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# East Boston

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### Rep. Madaro nominates Slush King for Massachusetts manufacturing award - 2025

Special to the Times-Free Press

On Friday, January 16, Representative Adrian Madaro met with Slush King owner Mark Nolan and his daughter, Natalie Nolan, at the business's popular Bennington Street location. Although Slush King is closed for the season, Rep. Madaro was able to tour where Slush King's slush and other frozen treats are made in-house before presenting the business with a citation recognizing it as East Boston's recipient of the 2025 Massachusetts Manufacturing Award.

Rep. Madaro was proud to nominate Slush King for the Massachusetts Manufacturing Award in fall 2025. While many residents are familiar with their popular walk-up window, where lines can stretch down the block on a warm summer evening, not everyone knows



CARY SHUMAN PHOTO

Rep. Adrian Madaro presents a citation to Mark Nolan (right) owner of Slush King located on Bennington Street, in recognition of the business being selected as the recipient of the 2025 Massachusetts Manufacturing Award. Also pictured is Mr. Dolan's daughter, Natalie Dolan (center), a student at Saint Anselm College.

that Slush King manufactures many of their signature offerings themselves. The result is some of the finest Italian-style slush in the city of Boston, as well as a wide selection of gelato, ice cream, and other frozen desserts.

The Massachusetts Manu-

facturing Awards are hosted by the Legislative Manufacturing Caucus. Formed in August 2014, the Manufacturing Caucus includes more than 70 legislators from around the Commonwealth. The Mas-

See SLUSH KING Page 3

### Coletta Zapata named Chair of Government Operations and City Council Vice President

Special to the Times-Free Press

Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata has been named as the Chair of the Government Operations Committee and City Council Vice President for the 2026-2027 legislative year. In the last council session, Coletta Zapata served as Chair of the

Government Operations and Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks Committee.

"I'm honored to continue serving as Chair of the Government Operations Committee and proud of what we accom-

See CHAIR Page 3

### SNOW COVERS EASTIE



A major snowstorm arrived in East Boston Sunday, blanketing the neighborhood over the course of two days with more than 20 inches of snow. See more photos on Page 16.



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# East Boston

## Times-Free Press

**PRESIDENT:** Stephen Quigley **PUBLISHER:** Debra DiGregorio

**EDITOR:** Cary Shuman **PUBLISHER EMERITUS:** John A. Torrione



# Forum

## THE PITT DEMONSTRATES A HEALTHCARE SYSTEM ON LIFE SUPPORT

The Pitt, the critically-acclaimed hit series on HBO about an emergency room in a big-city hospital in Pittsburgh that has just begun its second season, is far more than just good entertainment.

The critically-acclaimed show also accurately portrays the critical condition of our healthcare system, which is spiraling ever-downward with no bottom in sight.

This by no means is the fault of the incredibly dedicated and competent doctors, nurses, and staff who serve all of us in our healthcare system.

This is a systemic problem in the United States that has been building for decades, fueled by: short-sighted reductions in hospital capacity; underinvestment in education, research, and supply-chains; the lack of focus on urging Americans to adopt a healthy lifestyle; the charlatans and corporate interests who have spread misinformation about vaccines and healthcare information; and the tidal wave of demographic shifts thanks to the aging of the Baby Boomer generation.

In addition, there is the most-recent strain on the system resulting from the political failure to reform our immigration laws that could provide for the hundreds of thousands of needed healthcare workers -- the doctors, nurses, nursing home and hospital employees, and home healthcare aides who form the backbone of our nation's healthcare system -- to be able to come to this country in order to fill the huge gaps created by employee shortages in all aspects of our healthcare system.

The Pitt highlights all of these issues. The show makes it abundantly clear that our healthcare system, and those who work in it, are being completely overwhelmed by the demands being placed upon them day-in and day-out.

The show also makes it clear to viewers that the last place you want to end up these days is an emergency room. We ourselves have had the misfortune to be there on several occasions over the past few years -- for ourselves, our families, and our friends -- and it is no exaggeration to say that a visit to the ER anywhere, anytime is to be dreaded, truly almost a fate worse than death.

The sad -- and tragic reality -- is that the essential services that Americans took for granted 20 years ago are in short supply today.

Given the inaction of our politicians, it is obvious that there is no ready solution to the healthcare crisis in the United States. The cavalry is not coming anytime soon.

On the other hand, as we have written many times previously, this is a man-made problem for which the only realistic solution on the horizon rests with the robots (i.e., artificial intelligence), who hopefully will come sooner rather than later to save us all.

## THIS IS THE SAD-DEST TIME OF THE YEAR -- SO GET OUTSIDE

With the oppressiveness of a New England winter fully upon us, for many this can be the saddest time of the year -- quite literally.

The medical community has long-recognized that the shortened days of winter affect all of us to a certain extent and have given it a name -- Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

Scientists do not understand exactly how the lack of daylight works on our brains, but demonstrable symptoms of the syndrome include heightened anxiety, a decrease in energy, oversleeping, an increase in appetite (marked by a craving for carbs that leads to weight gain), social withdrawal, and negative thoughts in general.

There are some treatments for SAD that may work for some people (such as light therapy, antidepressants, and vitamin D) in consultation with a doctor.

But there also are the simple solutions of spending more time outside during daylight hours and exercising regularly.

In our personal experience, we've found that the latter prescription -- exercising and going outside, even on the coldest of days -- has proven the best antidote to winter's doldrums.

All of us can recall the exhilaration we felt as children when we went sledding, skating on a pond, and shoveling snow. Although we're a bit too old these days to do most of those things, we've found that taking on the wintry blasts that we've endured these past few weeks by jogging and walking (even when the wind chills are in the single digits) each and every day never fails to bring us that renewed sense of vitality that we experienced in our youth when we embraced nature's harshest elements with barely even a thought about it.

The East Boston Times-Free Press reserves the right to edit letters for space, accuracy and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The East Boston Times-Free Press publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The East Boston Times-Free Press. Text or attachments emailed to [editor@eastietimes.com](mailto:editor@eastietimes.com) are preferred.

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**Printer** – Concord Monitor

# Harbor View Neighborhood Association February 2, meeting agenda

The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on February 2, at 6 p.m. The meeting is In Person only but will be streamed via Facebook for archival purposes. Attendance on Facebook does not qualify for voting. The meeting will be held in the Salesian Boys and Girls Club cafeteria, across from the Brooke Charter School on Byron Street. You can access the meeting from the front door on Byron Street which is also handicap accessible and an elevator is available for your convenience if needed, which is the handicap entry, to avoid the stairs.

