May 13, 2024

Message from the Mayor



Hello Medford,

Happy spring! As the warm weather arrives, we have been busy with events, cleanups, celebrations, street sweeping, and more! Most recently, we've celebrated the third installment of the Black Health Series, our Citywide Cleanup, the conclusion of our Arab American Heritage Month Series, to name a few.

Here are a few of our highlights:

- We doubled our numbers from last year and had over 400 incredible volunteers lend us a hand to clean up 27 locations throughout Medford and collect 3 tons of trash on top of the recyclables and yard waste at our Annual Citywide Cleanup!
- The City has released its 2024 road repair strategy and will use over \$180,000 in ARPA funding to repair approximately 40 roads that have cracks and gaps identified in the Pavement Assessment plan. The funding will be used for preventative measures, like crack sealing, on our roads.
- Finally, Medford has partnered with Garbage to Garden for a free city curbside composting service and it's not too late to join the waitlist. Services begin on July 1, 2024 and you can find more information at medfordcomposts.com.

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

Thanks for reading!

Brz - C - Krol

Citywide Cleanup





We had over 400 volunteers at this year's annual spring cleanup! Thank you to everyone that came out to join us on a beautiful Saturday, and of course, thank you to our amazing DPW for helping with the set up and wrap up of this event.

Arab American Heritage Month Series







A great end to our Arab American Heritage Month series with a traditional dress contest along with incredible food, face painting and dancing at the Andrews Middle School!

Thank you to our Connectors and Liaisons led by Sophie Antoine in our Office of Prevention and Outreach and our Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Frances Nwajei for organizing a month's worth of amazing events that both educated and engaged our community on Arabic culture.

Celebrating Patriot's Day







We had a gorgeous day in Medford for our annual Patriot's Day event!

It was incredible to see all the smiling faces in the Square to celebrate Paul Revere and his historic ride through our downtown.

Huge thank you to the Islamic Cultural Center of Medford, our Veterans Services Director Veronica Shaw, our Department of Public Works and Medford Recreation, Medford Police

Department, Medford Fire Department Color Guard, the Medford Chamber of Commerce, Stacie Clayton, Laura Duggan and Looking Back at Medford History, my fellow elected leaders who joined and our Director of Community Affairs Lisa Colaianni for helping make the day so memorable.

Medford's Eid al Fitr Celebration





I was honored to attend the Islamic Cultural Center of Medford's Eid al Fitr celebration at the Andrews, marking the end of Ramadan.

As millions of people end fasting from sunrise to sunset, I hope this holy period has brought much peace, happiness and reflection.

Eid Mubarak!

Women's History Month at MHS



Amazing job to Ms. Lanzilli and Ms. Taylor from Medford High School and the students who organized a Women's History Month panel discussion for the student body!

Thank you for including me. It was an honor to share the stage with such amazing women and students!

Recent News

Medford Hosted Arab American Heritage Month Series

Medford Unveils Road Repair Strategy for 2024 Construction Season

Beginning this fall, the City will deploy over \$180,000 in ARPA funding to repair



The City hosted its second-ever Arab American Heritage Month Series with a slate of events throughout the month of April. The series was hosted by the Arabic-speaking Medford Connector, Charbel Hayek, and Community Liaison, Samira Hayek, from the Medford Community Engagement Team.

The team held three events throughout April to celebrate Arab American Heritage Month, and educate the community about traditions, history, music, food, and culture.

Learn more here.

Medford Secures \$850K in Federal Funding to Transform Hegner Center into a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Site

The City has secured \$850,000 to help transform the Dorothy T. Hegner Center into a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness site serving the community, announced Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn. The funding is part of an \$11M federal package for MA-5 community projects secured by Congresswoman Katherine Clark.

The Hegner Center site will be renovated into a community space that the City will use to coordinate emergency responses and will serve as a resiliency hub for residents during climate emergencies. The site will also host after-school programming through the City's recreation department and other community-oriented events when not being used for emergencies.

Read more here.

Medford Now Accepting Outdoor Dining Applications for 2024 Season approximately 40 roads that have cracks and gaps identified in the Pavement Assessment plan as in need of maintenance, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced.

