



# FYI SALEM

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## From the Mayor's Desk



A lot is happening this month in Salem—as the weather gets warmer parks and playgrounds get more active, our waterfront and downtown are alive with activity, and, yes, construction work on streets and buildings are underway.

Inside this issue of FYI Salem you can find out more about an upcoming public meeting where the City's landscape designer will share the plans for major improvements to McGlew Park in North Salem. This project will be implemented through a mix of funding from the City's

Community Development Block Grant, a Community Preservation Act grant award, and a state PARC grant. It's always great to be able to leverage non-tax dollars to complete upgrades to public infrastructure and McGlew Park is going to be so much more enjoyable with all of the improvements that are planned to take place. We also have some exciting pop-up events taking place at the new City park in development at 289 Derby Street.

We have an important update on the Canal Street Roadway Improvement Project, as well. While the roadwork, sidewalks, and off-street bike path are still underway, there will be a temporary closure of a portion of the street to through traffic from late May through mid-August. More information is in this issue

and we'll have the City Engineer on the next episode of the FYI Salem podcast to talk about it, as well.

We'll hold a dedication ceremony for the O'Keefe Fire Station in mid-June—you're invited! See inside this issue for details.

Finally, the Salem Power-Choice electrical aggregation will be lowering its rates and changing to a new electricity supplier starting next month. This green program has already lessened our community's carbon footprint by 39,000 tons and can help Salem homeowners save money on their electric bills.

As always, thanks for reading the FYI Salem newsletter. If you know someone who might be interested in getting this newsletter, they can subscribe at [www.salem.com/subscribe](http://www.salem.com/subscribe).

Kim Driscoll, Mayor

# McGlew Park

The City of Salem has been awarded a Park-land Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Community Development Block Grant funding and Community Preservation Act funding to complete improvements to the park that were identified by the community.

Planned improvements include an enhanced entrance, upgraded play equipment, a universally designed walking path, new trees and improvements to the basketball court and softball field.

A public meeting will take place to share the planned upgrades, on Tuesday May 16, 6:45 p.m. at the Park & Recreation Commission meeting at 5 Broad Street.

At the meeting, Landscape Architect Naomi Cottrell of Michelle Crowley Landscape Architecture will present the park design and seek feedback from meeting participants. All are welcome to attend and participate.



## The Salem Flea

The City of Salem, in collaboration with RM & Company, invites artisans/vendors to showcase and sell their work on the third Saturday of the month from May-September, 10-5pm, in historic downtown Salem at Derby Square on Front Street.



The Salem Flea will feature a juried selection of vendors of vintage and up-cycled furniture, vintage clothing, collectibles, antiques, architectural salvage as well as a select number of jewelry, art, and hand-made goods by local artisans.

For more information, please visit <https://>

# Canal Street Partial Closure

As part of the on-going Canal St. Roadway Improvement Project, MassDOT and the project contractors will be closing a roughly 600' length of Canal St. to through traffic for a total time period of 12 weeks.

May 30-July 18: no through traffic possible from Ocean Ave to Hersey St. Detours will be posted allowing through traffic to travel through the corridor via Laurel St, Linden St, and Forest Ave. Hersey St is proposed to be temporarily a 2-way street to allow vehicles to access Canal St businesses from the Linden St detour.



July 18-August 22: no through traffic possible from Hersey St to Forest Ave. Detours will be posted allowing through traffic to travel through the corridor via Broadway and Ocean Ave.

In anticipation of the detour traffic the City will level and pave some of the detour streets in the neighborhood adjacent to Canal St. All Canal St businesses will be open for business during this time period, with the exception of McDonalds, which will temporarily close to carry out a large renovation project. Please help support our Canal St businesses during this important roadway improvement project.

While the rest of the Canal Street Roadway Improvement Project can be accomplished while allowing through traffic to continue, the state of deterioration under the roadway in this one 600' stretch is substantial. To reconstruct the roadway in a manner that will provide the most long-lasting improvement, the contractor will be excavating to 30" below the road surface, more than twice the standard excavation depth. The roadway will be filled with a light concrete fill, instead of conventional fill, and a stabilizing high-strength geo-tech fabric will then be installed over the top of the fill from curb to curb. A final paving layer will then go over the geo-tech fabric.