La proxima reunion de Harbor View Neighborhood Association esta en dos de febrero a las 6pm. La reunion esta en persona

y via Facebook. La asistencia en Facebook no califica para vota. Llega a la cafeteria del Salesian Boys y Girls Club por la calle Byron al otro lado de Brooke Charter School. Puede entrar a la junta por la entrada principal en la calle Byron la cual puede ser utilizada por personas con discapacidades y tiene un elevador si es que es necesario para evitar las escaleras.

- Agenda
- Welcome/Introduction (5min)
  - Carlos Garcia (5min) East Boston liaison, Office of Neighborhood Services will report on any items of importance. His contact information is carlos.garcia@boston.gov or 617-308-5725.
  - Announcements (5min): Better Beaches Save the Harbor Save the Bay Grant Program

application ends on January 31, 2026. The Shamrock Splash is set for March 8th at Constitution Beach. The Belle Isle Rotary has its Polar Plunge Fundraiser on February 7, 2026, at the East Boston Yacht Club. It is a fun event to attend even if you do not plan to take the plunge. Free Monthly Community Dinner at Sacred Heart Parish February 11, 2026, at 5pm-7pm. McLean Park, playground construction to begin in spring 2026. Tree Eastie is excited to share that in 2025 they planted 233 trees. This brings the total number of trees planted in the past 4 years to 732. Wow, what an accomplishment for Bill Masterson and his crew making East Boston healthier one tree at a time. Logan International Airport, the Environmental Data Report for

2023/2024 has been extended until February 9, 2026. This reports on the status of planning activities and environmental conditions.

Station 7 Police Report (15min) Captain Bickerton, Sgt. Cintolo, Officers Mosley and Alvarez.

Eastie Farms (5min) Morgan Barlin and Christine Berlinger would like to share information about the CSA program at Eastie Farms.

Boston Data Explorer (15min) Toni Noble shares the Boston Data Explorer website for insights into City spending, lobbying, crime, fire incidents and so much more.

Friends of Constitution Beach (10min) Cindy Baxter would like to share her plans to start a Friends of Constitution Beach group. She would like to recruit neighbors in this effort to have a voice at the table when decisions are being made about the beach. Address concerns, pursue fun events, coordinate improvements.

FOOD DRIVE please bring can goods to our February meeting so that they can be donated

to the Grace Church Food Pantry. Also, if you plan on going to the Belle Isle Rotary Polar Plunge bring can goods for the food pantry. HVNA plans on making a cash donation to the Grace Church Food Pantry and we ask you to support this neighborhood food resource that is essential to some of our neighbors.

3 Moore Street (30min) This is the first presentation by Attorney Richard Lynds on behalf of Jam 5 Properties LLC and developer 60 Byron Street Realty Trust. The proposal is to build a 3-story structure with 6 residential units. Anticipated variances are width and feet.

East Boston Italian American Parade, aka Columbus Day Parade, will hold another planning meeting on February 2, 2026, at 7pm at Kelley Square Pub.

The next meeting of the HVNA will be on March 2, 2026. Visit us at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/harborviewna> or check our website at [harborvieweastboston.com](http://harborvieweastboston.com) or [board@harborviewna.org](mailto:board@harborviewna.org).

## Slush King// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sachusetts Manufacturing Awards seeks to recognize and promote outstanding manufacturing businesses from across the Commonwealth.

The 10th Annual Manufacturing Awards Ceremony took place on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough.

“There are few pleasures that

match getting a cold treat from Slush King on a hot summer’s day in East Boston,” said Representative Madaro. “I’m proud to honor Slush King and owner Mark Nolan for their incredible, delicious tradition of authentic, locally made slush and the legacy of the Nolan family across generations of this business in East Boston. I’m al-

ready looking forward to them opening back up this spring!”

Upon accepting the citation from Madaro, Nolan said, “We’re honored to receive this award. It means a lot to us. We thank our customers for coming to our business and being so loyal to us. And we’ll see you on May 1.”

## Chair // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

plished last legislative cycle advancing responsible governance and promoting equity, sustainability, and livability across Boston,” said Coletta Zapata. “Residents entrusted us with moving the needle on the issues that impact their daily lives, and it is our responsibility not just to identify challenges, but to propose and advance real solutions that serve our communities. I look forward to collaborating with my colleagues to ensure a productive legislative session while advancing policies that make Boston a city that works for all its residents.”

As Chair of the Committee on Government Operations, she plays a central role in the City Council’s legislative process overseeing the review, analysis, and negotiation of all ordinances, home rule petitions, and special laws before they advance to the full Council or the Mayor’s desk. This position serves

as the final checkpoint for accountability, legal precision, and policy alignment across all city departments, ensuring that every law enacted reflects both community needs and sound governance.

Under her leadership in the previous Council session, the City Council passed several critical ordinances, including codifying the Office of Food Justice, prioritizing surplus municipal property for affordable housing, and protecting workers from heat-related illness and injury. As Chair of the Government Operations Committee, Coletta Zapata reviewed and passed 42 Home Rule Petitions and 16 ordinances. As Chair of Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks, the Council also advanced efforts to expand food access, support food pantries, and approved grants that unlock investments to strengthen and expand Boston’s open and

green spaces. Her prior service as Chair of these committees and her track record of building consensus across complex policy areas position Councilor Coletta Zapata to be an effective partner to Council President Liz Breadon, helping guide the Council’s legislative priorities and ensure smooth, collaborative Council operations in her new role as Vice President.

The Boston City Council meets on Wednesdays at 12pm in the Iannella Chamber of Boston City Hall. The first Council Meeting of 2026 is scheduled for January 28, 2026. City Council meetings and hearings can be found at <https://www.boston.gov/departments/city-council>

For additional information please contact the Office of Councilor Gabriela Coletta by phone at (617) 635-3200 or by email at [gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov](mailto:gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov).

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# Kaori Cafe holds grand opening ribbon cutting

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce proudly joined the newly opened Kaori Cafe for its Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting and Coffee Connect event on Friday, January 23, at its location at 303 Meridian Street in East Boston.

Kaori Cafe provided a beautiful setting for the celebration featuring excellent coffee and delicious breakfast offerings. The well-attended ribbon cutting and Coffee Connect event offered a warm and welcoming start to the day bringing together community members to network and celebrate the newest addition to the neighborhood.

Kaori Cafe and owner Bryan Melendez were presented with citations from state and local representatives in recognition of the opening and as a welcome to the East Boston business community. The Chamber also officially welcomed Kaori Cafe as its newest member and wished the business great success in its new venture.

