



The City of

Medford

Massachusetts

02155

November 4, 2023

Message from the Mayor



Hello Medford!

We've had a very busy October with tons of events, groundbreakings, vaccine clinics, construction, and more! There are so many exciting improvements happening around our City like the Carr Park renovation groundbreaking, which we held earlier this month and as we look ahead to November, the Clippership Connector Greenway Project is finally getting underway! We've also celebrated our Citizen of the Year, Joan Gatto, with a key to the city, our disABILITY Fair, Hispanic Heritage Month, along with many other wonderful events.

Here are just a few of our October highlights, but keep reading to see more:

- The City broke ground on our nearly \$3 million renovation project at Carr Park this month. Phase I has officially begun construction and will include an accessible path, reconstruction of two baseball diamonds, fully dedicated pickleball courts, and more when finished!
- I toured the construction site of the Great American Beer Hall, a 19,000 square foot beer garden and entertainment space that will open this June on Mystic Avenue!
- We held two senior flu vaccine clinics this month and have one more scheduled for early November for anyone ages 3 and up! Register [here](#) and keep an eye out for information on COVID booster clinics as vaccines become available.
- We are expanding bicycle infrastructure with four new Bluebike stations and additional bicycle parking in locations around the city with an over \$185,000 in grant funding that we secured from two Community Connections Grants. These stations will build upon the eight current ones, two scheduled for installation by the City this fall, and two more scheduled from Tufts this fall.

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

Have a great month!

Great American Beer Hall Coming to Medford!



Got a chance to tour the construction site of the Great American Beer Hall opening on Mystic Avenue this upcoming June! The foundation is getting poured next week!

This property, previously an automotive repair facility, will soon house a 19,000 square foot food and beverage space with 90 different beers on tap, burger and pizza vendors, as well as communal spaces to enjoy sports and entertainment on the big screen.

There will be an outdoor pickle ball court and I'm hoping a spot to play indoors as well. Thank you to Brian Zarthar, a co-owner of the beer hall, and the team at Haynes Group for giving me a tour and talking about the progress of the project.

Clippership Connector Groundbreaking



After years of advocacy, planning and countless community meetings with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, we are finally breaking ground on the Clippership Connector Path!

This transformational greenway will connect Riverbend Park to Clippership Park and create a safer, accessible pedestrian and bike pathway stretching from Belmont to Assembly Square and beyond for people of all ages and abilities.

This day would not have been possible without the tireless work of so many community advocates and organizations like the Mystic River Watershed Association, Medford Bicycle Advisory Commission, Preserve Medford and WalkMedford, our state partners at DCR, as well as our state delegation, specifically Rep. Barber who along with Rep. Donato and Rep. Garballey helped secure funding for the project.

It has also been a project long in development with our Planning, Development and Sustainability team led by Alicia Hunt, the Community Preservation Committee and Roberta Cameron, and stretches back to a state grant secured by Mayor Stephanie Burke.

I can't wait to see this path finally open for the public and provide a safer, greener experience to better explore our city and our region!

Read more about the project [here](#).

Harvest Your Energy Festival



The Harvest Your Energy Festival 2023 was a huge success!

So many incredible vendors were on hand to connect the community to important green-friendly resources and info!

Huge thank you to everyone who participate and to the the Office of Planning, Development and Sustainability as well as the Energy and Environment Committee for organizing this amazing event.

For more info on how to reduce your energy consumption visit medfordenergy.org/gogreen

Pollinator Garden at City Hall



Have you seen City Hall's new pollinator garden? We planted this garden out front to support essential pollinators like butterflies and bees.

Thank you to the Tufts Pollinator Initiative for recommending plants and helping us plan, our DPW for helping with the installation, and Kim DeAndrade from the Mystic Charles Pollinator Pathways Group and Amanda Bowen from the Medford Community Garden for helping us layout and install all 85 plants.

This spring, I signed on to the National Wildlife Federation's Mayor's Monarch Pledge to plant native pollinators. You can find more info about the pledge at nwf.org/mayorsmonarchpledge, and thanks to City Council President Nicole Morell for sharing this information.

Interested in creating your own pollinator garden? For more information and a list of plants we installed, visit www.medfordma.org/pollinators.

Carr Park Renovation Groundbreaking



We officially broke ground on the first phase of a nearly \$3 million renovation project at Carr Park!

This massive reimagining of the park will see a new accessible path that circles the entire field, reconstruction of two baseball diamonds, a woodland area cleanup and invasive plant removal, fully dedicated pickle ball courts and more!

