

Mayor's Update




Join Gov. Charlie Baker, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Mike Kennealy and me in Upper Falls this Thursday, Feb. 20 for an announcement about a MassWorks Infrastructure grant for transportation and neighborhood improvement projects for the Upper Falls Greenway and Pettee Square (at Oak and Chestnut).


We'll be at the Telegraph building in Upper Falls (B Entry), 1234 Chestnut St., at 9:15 a.m.

From this event, the Governor, Lt. Governor and I will head over to Newton Police Headquarters, 1321 Washington Street, West Newton, to join Chief MacDonald and Department of Transportation Secretary Stephanie Pollack and Massachusetts State Police Superintendent Christopher Mason to kick off

the new hands-free driving law that begins on Sunday. We'll also head outside as Newton police officers join State Troopers in demonstrating how law enforcement will identify drivers who are driving while distracted by cell phones.



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Housing and
Economic Development



You are cordially invited to join Governor Charlie Baker, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, Secretary Mike Kennealy and Newton Mayor Ruthanne Fuller for a

MassWorks Infrastructure Program Grant Announcement

Thursday, February 20th, 2020 | 9:15 AM
Telegraph at Upper Falls
1234 Chestnut Street—Telegraph B Entry
Newton Upper Falls

Please join Governor Charlie Baker, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, Secretary Mike Kennealy, and Newton Mayor Ruthanne Fuller for an announcement relative to the MassWorks Infrastructure Grant Program in support of transportation and neighborhood improvement projects to the Upper Falls Greenway and Pettee Square intersection. Invited guests include state legislators, municipal officials, and local businesses and community leaders, and Newtonians.

Please RSVP to molly.p.bourque@mass.gov.

Early Voting Starts Monday

Early voting both for the March 3 Presidential Primary (Super Tuesday) and the Northland referendum here

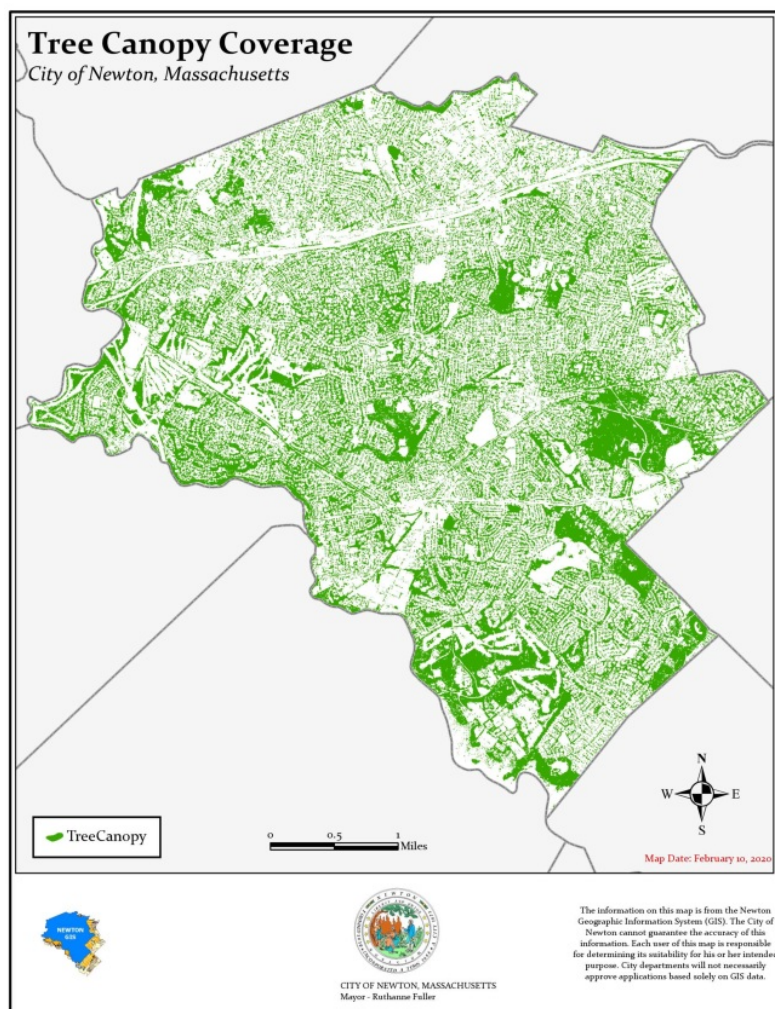
in Newton begins on Monday, Feb. 24.

