



The City of
Medford
Massachusetts

02155

December 23, 2022

Message from the Mayor



Season's greetings!

The holiday season is upon us and we have been busy here at City Hall. It's been an eventful end of 2022, with welcoming new businesses, supporting holiday gift drives, and officially opening the Green Line Extension for riders after years of challenges and delays.

As you can see from the items below, we've been busy the last few weeks. A few highlights of the work we've been doing:

- The new Green Line extension opened on December 12, increasing access to public transportation and connections in our area. Welcoming riders for those first rides at the Ball Square/South Medford station was a huge accomplishment and I thank everyone who has spent years working on this project.
- We collected gifts for the annual Wonderfund, supporting DCF children and families, and Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots toy drive, resulting in a U-Haul full of gifts for Wonderfund (our biggest donation yet) and three large boxes for Toys for Tots. Thank you to everyone that donated a gift this holiday season!
- The City is excited to partner with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) to develop priorities and criteria for future redevelopment of up to three City-owned parking lots along Clippership Drive and Riverside Avenue in Medford Square through a community-driven process with your feedback.

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

I hope you have a peaceful and happy holiday season!

Bruce E. Kohl

Recent News

Medford to Receive over \$830K as Part of State Attorney General's Lawsuit Against Opioid Manufacturers

Reminder: Resident Parking Permits are available for purchase for 2023 calendar year



MEDFORD OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND 2022 - 2038

WHAT IS THE OPIOID SETTLEMENT?

- In 2021, the Massachusetts Attorney General reached a settlement agreement with opioid industry participants.
- Massachusetts will receive over \$500M in payments from opioid manufacturers.
- 40% of the settlement will be sub-divided and distributed to Massachusetts cities and towns that signed the agreement, including Medford.

The City of Medford will receive over \$830,000 from a settlement of a statewide class action lawsuit filed by Attorney General Maura Healy against opioid distributors and manufacturers. Paid out over an 18-year period, the administration will use these funds to mitigate the effects of addiction, focusing on prevention, intervention, and supporting those in recovery.

In total, the lawsuit will award \$500 million in payments from the distributors with 40 percent of the settlement distributed to various cities and towns in Massachusetts affected by the opioid epidemic. The other 60 percent will be allocated to the statewide Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund, which will be expended to mitigate the impacts of the opioid epidemic, including expanded access to prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery options.

Read more [here](#).

Medford Reviewing Eight Proposals for Wellington Station Air-Rights Development

The City has received eight proposals from highly qualified developers to a Request for Information (RFI) released in September for city-controlled air rights over approximately 28 acres of MBTA-owned land at Wellington Station.

The following developers responded to express their interest in the opportunity and share preliminary concepts for redevelopment of the site:

- Able Company
- Greystar Real Estate Partners
- HYM
- New England Development
- Preotle Lane and Associates
- QuakerLane Capital
- RISE Together
- The Davis Companies

If you live on a street with resident permit parking, you can purchase your annual parking permit for the 2023 calendar year, which started on December 1 and is ongoing through the new year.

You can purchase online at <https://medford.gtechna.net/permit-portal/>, in person at the Parking Department office in City Hall, Room 110 or at the new kiosk in the parking department lobby. You will need to provide photo ID to prove your age as well as your vehicle registration to obtain a resident parking permit.

[More info](#)

City Boards & Commissions Seeking Residents to Fill Vacancies

The City of Medford is currently accepting applications from Medford residents to serve on one of many City Boards & Commissions.

Residents who are interested in serving on any of the boards and commissions below should complete the Board and Commission Interest Form available at www.medfordma.org/boards.

Completed forms should be submitted via email

to BoardsandCommissions@medford-ma.gov or mailed to the Office of the Mayor at 85 George P. Hassett Drive, Room 202, Medford, MA 02155.

Residents of all backgrounds and abilities are strongly encouraged to apply. Medford city services are available to all residents, regardless of economic situation, race, gender, ability, benefit eligibility, or religious affiliation.

Learn more [here](#).

Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests Available Around Medford

As we begin celebrating the holiday season with friends and family, the City has free at-home COVID-19 test kits available at the following locations:

- The West Medford Community Center
- Mystic Community Market

Read more [here](#).

