



Town of Concord

Weekly Operations Report

2025 Volume 8/April 25th, 2025

General Administration

Concord250 – Patriots Day Weekend



Years of preparation and planning culminated in a joyous community celebration of the 250th anniversary of the start of the American Revolution. Thousands descended on Concord by MBTA train, bike, foot and shuttles to take part in the festivities, beginning at the Dawn Salute and ending with a drone show at the high school. Over fifty parade units entertained the crowds who lined the streets along the route,

culminating in a rousing performance by the UMass Minuteman Marching Band, who participated in the parade for the first time.

The day was the result of hundreds of hours of planning and work by the committee and town staff who came together and pulled off a tremendous event for the community. Here are some details on what went into the event behind the scenes.

Public Safety Communications

During the 250th, the public safety communications team worked cohesively to provide seamless radio support to Concord Fire and Police Departments. We were also able to aid Concord residents during the 250th and in the days leading up to the events. We received 274 non-emergency line calls to the dispatch center on April 19th. Beginning on Wednesday, April 16th through April 19th, 2025, public safety

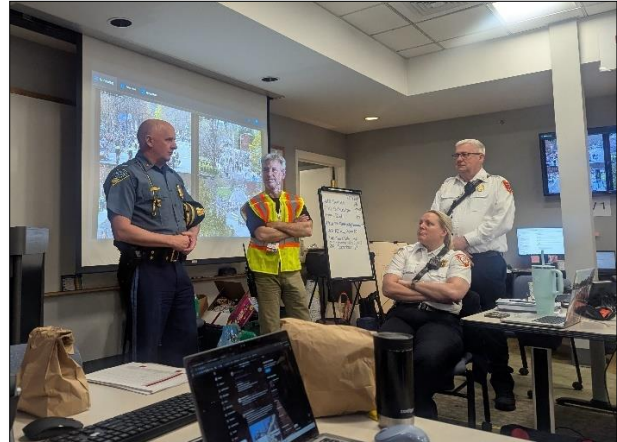


dispatchers answered 1,058 non-emergency line calls, the majority of which were related to the 250th.

All this work was done in the Town's new backup emergency communications center, which demonstrates the team's ability to quickly adapt and provide consistent service despite the circumstances.



Emergency Operations Center



Col. Nobile, Alan Cathcart, Chief Judge, Chief Lawless

Dedicated Concord250 Info-Line

The non-emergency phone line team provided service to 450 callers between Friday evening and Saturday. Staff supported residents and visitors as they planned their transportation, helped connect them to resources when they needed assistance, and assured them that the drone show was still on despite the weather!

Health Division

Notably, the Health Division played a key role in Concord's 250th Celebration and Parade, ensuring safety and health measures were in place for this major town event. These included the logistics planning and on the day management of the following:

- 20 food trucks located at the Walden Street Lot and along Stow Street
- 2 quench buggies were provided for public hydration
- 212 portable toilets were placed strategically throughout the downtown area
- A total of 30 temporary food permits were issued to accommodate various celebratory events around Town
- First Aid Coverage: Moira and Ebony staffed a first aid station at the Hunt Gym for the 250th event in partnership with Concord Fire, ensuring prompt health support was available.



250 Parade & More Viewing Party

The COA hosted a *250 Parade & More Viewing Party* in the HWCC auditorium on Saturday morning. Resident Joy



Bonner was the winner of the best patriotic dress!



Tourism - Visitor Report

- SOLD OUT of tricorn hats (over 140 on April 19), also SOLD OUT of “shot heard round the world “ shot glasses.
- Revenue for the month of April will exceed all of 2024 for merchandise sales.

- Most popular Concord250 items were tricorne hats, 250th commemorative coins, pewter items made in Concord, and shot glasses.
- Featured pup of April is Thor, the new PD therapy dog, proudly sporting his 'bark heard round the world bandana'.
- 20 Visitor Center staff worked April 19th, marking the largest staff presence at an event.
- Sales show no signs of slowing down with bookings daily and all through 2026 already confirmed.



