



CITY OF WORCESTER

CITY COUNCIL

WEEKLY SUMMARY

12/15/2025 - 12/21/2025



CITY COUNCIL MEETING - 12/16/2025

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



ITEM 7A

INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATION RELATIVE TO SIDEWALK AND STREET SELECTION PROJECTS

THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 33(E) OF THE RULES OF THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL, SUSPENDED ITS RULES TO TAKE A REPORT FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS REGARDING THE SIDEWALK REHAB SELECTIONS FOR FY25 AND FY26 AS WELL AS THE STREET REHAB PROJECT SELECTIONS FOR FY27-28. IN TANDEM WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW) AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY (DTM), DISTRICT COUNCILORS SELECT WHAT ROADS AND SIDEWALKS WILL BE REPAVED. RESIDENTS MAY PETITION THE COUNCIL FOR STREETS AND SIDEWALKS TO BE ADDED TO THE RESURFACING LIST. ONCE THEY ARE ADDED TO THE LIST, DTM AND DPW WILL WORK TO EVALUATE THE CONDITION OF SAID ROAD AND SIDEWALK, AND HOW MUCH IT WOULD COST FOR THE PROJECT. DISTRICT COUNCILORS ARE GIVEN A BUDGET OF HOW MUCH THEY CAN ALLOCATE FOR SAID ROADS AND SIDEWALK SELECTIONS.

ITEM 8.4B

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGARDING ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS (ADUS)

THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL HEARD A REPORT FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGARDING A COMMUNICATION FROM THE CITY MANAGER REQUESTING THE ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE RELATIVE TO ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS (ADUS). THE PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENT WILL RECONCILE THE CITY'S EXISTING ADU PROVISIONS WITH THE NEW REQUIREMENTS OF THE STATE LAW (AFFORDABLE HOMES ACT) AND WILL SERVE TO UPDATE CERTAIN OTHER PROVISIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE CITY'S EXPERIENCE OVER THE FIRST YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CURRENT ORDINANCE. UTILIZING ADUS IN WORCESTER IS A POLICY TOOL IN WHICH THE CITY CAN USE TO ADDRESS THE HOUSING NEEDS IN THE CITY. OVER THE FIRST YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION, 31 ADUS HAVE BEEN PROPOSED, 28 HAVE SECURED PERMITS, AND TWO OF THOSE UNITS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.



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STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS



PUBLIC WORKS

MET ON MONDAY 12/15/2025

- CHAIRPERSON - **GEORGE J. RUSSELL** - DISTRICT 3 CITY COUNCILOR
- VICE CHAIRPERSON - **CANDY MERO-CARLSON** - DISTRICT 2 CITY COUNCILOR
- COMMITTEE MEMBER - **JENNY PACILLO** - DISTRICT 1 CITY COUNCILOR
- [CLICK HERE TO VIEW FULL AGENDA!](#)
- [CLICK HERE TO VIEW MEETING!](#)



PUBLIC SAFETY

MET ON TUESDAY 12/16/2025

- CHAIRPERSON - **KATHLEEN M. TOOMEY** - CITY COUNCILOR-AT-LARGE
- VICE CHAIRPERSON - **MORRIS A. BERGMAN** - CITY COUNCILOR-AT-LARGE
- COMMITTEE MEMBER - **LUIS A. OJEDA** - DISTRICT 4 CITY COUNCILOR
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Events in the Community



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION APPRECIATION - 12/16

AS THE LAST DAYS OF 2025 ARE DWINDLING DOWN, DISTRICT 5 CITY COUNCILOR ETEL HAXHIAJ INVITED NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION LEADERS TO CITY HALL AND FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGED THEIR COUNTLESS HOURS OF DEDICATED WORK TO THEIR COMMUNITY. CITY MANAGER ERIC BATISTA AND MAYOR JOE PETTY JOINED COUNCILOR HAXHIAJ TO RECOGNIZE THE NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS. THE CITY OF WORCESTER HAS OVER 50 OFFICIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETINGS. THESE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS STEM FROM WORCESTER'S NEIGHBORHOOD RESPONSE TEAM WHERE RESIDENTS, CITY OFFICIALS, BUSINESSES, AND NEIGHBORS COME TOGETHER TO ADDRESS ONGOING ISSUES, AND CULTIVATE IDEAS ON HOW TO PROMOTE THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD.



