



The City of

Medford

Massachusetts

02155

September 5, 2023

Message from the Mayor



Hello Medford!

It's hard to believe that this summer is coming to a close, but we've been busy with events like our Poet Laureate Installation, the Morrison Park Playground ribbon cutting, National Night Out, and so much more. I had a great time meeting with some of you at my most recent mobile office hours this month, and look forward to the next one (details below)! We've also been busy preparing for Run Medford, and securing important grant funding for departments like the DPW and Council on Aging.

Here are a few of our August highlights:

- Medford was awarded over \$100,000 in MVP Action Grant funding from the Massachusetts EOEEA to help us strengthen and protect our tree canopy against climate change. The funding will allow us to conduct a resiliency assessment so we can understand potential vulnerabilities.
- Our Council on Aging has also secured over \$45,000 in Enhance Digital Literacy for Older Adults grant funding to provide technology classes to senior residents. The funding will be used to purchase and upgrade technology needed for these classes, which will be free of charge and offered in up to five languages.
- Finally, our Charter Study Committee has launched a public survey so you can help shape our local government! The Committee wants to hear from people who live and work in Medford about the city charter through the survey [here](#).

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

Enjoy the last days of summer!

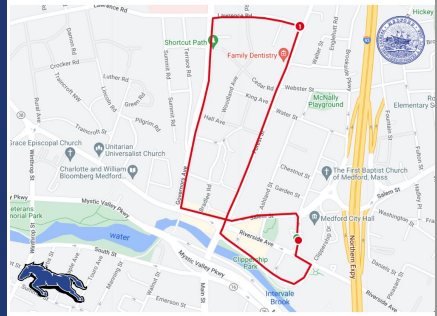
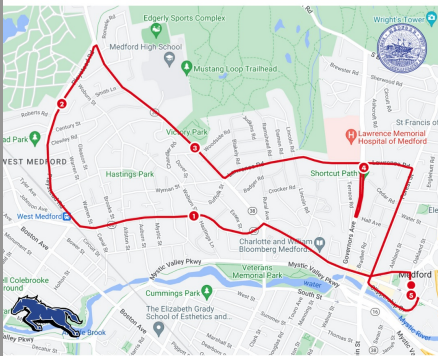
Run Medford - Less Than a Month Away!

Run Medford, Medford's biggest race day, is already less than a month away!

- Friday, Sept. 22 at Hormel Stadium - Kids Fun fun, High School Mile, Mayor's Celebrity/VIP Mile

- Saturday, Sept. 23 at Medford Square - 5 mile road race and 2 mile walk. Check out the maps of these events below and be aware, streets within the race maps will be CLOSED for a few hours during the event so please plan accordingly!

For more information and to register visit runmedford.com.



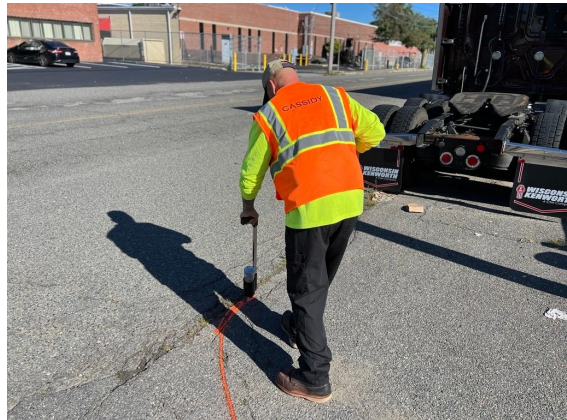
We had such a great turnout earlier this month for the 5k Run Medford Practice Run hosted by The Ford Tavern!

If you didn't make this one, there's one left:

- September 11 at 6pm



Street Patchwork Getting Underway



As we head into the fall, that means construction season is here and our Engineering team is getting ready to tackle a bunch of streets in need of patchwork per our pavement and sidewalk assessment.

First up will be Commercial Street, where crews were out marking areas and sewer drains for replacement. Check out the full list of streets slated for patchwork this fall [here](#).

Mobile Office Hours

Thanks to everyone that stopped by to chat at my mobile office hours and to Colleen's Ice Cream for hosting us!

I'm holding my next mobile office hours on

September 14 at C.B. Scoops from 3pm-4pm!

Come down to enjoy some ice cream, ask questions, and let us know your concerns.

Can't make it but want to stay in touch?

Visit medfordma.org/alerts to sign up to receive important city alerts.

MOBILE OFFICE HOURS
with Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn

Get the scoop... Office Hours...

ICE CREAM EDITION: TAKE II
Discuss your ideas, get your questions answered, or just say hello!

WHEN: Thursday, September 14th
3:00pm - 4:00pm

WHERE: C.B. Scoops
453 High Street

Follow @MayorLungoKoehn on Facebook & Instagram for updates!



