



The City of

Medford

Massachusetts

02155

December 6, 2023

Message from the Mayor



Hello Medford!

As we enter the busy holiday season, we've also had a busy November to round out the fall. We held one of our biggest events of the year at City Hall - Winter Extravaganza! Thank you to Medford Recreation, DPW, our vendors, and everyone else that made this fun event possible. We've also had food drives to celebrate Thanksgiving, Veterans' Day events, vaccine clinics and other events to prepare for the winter, and much more.

Here are a few of our November highlights:

- The City and Medford Public Schools will begin construction in spring 2024 on a new, universally accessible schoolyard at the McGlynn School. The park was designed with tons of community input from students, educators, parents, caregivers, and community members.
- We held our annual Winter Preparedness event and more COVID and flu vaccine clinics to prepare us all for the quickly approaching winter months! The Winter Preparedness event, hosted by our Office of Prevention and Outreach was a great evening with plenty of information for the community and free winter items like coats and blankets.
- The Big Sweep began on November 20 and continues into December. We've already swept a number of side streets and secondary roads, but this is a reminder to check your date and zone and take your car off the street on your assigned day! The full schedule and a list of all zones can be found at www.medfordma.org/street-sweeping.

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!

Winter Extravaganza 2023!



We officially kicked off the holiday season with our incredible Winter Extravaganza event at City Hall!!! I hope that everyone who joined us last night had an amazing time and was able to meet Woody, Jesse and Buzz Lightyear from Toy Story!

This wonderful event would not have been possible without the hard work of so many at City Hall, our local partners and volunteers.

Thank you to our Director of Community Affairs Lisa Colaianne, the Medford Fire Department, Medford Police Department, our DPW, especially Doug Welton for helping to set up the lights, Kevin Bailey, Danny Fowkes and the staff at Medford Recreation, the Welcome Committee, Medford Health Department, DJ Vanessa Salvucci Saggese, 4GoodVibes Gift Shop & Boutique for organizing local artists, Medford Family Network, Deans Concessions, Wegmans and Arthurs Italian Pastry Shop. for the cookies and decorating, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts for making the card making crafts, Medford Brewing Company, Medford Voke-Bistro 489, Wonderfund MA, the organizers of the Medford Jingle Bell Festival who work tirelessly for months donating their time and money to raise money for Alzheimer's and elder care, everyone who entered our Gingerbread House Contest, all our volunteers and last but not least, Tammy McCormick and Jay Loneragan, who were such great sports for the second year in a row.

Thank you all and happy holidays!



Thanksgiving Food Drive



Thanks to the incredible work of our Medford Police Department, Medford Senior Center and local partners Wegmans and DICK'S Sporting Goods, seniors in Medford will have plenty of items to enjoy this Thanksgiving!

So many people helped make this food drive a huge success and I'm so grateful that our community cares so deeply for one another.

Awesome job coordinating by MPD Officer Jessica Walsh, and thanks to all the volunteers for making this year's holiday so meaningful for our seniors.

Celebrating Veterans' Day



Thank you to the First Baptist Church for hosting a luncheon to show appreciation for our veterans today.

Also, thank you to all of our veterans who volunteered and spoke to Medford High School students this week, including but not limited to members of the Medford Police Department and the Medford Fire Department!

Save the Date: Inauguration Day!



Save the date! The 2024 Inauguration for elected officials will take place on January 7, 2024 at 10am at Medford City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Drive, Medford, MA.

Garbage to Garden Composting

Over 800 people have signed up for curbside composting!

There are a ton of benefits to enrolling in this program. Not only are you helping to improve air, water and soil health, you're also saving money and making your garbage much more manageable.

We want to hit 1,000 sign ups by the end of the year. Help us reach that goal by visiting garbagetogarden.org to start composting!



Upcoming COVID Vaccine Clinic

**COVID-19
BOOSTER CLINIC
SENIORS 60+**



**Friday, December 15
9am-12pm**

**Medford Senior Center
101 Riverside Ave., Medford**

Pre-registration is required. Both Moderna and Pfizer will be available. Please call the Senior Center at 781-396-6010 or the Multilingual Resource Line at 781-475-5644 to schedule an appointment.