From the beginning, this has been a community driven process that will shape the future of Carr Park by implementing key priorities that residents identified during multiple public meetings and info sessions. Special thanks to Chenin Peloquin who has been a major advocate for park improvements focused on accessibility.

The second phase of this project is funded through a federal earmark secured by Congresswoman Katherine Clark and will boast a four season playground, obstacle course and fitness area, teen swings, two basketball courts, a water play feature and more!

While all these changes are definitely an improvement to the space, I still heard from one nostalgic youth park goer who said they will miss the park they grew up using. To help make this change a little easier, we encouraged everyone to grab a bit of Medford history and collect dirt from the park before the project gets underway. Glad to see the memory of the original park will endure on bookshelves and mantles throughout the City!

All of this work would not have been possible without the incredible work of our team in the office of Planning, Development and Sustainability led by Director Alicia Hunt with the help of planner Amanda Centrella, the team at DPW, the Recreation Department, office of Procurement, as well as support from Roberta Cameron and the Community Preservation Committee.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this important and generational renovation project.



Flu Vaccine Clinic


Hosted by the City of Medford Disability Commission
Courtesy of the Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council
and Cataldo Ambulance

Mobile Vaccine Clinic

Friday, November 17, 2023
3pm-7pm

Medford City Hall
85 George P. Hassett Dr, Medford, MA

Register here! →



Regular COVID, COVID boosters, and flu vaccines available
Bring proof of insurance. No insurance: attestation required
Pre-registration required

Anyone needing assistance to pre-register may call:
Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion at 781-393-2439

2023 Flu Shot Clinics

Seniors: October 4 & 20
Register here: 

Ages 3+: November 8
Register here: 



Our next fall flu vaccine clinic is at City Hall on November 8 from 4pm-7pm for residents aged 3+. Register here: <https://home.color.com/vaccine/register/medford?calendar=a71c70cb-b5ee-4b81-838c-4b6213b1d753&site=medford-city-hall>

The Medford Disability Commission will also be holding a clinic for the regular COVID vaccines, COVID boosters, and the flu vaccine on Friday, November 17 from 3pm-7pm at City Hall! Pre-registration is required, so sign up now here: <https://home.color.com/vaccine/register/cataldo?site=medford-town-hall>

Recent News

City, State and Local Partners to Break Ground on Clippership Connector Path Project



The City of Medford and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will hold a groundbreaking ceremony on the Clippership Connector Pedestrian Path Project on Thursday, November 2 at 12 p.m. at Riverbend Park, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced.

The Clippership Connector will be a path located along Mystic River, between Clippership Drive and Riverbend Park. This half-mile waterfront path will connect more than 10 miles of contiguous greenways and aims to

Medford Devotes Over \$350,000 to Removing Stumps and Planting Trees Throughout City This Year



The City is in the process of removing stumps and planting new trees to improve accessibility to sidewalks as well as advance the administration's climate goals, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced. To date, crews have removed 360 stumps since the beginning of this year and have planted 40 trees enroute to achieving the City's goal of planting 200 trees in 2023. Fall is the ideal planting season for trees where the climate and soil produce the optimal environment for healthy growth.

provide a safer route between Medford Square, Andrews and McGlynn Schools, and Riverbend Park. This project is a partnership between the DCR, the City of Medford, the Mystic River Watershed Association, and WalkMedford through the DCR Partnership Grant Program.

Read more [here](#).

In December 2022, the City identified over 500 stumps for removal across all neighborhoods and has leveraged over \$350,000 through various funding sources including CDBG, ARPA and bonding to help complete the work. To date, 360 stumps have been removed.

Read more [here](#).

Fall “Big Sweep” to Begin on November 20

The Medford DPW will conduct fall street sweeping over the course of several weeks, beginning on Monday, November 20 with Zone 6. In the interest of public health and public safety, the DPW will proceed with the fall Big Sweep over several weeks to clear leaves and debris from streets and catch basins, allowing for proper drainage of water and making sure that our City’s streets are clean and safe. The DPW conducts two Big Sweep events on all secondary roads twice each year, once in the spring and once in the fall.

Street sweeping will be conducted Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8am and 6pm. Street sweeping is divided into 14 zones with one zone conducted each day. The full schedule and a list of all zones can be found at www.medfordma.org/street-sweeping. In the event of heavy rain or severe weather, sweeping may be cancelled on that day, and would be rescheduled for the end of the regular schedule. All updates will be posted on www.medfordma.org as well as the City’s social media feeds.

