



# CITY OF WORCESTER

## CITY COUNCIL

### WEEKLY SUMMARY

11/19/2024 - 11/25/2024



## CITY COUNCIL MEETING - 11/19/2024

[Click here to view the full agenda and minutes!](#) [Click here to watch this meeting!](#)



### CITY COUNCIL ADVANCES DISCUSSION ON INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLANS TO BALANCE GROWTH AND COMMUNITY NEEDS

#### ITEM 9.15 B

#### TRANSMITTING INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATION RELATIVE TO INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLANS.

THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE ADOPTION OF INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLANS (IMPS), WHICH PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK FOR COLLEGES AND HOSPITALS TO PLAN THEIR GROWTH TRANSPARENTLY WHILE ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY. MAYOR PETTY FACILITATED THE DISCUSSION, WITH INPUT FROM SEVERAL COUNCILORS AND CITY OFFICIALS ADDRESSING QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS. THE COUNCIL VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REFER THE MATTER TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER REVIEW.

IMPS OUTLINE PLANS FOR FACILITY EXPANSION, TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT, AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS, ENSURING INSTITUTIONS BALANCE GROWTH WITH NEIGHBORHOOD IMPACTS. WORCESTER AIMS TO EXPLORE OPTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING IMPS WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS OF STATE LAWS, DRAWING ON MODELS FROM CITIES LIKE BOSTON AND CAMBRIDGE.



### CITY OF WORCESTER AND WPI FINALIZE AGREEMENT ON HOTEL CONVERSION WITHIN GATEWAY PARK



#### ITEM 9.39 A

#### TRANSMITTING INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATION RELATIVE TO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUNICIPALITY AND WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE RELATIVE TO THE PURCHASE OF HOTELS WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE GATEWAY PARK MASTER PLAN.

THE CITY OF WORCESTER HAS ENTERED INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (WPI) REGARDING ITS ACQUISITION OF THE HAMPTON INN & SUITES AND COURTYARD MARRIOTT WITHIN THE GATEWAY PARK MASTER PLAN AREA. THE CITY COUNCIL VOTED UNANIMOUSLY (11 YEAS, 0 NAYS) TO REFER THE MATTER TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW.

THE AGREEMENT ADDRESSES WPI'S PLAN TO CONVERT THE HOTELS INTO STUDENT HOUSING, WITH INTERIM PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS AND PHASED TAX-EXEMPT STATUS. TO MITIGATE REDUCED HOTEL CAPACITY, WPI HAS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING DISPLACED EMPLOYEES, COLLABORATING WITH DEVELOPERS ON NEW HOTEL PROJECTS, AND ADHERING TO RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES. ADDITIONALLY, WPI WILL THEN MAKE PAYMENTS TO THE MUNICIPALITY THROUGH JUNE 30, 2029 EQUAL TO THE ACTUAL PROPERTY TAXES OF THE FISCAL YEAR IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE CONVERSION TO TAX-EXEMPT STATUS. FROM JULY 1, 2029 THROUGH 2034, WHEN WPI'S EXISTING PILOT AGREEMENT EXPIRES, WPI WILL MAKE PAYMENTS TO THE MUNICIPALITY EQUAL TO 50% OF THAT AMOUNT. WPI FACULTY WILL ALSO COLLABORATE WITH THE MUNICIPALITY TO CREATE UP TO FOUR PROJECTS PER ACADEMIC YEAR FOCUSING ON AN AREA OF NEED CHOSEN BY THE MUNICIPALITY.



## CITY OF WORCESTER

# CITY COUNCIL

## WEEKLY SUMMARY

### Standing Committee Meetings

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

MET ON TUESDAY, 11/19/2024



- CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR CANDY MERO-CARLSON** - DISTRICT 2 CITY COUNCILOR
- VICE CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR JENNY PACILLO** - DISTRICT 1 CITY COUNCILOR
- COMMITTEE MEMBER - **COUNCILOR KATE TOOMEY** - AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR
- [CLICK HERE TO VIEW FULL AGENDA!](#)
- [CLICK HERE TO VIEW MEETING!](#)

