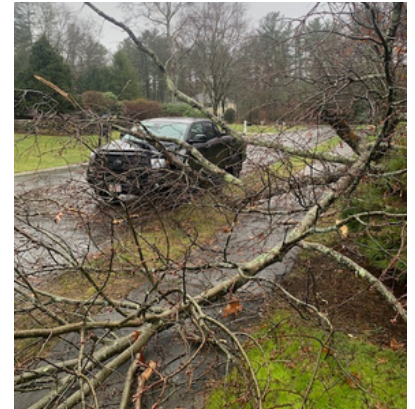


# Municipal Update



## Keeping Roads Safe in Winter

The crew and staff at Public Works have been working hard to keep Sudbury Roads safe this winter season. Sudbury has already seen snow, sub zero temperatures and fierce winds, and there may be more in store (at least according to Groundhog Phil). Thank you to everyone at DPW for keeping us safe!

**Learn more about Snow Removal Operations and Procedures on Page 5.**

### *Inside:*

Town Election

Earth Day

Fire Station 2

Rail Trails

Park & Recreation

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# THANK YOU, MARYANNE

Maryanne Bilodeau stepped in as Interim Town Manager in July 2022. This was her third time as Sudbury's Interim Town Manager since Maryanne began working for Sudbury in 2010. Ms. Bilodeau resumed her role as Human Resources Director and Assistant Town Manager on Monday, February 13, 2023. Our thanks to Maryanne for working tirelessly over these past eight months and helping ease the transition between Town Managers.



**Maryanne Bilodeau**  
Interim Town Manager from July 2022  
through February 2023

## ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION



**Monday**  
**March 27, 2023**  
**Polls Open: 7 AM to 8 PM**

Town Hall: Pct 4, 6  
Fairbank Gym: Pct 1, 2, 3, 5



**[sudbury.ma.us/TownElection](https://sudbury.ma.us/TownElection)**

# Building Department Updates

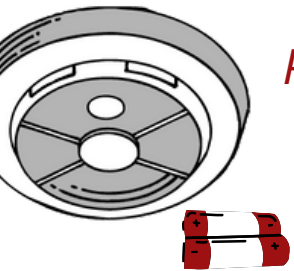
**BY ANDREW LEWIS,  
BUILDING INSPECTOR**

The Building Department continues to be extremely busy, issuing nearly 1,200 Building Permits in 2022.

We would like to welcome Scott Barbato, our new Local Inspector, who started in November. He comes with many years of experience in other municipalities.

We have issued Occupancy Permits for the 3 large buildings containing 101 apartments and 50 condominiums at Cold Brook Crossing, along with 50 Townhomes there. (Shown below.) We have 73 Townhomes left to finish.

The Fairbank Community Center is coming along with the second floor walls up. The Fire Station addition on Rte. 20 has broken ground, the foundation is in and the frame will start any day.



*Please remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors when you change your clocks on March 12.*



**437 Cold Brook Rd**

The BMW dealer has applied for a permit to do a fairly large renovation project and we expect plans for the new Mercedes-Benz dealer at 141 Boston Post Road soon.

We have 13 new single family homes under construction and we have seen a big uptick in solar panel and Energy Storage System installations.

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY  
APRIL 22, 2023

# SUDBURY EARTH DAY

Come and learn what YOU can do  
to help protect our planet.



Earth Fair featuring:

*Sustainable Sudbury,  
Conservation Commission,  
L-S Environmental Club,  
Energy & Sustainability Commission  
& More!*

10AM - 2PM @

**Goodnow Library**

Mother Earth Story Time

Recycled Materials Craft

Seed Lending Library

*More to come...stay tuned!*



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## CLEANUP DAY

Help Keep Sudbury Beautiful

Learn more and SIGN UP TODAY!

**[SUDBURY.MA.US/CLEANUP](https://SUDBURY.MA.US/CLEANUP)**



## *Fire Station 2 Under Construction*

Located at 550 Boston Post Road, Fire Station 2, Sudbury's busiest station, has begun construction of upgraded facilities. The Ground Breaking took place on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, and Phase 1 of the project is well underway. For the latest updates on the project, visit <https://sudbury.ma.us/fire/?p=1231>.

The Dairy Farm formerly at 550 Boston Post Rd which preceded Fire Station 2



Framing the new Fire Station 2



Former Fire Chief Miles, Chief Whalen and Asst. Chief Choate at the Fire Station 2 Ground Breaking.

## How can you help?

Here are a few suggestions to help not only yourself, but the Public Works Department as well:

1. Drive cautiously – reduce your speed. Be aware of the road conditions and your surroundings.
2. Do not attempt to pass a plow or salt spreader.
3. Refrain from traveling during a storm event unless it is absolutely necessary.
4. Do not allow children to play in and around the edge of the road or make snow forts in the snow-banks.
5. Do not plow, shovel or blow snow into the roadway.
6. Prior to final clean-up of your driveway, check the road condition. If it does not appear to be completely clear or needs to be widened, chances are the plow may return and may push snow back into the entrance of your driveway. Waiting until the plows have finished making the roadways safe might keep you from clearing your driveway more than once.
7. Clean around any hydrants and catch basins. Doing so will help the Fire Services in case there is a need to locate and operate the hydrant. Exposing catch basin grates will help remove the runoff from the snow-melt and prevent ponding (and potential freezing) of water in the street.
8. Check your mailbox to make sure it and the post are in good condition.
9. Be Patient. Roads will be cleared as soon as possible.