City to Install Four New Bluebike Stations

The City is expanding bicycle infrastructure with four new Bluebike stations and additional bicycle parking areas, announced Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn. The City secured over \$185,000 in grant funding from two Community Connections Grants from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) and Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) that will be used to fund the projects.

“Using green-friendly public

City Secures over \$170K in Funding to Help Strengthen its Storm Resiliency in South Medford

The City of Medford will invest over \$170,000 in state grant funding to help strengthen and enhance its storm resiliency infrastructure, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced.

The grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) Housing Choice Grant Program will be used for flood mitigation efforts in South Medford.

“Due to our proximity to the Mystic River and other substantial waterways, many of our neighborhoods, like South Medford, are at risk of flooding and other storm related damage,” Mayor Lungo-Koehn said. “We’ve made a concerted effort to strengthen our infrastructure and protect our community from the effects of climate change over the past three and half years, and with this grant we’ll be able to make critical upgrades to our sewers and flood mitigation management.”

Learn more [here](#).

Medford Residents Have Recycled 1,687 Pounds of Unwanted Clothing in September and October

Through its partnership with Helpsy, a textile recycling company, the city has been able to help residents recycle 1,687 pounds of unwanted clothing in September and October.

As the largest clothing collector in the Northeast, Helpsy partners with municipalities and organizations across 11 states to collect unwanted clothing

transportation options like Bluebikes, help cut down on carbon emissions, reduces traffic on our streets and offers more economical travel alternatives for our community ” said Mayor Lungo-Koehn. “We are always working to limit congestion on our roadways and promote climate-focused modes of transportation like bike parking, Bluebikes, and dedicated bike lanes to encourage the community to reduce its carbon footprint.”

Read more [here](#).

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](#).

October in Our Community!

I had the honor of presenting Citizen of the Year Joan Gatto with a key to the City for all she and her staff at Magnificent Muffin & Bagel Shoppe do for our community, especially our emergency first responders.

Joan was bestowed the title of Citizen of the Year by the Medford Chamber of Commerce earlier this year and this month, previous recipients of this distinction joined Joan to unveil her plaque at City Hall. A big thank you to Chamber member Domenic Camarra for hosting and coordinating this event, and for inviting me to participate!



Congratulations Joan and thank you for all you do for Medford!



It was a great night honoring some of our local artists at the Medford Arts Council Community Grantee Reception at Real Gusto Medford yesterday! Congratulations to all of the artists that received funding, it was very well deserved.

Thank you to the Arts Council for having me and always supporting Medford arts!

I visited Ms. Lanzilli, Mr. Skerry, and Mr. Brophy's citizenship classes over the past two days to talk about the Mayor's role in local government and answer any questions the students had. They had tons of insightful questions and some lively discussion on issues affecting our students and the greater community.

Thank you all for your participation and great questions!





As we gear up for our Halloween events, I stopped by Hormel stadium to watch the Middle School Cross Country team run the Monster Mile!

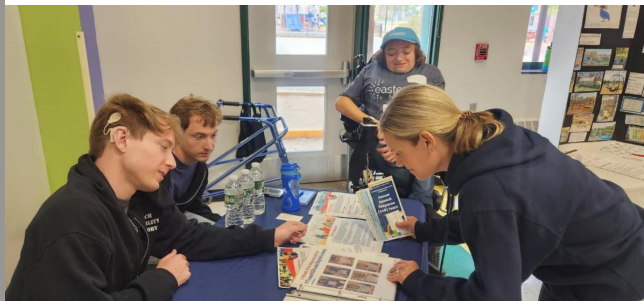
Congratulations to all the fall student athletes for another amazing season and special shout out to Parker Preisner for winning the monster mile race today!

Best part of this week has been spending time with our younger students and hearing their questions about government, what I do as Mayor and what I'll be for Halloween!

Earlier this week I met with 1st graders in the Daisy Troops and helped them learn about local government. Thank you to Troop Leader Liz Riley for coordinating the visit!



And today I had the pleasure of joining other community leaders to participate in JumpStart Read for the Record and read 'With Lots of Love' by Jenny Torres Sanchez to Ms. Penta's kindergarten class.



So many wonderful exhibits and speakers at the disABILITY Fair hosted by the Commission for Persons with Disabilities at the Brooks Elementary School.

It's so important to connect our community to critical resources, programs and support.