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Comunicado de Prensa:  
La Cámara de Comercio de East Boston se unió a Kaori Cafe para su Gran Inauguración, Corte de Cinta y evento Coffee Connect

La Cámara de Comercio de East Boston se unió con orgullo al recién inaugurado Kaori Cafe para su evento de Gran Inauguración, Corte de Cinta y Coffee Connect el viernes 23 de enero de 2026, en su ubi-



East Boston Chamber of Commerce joined Kaori Cafe for its grand opening ribbon cutting and coffee connect event.



## 2025 MASSPORT DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN

See our vision. Share your feedback.

As we finalize the 2025 Massport Strategic Plan, we want to hear from the communities we serve. Your comments will help shape Massport's path forward.

Join us for a virtual presentation on **Thursday, February 5, 2026, at 6:00 PM**, and submit comments any time during the public comment period, open until March 6, 2026.

To learn more about Massport's Strategic Plan, register for the virtual presentation or access the Comment Form, please visit:

[www.massport.com/strategic-plan](http://www.massport.com/strategic-plan)



Presentation available in English and Spanish.

For additional language interpretation, contact [community@massport.com](mailto:community@massport.com) by Tuesday, February 3, 2026.



GOING ABOVE & BEYOND

cación en el 303 de Meridian Street en East Boston.

Kaori Cafe ofreció un hermoso escenario para la celebración, con excelente café y deliciosas opciones de desayuno. El evento de corte de cinta y Coffee Connect, al que asistieron numerosos invitados, brindó un comienzo cálido y acogedor al día, reuniendo a miembros de la comunidad para establecer contactos y celebrar la más reciente incorporación al vecindario.

Kaori Cafe y su propietario, Bryan Melendez, recibieron reconocimientos de representantes estatales y locales en conmemoración de la inauguración y como bienvenida a la comunidad empresarial de East Boston. La Cámara también dio oficialmente la bienvenida a Kaori Cafe como su nuevo miembro y le deseó mucho éxito en esta nueva etapa.



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# Most people cook to eat, while others cook to feed the soul

Story and photos by Al Terminiello Jr.

Meghann Celona was born in East Boston, and at the early age of 10 moved to Revere with her parents, Jimmy and Loreena Celona. She graduated RHS in 2010, from there, attended the Cordon Bleu Culinary School in Cambridge, then following that, attended the Boston Career Institute to become a Medical Assistant and Phlebotomist. In 2020 Meghann started working at the Beth Isreal Hospital in the ICU.

The real story behind this talented young lady is the fact that she lives an “old school” lifestyle. Learning to cook from her dad, Jimmy Celona. Jimmy was a well know entertainer for many years, singing and bringing joy wherever he performed. That was one side, James Celona was also a decorated vet-

eran and a terrific cook, a skill he passed on to his daughter, Meghann. Meghann recalls the patience and love her dad put into her education as a cook, also the raps on the back of the hand when her concentration veered off the task at hand.

Cooking is a way to bring my dad back to me. Each meal is her way to remember the good old days, a little singing, a little cooking, and a little wine. Each dish has a very specific memory, a time, and a place is recalled with each slice of a knife, or swirl of a spoon. Meghann’s mom, Loreena Celona joins her in the kitchen at times, and new and loving memories are born with each prepared recipe.

These days, Meghann is cooking on a wider platform than family and friends, she has how to do videos on Facebook, Instagram, and Tik Tok.

She can be found on Facebook as Meghann Celona, Instagram and Tik Tok @Meghanannxo. Her videos are both entertaining and educational. All recipes are complete with what you need and how to do it. Meghann is also working on a cookbook, while she says it’s a never-ending story of sorts because she continually keeps adding more recipes to it. This project of the heart is a dedication to her dad, it was started before he died and to Meghann, this is a must finish endeavor. Her goal is completion by the fall of 2026, just in time for Christmas sales. Meghann is also in the process of getting sponsors to supply products, to help cut the costs of materials and ingredients for her videos. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, contact her via email, macelona15@gmail.com, or inbox her on any platform.

Super Bowl Sunday is a big day for her cooking platforms, offering free local delivery from 11am – 2pm/ or pick up all day from 11am. You can order from her online menu and must be placed by January 31. Meghann Celona cooks from the heart, she loves what she does, and it shows in every dish she happily prepares and offers to her friends and family or on camera. Her video catalog was started as an educational home video for her kids to have, for when she is not around, adding modern technology in place of old-fashioned index card recipes. This intimate remembrance for her kids has put Meghann on an national and international stage, with thousands of followers and fans from around the world. She maintains her full-time job. She’s a mother of two, and a partner to her soon-to-be husband. She offers her skills and information to help others enjoy cooking, to find



Meghann Celona knows no other way to greet her friends than to offer a big friendly hello, welcome to my home, now sit down and enjoy a delicious meal.



Pot Roast was on the menu for the day, and adding the right amount of seasoning is always a key to success.

the happiness in their lives by sharing time with loved ones in the kitchen, like she has with her family. Cooking is not a chore, it’s an act of love, and Meghann Celona is bringing that feeling back to families one dish at a time.



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# Massport releases Draft 2025 Strategic Plan; public input will help shape the Authority's vision for the next decade

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) today announced the release of its draft Strategic Plan and is seeking public comment to help shape Massport's path forward. The Plan builds on Massport's strengths and a decade of progress, assesses current conditions and trends, and identifies future challenges and opportunities. It balances operational excellence with inclusive forward-looking growth, reaffirming the Authority's commitment to safe, efficient, sustainable operations that engage and benefit the communities we serve. The Strategic Plan sets a vision for the next decade and outlines a flexible, action-oriented path to achieve it.

The public comment period

opens today and runs through March 6th. The Plan and opportunity to provide feedback can be accessed here: <https://www.massport.com/strategic-plan>.

"Massport has not undertaken a strategic planning effort in a decade. As a central engine of economic activity, we need to plan for the future and respond to growing demand while setting the highest standards for safety, sustainability and community partnership," said Rich Davey, Massport CEO. "Guided by this vision, we will be transforming aging infrastructure, leveraging emerging technologies and delivering innovative customer-focused experiences and lasting benefits to our communities and the region. We welcome the public's feedback as we work to achieve

these goals."

Key elements of the 2025 Plan:

The Strategic Plan presents a vision and a roadmap by key Massport assets and across the organization.

**Aviation**

Massport's aviation system must adapt to meet increasing demand and emerging technology as Massachusetts and New England are home to several travel-intensive industries and companies that rely on air travel to support their operations and drive economic impact, as well as a large traveling population that depends on safe, efficient and affordable air service.

