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# FYI SALEM

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 16

DECEMBER 1, 2022

## From the Mayor's Desk



Dear Salem resident,

Thank you reading the latest issue of the FYI Salem newsletter!

The holiday seasons are upon us and that means time with family, giving gifts, and celebrating one another.

We were so pleased to again mark Small Business Saturday here in Salem, on the weekend after Thanksgiving, with free parking and lots of great promotions at our downtown retailers and local shops. I hope you were able to enjoy it, as well as the annual tree lighting and Santa's arrival!

This time of year also means challenges for many in our community, however. We're again offering our "Peas for Fees" program to help collect

canned goods for local food pantries. Our Housing Stability Service will hold a free, public workshop on December 15th at the CLC at 4pm for anyone that has questions or needs help finding housing or navigating the process to apply for vouchers, waitlists, and lotteries. And we're adding a half million in additional funds to the home heating assistance program. You can read more about all of these programs inside this issue of the newsletter.

I strongly encourage all residents facing hardships with their utility bills to call the NSCAP number in that article. Not only did we add funds to the fuel assistance program, but we were able to expand the income thresholds so residents who might not have qualified for it in the past will this winter.

Winter also means snow, of course. In the coming days the City will issue the annual update reminding folks about our snow emergency rules for parking and snow removal. Keep an eye out and please be sure to read it carefully—and share it with others, especially newcomers.

I hope you will join us on December 14th at 11am at City Hall for the unveiling of the

Naumkeag portrait, a new work of public art the City has commissioned to hang in City Council chambers and honor the history, contributions, and lives of the Indigenous people of the land we today call Salem.

Lastly, we were excited to announce this week a new round of ARPA allocations. This round of awards focused on supports for public health, mental health, and equity programs. They include, not only major capital grants to nonprofit community partners like the Salem Community Health Center, Plummer Youth Promise, and HAWC, but also two new grant programs for nonprofits and others in our community who support historically underserved populations or provide critical mental health services to our residents.

FYI Salem is a great opportunity to share all of these important City updates with you. But you can also sign up to get updates by email as they happen. Visit [www.salemma.gov/subscribe](http://www.salemma.gov/subscribe) to get on the City's email list today.

Thanks again for reading the FYI Salem newsletter!

Kim Driscoll  
Mayor

# Winter Heating Assistance



Mayor Kim Driscoll has announced that the City of Salem has directed \$500,000 of its federal American Rescue Plan Act funds to supplement its existing winter heating assistance program, to help more residents this winter. The funds supplement the existing Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to enable a greater amount of support for more Salem residents facing escalating home heating bills this winter.

To apply for heating assistance, residents should contact North Shore Community Action Programs (NSCAP), the City's partner agency in administering the funding, at <https://www.nscap.org/our-programs/home-energy-assistance/> or by calling 978-548-5706. Note that the income restrictions listed on the website linked here are for the conventional LIHEAP program and will not apply to Salem residents, who instead will benefit from the more expansive ARPA income thresholds. Call NSCAP at 978-548-5706 to verify income eligibility for this expanded benefit for Salem residents.

"Salem is committed to supporting our residents in the face of increasing utility rates," said Mayor Kim Driscoll. "These funds, which may be expanded if demand warrants, are being allocated to our home heating assistance programs to help Salem residents meet these escalating costs. I encourage every Salem resident who may need assistance with heating bills this winter to call NSCAP to find out if they might be eligible and then, if they are, to get their application in quickly."

NSCAP's Executive Director, Laura Meisenhelter is very pleased that there will be additional help for Salem residents who have exhausted their LIHEAP. "With sky-rocketing heating costs this year, it is especially encouraging to help with the heating bills for those people who earn just a little too much to qualify for LIHEAP," said Meisenhelter.

"Not only does this funding increase the amount we can provide for home heating assistance this winter," added Dominick Pangallo, Chief of Staff for the City of Salem, "because ARPA funds can help residents who make slightly above the LIHEAP income restrictions, this also means we can now provide winter heating assistance to even more Salem residents this year than we normally could with just LIHEAP alone. Salem residents can also join our electricity program, Salem PowerChoice, to possibly secure additional utility savings on their electric bills. Visit [www.salemma.gov/powerchoice](http://www.salemma.gov/powerchoice) to find out more about that program."

## Peas for Fees

The City's annual "Peas for Fees" ticket amnesty program will run December 1 through December 23. The program allows for the waiver of late fees on parking violations in exchange for a donation of canned goods and non-perishable items. All food will go to local Salem food pantries. Up to \$30 in late fees will be waived in exchange for the donation of at least two canned goods or non-perishable items at the City Collector's Office at Salem City Hall. City Hall is open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The "Peas for Fees" program has become an annual tradition in Salem and has successfully brought in donations of food for those in need and also additional revenues for the City. In the spirit of the holidays, this amnesty program will once again give individuals who owe late fees an incentive to pay their tickets while also providing additional food supplies to needy food pantries.



