



FYI SALEM

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From the Mayor's Desk



Happy New Year!

A new year brings with it the promise for new opportunities for our great City.

I would like to thank everyone that took the time attend our inaugural celebrations on January 1st and to the many City, PEM, and Hotel Salem staff who helped make it such a success. There's a selection from my inaugural remarks at the conclusion of this issue of FYI Salem, and you can find the full text at www.salem.com/mayor. Listen for the audio version in a forthcoming special

edition of the FYI Salem podcast, as well.

As this issue is coming out, Salem is gearing up for its first big snow storm of this winter. We've included some important information here about snow emergencies in Salem, but I strongly encourage you to visit www.salem.com/snow-central for all the important details. Thanks in advance for your patience as we work to keep the streets and sidewalks clear and as accessible as possible!

Unfortunately, the severe weather and temperatures mean we will have to cancel this year's Christmas Tree bonfire. Because the state limits the timeframe within which we can hold this event, we won't be able to reschedule it for a later date this year. We will pick up Christmas trees curbside on your regular trash day the week of

January 8th and January 15th, however.

There are two important notices in this issue, as well, pertaining the reusable bag ordinance that is now in effect and an upcoming public hearing about our plan for expending our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the upcoming fiscal year. CDBG provides critical funding for housing, public infrastructure, and social services in our community.

I'm excited to be back to work after the inaugural celebration. In my remarks I talked about how much I love this job and this city. I'm so grateful for the privilege of being your Mayor and look forward to all the great work we can accomplish together in the year ahead!

Kim Driscoll
Mayor
City of Salem

Snow Emergency Info

With the arrival of heavy snow for this winter, Salem residents can visit www.salem.com/snow-central to find all the critical information about snow storms in Salem, including signing up for CodeRED reverse notifications, a list and map of snow emergency parking locations, snow FAQs, snow shoveling assistance program information for seniors, and more.



During a snow emergency parking ban, all vehicles must be removed from City streets or they will be towed. Off-street parking locations are list at the Snow Central website, including garage parking at the MBTA garage, Museum Place garage, and South Harbor garage. If you park in a school parking lot during a snow emergency, you must remove your car immediately at the conclusion of the parking ban so the lot can be cleared for the start of school; vehicles left in a school lot after the parking ban ends will be towed at the owner's expense.

Removing snow from sidewalks is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. Failure to remove snow and ice could result in tickets of up to \$100 per offense. Residents should be aware that City plows cannot lift their blades at driveways, so you may wish to wait until plowing activities have concluded to shovel out your driveway or clear it several times during a storm.

Residents are encouraged to adopt their nearest fire hydrant and shovel it out during snow storms. Find out more about how to adopt a hydrant at <http://www.salem.com/home/news/salem-launches-adopt-hydrant-program>. Residents can also help by keeping their nearest storm drain catch basins clear of snow and ice.



To report a snow related issue to the City, such as plowing or snow or ice on a sidewalk, please email snow@salem.com or call DPW at 978-744-3302. During a severe weather event there may be a delay in getting through by phone, so email is preferred for reporting issues. In the event of an emergency, call 9-1-1 or, for a non-emergency police response, call 978-744-1212.

Tree Bonfire Canceled



The City of Salem's annual Christmas Tree Bonfire scheduled for Friday, January 5, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Dead Horse Beach at Salem Willows has been cancelled due to the impending snow storm and dangerously cold temperatures being forecasted for this weekend. Please do not drop off Christmas Trees at the beach.

Also, please note that curbside Christmas tree collection is delayed one week. Christmas Tree collection will take place curbside January 8-19, 2018 on your trash collection day.

CDBG Public Hearing

The City of Salem is developing its annual Action Plan that will outline priority activities for federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds that the City of Salem anticipates receiving during Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19). This funding, provided through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, assists income-eligible households and low- to moderate-income neighborhoods through a variety of programs, services and improvements.

The FY19 Action Plan will outline Salem's housing, economic and community development needs and funding priorities for the period of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. The plan will continue to put into action the goals and strategies established in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan which was completed following an extensive public participation process in 2015.

