

# Marblehead



**2025 Town Report**

*On the occasion of the celebration of the  
US Marine Corps' 250th anniversary, the  
USMC Silent Drill Team paused after its silent  
precision exhibition at Fort Sewall to take a  
commemorative photograph on Fort Beach in parade  
rest formation – the beach and our iconic harbor  
marking the spot in honor of Marblehead's shared  
maritime and amphibious heritage with the Marines.*

*Cover photo courtesy of  
Capt. Ford Higgins Platoon Commander of the  
US Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon*

# **ANNUAL TOWN REPORT OF THE YEAR 2025**

## **MARBLEHEAD, MASSACHUSETTS**



### ***Town of Marblehead Land Acknowledgment***

*We acknowledge that the land on which we reside, now known as the Town of Marblehead, is the ancestral homeland of the Naumkeag Band of the Massachusetts and Pawtucket tribes. They lived here under the leadership of the Great Sachem Nanepashemet. Since time immemorial, the Naumkeag people maintained this land and surrounding water with the utmost respect, preserving it for future generations and treating it as sacred ground for the burial of their dead. They had an organized and thriving community before the arrival of European settlers. The Naumkeag people suffered great loss of life during King Philip's War and the small pox plagues, and the surviving members were dispossessed of the land. Although we are unaware of any Naumkeag descendants living in Marblehead today, we honor the Naumkeag people of the Massachusetts and Pawtucket tribes, past and present, as the original stewards of this land and pledge to include their history in the history of our Town.*

***Article 32, 2022 Annual Town Meeting***

*Marblehead 2025 Annual Town Report is available online at [marbleheadma.gov](http://marbleheadma.gov)*

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We are committed to ensuring that Marblehead is a respectful, supportive, welcoming, and inclusive community for its many diverse citizens and visitors.

## **SELECT BOARD**

The Select Board is comprised of five members serving staggered three-year terms. Members of the Board at the start of 2025 were Erin M. Noonan, who served as Chair, Dan Fox, M.C. Moses Grader, Bret T. Murray, and Alexa J. Singer. During the June 2025 annual election, one seat was open as Bret T. Murray concluded his term of service, and James R. Zisson was elected to a three-year term on the Select Board. Following the election, the Board reorganized and elected Dan Fox as Chair. The Board generally meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month and as needed at other times.

During 2025, the Select Board focused on advancing the Town's financial stability, modernizing operations, supporting critical infrastructure investments, and addressing long-term policy and planning challenges facing the community.

A significant portion of the Board's work centered on financial management and budget development. The Board reviewed and approved the FY2026 operating budgets for departments under its jurisdiction and worked toward the development of a balanced budget in the face of ongoing structural financial challenges. The Board advanced Town Meeting warrant articles addressing capital needs, financial policies, and operational adjustments, and supported multiple collective bargaining agreements to provide fair and sustainable compensation for Town employees. The Board also authorized borrowing for capital projects and approved contracts and change orders necessary to maintain and improve municipal facilities and infrastructure.

The Board undertook a number of governance and policy initiatives throughout the year. This included the approval and submission of Town Meeting warrant articles addressing administrative and financial policies, zoning matters, and operational improvements. The Board also supported legislative initiatives, including measures to continue remote and hybrid public meetings, and advanced local policy updates to improve procurement practices and financial management. In addition, the Board continued discussions regarding long-term governance matters, including continuation of a Town Charter process.

In the area of planning and development, the Board engaged in significant work related to zoning and compliance with the MBTA Communities Act (3A). This included coordination with planning staff and consultants, review of proposed zoning amendments, and preparation for Town Meeting consideration. The Board also

supported the advancement of the Town's Comprehensive Master Plan and other long-range planning efforts.

The Select Board authorized and supported numerous capital and infrastructure projects throughout the year. Notably, the Board advanced the Marblehead Rail Trail project, including continued construction and coordination efforts on the Swampscott Branch corridor and progress toward future phases connecting key segments of the community. The Town also advanced design and permitting for multiple Rail Trail segments and achieved the 25% design milestone for the Village Street Bridge project, which includes an accessible connection to the Rail Trail and is currently estimated at approximately \$5.25 million for construction.

In addition, the Board supported continued implementation of the Town's Complete Streets Prioritization Plan. During 2025, the Town made measurable progress on a number of priority projects, including Rail Trail upgrades and crossings (Priority Items #1 and #2), ADA-compliant curb ramp installations on key corridors such as Atlantic Avenue, Tedesco Street, Humphrey Street, and Lafayette Street (Priority Items #12, #14, #18, and #21), and enhanced pedestrian safety through the installation of rectangular rapid flashing beacons. The Town also advanced sidewalk repair efforts to address tree-root damage (Priority Item #5), expanded traffic calming measures through additional speed feedback signage (Priority Item #24), and initiated planning and feasibility analysis for bicycle accommodations across several major corridors, including Lafayette Street, Atlantic Avenue, and Humphrey Street (Priority Items #8, #10, #11, and #13). These efforts continue to improve accessibility, safety, and connectivity for all users of the Town's transportation network.

The Board also supported the Marblehead Municipal Shipyard Resilience Improvements Project, advancing permitting and design efforts supported by more than \$800,000 in coastal resilience grant funding secured over recent years. Additional investments included ongoing improvements to parks and recreational facilities, roadway and sidewalk upgrades, stormwater management projects, and continued work on key municipal buildings such as the Mary Alley Building and the Community Center.

The Board also prioritized modernization of Town operations and financial systems. A major milestone in 2025 was the successful implementation of the Town's new enterprise resource planning (ERP) system, Munis, which replaced legacy financial systems and significantly enhanced financial management, reporting, and transparency. This effort was complemented by continued expansion of OpenGov for

procurement and the use of ClearGov for budgeting and fiscal transparency, including enhancements to public-facing financial reporting tools.

The Select Board also supported the continued modernization and professionalization of the Town's procurement function. The Procurement Office ensured that all purchasing activities were conducted in compliance with applicable State and Federal laws while maintaining open, fair, and competitive processes. The Town expanded participation in consortium purchasing opportunities and statewide contracts, resulting in cost efficiencies and improved purchasing outcomes. A key initiative during 2025 was the full transition to the OpenGov online procurement platform, through which 100% of formal bids are now issued electronically. This transition streamlined procurement operations, reduced administrative burden, expanded vendor participation, and improved transparency for both residents and vendors. The Board also welcomed Allison Jenkins as Chief Procurement Officer and looks forward to her continued contributions in strengthening the Town's procurement practices and advancing operational efficiency. The Board also recognizes the important role of all the Town staff in supporting this transition, including the assistance provided during the transition of the Procurement function.

The Board continued to prioritize public safety and operational effectiveness. Actions included support for public safety staffing and leadership, approval of policies to improve emergency response operations, and the implementation of a flexible snow emergency policy to replace the traditional overnight parking ban. This approach allows Town staff to respond more effectively to weather events while maintaining safe conditions on public ways.

The Board also supported numerous community events, including the Fourth of July celebrations, Festival of Arts activities, road races, and other cultural events, through the approval of licenses and use of public spaces. Notably, the Town hosted a Marine Corps Birthday celebration at Fort Sewall, recognizing the long-standing connection between Marblehead and the United States Marine Corps and drawing strong community participation.

In its role as Licensing Authority, the Select Board approved and renewed a wide range of licenses, including alcohol licenses, common victualler licenses, entertainment licenses, and other regulatory permits. The Select Board renewed and/or issued the following licenses concerning its licensed serving establishments: Annual All Alcoholic Restaurant (15); Annual All Alcoholic – Package Store (5); Annual All Alcoholic Fraternal Club (2); Annual All Alcoholic Club (3); Seasonal All Alcoholic Club (2); Annual Wine & Malt – Package (1); Annual Wine & Malt



Restaurant (7 Day) (5); Farmer Series Pouring Permit (1); Carry-In Beverage Licenses (5); Annual Common Victualler (40); Annual Entertainment (16) and Sunday Entertainment (14); Second Hand Dealers (3); Automatic Amusement Devices (14); Annual Auto Class II (1); Annual Lodging (3); and Movie Theatre (1).

The Board also made numerous appointments to Town boards, committees, and key positions, helping to ensure the continued effective operation of local government. These included appointments to standing committees, special committees, and advisory groups, as well as personnel actions to fill critical roles within the organization.

Throughout the year, the Select Board supported community, cultural, and civic initiatives by approving use of Town facilities and public spaces for events and gatherings. The Board also issued proclamations recognizing important causes and contributions within the community, reinforcing the Town's strong civic culture.

The Select Board recognizes the service of Harry C. Christensen, Jr., a long-serving member of the Board of Selectmen and a dedicated participant in numerous Town boards, committees, and civic activities. A highly decorated United States Marine Corps veteran, including receipt of the Silver Star for gallantry in action and two Purple Hearts, Mr. Christensen devoted more than two decades of service to the Board of Selectmen and contributed meaningfully to the Marblehead Historical Commission, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2005, and as Shellfish Constable. His commitment to public service, deep knowledge of the Town's history, and generous dedication of time and expertise left a lasting impact on the Marblehead community.

The Select Board also recognizes the efforts and dedication of Town employees, volunteers, and residents who contribute to the success of the community. The Board wishes to thank Thatcher W. Kezer III, Town Administrator, Allison Jenkins, Chief Procurement Officer, and Kyle Wiley, Administrative Aide, for their assistance and support in the Select Board office throughout the year. The Board also extends its best wishes and sincere thanks to all the citizens of the Town of Marblehead, whom we faithfully and conscientiously strive to represent.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dan Fox, Chair  
M. C. Moses Grader  
Erin M. Noonan  
Alexa J. Singer  
James R. Zisson



**TOWN CLERK**

**Town of Marblehead  
2025 Town Meeting Warrant**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
County of Essex, ss  
to Any Constable in the Town of Marblehead  
Greeting:

You are hereby required and directed in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to warn and give notice to the inhabitants of Marblehead, qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Marblehead Veterans Middle School Auditorium, Duncan Sleigh Square, 217 Pleasant Street, Marblehead, MA, on Monday, the fifth day of May next A. D. 2025 (it being the first Monday in May) at 7:00 o'clock in the afternoon to act on the following articles in the Warrant for said meeting as follows:

**ARTICLE 1: Articles in Numerical Order**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt an order requiring articles in the Warrant to be taken up in their numerical order, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 2: Reports of Town Officers and Committees**

To receive the report of the Town Accountant, the reports of the Town Officers, and special committees, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 3: Consent Articles**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the following consent articles:

**a. Assume Liability**

That the Town will assume liability in the manner provided by Section 29 of Chapter 91 of the General Laws, for all damages that may be incurred by work to be performed by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for the improvement, development, maintenance and protection of tidal and non-tidal rivers and streams, harbors, tidewaters, foreshores and shores along a public beach in accordance with Section 11 of Chapter 91 of the General Laws and authorize the Select Board to execute and deliver a bond of indemnity therefore to the Commonwealth, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**b. Accept Trust Property**

That the Town will vote to accept certain trust property, gifts or grants to be administered by the Town or modify the terms thereof, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by Town Counsel.

**c. Lease Town Property**

That the Town will vote to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to let or lease such land, buildings or structures owned by the Town on such terms as they may determine, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**d. Contracts in Excess of 3 Years**

That the Town will authorize the Select Board, pursuant to G. L. c. 30B § 12, to enter into contracts in the best interest of the Town in excess of three (3) years but not more than ten (10) years, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**e. Financial Assistance for Conservation**

That the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission and other proper officers of the Town to apply for financial assistance from public and private sources to be expended by the Conservation Commission for the purchase of vacant land and any other purpose, authorized by Section 8C of Chapter 40 of the General Laws as amended, or to reimburse the Town for sums of money expended for such purposes, or both, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Conservation Commission, or take any other action relative thereto

**ARTICLE 4: Unpaid Accounts**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to provide for the payment of any unpaid accounts brought forward from previous years, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 5: Departmental Revolving Funds**

To see if the Town will vote to fix the maximum amount that may be spent during FY 2026 beginning July 1, 2025, for the revolving funds established in the town bylaws for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in accordance with G.L. c. 44 § 53E ½, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 6: Purchase of Equipment of Several Departments**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate any sums of money for the purchase and/or lease of equipment for several departments of the Town, and to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 7: Lease Purchase**

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c. 44 §21C, to authorize the Select Board to enter into lease purchase agreements for the lease and purchase of vehicles and certain capital for a period of time not in excess of the useful life of the property to be procured on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deem in the best interest of the Town; and to authorize the Select Board to take all actions necessary to administer and implement such agreement and to fund said lease purchase through an annual appropriation in the Capital Budget, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 8: Capital Improvements for Public Buildings**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to existing Town or School buildings, infrastructure, and the purchase of necessary equipment including computer hardware and software to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 9: Walls and Fences**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction and reconstruction of walls and fences for the protection of highways and property, including engineering services in connection therewith; to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, any land or easements necessary therefore; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 10: Stormwater Construction:**

That the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or otherwise fund a sum of money for the construction, reconstruction, permitting and maintenance of storm sewers for surface drainage, including engineering services in connection therewith, and for general Drain Department purposes, including the purchase or lease of equipment, and to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, any land or easements necessary therefore, and to raise the

money for such purposes by the issue of bonds or notes or in any other manner, to be expended by the Department of Public Works, or to take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 11: Consent Articles, Water and Sewer**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the following consent articles:

**a. Water Department Construction**

That the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to be expended by the Water and Sewer Commission for the construction, reconstruction and extending of water mains, replacement of water meters, appurtenances, engineering, consultants, surveys including revenue studies and other general Water Department purposes, and to authorize the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise any lands or easements necessary.

**b. Sewer Department Construction**

That the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to be expended by the Water and Sewer Commission for the construction or reconstruction of sewers for sanitary purposes and for sewerage disposal, pump stations, original pumping equipment, metering equipment, safety equipment, replacement of said equipment, engineering, consultants, surveys, including revenue studies and other general Sewer Department purposes, and to authorize the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise any lands or easements necessary.

**c. Water and Sewer Commission Claims**

That the Town will vote to authorize the Water and Sewer Commission and the Select Board acting jointly to compromise any claims for damages or suits pending against the Town of Marblehead on account of acts which may have occurred during the construction of the water or sewer systems, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners

**ARTICLE 12: Proposed Reclassification and Pay Schedule (Administrative)**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 121 of the Bylaws, Classification and Wage Salary Plan, by changing certain job titles where indicated and reclassify certain positions in the Administrative Pay Schedule; to strike out the pay schedule as it relates to Administrative personnel, substitute in place thereof the new pay schedules and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said new pay schedules effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 13: Proposed Pay Schedule and Reclassification (Traffic Supervisors)**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 121 of the Bylaws, Classification and Wage Salary Plan, by changing certain job titles where indicated and reclassify certain positions in the Traffic Supervisors Pay Schedule; to waive the pay schedule as it relates to Traffic Supervisor personnel, substitute in place thereof the new pay schedules and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said new pay schedules effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 14: Proposed Reclassification and Pay Schedule (Seasonal and Temporary Personnel)**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 121 of the Bylaws, Classification and Wage Salary Plan, by changing certain job titles where indicated and reclassify certain positions in the Seasonal and Temporary Personnel Pay Schedules; strike out the pay schedules as they relate to seasonal and temporary personnel, substitute in place thereof the new pay schedules and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said new pay schedules effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 15: Compensation – Town Officers**

To see if the Town will vote to revise the compensation of the Town Clerk as the Town by vote may determine and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said revision effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 16: Ratification of Salary Bylaw**

To see if the Town will vote to ratify certain actions taken by the Compensation Committee under Chapter 43 Section 3(e) as last amended and amend the classification table by reclassifying certain positions, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Compensation Committee.

**ARTICLE 17: Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the gross operating and maintenance budget of the Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, and appropriate a sum of money for the Town's assessment of the same, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 18: Available Funds Appropriate to Reduce Tax Rate**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the free cash balance in the hands of the Town Treasurer, including any surplus or part of surplus in the Electric Light Department for use of the Assessors in setting the tax rate, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 19: Collective Bargaining (Police)**

To see if the Town will, pursuant to G.L. c. 150E § 7, vote to appropriate the sums of money sufficient to fund the collective bargaining agreement for fiscal year 2025 with MASS C.O.P., AFL-CIO, Local 437, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 20: Collective Bargaining (IUE/CWA – Local 1776)**

To see if the Town will, pursuant to G.L. c. 150E § 7, vote to appropriate the sums of money sufficient to fund the collective bargaining agreement for fiscal year 2025 with Local 1776 of the IUE/CWA, AFL-CIO, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 21: Collective Bargaining (Fire)**

To see if the Town will, pursuant to G.L. c. 150E § 7, vote to appropriate the sums of money sufficient to fund the collective bargaining agreement for fiscal year 2026 with the International Association of Firefighters AFL/CIO CLC Local 2043, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 22: Expenses of Several Departments**

To see what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriations from Federal Revenue Sharing moneys, to defray the necessary and usual expenses of the several departments of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 23: Amend Zoning Bylaw - 3A Multi-Family Overlay District**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw and map to adopt a 3A Multi-Family Overlay District by adding a new provision which reads as follows:

ARTICLE 200-43.

