



Operational Status Reports & Departmental Updates

For the Week Ending February 3, 2023

General Administration

Extreme Cold

Town departments prepared for extremely cold weather the weekend of February 3. The wind combined with extremely cold temperatures forecasted the thermometer dipping well below zero. The community was asked to take precautions and look out for one another. If it becomes necessary, the Harvey Wheeler Center will be activated as a warming center. Appreciation to the staff who volunteered to come in and help with the center and all our employees who will be called upon to work in these frigid conditions.

You	Your Car	Your Pets	Your Home
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dress in Layers• Cover Exposed Skin• Stay Dry/ Avoid Sweating• Limit Outdoor Time• Check on Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep Gas Tank >½ Full• Add a Few Blankets• Maintain Tire Pressure• Get a Safety Kit Packed• Notify Family If Traveling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limit Outdoor Time• Bring Outdoor Pets Inside• Cover/ Check Paws• Check Water & Food• Provide Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slow Drip Faucets• Monitor Furnace• Use Caution W/ Indoor Heaters• Check Heating Vents for Ice Buildup

Personnel News

Town Manager Kerry Lafleur is pleased to announce the appointment of **Megan Zammuto** as Deputy Town Manager. Meghan is currently the Asst. Town Manager/ /Executive Director of Municipal Services in the Town of Maynard. In this role, she managed the day-to-day operations of the Office of Municipal Services which includes building, conservation, economic development, housing, planning, public health, and zoning. This includes managing direct reports, and collaboratively working with department heads, volunteers, and community stakeholders. Prior to her work in Maynard, Ms. Zammuto held the role of Economic Development Coordinator for the Town of Lexington. Megan will start in April.



Megan Zammuto

Concord Business Partnership

The Concord Business Partnership held a lunch at the Town House on Wednesday, February 1.

Town Manager Kerry Lafleur and Interim Chief Mulcahy attended, as well as town staff; Jason Bulger, Chris Carmody, Shannon McAndrew, Donna McIntosh, and Beth Williams. Jason and Chris provided an update on the progress of the cell tower location project and encouraged the business community members attending to submit impact statements on the effect the spotty cell coverage has on their business, customers, and clients.

Police Department

Activity Log January 26 – February 1

Log items	791
Traffic Enforcement	73
Motor Vehicle Stops	119
MV Crashes and/or Paper Exchanges	8
Arrests	1

Training/Professional Development

- Lieutenant Monahan and Goldman reviewed safety plans at the Main library with staff.
- Officers Lacure and Rudolph began a weeklong training program in Field Training (FTO) to assume their new roles as field training officers for the department, training its new officers.
- Detectives Paladino and Rodriguez continued their domestic violence training.

Personnel

The Department's newest Public Safety Dispatcher, Brandon Burns, started his career with the department.

Community

Interim Chief Mulcahy attended the Concord Business Partners meeting with other town staff at town house.



Brandon Burns (l), Interim Chief Mulcahy (r)

Fire Department

Personnel News

We are pleased to introduce two new Firefighters to the department this week. Firefighters James Black and Adam Kaminski-Miller started on Monday, January 30th. Both are assigned to training for the next several weeks, after which they will be assigned to their shifts.

Calls for Service

The Fire Department responded to 91 calls for service over the past week. Mutual aid was provided to other communities on eight occasions and received four times.

Emergency Management

The Town of Concord Hazard Mitigation Plan (2022 Update, DRAFT) was accepted by MEMA, with some minor revisions, and is now under final review. The plan can be viewed at <https://concordma.gov/172/Hazard-Mitigation-Plan>.

Asst. Chief Latta attended a meeting with representatives from area fire and police departments, Massport, U.S. military, and private entities to plan for an active shooter drill.



James Black (l), Adam Kaminski-Miller (r)

Training

- Asst. Chief Latta and Lt. Nichols attended training on the CAMEO Database Management Suite. CAMEO is Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations, and this training was made possible by a grant award to the Mystic Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC), of which Concord is a member community.

