

Town of Chelmsford



Town Manager's Newsletter February 18, 2022

Welcome

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide timely information to the Chelmsford community regarding its town government. Publications will be issued as needed, but on no less than a monthly basis. Please be patient with us as we develop this newsletter. Your suggestions and comments are welcome at tmoffice@chelmsfordma.gov.

Paul Cohen, Town Manager

Special Town Meeting Thursday, February 24 at 7:30 p.m. Chelmsford High School Gymnasium

A Special Town Meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, February 24th at 7:30 p.m. Due to COVID-19 pandemic health concerns, the meeting will take place at the Chelmsford High School Gymnasium. There are six articles on the Warrant. The major consideration will be to adopt a zoning overlay district that would facilitate the redevelopment of the former UMass Lowell West Campus located at 255 Princeton Street to allow for a 396-unit multi-family rental residential development. Here is a link to the Special Town Meeting documents:

<https://www.townofchelmsford.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1685>

Holiday Solid Waste & Recycling Collection Schedule

There will be a one-day delay in solid waste and recycling collection during the week of February 21 due to the Presidents Day legal holiday.



Roadway Paving & Sidewalk Construction Plan

A proposed five-year roadway paving and sidewalk construction plan is scheduled to be discussed at the Monday, February 28th 6:00 p.m. Select Board meeting. The plan is based upon a condition rating on all 187 miles of Town paved roadways. The public may attend the meeting in person in Room 204 at the Town Offices and virtually via a ZOOM link that will be printed on the meeting agenda. The meeting will be cablecast and steamed on-line by Chelmsford Telemedia.

Massachusetts Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit

As a senior citizen (65 or older before January 1, 2022), you may be eligible to claim a refundable credit on your Massachusetts personal income tax return. The Circuit Breaker tax credit is based on the actual real estate taxes paid on the Massachusetts residential property you own or rent and occupy as your principal residence.

The maximum credit amount for tax year 2021 is \$1,170. If the credit you're owed exceeds the amount of the total tax payable for the year, you'll be refunded the additional amount of the credit without interest.

Who is eligible

- You must be a Massachusetts resident or part-year resident.
- You must be 65 or older by January 1, 2022.
- You must file a [Schedule CB](#) with your [Massachusetts personal income tax return](#).
- You must own or rent residential property in Massachusetts and occupy it as your primary residence.
- For tax year 2021, your total Massachusetts income doesn't exceed:
 - \$62,000 for a single individual who is not the head of a household.
 - \$78,000 for a head of household.
 - \$93,000 for married couples filing a joint return.
- If you are a homeowner, your Massachusetts property tax payments, together with half of your water and sewer expense, must exceed 10% of your total Massachusetts income for the tax year.
- If you are a renter, 25% of your annual Massachusetts rent must exceed 10% of your total Massachusetts income for the tax year.
- The assessed valuation of the homeowner's personal residence as of January 1, 2021, before residential exemptions but after abatements, cannot exceed \$884,000.
- The Schedule CB must be completed within 3 years from the last day for filing the return, without regard to any extension of time to file.

Who isn't eligible

- You are a nonresident.
- You are married and your status is married filing separately.
- You are a dependent of another taxpayer.
- You receive a federal and/or state rent subsidy or you rent from a tax-exempt entity.
- For tax year 2021, the assessed value of principal residence exceeds \$884,000.
- If you did not complete a Schedule CB within 3 years from the last day for filing the return, without regard to any extension of time to file.

Forms can be obtained at the Senior Center or via email at dsiriani@chelmsfordma.gov.