A. Purpose. The purposes of 3A Multi-family Overlay District (3A) are:

- (1) To lower the permitting barrier for multi-family housing and to ensure compliance with the MBTA Communities Act, MGL c. 40A § 3A;

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- (2) To allow as of right multi-family housing types in a variety of overlay zoning districts; and
- (3) To ensure high-quality site planning, architecture and landscape design that is consistent with the visual character and identity of the Town of Marblehead.

B. Scope and authority. 3A Districts, pursuant to MGL Ch. 40A sec 3A, shall be deemed to overlay the parcels as shown on the Zoning Map of the Town of Marblehead, as amended. At the option of the owner, development of land within a 3A District may be undertaken by means of a plan approval pursuant to the zoning controls set forth in this § 200-43 or by complying with all applicable zoning controls set forth in the Zoning Bylaw of the Town of Marblehead (underlying zoning). Development projects proposed pursuant to § 200-43 shall be subject to all other applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

C. Establishment and delineation of Multifamily Overlay Districts (3A). There are three districts identified as 3A Overlay Districts: Pleasant Street District, Broughton Road District and Tioga Way District. The boundaries of the three districts are delineated as 3A Pleasant Street District, 3A Broughton Road District and 3A Tioga Way District on the Zoning Map.

D. Definitions. All definitions are as they appear in § 200-7 and § 20-44D of the Marblehead Zoning Bylaw in effect as of the date of the adoption of this bylaw. To the extent that there is any conflict between § 200-44 and MGL section 3A the latter shall control.

E. Permitted uses. The following uses shall be permitted in the following districts as-of-right upon plan approval as set forth in section 200-44-K(5), and at residential densities specified in Table E, Table of Dimensional and Density Requirements:

TABLE E  
Permitted Uses

| Residence Uses      | 3A Broughton Road District | 3A Tioga Way District | 3A Pleasant Street District |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Multifamily project | Yes                        | Yes                   | Yes                         |
| Mixed-use project   | No                         | Yes                   | Yes                         |

1. Nonresidential uses permitted as-of-right pursuant to the underlying zoning are permitted pursuant to this Bylaw as part of a mixed-use development project.



F. Prohibited uses or activities in the 3A.

- (1) Any use prohibited by the underlying zoning in effect as of the date of adoption of this Bylaw.
- (2) Any use not listed in § 200-43E of this Bylaw is expressly prohibited.
- (3) Age restricted housing.
- (4) Any unit smaller than 900 square feet in size unless approved as an Accessory Dwelling Unit.

G. Dimensional and other requirements.

- (1) New buildings within the 3A shall be subject to the bulk, dimensional and density requirements in Table G, Table of Dimensional and Density Requirements:

Table G

| District                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Min. Lot Area<br>(sq. ft.) | Max.<br>Residential<br>Density<br>(units/ acre) | Min. Frontage<br>(Linear ft.) | Min. Front<br>Setback<br>(Linear ft.) | Min. Side<br>Setback<br>(Linear ft.) | Min. Rear<br>Setback<br>(linear ft.) | Min. Open<br>Area (%) | Max. Height<br>(ft.) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 3A Broughton Rd                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 7500                       | 20                                              | 35                            | 6                                     | (1)                                  | (1)                                  | (2)                   | 35                   |
| 3A Tioga Way                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 6000                       | 20                                              | 35                            | 6                                     | (1)                                  | (1)                                  | (2)                   | 35                   |
| 3A Pleasant Street                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 5400                       | 20                                              | 35                            | N                                     | (1)                                  | (1)                                  | (2)                   | 35                   |
| <div>NOTES:</div> <div>N — None</div> <div>(1) Except as to any boundary abutting any other business district, six feet; as to any boundary abutting any residential district, nine feet.<br/>May be reduced at the discretion of the approving authority.</div> <div>(2) One square foot of open land area (in addition to the areas of required parking spaces for such lot) for each two square feet of gross floor area.</div> |                            |                                                 |                               |                                       |                                      |                                      |                       |                      |

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- (2) Building renovation. Renovation of existing buildings may maintain existing building footprints and may only expand such footprints insofar as such expansion is in compliance with the required dimensional requirements for new buildings.
- (3) Fractional units. When the application of the allowable densities specified in Table G, Table of Dimensional and Density Requirements, results in a number that includes a fraction, the fraction shall be rounded up to the next whole number if the fraction is 0.5 or more. If the result includes a fraction below 0.5, the fraction shall be rounded down to the next whole number.
- (4) Signage. Commercial signage proposed within a mixed-use development project shall be subject to the procedures and requirements of the Marblehead Sign Bylaw, Chapter 148 of the Marblehead General Bylaws, in effect as of the date of adoption of this Bylaw.

### H. Off-Street parking.

- (1) Off-street parking in the districts shall be provided to meet or exceed the following minimum requirements:

Table H  
Off Street Parking Requirements

| Use                                | Pleasant 3A               | Broughton | Tioga                      |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| Dwelling unit (2 bedrooms)         | 2.0 spaces                | 2.0       | 2.0                        |
| Dwelling unit (3 or more bedrooms) | 2.0 spaces                | 2.0       | 2.0                        |
| Nonresidential use                 | 1.0 space/500 square feet | n/a       | 1.0 space/ 300 square feet |

- (2) Fractional spaces. When the application of the minimum required parking standards in this § 200-44H results in a number that includes a fraction, the fraction shall be rounded up to the next whole number if the fraction is 0.5 or more. If the result includes a fraction below 0.5, the fraction shall be rounded down to the next whole number.
- (3) Location of parking. Any surface parking lot shall be located at the side or rear of a building, relative to any public right-of-way or public open space. Subsurface parking that requires blasting may be disallowed if the approving authority finds, based on the results of a geotechnical analysis, that it is not possible to mitigate any extraordinary adverse impact of blasting on nearby properties.

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- (4) The approving authority may grant a plan approval making such modifications in the parking standards or prescribe safeguards and conditions as it shall warrant appropriate, provided that it finds that it is impractical to meet the standards and that such modifications are appropriate by reason of the proposed use and will not result in or worsen parking or traffic problems in or in proximity to the 3A. The approving authority may impose conditions of use or occupancy appropriate to such modifications.
- (5) The approving authority may require additional visitor parking beyond the maximum required spaces per unit if deemed appropriate given the design, layout, use and/or density of the proposed development project.
- (6) Construction standards. Each parking space shall be at least nine feet wide and 18 feet long and shall be designed with appropriate means of vehicular access to a street as well as maneuvering areas. Access and maneuvering areas shall not be obstructed or used for the parking of motor vehicles. Parking shall be designed and constructed to comply with all applicable disability access requirements including but not limited to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (AAB).

I. Design standards. To ensure that new development shall be of high quality, all applications shall comply with the Town of Marblehead Smart Growth Overlay District design standards as approved by DHCD on May 1, 2009. The design standards shall govern the issuance of plan approvals for development projects within the 3A Districts. All applicants shall file an application with the plan approval authority for development projects within 3A Districts. The physical character of development within the 3A Districts shall comply with such design standards. In the event of any conflict between this Bylaw and the design standards, this Bylaw shall govern and prevail.

J. Affordable housing. Affordable Housing Requirements shall apply to any development under § 200-43 of this Bylaw. The affordability requirements are those allowed in the Compliance Guidelines for Chapter 40A, Section 3A: For all developments of more than six units, a minimum of ten percent (10%) of the dwelling units shall be affordable, and the cap on the income of families or individuals who are eligible to occupy the affordable units is not less than 80 percent of area median income, or such other applicable Guidelines as EOHLC shall issue.

K. Administration. The Planning Board shall act as the approving authority and shall adopt and file with the Town Clerk administrative rules relative to the application requirements and contents for plan review. The plan review process encompasses the

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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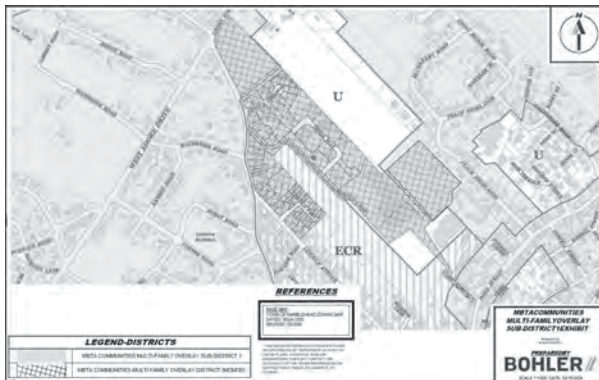
following, as may be supplemented by the administrative rules in paragraph K Administration § 200-44 Smart Growth of this zoning bylaw.

**L. Date of effect.** The effective date of this Bylaw shall be the date on which such adoption is voted upon by Town Meeting pursuant to the requirements of MGL c. 40A § 3A provided, however, that an applicant may not proceed with construction pursuant to this Bylaw prior to the receipt of final approval of this Bylaw and accompanying Zoning Map by the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General.

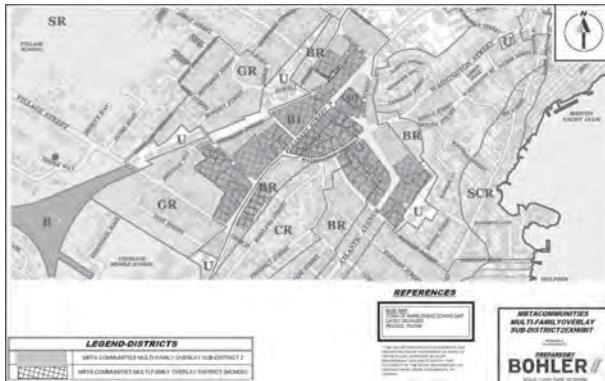
**M. Severability.** The provisions of this section are severable. If any provision of this section is held invalid, the other provisions shall not be affected but shall remain in full force.

And

To amend the Marblehead zoning map by adding three Multifamily Overlay Districts (3A). There are three districts identified as 3A; Pleasant Street District; Broughton Road District and Tioga Way District. The boundaries of the three districts are delineated as 3A Pleasant Street District, 3A Broughton Road District and 3A Tioga Way District as show below:



## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025



Or take any other action relative to. Sponsored by the Select Board.

### ARTICLE 24: Amend Zoning Bylaw - Accessory Dwelling Units

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Marblehead Zoning Bylaws Accessory dwelling units, as follows (underline and bold is new language and ~~cross out~~ is removed language) and change all the rubrics accordingly.

Part A:

§ 200 Article IX, § 200-42. Accessory dwelling units.

A. Purpose. This section authorizing the provision of accessory dwelling units is intended to:

- (1) Increase the number of small dwelling rental units available in the Town;
- (2) Increase the number of affordable rental units available in Town;

- (3) Increase the range of choice of housing accommodations to meet the needs of households;
- (4) To increase the supply of housing and the diversity of housing options, in response to demographic changes such as smaller households and older households;
- (5) To encourage the efficient use of the Town's housing supply while preserving the character of the town's neighborhoods;
- (6) To maximize privacy, dignity, and independent living among family members preserving domestic family bonds as well as to protect the stability, property values, and the residential character of the neighborhood.

B. General requirements.

- (1). Accessory dwellings units shall only be permitted in a zoning district that permits single-family residential dwellings.**
- (2).** No more than one accessory dwelling unit shall be permitted for each principal dwelling unit.
- (3).** Accessory dwellings units are only allowed in or as an accessory to single-family dwellings.
- (4).** Accessory dwelling units are allowed within or attached to an existing single-family structure or detached accessory building with a permanent foundation and that is accessory to existing single-family structure.
- ~~(5). At least one owner of the residence in which the accessory dwelling unit is created shall reside in one of the dwelling units, either the principal or accessory unit created therein, as a principal place of residence. For the purpose of this section, the "owner" shall be one or more individuals who hold title to the property, or a purchase and sales agreement and for whom the dwelling shall be the primary residence as evidenced by voter registration, tax return or other documentation demonstrating primary residence. Owner occupancy is required for an accessory dwelling unit to be permitted.~~
- ~~(6). The accessory dwelling unit may not be sold or transferred separate and apart from the principal dwelling to which it is an accessory use. The principal dwelling and the accessory dwelling unit shall remain in common or single ownership and shall not be severed in ownership.~~
- (5).** Short-term rentals, as defined, are prohibited in both the accessory and principal dwelling units.

C. Exterior appearance and size. The accessory dwelling unit shall be designed to maintain the appearance and essential character of a one-family dwelling with accessory structures, subject further to the following conditions and requirements:

- (1). Where two or more entrances exist on the front facade of a dwelling, one entrance shall appear to be the principal entrance and other entrances appear to be secondary.
- (2). All stairways to the accessory dwelling unit above the first floor shall be located on the rear or side of the dwelling.
- (3). The accessory dwelling unit shall not contain in excess of ~~1,000~~ **900** square feet of ~~habitable space~~ **gross floor area** or exceed 50% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is less.
- (4). The accessory dwelling unit shall not contain more than two bedrooms.
- (5). The accessory dwelling unit shall meet all regulations of the Board of Health.
- (6). The accessory dwelling unit shall be clearly subordinate in use, size and design to the principal dwelling.

D. Procedure. **For all detached accessory dwelling units or accessory dwelling units which require a change in footprint or height and which are attached to the principal dwelling, shall require Site Plan Review by the Planning Board in accordance with section 200-38 hereof and which the Planning Board shall approve or approve with conditions but shall not deny.** ~~shall be the special permit granting authority (SPGA) for accessory dwelling units. The SPGA shall determine whether to grant, grant with conditions or deny special permits in accordance with the standards in Subsection D(2) below, if an accessory dwelling unit is proposed which is:~~ **Section 200-30.B(1) of the Bylaw shall not apply to any accessory dwelling unit as to use but shall apply in the event of a non-conforming dimensional standard.**

- ~~• Within an existing single family structure or detached accessory building; or~~
- ~~• An addition to an existing single family structure or detached accessory building or a new accessory structure.~~

**(1) Submission requirements:**

~~(a) A completed application for an accessory dwelling unit must be submitted to the Planning Board.~~

~~(b) A certified plot plan of the proposed accessory dwelling unit, the principal dwelling where it is to be located and all floor plans and elevations.~~

~~(c) All plans shall be drawn to scale and identify the existing structure and proposed modifications to create the accessory dwelling unit.~~

~~(d) A description of the units, including number of bedrooms, size and layout.~~



~~(e) A notarized letter stating that the owner will occupy one of the dwelling units on the premises as the owner's primary residence.~~

~~(2) Standards for special permit for ADUs.~~

~~(a) Architectural features and design are compatible with the existing neighborhood.~~

~~(b) Vehicular and pedestrian movement is safe and convenient (parking is provided or adequate in neighborhood, curb cuts do not exceed allowed).~~

~~(c) Adverse effects on abutters are minimized (limited or no impact from the street; and privacy).~~

~~(d) In order to encourage the development of housing units for disabled and handicapped individuals and persons with limited mobility, the SPGA may allow reasonable deviation from the stated conditions where necessary to install features that facilitate access and mobility for disabled persons.~~

~~(e) The Planning Board may impose any conditions deemed necessary to achieve the purposes of this bylaw, including dimensional relief.~~

E. Additional conditions and requirements for all accessory dwelling units.

- (1) The accessory dwelling unit must be capable of being discontinued as a separate dwelling unit without demolition of any structural component of the principal dwelling.
- (2) There shall be no occupancy of the accessory dwelling unit until the Building Department has issued a certificate of occupancy certifying that the principal dwelling and accessory dwelling unit are in compliance with all applicable health and building and fire codes.
- (3) The building permit/certificate of occupancy shall be revoked upon determination by the Building Inspector that any condition imposed by the Town has not been fulfilled.
- (4) By filing the application for a building permit for an accessory dwelling unit, all owners consent to an inspection upon reasonable notice by the Building Inspector to ensure compliance with all terms of this section.
- (5) Parking for accessory dwelling units there shall be one additional parking space per accessory dwelling unit which is in addition to what is required for the principal use. Except if the ADU is located within ½ mile form a commuter rail station, subway station, ferry terminal or bus station no parking is required. A bus station is defined as a location serving as a point of embarkation for any bus operated by a Transit Authority. For routes that allow flag stop locations where passengers may signal for a bus to stop at any point along its designated route, the entire route shall be considered a Bus Station.**
- (5) When a structure which has received a permit for an accessory dwelling unit is sold, the new owner(s), if they wish to continue to exercise the

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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~~permit, must, within 30 days of the sale, submit a notarized letter stating that they will occupy one of the dwelling units on the premises as their primary residence. This shall be part of municipal lien certificate.~~

F. Enforcement and termination. In addition to the authority of the Building Commission under any other provisions of this bylaw, statute or regulations, the following shall apply:

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Building Commissioner to administer and enforce the provisions of this bylaw.
- (2) No building shall be constructed or changed in use or configuration until the Building Commissioner has issued a permit.
- (3) Any new building or structure shall conform to all adopted state and Town laws, bylaws, codes and regulations. No building shall be occupied until a certificate of occupancy has been issued by the Building Inspector where required.
- (4) The Building Commissioner shall issue a cease-and-desist order on any work in progress or on the use of any premises, either of which are in violation of the provisions of this chapter.
- (5) The accessory dwelling unit use shall terminate immediately upon any violation of any term or condition of this bylaw that the owner fails to appeal or cure, upon 30 days' written notice mailed to the applicant and to the occupants at the dwelling address by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- (6) Duties of owner upon termination include:
  - (a) The owner shall discontinue the use of the accessory dwelling unit as a separate dwelling unit.
  - (b) The kitchen facilities of the accessory dwelling unit shall be removed.
  - (c) Any additional exterior entrance constructed to provide access to the accessory dwelling unit shall be permanently closed.