#### TRAFFIC AND PARKING:

MET ON WEDNESDAY, 11/20/2024



- CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR DONNA M. COLORIO** - AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR
- VICE CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR KHRYSTIAN E. KING** - AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR
- COMMITTEE MEMBER - **COUNCILOR THU NGUYEN** - AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR
- [CLICK HERE TO VIEW FULL AGENDA!](#)
- [CLICK HERE TO VIEW MEETING!](#)

#### PUBLIC SAFETY:

MET ON WEDNESDAY, 11/20/2024



- CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR KATE TOOMEY** - AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR
- VICE CHAIRPERSON - **COUNCILOR MORRIS A. BERGMAN** - AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILOR
- COMMITTEE MEMBER - **COUNCILOR LUIS A. OJEDA** - DISTRICT 4 CITY COUNCILOR
- [CLICK HERE TO VIEW FULL AGENDA!](#)
- [CLICK HERE TO VIEW MEETING!](#)

### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- **TUESDAY, 11/26**
  - @ 6:30 P.M. - **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**
    - @ CITY HALL, ESTHER HOWLAND CHAMBER, 3RD FLOOR, 455 MAIN STREET
    - [CLICK HERE TO VIEW FULL AGENDA!](#)
    - [CLICK HERE TO JOIN VIRTUALLY THE DAY OF!](#)
    - City Council ZOOM Phone Number: (929) 205 6099
    - City Council ZOOM Access Code: 917 2757 4825



REMEMBER, YOU CAN ALWAYS LOOK BACK  
TO REVIEW OUR ***PREVIOUS ISSUES!***





## Events in the Community



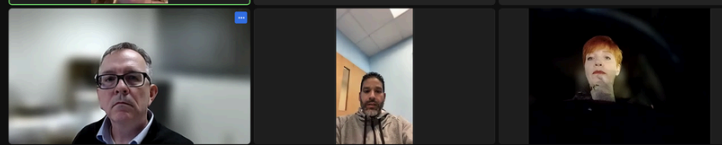
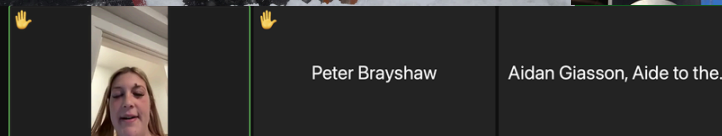
### DISTRICT 4 - PLEASANT STREET CLEAN UP -11/16

ON SATURDAY, 11/16 THE PLEASANT STREET AREA CAME ALIVE WITH COMMUNITY SPIRIT DURING THE SECOND CLEANUP EVENT LED BY COUNCILOR OJEDA AND WORCESTER GREEN CORPS. VOLUNTEERS JOINED FORCES WITH THE WORCESTER RED SOX, ASSUMPTION UNIVERSITY'S GREENHOUNDS CLUB, AND UNIVERSITY PARK CAMPUS SCHOOL STUDENTS TO TACKLE LITTER AND BEAUTIFY THE NEIGHBORHOOD. OVER THREE HOURS, PARTICIPANTS COLLECTED 23 BAGS OF TRASH, ALONG WITH LARGER ITEMS LIKE A METAL HEADBOARD AND CONSTRUCTION WOOD, TOTALING APPROXIMATELY 345 POUNDS OF WASTE. THE EVENT DEMONSTRATED THE POWER OF COLLABORATION AND THE SHARED COMMITMENT TO KEEPING WORCESTER CLEAN AND VIBRANT. A HEARTFELT THANKS GOES OUT TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED THEIR TIME AND ENERGY TO MAKE THIS INITIATIVE A SUCCESS!

### VIRTUAL DISCUSSION: VERNON STREET WINTER PARKING BAN DISCUSSION - 11/18

On 11/18, District 4 City Councilor Luis A. Ojeda and Commissioner Rolle of the Department of Transportation and Mobility held a discussion regarding the proposed establishment of a permanent Zone A parking ban on both sides of Vernon Street between Winthrop Street and Upsala Street, effective December 1 through April 30.

During the virtual meeting, residents engaged with the Councilor and the Commissioner to share their feedback. Ultimately, attendees expressed their preference to have the existing signs removed rather than implementing an ordinance to enforce the parking ban. This input will guide the next steps in addressing parking concerns in the area.