## Purpose

The intent of this pamphlet is to explain the Town of Sudbury Public Works Department's winter snow removal objective and to request the assistance of the residents and property owners in these procedures.

The primary goal of the Public Works Department is to ensure that all the maintained roadways are promptly cleared and treated as quickly and safely as possible following a storm event. The cooperation of all residents/property owners is essential for the Public Works Department to achieve this objective. This document is simply a reminder that your assistance and patience is greatly appreciated as the Public Works Department provides the winter maintenance required to clear and treat the roadways in an effort to make the streets safe for vehicular traffic.

Town equipment (including Town-hired contractors) cannot clear driveways or walks on private property.

## De-Icing Materials

Research has shown that sand, used on roadways, has minimal effectiveness. In fact, sand is actually an insulator and will cause more snow to accumulate on the roadways. In lieu of a sand-salt mix the Public Works Department is using road maintenance salt. When the temperatures warrant we will also use salt coated with magnesium chloride. This additive coats the salt and lowers its operating temperature allowing the salt to continue to work as an effective de-icer as the temperatures drop far below freezing.



Please contact the Public Works Department for additional information relative to snow removal operations and policies/procedures:

Dave Smith, Director of Operations or  
Dan Nason, Public Works Director  
275 Old Lancaster Road  
(978) 440-5421  
Mon-Fri 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM



*Free sand is available  
to residents at the*

*Public Works Department Facility*

*275 Old Lancaster Road*

*5-gallon pail maximum*

***NO COMMERCIAL BUSINESSES***

## Operations

Prior to the snow falling, anti-icing material is applied starting with the major roadways, secondary roads, schools and Town facilities. Anti-icing is an important phase in snow removal operations. It prevents the snow from becoming compacted and frozen to the road surface.

As the snowfall continues and begins to accumulate, the plowing operations begin - again with the major roadways first, then secondary roads, schools and Town facilities. The main objective is to keep the roads passable during the storm.

Even after the snow stops falling, the crews continue to plow and treat the roadways until the roadways are fully cleared. Once time allows, snow is pushed back at different intersections if necessary. Residents should keep in mind that the Town of Sudbury Public Works Department is responsible for over 140 miles of roadway so your patience is requested while the equipment makes its way through Town.

Every storm is different. The greater the intensity and the longer the duration of the storm, the more the resources are strained. This includes depletion of salt inventory, damage to equipment, and of course, operator fatigue. With your assistance and patience, the DPW will be able to provide the Town with the necessary functions of our winter maintenance operation.

Remember the Public Works Department personnel are making the roadways safe for you and all others traveling in the Town of Sudbury. The plowing operations require the drivers to make frequent stops and turns. These maneuvers may require the vehicles to back-up along the traveled way. Patience, courtesy and forethought are critical in making winter driving safe for all.

Town of Sudbury



Public Works  
Department

2022 - 2023

# Snow Removal Operations & Procedures

(978) 440-5421

## Driveways

Residents should remember to place the snow at the opposite end of their driveway from the direction of the snowplow. This will help keep the larger amounts of snow from being deposited back into the driveways during the plowing operations.

Plowing, shoveling or blowing snow into the roadway causes dangerous driving conditions and is prohibited by law. Violation of this Bylaw is subject to a \$50 fine.

## Property Damage

Residents can help protect their landscaping by placing fiberglass markers (no metal) at the edge of lawns and berms to aid the operators during the plowing procedures. The Public Works Department is not responsible for damages to lawns, sprinkler heads, fences, steps, trees, shrubs, trash cans (located at the end of driveways or in walkways) or other private property, (i.e., basketball hoops) that are located within the Town's right-of-way.

In accordance with the Town of Sudbury's Mailbox Damage Policy, the Town is only responsible for mailboxes that are physically impacted by the plow blade. Mailboxes pushed over from the force of snow coming off the blade of the plow are not covered.

## On-Street Parking Ban

The on-street parking ban starts in November and ends in April. On-street parking is prohibited during storm events and while snow removal operations are in progress. The DPW Director is authorized to have any vehicle removed during snow/ice removal operations. Owners are liable for costs of removal/storage and subject to \$50 daily fine.

# From Rails to Trails

BY LORI CAPONE,  
CONSERVATION COORDINATOR

## Eversource Underground Transmission Line and the Mass Central Rail Trail

After many years of planning and permitting, December saw the commencement of the construction of the Eversource Underground Transmission Line which will be followed by the installation of the Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT).

