



CITY OF WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

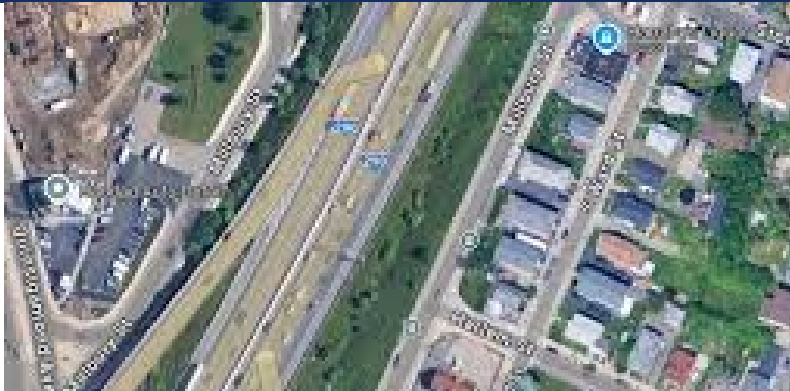
WEEKLY SUMMARY

9/29/2025 - 10/5/2025



CITY COUNCIL MEETING - 9/30/2025

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE FULL AGENDA & MINUTES!](#) [CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE MEETING!](#)



ITEM 8.11

INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATION RELATIVE TO THE VERNON CONNECTED STUDY

THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL HEARD COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY (DTM) ABOUT THE VERNON CONNECTED STUDY. IN TANDEM WITH THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT), DTM IS STUDYING THE COMMUNITY DISRUPTION THAT HAPPENED IN MANY NEIGHBORHOODS ACROSS WORCESTER WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF I-290. THIS STUDY RELATES TO THE VERNON HILL NEIGHBORHOOD IN PARTICULAR. THIS COMMUNITY-FIRST PLANNING EFFORT WILL ENGAGE RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES IN DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THEIR VISIONS FOR RECONNECTING NEIGHBORHOODS AND CREATING COMMUNITY ASSETS THAT REDUCE THE IMPACTS CAUSED BY I-290.



ITEM 8.32

INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATION RELATIVE TO THE ZERO WASTE PROGRAM

THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL HEARD COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE REGARDING THE ZERO WASTE PROGRAM WHICH AIMS TO KEEPING WORCESTER AMONG THE CLEANEST CITIES IN THE COMMONWEALTH. THE WOOBINS PROJECT IS PART OF WORCESTER'S ONGOING EFFORT TO MAKE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS CLEANER, MORE LIVABLE, AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE, AND IS LED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE WITH COLLABORATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE TEAM. THE BIN PROGRAM AIMS AT ESTABLISHING 150 SUITABLE LOCATIONS AFTER FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNITY.



CITY OF WORCESTER

CITY COUNCIL

WEEKLY SUMMARY

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- **WEDNESDAY, 10/15/2025**

- @ 5:00 P.M. - **TRAFFIC AND PARKING STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING**
 - @ City Hall, Esther Howland Chamber

- **TUESDAY, 10/21/2025**

- @ 5:30 P.M. - **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**
 - @ City Hall, Esther Howland Chamber
- @ 5:30 P.M. - **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING**
 - @ City Hall, Levi Lincoln Chamber
- @ 6:30 P.M. - **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**
 - @ City Hall, Esther Howland Chamber

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





Events in the Community



CURTIS APARTMENTS PHASE 2 GROUNDBREAKING - 10/2

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2ND WAS A BUSY DAY IN THE CITY OF WORCESTER WITH VARIOUS RIBBON CUTTING AND GROUNDBREAKING CELEBRATIONS. THE CURTIS APARTMENTS AT GREAT BROOK VALLEY CELEBRATED ANOTHER MILESTONE AS THEY ENTER PHASE 2 OF THEIR REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR KIM DRISCOLL, SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND LIVABLE COMMUNITIES ED AUGUSTUS, STATE SENATOR ROBYN KENNEDY, STATE REPRESENTATIVE JIM O'DAY, STATE REPRESENTATIVE DAN DONAHUE, MAYOR JOE PETTY, DISTRICT 2 CITY COUNCILOR CANDY MERO-CARLSON, CITY MANAGER ERIC BATISTA, AND WORCESTER HOUSING AUTHORITY CEO ALEX CORRALES WERE ALL IN ATTENDANCE AND TOURED THE GROUNDS TO SEE THE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT.



