



The City of

Medford

Massachusetts

02155

January 8, 2024

Message from the Mayor



Happy New Year Medford!

As we round out the holiday season, we're looking forward to many more great things in 2024. This past month, we've hosted toy drives, installed new Bluebike stations and held a number of exciting ribbon cuttings on local businesses, and much more. We can't wait to keep this work moving in the new year, so save the date for the 2024 Medford Inauguration on January 10!

Here are a few of our December highlights:

- We took a huge step forward in the opportunity for a new or reimagined Medford High School this month! The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) voted to invite the school district into the funding Eligibility Period of the state school building program, in response to a Statement of Interest submitted by Medford earlier this year.
- Medford's Bluebike station total was brought up to ten this month with two new stations installed at West Medford Square (Bower St. at Harvard Ave) and Logan Park (Otis St side). More to come in spring 2024!
- We moved the 2024 Inauguration to Wednesday, January 10 at 6 p.m. at the Alden Memorial Chambers at City Hall. If you can't make it in person, the event will also be carried live on Medford Community Media (GOV Channel – Comcast 22, Verizon 43).

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!

Wonderfund Toy Collection



Earlier last month, people dropped off donated gifts at City Hall in support of the Wonderfund MA's mission to bring some joy to DCF children and families this holiday season.

The truck was packed once again as hundreds of gifts made their way to deserving children.

A huge thank you to Erin Murphy Rafferty, Lauren Baker, the staff at the Wonderfund and our DPW for loading all these presents. And of course, thank you to all the generous people in and around Medford who donated this year.



The Medford Invitational Tournament Holiday Party



So many smiling, happy faces at The Medford Invitational Tournament Holiday Party at the library.

I'm thrilled that we were able to fund this wonderful event through our ARPA subrecipient program and bring so much joy to Medford families. This celebration was specifically designed by MIT and the Medford Family Network to support children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families who saw a reduction of health and social services and during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you to the volunteers at MIT, Marie Cassidy and the Medford Family Network for organizing the event and to School Committee Member Melanie McLaughlin as well as the many families, friends and caregivers for supporting our ASD community.

Save the Date: Inauguration Day Moved to Jan. 10!



Save the date! Due to a winter storm we moved the 2024 Inauguration to Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 6 p.m. at Medford City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Drive, and also streamed on Medford Community Media (GOV Channel – Comcast 22, Verizon 43).

Electrifying our Fleet

Our new all-electric street sweeper has arrived! The sweeper was purchased with the help of a Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant secured by the Office of Planning, Development, and Sustainability and the Department of Public Works.

This net-zero emissions vehicle will help the City reach emission reduction goals outlined in the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.



New Bluebike Stations



Two new Bluebike stations were installed at West Medford Square (Bower St. at Harvard Ave) and Logan Park (Otis St side)!

These new stations bring Medford's total number of stations up to ten and add to the existing network at Auburn Street at Mystic River, Hormel Stadium, Harris Park, Haines Square, Tufts Square, Main Street at Brooks Park, Medford Square (opposite Riverside Plaza), and Wellington MBTA Station, with more coming in spring 2024.

For a map of all Bluebike stations in and around Medford, visit <https://account.bluebikes.com/map>.

International Human Rights Day



December 10 marked the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the UN General Assembly. To celebrate and honor that historic day, I joined with Human Rights Commission members Diane MacDonald, Rob Klein, Maureen Curley and Police Chief Buckley to read a proclamation stating the City's support of International Human Rights Day.

The 2023 theme of International Human Rights Day is Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All. It highlights the human dignity and value of each person; the need for a blueprint for sustainable development; the inspiration for stronger human rights protections; and the recognition of human rights as a solution to today's greatest crises.

Thank you to the commission for working with the City to ensure that these values continue to thrive throughout our community.

Recent News

Medford High School Selected by Mass. School Building Authority for Possible Renovation or Full Rebuild of Facility

The possibility of a new or reimagined Medford High School took a major step forward today when the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) voted to invite the school district into the funding Eligibility Period of the state school building program. The invitation comes in response to a Statement of Interest (SOI) submitted by Medford earlier this year.

"This is a significant step towards our goal of transforming Medford High School and delivering an exceptional learning environment for our students, faculty and staff, for generations to come," Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn said. "I'm thrilled that through the work of our school committee, school district staff, community partners and our team at City Hall, we now have the opportunity to collaborate with the state

Groundbreaking Ceremony for New McGlynn Playground Rescheduled to January 8



Join the City and Medford Public Schools for the McGlynn Playground groundbreaking on January 8 at 3pm.

The new playground will be accessible and inclusive for all students and families and will include separate preschool and elementary play areas for students Pre-K to Grade 5, an inclusive wheelchair swing, multi-use field, a stage area, and a fully-accessible and curriculum-aligned outdoor classroom.

to make this project a reality for our community. This would not be possible without the advocacy and support from so many in our community as well as the City Council who approved moving forward with the application.”