Reimagine MCI Concord

Two workshop style open houses are being held on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 to reimagine MCI Concord. The open houses are from 3 – 5 PM at Gerow Park and 6-9 PM at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center. The community is invited to stop by anytime during those hours to share their vision on the redevelopment of the MCI Concord site. Find more information at mci-concord.org

APRIL 30

3-5PM
Sunny Day
Location: Gerow Park
369 Commonwealth Ave
Concord MA

Rainy Day
Location: Concord Main Library
129 Main Street
Concord MA

6-9PM
Harvey Wheeler
Community Center
1276 Main Street
Concord MA

MAY 28

Check our website for future updates about time and location.

LOCATION CHANGE

Stop by the open house style workshops to share your thoughts for the future of the MCI Concord site!

Stop by any time during the open house—stay for a few minutes or as long as you like—**your input matters whenever you arrive.**

As this site transforms, we invite you to share your vision - how can this space serve the community in new and meaningful ways? We want to hear from you!

Check the website for updates and to share your ideas there too: mci-concord.org/

LET'S REIMAGINE MCI

Town Clerk

Census 2025 Second Mailing

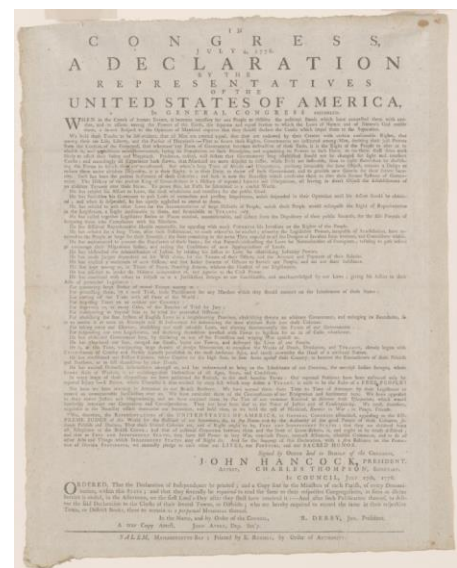
A second round of census forms have been mailed to 2,115 households. If you receive a second notice in your mailbox in the coming days, it means that we have not received a 2025 census return from you. This is how we keep not only our resident list, but also our

voter list up to date. Voters who do not respond to the census by the first Monday in June must be moved to an inactive voter list, according to State Law. This does not remove your right to vote but will require that you show evidence of living in Concord when you go to the polls. If you or someone listed in your household has moved, please include a forwarding address or have the voter sign so that we can remove them. For more information, go to [Census webpage](#)

The Preservation of Concord's copy of the Declaration of Independence is Complete

The Town Archives recently completed a Community Preservation Act funded project to preserve the Town's copy of the Declaration of

Independence. The Declaration of Independence was originally signed on July 4, 1776. The version belonging to Concord was printed by Ezekiel Russell at his print shop in Salem on July 18, 1776 following an order by the Massachusetts Bay Council. This printing followed the first official printing (John Dunlap Broadside, July 4, 1776) and the first unofficial printing (Pennsylvania Evening Post, July 6, 1776). Copies of these broadsides are rare, and the Town Archives takes great pride in our well-preserved copy. This document is believed to have been delivered to Reverend William Emerson, read from the pulpit at First Parish Church, copied into the Town Record Books, and deposited with the Town Clerk. A reproduction of this document is part of a combined exhibit with Special Collection currently on display at CFPL through June 30, 2025: [A Celebration Heard 'Round the World - Presented by the William Munroe Special Collections | News & Announcements | Events | Concord Free Public Library](#)"



Army Reserve's 117th Birthday Celebration

On Wednesday, April 23rd, Deputy Town Manager Megan Zammuto attended an Enlistment Ceremony and Celebration of the Army Reserve's 117th Birthday at the Minuteman National Historical Park in Concord. Lieutenant General Robert D. Harter, Chief of Army Reserve and Commanding General, United States Army Reserve Command led the event. The ceremony included a demonstration and performance by the Concord Minutemen and Middlesex County Volunteer Fire and Drum Corps.