Tree and invasive species removal started at the substation near the Wayland Town Line on December 19th and proceeded to Bridge 127. After one month of construction, all trees have been removed, erosion controls have been installed, and the rails and ties have been removed within this segment of the project (Segment 14). Following completion of tree removal within this segment, the tree operation

moved to the Hudson Town line and will continue west to east through the remainder of the corridor. Clearing is currently underway in Segment 10, which is between Peakham Road and Horse Pond Road, and is proceeding about 1,000 linear feet at a time, followed by a couple days of chipping the woody material up. All work is proceeding in compliance with required permits. Environmental Compliance Reports and construction schedules are updated weekly and posted to the Conservation Commission website at:

<https://sudbury.ma.us/conservationcommission/?p=2496>

Some photos of the ongoing activities are below. The anticipated construction timeline for this project is 18-24 months, closely followed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation paving the gravel path and installing trail amenities, which is anticipated to take an additional year.



1



2



3

Work on the Eversource underground transmission line project shown left to right:  
1) During Tree Removal, 2) Following Chipping Operation and 3) Following Rail/Tie Removal



# *From Rails to Trails continued...*

During construction, public access is not permitted within the corridor. However, the contractor is permitting access across Segment 7, which runs from the Hudson Town line to Bridge 128, at two trail connections, during time-of-year restrictions

when construction activities are not permitted. The two access points are at the major trail junction at the Hudson/Sudbury Town line and at the Desert Loop. Access across the corridor at these two locations is permitted from May 1 through July 31st.



*The historic Diamond, where the BFRT and MCRT will meet.*

## **Bruce Freeman Rail Trail**

On January 23rd, work commenced on the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT). Work started at the southern most portion of the project, where the trail will intersect with the Mass Central Rail Trail. Work will commence south to north to where the trail stopped in Concord. Currently chain saw crews are removing small trees and invasive species on foot. This phase will take about three weeks. Staff is working with the contractor to determine future phases of the project. A new webpage has been created on the Commission's website to provide information of this project as it becomes available: <https://sudbury.ma.us/conservationcommission/bruce-freeman-rail-trail/>.

Construction of Sudbury's portion of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail will complete the trail from Lowell to Union Road in Sudbury. With the recent purchase of the CSX corridor, the Town is working on extending the BRFT to Route 20 in the next phase, followed by the completion of the trail to the Framingham Town line in future years.



## *A Call to Civic Engagement*

BY DAVID HENKELS, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

With the passing of the old year and the burgeoning of the new, I reflect on the importance of volunteerism, and its tremendous capacity for positive change. Every contribution of time and effort, no matter how trivial it may seem, can have an impact. However, taking the first steps towards getting involved can seem daunting. We often need to clear our heads and re-orient ourselves before we can take on new ventures.

One great way to serve your community is to get involved in your local government. The town of Sudbury has numerous boards, commissions and committees, each undertaking crucial roles and making decisions in service of the public good. The success of these bodies depends on folks like you, the reader, making the commitment to actively participate.

One such volunteer body is the Conservation Commission. It consists of seven residents, each tasked with stewarding the Town's vital natural resources. In addition to ensuring the protection of various wetland resource areas, they also work to ensure that we always have natural lands set aside for conservation, with some also serving a recreational or agricultural purpose. Perhaps you are familiar with some of them: Davis Farm, Lincoln Meadows, and Hop Brook Marsh, to name a few. It is easy to take for granted that they exist, and are free and open to all.

Many of us, perhaps even you, have explored these conservation lands. If so, then you know the wonderful experiences that await. Walk into these lands, and you walk through open farmlands, heavily wooded forests, and wetlands. Lands where the reminders of glaciation abound in the form of kettles, eskers, moraines, drumlins, and erratic boulders. You also do not need to look very long to find evidence of the town's more recent agrarian past: countless stone walls, wolf trees, occasional barbed wire, road cuts, and an odd dam.

It's not just the landscape, but the people you meet. In my own time, I have been blessed to walk these trails alongside many fellow travelers. An amateur geologist exploring glacial functions and formations. A wetland scientist examining soils and vegetation. A blood specialist who just happens to be an excellent observer of all things avian.

Inactivity leads down the path of disengagement. With this New Year, may I suggest that you instead resolve to take a different path. A path that begins at a trailhead to one of our conservation lands. You may find that, as it did for me, the path leads to meaningful and rewarding engagement in our community.



# SUDBURY SUMMER PROGRAMS!

**REGISTRATION IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1ST!!**

**12:00PM**  
SUDBURY SUMMER (AGES 5-6)

**12:30PM**  
SUDBURY SUMMER (AGES 7-10)

**1:00PM**  
C.I.T. PROGRAM (AGES 14-15)  
EARLY DROP-OFF/EXTENDED DAY (AGES 5-13)

**1:30PM**  
SUDBURY ADVENTURE (AGES 11-13)

**PRIOR TO REGISTRATION**  
Be sure you can log into your child's MyRec account and all their personal information is up-to-date!