A huge thank you to all the exhibitors for lending their time and to our DEI Director Francis Nwajei for helping put this important event together.

As part of Tufts University President Sunil Kumar's inauguration weekend, over 200 students, staff and faculty helped clean up our community!

Tufts Day of Service is such a wonderful annual event and we are so grateful to President Kumar for making this part of his first official weekend at Tufts. I am so happy to have been invited and able to attend both. Thank you to everyone who participated!



So proud and inspired by the incredible students throughout the district who contributed to this wonderful Rainbow Mosaic that is now affixed to the High School.

This installation celebrates the diversity and inclusive environment that our teachers, administrators, staff and students help foster and grow every day.

This project was made possible thanks to a grant secured by Marie Cassidy and the Medford Family

Network along with the support of the Medford Arts Council, ArtsAlive Medford Foundation, Erika Abrahamsson, the MHS Building Department and Mosaic Art Supply.

My heartfelt appreciation to all the student artists who worked on these pieces.

Had an amazing time at our Hispanic Heritage celebration at the Andrews Middle School hosted by the Office of Prevention and Outreach. There was so much delicious food, fun activities for families and we all got to learn more about Hispanic and Latin culture.

Our Spanish speaking community liaison Jennifer Alvarez and Medford Connector Lizette Carteiro were on hand to talk with residents about how to better engage with city resources and services.



Winter Extravaganza 2023!



Winter Extravaganza at City Hall is back! Join us on Wednesday, November 29 from 5-7pm for vendors, music, fun crafts, a gingerbread house contest, and a visit with friends from Toy Story!

Featuring:

- 4GoodVibes Gift Shop & Boutique with over 50 Local Artists
- Boy Scout Wreath pre-sales
- Cookie Decorating courtesy of Wegmans
- Crafts with the Medford Family Network
- Dean's Concessions and Catering
- DJ Vanessa Salvucci Saggese
- Gingerbread Houses
- Girl Scout Crafts
- Food Drive
- Medford Jingle Bell Festival
- Medford Brewing Company
- Boston Toys for Tots Drop Box
- Wonderfund MA
- ...and more!

Second Annual Pumpkin Smash

Join the City and Mothers Out Front Medford



for the second annual Medford Pumpkin Smash at the West Medford Community Center on November 4 from 10am-2pm! Every Halloween, millions of pumpkins and gourds are hauled away to landfills where they decompose and release methane, a powerful greenhouse gas that's harmful to the environment. Help bring Halloween to a sustainable conclusion by turning pumpkins into healthy soil!

Don't have a pumpkin? Extras will be available for everyone to join in the fun.

Can't stay but want your pumpkins composted? Drop them off! Please remove paint, candles, and decorations.

Charter Study Committee Listening Sessions

The Medford Charter Study Committee is holding community listening sessions to get feedback on the city's charter. The city charter is the blueprint for how our city operates. We want to hear from you! What is working about Medford's form of government? What could be improved? Join us for a one hour listening session where Medford Charter Study Committee members will hear from you. Currently scheduled listening sessions include:

- Wednesday, November 8, 7 p.m. at the Medford Public Library, Room 5, 111 High St., Medford.
- Tuesday, November 14, 10 a.m. at Tempone, 22 Allston St., Medford.
- Thursday, November 16, 6 p.m. at Willis Ave Family Development Community Center, Medford.

No need to register, just show up! Need an accommodation or interpretation? Please let us know by emailing Medfordcharterstudy@gmail.com. We need 2 weeks advance to ensure we can provide an accommodation.

In addition, the committee invites all residents to take [this survey](#) about charter review. Printable surveys are available in [Spanish](#), [Arabic](#), [Haitian Creole](#), [Brazilian Portuguese](#), and [English](#). Residents may fill out these surveys and drop them at City Hall or contact medfordcharterstudy@gmail.com to arrange for a pickup. The survey is open until December 1, 2023.

CHARTER STUDY COMMITTEE LISTENING SESSIONS

TAKE OUR SURVEY! USE THIS QR CODE TO OPEN THE SURVEY

WHO WE ARE

A group of eleven Medford residents appointed by Mayor Brenna Longo-Koehn to review Medford's City Charter and make recommendations to ensure the charter meets our community's current and future needs.

WHAT IS A CHARTER?