Public Safety

Telecommunicators Week

Concord Public Safety Communications celebrated National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week last week. We celebrated the tireless efforts of our public safety dispatch team through a proclamation from the Selectboard, daily activities and themes, meals and goodies, and flying the "thin gold line" flag (the thin gold line is the support symbol for public safety telecommunicators) in front of the public safety building. Thank you to our team of public safety dispatchers, who provide around-the-clock emergency services to Concord.

The Massachusetts TERT Program

Lead Disp. Rich Landers attended the Telecommunicator Emergency Response Task Force (TERT) member training. The Massachusetts TERT program was developed in partnership with the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), the State 911 Department, the Statewide Office of Public Safety Interoperability (SIEC), and the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association (MassNENA). The MA TERT program is a team of certified and credentialed public safety telecommunicators who respond, relieve, assist and/or augment PSAPs affected by manmade or natural

disasters, unanticipated staffing issues, and unforeseen tragedy. Concord Public Safety Communications is pleased to have Lead Disp. Landers serve on this special team.

Appointment of ECC Manager

ECC Manager Stephen Johnson has been appointed the Chair of Associated of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Atlantic Chapter Membership Committee. ECC Manager Johnson will be responsible for determining eligibility for membership within the organization, recruitment and retention of members, and other duties as assigned by APCO Atlantic. This is an opportunity for Concord Public Safety Communications to interface with members across the eight states that comprise the APCO Atlantic Chapter. All Concord Public Safety Communications employees are members of APCO Atlantic.

Department of Planning and Land Management

Health Division

During March and early April, the Health Division focused on community events and public health infrastructure. Staff continued efforts to support foundational public health services while actively preparing for the upcoming summer season.

Community Engagement & Clinical Services

In partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), the Public Health Nurse facilitated a vaccination clinic for Emergency Assistance Shelter residents and continues to support primary care linkages. A measles awareness one-pager was also developed and distributed through the Great Meadows Public Health Collaborative to address growing national concerns and promote vaccination.

Public Health & Services

Melanie and Moira completed the Service Delivery Tool aligned with MDPH's efforts to evaluate and enhance delivery of Foundational Public Health Services statewide. The Concord Behavioral Health Collaborative met twice in April, focusing on development of a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and strategies for expanded behavioral health access.

Seasonal Preparedness

As the weather warms up, the Health Division has been stepping up efforts related to recreational camps, pools, and food safety permitting. Preliminary pool inspection scheduling is underway for the 2025 season. Operators have been notified of permit deadlines and pre-opening requirements. The annual permits issued for Food

Establishments, Tobacco Retailers and the Keeping of Animals are all in the process of renewing.

Planning and Natural Resources Divisions

Assabet River Bluff Housing and Open Space Project

In April 2025, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held for the Assabet River Homes with the Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell as well as Concord Housing Development Corporation (landowner), Concord Boards, Committees and non-profits such as the Concord Select Board, Concord Municipal Affordable Housing Trust (CMAHT), Concord Housing Authority (CHA), and Concord Housing Foundation. The Regional Housing Services Office (RHSO) and Town staff from DPLM including the Natural Resources and Planning Divisions helped to support the creation and development of this project, the Assabet River Bluff Housing.



Background

In August of 2022, the Town of Concord and the Concord Housing Development Corporation (CHDC), working closely with the Concord Land Conservation Trust and the Sudbury Valley Trustees, purchased the 7-acre property near the Assabet River and the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. Six of the seven acres are protected as open space, and one acre is set aside for affordable housing. Sudbury Valley Trustees and the Concord Conservation Land Trust assisted with fundraising and public outreach initiatives creating a conservation restriction to provide an additional layer of protection for the open space property.