**BE SURE TO LOG IN AND REFRESH BEFORE THE DESIGNATED REGISTRATION TIMES!**

# 2023 SUDBURY ADVENTURE

Lower Haskell Field Parking Lot  
Mondays-Thursdays, 8:45AM - 3:30PM  
\*Longer Trip Days (Tuesdays) - Pickup at 4:00PM  
Ages 11-13

July 5th - 7th: \$600 Residents/\$620 Non-Residents  
Cost Per Week (Sessions 2-6): \$625 Residents/\$645 Non-Residents

**> SESSION #1**  
PROGRAM BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY  
Weds - Fri, July 5th - 7th  
- Wednesday: Level 99  
- Thursday: APEX Entertainment  
- Friday: Fun & Games and AMC Theaters (Movie TBD)

**> SESSION #2**  
Mon - Thurs, July 10th - 13th  
- Monday: Archery Games Boston  
- Tuesday: Water Wizz  
- Wednesday: PiNZ Bowling  
- Thursday: Launch Trampoline Park

**> SESSION #3**  
Mon - Thurs, July 17th - 20th  
- Monday: Boston Paintball  
- Tuesday: Southwick's Zoo  
- Wednesday: Merrimack Valley Pavilion  
- Thursday: JayGee's Ice Cream & Fun Center

**> SESSION #4**  
Mon - Thurs, July 24th - 27th  
- Monday: Urban Air Adventures  
- Tuesday: Dave & Busters  
- Wednesday: Canobie Lake Park  
- Thursday: Worcester Bravehearts Baseball Game

**> SESSION #5**  
Mon - Thurs, July 31st - August 3rd  
- Monday: Regal Cinemas (Movie TBD)  
- Tuesday: Seekonk Grand Prix  
- Wednesday: XtremeCraze  
- Thursday: MetroRock Climbing Center

**> SESSION #6**  
Mon - Thurs, August 7th - 10th  
- Monday: Altitude Trampoline Park  
- Tuesday: Starland Sportsplex & Fun Park  
- Wednesday: Live Action Escapes  
- Thursday: Monster Mini Golf

# ESCAPE THE BOX!

An Escape Room in Your Hands

**FRIDAY, MARCH 31ST**  
6:00-8:00PM  
\$70/Team, Ages 14+  
Fairbank Community Center

Legend says that the sea devil, Davy Jones, has locked the souls of dead sailors in a wooden box. Will you be able to solve the mystery and set the sailors' souls free?

You'll have two hours to try your luck!  
All teams receive the same Escape puzzle and can bring it home at the end of the evening!

Sign up as a Team of 2  
(Only 1 person needs to register per team)

Bring your own snacks and non-alcoholic beverages!

For more information, visit [www.sudburyrec.com](http://www.sudburyrec.com)

# WE ARE HIRING!

## LIFEGUARDS & SUPERVISORS

## SUMMER CAMP SWIM ASSISTANTS

AT THE ATKINSON POOL

### Join our Team!

- Great After School or Summer Job
- Fun Work Environment
- Flexible Hours
- Earn Some Extra Money
- We Will Train You!

**WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

[pool@sudbury.ma.us](mailto:pool@sudbury.ma.us)  
(978) 443-1092  
[www.sudburyrec.com](http://www.sudburyrec.com)



# FROM THE SELECT BOARD

Winter 2023

Town of Sudbury

## *Introducing Town Manager Andy Sheehan*

**BY CHARLIE RUSSO, SELECT BOARD**

Sudbury's new Town Manager, Andy Sheehan, was hired on Dec. 6, 2022, and will begin his role in Sudbury on February 13, 2023. Since his hiring, it's been a privilege and a pleasure getting to know Andy. Recently, I asked him a few questions about himself, his background, and his plans for Sudbury.

**In your interview with the Select Board, you mentioned that you've been selective about the Town Manager jobs you've applied for. What drew you to Sudbury?**

As I mentioned in my interview, if you Google me you won't find my name as a finalist for any other jobs. I was happy in Middleton and was under no pressure to leave. I was only going to consider leaving for the right situation. I have long been drawn to Sudbury. I grew up in the area - Acton - and my mother still lives there. Sudbury has an excellent reputation and has high expectations for its manager. And there are a lot of plans ready to be executed: the Master Plan, Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan, Housing Production Plan, and others. All those things drew me to Sudbury.

**Looking back on 29 years of municipal experience, what lessons have you learned in your career that you think could benefit Sudbury?**

There are a couple of important lessons. First is to build relationships. If you don't have relationships you can't get very far.



Another is to take a long view. You have to build the relationships, get the pieces in place, and make sure the community is ready. Taking a patient, long view makes it possible to make great strides, even on things that have long been difficult. And often they happen more quickly than you expect. Another lesson is to rely on my team. I can't accomplish much on my own. Every effective organization needs a high performing team in order to be effective.

**What do you look forward to most in coming to Sudbury and what do you think is going to be your biggest challenge?**

I look forward to tackling the big gnarly issues that face Sudbury and face many cities and towns: executing the various plans that have been adopted, growing the tax base while preserving the character of the town, addressing climate change, making sure Sudbury is open and welcoming to all. The biggest challenge will be delivering exceptional services with finite resources.