**Boston Logan International Airport:**

With one of the smallest and oldest airport footprints in the country, Logan must invest strategically to maintain safe, efficient, and reliable operations. Priorities include:

A major renovation or replacement of the Air Traffic Control Tower;

Enhancing Boston Logan's portfolio of high-occupancy vehicle and transit options including implementing innovative ideas like remote terminals;

Modernizing Logan's terminal core to enhance the passenger experience.

**Worcester Regional Airport:**

To sustain growth, Worcester will focus on:

Maintaining and expanding commercial passenger service;

Assessing opportunities for potential to grow cargo or logistics operations;

Exploring new opportunities and partnerships with support of community stakeholders.

**Hanscom Field**

As New England's premier general aviation airport, Hanscom plays a critical role in supporting business aviation, medical flights, and regional innovation. Priorities include:

Powering the future of aviation innovation with research partnerships and support services;

Advancing Massport's sustainability and Net Zero efforts,

including development and adoption of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF);

Continue to meet metro Boston's general aviation needs.

**Maritime**

For nearly 400 years, the Port of Boston has supported regional economic growth and jobs.

Conley Terminal aims to strengthen its position as a reliable, efficient container port with a goal of reaching 200,000 containers by 2035. Achieving best-in-class operational excellence to maximize competitive advantage will require:

Developing a roadmap for crane and wharf upgrades;

Further monetizing and increasing stickiness of customer relationships.

Flynn Cruiseport Boston will focus on improving the passenger experience and enhancing ground access, targeting 600,000 annual passengers by 2035. Priorities include:

Developing core cruise business in collaboration with cruise lines

Improving customer experience and service

Enhancing ground transport access and curbside flow

**Real Estate**

Massport's real estate portfolio supports economic growth through waterfront development, maritime industrial uses, and commercial activity. By 2035, Massport aims to generate approximately \$100 million in recurring annual revenue. Strategic priorities include:

Attracting and enabling Blue Economy companies;

Funding sustained place-making activities;

Prioritizing land acquisitions and infrastructure investments.

**Organization Wide**

Four organization- wide capabilities are essential to delivering on the Plan: Talent, Community, Sustainability & Resilience, and Digital/Data & AI. These are not supporting elements – they are foundational to achieving our mission and advancing Massport's role as a leader in climate innovation and the region's sustainability ecosystem.

Our Net Zero strategy continues to be a top priority as we

move forward. This strategy addresses all emissions from Massport-controlled sources through sustainable infrastructure and operational improvements. Massport also recognizes the importance of reducing emissions beyond its direct control by extending our influence and building strong partnerships including the adoption of SAF at our airports.

Massport is also committed to advancing the East Boston community's vision for Piers Park 3. We look forward to working with the community on that.

**Massport's 2025 Strategic Plan is Built on a Decade of Progress**

Massport's 2014 Strategic Plan laid the foundation for major accomplishments across aviation, maritime, and real estate. Accomplishment achieved from the 2014 Strategic Plan include:

Transformed Conley Container Terminal into a "big-ship-ready" facility capable of handling the largest vessels calling the East Coast;

Additional international gates at Boston Logan's International Terminal E;

Installed a CAT III landing system at Worcester Airport;

Completed Piers Park II in East Boston;

Delivered a dedicated freight corridor and buffer park in South Boston;

Applied the nationally recognized "Massport Model" to the Omni Boston at the Seaport Hotel procurement;

Opened a new Framingham parking garage that reached full utilization on day one;

Connected Boston Logan's terminals beyond security to enhance the passenger experience;

Expanded Boston Logan's parking capacity;

Maintained Hanscom Field's role as New England's premier general aviation airport and a critical reliever for Boston Logan.

These achievements demonstrate Massport's ability to deliver on complex projects, adapt to evolving needs, and advance economic growth while strengthening community engagement.

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# National Grid offers safety reminders for clearing snow at your home or business

Special to the Times-Free Press

National Grid reminds its customers to exercise caution near the energy equipment outside of their homes as they clear snow left behind from Winter Storm Fern. Over a foot of snow has fallen across our Massachusetts service area with additional snow forecast throughout the afternoon. National Grid's top priority is safety, including the safety and well-being of our crews and customers, and we offer the following reminders to assist with removing snow from your property.

**Keep Your Meters Clear of Snow and Ice**

Many National Grid customers have electric and/or natural gas meters on the exterior of their homes and businesses. When clearing snow, customers and snow removal contractors should be aware of the location of this equipment to avoid coming into contact with

meters or outside gas risers. Additionally:

- Gently remove icicles from the meter with a gloved hand, if necessary. Never kick your meter or use a snow shovel to knock away ice.
- If energy equipment is located near your driveway or parking lot, and you have a vehicle-mounted snowplow or use a snow removal service, ensure that the equipment is well-marked so the vehicle operator knows to keep a safe distance. Striking a natural gas riser or electric wire with a plow could cause injury.
- The buildup of ice and snow around or over natural gas meters, regulators and pipes can pose a serious safety risk. Ice and snow falling from a roof can damage gas meters or service connections to customers' homes or businesses, resulting in potential gas leaks. Customers should take immediate action if a natural gas leak is suspected:
- Get out – All occupants

should leave the house immediately. Do not use the telephone, light switches or automatic garage door openers for any reason.

- Call us – After leaving the house and reaching a safe environment, call National Grid's 24-hour gas emergency number: 1-800-233-5325.
- Stay out – Don't return to your home until National Grid tells you it is safe to do so.
- If energy equipment is located near your driveway or parking lot, and you have a vehicle-mounted snowplow or use a snow removal service, ensure that the equipment is well-marked so the vehicle operator knows to keep a safe distance. Striking a natural gas riser or electric wire with a plow could cause injury.

**Keep Your Vents Clear**

The excessive amount of snowfall from this storm may have increased the snow depth in your yard and near your home or business. When clear-

ing snow from your driveways and walkways, never pile it near vents on the side of the building. A blocked vent – whether it's a furnace, hot water heater, dryer or sewer – can lead to the buildup of deadly carbon monoxide. Keep the vents clear and free of snow and ice, treating them as carefully as you would an energy meter.

The symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are similar to those of the flu, and can include headaches, weakness, confusion, chest tightness, skin redness, dizziness, nausea, sleepiness, heart fluttering or loss of muscle control. If you suspect carbon monoxide is present in your home, immediately go outside and breathe deeply. Then call 911.