G. Severability. All the clauses of this bylaw are distinct and severable, and if any clause shall be deemed illegal, void, or unenforceable, it shall not affect the validity, legality, or enforceability of any other clause or portion of this bylaw.

H. Definitions. **For the purpose of this Section 200-42 the following words shall have the following meanings:**

ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT

An accessory apartment is a second dwelling unit subordinate in size to the principal dwelling unit on a lot, located in either the principal dwelling or an accessory structure.

**(i) A self-contained housing unit, inclusive of sleeping, cooking and sanitary facilities on the same lot as a principal dwelling, subject to otherwise directly from the outside or through an entry hall or corridor shared with the principal dwelling sufficient to meet the requirements of the state building code for safe egress; (ii) is not larger in gross floor area than ½ the gross floor area of the principal dwelling or 900 square feet, whichever is smaller .”**

EXISTING DETACHED ACCESSORY BUILDING – ~~A detached accessory building that is existing as of the effective date of this bylaw and that has a permanent foundation.~~ **A detached accessory building that is lawfully existing as of the effective date of this bylaw and that has a permanent foundation.**

**GROSS FLOOR AREA – The sum of the areas of all stories of the building of compliant ceiling height pursuant to the Building Code, including basements, lofts, and intermediate floored tiers, measured from the interior faces of exterior walls or from the centerline of walls separating buildings or dwelling units but excluding: crawl spaces, garage parking areas, attics, enclosed porches and similar spaces. Where there are multiple Principal Dwellings on the lot, the Gross Floor Area of the largest Principal Dwelling shall be used for determining the maximum size of a Protected Use ADU.**

#### PRINCIPAL DWELLING UNIT

A dwelling unit permitted as a principal residential use under § 200-11 Classification of uses, limitation of uses.

#### SHORT-TERM RENTAL UNIT

An owner-occupied, tenant-occupied or non-owner-occupied property, including, but not limited to, an apartment, house, cottage, condominium or a furnished accommodation that is not a hotel, motel, lodging house or bed-and-breakfast establishment, or accessory dwelling unit where: (i) at least one room or unit is rented to an occupant or sub-occupant; and (ii) all accommodations are reserved in advance; provided, however, that a private owner-occupied property shall be considered a single unit if leased or rented as such. For the purpose of this, the Accessory Dwelling Unit Bylaw, a short-term rental shall be anything leased for fewer than 90 days.

Part B:

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To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Marblehead Zoning Bylaws Parking Requirements, as follows (**underline and bold is new language** and ~~cross out~~ is removed language) and change all the rubrics accordingly. (Part B.)

§ 200 Article VI, § 200-17. Parking Requirements.

~~E. Accessory dwelling units. For accessory dwelling units there shall be one additional parking space per accessory dwelling unit which is in addition to what is required for the principal use.~~ **Parking for accessory dwelling units; there shall be one additional parking space per accessory dwelling unit which is in addition to what is required for the principal use. Except if the ADU is located within ½ mile form a commuter rail station, subway station, ferry terminal or bus station, no parking is required. A bus station is defined as a location serving as a point of embarkation for any bus operated by a Transit Authority. For routes that allow flag stop locations where passengers may signal for a bus to stop at any point along its designated route, the entire route shall be considered a Bus Station,** or take any other action relative there. Sponsored by the Planning Board.

### ARTICLE 25: Amend General Bylaw - Floodplain District

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Marblehead Zoning Bylaws Floodplain District, as follows (**underline and bold is new language** and ~~cross out~~ is removed language) and change all the rubrics accordingly. (Part A and Part B)

Part A:

ARTICLE III ZONING DISTRICTS section § 200-8 Paragraph C

The Floodplain District is herein established as an overlay district. The **Floodplain District** includes all special flood hazard areas within the Town of Marblehead designated as Zone A, AE, **AH, AO, A99, V,** and VE on the Essex County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), **July 8, 2025,** issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), ~~successor to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD~~ for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The map panels of the Essex County FIRM that are wholly or partially within the Town of Marblehead are panel numbers 25009C0419G, 25009C0438G, 25009C0439G, 25009C0443G, ~~25009C0532G,~~ 25009C0551G, and 25009C0552G dated July 16, 2014, **25009C0532H, dated July 8, 2025.** ~~The map indicates the one hundred year regulatory floodplain. The exact boundaries of the district may be defined by the one hundred year base flood elevations shown on~~ **The exact boundaries of the Floodplain District shall be defined by the 1%-chance base flood elevations shown on the** FIRM and further defined by the Flood Insurance Study report dated ~~July 16, 2014~~ **July 8, 2025.** The FIRM and Flood

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Insurance Study report **are incorporated herein by reference and** are on file with the **Town Engineer**, Town Clerk, the Building Commissioner, and Conservation Commission.

### Part B:

§ 200 Article XII, § 200-46. Floodplain District.

The Floodplain District is ~~established as~~ an overlay district to all other districts. All development in the **Floodplain District**, including structural and nonstructural activities, whether permitted by right or by special permit must be in compliance with MGL c. 131, § 40 and with the following:

A. Sections of the Massachusetts State Building Code (780 CMR) which address floodplain and coastal high hazard areas;

B. Wetlands Protection Regulations, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) (currently 310 CMR 10.00);

C. Inland Wetlands Restriction, DEP (currently 310 CMR 13.00);

D. Coastal Wetlands Restriction, DEP (currently 310 CMR 12.00);

E. Minimum Requirements for the Subsurface Disposal of Sanitary Sewage, DEP (currently 310 CMR 15, Title 5);

~~F. Any variances from the provisions and requirements of the above referenced state regulations may only be granted in accordance with the required variance procedures of these state regulations.~~

### § 200-47. Purpose.

~~The purpose of the Floodplain District is to protect the public health, safety, and general welfare, to protect human life and property from the hazards of periodic flooding and to preserve the natural flood control characteristics and the flood storage capacity of the floodplain.~~

#### **The purpose of the Floodplain District is to:**

1. **Ensure public safety through reducing the threats to life and personal injury**
2. **Eliminate new hazards to emergency response officials**
3. **Prevent the occurrence of public emergencies resulting from water quality, contamination, and pollution due to flooding**
4. **Avoid the loss of utility services which if damaged by flooding would disrupt or shut down the utility network and impact regions of the community beyond the site of flooding**
5. **Eliminate costs associated with the response and cleanup of flooding conditions**
6. **Reduce damage to public and private property resulting from flooding waters**

**§ 200-48. Designation of community Floodplain Administrator**

**The Town of Marblehead hereby designates the position of Town Engineer to be the official floodplain administrator for the Town.**

**§ 200-49. Permits are required for all proposed development in the Floodplain District**

**The Town of Marblehead requires a permit for all proposed construction or other development in the Floodplain District, including new construction or changes to existing buildings, placement of manufactured homes, placement of agricultural facilities, fences, sheds, storage facilities or drilling, mining, paving and any other development that might increase flooding or adversely impact flood risks to other properties ("Floodplain District Work Permit"). Floodplain District Work Permits shall be issued by the Marblehead Building Commissioner, who shall create a form application and process for said permits.**

**§ 200-50 Enforcement.**

**The Building Commissioner or their designee(s) shall enforce the provisions of Article XII.**

**§ 200-51. Assure that all necessary permits are obtained**

**The Town's permit review process includes the requirement that the proponent obtain all local, state and federal permits that will be necessary in order to carry out the proposed development in the Floodplain District. The proponent must acquire all necessary permits, and must demonstrate that all necessary permits have been acquired. Floodplain District Work Permits shall be issued by the Marblehead Building Commissioner.**

**§ 200-4852. Development regulations.**

The following requirements apply in the Floodplain District:

A. Within Zone A and AE, where the base flood elevation is not provided on the FIRM the applicant shall obtain any existing base flood elevation data and it shall be reviewed by the Building Inspector for its reasonable utilization toward meeting the elevation of the floodproofing requirements, as appropriate, of the State Building Code.

**B. Floodway encroachment**

- (1)** In Zones A, **A1-30**, and AE, along watercourses that have not had a regulatory floodway designated, the best available federal, state, local or other floodway data shall be used to prohibit encroachments in floodways

which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

- (2) **In Zones A1-30 and AE, along watercourses that have a regulatory floodway designated on the Town's FIRM encroachments are prohibited, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development within the adopted regulatory floodway unless it has been demonstrated through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practice that the proposed encroachment would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.**

C. Base flood elevation data is required for subdivision proposals or other developments greater than 50 lots or five acres, whichever is the lesser, ~~within unnumbered A Zones~~ **the proponent must provide technical data to determine base flood elevations for each developable parcel shown on the design plans.**

D. ~~Within Zone A and AE, all new construction and substantial improvements of residential structures have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above the base flood level.~~ **Unnumbered A Zones: In A Zones, in the absence of FEMA BFE data and floodway data, the building department will obtain, review and reasonably utilize base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State, or other source as criteria for requiring new construction, substantial improvements, or other development in Zone A and as the basis for elevating residential structures to or above base flood level, for floodproofing or elevating nonresidential structures to or above base flood level, and for prohibiting encroachments in floodways.**

E. There shall be no "manufactured homes" within Zone AE.

F. ~~No new construction or substantial improvements, or other development shall be allowed within Zone AE, unless the applicant demonstrates to the Building Commissioner that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any point within the community.~~ **Recreational vehicles: in A, A1-30, AH, AO, AE Zones, V1-30, VE, and V Zones, all recreational vehicles to be placed on a site must be elevated and anchored in accordance with the zone's regulations for foundation and elevation requirements or be on the site for less than 180 consecutive days or be fully licensed and highway ready**

G. All subdivision proposals **and development proposals in the Floodplain District** must be designed to assure that:

- (1) Such proposals minimize flood damage;

(2) All public utilities and facilities are located and constructed to minimize flood damage; and

(3) Adequate drainage is provided.

H. Within Zone AO **and AH** on the FIRM, adequate drainage paths must be provided around structures on slopes, to guide floodwaters around and away from proposed structures.

I. Located within the Floodplain District are areas designated as coastal high hazard areas (Zone VE, **V1-30, V**). Since these areas are extremely hazardous due to high velocity waters from tidal surges and hurricane wave wash, the following provisions shall apply:

(1) All new construction shall be located landward of the reach of the mean high tide.

(2) Man-made alteration of sand dunes within flood damage are prohibited.

J. In a riverine situation, the ~~Engineering and Conservation Administrator~~ **Floodplain Administrator or their designee(e)** shall notify the following of any alteration or relocation of a watercourse:

(1) Adjacent communities.

(2) Bordering states, **if affected**.

(3) NFIP State Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, ~~251 Causeway Street, Suite 600-700, Boston, MA 02114-2104.~~

(4) NFIP Program Specialist, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I, ~~99 High Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02110.~~

#### **§ 200-53. Protection of dunes**

**Alteration of sand dunes is prohibited when the alteration would increase potential flood damage.**

#### **§ 200-54 Variances to building code floodplain standards**

**Any variances from the provisions and requirements of the state regulations referenced above in Article XII, § 200-46 may only be granted in accordance with the required variance procedures of these state regulations.**

**The Town will request from the State Building Code Appeals Board a written and/or audible copy of the portion of the hearing related to the variance, and will maintain this record in the community's files.**

**The Town shall also issue a letter to the property owner regarding potential impacts to the annual premiums for the flood insurance policy covering that property, in writing over the signature of a community official that (i) the issuance of a variance to construct a structure below the base flood level will**



result in increased premium rates for flood insurance up to amounts as high as \$25 for \$100 of insurance coverage and (ii) such construction below the base flood level increases risks to life and property.

Such notification shall be maintained with the record of all variance actions for the referenced development in the Floodplain District.

§ 200-55 Variances to local Zoning Bylaws related to community compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

A variance from these floodplain bylaws must meet the requirements set out by State law, and may only be granted if: 1) good and sufficient cause and exceptional non-financial hardship exist; 2) the variance will not result in additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, or fraud or victimization of the public; and 3) the variance is the minimum action necessary to afford relief.

§ 200-56 Abrogation and greater restriction section

The floodplain management regulations found in this Article XII shall take precedence over any less restrictive conflicting local laws, ordinances or codes.

§ 200-57 Disclaimer of liability

The degree of flood protection required by this Article XII is considered reasonable but does not imply total flood protection.

§ 200-58 Severability section

If any section, provision or portion of this Article XII is deemed to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court, the remainder of the ordinance shall be effective.

§ 200-59 Requirement to submit new technical data

If the Town acquires data that changes the base flood elevation in the FEMA mapped Special Flood Hazard Areas, the Town will, within 6 months, notify FEMA of these changes by submitting the technical or scientific data that supports the change(s.) Notification shall be submitted to:

- NFIP State Coordinator
  - Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
- NFIP Program Specialist
  - Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I

§ 200-4960. Definitions.

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The following definitions shall apply to the terms used within this ~~Floodplain District Bylaw~~ **Article XII**.

### AREA OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

The land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. The area may be designated as Zone A, AO, AH, A1-30, AE, A99, V1-30, VE, or V.

### BASE FLOOD

The flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

### COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREA

An area of special flood hazard extending from offshore to the inland limit of a primary frontal dune along an open coast and any other area subject to high velocity wave action from storms or seismic sources. The area is designated on a FIRM as Zone VE.

### DEVELOPMENT

Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to building or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations. **[US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

### ~~DISTRICT~~

~~Floodplain district.~~

### FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)

Administers the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA provides a nationwide flood hazard area mapping study program for communities as well as regulatory standards for development in the flood hazard areas.

### FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM)

An official map of a community on which FEMA has delineated both the areas of special flood hazard and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

### FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY

An examination, evaluation, and determination of flood hazards, and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

### **FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR**

**The official responsible to report to the Federal Insurance Administrator concerning the community participation in the Program, including, but not limited to the development and implementation of floodplain management regulations.**

### **FLOODWAY**

The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land **and** areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation **more than a designated height. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]**

### **FUNCTIONALLY DEPENDENT USE**

**A use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. The term includes only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship building and ship repair facilities, but does not include long-term storage or related manufacturing facilities. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59] Also [Referenced Standard ASCE 24-14]**

### **HIGHEST ADJACENT GRADE**

**The highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

### **HISTORIC STRUCTURE**

**Any structure that is:**

- (a) Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;**
- (b) Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;**
- (c) Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or**

**(d) Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:**

**(1) By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or**

**(2) Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

#### LOWEST FLOOR

The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement area is not considered a building's lowest floor, provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable nonelevation design requirements of NFIP Regulations 60.3.

#### MANUFACTURED HOME

A structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities. For floodplain management purposes the term "manufactured home" also includes park trailers, travel trailers, and other similar vehicles placed on a site for greater than 180 consecutive days. For insurance purposes, the term "manufactured home" does not include park trailers, travel trailers, and other similar vehicles.

#### MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION

A parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.

#### NEW CONSTRUCTION

~~For floodplain management purposes, structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of a floodplain management regulation adopted by a community. For the purpose of determining insurance rates, new construction means structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of an initial FIRM or after December 31, 1974, whichever is later.~~

**Structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of the first floodplain management code, regulation, ordinance, or standard adopted by the authority having jurisdiction, including any subsequent improvements to such structures. New construction includes work determined to be substantial improvement. [Referenced Standard ASCE 24-14]**

ONE-HUNDRED-YEAR FLOOD

See "base flood."

**RECREATIONAL VEHICLE**

**A vehicle which is: (a) Built on a single chassis; (b) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection; (c) Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and (d) Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

REGULATORY FLOODWAY

See "floodway."