The City is holding a COVID booster clinic on December 15 from 9am-12pm for seniors 60+ at the Senior Center. Registration is now open: <https://home.color.com/vaccine/register/medford?site=medford-senior-center>

McGlynn Playground Construction Update



In order to be ready in time for next September, the McGlynn Playground construction team determined that the ground breaking on the project needs to be moved up to this winter. Demolition of the current playground has been moved up to Monday, December 4th. A fence will be going up around the playground on December 1, and the playground will be closed to the public during construction.

While the playground is getting renovated, we encourage residents to visit other nearby parks, including Harris, Magoun, Logan, and the newly renovated Morrison playground and hope that you join us in being excited for our new playground to be completed earlier than anticipated!

What to expect:

Work hours at the playground will be from about 7am to 3pm, Monday - Friday. Machinery will

not be used before 7am. MPS is working closely with the construction manager to minimize disruption to school pick up and drop off times.

Every effort is being made to support the school while the playground is unavailable; the construction team is prioritizing work that can be completed in cold weather. The first construction steps during cold weather include demolition, drainage, foundations, electrical, and digging rain gardens.

Principal O'Brien and the Playground Design Committee will be sending regular updates to the school community, and the Planning Dept. will have updates available on their parks projects site soon.

If you have questions related to the impact on McGlynn students and families, please contact Principal O'Brien at aobrien@medford.k12.ma.us or 781-393-2333. For questions on the project itself, please contact the City's Office of Planning, Development, & Sustainability at ocd@medford-ma.gov or 781-393-2480.

Join the City and Medford Public Schools for the McGlynn Playground groundbreaking on December 12 at 3:30pm!

Recent News

2024 Parking Permits Available Starting December 1



You can purchase your 2024 parking permits beginning December 1! There are several ways you can easily renew your permit:

- Online at medford.gtechna.net/permit-portal/
- In-person at the Parking Department at City Hall, Room 110.
- Or via kiosk located in the lobby of the Parking Department

This year when you apply to renew online, you will have the option to pick up your visitor passes by December 31 at the City Hall Parking Department or get your passes mailed to you for a \$1.10 mailing fee. Reminder that permits purchased for the 2024 season will not go into effect until January 1, 2024.

Learn more [here](#).

Medford Seeks Applicants for Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board

The City is seeking applicants to serve on the Board of Trustees for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which is dedicated to supporting the preservation and creation of low- and moderate-income housing in Medford. Upon passage of the Affordable Housing Trust by the City Council last year, the new ordinance established a Board of Trustees tasked with oversight of the fund.

“The need for housing has only grown while the supply of affordable options has continued to dwindle, creating a crisis in our region,” said Mayor Lungo-Koehn. “That’s why I pushed for this Trust to be created and am thankful to have worked with the team in Planning, Development, and Sustainability and the City Council to get this approved.”

Learn more [here](#).

Yard Waste Pickup Rescheduled to Week of December 11

Medford Seeks to Fill Vacancies

on Various Boards and Commissions

The City of Medford is currently accepting applications from Medford residents to serve on one of its many City Boards & Commissions.

Residents who are interested in serving on any of the boards and commissions below should complete the [Board and Commission Interest Form](#) available at medfordma.org/boards-commissions. If you are in need of a physical form, please visit the Mayor's Office at Medford City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Drive, Room 202, Medford, MA 02155.

Residents of all backgrounds and abilities are strongly encouraged to apply. Medford city services are available to all residents, regardless of economic situation, race, gender, ability, benefit eligibility, or religious affiliation.

Learn more about current openings [here](#).

Medford Public Schools Will Build City's First Universally Accessible Playground at the McGlynn School



In a landmark playground renovation, the City of Medford and Medford Public Schools will begin construction on a new, universally accessible schoolyard at the McGlynn School. Over the past 18 months, students, educators, parents, caregivers, and community members have come together to collaboratively design the park, which will be accessible and inclusive for all students and their families.

The playground renovation is set to begin in Spring, 2024. A representative design committee along with landscape architects from the Copley-Wolff Design Group crafted the plans to provide high "play value" for kids of all abilities,



Since many trees still have leaves that have yet to fall and be collected, the City has moved the second yard waste pickup date, originally scheduled for the week of the November 27, to the week of December 11.

For more information and the trash/recycling schedule, visit medfordma.org/dpw.

