



TOWN OF CONCORD

Town Manager's Report

Week Of: September 28th 2015

Finance News

This week, the Concord Finance Committee begins a series of meetings that will lead to the adoption and issuance of budget guidelines for the FY17 year that begins July 1, 2016. On Thursday evening, October 1st at 7:30 PM, the Committee will meet with representatives of Minuteman Regional High School. In addition to immediate budget issues, the Committee will receive an in-depth briefing on plans to construct a new Minuteman High School building and the projected cost to Concord. This meeting will start at 7:30 PM and will take place in the Hearing Room of the Town House at 22 Monument Square.

On Tuesday, October 6th, the Committee will meet with School Committee and School Administration for the Concord Public Schools and the Concord-Carlisle Regional School District. On Thursday, October 15th, the Committee will meet with the Town Manager. At these meetings, Town and school officers will be responding to a series of questions posed by the Finance Committee in letters issued August 3rd and available on the Committee's website at: http://concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_BComm/

The meetings of October 6th and 15th are scheduled to take place in the Select Board Room at the Town House, starting at 7:30 PM.

The series of meetings continues into November, leading to final adoption of budget guidelines at the November 19 committee meeting with formal communication to be issued to the Town and School Administrations as well as to the Select Board and School Committees by November 30th.

Town of Concord Social Media

We are off to an excellent start in terms of connecting with residents on social media. As of this week, we have 326 'likes' on Facebook, and 83 followers on Twitter.

Residents are encouraged to share any pictures or information that would be interesting to the community. Send submissions to Sean Dugan, Public Information Officer, at sdugan@concordma.gov

www.facebook.com/concordmass
www.twitter.com/concord_MA

Library News

The next 'Using Gmail, Google Docs and More' class will be held on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at the Main Library. All are welcome to attend.

The Concord Free Public Library's Teen Conversation Series invites high school students to meet professional life coach Michelle Wilson to discuss ways to transform stress into authentic success on Friday, October 2, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Main Library's lower level meeting room. Refreshments will be served.

In celebration of October's Massachusetts Archaeology Month, Margaret Watters, PhD, the principal investigator of the Parker's Revenge project at Minute Man National Historical Park, will give an update on the archaeological investigation on Saturday, October 3, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Main Library. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Concord Free Public Library. All are welcome to attend.

Housing Production Plan

The process to prepare the 2015 Housing Production Plan is underway. You may know that Concord's booming real estate market can make finding and maintaining affordable housing difficult for many people.

These are just some of questions that need to be answered by the community to complete the Housing Production Plan. To facilitate the public input process, a **Community Workshop** is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 6, 2015** beginning at 6:30 P.M. at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center, 1276 Main Street, Concord.

The workshop is an open public meeting; all Concord residents, local employees, property owners and business owners are welcome and encouraged to attend. Although registration is not required, **participants are encouraged to register on or before Friday, Oct. 2nd in order to be entered in a drawing to receive a gift certificate to a local restaurant.** Registration is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/pmzofre>.

In addition to the workshop, an Online Survey is also available. All members of the public are welcome to respond to the Survey, which will be available until October 14, 2015. The Survey is accessible at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/92PBDR2> or through links available on the Planning Division webpage.



CONCORD PUBLIC WORKS (CPW)

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2015 Roads Program

Project contractor Lazaro Paving has been preparing for top course pavement installation in the Southfield/Riverdale neighborhood the week of September 21st by adjusting utility castings throughout the neighborhood. Lazaro is scheduled to pave the top course of pavement Monday 9/28 and Tuesday 9/29. Please note the sections of road between 164-232 Southfield Road and 42-111 Pilgrim Road will be top course paved in late spring or early summer 2016; this will allow for anticipated roadway settlement due to the extensive drainage system installed over the summer. Following the paving operations early next week, Lazaro will continue to blend driveway transitions as necessary. Also, they will blend the shoulders of the roadway followed by loaming and seeding. It is anticipated that driveway transitions on Belknap Street will be completed in conjunction with the driveway work in the Southfield and Riverdale neighborhood.

Walden Street Sidewalk

During the week of September 21st, Pecora Contracting began construction of a minor sidewalk extension on Walden Street from Magnolia Street to the Concord Police/Fire Station. Pecora completed the grading of the sidewalk and the installation of the granite curbing. Work scheduled the week of September 28th will include the grading of the sidewalk leading to the Police Station entrance, the installation of the four curb ramps, installation of the stone dust sidewalk, the installation of the hot mix asphalt portion of the sidewalk, and the reconstruction of the driveway aprons. Final completion is scheduled for the middle of October. The project is primarily funded through a private donation.

