

October 7, 2024

Message from the Mayor



Hello Medford,

We had a busy September with a ton of projects and events. If you missed anything, don't worry—we have lots of great events outlined below, as well as so many more scheduled for October, including Oktoberfest, Hispanic Heritage Month Pop-Up Restaurant, Harvest Your Energy Festival, Pumpkin Float, and more!

Here are a few of our September highlights:

- The City has released an RFP with the exciting opportunity to help redevelop cityowned parcels in Medford Square. This RFP is part of our plan to revitalize Medford Square by promoting housing, commercial, and economic growth in the area. Learn more <u>here</u>.
- Our Clippership Pop-Up Park opens on Wednesday, October 9 at 4pm! This park is
 a space where Medford Recreation can host fun programming, residents can hang
 out and enjoy outdoor games, and City staff can gather opinions on the future of our
 waterfront and Medford Square. We hope you'll join us on the 9th for live music,
 crafts, painting, ice cream, and more.
- We've secured a \$200K PARC grant for shade improvements at Riverside Plaza!
 The grant will be used to further develop this space with permanent shade sails, an accessible floating deck, mature shade trees, mobile seating, tables, and a water bubbler/bottle filler.
- We are so excited to officially open the universally accessible McGlynn Elementary School playground this Tuesday, October 8, at 3:30pm! All are invited to celebrate and play in this new space that is suited for children of all abilities. Read more about the project 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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Run Medford 2024 was a huge success! The whole weekend saw over 800 runners participate, a big increase from last year!

Congratulations to all the winners and everyone who crossed the finished line! A huge thank you to Dave McGillivray, his team at DMSE, Medford Police Department, Medford Fire, DPW and Medford Recreation for helping to organize. And of course, a very big thank you to everyone who volunteered during the events. You helped make both days a truly special experience for everyone involved!

Citywide Yard Sale & Lemonade Stands



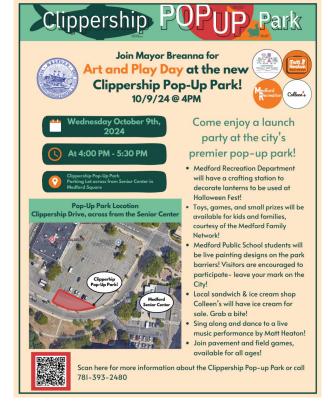




It was a great weekend of shopping sales and drinking lots of lemonade, despite some inclement weather, at our Citywide Yard Sale and Lemonade Stands! Special thank you to Owen, who came up with the idea of having a citywide lemonade stand day after using his entrepreneurial skills to make money by selling lemonade with his friends, and to Councilor Callahan for bringing his idea to my attention.

Clippership Pop-Up Park Opening!

Join us to cut the ribbon on the new Clippership Pop-Up Park on Clippership Drive (in the parking lot across from the Medford Senior Center) on Wednesday, October 9 at 4pm.



There will be a crafting station, live painting of the park barriers (all are welcome to participate), games, live music by Matt Heaton, ice cream for sale, and more. Although the park is located in the parking lot, we've actually gained a parking space due to restriping work, so there will be plenty of parking available for this event and beyond.

Learn more about the park here!

Recent News

In-Person Early Voting Information for the State Election



In-person early voting for the November 5 State Election will be held from Saturday, October 19 through Friday, November 1 at Medford City Hall. Early voting will take place in Medford City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Dr., at the schedule here.

Medford Releases Concept Plans for New Fire Headquarters

Important Reminders on Parking Rules and Regulations

With an increase of foot traffic, especially near the City's schools and public spaces due to the beginning of the school year, the Parking Department is reminding the community about several important rules and regulations for safely navigating the City.

For more information and details about the Medford Parking Department and operations,

visit www.medfordma.org/parking.

Read more here.

City to Transform Parking Lot Along Clippership Park into a Pop-up Park

The City is transforming an area of the parking lot adjacent to Clippership Park along Clippership Drive into a temporary pop-up park to host community programming, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the park is scheduled for October 9 at 4 p.m. The pop-up park will feature

As the progress of the new Fire Headquarters moves into the design phase, the City has released the concept plans from Architecture firm, The Galante Architecture Studio, Inc. (TGAS), marking the different iterations of how the facility has evolved.

The City worked with the Fire Department, Medford Fire Fighters Union Local 1032, Department of Public Works, Engineering Department and the Office of Planning, Development and Sustainability to adjust the concept plans over the course of several months based on the input of stakeholders to deliver plans that will inform the design phase of the new headquarters.

Learn more here.

