



Medford City Council Newsletter

Isaac B. "Zac" Bears, Council President | Kit Collins, Council Vice President
Anna Callahan | Emily Lazzaro | Matt Leming | George A. Scarpelli | Justin Tseng

Welcome to our Summer City Council newsletter! Because we meet less often during the summer, this version will cover the notable items from the months of June through September. Happy reading!

Note that the underlined words in this newsletter indicate links to meeting agendas, live recordings, and other relevant resources in the digital version of this document. To subscribe to future newsletters, go to bit.ly/medfordcitycouncilnewsletter.

Commemorations and Acknowledgements

- We passed a [resolution](#) in memory of Richard Caraviello (6/24).
- We commemorated [Karen Breen's](#) retirement from Medford Public Schools (7/15).
- We passed a resolution in memory of [Bryan Hilliard](#), a talented trumpet player who ran a successful music booking agency, Occasional Brass and Strings (07/15).
- We congratulated the [Tufts University Government and Community Relations team](#), Rocco DiRico, Lisa Perry, Leah Budrow, and Aaron Braddock, for being honored with the Tufts University Distinction Award (7/15).
- On 9/9, Council Commemorated National Recovery Month, hearing from the City's new recovery coach, Chris Summa, and social services coordinator Jason Stone.

General Business

- We passed a resolution opposing [Skrmetti v. United States](#) (6/24) and requesting the strongest possible protections for transgender people.

- We discussed the new [tree ordinance](#), which was referred out of a committee of the whole and is currently under review by our City Solicitor (7/15).
- We passed a [resolution](#) to request an update from the Health Department on rodent issues in Wellington and Glenwood (7/15), as well as one on [Quincy Street](#) (6/24).
- We passed a resolution to request a legal opinion and estimated tax levy impact from the [Good Landlord Tax Credit](#) (7/15).
- We passed for a first reading a [values-aligned local investments ordinance](#), which dictates that the city's funds can only go into companies and funds that align with our values (8/5).
- We approved plans for the MBTA to improve a [bus stop](#) near Tufts (8/5).
- We passed a [petition](#) for National Grid to do work at 136 to 190 Boston Ave (9/9), as well as [197 and 203 Fulton St.](#), [574 Fulton St.](#), and [287 Main St. & Frederick Ave](#) (6/10).
- We passed a resolution requiring a [monthly police chief report](#) about ICE activity in Medford (6/10).

- We passed a revised fiscal year 2026 budget (6/10).
- We passed Common Victualler Licenses for extended hours to the Great American Beer Hall and a license to transfer ownership of CB Scoops, as well as licenses for three new establishments — Localito (a coffee shop in Medford Square), Inspire Cafe (a cafe in the Medford Public Library), and Sidebar (9/9).
- We passed a resolution to support a proposed bill in the state legislature for Fostering Artificial Intelligence Responsibility (9/9).
- We moved \$8,000,000 from free cash reserves to our Capital Stabilization Fund (6/24) and approved \$2,346,101.00 from the stabilization fund appropriations for, among many things, dump trucks for the DPW, three police cruisers, and fire department paving projects (9/9).
- We passed a resolution requesting that the Affordable Housing Trust offer policies to make recommendations on a fractional incentive housing policy as a revenue stream to the affordable housing trust (9/9).

Planning & Permitting Committee

- We reviewed new zoning for Boston Ave, Harvard, and Main St. (6/11).
- We discussed zoning for a special institutional zone for Tufts University (07/16).

Public Health & Community Safety Committee

- We sent to this committee a resolution to discuss methods of protecting dependents of Medford residents who have been abducted and/or deported by ICE (9/9).
- We sent to this committee a resolution to assist Medford residents in accessing social services after cuts by the federal government (9/9).

Public Works & Facilities Committee

- We voted to send a resolution to reduce heavy trucking on neighborhood streets to this committee (6/10).

Resident Services & Public Engagement

- We sent to this committee a resolution to improve off-line access to city services (6/10).

Matt Leming
Chair, Resident Services & Public Engagement

