



TOWN OF CONCORD

Office of the Town Manager

Operational Status Reports & Departmental Updates

For the Week Ending February 24, 2023

General Administration

DHCD Family Shelter Update

On Friday, February 24, a second meeting was held with DHCD representatives regarding the family shelter. In addition to Town staff and Dr. Hunter, Senator Barrett and Representative Cataldo were also in attendance.

- There are a total of 9 parties who have been living long-term at the Best Western. All were given the opportunity to stay. Six will stay and 3 have chosen to be relocated. The parties that will stay will be relocated into one wing of the motel.
- The opening date has been moved from March 1 to March 13, though this may move again but likely not by much. DHCD will still rent all remaining rooms (99). Eventually, up to 90 rooms for shelter, with the remaining 9 for offices.
- For now, DHCD will use this facility as the new area intake center, replacing the operation at Devens. As an intake facility, people will be receiving emergency housing, 3 – 5 days, and case management services before being placed in a longer-term housing option.
- Initially DHCD estimates there will be up to 50 families housed on an emergency basis. The greatest need in the area is for young, single women with infants and/ or other young (preschoolers).
- Eventually, DHCD would like to use up to 50 rooms for emergency shelter and up to 40 rooms for medium-term housing (more than 30 days).
- In order to use the Best Western for medium-term housing, the Town has required that DHCD have a licensed architect conduct a building code review for compliance with any and all applicable sections of the IBC (International Building Code) related to both Group R-1 and Group R-2 occupancies.
- MOC (Making Opportunities Count) is still identified as the on-site manager/ service provider. In this capacity, MOC will be responsible for meeting all needs of the resident parties, including food, transportation, and security. Community Services Coordinator Bonny Wilbur has been in touch with MOC and will help to coordinate local assistance (i.e., donations) **at the appropriate time**. At this time, MOC is not yet ready to identify ways in which the community can help. Once we have this information, we will push it out to the community as this is the most common question we are receiving.

Police Department

Activity Log February 16 – February 22

Log items	788
Traffic Enforcement	63
Motor Vehicle Stops	133
MV Crashes and/or Paper Exchanges	8
Arrests	1



RECC Director Interviews

- Chief Mulcahy participated with Chief Judge in Regional Emergency Communication Center (RECC) Director interviews with Acton officials.

Training/Professional Development

- Detective Paladino and Detective Rodriguez met with Middlesex School officials for school safety planning and completed.

Personnel News

- Edwin Woods started with the Department as the newest Public Safety Dispatcher.

Fire Department

Calls for Service – February 10 – February 22, 2023

The Fire Department responded to 72 calls for service this week. Mutual aid to other towns was provided 3 times and received on 5 occasions.

Training

- The Fire District 14 Dive Team which includes Concord Firefighters Brian LeFebvre and Eric Harries conducted a training dive at White Pond on Wednesday. Prior to the divers arrival, four training manikins were placed on the bottom around the pond within 200 feet of the shore. Divers then had to practice search patterns to locate the “victims”. The divers successfully located all manikins in a very short period.
- Assistant Chief Latta attended a course last weekend at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. Texas A&M Extension Service provides training on all aspects of Emergency Management. The course that AC Latta attended focused on a disaster, and his specific role was a logistics manager.

Strategic Plan Launch

Concord Recreation, together with design firm Weston & Sampson, is conducting an assessment to understand opportunities and challenges in the town's (not the school's) current recreational facilities. The results of the effort will be a published **Recreation Facilities Strategic Plan** used to guide operational, staffing and budgeting decisions for Concord Recreation and other key town departments. The study has been funded through Community Preservation Act funds and has a target completion date of late fall 2023.

To best collect resident feedback, we have **created a public survey** that can be accessed [here](#). Available until mid-April 2023, the survey is available in English, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese. Other languages and braille can be made available, by request. The survey will be available in hard copy at various locations including Town Hall, the Concord Public Library, the Beede Swim and Fitness Center, the Council on Aging, and the Hunt Recreation Center to name a few.

Additionally, the Department invites members of the public to gather in the gymnasium at the Hunt Recreation Center on [Wednesday March 8, 2023 from 5:00-7:30pm for an interactive and inclusive open house](#) broken into three parts; first, attendees can visit tables manned by our team to discuss topics such as current recreation facilities and programs, improved accessibility and inclusivity, or water access points to launch a kayak or canoe along the many rivers and ponds in Concord. A short presentation will then follow to introduce the plan and its purpose, share what the planning team has learned to date from site visits and the online survey, and engage residents on what sort of future interventions they might like to see in their community. A Question-and-Answer session will wrap up the evening with additional time provided for any final visits to the topical tables. For parents, guardians, and caregivers of children who wish to attend this open house, childcare will be provided at the Hunt Recreation Center.