Detailed Explanation Timeline: City to move forward with assessment center leadership hiring process for the Medford Fire Department

The Massachusetts Civil Service Commission has denied the Medford Fire Fighters Union Local 1032's request to reopen its investigation that sought to prevent the City and its administration from conducting an assessment center examination procedure to promote a candidate within the Medford Fire Department to the positions of Deputy Chief and Chief, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced.

The Union initially requested an investigation on February 14, 2024, when the Union filed a petition with the Commission asking the Commission to investigate " ... the legality of the City's alleged refusal to implement promotions in accordance with the promotional procedures set forth in G.L. c. 31." The investigation request stemmed from the Mayor's request to the City Council that they support special legislation to remove the position of Fire Chief from the Civil Service Law.

Read more here.

programming like concerts and movie nights in partnership with Medford Recreation throughout the fall, spring, and summer seasons, weather permitting. There will also be tables, chairs, and games available when the space isn't actively programmed. The City will additionally use the space to launch future waterfront project updates and outreach events.

Read more here.

How to Protect Yourself Against Mosquito-Borne Diseases

The Medford Board of Health and Massachusetts Department of Public Health urge residents to be aware of the risk of mosquito-borne diseases and take precautions to prevent mosquito bites that could develop into serious illnesses. Diseases like West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) will continue to be a threat in Massachusetts until the first frost of the year.

WNV and EEE are most commonly transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. The mosquitoes that carry these viruses are common throughout the state, but WNV is particularly prevalent in mosquitoes in the Greater Boston region right now, including Medford. Most people infected with WNV will not become seriously ill, however, people above the age of 50 years old are at a higher risk of developing severe illness.

Read more here.

Medford Offering Up to \$25,000 in Low-Interest Loans to Increase Safe Housing Options for Qualified Homeowners

City Reminds Residents to "Clean Up, Seal Up" to Help Curb Rodent Population

As warmer weather lingers through the fall, our winters become milder, and more people continue to congregate outside, the environment is ripe for rodents and other animals to scrounge for food, shelter, and water. To help curb this rodent activity, the City is reengaging its education campaign "Clean Up, Seal Up" to address rodent control, prevention, education, and enhance compliance with regulations. The campaign provides actionable items for the public to perform that will make it harder for rodents to populate.

Residents and property owners who feed birds and wildlife, may not appropriately pick up pet feces, have open water sources, open trash, or accumulation of debris in their yards, improperly maintained composting, barrels with cracks and holes or overgrowth on their property are all contributing to the current rodent problem facing most communities. Unfortunately, those conditions if not addressed will result in enforcement efforts, including citations and fines, by the Board of Health.

Read more here.

City Hosted Public Hearing on CDBG Funding

On Thursday, September 19 at 6pm, the City of Medford's Office of Planning, Development and Sustainability held a public hearing to review the City's annual Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for last year's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. The City encourages all interested residents to attend the hearing and provide thoughts and comments on the CAPER and the City's future use of CDBG funds. The hearing was held in-person in Room 207 at Medford City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Drive, and through Zoom.

Read more here.



The City of Medford invites low to moderate-income homeowners who live in owner-occupied homes in Medford to apply for low-interest, deferred payment loans of up to \$25,000 through the Housing Rehabilitation Pilot Program, announced Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn.

The loans will support projects up to \$25,000 to expand safe and sanitary housing options in Medford. Projects can include repairs to foundations, heating systems, insulation, walls/ceilings/floors, painting, plumbing, electrical, siding/roof, porches/steps, windows, and more. Program staff will hire a qualified rehabilitation specialist to determine the scope of work and identify qualified contractors through a bidding process.

Learn more here.

City to move forward with assessment center leadership hiring process for the Medford Fire Department

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Learn more here.

Donate Winter Clothing!



Join the Community Engagement Team and me for our Winter Clothing Drive! Donate new or gently used coats, jackets, hats, gloves, or scarves from now until October 31 at the following drop box locations:

- Medford City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Dr.
- Medford Public Library, 111 High St.
- Medford Police Department, 100 Main St.
- Medford Family Network, 489 Winthrop St.

Items will be professionally cleaned and distributed at our Winter Preparedness event at the Medford Public Library on November 14 from 6:30pm-8:30pm.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

Saturday, October 26, 2024 10am-2pm

- Medford City Hall rear parking lot (85 George P. Hassett Drive)
- Wegmans (3850 Mystic Valley Parkway)

The Medford Police Department and the Medford Board of Health are hosting a National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, October 26, from 10am to 2pm at the City Hall rear lot (85 George P. Hassett Drive), and Wegmans (3850 Mystic Valley Parkway).