# FROM THE SELECT BOARD

**You have a background in history, which is a great fit for Sudbury. Are there any particular historical sites you're excited to explore in Sudbury?**

I have always been fascinated by the early settlers, what they left behind in England and what they endured here. So the early settlements and the sites associated with King Philip's War are of particular interest. Early industrialism also interests me, so the early mills and the areas that grew up around them and then were transformed by later generations.

**Many in the community are excited to meet you. Do you have any plans to "get to know" community or engage in resident outreach?**

Yes, at the same time I am meeting with staff, boards and committees, I will be reaching out to various organizations, like the League, Chamber of Commerce, and others, as well as holding office hours and meet and greets. I will meet with anyone who will have me. It's all about relationship building and that is best accomplished on the ground.

**What would you like the people of Sudbury to know about Andy Sheehan that they may not find by reading your resume or listening**

**to your interview?**

I have two grown kids and a stepson. My partner, Kaari, also works in local government, as a Town Clerk. Outside of work I love to fly fish, play guitar, and work around my home and yard.

**Is it true you live adjacent to the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT), and if yes, what is that like?**

Yes, it's true and it's great! I worked on the first phase of the BFRT when I was the Community Development Director for Chelmsford. Years later, I met Kaari and she bought a home adjacent to the trail. She is an avid bike rider so it was the perfect place for her. Life is full of coincidences and ironies, and the BFRT is certainly one for me. I look forward to continuing the work on the trail in Sudbury. Theoretically I could soon ride my bike to work on the BFRT. But please don't hold me to it!

One additional little curiosity: in the mid-fifties when they were first married, my parents lived in North Sudbury. They lived on what is now Fairview Farm on the north side of Route 117. The railroad that is the next phase of the BFRT cut through the property.

## *The Nuts and Bolts of the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Transition Plan*

**BY LISA KOUCHAKDJIAN, SELECT BOARD**

In 2020, the Town of Sudbury allocated funding to retain the services of the Institute for Human Centered Design (IHCD) to conduct a self-evaluation and prepare a Transition Plan on behalf of the Town of Sudbury. IHCD assessed "the current level of ADA compliance in programs, services and activities and Town-owned facilities". (Part A page 1).

This article is intended merely to highlight some topics generated in the report.

**Part A** is the Executive Summary of the Report that provides a wonderful synopsis of the findings of the self-evaluation and the recommendations of IHCD.

**Part B** is an Evaluation of Non-discriminatory Policies & Practices in Programs, Services and Activities.

# FROM THE SELECT BOARD

This section addresses several key areas of the town governance process. One issue discussed in this section includes the designation of a Town employee known as the ADA Coordinator to make sure the Town is in compliance with the ADA. Title II of the ADA requires a public entity to adopt an adequate grievance process. (Part B page 3) At the time IHCD prepared the report, Assistant Town Manager Maryanne Bilodeau of the Human Resources Department was the ADA Coordinator for employment. Ms. Bilodeau maintains this role today. The Transition Plan Report indicates that while the Town has a grievance policy in place for employees, the Town does not have a similar grievance policy for members of the public. (Part B page 4).

A second key area covered in Part B is the Notice of non-discrimination policies (Part B page 4). The Town must have a uniform policy regarding the posting of ADA Non-Discrimination Notices for members of the public. Part B states that the Town “may not impose eligibility criteria that may prevent a



## Americans with Disabilities Act Evaluation and Transition Plan

Learn More about the ADA Evaluation and Transition Plan at <https://sudbury.ma.us/townmanager/?p=1883>.

person with a disability from participating in its programs, services or activities.” (Part B page 6).

Part B also references the requirement that “a public entity shall take appropriate steps to ensure that communications with applicants, participants, members of the public, and companions with disabilities are as effective as communications with others.” (Part B page 8). This requirement refers, in part, to posting available accommodations and the accessibility of our town website and the information provided on the website.

**Part C** of the Self-Evaluation Report is the Self-Evaluation Summary that discusses IHCD’s assessment of three categories of property: Municipal Buildings, Sudbury Public School (SPS) Properties, and Outdoor Facilities. (Part C page 11). Pages 11 and 12 of Part C list the specific areas IHCD evaluated. Part C and the many pages that follow provide specific details and recommendations by IHCD on what the Town needs to do to bring its assets into compliance in the three areas.

Addressing issues as outlined in the Transition Plan will take time and a commitment to collaborate by many different stakeholders, including town management, different boards and committees, and our community. The Town and Sudbury Public Schools have already begun to address some of the issues raised in the Transition Plan. Last year both the Town and SPS sought and received funding at Town Meeting to address issues raised in the Transition Plan. This year additional Town Meeting Warrant Articles are expected.



