

August 6, 2024

### **Message from the Mayor**



Hello Medford,

It's been a warm summer but the heat hasn't slowed us down in City Hall and we're making big progress on a number of exciting projects! This month, we opened the first phase of renovations at Carr Park and unveiled the newly outfitted Gillis Park to the community with ribbon cuttings. We're also moving along with our back-to-school supply drive, which ends August 15, our first citywide yard sale, Run Medford sign ups and more.

Here are a few of our recent highlights:

- The Carr Park Phase I renovation is partially open to the public and the Gillis Park renovation is fully open as of July! Carr Park Phase I included new pickleball courts, a loop path, improvements to the baseball fields, and more. Gillis Park includes a full reconstruction of the baseball field, a new accessible entrance and loop path, picnic area and outdoor adult fitness area. Thank you to everyone that worked on these projects, we are so excited to see everyone enjoying them!
- Seniors, ages 60 and over, are invited to apply for the Senior Work-Off Abatement Program. The program offers seniors the opportunity to temporarily lower their real estate tax payments by working for the City and begins on September 5, 2024. Find more information <a href="here">here</a>.
- Lastly, don't forget that early voting for the September 3 State Primary Election is beginning on Saturday, August 24 through Friday, August 30 on the first floor of City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Drive. Learn more about ways to vote in this election here.

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!

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**JULY 15 - AUGUST 15** 

ACCEPTING THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS:



Our back-to-school supply drive is in its final weeks! The last day to drop off new, unused supplies is August 15 at City Hall, room 202, during regular business hours.

### Parks and Pond Project Updates





In July, we officially cut the ribbon on the first phase of renovations at Carr Park and celebrated with a pickleball tournament on the new courts!

This first phase also includes a loop path, the Stowers Avenue Path and improvements to the central baseball fields (that will remain closed to the public until next spring so the newly seeded lawn can establish).

The \$2.8 million first phase was funded through a federal grant with additional support coming from CPA and ARPA funding.

Thank you to everyone who worked on bringing these improvements to life including our Planning, Development and Sustainability Office, Recreation Department, DPW, CBA Landscape Architects, Quirk Construction and of course our community for expressing their priorities for this space!





We installed new plants at the Wright's Pond rain garden to more effectively clean water coming off the parking lot before it enters the pond, removing many pollutants that can impact wildlife and swimming.

We planted baptisia australis (blue wild indigo), grass carex pensylvanica (Pennsylvania sedge), iris versicolor (blue flag iris), liatris spicata (dense blazing star), and grass schizachyrium scoparium (little bluestem) in the new garden and it's looking great!

Thank you to our DPW for prepping the soil and helping with the installation, as well as our Office of Planning, Development, and Sustainability, Medford Recreation, Medford Community Garden, and our other volunteers for helping put this garden together.

Also planted at the pond were 36 pollinator plants to help support pollinators like butterflies and bees in the area. Thank you to the Somerville Community Growing Center and the Tufts Pollinator Initiative for these.

For more information on pollinators and garden initiatives in Medford, visit medfordma.org/pollinators.





We officially cut the ribbon on the newly renovated Gillis Park and capped off the event with a wiffle ball game against Medford Youth Baseball!

This \$1.4 million project included a full reconstruction of the baseball field, a new accessible entrance and loop path, picnic area and outdoor adult fitness area.

Big thank you to Bill O'Keefe of Medford Youth Baseball for getting this project started with a CPA grant application several years ago as well as our Office of Planning, Development and Sustainability for securing additional state grant funding. We also invested American Rescue Plan Act funding to support this project.

Much of the design was informed by our Department of Public Works and Parks Division, as well as Medford Youth Baseball.

This is such a wonderful new community space and I can't wait to watch more games played here. Play ball!

### Visiting the MRWA After-School Program



Teaching our students about how we can keep our river clean is so important. Thank you to our City Engineer Owen Wartella and Assistant Civil Engineer Ahmet Caus who talked with 3rd-5th graders in Mystic River Watershed Association's after-school program at the Missituk before classes ended for the summer.

MA DEP is installing infiltration trenches in our community and Owen and Ahmet explained to the students how technology works and how it's strengthening the health of the Mystic River!

### **Amelia Earhart Dedication**





On Amelia Earhart's 127th birthday we rededicated a plaque on the site of her former home in Medford that is more representative and connects her extraordinary achievements to our community.

Thank you to the Medford Historical Society & Museum for organizing this amazing event, to Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll for being part of the ceremony and to Dr. Arnold, Commander Young and Amelia's family for sharing some insight into one of our most famous residents.

Calling Exhibitors for the Harvest Your Energy Fest!



#### Sign up to be an exhibitor at Harvest Your Energy Festival!

Are you a local business, organization, or school group passionate about environmental sustainability and climate action?

The City of Medford invites you to sign up as an exhibitor for Harvest Your Energy Festival! The annual event will be held on Saturday, October 19th from 12-3pm at Riverbend Park and is a great opportunity to raise awareness about your group and share resources with community members. In addition to exhibitors, the event will have live music, food trucks, electronics recycling, a beer garden, and more!

Learn more and RSVP for the festival at this link: https://forms.gle/xHab3pC8brP1R6ab9.

If you have any questions, please contact <a href="mailto:enviro@medford-ma.gov">enviro@medford-ma.gov</a>.

### **Recent News**

# Voting Information for the September 3 State Primary Election



Early voting for the September 3rd State Primary Election will be held from Saturday, August 24 through Friday, August 30 in the City of Medford. Early voting will take place on the first floor of City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Drive.

In addition to early voting, Medford residents have two other options for casting ballots for the upcoming election: mail-in ballots or voting on Election Day, September 3.

