



# FYI SALEM

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## From the Mayor's Desk



Dear resident,

We're halfway through October and it's been a busy month so far. Thank you, as always, for your patience as this bustling season continues. If you haven't had an opportunity to come downtown and experience the fun and festive activities and programs, please consider doing so! If you don't live close enough to downtown to walk, we offer free parking for residents in the Church Street lot and the City's lot at the MBTA on October weekends. Check

[www.hauntedhappenings.org/locals](http://www.hauntedhappenings.org/locals) for even more tips and info for residents in October.

In this issue of FYI Salem we have an update on the Salem High School redesign work, an important component of the Salem Public Schools' 5-year strategic plan that we recently completed. We'll be holding a public meeting on Nov. 2, 6pm, at the High School, to talk more about this critical process. More information about the meeting is available here: [http://spsdistrict.vt-s.net/pages/SPS\\_DistWebDocs/HighSchoolMeetingNov2ndrev.pdf](http://spsdistrict.vt-s.net/pages/SPS_DistWebDocs/HighSchoolMeetingNov2ndrev.pdf).

Also in this issue you can find information about upgrades we are beginning to plan for Boston Street and details about the newly launched "Change It" alternative to panhandling initiative. By encouraging alternatives to giving to panhandlers, we're hoping to give folks a safe way to donate to homelessness prevention efforts and services, while also trying to curb resources

that often times support addiction among our transient population. Finally, there's an update about a new, free weekend shuttle we'll be offering through the end of October for two larger satellite parking lots.

Oct. 18, is the deadline to register to vote in the Nov. 7 City election. The Elections Office at City Hall, 93 Washington St., will be open until 8pm on Oct. 18.

Tune in to the latest FYI Salem podcast on iTunes or at <http://www.salem.com/mayors-office/pages/fyi-salem-podcast> to hear my interview with Christian Haselgrove of the Historic Derby Street Neighborhood Association and Bob Fennino of the Greater Endicott Street Neighborhood Association. Christian, Bob, and I talk about all that our city's many neighborhood associations contribute to our community and about NIAC, the Neighborhood Improvement Advisory Council that I established in my first term as Mayor.

Kim Driscoll  
Mayor, City of Salem

# Salem High School Redesign



Last year, Salem Public Schools launched a 5-year strategic plan, a key component of which was looking at a strategy to “redesign” the high school experience. The majority of American high schools today were built for an era, when a diploma virtually guaranteed a living wage. In today's changing economy, we want to ensure that all young people have a deeper set of skills and are well prepared for the likelihood of multiple careers in a lifetime—some of which may not even have been invented yet. The High School redesign approach seeks to prepare every graduate with a solid foundation for career and college success upon graduation from Salem High School.

**Goal #1: Redesign programming and the instructional core around student-centered learning principles to better prepare students for college and career in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.**

**Strategy #1:** Support all students in the acquisition of rigorous core knowledge, skills, habits and attitudes needed for success in post-secondary education and the workplace.

**Strategy #2:** Connect learning to the community and real-world experiences through internships and community service projects.

**Strategy #3:** Strengthen personalized learning approaches that will accelerate and deepen student learning by tailoring instruction/supports to each student's individual needs, skills, and interests.

**Strategy #4:** Prepare students who may choose to enter the workforce directly after high school with levels of skill and knowledge in a particular career area that will be valued in the marketplace.

**Strategy #5:** Enhance digital literacy and computer science, knowledge, reasoning, and skills so that students are adept at solving complex problems using technology.

**Goal #2: Implement structures and processes that will ensure that every student has a voice and opportunities for authentic leadership in and out of school.**

**Strategy #1:** Ensure that the student body is authentically engaged in the governance and operations of the school.

**Strategy #2:** Ensure student ownership of learning in the classroom, working in partnership with their teachers.

**Goal #3: Create a college and career going culture throughout Salem high schools by facilitating college and career awareness activities including field trips to college campuses, guest speakers, career days, internships and industry and community partnerships.**

**Strategy #1:** Ensure that every student has a college and career plan that informs their course selection and extracurricular participation.

