



Town of Concord

Weekly Operations Report

2024 Volume 38/December 20, 2024

General Administration

MCI Concord Redevelopment

The Town of Concord is seeking proposals from qualified firms for assistance with the development of the of an MCI-Concord property vision and scenario land use plan (the “Plan”), a fiscal impact analysis of the Plan, and new zoning and mapping that can achieve the implementation of the Plan through the disposition of the property through a competitive public process by DCAMM. Proposals are due on January 27, 2025. An evaluation team of staff and members of the MCI Concord Advisory Board will evaluate the proposals and issue the award in February. More information on the project can be found on the [Town website](#).

Concord250

With the new year approaching, we are under 5 months away from Patriots Day Weekend and the celebration of the Concord250. Staff have put in many hours of preparation towards a celebratory and safe event to be shared with a wide audience on **Saturday, April 19, 2025**. Public safety staff are working with MEMA on a regional approach planning and preparation. Operational details regarding transportation, parking, road closures, and other logistical details will be shared after the new year.

A training opportunity for volunteers and staff will be held on **Saturday, January 11** at the CCHS with sessions at 9 am and 2 pm. The training, entitled “Until Help Arrives”, is facilitated by MEMA and offers information on what to do in an emergency until the initial first responders arrive. To register, complete the form at the link.<https://forms.office.com/g/iQkNPYmM3G>

Economic Vitality

Food Safety Training Course

In conjunction with the Health Department, a free full day course on food safety, sanitation, supply purchase, and customer service targeting mobile vending and events will be offered beginning in February with three date options. For more information, [see the registration page](#).



Sustainability

Green Communities Recognition

On November 22, the MA Department of Energy Resources held the first Green Communities Summit in Devens, MA that brought together representatives from the 298 Green Communities across the State. Municipalities can receive Green Communities designation by pledging to cut municipal energy use by 20% and meeting a series of criteria, including promoting renewable energy generation through zoning and expedited permitting, establishing an energy use baseline and reduction plan, implementing a fuel-efficient vehicles policy, and adopting high efficiency building codes. Concord was designated a Green Community in 2011 and achieved a 20% reduction in energy use in FY2023 compared to our 2011 baseline. Eric Simms (Sustainability Director) and Jess Porter (Assistant Town Manager/HR Director) attended the Summit and were pleased to accept a certificate of recognition on behalf of Concord for reaching this sustainability milestone. Thanks to all the Town staff, boards, committees, and residents who have contributed to forward-thinking policies and actions over the years that have made Concord a more energy-efficient and sustainable community, and a great place to live and work. Our municipal sustainability efforts serve as a great example for the entire Town!



Sustainability Roundtable

The second Sustainability Roundtable was held on Wednesday, December 11th and attracted approximately 40 participants at the CFPL Goodwin Forum and via Zoom. The

Roundtable is held biannually as an opportunity for continuing conversations and engagement with key sustainability stakeholders, including Town staff, board and committee members, and the general public. The Roundtable included some key Sustainability updates shared by Eric Simms (Sustainability Director), including efforts to conduct investment-grade energy audits for all of Concord's municipal buildings and pursue an Energy Savings Performance Contract to more efficiently manage current and future municipal building energy efficiency and operations needs. The event also featured a key Sustainability stakeholder – the Concord Municipal Light Plant. CMLP Director Jason Bulger shared some highlights of the ongoing efforts of CMLP that have helped Concord to make progress towards the goals outlined in the 2020 Sustainable Concord: Climate Action and Resilience Plan. Current and ongoing efforts included investing in local grid resilience through renewables energy and energy storage, redesigning rates, and successfully shifting to 100% carbon-free electricity seven years ahead of schedule. A recording of the Roundtable can be found [here](#).

Planning and Land

Management

Visitor Center/Tourism

Chanukah Celebration

On Wednesday December 11th, The Town of Concord held its 4th annual

Chanukah Celebration. The

event was held at the Harvey Wheeler Center for the first time this year. This proved to be a fortunate move as the weather was rainy and cold. Despite the challenging weather, over 100 were in attendance and much fun and light was had.

Kerem Shalom provided the musical entertainment, Concord Recreation provided crafts, with the Recreation and Visitor Center staffing the event. Minuteman Media Network



recorded, the Concord Bridge attended, Debra's Natural treated the crowd to amazing latkes, Sign language interpretation was provided for accessibility.



Coming Up

Family Tours will be offered December 23, 24, 26 and 27 and the Visitor Center is open

December 21-29 (closed only December 25, 2024), 9am to 4pm- For Holiday Shopping and Culture.

Health Department

The Health Division met with the Concord Behavioral Health Collaborative on Monday and two new positions were induced. The first is the Regional Prevention coordinator, Olivia Dufour, who is being paid through Concord's Opioid settlement monies. Olivia will work with our 7 member communities on substance use prevention. Second, Juliette Jay started as the Concord Community Clinician through Eliot Community Human Services. Juliette will serve all Concord residents ages youth-100+ as a therapist. This position will serve to help bridge the gap in immediate need for mental health services. Details of the referral process will be shared in the new year.

Police Department

Calls for Service

Thursday December 12th thru Wednesday December 18th, 2024

- LOG ITEMS: 560
 - TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT: 38
 - MOTOR VEHICLE STOPS: 70
 - MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES AND/OR PAPER EXCHANGES: 8
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- ARRESTS: 4

12/13/2024 – Sgt. O'Connor graduated from a two-week First Line Supervisor course at Roger Williams University.

12/16/2024 – Chief Mulcahy updated the Board of Selectman on the preparations for the upcoming 250th Celebration on April 19, 2025.

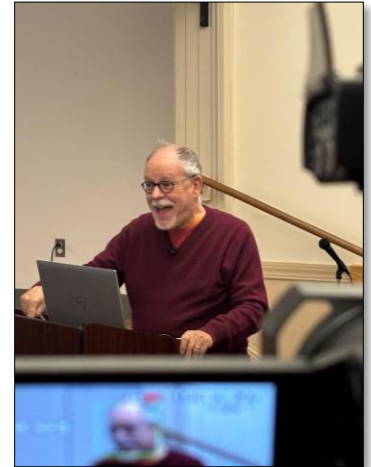
12/14/2024 – Captain Goldman attended a Workplace Violence Roundtable at Emmanuel College sponsored by the Middlesex County District Attorney's Office

Council on Aging

A "Wicked" Good Time at Harvey Wheeler



Gregory Maguire, author of "Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West" and Concord resident, paid a visit to the COA on Tuesday to an SRO house. An engaging speaker, creative writer, humorist and all-around nice guy, Gregory spoke about his childhood in Albany to his first explorations with the idea of evil. His now mega-worldwide thoughts were first



published in 1995, and the rest is history. Gregory was just back from a publicity tour and vowed the COA talk was his last speaking engagement ever. How lucky were Concord senior residents?

Highlights from 2024

In 2024 the COA Outreach team

- served **567** seniors
- with **996** office consultations
- **665** blood pressure clinic visits
- **162** home visits conducted by Outreach





The Concord Council on Aging had a new logo designed by Steve Bermundo

On Saturday, Oct. 5, Harvey's Treasure Chest Gift Shop organized the first-ever mega jewelry sale and garnered over \$8,000 for the COA's activities and programs. Jewelry is donated by the greater public who support Concord senior residents.