Learn more [here](#).

In order to be ready for the next school year, the construction team has moved the groundbreaking up to this winter. Demolition of the current playground was moved up to December 4 and the playground will be closed to the public during construction.

Read more [here](#).

GLX Service Updates

Green Line Extension (GLX) trains between North Station and Medford/Tufts station will be suspended to continue track work during the following dates:

- From start to end of service during the weekend of January 6-7;
- Beginning at approximately 8:45 PM through the end of service every day from January 8-11;
- Beginning at approximately 8:45 PM through the end of service every day from January 16-18;
- From start to end of service during the weekend of January 20-21;
- Beginning at approximately 8:45 PM through the end of service every day from January 22-25.

Accessible shuttle bus service will replace trains between North Station and Medford/Tufts station during these dates/times. Riders can find more information on service changes at mbta.com/alerts.



Please join Medford's Community Preservation Committee for a celebration, as we mark 5 years of funding projects through the Community Preservation Act

**Sunday, January 21st, 3pm - 5pm
Unitarian Universalist Church @ 147
High Street, Medford**

For details & to RSVP on this special occasion, please visit our Eventbrite

Medford Residents Have Recycled 914 Pounds of Unwanted Clothing in December

Through its partnership with Helpsy, a textile recycling company, the city has been able to help residents recycle 914 pounds of unwanted clothing in December.

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](#).



**Christmas Tree Pickup: Week of
January 7, 2024**

Christmas trees will be picked up with

page by clicking [HERE](#)

trash collections next week, the week of January 7! Please make sure to have your tree clear of any decorations or lights.

The 2024 trash and recycling schedule can be found [here](#).

December Ribbon Cuttings



Officially cut the ribbon on Envision Estate Planning LLC and welcomed them to West Medford!

Neil and his team have a great space and I'm so happy that he moved his business to our community!

We also cut the ribbon at Skin by Terry, right in Medford Square at 16 Bradlee Road!

The new space is beautiful and the team is already planning some great workshops. Congratulations to Terry and her team!



This month we officially cut the ribbon on the new location for Dental Delights at 34 Salem Street!

Congratulations to Dr. Jain and her team for making the move to this new state of the art facility!



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

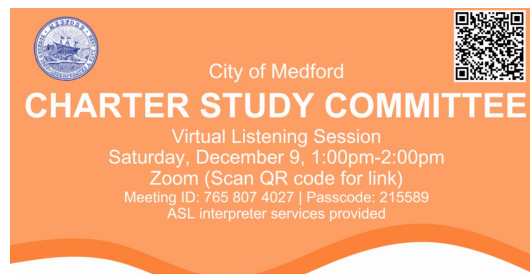
city's charter. The city charter is the blueprint for how our city operates, and we want to hear from you. What is working about Medford's form of government? What could be improved? Join us for a one hour listening session. Currently scheduled listening sessions include:

- **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.



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.

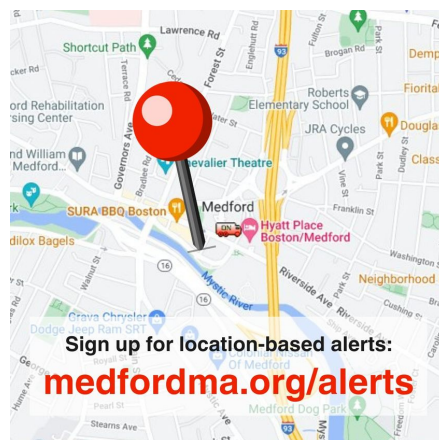
WANT TO KNOW MORE?

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

Sign Up for Location-Based City Alerts



Add your home address to your Everbridge account to receive City Alerts specific to your location. Location-based alerts can be used in the event of construction updates, street sweeping, emergencies, and more.

To check if your address is attached to your account or to add it, visit medfordma.org/alerts.

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.



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

EVENTS/HOLIDAYS

- **January 1, 2024:** New Year's Day - City Hall closed
- **January 8:** McGlynn Playground Groundbreaking, 3 PM
- **January 10:** Medford Inauguration 6PM
- **January 15:** Martin Luther King Jr. Day - City Hall closed
- **January 15:** WMCC Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration at St. Raphael's Church, 11 AM
- **January 21:** Celebrating Community Preservation in Medford at Unitarian Universalist Church, 3 PM
- **January 27:** International Holocaust Remembrance Day

MEETINGS

January 8

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

January 9

- **5:00pm:** Traffic Commission Meeting
- **7:00pm:** Oak Grove Cemetery Commission Meeting

January 10

- **6:30pm:** Community Development Board Meeting
- **7:00pm:** Charter Study Committee Virtual Listening Session

January 15

- **6:00pm:** Climate Equity Council Meeting

January 16

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

January 18

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

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:

- 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
- Building Commissioner
- 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.

