



As we welcome the start of the new year, the Town of Belmont looks ahead with renewed energy and a focus on progress, planning, and community connection. January is a time to reflect on our shared accomplishments while setting priorities for the months ahead, from advancing Town projects to supporting services that enhance the quality of life for all residents.

I would like to thank Town staff, boards, committees, and residents for their continued dedication and engagement as we begin 2026 together. We encourage you to explore this January edition of the Town Administrator's Bulletin to stay informed on important updates, upcoming initiatives, and opportunities to remain involved in our community.

- Patrice Garvin, Belmont Town Administrator

Subscribe!

To stay informed, [subscribe to News and Announcements](#) on the Town's website and receive the Bulletin directly in your inbox each month.

Select Board News & Initiatives



Upcoming Meeting(s):

January 26, 2026 - 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

February 9th, 2026 - 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

Previous meetings archived on the [Belmont Media Center Website](#) with meeting minutes and materials archived on the [Select Board Webpage](#).

Belmont Public Library's Grand Opening Awaits!

Click on the image below to browse their website...



Saturday, January 17th, 2026
9:00am - 5:00pm

9:00am: Doors Open
9:30am: Ribbon Cutting & Brief Remarks
2:00pm: Children's Program with Jenny the Juggler

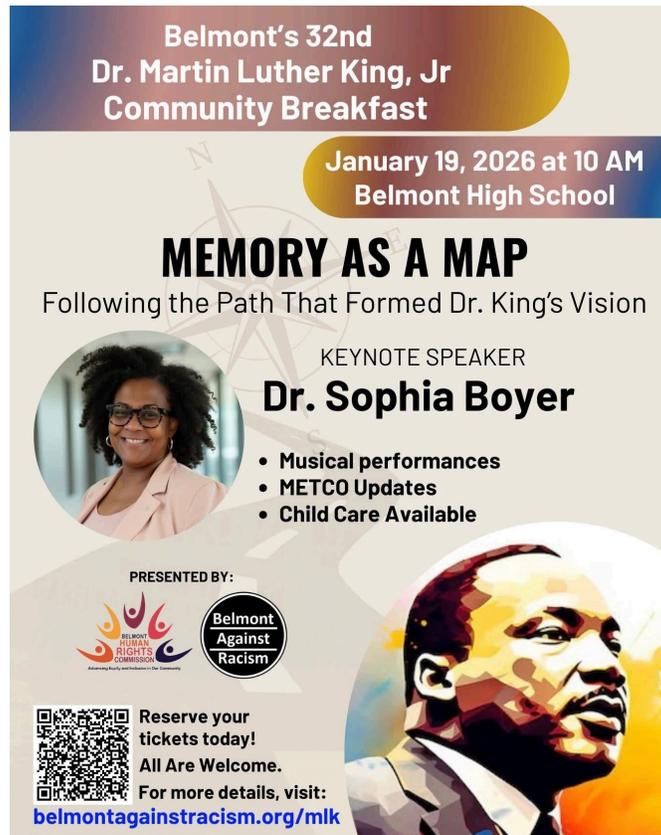
Sunday, January 18th, 2026
1:00pm - 5:00pm

1:00pm: Doors Open
2:00pm: Children's Program

Snow Date: Sunday, January 18th
1:00pm: Doors Open
1:30pm: Ribbon Cutting

MLK Community Breakfast at Belmont High School

Click on the image below to reserve a spot...



Belmont's 32nd
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr
Community Breakfast

