



TOWN OF CONCORD

Office of the Town Manager

Operational Status Reports and Departmental Updates For the week ending October 6, 2023

Police Department – week ending 10/6

Activity Log:

- Log items: 737
- Traffic enforcements: 54
- Motor vehicle stops: 39
- Motor vehicle crashes and/or paper exchanges: 14
- Arrests: 0

Community:

- LOG ITEMS: **737**
- TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT: **54**
- MOTOR VEHICLE STOPS: **39**
- MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES AND/OR PAPER EXCHANGES: **14**
- ARRESTS: **0**

- Sergeant O'Connor and Officer Mailloux assisted the Bedford Police Department with a mock accreditation assessment of their department.
- Officer Simpson attended DVAAP (Domestic Violence Victim Assistance Program) training.
- Sergeant Manchuso and Officer Simpson attended the annual Massachusetts Association of Women in Law Enforcement (MAWLE) Conference in Norwood.
- Officers assisted with the Drop Off/Swap Off event held at the CPW on Keyes Rd.
- Officers assisted with the Concord Public Library 150th Anniversary Celebration Parade.
- Sergeant Bordenca, Officer Mailloux, Officer Fitzgerald, and Officer Maddaleni conducted an Active Shooter Drill for the Army Corps of Engineers on Virginia Road.
- Lieutenant Landers assisted the Weston Police Department with interviews for the rank of Police Lieutenant for their department.
- The Concord Police Relief Association hosted a cookout for our seniors at Concord Council on Aging (Harvey Wheeler).

Library

- The 150th Anniversary celebrations kicked off with a New Orleans revival quintet The Easy Winners who performed a “Swing Era Concert” after the library closed on Friday. 75 people enjoyed rousing renditions of classics from jazz masters like Louis Armstrong and Benny Goodman. On Saturday, September 30th the Library welcomed 275 people for the world premiere of filmmaker Michael Maglaras’



new “essay on film”, Ralph Waldo Emerson: Give All to Love hosted at the Umbrella. The film captured the enraptured attention of the audience for 150 minutes and was followed by a reception in the historic Rotunda at the Library.

- On Sunday, October 1st the Library celebrated its 150th anniversary. The events started off with a proclamation presented by Selectboard Chair Henry Dane declaring it Concord Free Public Library Day in Concord. Rep. Simon Cataldo and Sen. Mike Barrett presented Library Director Emily Smith with a Joint Resolution declaring it Concord Free Public Library Day in Massachusetts. Ralph Waldo Emerson read portions of his speech from the original library dedication in 1873, and even shared a “new” poem. Louisa May Alcott joined the festivities and hundreds of citizens paraded down Main Street to the Library Lawn.



Further remarks were shared by Laura Klein, Chair of the Library Committee, Matt Boger, Vice President of the Friends, and Sherry Litwack, President of the Library Corporation. John “BiblioTech: Why Libraries in the Age of Google” and D. and Catherine T. MacArthur stirring remarks in support of to mark the occasion Concord Joshua Medero hand-cancelled provided by the Library’s Department. Included in the popular photo booth with props May Alcott, William Munroe Ralph Waldo Emerson and Over 1,200 people passed celebration that Sunday. wrapped up the celebrations on Monday, October 2nd with a packed house to listen to a lecture titled “The History of Cinema Since 1873.”



- To see photos from these events or to purchase your own “Getting Lit since 1873” t-shirt go to cfpl150.org
- The party continues through to the end of the year with an exhibition and several displays. Patrons can now visit "Connecting the Community: An Exhibition to Celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Concord Free Public Library," a special exhibition at the Main Library curated by the William Munroe Special Collections, highlighting the history of the library’s buildings, services, and staff. Special Collections also have displays throughout the Main Library including a display on early circulation procedures and a selection of books checked out to Concord residents, including Louisa May Alcott, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Ebenezer Rockwood Hoar, in the first decade of the library’s operation. In the Commons, you can read some of the earliest rules and policies of the library, when it first opened to the public.
- The library staff extend their gratitude to the Selectboard, the Town Manager, Reps. Cataldo and Gentile and Sen. Barrett, the Concord Garden Club, Public Works, Police and Fire, as well as all of the volunteers and staff who made these events such a success.
- The Concord Free Public Library Corporation and the Friends of the Concord Free Public Library are hosting an over 21 party to celebrate the anniversary on October 14th after the Library closes. The Main Library will come alive with a mix of music, art, puppetry, theater, and storytelling. Groove to tunes by local singer/songwriters Sawyer Lawson and Britt Connors and by the Lori Zuroff Jazz Trio. Expect the unexpected from the Concord Players and puppet master Harry LaCoste. Get creative with Art for All and appreciate real-life stories told live with Fugitive

Productions. Food and drinks from local Concord establishments will be served. Tickets can be purchased [online](#). Please note that the Main Library will close at 4pm on Saturday, October 14th in order to prepare for this event. Fowler Library remains open until 5pm that Saturday.

- The Concord Free Public Library is once again open on Sundays at the Main Library from 1pm to 4pm.
- The Concord Festival of Authors begins its 31st year on Friday, October 20th with a keynote presentation by Jennifer De Leon, author of the award-winning Young Adult novels “Borderless”, which was featured on the Today Show. She is also the author of “White Space: Essays on Culture, Race, & Writing” and the editor of “Wise Latinas: Writers on Higher Education”. Her lecture on “The Power of Storytelling” is at 7pm on Friday, October 20th in the Main Library’s Goodwin Forum.