Don Bonder

Andzej Rogowski





### Events in the Community

#### **NATURALIZATION CEREMONY - U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES - 11/19**

THE NATURALIZATION CEREMONY THAT TOOK PLACE AT THE WORCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY ON 11/19 WAS A MOMENTOUS OCCASION, CELEBRATING THE JOURNEYS OF 76 INDIVIDUALS WHO BECAME U.S. CITIZENS. MAYOR JOSEPH PETTY AND DISTRICT 5 CITY COUNCILOR ETEL HAXHIAJ WERE IN ATTENDANCE TO SHOW THEIR SUPPORT AND EMPHASIZE WORCESTER'S COMMITMENT TO BEING A WELCOMING CITY FOR ALL. THE CEREMONY HIGHLIGHTED THE RESILIENCE AND DETERMINATION OF THOSE WHO WORKED TIRELESSLY TO ACHIEVE THIS MILESTONE. CITY LEADERS, INCLUDING THE MAYOR, SPOKE ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF FOSTERING INCLUSIVITY AND ENSURING THAT WORCESTER REMAINS A PLACE WHERE EVERYONE, REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS, CAN THRIVE. THE EVENT REFLECTED THE CITY'S DEDICATION TO PROVIDING RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL ITS RESIDENTS. FOR THOSE WHO TOOK THE OATH, THE CEREMONY MARKED THE BEGINNING OF A NEW CHAPTER FILLED WITH HOPE AND OPPORTUNITY.



#### **LAKE VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS HELP DECIDE ON IMPROVEMENTS TO HARRINGTON FIELD PLAYGROUND IN DISTRICT 2**

ON 11/20, THE CITY OF WORCESTER PARKS DEPARTMENT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NESN, AND WORCESTER RED SOX, INVITED LAKE VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM CITY COUNCILOR CANDY MERO-CARLSON'S DISTRICT TO VISIT POLAR PARK TO HEAR THEIR FEEDBACK ON HOW THEY WOULD LIKE HARRINGTON FIELD PLAYGROUND TO BE REVAMPED. SEAN MCGRAIL, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF NESN WELCOMED THE CHILDREN AND STIRRED UP THEIR EXCITEMENT JUST BEFORE ENJOYING A THANKSGIVING LUNCH PROVIDED BY THE WOOSOX. IN TANDEM WITH THE WORCESTER PARKS DEPARTMENT, THE NESN PLAYGROUND PROJECT WILL UPGRADE HARRINGTON FIELD WITH A NEW AND IMPROVED PLAYGROUND SET UP, VOTED ON BY THE LAKE VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS!

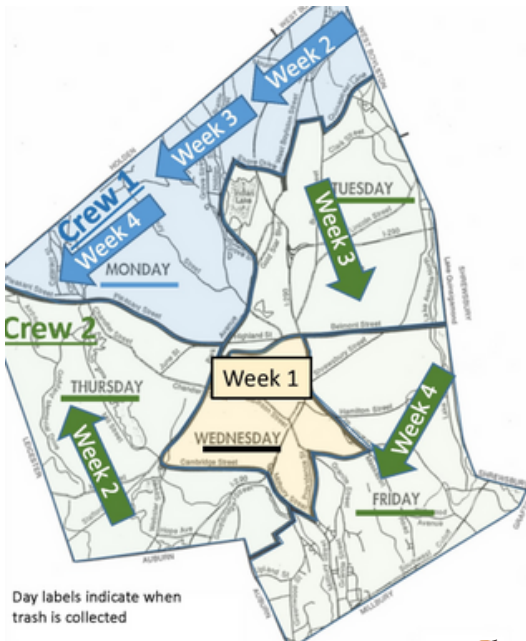


CITY COUNCIL  
WEEKLY SUMMARY

Don't forget!

Trash Day	Leaf Pick-Up:
Wednesday	Week 1: Nov. 4 - Nov. 8
Monday	Week 2: Nov. 11 - Nov. 16
Monday	Week 3: Nov. 16 - Nov. 23
Monday	Week 4: Nov. 23 - Nov. 30
Thursday	Week 2: Nov. 11 - Nov. 16
Tuesday	Week 3: Nov. 16 - Nov. 23
Friday	Week 4: Nov. 23 - Nov. 30

—Dates above are approximate and may change.  
—Check <http://www.worcesterma.gov/streets/fall-leaf-collection> for schedule updates.  
—Streets around Clark U, Holy Cross, Worcester State, and WPI collected Nov. 29 and 30.  
—No Collection Veterans Day or Thanksgiving Day  
\*Due to chance of early snowfall, residents in these areas should consider bringing leaves to a drop-off site.