Hunter's Ridge Road

CPW completed the final public outreach meeting with residents as well as the pre-construction site walk with general contractor Cedrone Trucking, September 24th. Cedrone is scheduled to begin mobilization efforts, erosion control installation and delivering stock materials to the site Monday 9/28. The tentative schedule is for the drainage, water main and individual water services to be installed over the course of the next 3 weeks. Following the utility installation, pavement reclamation, curb adjustments, and the paving of binder course pavement is anticipated. The top course of pavement is scheduled to be installed in late spring or early summer of 2016 to allow for any settlement of the water trench to be repaired following a freeze/thaw cycle. Driveway blending, loam and seeding, and final cleanup will also be completed at that time.

Full Depth Patching

CPW Highway Division crews have continued the full depth patching program. These efforts target small sections of roadway that have deteriorated and could potentially develop potholes during the freeze and thaw cycles of the winter. The full depth patching process involves several steps including saw cutting the pavement, excavating the area to be repaired using a backhoe, installing new asphalt, compacting the asphalt using a plate compactor or roller, and sealing the seam between with new asphalt and the old asphalt using asphalt emulsion and sand. Several full depth patches have been completed on Cambridge Turnpike and crews will continue to make these repairs on other roads based upon results from a condition assessment that was completed in 2014.

Stormwater Drainage System Maintenance

CPW Highway Division crews, with assistance from MCI prison crews, have continued with the maintenance of Concord's stormwater drainage system. Recent efforts include trimming lawn areas, removing weeds, and collecting and disposing of sediments in the stormwater bio-retention areas on Baker Avenue and the detention basin on Channing Road. Catch basin cleaning has been ongoing and will continue through the fall.

Nagog Pond Filtration – Preliminary Design

Environmental Partners Group (EPG) is nearing completion of 25% of the design of the Nagog Pond water treatment plant, including identification of major treatment system components, facility architectural design and conceptual site plan issues (including photovoltaic array). Design coordination meetings have been initiated with staff from the Acton Planning Board and Conservation Commission.



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Water Distribution System - Leak Detection

New England Water Distribution Services, LLC, of Windham, New Hampshire, is continuing to perform leak detection services on water main located in the northern half of the water distribution system. This effort identified a significant leak on an 8-inch main located near the end of Monsen Road. Water operations crew provided an immediate repair.

Plastic Bag Reduction Bylaw

Outreach is underway for the Plastic Bag Reduction Bylaw which goes into effect January 1, 2016. Retail stores and grocery stores will receive a mailer during the week of September 28th. The mailer will include an informational flyer that can be posted at stores to encourage customers to utilize reusable bags when shopping.

Retail stores and grocery stores will also receive a subsequent mailer that will include details on upcoming informational meeting(s). For questions pertaining to the bylaw, contact Concord Public Works at (978) 318-3240 or via email: cpw.info@concordma.gov

Veterans' Services News

The Veterans' Service Officer attended a "Stand-Down" at the Bedford Veterans Administration (VA) hospital last Friday where representatives from several colleges were present to provide educational opportunities for veterans, active service members and their families. Also present were representatives from local businesses providing employment opportunities and representatives from the VA healthcare system offering help with enrollment in system so that qualified veterans can receive free or low cost healthcare and prescription benefits.

A local resident contacted the Office of Veterans' Services requesting information for a family member about filing a VA claim. The family member resides in Rhode Island and was searching for a RI contact person, which was provided to the resident.

The Medal of Honor Society held their annual convention in Boston over the weekend and several recipients of the medal, along with their families, came to the North Bridge last Saturday to hear a presentation from the National Park Service about Concord's roll in the Revolutionary War. There are 78 living recipients of the medal, and it truly is an honor when this society visits the Town. The Town was represented by Select Board member Steven Ng, Concord Fire and Police Departments, Concord Veteran Services and several other Town Departments.

Three veterans were assisted with groceries from "Open Table", assistance was provided to a veteran in filling out medical forms. Information provided Veterans Walk for Peace walk will begin in Ellsworth, ME and terminate in Portsmouth, NH. The walk lasts for 15 days from October 9 to 24. Walkers who are interested in joining the walk are encouraged to join in at any time and walk as long as they wish.

The Rotary Club of Concord contacted the office requesting assistance with a project they are involved in with the Veterans' Memorial in Concord Center. The project includes a prominent placement of the Concord Bell that was donated by the US Navy to the town after the USS Concord was decommissioned.