CURRENTLY, CURTIS APARTMENTS UNITS ARE OVER 70 YEARS OF AGE, BUILT IN THE 1950S, AND HAVE OVER 300 CURRENT UNITS. THE CURTIS APARTMENTS REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS A MULTI-PHASED PROJECT THAT ONCE COMPLETED WILL HAVE 527 STATE OF THE ART UNITS. IT WILL INCLUDE GREATER ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUDING THE ADDITION OF ROUGHLY 50 WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE UNITS; INCREASED PARK AND OPEN SPACES; AND THE NEW ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY CENTER.

AURORA RIBBON CUTTING - 10/2

ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2ND, COUNCILOR OJEDA ATTENDED THE SECOND OF TWO COMMUNITY BUILDERS EVENTS HELD IN DISTRICT 4.

THE FIRST EVENT TOOK PLACE AT MERRICK AT THE SQUARE, A NEWLY OPENED, 49-UNIT, FOUR-STORY AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN THE PLEASANT STREET NEIGHBORHOOD. ALTHOUGH COUNCILOR OJEDA WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND THAT EVENT, HE WAS PRESENT FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE REVITALIZATION OF THE HISTORIC AURORA HOTEL, NOW KNOWN AS THE AURORA.

THE RESTORED BUILDING NOW OFFERS 85 AFFORDABLE APARTMENTS AND, THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP WITH OPEN SKY, INCLUDES 24 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING UNITS SPECIFICALLY FOR HOMELESS YOUNG ADULTS.

THE EVENT WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY ED AUGUSTUS, SECRETARY OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HOUSING AND LIVABLE COMMUNITIES, ALONG WITH MAYOR JOE PETTY, CITY MANAGER ERIC BATISTA, AND REPRESENTATIVE JIM O'DAY, ALL OF WHOM GATHERED TO CELEBRATE THIS SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN AFFORDABLE AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR THE COMMUNITY.





Events in the Community



WORCESTER'S 2ND ANNUAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WALK - 10/4

THE WEATHER WAS BEAUTIFUL ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, AS DISTRICT 4 COUNCILOR LUIS OJEDA JOINED MAYOR PETTY, REPRESENTATIVE LEBOEUF, AND PAUL DEPALO, WORCESTER'S MEMBER OF THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL, TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. THE EVENT HONORED THE LIVES LOST TO DOMESTIC AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND STOOD IN SOLIDARITY WITH SURVIVORS AND VICTIMS.

IT WAS A TOUCHING CEREMONY WHERE NOT ONLY WERE RESOURCES SHARED, BUT MEANINGFUL ACTION WAS ALSO DISCUSSED. REPRESENTATIVE LEBOEUF, A KEY ALLY TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATE MARIA MONTANO, HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN DRAFTING LEGISLATION AIMED AT SUPPORTING—NOT PENALIZING—VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, CORRECTING HARMFUL PRACTICES OF THE PAST.

PARTICIPANTS WALKED FROM CRYSTAL PARK TO ST. PETER'S CHURCH WITH SIGNS IN HAND, HOPING TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THIS CRITICAL ISSUE AS WE ENTER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS FLAG RAISING - 10/3

ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3RD, A RESIDENT OF THE COMMUNITY AND DISTRICT 2 CITY COUNCILOR CANDY MERO-CARLSON HAD ORGANIZED A FLAG RAISING IN RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER BEING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH. MAYOR JOE PETTY, COUNCILOR AT-LARGE KHRYSTIAN KING, COUNCILOR AT-LARGE KATE TOOMEY, AND CITY MANAGER ERIC BATISTA WERE ALL ON SCENE TO SHARE A FEW WORDS AND TO RAISE THE FLAG.