# FROM THE SELECT BOARD

Luckily, much of the work that remains can be efficiently addressed in conjunction with other town-wide plans, including the Master Plan, the Livable Sudbury Report, the Open Space and Recreation Plan and future needed capital projects. As an example, with the construction of the new Fairbank Community Center, the town will address all of the issues raised in the report as they pertain to the three user groups of the Center, Sudbury Public Schools Administrative Offices, the Sudbury Senior Center and the Park and Recreation

Department. Our town will also be able to feed two birds with one seed in future capital projects like the Town Hall Renovation project. At the same time that we potentially renovate our public buildings, we will also be able to address any ADA issues.

As we improve access in Sudbury and address issues raised in the Transition Plan, we will improve everyone's ability to enjoy our beautiful town.

## *Legislative Priorities for 2023-2024:* An interview with Massachusetts State Senator Jamie Eldridge and State Representative Carmine Gentile

**BY JANIE DRETHER, SELECT BOARD**

2023 brings about some important changes for Massachusetts state government. Notably, we have our very first all-woman executive team with Maura Healey serving as Governor and Kim Driscoll as Lieutenant Governor.

Governor Healey and Lt. Governor Driscoll's priorities include:

- Climate & Clean Energy
- Affordable and Abundant Housing
- High-quality Education
- Safe & Reliable Transportation
- Affordability and Competition

Source:

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/governor-maura-healey-and-lt-governor-kim-driscoll>

To understand how Sudbury's state legislators' priorities line up with those of the Massachusetts state executive office, I connected with Senator Jamie Eldridge and Representative Carmine Gentile and asked them to respond to the following questions:

### **What are your top priorities for the upcoming year?**

#### ***Senator Jamie Eldridge***

I am incredibly excited for the 2023-2024 legislative session! My top priorities include making key investments in transportation and education through the Mass Fair Share Amendment, climate action, moving Massachusetts to a universal healthcare model, strengthening protections for workers, and raising wages for working families, criminal justice and prison reform, improving government transparency, and making progress on racial equity, supporting immigrants, and helping low-income residents.

# FROM THE SELECT BOARD



*Sen. Jamie Eldridge and Rep. Carmine Gentile at the 2018 Sudbury Veterans Appreciation Luncheon.*

## ***Representative Carmine Gentile***

My top priorities are: (1) obtain maximum education and other state funding for Sudbury and each municipality I represent; (2) provide childcare relief for working families. Massachusetts has the highest childcare costs in the nation. We need to make it affordable and raise the pay of our childcare teachers so that they can afford to do this invaluable work. (3) improving health care by creating needed inpatient beds and outpatient facilities, relieving the unsustainable crisis in emergency rooms, delivering needed medical and behavioral care without unconscionable delays, and listening to our nurses to provide work environments that are sustainable (4) advancing the transition from greenhouse gas producing fossil fuels to clean renewable energy sources; (5) enabling the creation of thousands of new housing units while maintaining the affordability of current housing stock; (6) Joining the 22 other states that have already called on Congress to promulgate a 28th Amendment for ratification to reverse the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision which has allowed billionaires and non-human entities to financially drown out the voices of the American people. (7) create thousands of new well-paying jobs.

## **How can communities like Sudbury benefit from the passage of Question 1: Additional Tax on Income over \$1M?**

### ***Senator Jamie Eldridge***

That is a question that I am asking every community that I represent for input on. The Mass Fair Share Amendment that passed could raise \$2 billion in additional revenue every year, and it will be equally invested in transportation and education. On the education front, I believe that Sudbury families would best benefit from having more affordable quality early childcare programs to choose from, and more affordable, ideally free public higher education opportunities. I am also advocating for greater investments in key line items for K through 12 education, including the Special Education Circuit Breaker, Regional School Transportation, and Minimum Aid Per Student. On the transportation front, while I have some ideas on how investment in transportation can best support Sudbury, I would like to hear from the Sudbury Transportation Committee.

### ***Representative Carmine Gentile***

Some of the many ways by which Sudbury and other communities can benefit from Question 1, the Fair Share tax on income over \$1 million: using the funds generated to bolster local and/or regional transportation programs, decreasing family costs of early childhood education, lowering the cost of public higher education, replacing failing bridges, electrifying transportation, increased state aid for special education.

I am the sponsor of 38 bills: nine to benefit Sudbury, Concord, Lincoln, Wayland, or Marlborough and 29 to benefit everyone in the Commonwealth. A full list is available online at <https://malegislature.gov/Legislators/Profile/CLG1>.



# FROM THE SELECT BOARD

**Is there anything you would like Sudbury residents to know?**

***Senator Jamie Eldridge***

I get some of my best ideas from constituents, including from Sudbury residents on tax relief for seniors, rail trail legislation, and civil rights protections. Keep those ideas coming! Oh, and now I proudly represent the entire town of Sudbury, due to the 2021 redistricting, so now I'll have even more access to great ideas! :) Email me at [James.Eldridge@MaSenate.Gov](mailto:James.Eldridge@MaSenate.Gov) and stay updated on what I do through my website: [senatoreldridge.com](http://senatoreldridge.com).