**Trees, Snow and Your Electric Service**

Snowfall places excessive weight on tree limbs and branches, creating potential hazards for energy infrastructure. Downed trees near power

lines should be reported to National Grid at 800-465-1212. Visit our website for more information about your electric service and trees. Customers are also reminded to exercise extreme caution near downed power lines:

- Always use extreme caution near downed power lines and wires, and always assume that they are carrying live electricity.
- Never touch a person or an object that is in contact with a downed line, as electricity can pass through to you.
- Take caution when approaching fallen trees, which could have power lines caught in them.
- Remember that water can conduct electricity. If you see a line down in a puddle or flooded area, avoid contact with the water to prevent risk of shock.
- Learn more about staying safe near downed power lines.

To learn more about electric and natural gas safety, visit our website – [nationalgridus.com](http://nationalgridus.com).

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EAST BOSTON JETS BOYS BASKETBALL FALLS TO O'BRYANT 58-54

East Boston played a fired-up and competitive game, tied at 42 after three quarters, but the fourth quarter summarized the way the season has turned for the hard-luck Jets as they fell to O'Bryant 58-54 Thursday at East Boston High.

BOB MARRA PHOTOS



Angel Rivera (5) runs into traffic on his drive to the basket.



Vlad Pinto (13) and Jayden Hunt (30) battle Niken Martin (0) and Jamie Igboenyasi (23) for a rebound.



Kai Lauquan (1) looks for a path to the basket.



Stephen Lucas (2) controls his dribble as he drives past O'Bryant's LeRoy Sulfaro (12).

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# EAST BOSTON BOYS BASKETBALL FALLS TO O'BRYANT 58-54

BOB MARRA PHOTOS



Kai Lauquan (1) makes his way around O'Bryant's Mula Norwich (2).



Vlad Pinto (13) defends O'Bryant's Jackson Farrington (5).



Stephen Lucas (2) reaches out to control a loose ball.



Angel Valdez (4) encounters a defensive obstacle in O'Bryant's Jackson Farrington (5).

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# Boston Food Access Council awarded Community Power Grant from Project Bread to advance food justice and systems change

Special to the Times-Free Press

Boston Food Access Council, of Boston, has been named a recipient of Project Bread’s inaugural Community Power Grants program. The funding will help to drive grassroots advocacy and systems change to address the root causes of food insecurity, building capacity for smaller organizations where it would not be otherwise possible. Boston Food Access Council was selected from over 40 proposals for its proven impact, advocacy wins, and strong potential to build power across communities.

“Food insecurity is not just about food - it is about deep structural disparities,” says Adriana Mendes-Sheldon, Director of Community Partnerships at Project Bread. “True transformation happens when power is redistributed and communities most impacted by food insecurity are part of shaping the solutions. By investing in grassroots leadership and advocacy, we build long-term capacity for organizing and a sustainable impact that goes beyond charity and toward systemic change.”

The Boston Food Access Council is a community-led

coalition working to ensure that Boston residents most affected by food insecurity have the knowledge, resources, and power to shape food access solutions. Comprised of community members and organizational leaders, Boston Food Access Council brings together residents, advocates, and policymakers to break down silos and advance equitable food access through collaboration, advocacy, and awareness-building. With support from Project Bread’s Community Power Fund, Boston Food Access Council will strengthen its capacity and deepen community leadership, while also funding a small cohort of paid community advocates. They have already hired a new fractional executive director, Sutton Kiplinger, to provide dedicated coordination and strategic guidance. In partnership with the Neighborhood Food Action Collaborative (NFAC), 3 community advocates have been hired who will do community engagement to help neighbors understand their own opportunities for action and become part of an engaged base of community members advocating for the changes they want to see in food access in their communities. These advocates—people with lived experience of food insecurity—will be trained to conduct SNAP and food access outreach, share accurate information, and elevate community stories at farmers’ markets, neighborhood events, and in conversations with decision-makers across Boston.

“We need to be able to connect policymakers directly to

people who are experiencing food insecurity and supporting their communities every day,” says Seana Weaver, former steering committee member and continued supporter of the Boston Food Access Council. “By investing in both leadership capacity and paid community advocates, we’re strengthening the bridge between lived experience and power, while reducing misinformation and ensuring that community voices are driving food justice solutions in Boston.”

Project Bread awarded a total of \$97,000 to five Massachusetts organizations through the Community Power Grants program. Grantees received individualized technical assistance from Project Bread’s Research and Evaluation team to develop customized logic models that track each project’s progress and impact. They will also participate in Project Bread’s statewide Community of Practice. Mendes-Sheldon explains that “the program was intentionally designed to provide value beyond funding, offering key supports that build long-term organizational capacity, sustainability, and impact.” The grants strategically support the Make Hunger History Coalition, Project Bread’s bold statewide initiative mobilizing more than 500 partners around a shared roadmap to permanently end hunger in Massachusetts. This work seeks to intentionally shift the power dynamics in anti-hunger work by providing tools and support for grassroots organizations and individuals to voice their perspectives and become

leaders in this statewide movement. The coalition operates through five strategic pillars: ensuring all residents can access and buy food, integrating food security with health care, supporting residents to eat nutritious and local food, enhancing food support programs for priority populations, and addressing root causes that contribute to hunger. The other 2025-2026 grantees include Revere Arabic Community, Roslindale Food Collective + New Beginnings Reentry Services, MetroWest Food Collaborative, and Hampshire County Food Policy Council. They have all joined the coalition as active members, with their community leadership and organizing efforts directly feeding into working groups and collaborative efforts across the state.

To get involved with the Make Hunger History Coalition, visit: [www.makehunger-historyma.org](http://www.makehunger-historyma.org).

People experiencing food insecurity should call into Project Bread’s toll-free FoodSource Hotline (1-800-645-8333), which provides confidential assistance to connect with food resources, including SNAP benefits, in 180 languages and for the hearing impaired. For more information, visit: [www.projectbread.org/get-help](http://www.projectbread.org/get-help).

Project Bread, the leading statewide food security organization in Massachusetts, connects people and communities in Massachusetts to reliable sources of food while advocating for policies that make food more accessible—so that no one goes hungry. For more information, visit: [www.projectbread.org](http://www.projectbread.org).