Overdose Awareness Day

In honor of International Overdose Awareness Day today, the Office of Prevention and Outreach has placed purple flags on City Hall's front lawn – one flag for each Medford community member's life lost to overdose.

The flags will be up all weekend, so please take a moment to remember, take action, and help end overdose.

#IOAD2023 #EndOverdose



Welcoming Our New Poet Laureate

This month we officially installed our newest Poet Laureate, Vijaya Sundaram!

Vijaya will serve a two-year term and build on the incredible work of our inaugural Poet Laureate Terry E. Carter. She brings a unique perspective to her poetry and is committed to expanding access to the arts and literature throughout the community.

Join me in congratulating Vijaya!



Morrison Park Playground Ribbon Cutting

After a few delays for the rain, we officially cut the ribbon on the newly renovated Morrison Park Playground this month!

The new park features new rubber surfacing, a sandbox, fishnet climber, balance balls, and other preschool-aged play elements. Porous rubber surfacing was also used to protect the roots of the large pine oak tree at the park, allowing stormwater to seep through and flexibility as the roots grow.

Thank you to our Office of Planning, Development, and Sustainability and Procurement for their hard work planning and getting CDBG funding to get another park project completed!



Recent News

Medford Secures Over \$45K in Grant Funding to Enhance Digital Literacy Among Seniors

The City of Medford's Council on Aging (COA) has secured over \$45,000 in Enhance Digital Literacy for Older Adults grant funding, announced Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn. The funding from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA), is for upgrading and purchasing technology that will be used for free technology classes for senior residents.

The Enhancing Digital Literacy program is designed to help Senior Centers better navigate essential digital tools like smartphones, personal computers, and web-based applications. The grant will enhance the Medford COA's ability to fulfill their mission and serve the community.

Read more [here](#).

Medford Charter Study Committee Launches Public Survey

The Medford Charter Study Committee has opened its Charter Study Survey to the public to gather opinions about revisions and updates to the City's decades old Charter. Responses will be accepted now through December 1,

Despite Summer Coming to an End, Potential Health Risks from Mosquitos Still Exist

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) announced today one human case of West Nile virus (WNV) in Middlesex County and one human case in Worcester County.

Although serious illness caused by WNV is uncommon, there have been 228 cases of WNV in Massachusetts between 2001 and 2022. There were eight human cases of WNV in 2022, ten human cases in 2021, and eleven human cases of WNV in 2020. There have been no other human WNV cases identified in Massachusetts this year.

Learn more [here](#).

Medford Secures Over \$100K in Grant Funding to Help Strengthen its Tree Canopy's Climate Resiliency

The City's Department of Public Works has secured over \$100,000 in Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Action Grant funding from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) to research strategies to strengthen the resiliency of its urban forestry network,

2023.

The Committee wants to hear from people who live and work in Medford about the city charter through the [survey here](#). The survey covers topics such as term lengths, term limits, at-large versus ward representation, and more.

Learn more [here](#).

Medford to Dedicate Track at Hormel Stadium to Local Marathon Legend Dave McGillivray



The City will be dedicating the track at Hormel Stadium to Medford native and long-time Boston Marathon Race Director Dave McGillivray, founder of the Dave McGillivray Finish Strong Foundation and host of Run Medford, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced. The dedication will take place on Friday, September 22 at 4:30pm, during the first night of Run Medford.

McGillivray graduated from Medford High School in 1972 as class valedictorian. In 1978, he ran from Medford, OR, to Medford, MA, in support of the Jimmy Fund, an organization whose community-based fundraising events directly benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. He then opened up Dave McGillivray Running and Sports Center in Medford, and soon transitioned to his event management business, Dave McGillivray Sports Enterprises. For the last 36 years, Dave has been the technical director and race director for the Boston Marathon.

Read more [here](#).

Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced.

The MVP Action Grant will be utilized to fund an Urban Forest Vulnerability Assessment for the City of Medford. Through this assessment, information will be gathered to help understand the effects that climate change will have on the City's urban forest. By understanding the vulnerabilities Medford's tree canopy will face, the City will be able to implement maintenance strategies and identify opportunities for growth. The project is expected to be completed by early summer 2024.

Learn more [here](#).

Medford Residents Have Recycled 954 Pounds of Unwanted Clothing in July

Through its partnership with Helpsy, a textile recycling company, the city has been able to help residents recycle 954 pounds of unwanted clothing in July.

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](#).

A Day at Medford Rec's Camp

Spent part of the morning at Tufts Park handing out some popsicles and talking with Medford

Recreation campers about my career.

It became pretty clear though that the only thing on their minds was who could beat the Mayor in an arm wrestling contest.

I lasted a few rounds but met my match against a worthy opponent. But I left happy thanks to a thoughtful gift the campers made—an art piece highlighting things they love about Medford!



Back to School!



With students returning to Medford Public Schools in one week, School Committee Chair Jenny Graham and I had the chance to welcome 45 new teachers to the district during their orientation.