THE PURPLE FLAG THAT WAS RAISED TO HONOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH STANDS AS A POWERFUL SYMBOL FOR THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MOVEMENT. AS A TRIBUTE TO BOTH VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS, IT STANDS AS A BEACON OF HOPE THAT ALL WHO ARE AFFECTED.

OVER 1 IN 3 WOMEN AND 1 IN 4 MEN IN THIS COUNTRY HAVE EXPERIENCED SOME FORM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BY AN INTIMATE PARTNER IN THEIR LIFETIME. THE STATISTICS ARE ALARMING IN EVERY CATEGORY, SHOWING JUST HOW DRASTIC AN ISSUE THIS IS. MAYOR PETTY READ A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF WORCESTER AND THAT THE CITY OF WORCESTER IS COMMITTED TO PROTECTING THOSE WHO ARE VICTIM TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.



Events in the Community

4TH ANNUAL SHREWSBURY STREET ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE - 10/5

THE 4TH ANNUAL WORCESTER ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE MADE ITS WAY DOWN SHREWSBURY STREET ON A BRIGHT, SUNNY, AND WARM SUNDAY OCTOBER 5TH. CELEBRATING THE RICH CULTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN WORCESTER. DISTRICT 2 CITY COUNCILOR CANDY MERO-CARLSON, DISTRICT 3 CITY COUNCILOR GEORGE RUSSELL, COUNCILOR AT-LARGE KHRYSITAN KING, COUNCILOR AT-LARGE KATE TOOMEY, COUNCILOR AT-LARGE DONNA COLORIO, COUNCILOR AT-LARGE MOE BERGMAN, AND MAYOR JOE PETTY PARTICIPATED IN THE PARADE, HANDING OUT CANDY TO CHILDREN AND GREETING THE CROWD AS THEY MADE THEIR WAY DOWN THE STREET. THE EVENT FEATURED DECORATIVE FLOATS, LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL BANDS, COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, AND LOCAL BUSINESSES ALL ADDING TO THE JOYOUS ATMOSPHERE. THIS EVENT CONTINUES TO GROW EACH YEAR. FAMILIES ALSO GOT TO ENJOY MANY DIFFERENT FOOD TRUCKS AND ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN TO PLAY IN EAST PARK DURING AND AFTER THE PARADE.





UPCOMING *COMMUNITY* *MEETINGS*

- **MONDAY - OCTOBER 6 -**

- **GREEN ISLAND NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 6:00 P.M.
- WHERE: WRTA MAINTENANCE FACILITY, 42 QUINSIGAMOND AVE

- **WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 8 -**

- **MOUNT CARMEL APARTMENT NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 3:00 P.M.
- WHERE: MOUNT CARMEL APARTMENTS, 50 SHREWSBURY ST

- **UPSALA ELDERLY APARTMENT NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 3:00 P.M.
- WHERE: 36 UPSALA ST

- **SAXON ROAD NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 5:30 P.M.
- WHERE: CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL, 15 JAMESBURY DR

- **NEWTON SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 6:30 P.M.
- WHERE: BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH, 551 PLEASANT ST

- **LAKE VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 7:00 P.M.
- WHERE: LAKE VIEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 115 COBURN AVE

- **THURSDAY - OCTOBER 9 -**

- **EMMANUEL VILLAGE APARTMENTS NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 4:00 P.M.
- WHERE: 59 EVELYN ST

- **MAIN SOUTH BEACON BRIGHTLY NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 5:30 P.M.
- WHERE: YMCA, 766 MAIN ST

- **BURNCOAT/GREENDALE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 6:00 P.M.
- WHERE: ST. MICHAEL'S ON-THE-HEIGHTS, 340 BURNCOAT ST

- **SOUTH LENOX NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**

- TIME: 6:00 P.M.
- WHERE: FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 1070 PLEASANT ST



City of Worcester Launches Grant Program for Minority and Women-Owned Businesses in Construction

The City of Worcester Business & Community Development Division announced Monday a new grant program for Worcester-based businesses.