Boston Food Access Council (BFAC) is a community-led coalition working to empower Bostonians with the knowledge to access food resources and to bring together and amplify community voices and needs through collaboration, partnership, advocacy, and awareness building. Through community outreach, policy advocacy, and organizing strategies, BFAC ensures that those closest to the problem are the ones leading the solutions. For more information visit: <https://bostonfoodaccesscouncil.org/>

East Boston Times-Free Press Drop-Off Locations			
Orient Height Food Market	1016 Bennington St.	Meridian Market	357 Meridian St.
Angelos	1012 Bennington St.	Mobil Gas Station	Meridian St.
Butcher	1008 Bennington St.	Shaw's	240 Border St.
Tobacco	1006 Bennington St.	Kappy's Liquors	216 Border St.
Sunny	1000 Bennington St.	CVS	210 Border St.
Renegades	1004 Bennington St.	McDonalds	Central Square
Metro PCS	982 Saratoga St.	East Boston Social Center	68 Central St.
Catering Deli	978 Saratoga St.	Wallgreens	1 Central Sq 100 St.
Kiosco Restaurant Bar	974 Saratoga St.	Americano Express Bar	Meridian St.
Rite Aid	971 Bennington St.	Shell Gas Station	52 Meridian St.
Luna's Italian	945 Saratoga St.	Police Station	49 Meridian St.
Neptune Laundromat	Saratoga St.	Post Office	50 Meridian St.
Subway	948 Saratoga St.	East Boston Saving Bank	10 Meridian St.
Burger King	948 Saratoga St.	East Boston APAC	17 Meridian St.
Saratoga Market	16 Trident St.	Bella's Market	67 Maverick St.
Royal Famous Roast Beef	752 Bennington St.	Bank of America	Maverick St.
Lanzillis Gas Station	931 Bennington St.	Smoke Shop	Maverick St.
Lisslot Hair Salon	730 Bennington St.	PLS Check	19 Maverick St.
Century 21 Realty	620 Bennington St.	Meridian Market	121 Meridian St.
7-Eleven	120 Byron St.	Clipper Wine and Spirit	Maverick St.
Salesian Boys and Girls Club	150 Byron and Bennington St.	Station Grocery	Maverick St.
Carlos Catering	567 Bennington and Moore St.	Dunkin' Donut	Maverick St.
The Corner Mini Market	517 Bennington and Harmony St.	Tedeschi	Maverick St.
The UPS	2 Neptune Rd.	Heritage Apts	209 Sumner St.
Neptune Liquors	1 Neptune Rd.	Cross Roads Shelter	56 Havre St.
Neptune Convenience	3 Neptune Rd.	Maverick Landing	31 Liverpool St.
Neptune Laundromat	489 Saratoga St.	San Miguel Argangel	317 Sumner St.
Mellos Coffee	476 Saratoga St.	Adela's Bakery	319 Sumner St.
DA. Copas Pizza	474 Saratoga St.	Mehak Halal	Sumner St.
Laundromat	470 Saratoga St.	Wine and Barley	326 Sumner St.
Mobil Gas Station	396 Chelsea St.	Al Bar	330 Sumner St.
Spinellis	282 Bennington St.	Italian Express Pizza	336 Sumner St.
Daycare Liquors	286 Bennington St.	Family Brothers Market	339 Sumner St.
Jevell's Restaurant	Chelsea and Day Square	Alvaro Laundromat	341 Sumner St.
Tiny Bubbles	200 Bennington St.	Sumner Market	345 Sumner St.
Lolly's Bakery	158 Bennington St.	Maverick st Market	211 Maverick St.
Sava's Market	150 Bennington and Brooks St.	Wash and Dry	209 Maverick St.
Kelly's Pub	84 Bennington St.	Laundromat	72 Chelsea St.
East Boston Comer Market	233 Marion St.	Santarplos	111 Chelsea St.
Peach's and Cream	73 Bennington St.	Old Factory Condo	156 Porter St.
East Boston Saving Bank	1 Bennington St.	Spotless	24 Porter St.
Citizens Bank	Meridian St.	East Boston YMCA	215 Bremen St.
Dunkin' Donut	Meridian St.	Boston Library	365 Bremen St.
Castello Liquors	Meridian St.	Woody's Liquors	1035 Bennington St.
The Soap Box Laundromat	299 Meridian St.	Don Orion Nursing Home	111 Orient Ave.
Angela's Coffee	131 Lexington St.	Glastone Market	3 Glastone St.
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## Times-Free Press



# Residents now able to apply for home heating and energy assistance

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Massachusetts' home energy assistance program (HEAP) is a free resource to help eligible households pay a portion of winter heating bills.

Homeowners and renters, including households whose cost of heat is included in the rent, can apply in person at the agency in their area or through the online application.

Eligibility is based on household size and the gross annual income of every household member, 18 years of age or older.

- Household income cannot exceed 60% of estimated State Median Income
- Please contact the local fuel assistance agency for detailed information on criteria used for eligibility.
- Housing subsidies will also determine the specific benefit level.

**Fees**

The program is 100% free for those who qualify. Beware of scams by people charging an "application fee" to help submit an application.

**How to apply**

The online application opens on October 1 for the upcoming heating season (November 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025). You can apply online, in person at the LIHEAP agency in your area, or by mail. Use the HEAP portal to find your agency or start the application. Households must apply each year.

- First time applicants must participate in an intake appointment, to get started please submit an online application or contact your local agency.
- Applications are mailed to households after the first year and can be renewed online, in person, or by mail.
- Applicants who are denied assistance have the right to appeal the decision through their local home energy assistance agency.
- You may also take a look at

the FY 2025 Cold Relief Brochure

**Next steps**

Necessary Documents

As part of the application process, please be prepared to share necessary information, including but not limited to:

- photo identification for the head of household or primary applicant (e.g. driver's license)
- a list of all household members
- information on your heating bills (e.g. heating company name and account number)
- information on your housing situation (e.g. an active lease or mortgage statement)
- proof of income for 30 days prior to application date (e.g. wages, pension).

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# City of Boston conducts 46th annual homelessness census

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu, Chief of Housing Sheila Dillon and Commissioner of Public Health Dr. Bisola Ojikutu led more than 300 volunteers, including state and city officials, homelessness service providers, public health representatives, and first responders, in conducting the City of Boston's 46th annual homelessness census. This comprehensive annual effort is part of Boston's yearly work to assess and address homelessness by counting individuals and families experiencing homelessness, living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, domestic violence programs, and unsheltered places. The count of Bostonians plays a crucial role in guiding the allocation of City resources to aid people experiencing homelessness.

"Boston's annual homelessness census is an important part of our work to better understand the needs of unsheltered Bostonians and to connect individuals to services," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "At a time when housing costs continue to skyrocket, the data collected through our annual census is critical as we urgently work to create more housing and support our residents. We are grateful to our partners and the dedicated volunteers across the city for their collaboration in making this year's census possible."