January 19, 2026 at 10 AM
Belmont High School

MEMORY AS A MAP

Following the Path That Formed Dr. King's Vision

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Dr. Sophia Boyer

- Musical performances
- METCO Updates
- Child Care Available

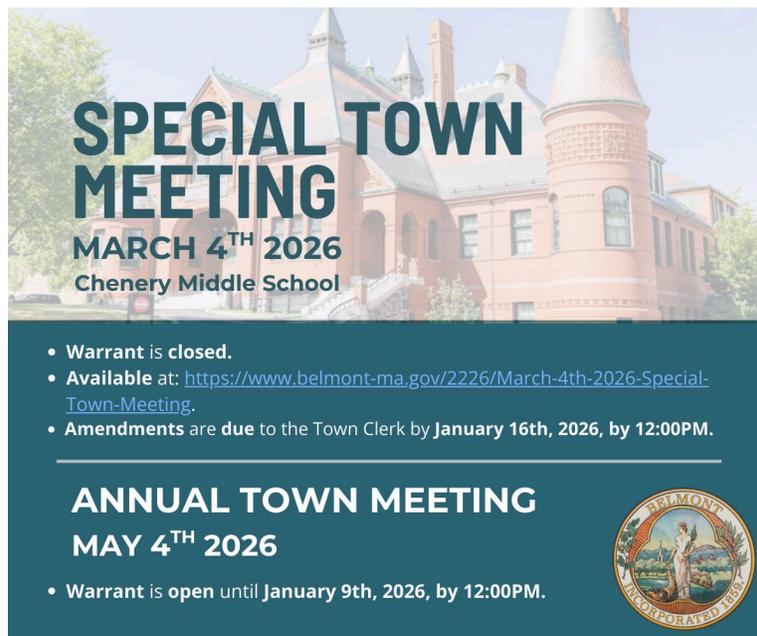
PRESENTED BY:



Reserve your tickets today!
All Are Welcome.
For more details, visit:
belmontagainstracism.org/mlk

Town Meeting

Click on the image below for more information on Town Meeting...



SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

MARCH 4TH 2026
Chenery Middle School

- Warrant is closed.
- Available at: <https://www.belmont-ma.gov/2226/March-4th-2026-Special-Town-Meeting>.
- Amendments are due to the Town Clerk by January 16th, 2026, by 12:00PM.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 4TH 2026

- Warrant is open until January 9th, 2026, by 12:00PM.



SNOW AND ICE CONTROL POLICY - [DPW](#)

The Town of Belmont's snow and ice control policy is to make the roads passable and reasonably safe considering the weather conditions. **During a storm**, our objective is to keep the roads accessible for police, fire and ambulance services. **After the storm**, we strive to make the roads safe for the general public. **The Highway Division** is responsible for treating and plowing more than 86 miles of streets, four municipal parking lots, the parking areas surrounding six public schools and most municipal buildings. The streets in Belmont have been divided into prioritized routes. Primary and secondary streets and hills receive priority attention due to traffic volume and/or potential safety hazards. **During light snow and ice conditions**, the streets are treated in sequence according to traffic volume or hazardous conditions and made safe as quickly as possible. We are committed to providing an effective, efficient service.

SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING BAN

Under the Town Bylaws, the Select Board may declare a Snow Emergency Parking Ban for additional hours when no parking is allowed on any street. The Bylaw was passed to allow the Highway Division to do a better job clearing the roadways. Parked cars force us to leave snow in the road and make the plow operator's job very difficult. Vehicles that are in violation of the parking ban will be towed. If declared, the parking ban will be announced by the Belmont Police Department (BPD) via a Reverse 911 call and on local television and radio news outlets.

REGISTER FOR BPD REVERSE 911 ALERTS: https://signup.hyper-reach.com/hyper_reach/sign_up_page_2/?id=111664

RESIDENTIAL SIDEWALKS

Belmont's General Bylaws require sidewalks to be cleared on paved public sidewalks adjacent to residential property and made safe for pedestrians. Residents have until 8:00 pm the day following the end of the storm to clear the sidewalk of snow, slush and ice adjacent to their property to ensure safe pedestrian passage. For Bylaw enforcement, call the Code Enforcement Officer at 617-993-2657

COMMERCIAL SIDEWALKS

The Town's General Bylaw (above) applies to owners and/or tenants of commercial property and states that the owner and/or tenant is responsible for the removal and treatment of ice and snow on the abutting sidewalks within twelve (12) hours after the same, shall cease to fall or be formed on such sidewalks. For Bylaw enforcement, call the Code Enforcement Officer at 617-993-2657

COPING WITH SNOW ACCUMULATION

Whenever possible, it is best to pile snow to the right of the driveway (as you face the street) to reduce the potential of having it redeposited at the driveway opening when the plow passes. When clearing driveways, snow should be kept on the owner's property, the tree lawn or in the gutter. Snow should not be deposited onto the street or sidewalk, or across the street onto a neighbor's sidewalk. To avoid having to do the job twice, shovel the driveway after the storm has passed and the street has been cleared. Rarely is the collection of trash and recyclables interrupted due to a winter storm. Prevent street flooding by clearing catch basins near your home to allow rain or melting snow to enter the drainage system. In the interest of you and your neighbor's safety, shovel and clear fire hydrants of snow in your neighborhood. Older residents and / or persons with health problems should consult a physician before shoveling snow.