A City Charter is the blueprint that details how our city government operates and functions. Among other things, it can include:

- The type of government we have.
- Powers of the Mayor, City Council, and School Committee.
- Length of terms in office for the Mayor, City Council, and School Committee, and whether there are term limits.
- The number of City Councilors and School Committee Members and whether they serve the entire city or represent specific sections of the city (wards).
- The organization and functions of city agencies and departments.
- Election and budget procedures.
- Resident participation opportunities.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Join us for a 1 hour listening session!

WHEN: Wednesday, November 8 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
WHERE: Medford Public Library, Room 5, 111 High Street, Medford

Please come and tell us how you would like the city to function, what is working, what could work better.

Need a disability accommodation or interpretation? Let us know 2 weeks prior to the meeting by emailing medfordcharterstudy@gmail.com

WANT TO KNOW MORE?
medfordma.org/charterstudy

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Join us for a 1 hour listening session! **Food will be provided.**

WHEN: 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 14, 2023
WHERE: Tempone Housing Development, 22 Allston St. Medford

Please come and tell us how you would like the city to function, what is working, what could work better.

Need a disability accommodation or interpretation? Let us know 2 weeks prior to the meeting by emailing medfordcharterstudy@gmail.com

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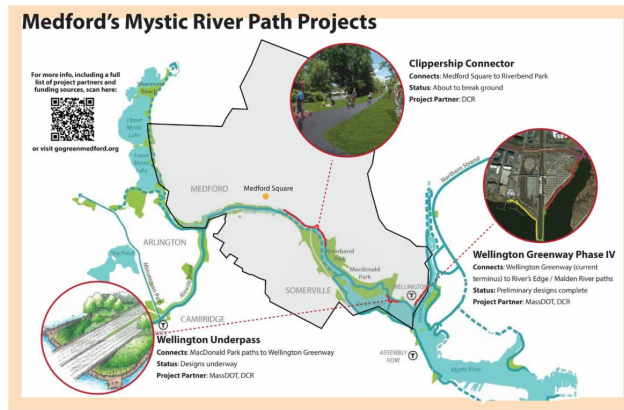
WHEN: 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 16, 2023
WHERE: Willis Ave Family Development Community Center, Medford

Please come and tell us how you would like the city to function, what is working, what could work better.

Need a disability accommodation or interpretation? Let us know 2 weeks prior to the meeting by emailing medfordcharterstudy@gmail.com

WANT TO KNOW MORE?
medfordma.org/charterstudy

Medford Path Projects



Medford currently has three exciting path projects happening around the Mystic River! From the Clippership Connector, to Wellington Greenway Phase IV, to the Wellington Underpass, these state-led path projects are aimed to increase safety and connect our waterfront areas.

Check out the image to see where each project currently stands and visit gogreenmedford.org for more information!

2023-2024 Snow Shovelers Needed!

Shovelers Needed!



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**Help a resident in need by signing up to
shovel sidewalks + driveways.**

Paid + volunteer positions available.

Contact Pam Kelly at
pkelly@medford-ma.gov
or 781-396-6010.

You will need to fill out a CORI form.



It's hard to believe that we're getting to that time of year, but snow shovelers are needed for the 2023-2024 season! Paid and volunteer positions are available. Contact Pam Kelly to sign up or with questions at pkelly@medford-ma.gov or 781-396-6010.

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

STAY INFORMED!



**Sign up for
NEWS
ALERTS
UPDATES**

www.medfordma.org/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!

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

MEETINGS

- **November 4:** Pumpkin Smash
- **November 8:** Flu Vaccine Clinic
- **November 10:** Veterans Day (Observed) - City Hall closed
- **November 11:** Annual Veterans Day Lunch Celebration
- **November 13:** Winter Preparedness Event
- **November 19:** Indoor Farmer's Market
- **November 23:** Thanksgiving - City Hall closed
- **November 29:** Winter Extravaganza

November 8

- **7:00pm:** Charter Study Committee Listening Session

November 14

- **10:00am:** Charter Study Committee Listening Session
- **5:00pm:** Traffic Committee Meeting
- **6:00pm:** Medford Police Department Community Meeting
- **7:00pm:** City Council Meeting

November 15

- **6:00pm:** Committee of the Whole 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
- City Solicitor
- Assistant City Solicitor
- MEO III Motor Equipment Repairperson
- Registered Sanitarian
- Accounting Manager (Medford Public Schools)
- Crime Analyst (Police Department)
- Supervisor of Water and Sewer
- Staff Planner, Housing
- Building Commissioner
- Director of Veterans' Services
- Economic Development Planner
- Head Clerk, Clerk's Office
- Payroll 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.

