACP will launch the reading, then invite interested community members to read sections of the speech. A poetry reading by Terry E. Carter, Medford's Poet Laureate Emeritus, will close out the program.

After the event, community members are invited to an informal open house inside the Royall House and the Slave Quarters. Light refreshments will be provided.

Looking Ahead to August



Save the Date: the Medford Police Department's National Night Out is August 1 from 5pm-8pm at Hormel Stadium!

There will be kids activities including face painting, touch-a-truck, obstacle courses, K9 Demos, the popular "Dunk the Chief" dunk tank & more. The event will also have 20+ vendors and FREE food from local vendors.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Run Medford is Back!

This year's Run Medford events are on September 22 & 23 with events for everyone, so get your sneakers ready! The Kids' Fun Runs are on Friday, September 22 at 5pm and registration is \$5.

For more information and to register, visit runmedford.com.



Sign Up for Alerts

Sign up for City Alerts!

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 for more info!

STAY INFORMED!



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www.medfordma.org/alerts



[Sign up here](#) to receive Go Green Medford's periodic newsletter with updates on programs, events, and other news from the Office of Planning, Development, and Sustainability!

CHARLOTTE & WILLIAM BLOOMBERG MEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Check out the **Medford Public Library's Newsletter!** The letter contains information on events, library hours, and more! The newsletter is available to view online and to sign up for here: medfordlibrary.org/newsletter/

Upcoming Events + Meetings

All events and meetings are listed on the City's [online events calendar](#). Meetings and event details are added frequently, so please check the calendar for updates.

EVENTS/HOLIDAYS

- **July 4:** Independence Day - City Hall Closed
- **July 4:** Reading Frederick Douglass Together at the Royall House and Slave Quarters
- **August 1:** National Night Out
- **September 22-23:** Run Medford

MEETINGS

July 3

- **6:30pm:** Energy & Environment Committee Meeting

July 5

- **5:00pm:** Hormel Stadium Commission Meeting
- **7:00pm:** Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting

July 6

- **3:00pm:** Medford Farmer's Market
- **6:30pm:** Charter Study Committee Meeting

July 10

- **6:00pm:** School Committee Meeting
- **7:00pm:** Historical Commission Meeting

July 11

- **4:30pm:** Water and Sewer Commission Meeting
- **7:00pm:** City Council Meeting

July 12

- **6:00pm:** Committee of the Whole Meeting
- **6:00pm:** Special Education Parent Advisory 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
- Economic Development Planner
- City Solicitor
- Assistant City Solicitor
- Parking Control Specialist
- Staff Planner (Climate Policy)
- Emergency Telecommunications Dispatcher
- Assistant Transportation Engineer
- Head Clerk (Planning, Development, and Sustainability)
- Circulation Assistant (Adult and Youth Services)
- Head of Reference Services
- MEO III Motor Equipment Repairperson
- Parking Clerk

Other/Ongoing Positions:

- Traffic Supervisors

To apply, visit medfordma.org/for-residents/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.