SHOVELING ASSISTANCE

A limited number of volunteer snow shovelers may be available to assist senior citizens or handicapped persons with financial hardship Contact the Council on Aging at (617) 993-2970 to Volunteer or for assistance

PLOWING OPERATIONS

Belmont's streets are divided into plow routes. During significant snow storms, the streets on each route are plowed in sequence and made passable as quickly as possible. While it is snowing, the snowplow operators are instructed to "open up" each route. This means that they will keep at least one lane plowed so necessary police, fire and ambulance services can reach each resident at all times. When the storm abates, the plow operators "widen out" all streets by pushing the accumulated snow back towards the curb line and clearing the intersections. It is important that the operators push the snow back towards the curb line because if we experience an especially snowy winter, the snow will begin to limit the width of the roadway and compromise safety. To avoid shoveling your property several times, residents should wait to clear their driveways until the plowing operation is finished (generally within two hours after the snow has stopped falling). Some residents prefer to clear snow periodically to avoid having to move a lot of snow at one time.

TOWN SIDEWALKS & MUNICIPAL PARKING LOTS

When there is a significant snow storm, the Town of Belmont will plow sidewalks adjacent to public property as soon as possible. At times, it may be necessary to remove snow from business districts and municipal parking lots. When snow removal is scheduled or in progress, temporary "Snow Removal—No Parking" signs will be posted.

Employee Spotlight January 2026

Ahmet Caus

Assistant Town Engineer / Stormwater Coordinator

Each month, Town Administrator, Patrice Garvin highlights a single employee whose hard work and dedication exemplifies what it means to be an employee for the Town of Belmont. The Employee Spotlight Series shines a light on incredible employee achievements and provides an opportunity to introduce and recognize Belmont Town Employees throughout the Belmont Community.

For the past seven months, Ahmet Caus has been helping keep Belmont's infrastructure running smoothly in his role as Assistant Town Engineer and Stormwater Coordinator. From overseeing construction projects to reviewing stormwater systems, Ahmet's work touches many corners of the community—often behind the scenes, but always with a clear impact.

A typical day for Ahmet depends on the season. During construction months, he spends time checking in with contractors to ensure projects are on schedule and meeting town standards. He also conducts stormwater reviews, prepares contracts and plans, and develops outlines that keep the Engineering Department aligned on procedures and priorities. The variety is part of what he enjoys most. As Ahmet puts it, "You never really know what you are in for. It keeps you on your toes."

Ahmet came to Belmont after working in similar roles for the City of Medford and the Town of Arlington. Looking for a new challenge, he was drawn to the opportunity in Belmont and recruited by Town Engineer Wayne Chouinard, a former colleague. Since joining, he has embraced both the professional demands and the collaborative culture of the town.

Engineering has long been part of Ahmet's life. Inspired by his father, a machinist, he was immersed in the world of engineering from a young age. With a natural aptitude for math and physics and a strong interest in construction, he pursued civil engineering as a way to make a positive impact on local communities. Whether working on water, sewer, stormwater, or accessibility projects, Ahmet appreciates the "mixed bag" that keeps his work intellectually engaging.

His path, however, was not without challenges. After graduating from UMass Lowell in 2013, Ahmet began his career as a construction superintendent, applying his degree where he could while building experience. That perseverance paid off, eventually leading him into engineering roles and now toward his professional engineer licensure. His advice to those starting out is simple and grounded: patience, perseverance, and hard work matter.

Among his accomplishments in Belmont, Ahmet is especially proud of two conceptual design projects that are currently in the works. One is the Concord Avenue jug handle parking lot, where a short-notice study he conducted helped double available parking near the new rink. The other is a traffic calming project around the Beech Street Center, designed to improve pedestrian safety in an area with heavy elderly and adolescent foot traffic through enhanced crosswalks, high-visibility signage, and speed tables.

What Ahmet values most in his day-to-day work is the people. The Engineering Department's small, five-person team works closely together, and he credits the DPW and Water and Sewer teams as well. "Everyone is respectful and takes their job seriously," he says—a combination he believes is key to effective municipal work.



Ahmet stays motivated by the knowledge that residents rely on his work. With evolving technology, codes, and regulations, he enjoys adapting and learning, often drawing insight from more experienced town engineers. That sense of service is deeply personal for him. His greatest inspirations are his parents, who immigrated to the United States from Bosnia when Ahmet was five years old, fleeing civil war and building a life through hard work and determination.