Project Details:

- The Assabet River Bluff property consists of two parcels totaling 7 acres along the Assabet River and the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail.
 - The property was acquired in 2022 for \$2,800,000: \$1,000,000 for the housing portion and \$1,800,000 for the dedicated open space. The purchase included funds from CPC, CMAHT and private fundraising.
 - With support from DPLM, the CHDC was issued a permit for development of 5 units. Then through an RFP process, selected Habitat as the developer. In 2023, Town Meeting approved \$500,000 for the project to the CHDC.
 - With Habitat as developer, the CHDC was granted \$1,000,000 for development from the CMAHT.
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- There will be 3 new affordable ownership units through Habitat for Humanity, and an existing 2-family dwelling at 406 Old Marlboro Road that will be transferred to and managed by the Concord Housing Authority as 2 affordable rental units.

In addition to the Community Preservation Act and Concord Municipal Affordable Housing Trust funding, the Town was awarded a \$500,000 Land & Water Conservation Fund grant toward the land purchase.

Engineering

Sidewalk Repairs

Engineering staff identified several spot locations in downtown Concord where the existing sidewalk was deteriorated and presented trip hazards or were difficult to negotiate. Understanding that these should be taken care of before the 250th events, a contractor was hired to perform repairs to spots where the concrete was missing and broken severely. Another contractor was hired to repair two sidewalk locations on the west side of Monument Square that were



significantly heaved by the roots of very mature trees. Engineering discussed with Planning staff regarding working within an historic district before the repairs were performed.

Parade - Pavement Markings

After the challenges of either cold or wet nights in the past couple of weeks to install pavement markings, Engineering finally found suitable conditions to schedule the contractor and completed the refreshing of pavement markings – crosswalk, stop bars, arrows, and long line striping along the parade route and other downtown streets.

Main St/Walden St Intersection Crosswalk

The goal to add the patterned and accented crosswalks at this intersection to bring higher visibility to drivers and added protection to pedestrians prior to the 250th was met when this work was recently completed.



Monument Square Flag Sizing

During the flag raising ceremony on Saturday, April 12th, the Engineering Division was recognized along with Jason Gallant of the consulting firm Wright-Pierce in the extra effort made to evaluate the structural capabilities of the flag pole for the largest size of flag that it can carry. The recommendation made to the Concord Independent Battery was 15 feet by 25 feet.

Fair Share Grant

The Town was recently notified that it has received \$152, 700 which is its share of the FY25 \$45M Fair Share funds distributed to municipalities statewide by the Mass Department of Transportation and being managed under Chapter 90 regulations. CPW intends to apply the majority of these funds towards pedestrian safety improvements as it conducts street work this year

Tourism

Visitor Report

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 - Revenue for Month of April will exceed all of 2024 for merchandise
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 - Featured pup of April is Thor, the new PD therapy dog, proudly sporting his 'bark heard round the world bandana'
 - 20 VC staff worked April 19th, the most ever with many working for 8 to 12 hours.
 - Sales show no signs of slowing down with bookings daily and all through 2026 already confirmed.
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Council on Aging

COA Outreach statistics

COA Outreach Highlights

January 1st 2025 - March 31st 2025

Office Visits with Social Services = 272

Home Visits by Outreach = 50

Current needs:



- **Housing** (35 individuals helped, 278 interactions total)



- **Public Benefits** (48 individuals helped, 258 interactions total)



- **Financial Assistance** (31 individuals helped, 126 interactions total)

- **Mental Health** (37 individuals helped, 128 interactions total)

COA Outreach/Social Services Highlights

January 1st 2025 - March 31st 2025

COA Outreach team provides support to Concord residents aged 60 and older, addressing a range of social service needs.

So far this year, the main needs identified are access to affordable housing, assistance in navigating public benefits, mental health resources and support, and financial aid to meet essential daily living costs.