At this year's census, volunteers canvassed 45 areas, including every city neighborhood, Logan Airport, and Boston's transit and parks systems, starting just before midnight.

They conducted surveys, identified those sleeping on the streets, and distributed safety information and items to help individuals stay warm. Survey results will be analyzed, cross-checked with shelter data, and used to inform policies and allocate resources. This effort is required annually by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

"The annual homelessness census is more than a count—it is a critical step in understanding the challenges faced by our most vulnerable residents and shaping strategies to meet their needs," said Sheila A. Dillon, Chief of Housing. "These findings guide our work to connect individuals and families with stable homes and the supportive services necessary for long-term success. In partnership with our talented and dedicated non-profit organizations, we remain focused on preventing and ending homelessness."

"Homelessness has a profoundly negative impact on physical health and mental well-being. Our annual homelessness census is an important tool that we use to improve access to stable housing because it is so essential," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health for the City of Boston. "The Boston Public Health Commission will continue to work closely with Mayor Wu and City partners to offer emergency shelter and connections to other necessary services. Addressing the needs of those facing homelessness is part of our ongoing effort to make Boston a place where everyone can thrive."



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTOS BY ISABEL LEON

**More than 300 volunteers canvassed every Boston neighborhood for the 46th Annual Homelessness Census.**

In 2025, the homelessness census showed meaningful progress in Boston's efforts to prevent and reduce homelessness. Overall, homelessness declined by 4.3 percent, reversing several years of post-pandemic increases that had been seen locally and nationwide. More than 2,800 people exited homelessness to permanent housing in 2024—up 41 percent from the prior year—reflecting significant gains for individuals, families, veterans, and unaccompanied youth. Boston continues to have one of the lowest rates of unsheltered homelessness among major U.S. cities, with just 2.4 percent of people experiencing homelessness living on the street. Veteran homelessness decreased by nearly 15 percent—part of a 55 percent reduction since 2011. Unsheltered homelessness has declined by nearly 57 percent since 2007, and there were no unsheltered families on the night of the census, a milestone Boston has maintained since federal reporting began.

Expanded shelter capacity, strong partnerships, and sustained investments in affordable and permanent supportive housing have driven these outcomes. This includes major developments such as 140 Clarendon Street, 37 Wales Street, The Lyndia, and multiple projects serving families, youth, and individuals with high service needs. With 100 additional supportive housing units cur-

rently under construction, almost 200 units in the pipeline, and new shelter-to-housing initiatives underway, Boston remains focused on moving people quickly and safely from homelessness to stable, permanent homes.

"The homelessness census helps Neighborhood Services and the City better coordinate outreach, deploy resources where they are needed most, and work closely with residents, service providers, and other City departments to respond with care, consistency, and compassion in every neighborhood," said Mohammed Missouri, Executive Director of Neighborhood Services. "It offers critical, on-the-ground insight, informing us where people are sleeping outside and which neighborhoods are most impacted."

"Boston's annual homelessness census is a vital tool for understanding the realities faced by people experiencing homelessness and ensuring they are connected to the right supports," said Andrew McCawley, President and Chief Executive Officer of the New England Center and Home for Veterans. "For veterans in particular, this effort helps strengthen coordination between outreach teams, housing providers, and service organizations so we can move people more quickly from the streets into stable, permanent homes."

"The annual homeless cen-

sus provides an essential snapshot of who is experiencing homelessness in Boston," said Lyndia Downie, President and Executive Director of Pine Street Inn. "This census information strengthens our ability to target resources, refine programs, and support people in securing housing with support so they can rebuild their lives. Working together with our partners at the City of Boston and other providers, Boston has maintained a very low street count of under 2.5% -- but even one person on the street is one too many," she added."

The results of the 2026 homelessness census will be available in the coming months.

The mission of the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH) is to foster healthy, vibrant, and welcoming communities for all by ensuring stable, environmentally friendly, and accessible housing, as well as the sustainable use of land. The MOH achieves this through creating and preserving income-restricted housing, supporting residents in buying and maintaining their homes, and developing housing policies that promote access and long-term stability. It also works to prevent evictions, implement housing solutions for people experiencing homelessness, and make Boston's housing stock healthy, resilient, and environmentally sustainable. For more information, please visit the MOH website.



Mayor Michelle Wu with census volunteers.



SCENES FROM THE CITY OF BOSTON’S 46TH ANNUAL HOMELESSNESS CENSUS

MAYOR’S OFFICE PHOTOS BY ISABEL LEON





# Edwards advances legislation to ensure fairness, due process, and access to the courts

Special to the Times-Free Press

Senator Lydia Edwards has filed legislation reaffirming a fundamental promise of our democracy: that everyone has fair and safe access to the courts. At a time when increased immigration enforcement activity has created fear around courthouses, the legislation ensures that all residents can participate in legal proceedings, assert their rights, and seek justice without intimidation or obstruction.

This legislation is one of two major initiatives introduced by Senator Edwards to safeguard residents of the Commonwealth. The newest bill joins a bill filed in November to update Massachusetts' U and T Visa law to better protect trafficking and abuse survivors.

## Protecting Access to Justice

An Act protecting access to justice (SD 3607), filed today by Senator Edwards, establishes clear limitations on arrests, de-

tention, or custody actions within Massachusetts courthouses.

The proposal is rooted in a simple principle: courthouses must remain safe spaces where justice is practiced without fear. Increased ICE activity in and around courthouses has not only undermined the sense of safety within these buildings, but also has had a chilling effect on access to the courts – stripping residents of their ability to fully exercise their right to due process.

As a result, justice itself is being disrupted. Witnesses are afraid to testify, individuals are avoiding regularly scheduled hearings, and in some cases prosecutors have been unable to complete trials. When people cannot safely access the courts, the entire justice system suffers.

## The legislation:

- Requires any law enforcement agent entering a courthouse to identify themselves to court personnel and state their

enforcement purpose

- Mandates judicial warrants or judicial approval for any civil arrest.

- Bans face coverings that obscure identity in the courthouse, unless medically necessary

The legislation is designed to protect the integrity of judicial proceedings, preserve public trust in the courts, and enhance public safety. Similar courthouse-protection laws have been enacted in states including Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York.

“Courthouses exist so people can seek justice – not to be places of fear or enforcement ambush,” said Senator Edwards. “When individuals are too afraid to show up to court, justice breaks down for everyone. This legislation is about defending the rule of law, safeguarding due process, and ensuring our courts remain places where fairness and equal access are upheld for

all.”