The M/WBE Construction Advancement Program aims to support Certified Minority and Women-Owned Worcester-based businesses in construction or construction-related sectors with operational expenses to give them greater capacity for contracting opportunities. This program is funded by settlement funds received through the Attorney General's False Claims Division.

"This exciting program builds on the municipality's existing efforts to support the certification of Minority and Women-Owned Businesses," City Manager Eric D. Batista said. "It also aligns with the goals we set out in the Worcester Now | Next long-range plan to enable and support diverse neighborhood scale commerce in order to contribute to community wealth-building, neighborhood stabilization, and quality of life along neighborhood commercial corridors. Investing in these businesses will mean investing in our neighborhoods."

Eligibility Criteria for Businesses:

- Certified by the Massachusetts Supplier Diversity Office (SDO) or recognized third-party certifying agencies,
- Active for-profit located within the City of Worcester,
- In the construction sector or construction-related sectors, and,
- In good standing with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and City of Worcester.

If a business is selected, it is required to provide grant reporting with supporting documentation detailing how grant funds were used.

Funding Level: Each eligible business can receive \$10,000 - \$25,000 in grant funding from this program dependent on evaluation criteria. Grant funding requests will be capped at 25% of business yearly expenses, up to \$25,000.

Submission: As of Monday, Sept. 22, 2025, applications are now being accepted. Applications can be found at [MWBE Construction Advancement Grant | City of Worcester](#).

The application form is available as a fillable PDF and can be submitted via email to development@worcesterma.gov.

Deadline: Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until program funds are exhausted.

Questions: Send questions via email to development@worcesterma.gov.



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



WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL
MEETING SCHEDULE – 2025

January

January 7 – **Joint Agenda**
January 14 – **City Council Agenda**
January 21 – **City Manager Agenda**
January 28 – **City Council Agenda – Finance**

February

February 4 – **City Manager Agenda**
February 11 – **City Council Agenda**
February 18 – **No Meeting – School Break**
February 25 – **Joint Agenda – Finance**

March

March 4 – **City Manager Agenda / Econ. Dev.**
March 11 – **City Council Agenda**
March 18 – **City Manager Agenda**
March 25 – **City Council Agenda – Finance**

April

April 1 – **City Manager Agenda**
April 8 – **City Council Agenda**
April 15 – **City Manager Agenda**
April 22 – **No Meeting – School Break**
April 29 – **Joint Agenda – Finance**

May

May 6 – **City Council Agenda**
May 13 – **City Manager Agenda**
May 20 – **No Meeting – Budget Hearings**
May 27 – **No Meeting – Budget Hearings**

June

June 3 – **No Meeting – Shavuot**
June 10 – **Joint Agenda**
June 17 – **City Council Agenda**
June 24 – **City Manager Evaluation**

July

July 1 – **No Meeting**
July 8 – **No Meeting**
July 15 – **Joint Agenda**
July 22 – **No Meeting**
July 29 – **No Meeting**

August

August 5 – **No Meeting**
August 12 – **No Meeting**
August 19 – **Joint Agenda**
August 26 – **No Meeting**

September

September 2 – **No Meeting – Mun. Prelim.**
September 9 – **Joint Agenda / Econ. Dev.**
September 16 – **City Manager Agenda**
September 23 – **No Meeting – Rosh Hashanah**
September 30 – **Joint Agenda – Finance**

October

October 7 – **No Meeting – Sukkot**
October 14 – **No Meeting –
Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah**
October 21 – **Joint Agenda – Finance**
October 28 – **No Meeting – Early Voting**

November

November 4 – **No Meeting – Mun. Election**
November 11 – **Joint Agenda**
November 18 – **City Council Agenda – Fin.**
November 25 – **City Manager Agenda**

December

December 2 – **No Meeting – Holiday**
December 9 – **Joint Agenda**
December 16 – **City Council Agenda – Fin.**
December 23 – **City Manager Agenda**
December 30 – **No Meeting – School Break**

Each Meeting convenes at 6:30 p.m. in the Esther Howland (South) Chamber on the Third Floor of City Hall, 455 Main Street. The only exceptions are in the months of July and August, when meetings convene at 6:00 p.m.