The deterioration of this portion of the roadway has occurred as peat and loose soils under the pavement have consolidated and sunk over time, while underground utilities such as storm drains and conduits have kept the road surface elevated in places. The resulting roadway surface is highly uneven. The more substantial improvement possible through this temporary closure will help eliminate this problem on a more long-term basis than conventional methods.



Mayor Kimberley Driscoll, Salem Fire Chief David Cody, the firefighters and staff of the Salem Fire Department, and the O'Keefe Family invite you to the



## Dedication of the Joseph A. O'Keefe, Sr., Fire Station

64 Loring  
Avenue,  
Salem



Saturday,  
June 17,  
9:30 a.m.

Additional information about this closure will be posted online at [www.buildingsalem.com/canal-street-roadway-improvement-project/](http://www.buildingsalem.com/canal-street-roadway-improvement-project/) in the coming week. There is also a sign-up form at that page to get weekly email updates regarding the project. Anyone with questions is invited to contact the City's Engineering Department at 978-619-5673 or to email [buildingsalem@salem.com](mailto:buildingsalem@salem.com).



# Salem PowerChoice

Beginning with June electricity meter reads, participants in the Salem PowerChoice program will see their rates lower for a second time in 2017. PowerChoice Standard, which provides 100% green energy, will lower to 9.965 cents/kWh. PowerChoice Plus, which provides 100%-green energy and includes an extra 20% from renewable energy projects in New England, will lower to 10.065 cents/kWh. PowerChoice Basic, which does not integrate any additional renewable energy, will lower to 9.92 cents/kWh.

"By committing to a two-year contract, the City has locked in a price that will not only remain stable for those two years, but also has the potential to protect program participants from any future increases in electricity costs," said Salem Mayor Kimberley Driscoll. "At the same time, we have reaffirmed our City's commitment to sustainability leadership in Massachusetts. Salem PowerChoice continues to integrate 100%-green energy and has already reduced the City's carbon footprint dramatically. Based on a combination of actual and estimated electricity use, Salem will have reduced its carbon footprint by more than 39,000 tons since program launch, the equivalent of taking more than 7,500 vehicles off the road for one year."

Salem PowerChoice takes advantage of bulk purchasing electricity for the entire community. Through this program, Salem is working to make electricity costs more predictable and more stable, to bring 100% green energy to the City, and to give participants more control over the price and environmental characteristics of the electricity they use.