## Strengthening Protections for Survivors of Trafficking and Serious Crimes

In late November, Senator Edwards filed An Act relative to trafficking and abuse survivors (SD 3394), a comprehensive update to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 258F concerning U and T Visa certifications. U and T visas are federal immigration protections designed for victims of serious crimes – including assault, domestic violence, kidnapping, and human trafficking – who assist law enforcement in investigations or prosecutions.

The current state law requires a 90-day response to U and T Visa certification requests, a delay that can leave some vulnerable during critical moments. The proposed legislation shortens that timeline to 30 days, and to 10 days in extreme circumstances, such as when a survivor is already in deportation.

“People who have survived some of the horrific crimes such as slavery, trafficking, and violence, face so many obstacles as it is, in standing up to their perpetrators. We need to make sure that they feel safe to talk to local law enforcement.”

## The legislation:

- Clarifies that judges, state agencies, and law enforcement entities may issue certifications

- Establishes a right to appeal previously denied certifications to the courts

- Ensures timely responses that align with the urgency of immigration proceedings.

This legislation, if passed, would assure that victims and witnesses of crime will feel safe to come forward. “This is what will help keep our communities safer, when people feel safe to come out of the shadows, seek justice and our courts remain bastions of access to justice.” Senator Edwards

# Winter storm safety tips

Winter storms in New England can range from freezing rain and ice, to a moderate snowfall over a few hours, to blizzard conditions with blinding wind-driven snow that can last several days.

## What Are Winter Storms?

Winter storms can include large snow accumulation, extremely cold temperatures, coastal flooding, beach erosion and heavy, wet snow or ice.

## Why Prepare?

Extreme winter weather can shut down an entire region. It can lead to roof collapses, communications disruptions and power outages. Winter storms are associated with storm-related deaths caused by:

- Automobile accidents
- Heart attacks due to overexertion
- Freezing to death; and
- Carbon monoxide incidents

To minimize the dangers associated with winter storms, take the proper safety precautions to protect yourself and your family.

Winter Storm Watches and Warnings

The National Weather Service issues watches and warnings for winter storms and blizzards to alert the public of potential winter storms. It is important to understand the

difference between these warnings so you know what to do to stay safe:

## Winter Storm Watches

It is likely that winter storm warning, blizzard warning, or ice storm warning criteria will be met due to the conditions of an upcoming storm.

## Winter Storm Warning

6” of snow or more in a 12-hour period (or 8” of snow or more in a 24-hour period) expected within next 12 to 36 hours.

- Blizzard Warning — Sustained wind gusts greater than or equal to 35 mph AND considerable falling and/or blowing snow, resulting in reduced visibility of less than 1/4 mile for at least three hours.

- Ice Storm Warning — 1/2 inch or more of freezing rain.

## Before a Winter Storm

- Be informed by receiving alerts, warnings, and public safety information before, during, and after emergencies.

- Create and review your family emergency plan.

- If you receive dialysis, medical treatments or home health care services, work with your medical provider to determine how to maintain care and service if you are unable to leave your home for a period of time.

- Assemble an emergency

kit. Add seasonal supplies to your emergency kit, such as extra winter clothing and blankets.

- Follow instructions from public safety officials.

- Prepare for possible power outages.

- Fully charge your cell phone, laptop, and other electronic devices before a storm if power outages are expected.

- If your medical equipment uses electricity, talk to health care providers, utility company & your personal support network for options during a power outage. If you'll need assistance during an outage, talk to family, friends & your support network.

- Consider purchasing a generator to provide power during an outage. Follow the manufacturer's instructions and learn how to use it safely before an outage.

- Prepare your home for possible emergencies.

- Remove dead or rotting trees and branches around your home that could fall and cause injury or damage.

- Clear clogged rain gutters to allow water to flow away from your home. Melting snow and ice can build up if gutters are clogged with debris.

- Ensure your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are

working and have fresh batteries.

- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected every year.

- Make sure your home is properly insulated. Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows to keep cold air out. Install storm windows or cover windows with plastic from the inside to provide insulation.

- Ensure you have sufficient heating fuel and consider safe backup heating options such as fireplaces or woodstoves.

- Ensure your vehicle is ready for safe winter driving. Keep the gas tank at least half-full and have a Winter Emergency Car Kit in the trunk.

## During a Winter Storm

- Minimize outdoor activities. Drive only if it is absolutely necessary. If you must drive, utilize MEMA's winter driving safety tips.

- Keep your pets safe with Winter Pet Safety Tips.

- Dress for the season to protect against the elements. Dress in several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight clothing instead of a single heavy layer. Outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent. Wear a hat, mittens (not gloves) and sturdy waterproof boots to

protect your extremities. Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs.

- During extreme cold weather, follow our extreme cold safety tips.

- Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.

## After a Winter Storm

- Continue to monitor media for emergency information.

- Follow instructions from public safety officials.

- Call 9-1-1 to report emergencies, including downed power lines and gas leaks.

- Check with your local authorities or call 2-1-1 to find locations of warming centers or shelters near you or for other storm-related questions.

- In the event of power outages during cold weather, you may need to go to a warming center or emergency shelter to stay warm. Report power outages to your utility company.

- Stay away from downed utility wires. Always assume a downed power line is live.



- Stay off streets and roads until they are clear of snow.

- Use caution and take frequent breaks when shoveling snow to prevent overexertion. Overexertion can bring on a heart attack—a major cause of death in the winter.



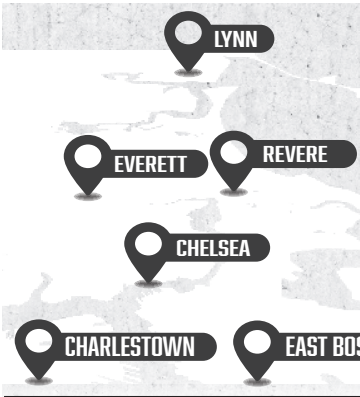
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Mattuchio, Alexandra	125 Addison Street LLC	125 Addison St #5	\$695,000
Segel, Adam	Landaverde, Jose K	221 Trenton St	\$1,025,000
Kirwan, Edward P	230 Everett Street LLC	230 Everett St #4	\$1,315,000
Ahmed, Hassan I	Petrozzello Louise J Est	403-405 Saratoga St	\$740,000
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SNOW SCENES AROUND EAST BOSTON

Mother Nature delivered the first major snowstorm since January, 2022 in Greater Boston, dumping more than 20 inches of snow on the East Boston neighborhood. The schools were closed due to the storm and many residents spent Monday and Tuesday clearing out pathways and digging out their vehicles. The storm was well-predicted by local TV meteorologists, giving residents time to prepare for the severe, wintry conditions.



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