RAISING CANES GRAND OPENING - 12/16

DESPITE THE COLD WEATHER, AN ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD GATHERED OUTSIDE 494 LINCOLN STREET TO CELEBRATE THE OPENING OF WORCESTER'S FIRST – AND NEW ENGLAND'S NEWEST – RAISING CANE'S CHICKEN FINGERS LOCATION. DISTRICT 4 CITY COUNCILOR LUIS OJEDA AND MAYOR JOE PETTY, PARTICIPATED IN A RIBBON CUTTING TO OFFICIALLY WELCOME THIS NEW BUSINESS TO THE WORCESTER COMMUNITY.



THE CELEBRATION FEATURED LIVE MUSIC, A RAFFLE FOR FREE RAISING CANE'S FOR A YEAR, AND REMARKS HIGHLIGHTING THE COMPANY'S HISTORY AND COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT. ADDING TO THE EXCITEMENT, THE VERY FIRST CUSTOMER TRAVELED FROM MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE – ARRIVING AT 10:00 P.M. ON DECEMBER 15 AND STAYING OVERNIGHT TO SECURE THE FIRST SPOT IN LINE.

THE STRONG TURNOUT WAS A CLEAR SIGN OF THE EXCITEMENT SURROUNDING THIS NEW ADDITION TO WORCESTER'S GROWING BUSINESS LANDSCAPE.



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

WORCESTER, MASS. – THE CITY OF WORCESTER ANNOUNCED MONDAY ITS PERMANENT WINTER PARKING BAN WILL GO INTO EFFECT DEC. 1, 2025, AND WILL REMAIN THROUGH APRIL 30, 2026 (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:

- 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.

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.





UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- **TUESDAY - DECEMBER 23 -**

- **VETERANS' MEMORIALS, PARKS, AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING**
 - TIME: 5:00 P.M.
 - WHERE: CITY HALL, ESTHER HOWLAND CHAMBER, 455 MAIN ST
- **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**
 - TIME: 6:30 P.M.
 - WHERE: CITY HALL, ESTHER HOWLAND CHAMBER, 455 MAIN ST

- **WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 24 -**

- **WHITTIER TERRACE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**
 - TIME: 4:00 P.M.
 - WHERE: WHITTIER TERRACE APARTMENTS, 86 AUSTIN ST
- **QUINSIGAMOND VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**
 - TIME: 6:00 P.M.
 - WHERE: THE JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH, 46 GREENWOOD ST

- **MONDAY - DECEMBER 29 -**

- **GREEN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**
 - TIME: 6:30 P.M.
 - WHERE: ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH, 228 LINCOLN ST

- **THURSDAY - JANUARY 1**

- **LINCOLN VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**
 - TIME: 4:00 P.M.
 - WHERE: VICTORIA BUILDING, 116 COUNTRY CLUB BLVD
- **PACT NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**
 - TIME: 5:30 P.M.
 - WHERE: NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK CENTER, 301 PLEASANT ST
- **WEBSTER SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**
 - TIME: 7:00 P.M.
 - WHERE: OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS, 1222 MAIN ST



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
KHYRSTIAN 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



The City of **WORCESTER**

City Clerk Department
Nikolin Vangjeli, City Clerk
Stephen A.J. Pottle, Deputy City Clerk I
Clare M. Robbins, Deputy City Clerk II

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**

July

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

February

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

August

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

March

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

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**

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**

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**

May

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

November

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

June

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

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.