Medford Residents Have Recycled 745 Pounds of Unwanted Clothing in November



Through its partnership with Helpsy, a textile recycling company, the city has been able to help residents recycle 745 pounds of unwanted clothing in November.

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.

Read more about the Helpsy program [here](#).

Members Selected to Serve on Medford's Charter Study Committee

Eleven community members have been selected to serve on Medford's Charter Study Committee and are tasked with thoroughly analyzing the City's current charter, gathering input from the community and ultimately proposing recommendations on changes and content to the existing document, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced.

- Council on Aging
- Medford Public Library
- Medford Housing Authority
- City Hall

Each kit consists of two tests and there is a limit of two kits per person. Please stop by and help keep our community safe and healthy. If you need help acquiring a kit, please call our multilingual resource line at 781-475-5644.

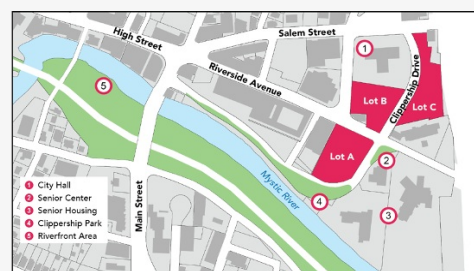
Medford Off-Leash Dog Hours Community Survey Ends

The City launched a community-focused survey this fall to gather input, assess public opinion, and learn more about the potential benefits and challenges for off-leash dog hours in Medford and is now gathering data from the responses. The survey included rank choice questions on which parks users, including individuals and families who do and do not own dogs, would like to have off-leash hours. The survey asked questions of park users regarding which parks, what times of day, and which days of the week off-leash hours should occur.

In partnership with the Department of Public Works, Animal Control, and the Dog Park Commission, the Office of Planning, Development, and Sustainability is now compiling the information gathered from this survey to shape Medford's leash policies.

Learn more about the survey [here](#).

City Launches Community Engagement Process for Potential Redevelopment of Medford Square Parking Lots



The City is partnering with the [Metropolitan Area Planning Council \(MAPC\)](#), the regional planning agency for Greater Boston, to develop priorities

Medford's charter establishes the City's governing system and structure. It specifies term lengths for elected officials, the presence or absence of term limits, the composition of the City Council and School Committee, the City's form of executive leadership, and much more.

For more info, click [here](#).

and criteria for future redevelopment of up to three City-owned parking lots along Clippership Drive and Riverside Avenue through a community-driven analysis and visioning process, Mayor Breanna Lungo-KoeHN announced.

Building on key recommendations from previous planning efforts in Medford Square, including the 2017 Medford Square Master Plan, this effort will engage community members through a series of public meetings and focus groups to confirm priorities for the square and inform development scenarios for the city-owned parking lots and riverfront open space.

Read more [here](#).

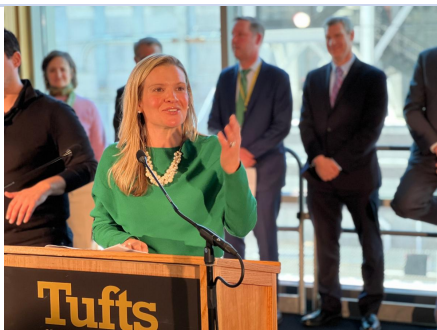
Green Line Extension Now Open to Riders!



On December 12, I helped cut the ribbon and welcomed riders to the brand new Green Line Extension with Somerville Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Christine Barber - State Representative, Rep. Sean Garballey, former Congressman Mike Capuano, and former Somerville Mayor Joe Curatone.

This project was a result of years of advocacy from community members in Medford and Somerville, who sacrificed so much of their time working to get this project finished after so many delays. Thank you to our Community Group members Jim Silva, Laurel Ruma, and City Council President Nicole Morell for helping make today possible.

It was an honor to join countless local voices who have spent years fighting for increased access to public transit in our region and experienced their share of roadblocks along the way. I'm excited to now connect Medford and Somerville to the Green Line and looking forward to increasing the scope of the extension with a potential Phase II of the project.



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www.medfordma.org/alerts

Want to 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!

Medford vs. Malden: Thanksgiving Football 2022

The annual Medford/Malden Thanksgiving football game this year took place at Fenway Park! The Mustangs came up short but we're so proud of the team, the cheerleaders, and the band for doing us proud and representing our City on such a big stage. Congratulations to Malden but watch out, because we're coming for that trophy next year!