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA

An area having special flood and/or flood-related erosion hazards, and shown on a FIRM as Zone A, AO, A1-30, AE, A99, AH, **AR**, V, **VO**, V1-30, VE. **[Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]**

**START OF CONSTRUCTION.**

**The date of issuance for new construction and substantial improvements to existing structures, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement or other improvement is within 180 days after the date of issuance. The actual start of construction means the first placement of permanent construction of a building (including a manufactured home) on a site, such as the pouring of a slab or footings, installation of pilings or construction of columns.**

**Permanent construction does not include land preparation (such as clearing, excavation, grading or filling), the installation of streets or walkways, excavation for a basement, footings, piers or foundations, the erection of temporary forms or the installation of accessory buildings such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main building. For a substantial improvement, the actual "start of construction" means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]**

STRUCTURE

For floodplain management purposes, a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally aboveground, as well as a manufactured home. ~~Structure, for insurance coverage purposes, means a walled and roofed building, other than a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground and affixed to a permanent site, as well as a manufactured home on foundation. For the latter purpose, the term includes a building while in the course of construction, alteration, or repair, but does not include building materials or supplies intended for use in such construction, alteration, or repair, unless such materials or supplies are within an enclosed building on the premises.~~ **[US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

#### SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE

Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before-damaged condition would equal or exceed 50% of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

#### SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT

Any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50% of the market value of the structure either (a) before the improvement or repair is started, or (b) if the structure has been damaged and is being restored, before the damage occurred. For the purposes of this definition, "substantial improvement" is considered to occur when the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of the building commences, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the structure.

#### **SUBSTANTIAL REPAIR OF FOUNDATION**

**When work to repair or replace a foundation results in the repair or replacement of a portion of the foundation with a perimeter along the base of the foundation that equals or exceeds 50% of the perimeter of the base of the foundation measured in linear feet, or repair or replacement of 50% of the piles, columns or piers of a pile, column or pier supported foundation, the building official shall determine it to be substantial repair of a foundation. Applications determined by the building official to constitute substantial repair of a foundation shall require all existing portions of the entire building or structure to meet the requirements of 780 CMR. [As amended by MA in 9th Edition BC]**

#### **VARIANCE**

**A grant of relief by a community from the terms of a flood plain management regulation. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

**VIOLATION**

**The failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's flood plain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in §60.3 is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

**ZONE A**

~~The one hundred year floodplain area where the base flood elevation (BFE) has not been determined. To determine the BFE, use the best available federal, state, local, or other data.~~

**ZONE AE (for new and revised maps)**

~~The one hundred year floodplain where the base flood elevation has been determined.~~

**ZONE AO**

~~The one hundred year floodplain with flood depths of one to three feet, where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable, and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.~~

**ZONE VE (for new and revised maps)**

~~A special flood hazard area along a coast subject to inundation by the one hundred year flood with additional hazards due to velocity (wave action). Base flood elevations have been determined.~~

**ZONE X**

~~Areas identified in the community Flood Insurance Study as areas of moderate or minimal flood hazard. Zone X replaces Zones B and C on new and revised maps.~~

~~Or take any other action relative to. Sponsored by the Planning Board.~~

**ARTICLE 26: Prudent Investor**

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c. 44, § 54(b) to allow Town trust funds to be invested in accordance with G.L. c. 203C, the so-called "Prudent Investment Rule", or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 27: General Stabilization Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Free Cash to fund Town's General Stabilization Account, or take any other action relative to. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 28: Home Rule Petition: Establish Means-Tested Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption.**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court to pass AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF MARBLEHEAD TO ESTABLISH A MEANS-TESTED SENIOR CITIZEN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

SECTION 1. With respect to each qualifying parcel of real property classified as residential in the Town of Marblehead, there shall be an exemption from the property tax in an amount to be set annually by the Select Board as provided in Section 3. The exemption shall be applied to the domicile of the taxpayer only. For the purposes of this act, “parcel” shall mean a unit of real property as defined by the Board of Assessors under the deed for the property and shall include a condominium unit. The exemption provided for in this section shall be in addition to any other exemptions allowed pursuant to the General Laws.

SECTION 2. The Board of Assessors of the Town of Marblehead may deny an application for exemption if the board finds that the applicant has excessive assets that place the applicant outside of the intended recipients of the senior exemption established pursuant to this act. Real property shall qualify for the exemption pursuant to Section 1 if the following criteria are met:

- (i) the qualifying real property is owned and occupied by a person whose prior year’s income would make the person eligible for the circuit breaker income tax credit pursuant to subsection (k) of Section 6 of Chapter 62 of the General Laws;
- (ii) the qualifying real property is owned by a single applicant who was age 65 or older at the close of the previous year or jointly by persons who are 60 years of age or older, provided that not less than 1 joint owner was age 65 or older at the close of the previous year;
- (iii) the qualifying real property is owned and occupied by the applicant or joint applicants as their domicile;
- (iv) the applicant, or at least 1 of the joint applicants, has been domiciled and owned a home in the Town of Marblehead for not less than 10 consecutive years before filing an application for the exemption;
- (v) the maximum assessed value of the domicile is not greater than the prior year’s maximum assessed value for qualification for the circuit breaker income tax credit pursuant to subsection (k) of Section 6 of Chapter 62



## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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- of the General Laws, as adjusted annually by the Department of Revenue; and
- (vi) the Board of Assessors has approved the application for the exemption.

SECTION 3. The Select Board of the Town of Marblehead shall annually set the exemption amount provided for in Section 1; provided, however, that the amount of the exemption shall be not less than 50 percent and not more than 200 percent of the amount of the circuit breaker income tax credit pursuant to subsection (k) of Section 6 of Chapter 62 of the General Laws for which the applicant qualified in the previous year. The total amount exempted by this act shall be allocated proportionally within the tax levy on all residential taxpayers.

SECTION 4. A person who seeks to qualify for the exemption pursuant to Section 1 shall, before the deadline established by the Board of Assessors of the Town of Marblehead, file an application, on a form adopted by the Board of Assessors, with the supporting documentation of the applicant's income and assets as described in the application. The application shall be filed each year for which the applicant seeks the exemption.

SECTION 5. No exemption shall be granted pursuant to this act until the Department of Revenue certifies a residential tax rate for the applicable tax year where the total exemption amount is raised by a burden shift within the residential tax levy.

SECTION 6. The exemption provided in this act shall expire 3 years after the effective date of this act; provided, however, that the Town of Marblehead may reauthorize the exemption for additional 3-year intervals by a vote of the legislative body of the town.

SECTION 7. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Committee and Select Board.

### **ARTICLE 29: Adjusted Exemption Amount Clause 22I**

To see if the Town will vote to accept G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, Cl. 22I, which authorizes an annual increase in the amount of the exemption granted under G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, Cl. 22, Cl. 22A, Cl. 22B, Cl. 22C, Cl. 22E and Cl. 22F by the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the previous year as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective for applicable exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2025, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

### **ARTICLE 30: Optional Additional Veteran Exemption Clause 22J**

To see if the Town will vote to accept G.L.c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 22J, which authorizes an annual increase in the amount of the exemption granted under G.L.c. 59, sec. 5, Cl.22,

Cl. 22A, Cl. 22B, Cl. 22C, Cl. 22E and Cl. 22F by 100% of the personal exemption amount, subject to the conditions in Clause 22J, to be effective for applicable exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2025, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 31: Coffin School Reuse**

To see if the Town will vote to change the use of the Coffin School building and grounds from school purposes to general municipal purposes and to transfer the care, custody and control of same to the Select Board for further reuse and if appropriate as determined by the Select Board to further authorize the Select Board to sell the Coffin School building and land in a manner that they determine to be the most beneficial to the Town, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 32: Gerry School Playground (aka Elm Street Park)**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, and control of the Gerry School Playground (also known as Elm Street Park) from the Select Board to the Recreation and Park Commission or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 33: Mary A. Alley Building, HVAC System**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to pay costs of design, construction, repair, renovation, furnishing, and equipping of the Mary A. Alley Building, including windows, elevators, and HVAC systems, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or to take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 34: Marblehead High School Roof and HVAC System**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to pay additional costs of a new roof at the Town's High School, including the acquisition and installation of new rooftop HVAC units, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or to take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by School Committee.

**ARTICLE 35: Appropriation of Article 11, May 2, 2022**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote adopted under Article 11(c) of the May 2, 2022, Town Meeting that appropriated \$8,977,298 for roof reconstruction and major repairs on the Town and school buildings, including the payment of costs

incidental or related thereto, to include remodeling of various fire stations and the payment of costs incidental or related thereto as additional authorized purposes; or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 36: Stormwater Enterprise Fund**

To determine whether the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c. 44, § 53F1/2 and authorize the establishment of a Stormwater Enterprise Fund, effective July 1, 2025, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Department of Public Works and Select Board.

**ARTICLE 37: Rescind prior Acceptance of G.L. c. 31 sec. 58A, Age Limits (Police)**

To see if the Town will vote to rescind its prior acceptance of G.L. c. 31 sec. 58A, voted under Article 29 of the 2016 Annual Town Meeting as to police officers only, thereby removing the prohibition of hiring police officers over age 32, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Police Chief.

**ARTICLE 38: Building Permit Fees**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 30, Section 30-15, sub-sections (B) and (E) of the Town of Marblehead General Bylaws as follows (~~cross through~~ text represents deleted language and **bold and underline** text represents proposed amendment):

B. The amount of such fees shall be **set by the Select Board after a public hearing** ~~\$15 per \$1,000 of the total cost of the work to be done under such permits, as estimated by the Building Commissioner, with the minimum fee for each permit issued of \$50. This fee~~ **and** will include the cost of the wiring permit and plumbing permit.

E.—

- ~~(1) Re-inspection fee: \$70.~~
- ~~(2) Lost permit card fee: \$120.~~
- ~~(3) Certificate of inspection fee: \$120.~~
- ~~(4) Certificate of occupancy fee: \$120.~~

or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Building Commissioner.

**ARTICLE 39: Electrical Installation Fees**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 52, Section 52-6, sub-section (A)(2) of the Town of Marblehead General Bylaws as follows (~~cross through~~ text represents deleted language and **bold and underline** text represents proposed amendment):

- A. Fees shall be charged by the Inspector of Wires to any person, firm or corporation applying for permits for electrical installations as provided in § 52-5. Said fees to be paid by the applicants when such permits are issued in accordance with the following schedule.
- (1) Additions, alterations and new construction. Where a building permit is required, the fee ~~shall be set by the Select Board after a public hearing is \$15 per \$1,000 of the total cost of the work to be done under such permits, as estimated by the Building Commissioner.~~ This fee will include the cost of the building permit, wiring permit and the plumbing permit.
  - (2) If no building permit is required, the Select Board shall set any other applicable the following fees after a public hearing. shall apply:
    - (a) Minimum charge: \$50.
    - (b) New service: \$50.
    - (c) Temporary service: \$50.
    - (d) Boiler: \$50.
    - (e) Motors (each): \$35.
    - (f) Repairs: \$50.
    - (g) Swimming pools: \$50.
    - (h) Standard current consuming outlets:
      - {1} One to 25: \$50.
      - {2} Twenty six to 50: \$70.
      - {3} Fifty one to 100: \$60.
    - (i) Return inspection: \$60.

or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Building Commissioner.

#### **ARTICLE 40: Building Permit Fees**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 30, Section 30-15, sub-sections (B) and (E) of the Town of Marblehead General Bylaws as follows (~~cross through~~ text represents deleted language and **bold and underline** text represents proposed amendment):

- B. The amount of such fees shall be ~~\$15~~ **\$17** per \$1,000 of the total cost of the work to be done under such permits, as estimated by the Building Commissioner, with the minimum fee for each permit issued of \$50. This fee will include the cost of the wiring permit and plumbing permit.

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### ARTICLE 41: Electrical Installation

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 52, Section 52-6, sub-section (A) of the Town of Marblehead General Bylaws as follows (~~cross through~~ text represents deleted language and **bold and underline** text represents proposed amendment):

- A. Fees shall be charged by the Inspector of Wires to any person, firm or corporation applying for permits for electrical installations as provided in § 52-5. Said fees to be paid by the applicants when such permits are issued in accordance with the following schedule.
- (1) Additions, alterations and new construction. Where a building permit is required, the fee is ~~\$15~~ **\$17** per \$1,000 of the total cost of the work to be done under such permits, as estimated by the Building Commissioner. This fee will include the cost of the building permit, wiring permit and the plumbing permit.
  - (2) If no building permit is required the following fees shall apply:
    - (a) Minimum charge: \$50.
    - (b) New service: \$50.
    - (c) Temporary service: \$50.
    - (d) Boiler: \$50.
    - (e) Motors (each): \$35.
    - (f) Repairs: \$50.
    - (g) Swimming pools: \$50.
    - (h) Standard current consuming outlets:
      - [1] One to 25: \$50.
      - [2] Twenty-six to 50: \$70.
      - [3] Fifty-one to 100: \$60.
    - (i) Return inspection: \$60.

**(j) Connection or installation of electric storage battery: \$17 per \$1,000 of total cost of the work to be done under such permit, as established by the Building Commissioner.**

Or take any action relative to. Sponsored by the Building Commissioner.

### ARTICLE 42: Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Fund Transfer

To see if the town will vote to transfer from the Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust to the Cemetery Department the sum of \$80,000 for the purpose of capital needs, maintenance and operations at the Town of Marblehead's municipal cemeteries or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by Cemetery Commission and Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 43: Cemetery Sale of Lots Trust Fund Transfer**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Sale of Lots Trust Fund to the Cemetery Department the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of capital needs, maintenance and operations at the Town of Marblehead's municipal cemeteries or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Cemetery Commission and Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 44: Parking Tickets – Increased Fee for Snow Emergency**

To see if the Town will vote to allow the Select Board to petition the General Court to amend Chapter 37 of the Acts of 2004 and allow the Select Board to establish fines related to parking violations during a snow emergency at no more than \$100 and if not paid within 21 days \$105, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 45: Zoning bylaw by adding provision for the Storage of Fishing Gear and Lobster Traps**

**Add section 200-14**

**Storage of Fishing Gear and Lobster Traps**

**Section 1: Purpose**

The purpose of this bylaw is to permit the temporary storage of fishing gear and lobster traps on residential properties within the municipality, subject to the conditions outlined herein, to support local fishing practices and ensure the safe and orderly storage of such equipment during the off-season period.

**Section 2: Definitions**

- **Fishing Gear:** Any equipment used for the purpose of fishing, including but not limited to fishing rods, nets, lines, traps, and associated gear.
- **Lobster Traps:** Containers or structures used for the trapping of lobsters, typically placed in marine environments and removed after the lobster trapping season.
- **Owner's Property:** Any property within the residential zoning area, legally owned by the person requesting permission to store fishing gear and lobster traps.
- **Off-Season Period:** The period from November 1st to May 1st of each year.

**Section 3: Conditions for Storage**

1. **Permitted Storage Period:** Fishing gear and lobster traps may only be stored on residential properties between November 1st and May 1st of each

- year.
2. **Location of Storage:** The storage of fishing gear and lobster traps shall only be allowed on the owner's property and must comply with the following conditions:
    - o Storage must be kept in the rear or side yard areas, or areas that are not visible from the street.
    - o Storage must not obstruct driveways, public sidewalks, or any public rights-of-way.
    - o The storage must not exceed a height of 6 feet.
  3. **Safety and Appearance:**
    - o All fishing gear and lobster traps must be stored in a manner that does not pose a safety hazard to the public or the property owner.
    - o Equipment must be neatly stored and must not be stacked in a disorganized or hazardous manner.
    - o Lobster traps should be stacked securely to prevent tipping, shifting, or damage.
    - lobster traps shall be clean and all bait removed prior to storage
  4. **No Permanent Storage:** The storage of fishing gear and lobster traps under this bylaw is intended to be temporary, limited to the off-season period only. Storage outside of the designated period (November 1st to May 1st) shall not be permitted.
  5. **Compliance with Other Regulations:** Storage of fishing gear and lobster traps must comply with all applicable local zoning laws, property maintenance standards, and other municipal regulations.

#### **Section 4: Permit Requirements**

1. **Permit Application:** Owners wishing to store fishing gear and lobster traps on their property during the off-season period must submit a permit application to the building department by October 1st each year.
  - o The application shall include the location of the proposed storage, a description of the equipment to be stored, and any measures taken to ensure safety and aesthetics.
  - o The application will be reviewed and approved if it meets the requirements of this bylaw.
2. **Permit Duration:** Approved permits will be valid for the off-season period, from November 1st to May 1st, with an option for renewal.

#### **Section 5: Enforcement**

This provision is enforced by the Building Commissioner

1. **Violations:** If the storage of fishing gear or lobster traps does not comply

with this bylaw, the property owner will be issued a notice of violation and will have 14 days to rectify the situation.