It was great to chat with the new faculty about their expectations for the year and the work the school committee is doing to make the learning experience better.

Good luck to all the new teachers and thank you to Bernadette Ricciardelli for coordinating the visit!

Thank you to the Members Plus Credit Union for their continued support of Medford students! Dr. Marice Edouard-Vincent and I stopped by to pick up the donation of 100 backpacks for the upcoming school year!



August Celebrations

I was honored to attend the United India Association of New England's India Independence Day celebration this month.

Such a wonderful event filled with incredible food and fun activities for all ages that celebrates India's history and culture.

Thank you for having me!



The Medford Jazz Festival, hosted by the West Medford Community Center, was a wonderful weekend full of great music. I had the best time enjoying the celebration on Saturday afternoon!

August 1 was a fabulous night for National Night Out hosted by the Medford Police Department with the support of so many!

Thank you to the Medford Fire Department for joining in on the fun and thank you to all the wonderful sponsors.

I'm glad I got a chance to cool off (shiver) in the dunk tank at the end.






And of course, there's nothing like a rootbeer float to get your co-workers recharged to finish the long Wednesday strong!

US Citizenship Prep Classes

The Medford Public Library and the St. Mark Community Education Program are hosting a 10-week US Citizenship Prep Class on Saturdays from September 9 through November 25. The class will prepare you for the 100 civics questions and the reading and writing test.

To register, visit www.stmarkesol.org or fill out an application at the Library Information Desk. For more information, call the Multilingual



10-week US Citizenship Prep Class

September 9 through November 25
(No class September 23)



Saturdays from 10 am- 12 pm



Bonsignore Hall,
Medford Public Library

What you will learn

- Answers to the 100 civics questions
- How to prepare for the reading and writing test

What you will need

- An intermediate level of English
- A legal Permanent Resident Card for 5 years, or 3 years if married to a US citizen



To register

- Go to www.stmarkesol.org
- Fill out an application at the library Information Desk

For more information, call 617-288-8515 or City of Medford's Multilingual Resource line: 781-475-5644

New Electric Vehicles

For the past few years, the City has been transitioning its fleet vehicles to greener options with a long term goal of achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

Over the course of this summer, the parking department added new hybrid vehicles to its fleet that are now out in the field! Thanks to our Parking Department, DPW, and Finance Department for working together to secure these vehicles.

You can read more about the City's climate goals here: https://resources.finalsite.net/.../Medford_CAAP...



Social Work Hours at the Library

If you or someone you know is struggling, there may be resources that can help! Alysia LaGambina, our Social Worker, holds office hours every Wednesday at the Medford Public Library in the Spinazzola Family Counseling & Study Room in the Adult section, from 10 am to 2 pm.

NEW!
Social Work Hours
at the Library

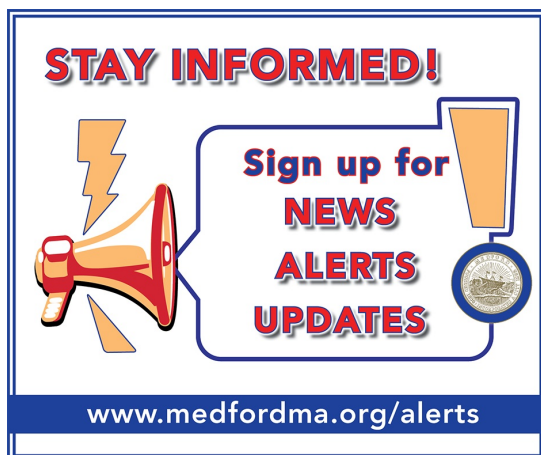


Connect with community services to support your family, such as help with food, utilities, housing, mental health, substance use and more.

Wednesdays
10 am to 2 pm



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!



[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!



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

- **September 4:** Labor Day (City Hall closed in observance)
- **September 9:** Brazilian Independence Day Celebration
- **September 16:** Paint Shed Day
- **September 22-23:** Run Medford
- **September 23:** Mystic River Celebration
- **September 30:** Oktoberfest

MEETINGS

August 29

- **9:00am:** Retirement Board Meeting
- **7:00pm:** Oak Grove Cemetery Meeting

August 30

- **10:00am:** Charter Study - City Council Composition Subcommittee Meeting

September 5

- **7:00pm:** City Council Meeting

September 6

- **6:30pm:** Community Development Board Meeting

September 7

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

September 12

- **5:00pm:** Traffic Commission Meeting

September 14

- **3:00pm:** Mobile Office Hours with Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn

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
- MEO III Motor Equipment Repairperson
- Head Clerk, Records (Police Department)
- Registered Sanitarian
- Accounting Manager (Medford Public Schools)
- Building Commissioner
- Line Dancing Instructor (Part-time)
- Art Instructor (Part-time)
- Production Coordinator
- Field Assessor (Part-time)
- Crime Analyst (Police Department)
- Business Manager (Police Department)

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.