***Representative Carmine Gentile***

As a State Representative I have three main responsibilities: preparation, advocacy and voting on legislation (including budget bills), assisting the towns I represent in their relationship with the state, and constituent services – if you or a family member are not satisfied with a state agency's response or services, have a problem with a utility, or other problem that appears intractable please reach out to me at [Carmine.Gentile@MaHouse.Gov](mailto:Carmine.Gentile@MaHouse.Gov) or 617 722-2810 ext. 8 and we will be glad to provide whatever assistance we can.

I appreciate Senator Eldridge and Representative Gentile's thoughtful responses. It will be important this coming year for the Select Board, other elected/appointed officials, and Town staff to determine how we can work collaboratively with our legislators to continue to support our community priorities and goals.

## *Sudbury's 2023 Annual Town Meeting*

**BY JENNIFER ROBERTS, SELECT BOARD**

Sudbury's Annual Town Meeting is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 1, 2023 at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School. Our annual Town Meeting is a vestige of colonial times when there was an effort to organize settlements into communities and create mechanisms for leadership and decision-making. Serving as the legislative body of our town, Town Meeting is comprised of registered voters who have authority to appropriate funds, approve the Town budget, enact bylaws, and other measures. The ability to participate in Town Meeting is a privilege that

we enjoy in Sudbury, where one's vote can have a direct impact on the municipal management of our community.

The season leading to Annual Town Meeting is a busy time for Town staff and officials. Planning for the budget and other Town Meeting articles starts in the Fall and results in the creation of a Town Meeting warrant. All articles, whether from Town staff, commissions, committees, boards, or citizen petitions must be provided to the Select Board's Office by January 31st of each year. From February to April, many Town entities learn about the submitted articles, engage in back-and-forth dialogue, and take official positions on the proposals to be presented at Town meeting. Town Meeting warrants are sent to resident households in the April preceding the Annual Town Meeting. Please be on the lookout for yours!

# FROM THE SELECT BOARD

## Topics for 2023 Annual Town Meeting

Articles for the 2023 Annual Town Meeting are being finalized and, like many years, will include a wide variety of proposals for our community. The Select Board will be sponsoring several articles including a Small Wireless Facilities Bylaw, funds to support our Go Sudbury! Taxi and Uber program, and an appropriation for user group requested enhanced audio-visual capabilities at the new Fairbank Community Center.

Articles being advanced through the Community Preservation Committee include: creation of a Health & Wellness Space at Curtis Middle School, Feeley Field Improvement Phase II, Fence and Lights for the Fairbank Multi-Sport Court, Historic Resource Inventory Surveys Phase V, Hop Brook Watershed Based Plan, Indigenous Cultural

Landscape Study, Hosmer House Study, General Housing Trust Allocation, Housing Trust Allocation for Nobscot Property, BFRT CSX Extension to Route 20, Accessible Pathways in Town Locations, and the annual Regional Housing Services Office (RHSO) membership. More information will come on Town and School sponsored articles and annual budgets. Stay tuned!

To learn more about Sudbury's Annual Town Meeting you can click [here](#). On this page are links to past Town Meetings (dating back to 1950!) with information on proceedings, warrants, and corresponding presentations. I encourage you to consider attending this year's Annual Town Meeting and experience the privilege and excitement of participating as the legislative body of our community.

## *Transportation Committee Update*

**BY DAN CARTY, SELECT BOARD**

2022 was a busy year for the Sudbury Transportation Committee as they continued to serve the neediest Sudbury residents with two programs. The first is the Go Sudbury! Taxi Rides Program, started in 2020 with Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) grant money for those aged 50 or older, 18 years old+ with a disability that limits driving, active-duty military, or military veterans, those with a financial need, or essential workers requiring transportation for work. The second is the Go Sudbury! Uber Rides Program, funded by a Community Compact Cabinet grant

(Making the Connections) for the same target groups, started in 2021. In calendar year 2022, 996 one-way taxi rides were provided—split between partners JFK Taxi in Natick and Tommy's Taxi in Framingham—and 2,499 one-way Uber rides were provided.

**TEMPORARY  
RIDE LIMIT**

**GO SUDBURY!**

Subsidized Taxi Service  
for eligible residents.



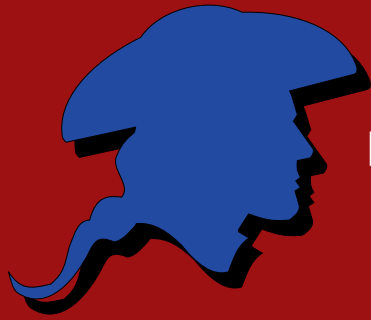
# FROM THE SELECT BOARD

Starting 2022 with approximately \$30,000 of program funding remaining, mostly from allocated Meadow Walk mitigation funds, the Committee planned for and submitted a warrant article for the 2022 Annual Town Meeting asking for \$100,000 to continue the program. The Select Board unanimously approved bringing the article forward with the understanding it may be withdrawn should they instead elect to appropriate ARPA funds. The Select Board also requested the Committee develop a business plan showing low, medium, and higher transportation offerings. In parallel with crafting of the business plan the Committee began working with the Central Transportation Planning Staff (CTPS) of the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to get technical assistance to see what future transportation options could be developed based on the data collected via the Uber and Taxi programs.

