



FYI SALEM

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From the Mayor's Desk



Dear Salem resident,

Like many of you, I was outraged by the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, and other Black men and women who have been killed unjustly. Every city and city leader, myself included, needs to do more to ensure justice and accountability for people of color in our community.

Every police department ought to be taking a hard look at their use of force policies to ensure they are aligned with community values and authorize local law enforcement to exercise their powers judicially.

I have signed onto a Mayoral pledge that includes the following 4 steps:

1) Review the use of force policies

2) Engage the community by including a diverse range of input, experiences and stories in your review

3) Report the findings of the review to the community and seek feedback

4) Reform your community's police use of force policies based on feedback

There has been and continues to be a tremendous amount of hard work being undertaken by the men and women in the Salem Police Department aimed at treating all members of our community with fairness and justice. I am grateful for their efforts and their commitment to protecting the residents of Salem.

I also know that while we have done much to improve our policing practices and work toward greater racial equity, there is much more work to do. We cannot be truly effective in community policing, unless there is trust and respect among ALL community members.

We have a responsibility to be responsive to the need for change and to be reflective of our biases, privileges and power. And I am fully aware that that standard and accountability is especially im-

portant for myself as Mayor.

As a community we will continue to work with and support our No Place For Hate Committee, to recognize the value and benefit of the variety of cultural and ethnic groups in our community, ensure our Welcoming City designation, sanctuary status, and non-discrimination ordinance protections live within all of our neighborhoods and institutions, and continue to call out acts of racism, bigotry that occur in our community.

We need a strategy that engages, not only our local government, but also our business, institutional, cultural and higher ed partners in a manner that identifies systemic disparities and implements a strong commitment to eliminate racism within institutions in our community.

And, as individuals, we must make a commitment to speak up when we hear or witness racism, and also make it a point to learn about different cultures in our city that may be new to us.

I know that is a commitment I strive to hold myself accountable for, and hope others in Salem will do so, as well.

Kim Driscoll
Mayor

Farmers Market

On June 11th the Salem Farmers' Market will officially kick off its twelfth season, running every Thursday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. from June 11th through October 15th, 2020. The Market will operate quite differently this season, including a temporary move to the Bentley School parking lot at 25 Memorial Drive, Salem, MA, to allow for appropriate social distancing and to maintain a safe market environment. A number of policies and procedures have currently been put in place to meet state guidelines and best practices outlined by our local Board of Health, including:

- Food vendors only (farms, seafood, bakeries, prepared foods, etc.) to start. The Board of Health will assess the possibility of craft, soap, and other nonfood vendors at the end of June.
- All customers and vendors must wear a face mask.
- A maximum of 100 customers at one time. The move to Bentley for more parking, giving customers the option to remain in the cars if the market is at capacity when they arrive.
- A specific clockwise flow will be laid out, with a clearly marked entrance and exit.
- Sanitization stations will be available at the entrance and throughout the market.
- A police detail and Farmers Market volunteers will be on hand to help manage the flow of traffic.
- There will be no samples allowed or food prepared on site.
- Vendors shall not use tablecloths so tables can easily be cleaned, and are encouraged to have items pre-packaged where possible to reduce handling and make shopping quicker.
- There will be no live music, community nonprofits, or sponsor tents present initially.

Important notes for customers to be aware of include:

- Face masks are required.
 - Reusable bags are not allowed.
 - No dogs allowed.
 - Restrooms are only available for vendors.
 - EBT/SNAP will be available at the market starting on opening day. Specific vendors accepting HIP have not yet been confirmed, please check social media and website for updates.
 - Single-person shopping is encouraged.
 - Vendors are being encouraged to consider CSAs and preorders, but this will not be organized by the market. We will promote as many pre-order opportunities that we are aware of via social media.
- These policies may be reevaluated and changed at any time by the market committee and the Board of Health to ensure the safety of all involved.



For five months every year, the largely volunteer-run market gives residents and tourists alike the opportunity to buy farm-fresh produce, seafood, baked goods, meat, and a variety of other goods. At the heart of the market are seven major farms: Clark Farm, Gibney Gardens, Maitland Mountain Farm, Grant Family Farm, Heavens Harvest Farm, Long Hill Orchard, and Wally's Vegetables. They will be complemented as the season progresses by an array of specialty foods, bakery products, spices, and non-food vendors.

To get the latest updates about the farmers' market, visit our website at www.salemfarmersmarket.org, or follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/SalemMAFarmersMarket) or Twitter (@salemfarmersmarket).

Charter Street Cemetery

Pursuant to a vote of the Salem Cemetery Commission that took place on May 14, 2020, the City's historic Charter Street Cemetery closed to the public beginning June 1, 2020 for landscape restoration and improvements. The project includes installation of new pathways, lighting and perimeter fencing, and restoration of the iron fencing along Charter Street and the retaining wall along Liberty Street.