**Strategy #2:** Provide ongoing (adult) support to students in small groups.

**Strategy #3:** Redesign curriculum to include connections to career and life.

**Strategy #4:** Engage parents in students' college and career plans and their ongoing progress.

**Strategy #5:** Build the systems and structures to support internships.

**Strategy #6:** Provide a system of early intervention so that all middle school students are prepared for high school.

On Thursday, Nov. 2, 6-8:30pm, at Salem High, everyone is invited to a community convening to help us think critically as we reimagine the Salem High School experience. The evening will include childcare, dinner and translation services. RSVP to Sharla Hennessey at [sharlahennessey@salemk12.org](mailto:sharlahennessey@salemk12.org).





# Free October Parking

Salem residents with ID park for free on October weekends at the City parking lots at 252 Bridge St, near the MBTA garage, and the Church St west parking lot, in between Federal St and Church St. Proof of residency is required and parking is on a first-come-first served basis. Non-residents may park in the Church St west parking lot for \$20 per day on October weekends.



The Museum Place and South Harbor garages are \$20 per day on October weekends, cash only. The MBTA's garage in Salem is \$5 for the first 14 hours and \$12 for each additional day.

## Boston Street Upgrades

Using funding provided through a Community Host Agreement that Mayor Kim Driscoll negotiated with Alternative Therapies Group, Inc., the City is now undertaking the design phase of work for a major corridor improvement project along Boston Street. Once the design phase is complete the City will apply to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for state funding for implementation of the improvements, through the Commonwealth's Transportation Improvement Program—the same program that funded corridor upgrades on North Street, Bridge Street, and, currently in construction, Canal Street.

The first step in the design phase is the completion of study of the existing conditions on the corridor. That work was recently completed and the study is now available online at [http://www.salem.com/sites/salemma/files/uploads/boston\\_street\\_study\\_10-3-17\\_final.pdf](http://www.salem.com/sites/salemma/files/uploads/boston_street_study_10-3-17_final.pdf). On the basis of the study's findings and feedback from corridor stakeholders, the City's traffic engineering firm will begin developing conceptual designs for improvements.



# Change It



Salem Mayor Kim Driscoll has announced that the City of Salem, in partnership with Lifebridge, North Shore Community Action Programs, North Shore Community Health Center, and the Salem Police Department, has launched *Change It*, a panhandling alternative giving initiative.

"This initiative encourages people to 'text to give,'" said Mayor Driscoll. "Proceeds will support the City's [Collaborative for Hope](#) homelessness initiative. Key components of this initiative are new outreach workers and police patrols, additional supportive services, and a new focus on the concept of 'housing first' to move individuals permanently out of homelessness."

Text **SALEM** to **50555** to make a donation of \$5, with the dual goal of raising donations for the new programs and, most

importantly, decreasing the amount raised by panhandling, which often goes to feed addictions or other unhealthy behavior.

Donate at least \$5 to get discounts from participating Salem businesses and restaurants. The list of participating businesses is available at [www.salem.com/changeit](http://www.salem.com/changeit) and is updated as new businesses sign up. Participating businesses will also have decals on their business to indicate their participation. Donors can show their text or email receipt from their donation within 24 hours of making their donation to receive the discount. Use the receipt at as many participating businesses as you like, however one receipt cannot be used at any one participating business more than once.

## October Shuttles

Mayor Kim Driscoll has announced that Salem will provide free satellite parking and shuttle service for the final two weekends of October, in an effort to encourage visitors to park outside of the downtown and lessen traffic congestion. **Route A** will run both weekends (October 21-22 and 28-29), picking up at the Salem High School parking lot, 77 Willson St. **Route B** will only run the weekend of October 28-29, picking up at the Salem State University O'Keefe Center parking lot, 225 Canal St. Cars parking at SSU should not park in areas designated "M." The two lots comprise about 600 available parking spaces.

Signage will be at all locations directing visitors to the available parking and shuttle stop locations. Both routes drop off near downtown on Riley Plaza, Route A on Mill St and Route B on Margin St. Shuttle buses will circulate on both routes from 10am until 8pm on October 21-22 and October 28-29. Parking at both lots and the shuttle itself are free of charge.

