



Downtown Update

A Publication of the Department of Community Development
59 Court Street, 3rd Floor
Westfield, MA 01085
(413) 572-6246

E-Mail: p.miller@cityofwestfield.org

Fall 2017



At the suggestion of a couple of downtown business owners, please accept this newsletter as the first of periodic communications updating you on city affairs as they pertain specifically to downtown merchants.

Specifically, we'd like to use this opportunity to let you know of projects and policy changes we are working on that may impact your business.

Additionally, we will use this as a tool to update you on events and grant opportunities that may periodically be made available to you.



Halloween Events Scheduled Downtown in October

On **Saturday, October 14**, Westfield on Weekends debuts **Westfield PumpkinFest**, a day-long event in downtown Westfield with performers, arts, crafts, a farmer's market and the opportunity for kids and their families to decorate pumpkins and display them for all to see, when the pumpkin lighting culminates the day's activities in early evening. For vendor opportunities, visit www.westfieldonweekends.com.



Westfield Elks Lodge Rag Shag Parade has been moved to **Saturday, October 28th at 1:00 pm**. Traditionally, the event had been held Friday evenings but was moved due to safety concerns. The parade starts at the corner of Washington and Franklin Streets and extends down Elm Street toward Park Square Green

Downtown Merchants Trick-or-Treat, organized by the Boys & Girls Club

*****DATE TO BE DETERMINED*****



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

At long last, construction in downtown is complete. The Gas Light project has ended and building demolition has been completed. Demolition at the former Romani's bowling alley was completed on Friday, September 22nd. An ordinance amendment is being drafted to authorize the Off-Street Parking Commission to allow the cleared area to be used for parking. Once that is passed, the City will spread gravel on the site to accommodate additional parking.



PARKING UPDATE

With the school year back in session, our off-street parking lots, particularly west of Elm Street, are being utilized heavily. We are working to bring additional spaces online and to maximize the use of our existing spaces. The area around Arnold Street remains a priority for improvement, as does newly-acquired property on Central Street.

Additional signage is planned to be installed this fall as well. Suggestions and concerns relative to off-street parking can be directed to p.miller@cityofwestfield.org.



The City has established an online reporting system for residents, business owners, and visitors to report concerns. Concerns can range from pot holes to dangerous trees to broken or missing signs and more. A **mobile phone app is available by searching for SeeClickFix**. The interface is very user-friendly and allows for easier reporting and an ability to track progress on the issue. Reporting can also be done online at www.cityofwestfield.org at "Report a Concern."



A group of realtors, lenders, and businesspeople have come together to promote the benefits of purchasing a home in Westfield. Our City has a home for every price point and a neighborhood of every style. The group is seeking partners who would offer discounts on services to new residents who decide to make Westfield their home. There is no fee for inclusion, partners are only required to offer a coupon or incentive for inclusion on the website. Contact idsells@gmail.com for more information.



GREATER WESTFIELD
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mayor's Coffee Hour- Monday, October 2nd 8:00 am – 9:00 am At Park Square Realty, 44 Elm Street

The Chamber of Commerce holds a coffee hour on the first Monday of each month where citizens and businesspeople can talk directly to the Mayor. It is held at a different location each month. For more information, please visit www.westfieldbiz.org.



Share your ideas. How can the City help your business thrive? Are there new policies you would like us to explore? Please contact us if there is something you'd like to see changed.

We are open to attend meetings you organize or meet one-on-one with you to discuss your concerns.

Mayor Brian P. Sullivan

Office of the Mayor
(413) 572-6201
mayor@cityofwestfield.org

Amber Danahey

Community Outreach Coordinator
(413) 572-6244
a.danahey@cityofwestfield.org

Peter J. Miller, Director

Community Development
(413) 572-6246
p.miller@cityofwestfield.org