During the project, no large mechanical equipment will be allowed in the site due to the fragile nature of the cemetery's historic resources. The project is expected to last approximately six months and during this time the cemetery will be closed to the public, but the City will continue to maintain the site. This project is funded in part with Community Preservation Act Funds and a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council Facilities Fund. For more infor-



*Distinguished
Budget
PRESENTATION
Award*

The City of Salem has received its twelfth Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), a nation-wide nonprofit organization. The award is the only national awards program for governmental budgets.

The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the GFOA reflects the City's commitment to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the award, the City had to meet or exceed nationally recognized guidelines for an effective budget presentation.

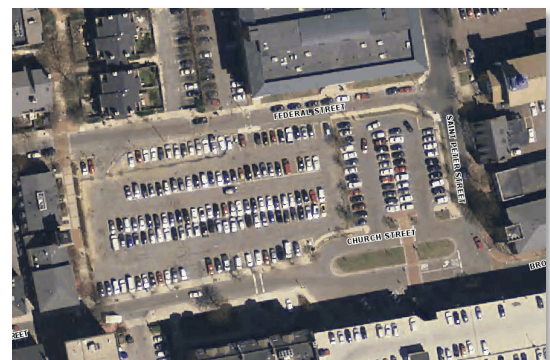
"I'm very pleased that we have once again earned this recognition and distinction from the GFOA, a nation-wide public finance watch-dog organization," said Mayor Kim Driscoll. "We have consistently delivered transparent and informative budgets, based on real costs, carefully developed financial forecasts, and best practices in municipal governance. This award is reflective of the diligent work that goes into Salem's budget and our financial practices, and it is a credit to the professional staff in our Finance Department."

The GFOA guidelines are designed to assess how well a municipality's budget serve as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device. Budget documents must be rated proficient in all four categories and in fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories in order to receive the award.

Church Street Lot

The City will be re-striping the Church Street parking lots overnight the night of Sunday, June 7th, weather permitting. Vehicles should be removed from the lot by 8:00 p.m. Sunday, June 7th. Vehicles left in the lot after that time will be towed at the owner's expense.

The work is expected to take only one night to complete and the lots should reopen by 8:00 a.m. on Monday, June 8th.



COVID-19 Updates

- Parking enforcement and charging is now in effect for City lots and garages. Parking at on-street meters will resume enforcement and charging on June 8th.
- City Hall and City Hall Annex will reopen to the public no earlier than Monday, June 15th for regular business hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays 8am-4pm, Thursdays 8am-7pm, Fridays 8am-noon. Residents are still able and encouraged to conduct as much City business as possible online via email, the City website, or telephone, even after offices reopen to the public. If you must visit a City office after they reopen, please observe all posted safety restrictions that will be in place inside these buildings.
- City athletic courts and the Olde Salem Greens golf course are reopening for limited use, so long as that use is in accordance with the state requirements .
- Waste Management will no longer pick up extra trash bags curbside starting the week of June 29th, unless the bag is an approved orange City overflow trash bag.

Find the most recent COVID-19 update from the City of Salem by visiting www.salem.com/covid19.

School Updates

Statement on Racism

The tensions and circumstances that continue to unfold in Minneapolis and across the United States this week are painful and difficult to watch. The death of George Floyd is a travesty and reveals that the pain and suffering created by racism which is still so present within our country. These acts of violence continue to create a massive divide in our society and these injustices caused by fear, unchecked racism and deeply rooted biases will continue until we take a stand. We have heard this a lot this week -- when we look the other way or remain silent, we are perpetuating the status quo. We cannot remain silent. Please read the full text of the statement from Salem Public Schools [HERE](#).

Parent Survey on Remote Learning

Salem Public Schools has launched a survey we hope all parents will participate in. We are seeking feedback about the district's remote learning plan which includes any instruction taking place outside of the classroom, such as lessons assigned through online platforms, instructional videos, packets posted on salemlinks.org, printed packets, and virtual meetings with teachers and classmates. This survey is designed specifically for parents and guardians of Salem Public Schools students. Students and teachers will receive a different survey so we can evaluate each group's feedback.

Please complete this survey to help Salem Public Schools improve our remote learning opportunities. Your responses will be anonymous and confidential. We appreciate your valuable feedback!

ENGLISH: <https://forms.gle/sYPB5jWegWQKdL7L6>

SPANISH: <https://forms.gle/XPmkaE7edrxvukfM9>

PORTUGUESE: <https://forms.gle/BrpqsqMJTSP8Ck5z5>

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for batch 2 is currently open through June 15th. This registration deadline also includes Lottery Window #2 for the Dual Language program at Bentley Academy Innovation School. If you have any questions, please reach out to our parent information center at PIC@salemk12.org.