Voters can cast both their ballots at City Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Feb. 27, and from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28.



You can also vote on Tuesday, March 3 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at your precinct polling location. A list of polling locations is [here](#). (Voters in Ward 2, Precinct 1 who voted at the old Horace Mann School on Watertown Street will now vote at the Albemarle Field House, 250 Albemarle Road.)

Your vote matters.



(The City of Newton's mapping expert Doug Greenfield just developed an interesting map showing tree canopy coverage during leaf-out (i.e., summer) conditions. In total, we have 38% canopy coverage across Newton. City Arborist Marc Welch will be using this analysis as part of our new Climate Action Plan to target street tree plantings which also mitigate the "heat island" impacts of increasing temperatures. Want to see the map in more detail? Click [here](#).)

Newton's Clean "Power Choice" Energy Comes from New England

You may recall that in March 2019 the City of Newton started Newton Power Choice. It switched the supply of the City's electricity customers that had Eversource basic service to 60 percent renewable sources such as solar and wind, significantly reducing the City's carbon



Newton
POWERCHOICE
Clean electricity for Newton

footprint.

What exactly are the electric resources that are in Newton Power Choice and New England's electricity grid? Click [here](#) to see the Newton Power Choice and the region's fuel mix for the fourth quarter of 2019. For that period, all Newton's renewable energy came from New England solar, wind, and small hydro resources (not Canadian hydro). Although the link shows some amount of biomass and wood as part of the region's generation mix, Newton has specifically excluded those resources from its voluntary power purchase.

Need more information about Newton Power Choice? Click [here](#).

Want to opt-up to 100 percent renewable energy and make a significant individual impact on addressing climate change? You can do it online [here](#), or call customer support at 1-833-272-9592.

(With members of the League of Women Voters Newton and cutouts of suffragists. Post your suffrage selfies with the hashtag #suffrage100newton)



The Journey Continues

Join the Women's Right-to-Vote Coalition of Newton as we mark the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote nationally. The year 2020 is a time to celebrate progress and to focus on the work left to be done for women's voting rights.

A few suffrage facts:

- The 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote, but not all women could vote. Black women in the south, for example, were prohibited from casting their ballots in many states until the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965.
- Suffragists toiled for almost 100 years before the 19th Amendment was passed.
- The term "suffragettes" was used to deride militant suffragists. The ending "ette," implying small (e.g., kitchenette versus kitchen), was meant to diminish them.

Comprised of several organizations, including the League of Women Voters Newton, the Newton Free Library, Historic Newton, the Human Rights Commission, the Coalition is hosting several events which can be found [here](#).

Join the Coalition for a talk at the Newton Free Library on Tuesday, February 25th at 7:00 pm on *The Abolitionist Origins of the Women's Suffrage Movement*. Manisha Sinha, Draper Chair in American History at the University of Connecticut and author

of *The Slaves Cause: A History of Abolition*, will discuss the forgotten origins of the women's suffrage movement in the abolition movement and the break between abolitionists and some feminists during Reconstruction.

Warmly,

Ruthanne



P.S. Looking for something fun to do with the kids this week? The Tanglewood Marionettes, a national touring company, is bringing *The Dragon King* to City Hall for two performances this Thursday, Feb. 20. Tickets are on sale now at newtonmarec.com for the performances at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. (\$10 advance/ \$12 at door if seats available).

P.P.S. From hearth-warmed metal rods used to curl hair to afro combs, Historic Newton's new exhibit, *Hairidentity!*, takes a look how we wore our hair and what it means from 1840 to 1980. The new exhibit is at

the Jackson Homestead and Museum, 527 Washington St., Wednesday-Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. While you're there, be sure to take a look at the recently acquired 1852 landscape painting by Samuel Hudson. The painting depicts Newton Lower Falls looking north across what is now the Leo J. Martin golf course towards the Charles River and the train tracks. Find more information [here](#).

P.P.P.S A reminder: Starting this October, you'll no longer be able to board a domestic flight within the United States unless you have a passport or a new Massachusetts "Real ID" drivers license. Real IDs are available through the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles. Need more information? Click [here](#).

