



City of Concord

Weekly City Manager Newsletter

January 19, 2018

SCHOOL STREET PARKING GARAGE

The contractor has managed to continue working through the cold temperatures. The north stair tower is fully demolished and the new foundation hole for the replacement stair tower has been excavated. Concrete work for the new foundation will begin next week. The contractor has also made significant progress sandblasting steel on the 4th level of the deck, as shown below.



With nearly a month of the new permit parking program behind us, the City will be making some adjustments in how the garage is managed. Since the permit program was implemented on January 1st, the City has been closely monitoring utilization of the permit pool. When the new permit program was implemented, spaces in the garage were allocated as follows: 250 for permit parking, 115 for public parking, 25 customer spaces for Capital Plaza and Inex Properties, and 75 spaces closed for construction. However, vacancy for permit spaces has been consistently running between 35%-50%, resulting in roughly 88-125 vacant permit spaces at any time. Demand for public parking has been very strong and there have been instances when all 115 public spaces have been filled. Now that the holiday vacation season has passed and utilization has normalized, City Administration believes it is appropriate to make some adjustments in order to expand the supply of public parking to support those businesses and institutions who rely on the garage. Effective Monday, January 22nd, space allocations for permit and public parking will be adjusted to 205 for permit parking and 160 for public parking. The number of customer spaces for Capital Plaza and Inex Properties, and spaces closed for construction, will remain unchanged. City Administration views the conversion of the garage to permits as a great success, as it has provided the City the flexibility needed to ensure that all lease parkers have ample access to reserved parking while also ensuring a near normal supply of public parking, despite the loss of 75 parking spaces (16% of the garage) for construction.

CITYWIDE COMMUNITY CENTER



Despite the cold, snow, and 4+ feet of frost, work continues at the site. Wall and roof panels for the new gymnasium are nearing completion, and masonry on the new locker room addition has begun. Installation of on-site drainage and sewer utilities also continues. Sheetrock is nearly complete in the 1960s wing, and painting is scheduled to begin within the next week. The project remains on budget and on schedule.

WHITE PARK WINTER CARNIVAL



The annual Winter Carnival at White Park will be held on **Saturday, January 20th**, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. This is a great community event that the whole family will enjoy. Plan ahead and bring your skates and sled. The pond and sledding hill will be open all day, weather permitting.



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FREE LESSON FRIDAYS



Beginning today, and running through the month of March, Beaver Meadow Golf Course Head Pro Phil Davis will be offering free lessons every other Friday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 2:00 PM. For details on how to receive free lessons and to sign up, please visit <https://bmgc.golf/event/free-lesson-friday>, or call the Pro Shop at 228-8954.

RILEY TRAILS WINTER HIKE



Join the Concord Trails Committee on Saturday, January 20th, at 10:00 AM, for a winter hike on the Riley Trails. This is an easy to moderate, 1.5-2 hour hike, with views of Hoit Marsh. Meet your guide at the Riley Trails trailhead parking lot, located approximately 0.3 miles west of Shaker Road. Visit www.concordnh.gov/trails, for trail map (Map 8) and parking location.

EVERETT ARENA ENERGY SAVING UPGRADES

Two energy saving projects have recently been completed at the Douglas N. Everett Arena. The brine chiller (a component of the refrigeration system) was replaced and all indoor and outdoor facility lights were converted to LED. The brine chiller replacement was a scheduled project included in the arena's capital improvement plan and was completed this past summer by RECCO Refrigeration Engineering and Contracting Co. The LED lighting conversion was made possible by a partnership between the City of Concord, Unitil, and Affinity Lighting, with construction completed in October by R&T Electric. The lighting upgrade was funded with half the costs from a rebate and the other half included within bill financing over the next four years. The City also received an energy rebate for the chiller replacement. The total rebate from Unitil was \$50,864.

These upgrades were accomplished to improve the quality of the facility's lighting and refrigeration systems, increase efficiency, and improve energy use. The new brine chiller has improved cooling capabilities, while the new LED lighting features customization controls to adjust the brightness level and which lights to turn on/off. The new lighting control system has increased the arena's foot candles (measurement of light intensity from one light per square foot), increasing the overall lighting quality while still using less energy. The community has noticed a difference and these upgrades will be reducing electricity costs significantly.



These are just two of several energy saving projects that have been completed at the Everett Arena over the years. In 2005, the arena used 598,920 KWh annually, prior to any energy saving initiatives. After several projects, including dehumidification upgrades, lighting sensors, refrigeration control, and eliminating ice season in the summer to reduce maintenance costs, the arena was able to reduce kilowatt usage to 376,181 in 2011. With the LED lighting conversion and brine chiller replacement projects completed in 2017, it is anticipated that the arena will reduce usage in 2018 to roughly 290,000 KWh. Energy consumption at the Everett Arena has dropped over 310,285 KWh since implementing conservation measures in 2005. The Everett Arena will continue to explore additional energy saving initiatives to maintain sustainable operations. For more information about the Everett Arena, visit www.concordnh.gov/arena.