Day labels indicate when trash is collected

FALL 2024

## WHEN IS MY LEAF COLLECTION?

## 2024 Fall Leaf Collection Program

The Department of Public Works & Parks will begin collecting leaves starting Monday, November 4, 2024



Leaf collection will begin in the section of the city that has trash collected on Wednesdays. After collecting leaves in the Wednesday area, leaves will be collected in the Monday, Thursday, Tuesday, and Friday trash collection areas. The leaf collection program is expected to take 4 to 5 weeks to complete, depending on the weather.

Streets will be posted prior to leaf collection to provide advance notification to residents that a **No Parking Ban** will be in effect while leaves are being collected. **ALERTWorcester** will be used to notify neighborhoods of their pending collection. Up-to-date information on where leaf collection is occurring will be advertised in the Worcester Telegram & Gazette and on the Government Access Channel 192. Information can also be obtained from the City's website at [www.worcesterma.gov/dpw/seasonal-information/fall-leaf-collection](http://www.worcesterma.gov/dpw/seasonal-information/fall-leaf-collection) or by calling the Customer Service Center by dialing 311 or 508-929-1300.

**LEAF COLLECTION**  
**NO PARKING**  
**7 am to 5 pm**

- When you see that your neighborhood is posted with leaf collection signs, you can then rake the leaves into the gutter. You can also use paper, biodegradable leaf collection bags to hold your leaves.
- Do not block catch basins because this may cause flooding during a rainstorm. Do not park on top of piles of leaves as this may cause a fire.
- Leaves will not be collected in locations where residents rake leaves into the street after the street has been swept.
- Only leaves and grass clippings can be collected with leaf collection equipment (NO PLASTIC BAGS OF LEAVES, BRUSH, OR BRANCHES WILL BE COLLECTED. YOU MAY USE BIODEGRADABLE BAGS FOR LEAVES AND GRASS).
- Any brush or tree branches must be taken to the Millbury Street DPW&P Yard Waste Drop-Off Site. Bagged leaves can be taken to the Millbury Street Site, Clark Street (near the intersection of East Mountain Street), or the Chandler Street Site (across from Foley Stadium) on Wednesdays 8:30 - 3, Saturdays 9 - 4. The Millbury Street Site is also open on Sundays from 9 - 4.

Sign up for **ALERTWorcester** now!

This is the City's emergency notification system that allows you to get critical information via text, phone call, or email. Sign up at [www.worcesterma.gov/dpw](http://www.worcesterma.gov/dpw) or dial 311 or 508-929-1300.



The following are the APPROXIMATE dates when leaf collection will occur, weather permitting:

If your trash is collected on:	Your leaves will be collected between:
Wednesday	Nov. 4 thru Nov. 8
Monday*	Nov. 11 thru Nov. 30
Tuesday	Nov. 16 thru Nov. 23
Friday	Nov. 23 thru Nov. 30
Thursday	Nov. 11 thru Nov. 16

NOTE: Streets around Clark University, Holy Cross, Worcester State Univ, & WPI will be collected on Nov. 29 & 30.  
\* Monday routes will start at Quinapoxet /Grove

Call: 311 or (508) 929-1300

Click: [www.worcesterma.gov/dpw](http://www.worcesterma.gov/dpw)

Connect: [dpw@worcestermma.gov](mailto:dpw@worcestermma.gov)



ALERTWorcester



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### Worcester Announces Permanent Winter Parking Ban in Effect Dec. 1 Through April 30



The City of Worcester announced Friday November 22, it's **Permanent Winter Parking Ban** will go into effect **Dec. 1, 2024**, and will remain through **April 30, 2025 (April 1 for residential streets)**. The Permanent Winter Parking Ban applies to emergency arteries, WRTA bus routes, and streets that are critical to the flow of traffic. There is no parking on one or both sides of the affected street between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. nor any time a snow emergency is declared.

In addition to the Permanent Winter Parking Ban, a Declared Winter Parking Ban will go into effect on all other city streets whenever accumulating snow is forecast. When a declared ban is in effect, parking is allowed only on the odd-numbered side of other streets, unless posted otherwise, and municipal parking garages will be free to use until noted following the ban's lifting. Parking enforcement—including ticketing and towing—will be active during a Declared Ban, as adherence to parking bans is critical to allow municipal crews to keep roadways clear and safe.

