



# TOWN OF CONCORD

*Office of the Town Manager*

Operational Status Reports and Departmental Updates  
*For the week ending July 28, 2023*

## **Police Department**

### **Activity Log:**

- Log items: 645
- Traffic enforcements: 49
- Motor vehicle stops: 32
- Motor vehicle crashes and/or paper exchanges: 11
- Arrests: 0

### **Community**

- The Department's annual Youth Academy has begun, with 24 students taking part in the weeklong experience. Sergeant Manchuso, Detective Paladino, and Detective Rodriguez are overseeing the group of academy students and ensuring a positive learning experience for them. Throughout the week, students will take part in activities ranging from field trips to Hanscom Air Force Base to visit Boston MedFlight and the Concord Courthouse to get a firsthand look at some of the tools that are used in policing such as motorcycles, SWAT vehicles, and more. Chief Mulcahy introduced District Attorney Marian Ryan who visited the academy, and taught the students her "Smart Choices" program. Representatives Carmen Gentile and Simon Cataldo also came to the academy to visit with the students.
- Lieutenant Landers and Sergeant O'Connor attended a training for newly appointed supervisors on monitoring detainees who have been arrested and placed in a holding cell.
- Sergeant Rennie and Officer Mailloux conducted a training session for the staff at Minuteman ARC. The training, Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response, (ALERT) is designed to teach civilians how to stay safe in the event of an active shooter or critical incident.

## **Fire Department**

### **Calls for Service**

There have been 118 responses over the past week. On July 21st, Lt. Brad Ferrie responded to Devens as part of the State Hazardous Material team. On July 22nd, Firefighter Eric Harries responded to the Town of Hopkinton as a member of the District 14 Dive/Rescue

Team. On July 23rd, crews with our RTV responded to Great Meadows for a medical emergency.

### **Promotion**

We are pleased to announce that Captain Brian Whitney has accepted the position of Assistant Fire Chief! He will start in his new role on Monday July 31st and assume responsibility for a large part of the operations and training areas of the department. Captain Whitney has been with the department since 1991 and has served as Firefighter, Lieutenant, and Captain. Please join us in congratulating Brian on his new role and the next phase of his career!



### **Training**

Assistant Chief Latta and CPW Superintendent Aaron Miklosko attended the 2023 Statewide Hurricane Preparedness Symposium presented by MEMA. Topics included climate change/weather patterns as well as the role we play as emergency managers within the community. Other topics included debris removal (and securing MOUs with debris removal companies in advance of events) and the recovery phase following the event.

### **Fire Prevention**

In addition to inspections and permitting, Lt. Nichols attended a meeting with town staff to discuss the Riverside Commons project at 300 Baker Ave. Lt. Nichols was also on-site during the move of one of the Concord Academy buildings; the buildings are being relocated and will serve as staff housing, and Concord Academy will build new structures on the newly vacated space.

## **Planning Board**

### **Planning Board Meeting**

At the July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting, the Board had a presentation from the developer on the redevelopment of the old gas station at 166 Commonwealth Avenue with a proposed combined business/residence project featuring a small retail shop, 61 seat restaurant, and 10 residential units in the proposed 3-story building. The Board identified a number of concerns regarding vehicle circulation in the parking lot and trucks having to back out onto Commonwealth Ave, which is the requested relief from parking for 31 of the required 52 spaces and other site layout issues. The Board continued discussion on the application to the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting to allow the Applicant time to respond to concerns and to get the Town's Outside Consultant review of the vehicular and pedestrian safety and the parking analysis for the requested relief from parking. Application material can be found on the ZBA Current Documents Page:

<https://www.concordma.gov/1439/ZBA-Current-Meeting-Documents>

The Chair provided a summary of the comments and questions received at the June 28<sup>th</sup> MBTA Community Public Forum and an update on the continued community engagement process as well as the next steps moving forward. The Board acknowledged receipt of an

updated letter from the Public Works Commission and did not have anything new that they would like the Town Planner to address in the final draft of the Regs, which will be reviewed by the Board at the August 8<sup>th</sup> meeting before being submitted to Town Counsel for review. The Board finalized its update to their Envision Concord Actions Items Matrix and had a brief discussion regarding the proposed Comprehensive Permit application at 300-310 Baker Avenue. The Board thought it would be good to provide a comment to the Select Board for the Town's response letter to MassHousing as part of the Project Eligibility Letter process on the potential for improvements to the sidewalk along Baker Avenue to Main Street given it is in poor condition. The Board also pointed out that the developer's application to MassHousing states that sustainability measures are being considered. The Board felt it was important to comment that the application to the ZBA should provide a list of the sustainability measures included as part of the project.

### **MBTA Communities Zoning Initiative**

On July 26<sup>th</sup>, the Planning Board hosted another MBTA Communities Public Forum that was virtually attended by 63 participants. This virtual public forum began the more in-depth community conversation through facilitated breakout rooms where each group was asked where they think it would be appropriate to allow multi-family housing by-right guiding principles for where such development might be appropriate. They also discussed if different building heights were appropriate in different locations and utilized an online mapping tool to place pins in desirable locations. This event also kicked off a new MBTA Communities Survey and the use of the online mapping tool to allow citizens to place a pin on where they think multi-family housing by-right is appropriate. Both the Survey and the mapping tool can be found on the dedicated MBTA Communities webpage: [concord.ma.gov/mbtacommunities](https://concord.ma.gov/mbtacommunities)

### **Planning**

Senior Planner Ann Clifford is assisting the 2025 Permanent Memorial Committee by preparing a cultural history of Parcel 1693, the traditional center of Concord, to help inform plans to commemorate on this parcel the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration.

### **Tourism**

#### **Bus Tours**

Our first Education bus tours for 2024 have been booked and will start in January of 2024. The first buses will travel to Concord between January and March 2024 with more being booked from Worldstrides, the leader in educational travel.

A new military tour will launch in the fall of 2023 with the help of the National Guard Armory being open on select days to the public. This tour will focus on a new market segment for us: military history travelers.