Outside of work, Ahmet enjoys hiking and spending time outdoors—a hobby encouraged by his fiancée, Cristina. He is also a dedicated Boston sports fan and tries to attend games whenever possible.

Through diligence, teamwork, and a commitment to serving the community, Ahmet Caus continues to play an important role in shaping and safeguarding Belmont's infrastructure—one project at a time.

Community Announcements

Belmont Fire Department

Click on the image below for more details...



Free Lifesaving Skills

CPR/ Narcan Administration/ Stop the Bleed

American Heart Association CPR Certification

In addition to CPR certification students will learn how to properly administer Naloxone (Narcan) and ways to control life-threatening traumatic bleeding using simple techniques and equipment

The [Belmont Fire Department](#) is conducting a free lifesaving skills course involving CPR, Narcan Administration, and Stop the Bleed training. Students will not only become CPR-certified, but will also learn how to administer Naloxone (Narcan) and control life-threatening traumatic bleeding through simple techniques and equipment. The training will be held on Monday, February 2nd from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Belmont Fire Headquarters, 299 Trapelo Road.

Email fireadmin@belmont-ma.gov to sign up!

Winter Newsletters

Click on either image below to dive into a newsletter...

B SENIOR NOTES
BEECH STREET CENTER
 266 BEECH STREET • BELMONT, MA 02478

▪ **JANUARY 2026** ▪

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Flip through the [Beech Street Senior Center](#) and [Belmont Recreation](#) newsletters to read more about upcoming community programs and events!

Belmont Recreation Teen Committee

Our [Belmont Recreation Teen Committee](#)—made up of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders from Belmont—decided to organize a toy drive for this Holiday season.

The response was incredible. The teens collected more than 250 toy donations, with more still coming in. The turnout was so strong that they had to schedule an early drop-off to the Home for Little Wanderers in Roslindale—an organization that provides counseling and therapeutic services for low-income and at-risk children and families—just to make room for additional donations. It’s been a truly impressive charitable effort led entirely by our youth, with support from the Recreation Department.



If a teen is interested in volunteering, please call the Rec Dept at 617-993-2760.

COMMENTS FROM THE [TOWN CLERK](#) – JANUARY 2026

2026 ANNUAL LOCAL CENSUS – Town census forms will be mailed to every Belmont residence in January. Please sign and submit your census as soon as possible. All residents should be listed – adults, children, citizens and non-citizens. We will process all returns to keep our voting list updated and provide current information to the 911 system. If you receive a census form addressed to someone other than your household, please do not open it - return it to our drop box or by mail. If you are new to town, you may receive a form addressed to “current resident” please complete and submit. If you do not receive a form by early February, you may come into Town Hall and request a form to file your household census information.

DOG & CAT LICENSING – All Belmont pet licenses expire December 31st. Owners must license their dogs and cats between January 1 and March 15, 2026 to avoid additional fees and penalties. Online renewal is available for pets previously licensed in Belmont that have current rabies certificates on file. First time licenses for new pets require a paper application and copy of current rabies vaccination – submit by mail, to our drop box (at base of steps into Town Hall), or in person. Pet license application forms will be included in the January census mailing.

2026 BELMONT ELECTIONS –

April 7, 2026 – Annual Local Election

September 1, 2026 – State Primary

November 3, 2026 – State Election

Precinct polling places will be open 7am-8pm on Election Days. Vote By Mail (VBM) will be available for all elections (2026 application will be included in local census mailing – all VBM requests expire December 31st). In Person Early Voting at Town Hall will be available for the September & November elections. Please go to www.voteinma.com for information and services about voting – registration verification, registration changes, request a Vote By Mail ballot, precinct polling locations, etc. For information about becoming a Belmont election worker [click here](#).

Have you ever thought of running for elected office in Belmont? If you're a registered voter, there are many opportunities open to you in 2026!

We encourage all registered voters to consider running for elected office. The Town of Belmont's elected government consists of an Executive branch, comprised of seven independently elected multi-member Boards, Commissions and Committees with one elected full-time employee (Town Clerk) and a Legislative branch called the Representative Town Meeting, comprised of one Moderator, and 288 elected Town Meeting Members (36 from each of our eight voting precincts).