- o If the violation is not corrected, the municipality may impose fines or remove the equipment at the owner's expense.
2. **Inspection:** The municipality reserves the right to inspect properties to ensure compliance with this bylaw.

### **Section 6: Exemptions**

1. **Special Circumstances:** The municipality may grant temporary exemptions to the requirements of this bylaw under special circumstances, such as during emergencies or when the owner can demonstrate a significant need for extended storage.

### **Section 7: Severability**

If any section or provision of this bylaw is held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections or provisions.  
or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by Raymond H. Bates and others.

### **ARTICLE 46: Appropriate Funds, Independent Audit**

To see if the town will vote to appropriate the funds from free cash not to exceed the sum of \$100,000 and establish an independent town audit by an independent audit agency or entity which shall publish a report to the voters at the 2026 annual town meeting of any and all departmental budget recommendations or policy changes that are designed to control town costs and expenses and to balance the town budget against available funding. The selection of the auditor shall be the responsibility of the town finance committee. This article shall be subject to reauthorization on an annual basis. or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by Philip A. Mancuso, Jr. and others.

### **ARTICLE 47: Sustainability Coordinator**

To see if the town will vote to eliminate the position of Sustainability Coordinator. Said position has no clear essential administrative function but is tasked, as a non-elected town employee, with developing town policies without residency requirements and without the support of a majority of the town voters. or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by Emily DeJoy and others.

### **ARTICLE 48: Residency Requirements**

To see whether the town will vote to advise the Select Board to enact a policy that requires any departmental division head to be employed by the Town of Marblehead to reside within the Town of Marblehead. or take any other action relative thereto.



Sponsored by Philip A. Mancuso, Jr. and others.

**ARTICLE 49: Town Meeting, Parliamentary**

To adopt a rule that establishes the position of an independent town meeting Parliamentary, who (a) shall be a licensed attorney admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and in good standing and (b) a resident of the town of Marblehead who shall advise the Town Moderator on procedural questions, including, but not limited to, the advancement of motions at town meeting(s) and who shall not be financially or otherwise compensated by the Town of Marblehead. Said person shall be appointed by the Board of Selectman. or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by John Buba and others.

**ARTICLE 50: Placement of Prop 2 ½ on ballot**

To see whether the town will vote to advise the Select Board to present any Propositions 2 ½ tax override articles to the voters on the ballot as single items corresponding to the article(s) as presented at Town Meeting. or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by John Prindiville and others.

**ARTICLE 51: Town Meeting Reconsideration Procedure**

To adopt the following procedural rule regarding Motions for Reconsideration that will supersede any existing conflicting rule(s):

Any person, or group of persons, moving for reconsideration of any vote on any article at town meeting, whether annual or special, shall present said motion at podium and affirm (a) that said person(s) voted in the affirmative of the subject article (b) that said person(s) are moving for reconsideration based upon information not known or knowable at the time of the original vote (c) shall state said information and shall state that said person(s) have changed their support for said article based upon said new information. Any such motions for reconsideration shall be made within thirty (30) minutes of the initial vote after which time said vote is final and binding and any late motions to reconsider shall be prohibited. Or take any other action relative to. Sponsored by John G. DiPiano and others.

**ARTICLE 52: Amend Bylaws - Recall provision**

To see if the town will vote to amend the Town Bylaws by adding a recall provision for all elected town officials with term lengths greater than one year and direct the Select Board to submit a home rule petition to the legislature for the acceptance of the same, following the approval of the proposal by Town Meeting, after which, when approved by the Legislature, it shall be inserted in the appropriate section of the Bylaws, or take any other action relative thereto.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Insert in the appropriate section in the Bylaws of the town of Marblehead, 1. Process for Recall. This section providing for recall shall apply to all elected town officials with term lengths greater than one year.

Recall action may be commenced at any time after election to office; provided however, that a recall shall not be initiated with respect to any elected official if there are 3 months or less remaining in the term of office of the official sought to be recalled.

A minimum of 25 registered voters may file an affidavit, signed under oath or before a notary public, containing their signatures and setting forth the name and office of the elected official sought to be recalled and the specific reasons for the recall. At the time of filing, one signer shall be identified as the primary petitioner.

After the board of registrars of voters has verified that at least 25 or more signatures on the affidavit are those of registered voters of the town, the town clerk shall, within 5 days after receipt of the affidavit, issue to the primary petitioner petition forms, in sufficient quantity, containing the name and office held by the elected official sought to be recalled, the names and address of the first 10 signers of the petition, the specific reasons for recall and the date and time that the petition forms were issued to the primary petitioner.

Recall petition forms shall be returned and filed with the board of registrars of voters by not later than 5:00 p.m. on the twentieth day following the date on which the town clerk has issued petition forms; provided, however, that if such day is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the petitions shall be filed on the next business day. The petitions so filed shall contain the signatures of at least 15 percent of the registered voters of the town, calculated as of the date of the last town election.

The board of registrar of voters shall certify the validity of the required number of signatures, increased by 1/5 thereof to the extent additional signatures have been filed or submitted, with 5 days after the last day fixed for filing the petition forms.

Immediately after the certification pursuant to subsection (e), the board of registrars of voters shall order that written notice be given to the official sought to be recalled, such notice to be served in hand on that official or otherwise by a town constable or other process server in hand or at the elected official's place of residence as shown on the official list of voters and set forth the specific reasons given for the recall and shall also contain a statement advising the official concerned of the official's right to

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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tender a written resignation to the town clerk within 7 calendar days after service of the written notice as provided in this subsection. Or take any other action relative to. Sponsored by Luisa Boverini and others.

Given under our hands at Marblehead aforesaid this  
26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2025.

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ERIN M. NOONAN Chair

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DAN FOX

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M. C. MOSES GRADER

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BRET T. MURRAY

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ALEXA J. SINGER

Select Board of Marblehead  
A True Copy Attest:

, Constable

\*ADA ADVISORY – Anyone in need of special accommodations for Town Meeting, please contact the office of the Select Board at 781-631-0000 by April 18, 2025, in order that reasonable accommodations may be made.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### **Town of Marblehead Annual Town Meeting results May 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> 2025**

**7:34PM with 1834 attendees The PAC was over capacity Town Meeting is moved to May 6<sup>th</sup> at the High School Field House**

**May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:15PM with a quorum met the 2025 Town Meeting came to order**

#### **Article 1 Articles in Numerical Order**

##### **Amended Motion**

**Vote Yes 1033 No 727**

To adopt an order requiring articles in the Warrant to be taken up in the following order: Article 23, Article 34, Article 33, and the remaining Articles in numerical order starting with Article 2.

#### **Article 23 Amend Zoning Bylaw -3A Multi-Family Overlay District – RESCINDED BY A REFERENDUM ELECTION ON JULY 11, 2025**

**Voted Yes 951 No 759**

To Amend the Town of Marblehead's Zoning Bylaw by amending and adding a new Article 200-43, the 3A Multifamily Overlay District, and amend the zoning map to include the 3AMulti Family Overlay District.

#### **Article 34 Marblehead High School Roof and HVAC System**

**Voted Yes 804 No 283 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Achieved**

That the Town appropriate the amount of Eight Million Six Hundred Ten Thousand Six Hundred and Two Dollars (\$8,610,602) for the purpose of paying additional costs of a new roof at the Town's High School, including the acquisition and installation of new rooftop HVAC units, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to G.L. c.44, §7(1), or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; provided, however, that the authorization to borrow pursuant to this vote shall be contingent upon the Town's passage of a ballot question to exempt the principal and interest payments on the bonds from the tax limitations of G.L. c.59, §21C (Proposition 2½).

#### **Article 33 Mary Alley Building**

**Voted Yes 671 No 103 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote Achieved**

To appropriate the amount of Five Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$5,750,000.00) to pay costs of design, construction, repair, renovation, furnishing, and equipping of the Mary A. Alley Building, including windows, elevators and HVAC systems and acquiring and installing a new roof, , including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §7(1), or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; provided, however, that the authorization to borrow pursuant to this vote shall be contingent upon the Town's passage of a ballot question to exempt the principal and interest payments on the bonds from the tax limitations of G.L. c.59, §21C (Proposition 2 ½)

**10:55PM Adjourned until May 7th at 7:00PM**

**7:01PM with a quorum met the 2025 Annual Town Meeting continued**

## **Article 2 Reports of Town Officers and Committees**

### **Voted Yes 407 No 21**

Town receive the report of the Town Accountant, the reports of the Town Officers, and special committees.

## **Article 3 Consent Articles**

### **Voted Yes 402 No 22**

That the Town will vote to approve the following consent articles:

#### **a. Assume Liability**

That the Town will assume liability in the manner provided by Section 29 of Chapter 91 of the General Laws, for all damages that may be incurred by work to be performed by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for the improvement, development, maintenance and protection of tidal and non-tidal rivers and streams, harbors, tidewaters, foreshores and shores along a public beach in accordance with Section 11 of Chapter 91 of the General Laws and authorize the Select Board to execute and deliver a bond of indemnity therefore to the Commonwealth, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

#### **b. Accept Trust Property**

That the Town will vote to accept certain trust property, gifts or grants to be administered by the Town or modify the terms thereof, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by Town Counsel.

#### **c. Lease Town Property**

That the Town will vote to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to let or lease such land, buildings or structures owned by the Town on such terms as they may determine, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### d. Contracts in Excess of 3 Years

That the Town will authorize the Select Board, pursuant to G. L. c. 30B § 12, to enter into contracts in the best interest of the Town in excess of three (3) years but not more than ten (10) years, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

### e. Financial Assistance for Conservation

That the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission and other proper officers of the Town to apply for financial assistance from public and private sources to be expended by the Conservation Commission for the purchase of vacant land and any other purpose, authorized by Section 8C of Chapter 40 of the General Laws as amended, or to reimburse the Town for sums of money expended for such purposes, or both, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Conservation Commission, or take any other action relative thereto

## Article 4 Unpaid Funds

### Voted Yes 403 No 25 4/5ths vote achieved

The Town approve from FY25 available funds \$28,668.72 to provide for the payment of the unpaid accounts brought forward from previous year FY24 as set forth below:

| Department          | Fiscal Year | Invoice#      | Amount    |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|
| <b>Sewer</b>        |             |               |           |
| Paul Acciavatti     | FY24        | Reimbursement | 79.00     |
| Marblehead Current  | FY24        | 562           | 200.00    |
| <b>Water</b>        |             |               |           |
| Marblehead Current  | FY24        | 534           | 250.00    |
| CAI                 | FY24        | 19850         | 2,018.00  |
| <b>Select Board</b> |             |               |           |
| Smith Marine        | FY24        | 065955        | 7,300.00  |
| <b>Finance</b>      |             |               |           |
| Voya Benefits       | FY24        | 272709        | 580.50    |
| Voya Benefits       | FY24        | 274893        | 562.50    |
| City Hall Systems   | FY24        | 20261         | 558.00    |
| City Hall Systems   | FY24        | 20335         | 352.50    |
| City Hall Systems   | FY24        | 20414         | 237.00    |
| The Amaral Group    | FY24        | TAGQ7510-03   | 7,136.22  |
| INN04               |             | INV24-0313    | 9,395.00  |
| Total Unpaid Bills  |             |               | 28,668.72 |

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### **Article 5 Departmental Revolving Funds**

#### **Voted Yes 408 No 21**

That the Town fix the maximum amount that may be spent during FY 2026 beginning July 1, 2025, for the revolving funds established in the town bylaws for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in accordance with G.L. c. 44 § 53E 1/2, follows:

| MGL C44 s 53E1/2        |          | Request     |
|-------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Description             | Project# | 2026        |
| Park Revolving Fund     | 470      | \$2,000,000 |
| Historic Comm Gift Shop | 471      | \$25,000    |
| Council on Aging        | 473      | \$250,000   |
| Animal Control          | 474      | \$740       |
| Street Opening          | 475      | \$280,000   |
| Commercial Waste Coll   | 478      | \$2,008,495 |
| Conservation Fines      | 479      | \$75,000    |
| Hobbs Memorial Building | 480      | \$15,000    |
| Vaccine Revolving       | 481      | \$10,000    |
| Special Education       | 486      | \$500,000   |
| School Transportation   | 832      | \$25,000    |
| Sump Pump Revolving     | 495      | \$10,300    |
| TOTAL                   |          | \$5,199,535 |

### **Article 6 Purchase of Equipment of Several Departments**

#### **Voted Yes 349 No 84**

The Town appropriate \$290,645.00 from Free Cash for the purchase and/or lease of equipment for several departments of the Town, to authorize the Select Board to trade old equipment as part of the purchase price

To include the following:

| Department       | Description                    | Amount     |
|------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Waste            | Ford F-150 Crew Cab            | 70,000.00  |
| Rec & Park       | Electric Mower                 | 25,094.00  |
| Police           | Portable Radios                | 18,861.00  |
| Police           | Radar Replacement for Cruisers | 21,690.00  |
| Public Buildings | Ford F-150 Crew Cab            | 70,000.00  |
| DPW              | F-350 with lift Gate and Plow  | 85,000.00  |
| TOTAL            |                                | 290,645.00 |

**Article 7 Lease Purchase**

**Voted Yes 367 No 62**

That the Town will Per M G.L. c. 44 §21C, authorize the Select Board to enter into lease purchase agreements for the lease and purchase of vehicles and certain capital for a period of time not in excess of the useful life of the property to be procured on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deem in the best interest of the Town; and to authorize the Select Board to take all actions necessary to administer and implement such agreement and to fund said lease purchase through an annual appropriation in the Capital Budget.

That the sum of \$487,314 be transportation \$29,917 is to be transferred from the Waste Revolving Fund and \$457,397 is to be appropriated from Free Cash. To include the following:

| Department | Description                               | Amount     |
|------------|-------------------------------------------|------------|
| Waste      | Backhoe Lease                             | 29,917.00  |
| Waste      | John Deere Wheel Loader Lease             | 26,079.00  |
| Fire       | Fire Training Vehicle                     | 15,704.00  |
| Rec& Park  | Ford F-450 Dump Truck                     | 21,159.00  |
| Rec& Park  | Wide Area Mower Lease                     | 38,306.00  |
| Police     | 2 Ford Interceptor Hybrids                | 45,593.00  |
| Police     | 1 Ford Interceptor                        | 21,538.00  |
| Police     | 1 Cruiser                                 | 25,000.00  |
| DPW        | Aerial Bucket Lift Truck Lease            | 39,263.00  |
| DPW        | International Truck                       | 134,210.00 |
| DPW        | F550 Platform -Stake Body Truck with plow | 23,953.00  |
| School     | Large School Bus Lease                    | 32,207.00  |
| School     | School Transportation 7D Van              | 34,385.00  |
| TOTAL      |                                           | 487,314.00 |

**Article 8 Capital Improvements for Public Buildings**

**Voted Yes 383 No 49**

That the Town appropriate \$251,958 from Free Cash for remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to existing Town or School buildings, infrastructure, and the purchase of necessary equipment including computer hardware and software as follows:



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| Department | Description                         | Amount     |
|------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| School     | Glover HVAC Cafeteria               | 70,000.00  |
| School     | Glover School Playground            | 60,000.00  |
| School     | Reupholster Performing Arts Center  | 106,958.00 |
| Police     | Police Station Flooring Replacement | 15,000.00  |
| TOTAL      |                                     | 251,958.00 |

### **Article 9 Walls and Fences**

#### **Voted Yes 392 No 36**

That the Town raise and appropriate \$50,000 for the construction and reconstruction of walls and fences for the protection of highways and property, including engineering services in connection therewith; to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, any land or easements necessary, therefore.

### **Article 10 Storm Drainage Construction**

#### **Voted Yes 300 No 33**

That \$400,000 is appropriated from taxation for the construction, reconstruction, permitting, and maintenance of storm sewers for surface drainage purposes, including engineering services in connection therewith, and for general Drain Construction purposes, including the purchase or lease of equipment, and to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, any land or easement necessary; to be expended by the Department of Public Works.

### **Article 11 Consent Articles, Water and Sewer**

#### **Voted Yes 407 No 30**

That the Town approve the following Consent articles:

##### **a. Water Department Construction**

That \$1,236,000.00 is appropriated from Water Retained Earnings for the construction, reconstruction, permitting and extending of water mains, replacement of water meters, appurtenances, engineering, consultants, surveys, including revenue studies and other general water Department purposes and to authorize the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, any land or easement necessary.

##### **b. Sewer Department Construction**

That the sum of \$1,599,000.00 is appropriated from sewer retained earnings to be expended by the Water and Sewer Commission for the construction or reconstruction of sewers for sanitary purposes and for sewage disposal, pump stations, original pumping equipment, metering equipment, safety equipment, replacement of said equipment, engineering, consultants and surveys including revenue studies, and other

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general Sewer Department purposes, and to authorize the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise any lands or easements necessary.

c. **Water and Sewer Commission Claims**

That the Town vote to authorize the Water and Sewer Commission and the Select Board acting jointly to compromise any claims for damages or suits pending against the Town of Marblehead on account of acts which may have occurred during the construction of the water or sewer systems.