Medford Residents Have Recycled 602 Pounds of Unwanted Clothing in November

Through its partnership with Helpsy, a textile recycling company, the city has been able to help residents recycle 602 pounds of unwanted clothing in November.

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](#).

Fall "Big Sweep" Happening Through December 12

meaning that the playground will provide many types of play opportunities and a variety of developmentally-appropriate challenges, all with inclusion in mind. The park will include separate preschool and elementary play areas for students Pre-K to Grade 5, and features an inclusive wheelchair swing, multi-use field, a stage area, and a fully-accessible and curriculum-aligned outdoor classroom. The playground meets and goes beyond federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards to provide meaningful opportunities for students to play together.

Read more [here](#).

The Medford DPW is conducting 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.

Read more [here](#).

Other November Happenings



Lucky me to be able to hang out at the West Medford Community Center for Friday nights Words & Music! Had the best night, thank you for the invite.

I also took part in the Mothers Out Front pumpkin smash! We were able to compost our old Halloween pumpkins a few weeks ago to improve sustainability in disposing them. Over 2100lbs of pumpkins entered the compost bin!



It was a great night celebrating and supporting the Medford Family Network at



their 90s night fundraiser a few weeks ago.

Thank you for all you do for Medford families,
Marie Cassidy and team!

Charter Study Survey & Listening Sessions

The Medford Charter Study Committee survey deadline has been extended until **January 31, 2024** in order to give residents more time to weigh in on important factors regarding their city government. If you haven't already taken the online survey, you can do so [here](#).

Printable surveys are available [here](#) 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 committee continues its series of **community listening sessions** to get feedback on the city's charter. The city charter is the blueprint for how our city operates, and 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. Currently scheduled listening sessions include:

- **Saturday, December 9**, 1-3 p.m. **VIRTUAL event** with ASL interpreters at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7658074027?pwd=MG83VDI3Y25odC84cUhKQ1ITLzJuUT09>; email medfordcharterstudy@gmail.com with questions.
- **Tuesday, January 16**, 1 p.m. at the **Medford Senior Center**, 101 Riverside Avenue.
- **Thursday, January 18**, 7 p.m. Virtual event for **Medford Public School parents and staff** at <https://mps02155-org.zoom.us/j/93621058402>.

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.

The committee will also hold a **Public Information Session** on **Thursday, January 25** at **City Hall** in City Council Chambers from 7-8:30 p.m. Bring your thoughts, ideas and questions!

Regular meeting agendas, minutes, meeting presentations, recordings and other resources are available on the committee's web page at www.medfordma.org/charterstudy. Comments or questions? Contact medfordcharterstudy@gmail.com.



City of Medford



CHARTER STUDY COMMITTEE

Virtual Listening Session
Saturday, December 9, 1:00pm-2:00pm
Zoom (Scan QR code for link)
Meeting ID: 765 807 4027 | Passcode: 215589
ASL interpreter services provided

WHO WE ARE

A group of eleven Medford residents appointed by Mayor Breanna Lungo-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.

WHAT WE'RE DOING

- The Charter Study Committee will review the City Charter, gather community input, and draft a proposal with updated or new charter language.
- The Mayor and City Council will review the proposal.
- If approved by the Mayor and City Council, the new charter will go to the State House as a Home Rule Petition to be voted on by the State Legislature.
- If approved, Medford residents will vote on the new charter at the next local election.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

 medfordma.org/charterstudy

- Meeting schedule, agendas, minutes, and recordings.
- A copy of Medford's current city charter and information about its history.

Have questions, comments, or feedback about the City Charter? Please email us at medfordcharterstudy@gmail.com

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

- **December 7:** Pearl Harbor Day
- **December 8:** Hanukkah begins
- **December 25:** Christmas Day - City Hall closed
- **December 26:** Kwanzaa
- **December 31:** New Year's Eve
- **January 1, 2024:** New Year's Day - City Hall closed

December 5

- **6:00pm:** Committee of the Whole Meeting
- **7:00pm:** Oak Grove Cemetery Commission Meeting

December 9

- **1:00pm:** Charter Study Committee Virtual Listening Session

December 12

- **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
- 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
- Senior Clerk (DPW)
- Circulation Assistant (Medford Public Library)
- Information/Reference Librarian

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.