Holiday Festivities and Giving

Thousands Attend Winter Extravaganza

We held an incredible Winter Extravaganza this year and loved seeing thousands of your faces at City Hall! A huge thank you goes out to everyone who celebrated the season with us.

This amazing event wouldn't be possible without the hard work of our Director of Community Affairs Lisa Colaianne, the Medford Police Department, the Medford Fire Department, our DPW staff, Medford Recreation Staff, Doug from Electrical, DJ Vanessa Salvucci, local vendors like 4GoodVibes, Deans Concessions, Medford Brewing Company, Wegman's, Stop & Shop and more, local groups like Medford Family Network and the Jingle Bell Festival and our volunteers!



Giving Back: Wonderfund and Toys for Tots Toy Drives

Thank you to everyone who donated such generous gifts for the Toys for Tots program and the Wonderfund this year! All these gifts are going directly to kids and families in and around Medford in need. The team was excited to send off all these gifts, donated by local families, to kids in Massachusetts, with the help of many.

Thank you to the Medford DPW, my staff, Mrs. Baker, Erin Murphy Rafferty, and the Wonderfund volunteers who helped load up all the Wonderfund gifts in a U-Haul - no small task - for delivery. A big thank you to our Veterans Services Director Jeremy Johns for working with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves to bring their Toys for Tots program to City Hall. It also warms my heart that our employees participated as well, donating so many wonderful items, including two bicycles coming from the staff of the parking department!

Thank you to everyone that donated this year as well, because of you, children in need will have a magical holiday. I am always inspired by our City's giving, caring spirit and commitment to helping others, and this year was our biggest donation yet!



Health News + Updates

At-Home COVID-19 Tests Available for Residents

In need of at-home COVID-19 tests? The City has secured kits and is distributing them to the public for free at the following locations:

- City Hall, Room 303 (85 George P. Hassett Drive)
- Council on Aging (101 Riverside Avenue)
- Medford Housing Authority (99 Riverside Avenue)
- Medford Public Library (111 High Street)
- West Medford Community Center (111 Arlington Street)
- Medford Farmer's Market (2501 Mystic Valley Parkway)

Each kit consists of two tests and there's a limit of two kits per person. If you need help acquiring a kit, please call our multilingual resource line at 781-475-5644.

Upcoming Events + Meetings

All events and meetings are listed on the City's online events calendar at www.medfordma.org/city-events. Meetings are added frequently, so please check the calendar for updates.

EVENTS/HOLIDAYS

December 25

- Christmas Day

December 26

- Christmas Day (substitute - City Hall closed)
- Kwanzaa

January 1

- New Year's Day - Happy 2023!

January 2

- New Year's Day (substitute - City Hall Closed)

January 16

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day (City Hall closed)

MEETINGS

December 28

- **7:00pm:** Bicycle Advisory Commission Meeting

December 29

- **7:30pm:** Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

January 9

- **6:30pm:** Energy & Environment Commission Meeting
- **7:00pm:** Historical Commission Meeting

January 11

- **6:00pm:** Medford Special Education Parent Advisory Council Meeting

January 12

- **6:00pm:** Historic District Commission Meeting

January 17

- **6:00pm:** Parks Commission Meeting

January 18

- **6:00pm:** Elections Commission Meeting

January 25

- **7:00pm:** Bicycle Advisory Commission Meeting

January 26

- **7:30pm:** Zoning Board of Appeals 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 www.medfordma.org/departments/personnel/jobs/. The webpage is updated regularly, but

current opportunities include:

- **Full-Time Positions:**

- Director, Economic and Community Development
- Tree Climber
- Chief Assessor
- City Solicitor (Law Department)
- Assistant City Solicitor (Law Department)
- Parking Control Specialist
- Staff Planner, Housing (Planning, Development, Sustainability Department)
- Senior Planner (Planning, Development, Sustainability Department)
- Supervisor of Youth Services (Library)
- Information Technology Director
- Benefits Administrator (Office of Human Resources)

Part-Time Positions:

- Social Worker (Council on Aging)
- Van Driver (5 hours/week)

Other/Ongoing Positions:

- Traffic Supervisors

To apply, visit www.medfordma.org/departments/personnel/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.