This type of weathering occurs when water infiltrates roadway surfaces causing the asphalt to expand, leaving gaps in the pavement which can potentially cause damage to vehicles and pedestrians. Through a process called 'crack sealing', these narrow cracks in the roadway are filled with liquid asphalt that seal the opening and prevent water and other liquids from infiltrating the surface. Crack sealing is a preventative measure that prolongs the life of a road and avoids having to make major structural repairs.

Read more here.

Funeral for Medford World War II Veteran Held at Saint Joseph's Church on Monday, April 29



World War II veteran and Medford resident Manuel John Pimentel was laid to rest following a funeral service at Saint Joseph's Church on Monday, April 29 at 11 a.m. A funeral procession then followed Corporal Pimentel to a cemetery in Cambridge.

The service began at 11 a.m. at Saint Joseph's Church on High Street. The group then traveled down High Street to the Rotary, down Winthrop Street to Route 16 (Mystic Valley Parkway) and into Cambridge.

Read more here.

City of Medford Financial Task Force to Develop Plan for Investments in City and School Buildings and Operations

The Financial Task Force, a group

The City's Department of Planning, Development and Sustainability is now accepting applications for the 2024 Outdoor Dining program for eligible restaurants and eateries interested in offering outdoor dining options. Medford's outdoor dining season will continue through October 31. The application is available here under "Licensing." Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Read more here.

Medford Funds over \$2.5 Million Worth of CPA Projects in FY24



Over \$2.5 million in funding was approved for sixteen Community Preservation Act projects by the City Council in FY24. The projects range from assisting with housing stability, ADA improvements, park renovations and more.

CPA funds are distributed each year through a grant application process. City departments, organizations, and community members can apply for projects that benefit the Medford community. Public feedback will be utilized when the CPC considers the next application round, which will open on July 8, 2024. There are currently two open seats on the CPC. Submit an application form at https://medfordma.org/boards-commissions.

Read more here.

Medford Hosted National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on April 27

comprised of City Councilors, School Committee Members, City staff and the Mayor, have been meeting regularly since early fall to analyze the current fiscal landscape of the City, identify key budget priorities and develop a sustainable strategy that produces tangible results for the community in the upcoming FY25 budget.

The group will release a proposal for major financial investments in city and school capital needs, school operations expenses and street and sidewalk work by the end of the fiscal year on June 30th.

Learn more here.

Credit Agency S&P Global Affirms Medford's AA+ Bond Rating

S&P Global affirmed the City's AA+ credit rating, the second highest possible rating for a municipality, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced. When deciding on its rating, S&P cited Medford's "consistent financial results and improved reserve levels," as well as noting that the City's levels of taxable new growth had "rebounded from pandemic-related slowdowns," and that local receipts "outperformed" budget estimates.

Read more here.

Mayor Lungo-Koehn Appoints Medford Deputy Chief Todd Evans as Interim Fire Chief

Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn has appointed Medford Deputy Chief Todd Evans as interim chief of the Medford Fire Department. Evans joined the Medford Fire Department in 2001. He was promoted to Deputy Chief in 2021.

Read more here.

Medford Residents Have Recycled 708 Pounds of Unwanted Clothing this past month

Through its partnership with Helpsy, a



The Medford Police Department and the Medford Board of Health are hosting a National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 27, from 10am to 2pm, at the City Hall rear lot (85 George P. Hassett Drive), and Wegmans (3850 Mystic Valley Parkway). National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while educating the public about the potential for abuse of medications. This service is free and anonymous for residents.

Learn more here.

Medford Arts Council Seeking New Members

The Medford Arts Council is currently looking to fill up to seven spots on the board, including officer positions. Council members will play an important role in supporting arts and culture in Medford.

Learn more <u>here</u>.

textile recycling company, the city has been able to help residents recycle 708 pounds of unwanted clothing in March.

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.