As the year progressed, the Committee prepared for the presentation of the \$100,000 Town Meeting warrant article which was supported by the Select Board with a 4-1 vote and ultimately passed at Town Meeting nearly unanimously. Shortly thereafter, in an effort to sustain the program financially, the Committee voted to cap Uber and Taxi rides at 20 one-way rides per rider per month, to increase Uber copays, and to change age eligibility from 50+ to 60+. Also, the Committee applied for, and was ultimately won, a grant from MassDevelopment on behalf of Sudbury, Acton, Bolton, and Stow, for nearly \$225,000 in funding, approximately \$87,000 of which went to Sudbury.

In an effort to learn from its riders, the Committee surveyed them and learned that most (88%-90%) riders in both programs were very or extremely satisfied. The Committee was pleased when the Select Board voted Transportation as one of their 6 high priority goals for 2023 and when the MAPC featured Sudbury along with Medford and Somerville in their publication "Learning from the Taxi, Livery, and Hackney Grant Program". Financially the program ended the year with \$26,720 of funds remaining, very close to the 2022 starting figure of \$30,000. As 2023 started, and ridership higher than expected and the receipt of the MassDevelopment grant delayed, the Committee had to implement temporary monthly ride caps of 6 for the Taxi program and 4 for Uber. With funding now in hand, the Committee will soon decide if or how to ease those limitations.

Since the inception of the programs through January 2023 a total of 3,869 Uber rides (average cost \$19) and 2,099 taxi rides (average cost \$78.81) have been provided to people aged 60+, those with limited financial means, those with limited driving ability, and military personnel. Looking towards the future of the program the Committee will continue to work on new options like integrating the MetroWest Regional Transit Authority's (MWRTA's) CatchConnect program (<https://www.mwrta.com/catch>) into Sudbury. But in order to keep providing service, and collecting data needed to analyze and justify future options like CatchConnect, there will be a request for \$150,000 at this year's annual town meeting. The Transportation Committee, composed of both volunteers as well as Town staff, is proud to see their work on behalf of residents continue to show positive results.



Town Offices will be CLOSED for

# PATRIOTS DAY

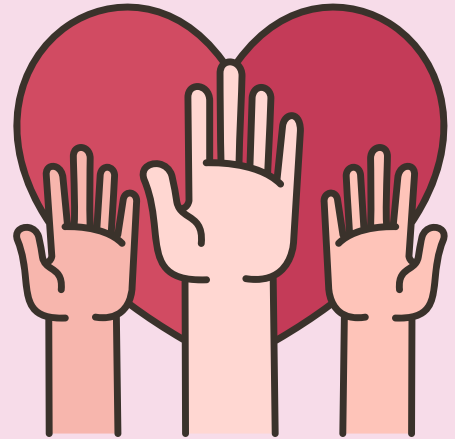
Monday  
April 17, 2023



## Be Part of the Solution

Climate crisis is intensifying the water cycle, making wet periods wetter and dry periods drier. Severe droughts can make both rainfall and flash flooding more severe, creating weather whiplash events. When heavy rain falls over drought-stricken soil — which is often hard and cracked — it cannot soak into the ground, and becomes runoff. Rain Barrels can be part of the solution.

# VOLUNTEER



## Support Your Town

Sudbury's volunteers strengthen our community. Boards and Commissions currently seeking members include:

**Energy & Sustainability Committee**

**Sudbury Historical Commission**

**Sudbury Housing Trust**

Volunteer Opportunities:

<https://sudbury.ma.us/opportunities-volunteers/>

## Sudbury 2023 Rain Barrel Program

### Reasons Why You Should Buy a Rain Barrel

- Decreases your water bill by up to 40%.
- It is an alternate source of water during droughts.
- Rain water is a healthy, chlorine and chemical-free water source for plants and gardens.
- Improves residential storm management.
- Rain barrels slow pollution from runoff.
- Lower municipal water demands & save energy at treatment plants.

### About The Great American Rain Barrel

- 100% re-purposed, food grade, UV protected and BPA free barrels. **Produced in Massachusetts.**
- Most durable rain barrels on the market: 3/16" wall thickness. Screen filtered to keep mosquitoes out.
- Will last for years when properly drained & stored for winter. Pay for themselves in one year.
- Several rain barrels can be linked together — easy 5-minute setup
- **Available Colors:** Forest Green, Earth Brown, and Nantucket Grey. Also available unpainted.

### How to Purchase Your Rain Barrel

Rain Barrels are available for purchase by Sudbury residents at the discounted price of \$89.00.

**How to Order:** Visit <https://www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community/>

Select "Massachusetts" and "Sudbury" under *Community Programs* on the left-hand side.

**Pick-Up:** Saturday, April 22, 9:00-11:00am at [Sudbury Water District 199 Raymond Road Sudbury 01776](#)

**Deadline to Order:** By Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, Midnight