In FY17, Salem expended \$1,058,189 in CDBG and \$63,594 in HOME funds to assist 5 families to purchase their first home in Salem, renovate 7 housing units, help 18 families with first/last rent and/or security deposits, issue 1 businesses loan, improve 1 business storefront, create 8 new jobs, support the Salem Main Streets Program, install neighborhood history signs in 3 locations, fund improvements to the Mary Jane Lee Park, fund improvements to the Salem Council on Aging building, and replace sidewalks at Artists' Row, Boston, Horton, Willson and Linden Streets, along with work on Lafayette, Dodge and Peabody Streets. In addition, CDBG helped fund 22 social service programs that served over 8,200 persons with services, including emergency homelessness prevention, food assistance, services for victims of domestic violence, accessible housing assistance, medical services for homeless persons, ESL/ELL classes, first time homebuyer education, financial counseling, child care, senior transportation, a senior art program, police bicycle patrols, citizenship classes, Spanish GED classes, job training for administrative positions in health care, after school and engagement programs to increase public school students' academic achievement, college savings program, daily homework help for youth, and teacher home visits to student's families, as well as early intervention for children with physical or developmental disabilities.

Mayor Driscoll invites Salem's citizens and representatives of businesses, organizations and agencies to participate in the citizen participation process that will kick off on January 18 with a public hearing at 6pm in the 3rd floor conference room at 120 Washington St, to provide the opportunity to comment on the housing, community and economic development needs of Salem's low- to moderate-income residents and on the types of activities that could be undertaken to meet those needs. Written comment can be addressed to the City of Salem Department of Planning and Community Development by January 22nd.

Bring Your Own Bag

Salem's new initiative promoting the use of reusable bags in all forms – paper, heavy plastic, canvas, and net mesh, went into effect on Monday, January 1st. Thin plastic bags (those less than four mil thick) are no longer be offered at Salem businesses, as they create significant problems for the City and for our environment, clogging storm drains, getting caught in trees, and finding their way into our waterways. The ordinance restricts the use of single use plastic checkout bags provided at the point of sale by retail and food establishments in Salem. Salem joins 60 other cities and towns in Massachusetts in restricting the use of these bags. Boston recently announced approval of a similar ordinance to go into effect in 2019.

For further information about the reusable bags initiative, please visit www.salem.com/recycling-and-trash/pages/plastic-bag-reduction-information or call 978-619-5679.



Inaugural Address

Before an audience of over 200, including public officials, City staff, friends, family, and Salem residents, Mayor Kim Driscoll took the oath of office to begin her fourth term as Salem's Mayor on January 1st.

In her inaugural address, Mayor Driscoll laid out her priorities for the year ahead, with a focus on housing, transportation, and the continued success of Salem's schools. She also explained how her administration will focus on improving service delivery and looked forward to the completion of several major projects on the horizon in 2018, including the Footprint power plant, Canal Street reconstruction, and the Mayor Jean Levesque Community Life Center.

Central to her remarks were a hope for a positive working relationship between City officials, the importance of Salem's history as it approaches its 400th birthday, and a belief that Salem thrives when all residents have a voice at the table. A portion of her address is below; read the full speech at <http://www.salem.com/mayors-office/news/mayor-kim-driscoll-delivers-fourth-inaugural-address>.



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I am so thrilled and honored to be with you all this morning as we embark on a new term in city government, a new year of possibilities and opportunities to realize our city's full potential. To make Salem the best it can be...

We must remain true to the best of our past, while staying open to new and unique opportunities, cultures, and innovations. Jane Jacobs, the great urban planner and activist, once observed that "cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody."

In her time, that meant regardless of race or income. Today, in Salem and in any vibrant city, when we say "everybody" we extend that definition to include ability, age, gender identity, immigration status, and even how long you've lived here. Jacobs talked about the city having the capability of "providing something for everybody." When we think about Salem today, that really means three critical things: where we live, how we get around, and how our children learn and grow. ..

I recognize that serving as Mayor of our nearly 400-year-old city requires a higher obligation. We here today must live up to our history, while also embracing the opportunity to create an amazing future for those who call Salem home now, as well as in the years ahead. Our City government is the foundation upon which we've governed ourselves as a community for centuries. A dynamic, ever changing, always hopeful society. With our storied past to ground us, and nothing but the possibilities of the future before our eyes.



Let us look forward, together – hopeful of the bright prospects and prosperity that awaits. This is the "great and good work" before us as Salem's elected leaders. In this new year, 2018, let us work together to ensure that Salem is a city that does provide for everybody – a city that is, indeed, created by everybody. The voters have entrusted us with this incredible responsibility and I wish, for all of us, peace and progress in the upcoming year.

Now, let's get to work.