### **Article 12 Proposed Reclassification and Pay Schedule (Administrative)**

#### **Voted Yes 401 No 27**

To amend Chapter 121 of the Bylaws, Classification and Wage Salary Plan, by changing certain job titles where indicated and reclassify certain positions in the Administrative Pay Schedule; to strike out the pay schedule as it relates to Administrative personnel, substitute in place thereof the new pay schedules and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said new pay schedules effective, or take any other action relative there to substitute in place thereof the following new pay schedule with a 2% COLA as it relates to said personnel.

(Table on file in the Town Clerk's Office)

### **Article 13 Proposed Reclassification and Pay Schedule (Traffic Supervisors)**

#### **Voted Yes 409 No 28**

To increase the pay for Marblehead Traffic Supervisors, 2% effective July 1, 2025.

| FY2026 TRAFFIC SUPERVISOR SALARY SCHEDULE w/2% COLA |        |        |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--|
| Hourly Effective July 1, 2025                       |        |        |  |
|                                                     | Step 1 | Step 2 |  |
|                                                     | 21.76  | 22.99  |  |

### **Article 14 Proposed Reclassification and Pay Schedule (Seasonal and Temporary Personnel)**

#### **Voted Yes 413 No 24**

That the Town amend Chapter 121 of the Bylaws, Classification and Wage Salary Plan, by changing certain job titles where indicated and reclassify certain positions in the Seasonal and Temporary Personnel Pay Schedules; strike out the pay schedules as they relate to seasonal and temporary personnel, substitute in place thereof the new

pay schedules and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said new pay schedules effective July 1, 2025.

(Tables on file in the Town Clerk's Office)

**Article 15 Compensation - Town Officers**

**Voted Yes 381 No 54**

That the yearly compensation of the Town Clerk be as follows:

Town Clerk \$93,048.00

Said amount to be in full compensation for services as Town Clerk. All fees received by the Town Clerk in her official capacity to be accounted for to the Town Revenue Officer.

That the Town Clerk as elected and having served in that position or as a regular full-time employee for five consecutive years, and for each applicable additional five years on such basis, shall be paid longevity pay annually, in addition to her weekly salary.

**Article 16: Ratification of Salary Bylaw**

**Voted Yes 370 No 78**

That the Town ratifies the actions taken by the Compensation Committee under Chapter 43 Section 3(e) as last amended and amend the classification table by reclassifying or creating certain positions. To reclassify the following Positions on the Administrative Pay Scale as previously approved by the Compensation Committee:

Grade Changes

- A. General Clerk (Council on Aging, part-time)
- B. Working Foreman Construction (Department of Public Works)
- C. Working Foreman Maintenance (Department of Public Works)
- D. Lead Heavy Equipment Operator (Department of Public Works)
- E. Specialized Heavy Equipment Operator (Department of Public Works)
- F. Health Inspector (Health Department)
- G. Temporary Special Clerk (Department of Public Works)
- H. Part-Time Chauffeur (Council on Aging)

New Position Grading

- A. Assistant Engineer (Department of Public Works)
- B. Community Development Planning Director (Community Development and Planning)
- C. Assistant Director of Waste (Waste Department)
- D. Superintendent of Parks (Recreation and Parks)

Title Change

- A. Media Specialist (Abbot Library)

**Article 17 Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District**

**Voted Yes 428 No 12**

To approve the gross operating and maintenance budget of the Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, and appropriate the sum of \$627,323.00 for the town's assessment of the same to be expended by the School Committee.

**Article 18 Available Funds Appropriated to Reduce the Tax Rate**

**Voted Yes 406 No 28**

That the sum of \$7,000,000.00 be appropriated from Free Cash and \$360,000 be transferred from Electric Surplus to reduce the FY26 Tax Rate for use of the Assessors.

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| From Free Cash        | \$ 7,000,000.00   |
| From Electric Surplus | <u>360,000.00</u> |
|                       | \$ 7,360,000.00   |

**Article 19 Collective Bargaining (Police)**

**Voted Yes 387 No 45**

Pursuant to G.L. c. 150E §7, to appropriate \$140,000.00 from Free Cash to fund the collective bargaining agreement for fiscal year 2026 with MASS C.O.P., AFL-CIO, Local 437

**Article 20 Collective Bargaining, (IUE/CWA-Local 1776)**

**Voted Yes 402 No 35**

Pursuant to G.L. c. 150E §7, to appropriate \$140,000 from Free Cash to fund the collective bargaining agreement for fiscal year 2026 with Local 1776 of the IUE/CWA, AFL-CIO

**Article 21 Collective Bargaining, (FIRE)**

**Voted Yes 418 No 20**

Pursuant to G.L. c. 150E §7, to appropriate \$150,000 from Free Cash to fund the collective bargaining agreement for fiscal year 2026 with the International Association of Firefighters AFL/CIO Local 2043

**Article 22 Expenses of Several Departments**

**Voted Yes 396 No 38**

To appropriate the sum of \$4,754,738.00 for General Government as follows:

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|    |                                      |                |
|----|--------------------------------------|----------------|
|    | Moderator                            |                |
| 1  | Officials Expense                    | <u>100</u>     |
|    |                                      | 100            |
|    | Select Board                         |                |
| 2  | Officials Expense                    | 5,500          |
| 3  | Salaries                             | 502,138        |
| 4  | Expense                              | <u>192,413</u> |
|    |                                      | 700,051        |
|    | Finance Committee                    |                |
| 7  | Salaries                             | 0              |
| 8  | Expense                              | <u>6,375</u>   |
|    |                                      | 6,375          |
|    | Reserve Fund                         |                |
| 10 | Reserves                             | 444,000        |
|    | Finance Department                   |                |
| 12 | Salaries                             | 841,786        |
| 13 | Expense                              | <u>847,127</u> |
|    |                                      | 1,688,913      |
|    | Assessor                             |                |
| 17 | Officials Expense                    | 300            |
| 18 | Salaries                             | 258,696        |
| 19 | Expense                              | <u>135,225</u> |
|    |                                      | 394,221        |
|    | Town Counsel                         |                |
| 29 | Salaries                             | 2,000          |
| 30 | Expense                              | <u>113,000</u> |
|    |                                      | 115,000        |
|    | Parking Clerk                        |                |
| 35 | Expense                              | 8,400          |
|    | Town Clerk                           |                |
| 39 | Salaries                             | 231,396        |
| 40 | Expense                              | <u>13,337</u>  |
|    |                                      | 244,733        |
|    | Election and Registration Department |                |
| 43 | Salaries                             | 16,150         |
| 44 | Expense                              | <u>54,865</u>  |
|    |                                      | 71,015         |
|    | Planning Board                       |                |

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|    |                                |                |
|----|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 50 | Expense                        | 5,775          |
|    | Public Buildings Department    |                |
| 55 | Salaries                       | 136,931        |
| 56 | Expense                        | <u>149,895</u> |
|    | Human Resources Department     |                |
| 57 | Salaries                       | 279,927        |
| 58 | Expense                        | <u>15,000</u>  |
|    |                                | 294,927        |
|    | Comm Dev & Planning Department |                |
| 59 | Salaries                       | 456,696        |
| 60 | Expense                        | <u>37,706</u>  |
|    |                                | <u>494,402</u> |
|    | TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT       | 4,754,738      |

### **Article 22 Expenses of Several Departments**

#### **Voted Yes 402 No 28**

That the sum of \$11,237,760.00 be appropriated for Public Safety as follows:

|    |                                |                |
|----|--------------------------------|----------------|
|    | Police Department              |                |
| 62 | Salaries                       | 4,730,006      |
| 63 | Expense                        | <u>254,681</u> |
|    |                                | 4,984,687      |
|    | Fire Department                |                |
| 68 | Salaries                       | 5,220,615      |
| 69 | Expense                        | <u>340,645</u> |
|    |                                | 5,561,260      |
|    | Building Inspection Department |                |
| 73 | Salaries                       | 599,354        |
| 74 | Expense                        | <u>87,959</u>  |
|    |                                | 687,313        |
|    | Sealer of Weights and Measures |                |
| 80 | Expense                        | 2,100          |
|    | Animal Inspector               |                |
| 86 | Salaries                       | <u>2,400</u>   |
|    | VOTE TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY       | 11,237,760     |

### **Article 22 Expenses of Several Departments**

#### **Voted Yes 373 No 52**

The sum of \$49,120,287.00 be appropriated for the School Department as follows:

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|      |                   |                   |
|------|-------------------|-------------------|
|      | School Department |                   |
| 101  | Schools           | <u>49,120,287</u> |
| VOTE | TOTAL SCHOOLS     | 49,120,287        |

### **Article 22 Expenses of Several Departments**

#### **Voted Yes 394 No 21**

The sum of \$5,844,487.00 is appropriated for Public Works and Facilities as follows:

|      |                                      |                |
|------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
|      | Engineer                             |                |
| 105  | Salaries                             | 0              |
| 106  | Expense                              | <u>0</u>       |
|      |                                      | 0              |
|      | Public Works (Highway, Tree, Drains) |                |
| 112  | Salaries                             | 1,851,836      |
| 113  | Expense                              | 391,180        |
| 116  | Maintain Streets and Sidewalks       | <u>58,026</u>  |
|      |                                      | 2,301,042      |
| 117  | Snow Removal                         | 105,000        |
|      | Waste Collection                     |                |
| 126  | Salaries                             | 544,448        |
| 127  | Expense                              | 2,284,354      |
| 128  | Landfill Monitoring Expense          | <u>114,600</u> |
|      |                                      | 2,943,402      |
|      | Cemetery Department                  |                |
| 141  | Officials Expense                    | 300            |
| 142  | Salaries                             | 459,670        |
| 143  | Expense                              | <u>35,073</u>  |
|      |                                      | 495,043        |
| VOTE | TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES    | 5,844,487      |

### **Article 22 Expenses of Several Departments**

#### **Voted Yes 393 No 23**

That the sum of \$898,026.00 is appropriated for Human Services as follows:

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|      |                      |                |
|------|----------------------|----------------|
|      | Health Department    |                |
| 153  | Officials Expense    | 400            |
| 154  | Salaries             | 237,560        |
| 155  | Expense              | <u>88,081</u>  |
|      |                      | 326,041        |
|      | Council on Aging     |                |
| 164  | Salaries             | 395,401        |
| 165  | Expense              | <u>28,059</u>  |
|      |                      | 423,460        |
|      | Veterans Benefits    |                |
| 175  | Salaries             | 78,725         |
| 176  | Expense              | 4,800          |
| 178  | Benefits             | <u>65,000</u>  |
|      |                      | <u>148,525</u> |
|      |                      |                |
| VOTE | TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES | <u>898,026</u> |

### Article 22 Expenses of Several Departments

#### Voted Yes 395 No 18

That the sum of \$2,537,869.00 be and hereby is appropriated for Culture and Recreation as follows:

|      |                                |                |
|------|--------------------------------|----------------|
|      | Abbot Public Library           |                |
| 186  | Salaries                       | 1,148,053      |
| 187  | Expense                        | <u>345,239</u> |
|      |                                | 1,493,292      |
|      | Recreation and Park Department |                |
| 190  | Salaries                       | 749,527        |
| 191  | Expense                        | <u>287,500</u> |
|      |                                | 1,037,027      |
|      | Memorial & Veterans Day        |                |
| 210  | Expense                        | <u>7,550</u>   |
| VOTE | TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION   | 2,537,869      |

### Article 22 Expenses of Several Departments

#### Voted Yes 392 No 20

That the sum of \$9,314,141.00 be and hereby is appropriated for Debt Service as follows:



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|                             |               |                  |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Maturing Bonds and Interest |               |                  |
| 214                         | Maturing Debt | 5,955,000        |
| 215                         | Interest      | <u>3,359,141</u> |
| TOTAL DEBT SERVICE          |               | 9,314,141        |

### **Article 22 Expenses of Several Departments**

#### **Voted Yes 381 No 26**

That the sum of \$22,499,072.00 be and hereby is appropriated for Other General Government as follows:

|                                     |                                |            |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Other General Government            |                                |            |
| 118                                 | Street Lighting                | 60,000     |
| 216                                 | Utility Reserve                | 0          |
| 217                                 | Contributory Retirement Fund   | 5,380,625  |
| 218                                 | Medicare                       | 280,000    |
| 219                                 | Workers Compensation/111F      | 398,000    |
| 220                                 | Training                       | 15,000     |
| 221                                 | Group Insurance                | 15,100,893 |
| 222                                 | Other Insurance                | 964,554    |
| 223                                 | Salary Reserve                 | 50,000     |
| 224                                 | Noncontributory Retirement     | 0          |
| 225                                 | Energy Reserve                 | 0          |
| 226                                 | Other Post Employment Benefits | 250,000    |
| 229                                 | Stabilization Fund             | <u>0</u>   |
| VOTE TOTAL OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT |                                | 22,499,072 |

### **Article 22 Expenses of Several Departments**

#### **Voted Yes 398 No 14**

That the sum of \$5,532,269.00 be and hereby is appropriated the Sewer Enterprise Fund as follows:

|                                  |                            |                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Sewer                            |                            |                  |
| 227                              | Salaries                   | 1,150,375        |
| 228                              | Expense                    | 1,114,149        |
| 230                              | South Essex Sewer District | <u>3,267,745</u> |
| VOTE TOTAL SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND |                            | 5,532,269        |

### **Article 22 Expenses of Several Departments**

#### **Voted Yes 388 No 13**

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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That the sum of \$6,463,957.00 be and hereby is appropriated for the Water Enterprise Fund as follows:

|      |                               |           |
|------|-------------------------------|-----------|
|      | Water                         |           |
| 231  | Salaries                      | 1,140,856 |
| 232  | Expense                       | 1,248,799 |
| 235  | Mass Water Resource Authority | 4,074,302 |
| VOTE | TOTAL WATER ENTERPRISE FUND   | 6,463,957 |

### **Article 22 Expenses of Several Departments**

#### **Voted Yes 376 No 23**

That the sum of \$1,276,874.00 be and hereby is appropriated for the Harbor Enterprise Fund as follows:

|      |                              |           |
|------|------------------------------|-----------|
|      | Harbor                       |           |
| 238  | Salaries                     | 490,136   |
| 239  | Expense                      | 586,738   |
| 240  | Outlays                      | 200,000   |
| VOTE | TOTAL HARBOR ENTERPRISE FUND | 1,276,874 |

And to pay for appropriations the amount of \$119,479,480 be raised, appropriated, transferred, or otherwise provided as follows:

Raise and Appropriate \$84,124,432

Transfer \$9,000 from the Conservation Commission Fund to supplement the General Fund

Transfer from the Sewer Fund \$119,818 to the General Fund for indirect costs

Transfer from the Water Fund \$145,488 to the General Fund for indirect costs

Transfer from Harbor Fund \$172,420 to the General Fund for indirect costs

Sewer User Fees \$5,532,269 to fund Sewer Budget

Water User Fees \$6,463,957 to fund Water Budget

Transfer \$200,000 from Harbor Retained Earnings to fund the Harbor Budget

Harbor User Fees \$1,076,874 to fund Harbor Budget

### **Article 24 Zoning Bylaw Accessory Dwelling Unit**

#### **Amended Motion**

**Not Approved Yes 55 No 324**

### **Article 24 Zoning Bylaw Accessory Dwelling Unit**

#### **Amended Motion**

**Not Approved Yes 30 No 188**

**Article 24 Zoning Bylaw Accessory Dwelling Unit**

**Voted Yes 313 No 46**

That the Town amend the Town of Marblehead Zoning Bylaws, Article IX, section 200-42, Accessory Dwelling Units, as printed in the warrant and change the numbering and paragraphs to coincide with the bylaw accordingly.

**§ 200-17. Parking requirements**

In all districts, adequate off-street parking and loading facilities shall be provided and maintained.

E. Parking for accessory dwelling units; there shall be one additional parking space per accessory dwelling unit which is in addition to what is required for principal use. Except if the ADU is located within ½ mile form a commuter rail station, subway station, ferry terminal or bus station, no parking is required. A bus station is defined as a location serving as a point of embarkation for any bus operated by a Transit Authority. For routes that allow flag stop locations where passengers may signal for a bus to stop at any point along its designated route, the entire route shall be considered a Bus Station.

**§ 200-42. Accessory dwelling units.**

- A. Purpose. This section authorizing the provision of accessory dwelling units is intended to:
  - (1) Increase the number of small dwelling rental units available in the Town;
  - (2) Increase the number of affordable rental units available in Town;
  - (3) Increase the range of choice of housing accommodations to meet the needs of households;
  - (4) To increase the supply of housing and the diversity of housing options, in response to demographic changes such as smaller households and older households;
  - (5) To encourage the efficient use of the Town's housing supply while preserving the character of the town's neighborhoods;
  - (6) To maximize privacy, dignity, and independent living among family members preserving domestic family bonds as well as to protect the stability, prope1ty values, and the residential character of the neighborhood.
- B. General requirements.
  - (1). Accessory dwellings units shall only be permitted in a zoning district that permits single-family residential dwellings.
  - (2). No more than one accesso1y dwelling unit shall be permitted for each principal dwelling unit.