Worcester 311 is the official source for up-to-date information on winter parking bans, parking regulations on your street, and snow complaints.

#### For the latest updates on winter parking bans:

- Sign up for [ALERTWorcester](#) and receive notifications to your phone or email
- Follow Worcester 311 on [Twitter \(X\)](#) and [Facebook](#)
- Watch Government Access Channel 192

Illegally parked vehicles are the biggest obstacle to effective snow removal efforts. Vehicles that violate the winter parking ban or otherwise hinder snow removal will be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense. Please support the municipality's efforts by parking your vehicle in conformance with the winter parking ban. Back to Announcements List

#### Winter Parking Rules

Winter parking bans on public streets fall under two categories, **PERMANENT** and **DECLARED**.

- **A PERMANENT BAN** remains in effect from December 1st through April 30th on Emergency Arteries, WRTA Bus Routes, and streets that are critical to the flow of traffic. There is no parking on one or both sides of the street between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. and anytime a snow emergency is declared.
- **A DECLARED BAN** is put into effect on all remaining city streets whenever accumulating snow is forecast. When a Declared Ban is in effect, restrictions apply that typically allow parking on one side of the street.

**[CLICK HERE FOR FULL WINTER PARKING BAN INFORMATION  
AND TO LOOK UP YOUR STREET SPECIFICALLY!](#)**





# CITY OF WORCESTER

## CITY COUNCIL WEEKLY SUMMARY

# YOUR City Councilors

WORCESTER'S CITY COUNCIL CONSISTS OF ELEVEN COUNCIL MEMBERS, INCLUDING THE MAYOR & COUNCILOR-AT-LARGE, JOSEPH M. PETTY. THESE ELEVEN ELECTED OFFICIALS SERVE AS THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE CITY. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS AND NEEDS OF THEIR CITY AND COMMUNITY.

THERE ARE SIX COUNCILORS-AT-LARGE AND FIVE COUNCILORS THAT EACH REPRESENT A SPECIFIC DISTRICT IN WORCESTER (DISTRICTS 1-5).

IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF WHO YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILOR IS, [CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT!](#)

### AT-LARGE CITY COUNCILORS



**MAYOR**  
JOSEPH M. PETTY



**VICE CHAIRMAN**  
KHRYSTIAN E. KING



MORRIS A.  
BERGMAN



THU  
NGUYEN



KATHLEEN M.  
TOOMEY



DONNA M.  
COLORIO

### DISTRICT CITY COUNCILORS



**DISTRICT 1**  
JENNY PACILLO



**DISTRICT 2**  
CANDY MERO-CARLSON



**DISTRICT 3**  
GEORGE J. RUSSELL



**DISTRICT 4**  
LUIS A. OJEDA, SR.



**DISTRICT 5**  
ETEL HAXHIAJ





## CITY COUNCIL WEEKLY SUMMARY



# UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- **WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 27 -**
  - **QUINSIGAMOND VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**
    - TIME: 6:00 P.M.
    - WHERE: THE JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH, 46 GREENWOOD STREET

## Upcoming *Holiday* Events

- **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30 @ 6:00 P.M. @ BLITHEWOOD PLAYGROUND - GRAFTON HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION HOSTS 14TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY**
- **MONDAY, DECEMBER 2 @ 3:00 P.M. @ MAYSIDE APARTMENTS, MAYSIDE LANE - WHA MAYSIDE APARTMENTS RESIDENT HOLIDAY MEAL**
- **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3 @ 3:00 P.M. @ 1060 MAIN STREET WHA 1060 MAIN STREET RESIDENT HOLIDAY MEAL**
- **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4 @ 3:00 P.M. @ BELMONT TOWER APARTMENTS WHA BELMONT TOWER APARTMENTS RESIDENT HOLIDAY MEAL**
- **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6TH @ 4:30 P.M. @ WORCESTER COMMON DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS AND CITY TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY**
- **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 @ 10:00 A.M - 10:00 P.M. @ GREEN STREET/WATER STREET CANAL DISTRICT HOLIDAY STROLL**
- **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 @ 5:00 P.M. @ KELLEY SQUARE KELLEY SQUARE TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY**

Please check back for more events to follow!!