CMLP

CMLP, with the Sustainability Department as a co-sponsor, held an EV Test Drive Event on October 1st in the parking lot at CCHS. One hundred twenty-eight people test drove EVs provided by 17 area car dealers. Most people were test driving an EV for the first time. Another 29 people rode along on those test drives. Seventeen local EV owners were also on hand to display their vehicles and talk with event attendees about their experience of driving electric. A team of 27 people staffed the event, including CMLP staff, the Town’s Sustainability Director, and members of CMLP’s EV Working Group, the Climate Action Committee, Energy New England’s EV Specialist Team and the CCHS Green Team.

Planning and Land Management:

MBTA Communities Zoning – The Planning Board continues to work on the development of a proposed MBTA Communities Multi-Family Zoning warrant article for the 2024 Annual Town Meeting. The Town’s GIS consultant is taking feedback from the September 20th community workshop and comments from the Board at the September 26th Planning Board meeting and developing a Draft Option #1 for the proposed zoning boundary and zoning methodology. The Board will review and discuss Draft Option #1 at the October 24th meeting. Any changes or other options that the Board determines may be needed will then be handed over to the Town’s Inhouse GIS Team to prepare since the contract with the consultant will be completed. At the October 10th Planning Board meeting, the Board will have a general discussion about the trade-off between zoning density and the overlay area, with the understanding that with a higher density, there could be a small area or lower density would require a larger overlay area.

Planning Division – The Town Planner and Town staff from Building, Health, Natural Resources, Public Works, Police, Fire and CMLP met with the developer for a pre-construction meeting for the small 6-unit Planned Residential Development at 48Y Fitchburg Turnpike, which is accessed through the large housing development off Route 117 in Sudbury. The developer will be beginning in the next week or so construction on Route 117 to extend electric utilities to the project site and the initial grading of the site.

Senior Planner Erin Stevens completed 2 grants this past week for the Federal Department of Transportation’s Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant Program. One grant request is for \$150,000 for a feasibility study for a long-term option for a pedestrian crossing of Route 2 and the other is for \$400,000 towards the completion of the required MassDOT 100% construction plans, specifications and estimates for of the Assabet River Multi-model Bridge and Trail in West Concord.

Comprehensive Transportation & Mobility Study - Senior Planner Erin Stevens has been assisting the Transportation Advisory Committee, the Town Engineer and the Town’s consultant on preparations for the upcoming October 17th public workshop. This workshop is between 6:30pm and 8:30pm at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center and is open house style, where

people can come in and participate for the whole time or just a few minutes. Citizen feedback and participation is important no matter how much time someone can spend speaking with the Town's consultant team members from Stantec, members of the Transportation Advisory Committee, Town Staff, and or giving feedback through the poster boards. The first of many opportunities to engage in the process. A dedicated webpage has been set up for the Comprehensive Transportation and Mobility Study (concordma.gov/transitstudy) and people are encouraged to sign up from the Town Homepage through "Notify Me" or through a link on the Study's webpage to receive notifications when updates, announcements, and new information is posted to this page.

Communitywide Historic Preservation Plan - The Town received three responses from historic preservation consultants for the Communitywide Historic Preservation Plan Request For Quotes, along with a signed contract with Massachusetts Historical Commission for a \$25,000 grant. The MHC is currently reviewing the Town's award recommendation and the Town hopes to issue an award in the next week.

Community Preservation Committee – Senior Planner Ann Clifford has been working closely with applicants, Town staff, Town Counsel and Community Preservation Committee members are reviewing 19 recently received Community Preservation Act Funding applications for eligibility and completeness. Site visits and applicant presentations began in mid-September and will continue through November 1st as the Committee works towards a final recommendation on a warrant article for the 2024 Annual Town Meeting.

Sustainability

On Wednesday, September 13th the Town hosted a meeting of the Concord Business Partnership, a coalition of local commercial property and business owners committed to working with the Town to create and maintain a vibrant, diverse, and sustainable business community. The meeting featured opportunities and resources for property owners to electrify and improve the energy efficiency of their buildings, which is an important pathway towards the Town realizing its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and achieving a more sustainable community. The meeting opened with an informative case study of energy efficiency building retrofits presented by the owners of 300 Baker Avenue, followed by Laura Scott of CMLP sharing perspectives on the anticipated impacts and related strategies surrounding increased electrification on Concord's grid infrastructure. Representatives from CMLP and National Grid also provided information on resources available to property owners to support electrification and energy efficiency efforts, including technical assistance, and financial rebates and incentives. The event was well received, and we look forward to continuing to collaborate with Concord's business community.

The Sustainability Division also supported and participated in the popular Electric Vehicle Test Drive event held at CCHS on October 1st (see description in the CMLP update). Kudos to CMLP staff and Energy New England for all their efforts to make this event such a success!

Economic Vitality and Tourism

On Wednesday October 5th, Tour Guides Mary and Stefanie stumped the Concord Business Partnership members with Concord Trivia at their annual meeting.

The bimonthly tourism newsletter.

<https://mailchi.mp/5610d9e187de/business-update-5403448>