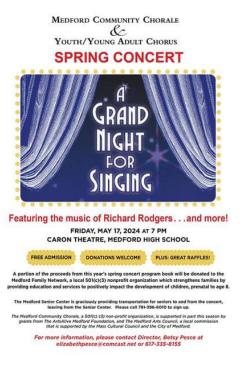
Free Curbside Composting in Medford



Starting this July, the City has partnered with Garbage to Garden to bring free composting services to Medford residents and the waitlist is open!

Join the waitlist for these services now and find more information at medfordcomposts.com. If you want to start composting now, you can sign up for Garbage to Garden services at a special rate of \$8.99/month and you will automatically be enrolled in the free service starting this July 1.

Community Chorale Spring Concert



The Medford Community Chorale and Youth/Young Adult Chorus Spring Concert, "A Grand Night for Singing," is Friday, May 17 at 7pm! The show is free and will be at the Caron Theatre at Medford High School.

Memorial Day Celebration



Please join Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn for the Memorial Day Ceremony to honor and remember the brave veterans we've lost. The ceremony will take place on May 27, 2024 at 10am at Oak Grove Cemetery.

Save the Date: Porchfest 2024



Medford Porchfest is back! The second annual citywide festival of neighbors and music is on Saturday, June 1 from 12-5pm (rain date Sunday, June 2).

Porchfest is a festival in which neighbors host musical acts outdoors on their porches (patios, driveways, or lawns!) in a live, free, public performance at locations all around the city.

Learn more about performing or hosting a performance (deadline to sign up: Monday, May 20), or volunteering here: https://medford.porchfest.info.

Do you want to help make Porchfest happen? Learn more about volunteering here.

Visit https://medford.porchfest.info/ to learn more. Follow Medford Porchfest on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Medford Porchfest is grateful for financial support from the Medford Arts Council.

First Citywide Track Meet



The Medford Recreation Department, alongside Run Medford, will be hosting a Citywide Track Meet on June 14 at Hormel Stadium. The meet will be for Medford residents only grades 1 through 8. Participants will be competing in running and throwing events such as, long jump, shot put, javelin, dash, hurdles, and a 5K.

This event is FREE, but registration is required.

Find more information and sign up here.

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!



<u>Sign up here</u> to receive Go Green Medford's periodic newsletter with updates on programs, events, and other news from the Office of Planning, Development, and Sustainability!

The City Council has launched a <u>monthly newsletter!</u> Read the latest edition <u>here</u> and sign up to receive the newsletter delivered directly to your inbox by emailing ahurtubise@medford-ma.gov.



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 <u>online events calendar</u>. Meetings and event details are added frequently, so please check the calendar for updates.

EVENTS/HOLIDAYS

- May 11: Mayor's Cup Invitational
- May 12: Mother's Day
- May 17: Community Chorale Concert
- May 18: Haitian Flag Day Celebration
- May 18: Paint Shed Day
- May 19: Herring Run and Paddle
- May 27: Memorial Day Ceremony -City Hall closed
- May 29: Black Health Series #4
- May 31: Pride Flag Raising and

MEETINGS

May 13

- 6:00pm: Medford Comprehensive High School Building Committee (MCHSBC) Meeting
- **6:30pm:** Bicycle Advisory Commission Meeting
- 7:00pm: Historical Commission Meeting

May 14

• 5:00pm: Traffic Commission

Festival

Meeting

• **6:30pm**: Community Preservation Committee Meeting

• 7:00pm: City Council Meeting

May 15

3:00pm: School Committee
 Behavioral Health and Special
 Education Subcommittee Meeting

 5:15pm: City Council Resident Services and Public Engagement Committee Meeting

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

May 16

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

May 20

• 6:00pm: Climate Equity 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:

- City Solicitor
- Assistant City Solicitor
- Supervisor of Water and Sewer
- Tree Climber (Urban Forester)
- Registered Sanitarian
- Payroll Clerk
- Part-Time Senior Clerk (Elections)
- MEO III Motor Equipment Repairperson
- 911 Telecommunications Dispatcher

Other/Ongoing Positions:

Traffic Supervisors

To apply, visit <u>medfordma.org/for-residents/jobs</u>, 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.