Municipal Light Plant

- Center Village, one of the participants in CMLP's EV Ready Pilot Program, has completed the installation of dedicated EV charging infrastructure for each of 12 condominium owners. CMLP contributed \$25,000 towards the \$46,000 cost of the project.
- As of January 1st, CMLP has expanded the pool of full battery electric vehicles that are eligible for its EV purchase rebate by increasing the sale price eligibility level from \$50,000 to \$55,000. This change makes our [DriveEV rebate](#) eligibility criteria consistent with the state's criteria for their [mor-ev rebate](#).

Planning and Land Management

Natural Resources

- **Natural Resources Commission meeting of February 1st:** The Commission heard the following projects: A Notice of Intent (NOI) to construct a sidewalk along Rt. 119/2A/Elm Street; a NOI to demolish an existing dwelling and construct a new single-family home at 96 Southfield Road; a NOI to construct a pool at 309 Lindsay Pond Road; and a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) to remove invasive plants at 21 Hawthorne Lane. Permits were issued for the sidewalk construction at Rt. 119/2A/Elm Street, pool construction at 309 Lindsay Pond Road, and invasives removal at 21 Hawthorne Lane. The Commission also approved an amended Trails Committee charge and voted on appointments and term



lengths of Trails Committee members. Four new applications were received for the 2/22/23 including a NOI for a new septic system at 50 Wright Road; a NOI for construction of a porch at 33 West Circle; a NOI for construction of an addition at 300 Ministerial Drive; and a NOI for redevelopment of a commercial site at 794 Elm Street.

- **Warner's Pond Restoration:** Natural Resources, Engineering, and Recreation staff met with the consultant to review progress for the alternatives analysis for Warner's Pond. The first public meeting is scheduled for March 2 at 7:00 pm and will be a hybrid zoom/in-person meeting. Data collection is nearly complete, and the conceptual designs for dam removal and modified dredging are underway.
- **Westvale-Harrington Park:** Land Manager Will Holden and Trail Steward Bouke Noordij conducted tree pruning along the access easement to the Rogers Community Garden, to ensure safe and clear vehicle passage for community gardeners, trail users, farmers, and town staff. Additional tree pruning was done to a grove of black cherries at the nearby Harrington Park picnic area to improve tree health and remove potentially hazardous branches overhead. See photos to the right.



Economic Vitality & Tourism

- On Wednesday February 1st, EV&T Manager Beth Williams and Communications Manager Donna McIntosh attended the orientation for the **MAPC workshop series, Making it Public**. The course runs 5 weeks in March and April. This workshop series will cover practical and tactical subject matters for facilitating public art, such as stakeholder considerations, community engagement, preparing a call-for-artists, equitable selection processes, contracting, and more.
- On Friday January 27th, EV&T Manager Beth Williams attended the **North of Boston annual tourism summit** and heard from the Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism and other tourism outlets about trends in Tourism for 2023. Trends that we see in Concord continue to mimic the state and regional trends of increased visitors seeking unique and multi-generational experiences. Also, the new Director of the MA film office was introduced and will be the person to work with Concord on any future scouting for movie locations.
- The **National Council of History Educators from Florida** received a grant from the DOE and will be traveling to Concord in June in two groups of 30 and 50 educators. They will have a 2.5 hour tour with Concord Tour Guides and will visit the Concord Museum for workshops.

Planning

- **West Concord Advisory Committee meeting of February 1st:** The WCAC heard a presentation from developer Patrick Cleary about potential changes to the combined business/residence project proposed at 13B Commonwealth Ave. and his interest in increasing the number of residential units from 8 to 20. The committee also discussed the possibility of conducting a public forum to discuss

issues around traffic safety or working with the Transportation Advisory Committee to consider traffic safety improvements in West Concord.

