



# TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

*Updates from Town Hall and throughout Bedford*



## Annual Town Meeting

Annual Town Meeting was held at the Bedford High School Auditorium on March 23, 24, and 30. Various ADA accommodations were provided to residents, including the introduction of listening devices as part of a pilot program.

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## Annual Town Meeting ADA Features



### Parking



- Additional accessible parking available in front of the Bedford High School Auditorium

### Seating Accommodations



- ADA-accessible seating at both the front and back of the auditorium
- Seating available for:
  - Individuals using wheelchairs
  - Companions
  - Residents needing vision or hearing accommodations

### Speaking Support



- Wireless microphones available to assist individuals who prefer to remain seated
  - Tellers will provide them upon request

### Materials



- Large print materials available upon request prior to the meeting

### Listening Devices



- 24 assistive listening devices available (pilot program)
  - Reserve a device in advance by contacting the Town Manager's Office at [townmanager@bedfordma.gov](mailto:townmanager@bedfordma.gov) to ensure availability.

Matthew J. Hanson  
Town Manager

# DEPARTMENT UPDATES AND OPERATIONAL STATUS REPORTS

## DPW'S 2026 Annual Paving Program

The Department of Public Works has announced the 2026 Annual Paving Program. Residents are encouraged to visit the program webpage for the most up-to-date information, including project schedules and impacted roadways.

Residents planning any work within the Town right-of-way—such as **driveway repair or replacement, or underground utility connections**—should be aware that newly paved roads are subject to a five-year moratorium. All such work must be completed prior to paving.

Questions may be directed to the Department of Public Works at [paving@bedfordma.gov](mailto:paving@bedfordma.gov) or (781) 275-7605. Additional details, including the most current program updates, are available on the Town's website.



## Fire Station Progress

Work at 139 The Great Road continues. Tarps are expected to be removed in the coming weeks, with work to begin on boarding up the exterior walls.

# DEPARTMENT UPDATES AND OPERATIONAL STATUS REPORTS

## Finance Department

**4th Quarter Property Tax Bills:** Fourth quarter FY2026 Real Estate and Personal Property tax bills have been mailed and are due on May 4. Taxpayers with questions upon receipt of their bills are encouraged to contact the Tax Collector's Office at (781) 275-1517.

**2026 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Reminder:** The first batch of Motor Vehicle Excise tax bills was mailed in February and was due March 23. Residents who did not receive a bill or may have misplaced it should contact the Tax Collector's Office and submit payment by April 13 to avoid a demand bill and associated \$20 fee.

Residents who received a Motor Vehicle Excise bill for a vehicle that has been sold, traded, or is no longer owned should contact the Assessors' Office at (781) 275-0046 to file for an abatement.



## Health Department: Rabies Clinic

The Bedford Health Department will be hosting a Rabies Clinic for cats and dogs on Saturday, April 11, 2026, from 9:00 – 11:00 AM at the Town Center Building at 12 Mudge Way (Yellow Building).

For more information and to make an appointment, please visit:

<https://bedfordma.gov/m/newsflash/home/detail/695>.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

## Autism in Adulthood: Perspectives from Parents and People on the Spectrum

The Commission on Disability will host a panel discussion in recognition of Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month on Monday, April 27, 2026, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Reed Room at Bedford Town Hall (10 Mudge Way).

The discussion will focus on the experiences of individuals with autism in adulthood, featuring a panel of adults with autism and parents of autistic adults. Panelists will share perspectives on topics including employment, higher education, relationships, and navigating the adult service system.

**Autism in Adulthood: Perspectives from Parents and People on the Spectrum**



**Monday, April 27, 2026  
7:00-8:00pm**

**Reed Room, Bedford Town Hall, 10 Mudge Way**

April is Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month. Join the Commission on Disability for a discussion on the challenges and triumphs of autism in adulthood. A panel of adults with autism and the parents of autistic adults will discuss a variety of topics including employment, higher education, relationships, and the adult service system.