## Transfer Station

The final day for yard waste drop-off at the Salem Transfer Station this season will be December 11th. Curbside yard waste collection takes place the week of December 12th. More information about trash and recycling in Salem can be found at <https://www.salemma.gov/recycling-and-trash>.



## Naumkeag Portrait

In 2021 the City of Salem commissioned a portrait for City Hall to represent Salem's Indigenous community. This portrait has been in creation by Indigenous artist Chris Pappan, in close collaboration with the Massachusetts Tribal Council. Thanks to the efforts and support, of many, including the Salem City Council, the portrait will be displayed in City Council Chambers upon its completion. The City of Salem and Mayor Kimberley Driscoll are now proud to announce the dedication the portrait to the Massachusetts Tribe and all Native Peoples of this land, Naumkeag.

### Naumkeag Portrait Dedication Event

Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 11am-12pm

City Council Chambers, Salem City Hall, 93 Washington St., Salem, MA

The event is free and open to the public, no registration or RSVP is required.

Special thanks to the Massachusetts Tribal Council and artist Chris Pappan for their collaboration, endurance, and dedication to ensure this project was a success, and to the Salem City Council, the Salem Public Art Commission, the Artist Selection Team, Elizabeth Peterson, and the Parks & Recreation Department.

## Curative Site Closing

The City of Salem has been notified by Curative that their free COVID-19 PCR testing site in Riley Plaza will close on December 31, 2022. The City will continue to provide residents and those who work in Salem with free rapid COVID-19 tests as supplies last. For more information about COVID-19 testing in Salem please visit [www.salemma.gov/testing](http://www.salemma.gov/testing).



## Public Input Sought

The City of Salem is welcoming public input and feedback for two projects currently underway:

- Collins Cove to Salem Willows Resiliency Study: <https://publicinput.com/CollinsCove2Willows>
- Curtis Park improvement project: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TRN7287>





## Housing Stability ~ Estabilidad de Vivienda

Free Housing Information & Resources for Salem Landlords & Tenants  
Información y recursos de vivienda gratuitos para propietarios e inquilinos de Salem

### Drop-In Hours ~ Horario de atención

Community Life Center/Centro de Vida  
Comunitaria (CLC) – 401 Bridge Street

Espacio – 105 Congress Street

### DECEMBER

Wednesday		Thursday	
		1	
7	Espacio 9am-2pm	8	
14		15	CLC Workshop 4pm-5:30pm Drop-in 5:30-7pm
21		22	Espacio 4pm-7pm
28	CLC 9am-2pm	29	

### HOUSING WORKSHOP TALLER DE VIVIENDA

4:00-5:30PM, Thursday, December 15, 2022

Community Life Center/Centro de Vida  
Comunitaria (CLC) – 401 Bridge Street

Provided by/Proporcionado por  
ECBA & Salem Housing Authority.

The workshop will provide information on accessing affordable housing in Salem: types of available affordable housing, requirements, forms, process, waitlists, and what to expect as a public or subsidized housing tenant.

El taller brindará información sobre el acceso a viviendas asequibles en Salem, incluidos los tipos de viviendas asequibles disponibles, los requisitos, los formularios, el proceso, las listas de espera y qué esperar como inquilino de una vivienda pública o subvencionada.

**Housing Stability  
Webpage/Página web de  
estabilidad de vivienda:**

[www.salemhousinginfo.com](http://www.salemhousinginfo.com)

**Housing Stability Hotline/Línea Directa de Estabilidad  
de Vivienda: (978) 500-0973**

Live answer Wednesdays 9am-2pm & Thursdays 4-7pm/  
Respuesta en vivo los miércoles 9am-2pm y los jueves 4-  
7pm. Or leave a message/o deje un mensaje.

This program is funded by the City of Salem Department of Planning & Community Development, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. In the provision of our services, we do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or gender identity, age, religion, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, ancestry, public assistance, veteran history/military status, genetic information or disability.



Essex County  
Bar Association



City of Salem, MA



ESPACIO  
PUNTO

City of Salem  
Planning Department, 2nd Floor  
Attn: Elena Eimert  
98 Washington Street | Salem, MA 01970



# Community Open House

## Open House de la comunidad

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 3 | El Sábado 3 de Diciembre 1-3PM**



**Refreshments will  
be provided!**  
**¡Se proporcionarán  
refrescos!**

### What's happening in Shetland Park?

The City of Salem is partnering with Prime Group to develop a shared vision — rooted in community input — for the future of Shetland Park. We are looking to community members in The Point and across Salem to help us to prioritize the uses, connections, open spaces, and overall strategy for redevelopment at Shetland Park. Your input will guide the City and the Developer in how they should create a welcoming place for all.