Learn more here.

### Medford Opening Applications for Senior Work Off Real Estate Tax Abatement Program

The City of Medford's Council on Aging and Office of the Assessor invites seniors, ages 60 and over, to apply for the Senior Work-Off Abatement Program. Through this program, seniors have the opportunity to lower their real estate tax payments by temporarily working for the City.

The work program will begin on September 5, 2024, and must be completed on or before February 23, 2025.

Find more information here.

Medford to Host Inaugural Citywide Yard Sale on September 21st and 22nd

#### Medford Historic District Commission Seeking New Members

The City of Medford is seeking new members to serve on the Historic District Commission. Interested residents should <u>fill out an online application</u> and include a letter of interest as well as a resume to be considered for appointment by Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn. The deadline to apply is August 30th.

The Historic District Commission is charged to preserve, protect, and promote the rich history and culture that can be found in the City's neighborhoods through the establishment and administration of local historic districts. The City currently has two districts, the Hillside Avenue District and Marm Simonds District, and is considering or actively pursuing the creation of additional areas. The Commission reviews applications for alteration and repairs to the exterior of buildings visible from the public right of way.

Read more here.

## City Hosting Back-to-School Supply Drive



The City is hosting a back-to-school supply drive from July 15 through August 15, announced Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn. Supplies will be distributed by Medford Public Schools to local students in need of supplies.

Donations will be accepted at Medford City Hall, Room 202, during normal City Hall business hours (M, T, Th: 8:30am-4:30pm; W: 8:30am-7:30pm; F: 8:30am-12:30pm). Items needed include backpacks, calculators,



The first-ever Citywide Yard Sale is taking place across Medford on Saturday, September 21 and Sunday, September 22 from 10am to 1pm, announced Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn. All residents are invited to declutter their homes and make some extra money in the process or walk our neighborhoods and shop.

The Citywide Yard Sale will feature yard sales at homes across Medford. A map for all Saturday locations and a map for all Sunday locations will be published before the event with the addresses of homes that sign up for each day. Everyone is invited to host a yard sale, shop other sales, or both.

Learn more here.

### City Partially Opened Carr Park Phase I Renovations to the Public



The Carr Park Phase I renovation is partially open to the public as of July 19, announced Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn. The City held an ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday, July 22 at 4 p.m. to officially unveil the new space with a pickleball tournament following the event. The \$2.8 million first phase of the renovation has been completed, with a partial opening due to the growing time of the field seeding.

markers, pencils, scissors, wet wipes, and more.

Read more here.

"The goal of this massive Carr Park renovation was to create an accessible and sustainable green space that would serve our community in a variety of different ways," said Mayor Lungo-Koehn. "Thank you to the entire parks project team, including our Department of Planning, Development and Sustainability, Recreation Department and Department of Public Works for your work on transforming this park."

Read more here.

### **Upcoming Events**



Celebrate Brazilian Independence Day with us! Come to City Hall on Saturday, August 17 from 1pm-4pm for food, music, games for kids, and resources from local businesses and organizations!

The United India Association invites everyone to celebrate the Spirit of India on Sunday, August 11 from 4pm-8pm! Come to Columbus Park for this free event and celebrate with live entertainment, fun family activities, food, music, vendors, and more.



### Adopt a Tree



Adopt a tree and help our canopy thrive! In order for our trees to mature and stay healthy, they need to be watered for the first three years of their lives.

You can help this mission by adopting a tree, which entails filling a tree's watering bag every week or every other week from May to October, removing the bag for the winter, returning it for the spring, and keeping the area around the tree free of weeds.

To adopt your own tree, fill out the form at https://www.treesmedford.org/adopts.

### Free Curbside Composting in Medford

The City has partnered with Garbage to Garden to bring free composting services to Medford residents and service is available now!

You can find more info on the program and signing up at medfordcomposts.com.



### Sign Up for Run Medford 2024



Run Medford returns on September 27 & 28 this year! This year, Run Medford includes Jerry's Run for all Ages 5K Race, a kids' fun run, 5-mile race, high school mile, VIP/Celebrity mile, and more.

For more information and to register, visit runmedford.com.

### 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 <u>medfordma.org/alerts</u> 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!



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/

The City Council has launched a <u>monthly newsletter!</u> Sign up to receive the newsletter delivered directly to your inbox <u>here</u>.

### **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**

- August 2: Mystic River Family Fun Day
- August 6: National Night Out
- August 11: Spirit of India
- August 15: Last day of Back-to-School Supply Drive
- August 17: Brazilian Independence Day Celebration

#### **MEETINGS**

#### August 7

- **5:00pm**: Hormel Stadium Commission Meeting
- **6:30pm**: Community Development Board Meeting

#### August 12

 7:00pm: Historical Commission Meeting

#### August 13

- **5:00pm:** Traffic Commission Meeting
- **6:30pm:** Community Preservation Committee Meeting
- 7:00pm: City Council Meeting
- **7:00pm**: Oak Grove Cemetery Commission Meeting

#### August 16

• **5:30pm:** 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 <a href="medfordma.org/jobs">medfordma.org/jobs</a>. The webpage is updated regularly, but current opportunities include:

#### **Current Positions:**

- City Solicitor
- Supervisor of Water and Sewer
- Registered Sanitarian
- Superintendent of Water and Sewer
- Assistant Transportation Engineer
- PW 5.5/MEO II & Laborer
- Field Engineering Aide
- Head Clerk (Office of Planning, Development, and Sustainability)
- Assistant City Clerk
- Part-time Teen Librarian
- · Part-time Children's Librarian

#### 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.







City of Medford | 85 George P Hassett Drive | Medford, MA 02155 US

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