**Opening Remarks:** Matt Hanson, Town Manager

**Panelists:**

- Ann Guay – Moderator and Autism Parent
- Liz Martineau – CEO, Nashoba Learning Group and Autism Parent
- Gyasi Burks-Abbott – Autism Self-Advocate
- Irene Gravina – Autism Parent
- Naomi Dogan – Autism Self-Advocate
- Darshana Merchant – Autism Parent
- Lindsay Gravina – Autism Self-Advocate

### COMPREHENSIVE PLAN STRATEGY WORKING SESSIONS

	Sunday April 12 @ Town Hall	Saturday April 18 @ BHS Cafeteria
9-11 am	Safe, Easy Ways to Get Around	Homes that Support Choice, Dignity, and Belonging
12-2 pm	Vibrant Village Centers and a Stronger Local Economy	Belonging, Civic Life, and Shared Spaces
3-5 pm	Design, History, and a Strong Sense of Place	Outdoor Recreation and Environmental Stewardship

Join the ones that interest you, and guide Bedford's next decade!

Light refreshments will be provided.  
RSVPs are encouraged but not required.

LEARN MORE AND RSVP VIA THE PROJECT WEBSITE:  
[TINYURL.COM/BEDFORDSTRATEGIES](https://www.bedfordma.gov/714/Comprehensive-Plan)

## Bedford Comprehensive Plan Strategy Working Sessions

The Planning Board continues its Comprehensive Plan Strategy Working Sessions. Sessions will be held on Sunday, April 12, and Saturday, April 18. Refreshments will be provided, with one-hour breaks between sessions for those attending multiple discussions.

Residents are encouraged to participate. Additional information is available on the Town's website here: <https://www.bedfordma.gov/714/Comprehensive-Plan>

# EMPLOYEE UPDATES AND MILESTONES



## Congratulations!

The Town is celebrating the following retirements and work anniversaries:

- Jim Hunt - Police Department - 27 years (retiring)
- Richard Vitale - Police Department - 26 Years
- Nick Pouliot - DPW - 20 Years
- Robert Abajian - Police Department - 20 years
- Karen Kennedy - DPW - 18 years
- Heidi Porter - Health & Human Services - 15 years
- Paula Conti - DPW - 10 Years

## Welcome!

- Kathleen Aeschliman, Social Worker – Council on Aging
- Lisa Francine, Part-Time Reference Librarian - Library
- Ran Cronin, Head of Technical Services & Technology - Library

## Featured Jobs

- School Crossing Guard
- Heavy Equipment Operator - Highway
- Heavy Equipment Operator - Grounds
- Lateral Police Officer
- Community Planning Administrator
- Community Planning and Sustainability Manager
- Springs Brook Park - Lifeguard
- Springs Brook Park - Crew Staff
- Summer Adventures - Camp Counselor



Learn more about employment with the Town of Bedford and available positions at [www.bedfordma.gov/jobs!](http://www.bedfordma.gov/jobs!)

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AND ADDITIONAL INFO.

## Bedford Needs You!

All Town boards and committees consist of volunteers who reside in Bedford - either registered voters or adult permanent residents. Opportunities to make a difference are available for a wide variety of expertise and interests! For more information, including a full list of current vacancies and the application form, visit: [BedfordMA.gov/VCC](http://BedfordMA.gov/VCC)

## Image Submissions

Bedford is always looking for new photos to feature on our website, social media pages, and in other publications. Interested residents should complete [this form](#) available on [bedfordma.gov](http://bedfordma.gov) to submit an image for consideration. *Photo Credit Iona Ribauda.*



## Vacancy Spotlight

- Community Media Committee - 1
- Finance Committee - 1
- Hanscom Area Towns Committee - 1
- Historic Preservation Committee - 3
- Muni. Affordable Housing Trust - 2
- Commission on Disability - 1
- Taxation Aid Committee - 1
- Tricentennial Committee - 1

## BedfordTV

Want to watch prior government, educational or public programming? Visit the Bedford Video on Demand and Live Streaming Services at [bedford.tv](http://bedford.tv) or by clicking the icon below:



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VISIT [WWW.BEDFORDMA.GOV/LIST.ASPX](http://WWW.BEDFORDMA.GOV/LIST.ASPX) FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**TOWN OF BEDFORD**  
10 Mudge Way  
Bedford, MA 01730  
781-918-4000



**SELECT BOARD**  
Daniel Brosgol, Chair  
Terrence Parker, Clerk  
Shawn Hanegan  
Bopha Malone  
Paul Mortenson