### ¿Qué está sucediendo en Shetland Park?

La ciudad de Salem está colaborando con Prime Group para el desarrollo de una visión conjunta — arraigada en el aporte de la comunidad — para el futuro de Shetland Park. Estamos buscando a los miembros de la comunidad en The Point y en todo Salem para que nos ayuden a priorizar los usos, conexiones, espacios abiertos y la estrategia general para la reurbanización en Shetland Park. Tu aportación guiará a la Ciudad y al promotor sobre cómo crear un espacio acogedor para todos.

**CHOOSE YOUR  
PRIORITIES FOR  
REDEVELOPMENT!**  
**¡ESCOGE TUS PRIORIDADES  
PARA EL REDESARROLLO!**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 3** | 1PM  
**El Sábado 3 de Diciembre** | TO 3PM

**SALEM ACADEMY GYM**  
**Gimnasio en Salem Academy**  
**16 Lynch St, Salem MA 01970**



**Attend the Final Open House!**  
**¡Asistir al Open House Final!**



**[WWW.PUBLICINPUT.COM/SHETLANDPARK](http://WWW.PUBLICINPUT.COM/SHETLANDPARK)**

- ▲ Visit the project website to learn more and take our survey  
Visite la página web para mantenerse actualizado y realice nuestra breve encuesta



**E-MAIL**  
**[SalemShetlandPark@PublicInput.com](mailto:SalemShetlandPark@PublicInput.com)**

- ▲ Contact us with comments or questions  
Contáctenos con comentarios o preguntas

If you can attend, text "Y" to 978-972-0778  
Si puedes asistir, escribe "Y" a 978-972-0778



# ARPA Funds for Health & Equity

As part of the City of Salem's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding allocations, over \$3 million is being directed to an array of programs and projects focused on improving public health, mental health, and diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in the community.



## **North Shore Community Health Center capital grant - \$1,145,000**

This award will fund the construction of the expanded capacity behavioral health services department at the new Salem Family Health Center (SFHC) being constructed in the El Centro building.

## **Plummer Youth Promise capital grant - \$430,000**

This funding will help Plummer Youth Promise advance Phase 1 of its Rebuilding Families Campus project, consisting of the construction of a new building that is trauma-informed, dignified, and intentionally designed to drive at-risk youth toward family, stability, and success.

## **COVID-19 response - \$386,388**

These funds have been directed toward direct COVID-19 response measures and include such expenditures as free rapid anti-gen tests for Salem residents and vaccination clinics for residents and public school students.

## **Salem Equity Grant program - \$250,000**

This new City grant program provides operational support to local nonprofit organizations and agencies that provide support and services for historically underserved and underrepresented communities. To see additional guidelines or apply, visit [www.salemma.gov/recovery](http://www.salemma.gov/recovery).

## **Salem Mental Health Access Grant program - \$250,000**

This new City grant program provides operational support to nonprofit service organizations and entities that provide opportunities for socialization, support, recovery, mental health, and mental health-adjacent programming for Salem residents. To see additional guidelines or apply, visit [www.salemma.gov/recovery](http://www.salemma.gov/recovery).

## **Community-Wide AED Deployment - \$200,000**

Working through the Fire Department, the City will deploy 75 automated external defibrillators to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest at publicly accessible locations, including business, restaurants, places of assembly, and attractions, throughout the community.

## **HAWC Emergency Shelter capital grant - \$185,000**

This capital grant will allow HAWC to carry out upgrades at their emergency shelter's kitchen spaces and its client bathrooms, all of which have not been renovated in over a decade.

## **City Equity Audit & Gateways for Growth Challenge Grant - \$72,500**

These funds will carry out a citywide equity audit and match a technical grant being sought from the American Immigration Council and Welcoming America to develop a community and regional immigrant

## **SOS Health Access units - \$45,000**

The City is acquiring and installing touch-free dispenser units for the public to access healthcare products. Two units will be installed at City Hall and City Hall Annex, and two units will be located at sites still to be identified.

## **Translation and interpreter - \$32,000**

To provide added Spanish and other language translation of City documents and websites and real-time interpretation at certain City board and committee meetings, and funds expended to translate public health information, including vaccination eligibility, clinic details, testing updates, and resource information into Spanish during the pandemic.