This service is free and anonymous for residents.

For more information about National Take Back Day, please visit https://takebackday.dea.gov/ or call 781-393-2449.

Pumpkin Float Donations & Save the Date!



Do you have empty detergent bottles, soda bottles, or gallon milk jugs? Consider donating them to be decorated for the Halloween float!

To donate, please bring empty bottles to the collection box outside the Mayor's Office at City Hall – Room 202 by October 23.



Save the date for Halloween Fest 2024, featuring the fourth annual Pumpkin Float & Lantern Walk!

Join us at Wright's Pond on Saturday, October 26 from 6pm-8:30pm. Costumes are encouraged and there will be live music, concessions, crafts, a beer garden, and more!

Harvest Your Energy Festival

Join us for the Harvest Your Energy Festival on Saturday, October 19 from 12-3pm at Riverbend Park!

It will be a great afternoon of live music, food, local art, electronics recycling, a beer garden, familyfriendly activities, and more.

Check out <u>medfordenergy.org/gogreen/harvest-your-energy-festival/</u> to find more information and see this year's exhibitors.



Sarah Bradlee Fulton Day



Help celebrate Sarah Bradlee Fulton Day, on Saturday, October 19, at 10am at Medford Square's Historic Salem Street Burying Ground (rain location: Medford City Hall).

There will be a special appearance by President Washington on horseback, Colonial Navy of Massachusetts Fifes and Drums, Fiddlers, an original play, a historic walk (starting at 10am), Colonial/Revolutionary activities, and free hot chocolate!

September Good News



Thank you to President Sunil Kumar for having me at the annual Tufts University Day of Service. It's so wonderful seeing the Tufts student body come together for such a selfless and inspiring act of bettering their community!

Thank you to all of the Tufts students who are cleaning up around Medford High School and beyond!

Stopped by Bellevue Pond in the Fells to help promote our 'Be Kind' campaign and remind people to help keep this wonderful green space clean and accessible.

Thank you to the team at DCR, Friends of the Fells, Senator Jason Lewis and his staff, and my colleagues in Melrose, Malden, Stoneham and Winchester for working together on this



important project.



Some things change, some things stay the same. Lucky for us, what has changed is a brand new electric Zamboni for Loconte Rink, replacing the 30 year old one that was breaking down. What hasn't changed is Tony Bova and his dedication and support for Medford Recreational Hockey!

Thank you to the team at Medford Recreation for helping coordinate purchasing this much needed Zamboni with ARPA funding.

Thank you, Medford Recreation, for organizing another fun regatta at Wright's Pond!

Great job to all the participants, including the ones that gave us some laughs.





Our Electric Vehicle Showcase was a big success thank you to the Electrify Medford team for planning this. We had lots of people stop by ready with questions to learn more about various electric vehicles, including the bike pictured here!

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!

In July and August alone, Medford will turn 112 tons of food waste into compost!

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



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 monthly newsletter! Sign up to receive the newsletter delivered directly to your inbox <u>here</u> and read the latest edition <u>here</u>.

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

- October 5: Oktoberfest
- October 5: Fall Craft Fair (Medford Senior Center, 101 Riverside Ave)
- October 8: McGlynn Playground Ribbon Cutting
- October 9: Clippership Pop-Up Park Ribbon Cutting
- October 11: Hispanic Heritage Month Pop-Up Restaurant
- October 14: Indigenous Peoples' Day (City Hall Closed)
- October 18: Senior Flu Vaccine Clinic
- October 18: Hispanic Heritage Month Story Time with MFN
- October 19: Paint Shed Day
- October 19: Sarah Bradlee Fulton Dav
- October 19: Harvest Your Energy Festival
- October 23: Flu and COVID Vaccine Clinic
- October 25: Chamber of Commerce Business Trick or Treat
- October 26: Pumpkin Float

MEETINGS

October 8

- **5:00pm:** Traffic Commission Meeting
- **6:30pm:** Community Preservation Committee Meeting

October 9

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

October 15

• 6:00pm: 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:

Current Positions:

- City Solicitor
- MEO III Motor Equipment Repairperson
- PW 5.5/MEO II & Laborer
- Field Engineering Aide
- Social Services Coordinator
- Makerspace Coordinator
- Part-time Information Reference Librarian
- Principal Clerk (Finance Department)
- Assistant City Engineer
- Superintendent of Water and Sewer
- Senior Clerk (Clerk's Office)
- Emergency Telecom 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.







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

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