▪ **From the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee update memo of January 26th:**

Phase 2B Update: The completion date is expected to be extended to the end of May 2023 to allow installation of the cedar fence, landscaping, and top course of asphalt on the Acton portion of the trail. MDOT Resident Engineer Michael Winnick has distributed the 2022 Wildlife Culvert monitoring report, which has been added to the BFRTAC web page under the 2023 monthly updates <https://concordma.gov/1830/Monthly-Updates>.

Phase 2D Update from Sudbury resident, Len Simon:

“Construction of the BFRT in Sudbury has begun! Ten years of advocacy at the state level and at municipal committees, forums, and town meetings has finally produced a tangible result. The photo (right) shows the dream is becoming a reality, taken on Monday, January 23, 2023, the first day of construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in Sudbury.



The grubbing started at the diamond just north of Route 20 - where the BFRT will intersect with the Mass and will progress north to Powder Mill Road in Concord. The diamond is clearly visible in the photos. Although it is years away, the next steps are extension of the BFRT down to and across Route 20, then the remaining 1.1 miles in Sudbury to the Framingham line, and finally through Framingham.”

Public Works

NPDES - MS4 Permit - CPW continues to move ahead with ongoing annual requirements, including public participation and education, and updating stormwater data. Water and Sewer Division staff and Engineering staff took the opportunity to engage with 5th grade students at Alcott Elementary School by speaking about issues that affect the Town’s groundwater and waterways. Staff used a groundwater model, which is an educational tool to illustrate water pollution from various sources including faulty septic tanks and excessive use of lawn fertilizers. Additionally, staff spoke to the importance of prevention through shared responsibility and public awareness.

Sight Line Maintenance – The Highway & Grounds crews continued to perform sight line maintenance in several areas throughout Town. Work was completed using line trimmers and hand tools on the following roadways in January: Drum Hill Road, Garfield Road, Hunters Ridge Road, Indian Pipe Lane, Nut Meadow Crossing, Robin Wood, Rollingwood Lane, Spring Road.

Mattress Recycling – Although the Compost Site is closed for the winter season, Concord residents can still schedule an appointment to drop-off their used mattress for recycling. For details, please call Concord Public Works at 978-318-3240, or visit www.concordma.gov/mattress

Facilities

The facilities department is involved in several projects including:

- Snow removal at town building for last week's storm.
- Floor waxing project at Station 1.
- Crown molding installation in the CMLP meeting room.
- Installed boot scrubbers at the Beede Center.
- Addressed a roof leak at 133 Keyes Road, Beede Center and Town House.
- Investigated a gas leak at McGrath Farm stove.
- Relocated a marble bust from the Library rotunda to the second-floor gallery for a Special Collections exhibit.
- Ongoing VRF installation at 37 Knox Trail. Basement units complete.

Council on Aging

Personnel News

We are pleased to announce that **Lauren Baretta** has been promoted to the position of Senior Services Director. Lauren began working for the Town in 2016 as a Program Coordinator and was promoted in 2018 to the role of Assistant Senior Services Director. Her educational background includes a Nursing degree with a specialized focus on senior care and older adults. In May, Lauren will be awarded her advanced Master's degree in Social Work from Boston University.



Lauren has always expressed a passion for the work of the Senior Services department and her career with the Council on Aging.

Over the past six (6) years, Lauren has built strong relationships with the community and staff. With this promotion, we are confident that her qualifications, knowledge and skills will continue to enhance Concord's Human Services Team. As well, her compassion and professionalism will serve the Town well in her new leadership role as a key advocate and resource for Concord's senior population.

Happy 100, Thrus!

Thrus Hammer, a man for all seasons and active member of the Council on Aging, turns 100 years of age on February 5th. Thrus regularly attends the COA'S Men's Group, Coffee & Conversation and he and his wife, Mary, are regular Wednesday Lunch-ers. Thrus has recently been featured in publications around town, but the COA is proud and privileged to consider him one of our own. Thrus received COA'S traditional 100th Birthday Crown and cake on Wednesday, Feb. 3, along with other senior residents who have a February birthday, at the COA's weekly lunch.