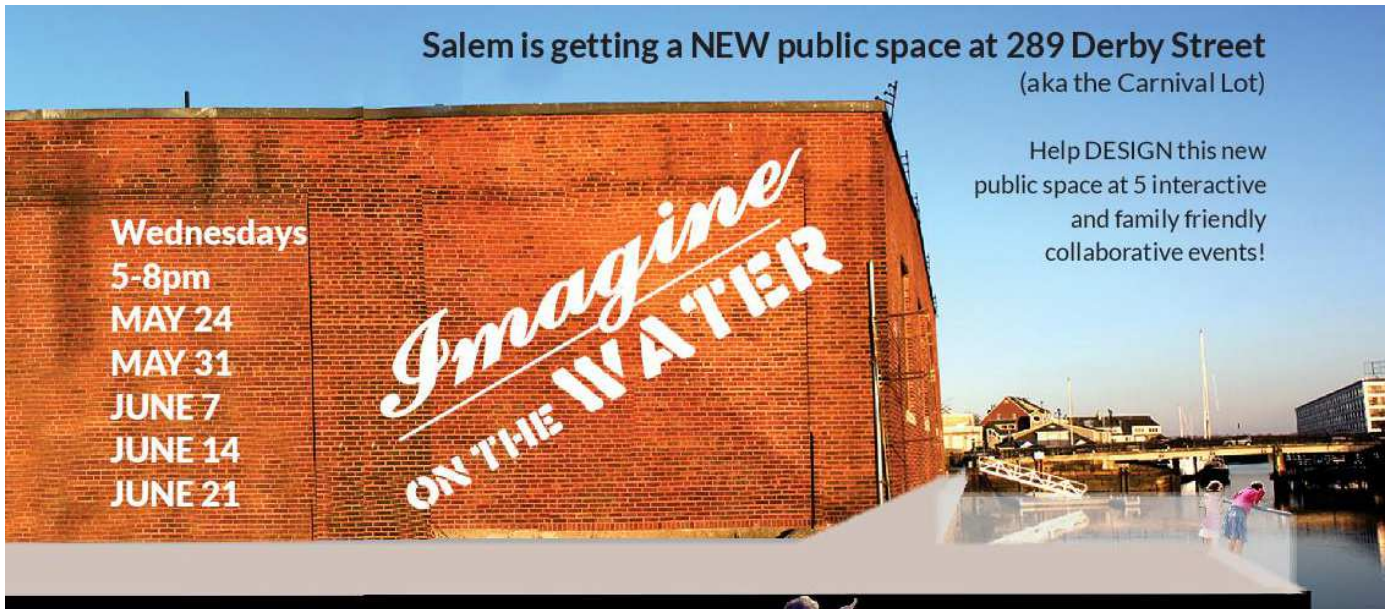
The program offers three alternatives to National Grid Basic Service:

- PowerChoice Standard is 100% green and is the default offering. New National Grid Basic Service customers in Salem are automatically enrolled in PowerChoice Standard, unless they choose to opt out.
- PowerChoice Plus is an option that allows participants to make their electricity supply 100% green with a focus on locally produced renewable energy. PowerChoice Plus includes an extra 20% from renewable energy projects in New England, in addition to the minimum required by the state. Participants may choose PowerChoice Plus for a small premium.
- PowerChoice Basic is the least expensive option within the program. PowerChoice Basic meets minimum state renewable energy requirements, but it does not include any additional renewable energy.

The new prices will be in effect from June 2017 meter reads until June 2019 meter reads. During that time, National Grid Basic Service prices will fluctuate and may at times be lower or higher than the program price, although the PowerChoice price is expected to be lower than the Basic Service price in total over the course of the entire two-year contract. Customers always have the right to leave, or opt out, of the program at any time with no penalty.

Additional details, including information on how to switch from one option to another or opt out of the program, are available at [www.salem.com/powerchoice](http://www.salem.com/powerchoice). Customer support is available by email at [salem@masspowerchoice.com](mailto:salem@masspowerchoice.com) or 1-844-483-5004.





# 289 Derby Placemaking

#289Derby  
[CreativeSalem.com/289Derby](http://CreativeSalem.com/289Derby)

The City of Salem, CBA Landscape Architects,  
Salem Public Space Project & CreativeSalem invite you to:

## *Dance & Design*

### ON THE WATER

May 24 Wednesday 5-8

- dance with local salsa, modern & scottish groups
- what do YOU imagine for 289 Derby?
- establish the vision

## MEET & SHARE

### ON THE WATER

May 31 Wednesday 5-8

- talk, share, and design
- what are the most important features for 289 Derby?
- plan the program

## Play & Plan

### ON THE WATER

June 7 Wednesday 5-8

- play ping-pong, musical chairs, and yoga
- how will YOU play?
- craft the design

## Eat & Imagine

### ON THE WATER

June 14 Wednesday 5-8

- eat and meet friends
- how will YOU use 289 Derby?
- enhance the plans

Placemaking inspires people to collectively re-imagine and reinvent public spaces as the heart of every community. [pps.org](http://pps.org)

#289Derby  
[CreativeSalem.com/289Derby](http://CreativeSalem.com/289Derby)  
contact: [ccp@studioful.co](mailto:ccp@studioful.co)

# Party

## ON THE WATER

June 21 Wednesday 5-8

- meet friends & have fun on the water
- Reveal of Collective Schematic Plan!