- (3). Accessory dwellings units are only allowed in or as an accessory to single-family dwellings.
  - (4). Accessory dwelling units are allowed within or attached to an existing single-family structure or detached accessory building with a permanent foundation and that is accessory to existing single-
  - (5). Short-term rentals, as defined, are prohibited in both the accessory and principal dwelling units.
- C. Exterior appearance and size. The accessory dwelling unit shall be designed to maintain the appearance and essential character of a one-family dwelling with accessory structures, subject further to the following conditions and requirements:
  - (I). Where two or more entrances exist on the front facade of a dwelling, one entrance shall appear to be the principal entrance and other entrances appear to be secondary.
    - (2). All stairways to the accessory dwelling unit above the first floor shall be located on the rear or side of the dwelling.
    - (3). The accessory dwelling unit shall not contain in excess of 900 square feet of gross floor area or exceed 50% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is less.
    - (4). The accessory dwelling unit shall not contain more than two bedrooms.
    - (5). The accessory dwelling unit shall meet all regulations of the Board of Health.
    - (6). The accessory dwelling unit shall be clearly subordinate in use, size and design to the principal dwelling.
- D. Procedure. For all detached accessory dwelling units or accessory dwelling units which require a change in footprint or height, and which are attached to the principal dwelling, shall require Site Plan Review by the Planning Board in accordance with section 200-38 hereof and which the Planning Board shall approve or approve with conditions but shall not deny. Section 200-30.B(1) of the Bylaw shall not apply to any accessory dwelling unit as to use but shall apply in the event of a non-conforming dimensional standard:
- E. Additional conditions and requirements for all accessory dwelling units.

(I) The accessory dwelling unit must be capable of being discontinued as a separate dwelling unit without demolition of any structural component of the principal dwelling.

- (2) There shall be no occupancy of the accessory dwelling unit until the Building Department has issued a certificate of occupancy certifying that the principal dwelling and accessory dwelling unit are in compliance with all applicable health and building and fire codes.
- (3) The building permit/certificate of occupancy shall be revoked upon determination by the Building Inspector that any condition imposed by the Town has not been fulfilled.

§200-42

- (4) By filing the application for a building permit for an accessory dwelling unit, all owners consent to an inspection upon reasonable notice by the Building Inspector to ensure compliance with all terms of this section.

Parking for accessory dwelling units there shall be one additional parking space per accessory dwelling unit which is in addition to what is required for principal use. Except if the ADU is located within ½ mile from a commuter rail station, subway station, ferry terminal or bus station no parking is required. A bus station is defined as a location serving as a point of embarkation for any bus operated by a Transit Authority. For routes that allow flag stop locations where passengers may signal for a bus to stop at any point along its designated route, the entire route shall be considered a Bus Station.

F. Enforcement and termination. In addition to the authority of the Building Commission under any other provisions of this bylaw, statute or regulations, the following shall apply:

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Building Commissioner to administer and enforce the provisions of this bylaw.
- (2) No building shall be constructed or changed in use or configuration until the Building Commissioner has issued a permit.
- (3) Any new building or structure shall conform to all adopted state and Town laws, bylaws, codes and regulations. No building shall be occupied until a certificate of occupancy has been issued by the Building Inspector where required.

- (4) The Building Commissioner shall issue a cease-and-desist order on any work in progress or on the use of any premises, either of which are in violation of the provisions of this chapter.
- (5) The accessory dwelling unit use shall terminate immediately upon any violation of any term or condition of this bylaw that the owner fails to appeal or cure, upon 30 days' written notice mailed to the applicant and to the occupants at the dwelling address by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- (6) Duties of owner upon termination include:
  - (a) The owner shall discontinue the use of the accessory dwelling unit as a separate dwelling unit.
  - (b) The kitchen facilities of the accessory dwelling unit shall be removed.
  - (c) Any additional exterior entrance constructed to provide access to the accessory dwelling unit shall be permanently closed.

**G. Severability.** All the clauses of this bylaw are distinct and severable, and if any clause shall be deemed illegal, void, or unenforceable, it shall not affect the validity, legality, or enforceability of any other clause or portion of this bylaw.

**H. Definitions.** For the purpose of this Section 200-42 the following words shall have the following meanings:

**ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT**

ill A self-contained housing unit, inclusive of sleeping, cooking and sanitary facilities on the same lot as a

principal dwelling, subject to otherwise directly from the outside or through an entry hall or corridor shared with the principal dwelling sufficient to meet the requirements of the state building code for safe egress; (ii) is not larger in gross floor area than ½ the gross floor area of the principal dwelling or 900 square feet, whichever is smaller."

**EXISTING DETACHED ACCESSORY BUILDING**-A detached accessory building that is lawfully existing as of the effective date of this bylaw and that has a permanent foundation.

**GROSS FLOOR AREA** - The sum of the areas of all stories of the building of compliant ceiling height pursuant to the Building Code, including basements, lofts, and intermediate floored tiers, measured from the interior faces of exterior walls or from the centerline of walls separating buildings or dwelling units but excluding: crawl spaces, garage parking areas, attics, enclosed porches and similar spaces. Where there are multiple Principal Dwellings on the lot, the Gross Floor Area of the

largest Principal Dwelling shall be used for determining the maximum size of a Protected Use ADU.

A dwelling unit permitted as a principal residential use under § 200-1 I Classification of uses, limitation of uses.

#### SHORT-TERM RENTAL UNIT

An owner-occupied, tenant-occupied or non-owner-occupied property, including, but not limited to, an apartment, house, cottage, condominium or a furnished accommodation that is not a hotel, motel, lodging house or bed-and-breakfast establishment, or accessory dwelling unit where: (i) at least one room or unit is rented to an occupant or sub-occupant; and (ii) all accommodations are reserved in advance; provided, however, that a private owner-occupied property shall be considered a single unit if leased or rented as such. For the purpose of this, the Accessory Dwelling Unit Bylaw, a short-term rental shall be anything leased for

### **Article 25 Amend Zoning Bylaw - Floodplain District**

#### **Voted Yes 315 No 23 2/3 Vote Achieved**

That the Town amend the Town of Marblehead Zoning Bylaws Floodplain District, as follows (underline and bold is new language and ~~cross-out is removed language~~) and change all the rubrics accordingly. (Part A and Part B)

#### Part A:

#### ARTICLE III ZONING DISTRICTS section § 200-8 Paragraph C

The Floodplain District is herein established as an overlay district. The **Floodplain District** includes all special flood hazard areas within the Town of Marblehead designated as Zone A, AE, **AH**, AO, **A99, V**, and VE on the Essex County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), **July 8, 2025**, issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), ~~successor to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD~~ for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The map panels of the Essex County FIRM that are wholly or partially within the Town of Marblehead are panel numbers 25009C0419G, 25009C0438G, 25009C0439G, 25009C0443G, ~~25009C0532G~~, 25009C0551G, and 25009C0552G dated July 16, 2014, **25009C0532H, dated July 8, 2025**. ~~The map indicates the one hundred year regulatory floodplain. The exact boundaries of the district may be defined by the one hundred year base flood elevations shown on~~ **The exact boundaries of the Floodplain District shall be defined by the 1%-chance base flood elevations shown on the** FIRM and further defined by the Flood Insurance Study report dated ~~July 16, 2014~~ **July 8, 2025**. The FIRM and Flood Insurance Study report **are incorporated herein by reference and** are on file with the **Town Engineer**, Town Clerk, the Building Commissioner, and Conservation Commission.

Part B:

§ 200 Article XII, § 200-46. Floodplain District.

The Floodplain District is ~~established as~~ an overlay district to all other districts. All development in the **Floodplain District**, including structural and nonstructural activities, whether permitted by right or by special permit must be in compliance with MGL c. 131, § 40 and with the following:

A. Sections of the Massachusetts State Building Code (780 CMR) which address floodplain and coastal high hazard areas;

B. Wetlands Protection Regulations, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) (currently 310 CMR 10.00);

C. Inland Wetlands Restriction, DEP (currently 310 CMR 13.00);

D. Coastal Wetlands Restriction, DEP (currently 310 CMR 12.00);

E. Minimum Requirements for the Subsurface Disposal of Sanitary Sewage, DEP (currently 310 CMR 15, Title 5);

~~F. Any variances from the provisions and requirements of the above referenced state regulations may only be granted in accordance with the required variance procedures of these state regulations.~~

§ 200-47. Purpose.

~~The purpose of the Floodplain District is to protect the public health, safety, and general welfare, to protect human life and property from the hazards of periodic flooding and to preserve the natural flood control characteristics and the flood storage capacity of the floodplain.~~

**The purpose of the Floodplain District is to:**

7. **Ensure public safety through reducing the threats to life and personal injury**
8. **Eliminate new hazards to emergency response officials**
9. **Prevent the occurrence of public emergencies resulting from water quality, contamination, and pollution due to flooding**
10. **Avoid the loss of utility services which if damaged by flooding would disrupt or shut down the utility network and impact regions of the community beyond the site of flooding**
11. **Eliminate costs associated with the response and cleanup of flooding conditions**
12. **Reduce damage to public and private property resulting from flooding waters**

**§ 200-48. Designation of community Floodplain Administrator**



**The Town of Marblehead hereby designates the position of Town Engineer to be the official floodplain administrator for the Town.**

**§ 200-49. Permits are required for all proposed development in the Floodplain District**

**The Town of Marblehead requires a permit for all proposed construction or other development in the Floodplain District, including new construction or changes to existing buildings, placement of manufactured homes, placement of agricultural facilities, fences, sheds, storage facilities or drilling, mining, paving and any other development that might increase flooding or adversely impact flood risks to other properties ("Floodplain District Work Permit"). Floodplain District Work Permits shall be issued by the Marblehead Building Commissioner, who shall create a form application and process for said permits.**

**§ 200-50 Enforcement.**

**The Building Commissioner or their designee(s) shall enforce the provisions of Article XII.**

**§ 200-51. Assure that all necessary permits are obtained**

**The Town's permit review process includes the requirement that the proponent obtain all local, state and federal permits that will be necessary in order to carry out the proposed development in the Floodplain District. The proponent must acquire all necessary permits, and must demonstrate that all necessary permits have been acquired. Floodplain District Work Permits shall be issued by the Marblehead Building Commissioner.**

**§ 200-4852. Development regulations.**

The following requirements apply in the Floodplain District:

A. Within Zone A and AE, where the base flood elevation is not provided on the FIRM the applicant shall obtain any existing base flood elevation data and it shall be reviewed by the Building Inspector for its reasonable utilization toward meeting the elevation of the floodproofing requirements, as appropriate, of the State Building Code.

**B. Floodway encroachment**

- (1)** In Zones A, **A1-30**, and AE, along watercourses that have not had a regulatory floodway designated, the best available federal, state, local or other floodway data shall be used to prohibit encroachments in floodways which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

**(2) In Zones A1-30 and AE, along watercourses that have a regulatory floodway designated on the Town's FIRM encroachments are prohibited, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development within the adopted regulatory floodway unless it has been demonstrated through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practice that the proposed encroachment would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.**

C. Base flood elevation data is required for subdivision proposals or other developments greater than 50 lots or five acres, whichever is the lesser, ~~within unnumbered A Zones~~ **the proponent must provide technical data to determine base flood elevations for each developable parcel shown on the design plans.**

D. ~~Within Zone A and AE, all new construction and substantial improvements of residential structures have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above the base flood level.~~ **Unnumbered A Zones: In A Zones, in the absence of FEMA BFE data and floodway data, the building department will obtain, review and reasonably utilize base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State, or other source as criteria for requiring new construction, substantial improvements, or other development in Zone A and as the basis for elevating residential structures to or above base flood level, for floodproofing or elevating nonresidential structures to or above base flood level, and for prohibiting encroachments in floodways.**

E. There shall be no "manufactured homes" within Zone AE.

F. ~~No new construction or substantial improvements, or other development shall be allowed within Zone AE, unless the applicant demonstrates to the Building Commissioner that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any point within the community.~~ **Recreational vehicles: in A, A1-30, AH, AO, AE Zones, V1-30, VE, and V Zones, all recreational vehicles to be placed on a site must be elevated and anchored in accordance with the zone's regulations for foundation and elevation requirements or be on the site for less than 180 consecutive days or be fully licensed and highway ready**

G. All subdivision proposals **and development proposals in the Floodplain District** must be designed to assure that:

- (1) Such proposals minimize flood damage;
- (2) All public utilities and facilities are located and constructed to minimize flood damage; and
- (3) Adequate drainage is provided.

H. Within Zone AO **and AH** on the FIRM, adequate drainage paths must be provided around structures on slopes, to guide floodwaters around and away from proposed structures.

I. Located within the Floodplain District are areas designated as coastal high hazard areas (Zone VE, **V1-30, V**). Since these areas are extremely hazardous due to high velocity waters from tidal surges and hurricane wave wash, the following provisions shall apply:

- (1) All new construction shall be located landward of the reach of the mean high tide.
- (2) Man-made alteration of sand dunes within flood damage are prohibited.

J. In a riverine situation, the ~~Engineering and Conservation Administrator~~ **Floodplain Administrator or their designee(e)** shall notify the following of any alteration or relocation of a watercourse:

- (1) Adjacent communities.
- (2) Bordering states, **if affected**.
- (3) NFIP State Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, 251 Causeway Street, Suite 600-700, Boston, MA 02114-2104.
- (4) NFIP Program Specialist, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I, 99 High Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02110.

**§ 200-53. Protection of dunes**

**Alteration of sand dunes is prohibited when the alteration would increase potential flood damage.**

**§ 200-54 Variances to building code floodplain standards**

**Any variances from the provisions and requirements of the state regulations referenced above in Article XII, § 200-46 may only be granted in accordance with the required variance procedures of these state regulations.**

**The Town will request from the State Building Code Appeals Board a written and/or audible copy of the portion of the hearing related to the variance, and will maintain this record in the community's files.**

**The Town shall also issue a letter to the property owner regarding potential impacts to the annual premiums for the flood insurance policy covering that property, in writing over the signature of a community official that (i) the issuance of a variance to construct a structure below the base flood level will result in increased premium rates for flood insurance up to amounts as high as \$25 for \$100 of insurance coverage and (ii) such construction below the base flood level increases risks to life and property.**

Such notification shall be maintained with the record of all variance actions for the referenced development in the Floodplain District.

§ 200-55 Variances to local Zoning Bylaws related to community compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

A variance from these floodplain bylaws must meet the requirements set out by State law, and may only be granted if: 1) good and sufficient cause and exceptional non-financial hardship exist; 2) the variance will not result in additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, or fraud or victimization of the public; and 3) the variance is the minimum action necessary to afford relief.

§ 200-56 Abrogation and greater restriction section

The floodplain management regulations found in this Article XII shall take precedence over any less restrictive conflicting local laws, ordinances or codes.

§ 200-57 Disclaimer of liability

The degree of flood protection required by this Article XII is considered reasonable but does not imply total flood protection.

§ 200-58 Severability section

If any section, provision or portion of this Article XII is deemed to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court, the remainder of the ordinance shall be effective.

§ 200-59 Requirement to submit new technical data

If the Town acquires data that changes the base flood elevation in the FEMA mapped Special Flood Hazard Areas, the Town will, within 6 months, notify FEMA of these changes by submitting the technical or scientific data that supports the change(s.) Notification shall be submitted to:

- NFIP State Coordinator
  - Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
- NFIP Program Specialist
  - Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I

§ 200-4960. Definitions.

The following definitions shall apply to the terms used within this ~~Floodplain District Bylaw~~ Article XII.

#### AREA OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

The land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. The area may be designated as Zone A, AO, AH, A1-30, AE, A99, V1-30, VE, or V.

#### BASE FLOOD

The flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

#### COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREA

An area of special flood hazard extending from offshore to the inland limit of a primary frontal dune along an open coast and any other area subject to high velocity wave action from storms or seismic sources. The area is designated on a FIRM as Zone VE.

#### DEVELOPMENT

Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to building or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations. **[US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

#### ~~DISTRICT~~

~~Floodplain district.~~

#### FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)

Administers the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA provides a nationwide flood hazard area mapping study program for communities as well as regulatory standards for development in the flood hazard areas.

#### FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM)

An official map of a community on which FEMA has delineated both the areas of special flood hazard and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

#### FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY

An examination, evaluation, and determination of flood hazards, and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

#### **FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR**

**The official responsible to report to the Federal Insurance Administrator concerning the community participation in the Program, including, but not limited to the development and implementation of floodplain management regulations.**

#### **FLOODWAY**

The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land **and** areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation **more than a designated height. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]**

#### **FUNCTIONALLY DEPENDENT USE**

**A use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. The term includes only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship building and ship repair facilities, but does not include long-term storage or related manufacturing facilities. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59] Also [Referenced Standard ASCE 24-14]**

#### **HIGHEST ADJACENT GRADE**

**The highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

#### **HISTORIC STRUCTURE**

**Any structure that is:**

- (a) Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;**
- (b) Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;**
- (c) Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or**
- (d) Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:**

- (1) By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or**  
**(2) Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

#### LOWEST FLOOR

The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement area is not considered a building's lowest floor, provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable nonelevation design requirements of NFIP Regulations 60.3.

#### MANUFACTURED HOME

A structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities. For floodplain management purposes the term "manufactured home" also includes park trailers, travel trailers, and other similar vehicles placed on a site for greater than 180 consecutive days. For insurance purposes, the term "manufactured home" does not include park trailers, travel trailers, and other similar vehicles.

#### MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION

A parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.

#### NEW CONSTRUCTION

~~For floodplain management purposes, structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of a floodplain management regulation adopted by a community. For the purpose of determining insurance rates, new construction means structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of an initial FIRM or after December 31, 1974, whichever is later.~~

**Structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of the first floodplain management code, regulation, ordinance, or standard adopted by the authority having jurisdiction, including any subsequent improvements to such structures. New construction includes work determined to be substantial improvement. [Referenced Standard ASCE 24-14]**

#### ONE-HUNDRED-YEAR FLOOD

See "base flood."

#### **RECREATIONAL VEHICLE**

**A vehicle which is: (a) Built on a single chassis; (b) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection; (c) Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and (d) Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

#### **REGULATORY FLOODWAY**

See "floodway."

#### **SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA**

An area having special flood and/or flood-related erosion hazards, and shown on a FIRM as Zone A, AO, A1-30, AE, A99, AH, **AR**, V, **VO**, V1-30, VE. **[Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]**

#### **START OF CONSTRUCTION.**

**The date of issuance for new construction and substantial improvements to existing structures, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement or other improvement is within 180 days after the date of issuance. The actual start of construction means the first placement of permanent construction of a building (including a manufactured home) on a site, such as the pouring of a slab or footings, installation of pilings or construction of columns.**

**Permanent construction does not include land preparation (such as clearing, excavation, grading or filling), the installation of streets or walkways, excavation for a basement, footings, piers or foundations, the erection of temporary forms or the installation of accessory buildings such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main building. For a substantial improvement, the actual "start of construction" means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]**

#### **STRUCTURE**

For floodplain management purposes, a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally aboveground, as well as a manufactured home. ~~Structure, for insurance coverage purposes, means a walled and roofed~~



building, other than a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground and affixed to a permanent site, as well as a manufactured home on foundation. For the latter purpose, the term includes a building while in the course of construction, alteration, or repair, but does not include building materials or supplies intended for use in such construction, alteration, or repair, unless such materials or supplies are within an enclosed building on the premises. **[US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

#### SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE

Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before-damaged condition would equal or exceed 50% of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

#### SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT

Any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50% of the market value of the structure either (a) before the improvement or repair is started, or (b) if the structure has been damaged and is being restored, before the damage occurred. For the purposes of this definition, "substantial improvement" is considered to occur when the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of the building commences, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the structure.

#### **SUBSTANTIAL REPAIR OF FOUNDATION**

**When work to repair or replace a foundation results in the repair or replacement of a portion of the foundation with a perimeter along the base of the foundation that equals or exceeds 50% of the perimeter of the base of the foundation measured in linear feet, or repair or replacement of 50% of the piles, columns or piers of a pile, column or pier supported foundation, the building official shall determine it to be substantial repair of a foundation. Applications determined by the building official to constitute substantial repair of a foundation shall require all existing portions of the entire building or structure to meet the requirements of 780 CMR. [As amended by MA in 9th Edition BC]**

#### **VARIANCE**

**A grant of relief by a community from the terms of a flood plain management regulation. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

#### **VIOLATION**

**The failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's flood plain management regulations. A structure or other**

**development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in §60.3 is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]**

**ZONE A**

~~The one hundred year floodplain area where the base flood elevation (BFE) has not been determined. To determine the BFE, use the best available federal, state, local, or other data.~~

**ZONE AE (for new and revised maps)**

~~The one hundred year floodplain where the base flood elevation has been determined.~~

**ZONE AO**

~~The one hundred year floodplain with flood depths of one to three feet, where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable, and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.~~

**ZONE VE (for new and revised maps)**

~~A special flood hazard area along a coast subject to inundation by the one hundred year flood with additional hazards due to velocity (wave action). Base flood elevations have been determined.~~

**ZONE X**

~~Areas identified in the community Flood Insurance Study as areas of moderate or minimal flood hazard. Zone X replaces Zones B and C on new and revised maps.~~

**Article 26 Prudent Investor**

**Voted Yes 281 No 42**

To accept the provisions of G.L. c. 44, § 54(b) to allow Town trust funds to be invested in accordance with G.L. c. 203C.

**Article 27 General Stabilization Fund**

**Voted Yes 310 No 9**

To transfer \$1,000,000.00 from Free Cash to the Town's General Stabilization Fund.

**Article 28 Home Rule Petition: Establish Means tested Citizen Property Tax Exemptions**

**Voted Yes 297 No 23**

The Town authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court to pass AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF MARBLEHEAD TO ESTABLISH A MEANSTESTED SENIOR CITIZEN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. With respect to each qualifying parcel of real property classified as residential in the

Town of Marblehead, and as established more specifically by the Select Board annually under Section 2, there shall be an exemption from the property tax equal to the total amount of tax that would otherwise be assessed without this exemption plus 50 per cent of the annual water and sewer expense less the sum of: (i) 10 per cent of income, or other such percentage of income as determined under Section 3 of this act; (ii) the circuit breaker income tax credit under subsection (k) of section 6 of chapter 62 of the General Laws the applicant received for the year prior to the year for which the application is being filed; and (iii) any other statutory exemptions or other forms of property tax relief including the Senior Tax Work Off Program; provided, however that in no event shall this exemption be greater than the cap established on an annual basis by the Select Board in accordance with Section 5. The exemption shall be applied to the domicile of the taxpayer only. For the purposes of this act, "parcel" shall mean a unit of real property as defined by the Board of Assessors under the deed for the property and shall include a condominium unit. The exemption provided for in this section shall be in addition to any other exemptions allowed pursuant to the General Laws, unless otherwise removed from the calculation above.

SECTION 2. The Board of Assessors of the Town of Marblehead may deny an application for exemption if the board finds that the applicant has excessive assets that place the applicant outside of the intended recipients of the senior exemption established pursuant to this act; provided, however, that for the purposes of this act, what constitutes "excessive assets" shall be determined by regulations set by the

Select Board. Real property shall qualify for the exemption pursuant to Section 1 if the following criteria are met:

(i) the qualifying real property is owned and occupied by a person whose annual household income does not exceed limitations established by the Select Board in accordance with Section 5; (ii) the qualifying real property is owned by a single applicant who was age 65 or older at the close of the previous year or jointly by persons who are 60 years of age or older, provided that not less than 1 joint owner was age 65 or older at the close of the previous year;

(iii) the qualifying real property is owned and occupied by the applicant or joint applicants as their domicile; (iv) the applicant, or at least 1 of the joint applicants, has been domiciled and owned a home in the Town of Marblehead for not less than 10 consecutive years before filing an application for the exemption; (v) the maximum assessed value of the domicile is not greater than the prior year's average assessed value of a Marblehead single family residence ; (vi) the applicant must file for Circuit Breaker income tax credit under subsection (k) of Chapter 62 of the General Laws, if eligible; and (vii) the Board of Assessors has approved the application for the exemption.

SECTION 3. The exemption under Section 1 shall be in addition to any other exemption allowable under the General Laws, except that there shall be a dollar cap for all real estate exemptions available under this act as set annually by the Select Board of the Town of Marblehead in accordance with Section 5. If benefits to the applicants may be limited because the cap established annually by the Select Board would otherwise be exceeded, the benefits shall be decreased pro rata. SECTION 4. A person who seeks to qualify for the exemption pursuant to Section I shall, before the deadline established by the Board of Assessors of the Town of Marblehead, file an application, on a form adopted by the Board of Assessors, with the supporting documentation as described in the application. The application shall be filed each year for which the applicant seeks the exemption.

SECTION 5. The Select Board may, after consultation with the Board of Assessors and after holding a public hearing for which notice of not less than 7 days provided, promulgate rules and regulations to implement this act.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

## **Article 29 Adjusted Exemption Amount Clause 22I**

### **Voted Yes 298 No 11**

That the town accept General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 22I, which authorizes an annual increase in the amount of the exemption granted under General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 22, Clause 22A, Clause 22B, Clause 22C, Clause 22E and Clause 22F by the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the previous year as

determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective for applicable exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2025.

**Article 30 Optional Additional Veteran Exemption Clause 22J**

**Voted Yes 292 No 18**

That the town accept General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 22J, which authorizes an annual increase in the amount of the exemption granted under General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 22, Clause 22A, Clause 22B, Clause 22C, Clause 22E and Clause 22F by 100% of the personal exemption amount, subject to the conditions in Clause 22J, to be effective for applicable exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2025.

**Article 31 Coffin School Reuse**

**Voted Yes 229 No 86 2/3rds Vote Achieved**

That the Town change the use of the Coffin School building and grounds from school purposes to general municipal purposes and to transfer the care, custody and control of same to the Select Board for further reuse and if appropriate as determined by the Select Board, taking into consideration any recommendations by a Coffin School Reuse Committee to be established by the Select Board, and to further authorize the Select Board to sell the Coffin School building and land in a manner that they determine to be the most beneficial to the Town.

**Article 32 Gerry School Playground (Aka Elm Street Park)**

**Voted Yes 299 No 9 2/3rds vote achieved**

That the Town transfer the care, custody, and control of the Gerry School Playground (also known as Elm Street Park) from the Select Board to the Recreation and Park Commission.

**Article 35 Appropriation of Article 11, May 2, 2022**

**Voted Yes 259 No 22**

That this article be indefinitely postponed

**11:00 PM Adjourned until May 8th at 7:00PM**

**7:10PM with a quorum met the 2025 Annual Town Meeting continued**

**Article 36 Stormwater Enterprise Fund**

**Voted Yes 266 No 118**

That the Town accept the provisions of G.L. c. 44, §53F1/2 and authorize the establishment of a Stormwater Enterprise Fund, effective July 1, 2025.

**Article 37 Rescind Prior Acceptance Of G.L. C. 31 Sec. 58a, Age Limits (Police)  
Voted Yes 375 No 14**

That the Town rescind its prior acceptance of G.L. c. 31 sec. 58A, voted under Article 29 of the 2016 Annual Town Meeting as to police officers only, thereby removing the prohibition of hiring police officers over age 32.

**Article 38 Building Permit Fees  
Voted Yes 294 No 127**

That the Town amend Chapter 30, Section 30-15, sub-sections (B) and (E) of the Town of Marblehead General Bylaws as printed in the Warrant.

**Article 39 Electrical Installation Fees  
Voted Yes 301 No 111**

That the Town amend Chapter 52, Section 52-6, sub-section (A)(2) of the Town of Marblehead General Bylaws as printed in the Warrant.

**Article 40 Building Permit Fees  
Voted Yes 367 No 34  
That this article be indefinitely postponed**

**Article 41 Electrical Installation  
Voted Yes 379 No 32  
That this article be indefinitely postponed**

**Article 42: Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Fund Transfer  
Voted Yes 317 No 89**

That the Town transfer from the Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust to the Cemetery Department the sum of \$80,000 for the purpose of capital needs, maintenance and operations at the Town of Marblehead's municipal cemeteries

**Article 43: Cemetery Sale Of Lots Trust Fund Transfer  
Voted Yes 391 No 24**

That the Town transfer from the Sale of Lots Trust Fund to the Cemetery Department the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of capital needs, maintenance and operations at the Town of Marblehead's municipal cemeteries.

**Article 44: Parking Tickets- Increased Fee For Snow Emergency  
Voted Yes 383 No 47**

That the Town authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court to amend Chapter 37 of the Acts of 2004 and allow the Select Board to establish fines related

to parking violations during a snow emergency at no more than \$ 100 and if not paid within 21 days \$105.

**Article 45 Zoning bylaw by adding provision for the Storage of Fishing Gear and Lobster Traps**

**Voted Yes 418 No 13**

That this article be indefinitely postponed

**Article 46 Appropriate Funds, Independent Audit**

**Voted Yes 405 No 21**

That this article be indefinitely postponed

**Article 47 Sustainability Coordinator**

**Voted Yes 375 No 42**

That this article be indefinitely postponed

**Article 48 Residency Requirements**

**Voted Yes 390 No 29**

That this article be indefinitely postponed

**Article 49 Town Meeting, Parliamentary**

**Voted Yes 380 No 32**

That this article be indefinitely postponed

**Article 50 Placement of Prop 2 ½ on Ballot -Advisory Only**

**Voted Yes 335 No 102**

I make a motion for the town to advise the Select Board to present any Propositions 2 1/2 tax override articles to the voters on the ballot as single items corresponding to the article(s) as presented at Town Meeting.

**Article 51 Town Meeting Reconsideration Procedure**

**Voted Yes 398 No 26**

That this article be indefinitely postponed

**Article 52 Amend Bylaws -Recall Provision**

**Amended Motion**

**Not Approved Yes 96 No 328**

**Article 52 Amend Bylaws -Recall Provision**

**Voted Yes 115 No 231**

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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I move for the town to vote to amend the Town Bylaws by adding a recall provision for all elected town officials with term lengths greater than one year and direct the Select Board to submit a home rule petition to the legislature for the acceptance of the same, following the approval of the proposal by Town Meeting, after which, when approved by the Legislature, it shall be inserted in the appropriate section of the Bylaws.

Insert in the appropriate section in the Bylaws of the town of Marblehead:

### §XXX-1 Purpose

This chapter establishes the process for the recall of any elected town official of the Town of Marblehead whose term exceeds one year.

### §XXX-2 Applicability.

This chapter shall apply to all elected town officials with term lengths greater than one year.

### § XXX-3 Timing Restrictions.

Recall proceedings may be commenced no sooner than six (6) months after the official takes office provided that no recall shall be initiated if there are three (3) months or less remaining in the term of office of the official sought to be recalled.

### XXX-4 Initiation of Recall.

- A. A recall action shall be initiated by the filing of an affidavit with the Town Clerk.
- B. The affidavit shall be signed under oath or before a notary public by at least two percent (2% of the registered voters of the Town, as of the date of the last town election.
- C. The affidavit shall state the name and office of the elected official sought to be recalled and the specific reasons for the recall.
- D. One signer shall be identified as the primary petitioner at the time of filing.

### XXX-5 Issuance of Petition Forms.

- A. Upon verification by the Board of Registrars that the affidavit contains the signatures of at least two percent (2%) of registered voters, as of the date of the last town election, the Town Clerk shall, within five (5) days, issue petition forms to the primary petitioner.
- B. The petition forms shall include:

- (1) the name and office of the official sought to be recalled;
- (2) the names and addresses of the first ten (10) signers;
- (3) the specific reasons for recall;
- (4) the date and time of issuance of the forms.

### XXX-6 Return of Petition Forms.

- A. Recall petition forms shall be filed with the Board of Registrars by no later than 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth (30th) day following issuance.



## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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B. If thirtieth (30th) day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the petitions shall be filed on the next business day.

C. The petitions shall contain valid signatures equal to at least twenty (20%) of the registered voters of the Town, as of the date of the last town election.

### XXX-7 Certification of Petitions.

The Board of Registrars shall certify the validity of the required number of signatures, increased by one-fifth (1/5) thereof if additional signatures have been filed, within five (5) days after the filing deadline.

### XXX-8 Notice to Elected Officials.

A. Upon certification of sufficient signatures, the Board of Registrars shall forthwith cause written notice to be served upon the official sought to be recalled. B. The notice shall be served in hand or at the official's residence, as shown on the official list of voters, by a town constable or other process server. C. The notice shall contain:

(1) the specific reasons given for recall;

(2) a statement advising the official of the right to resign by delivering written notice to the Town Clerk within seven (7) calendar days of service.

§ XXX-9 Scheduling of Recall Election. A. If the official does not resign within seven (7) days, the Select Board shall forthwith set a date for the recall election.

B. The calling and conduct of the recall election shall be in accordance with all applicable General Laws relative to elections.

### § XXX-10 Timing of Recall Election.

A. A recall election shall be held not less than sixty-four (64) days and not more than ninety (90) days from the date the Select Board calls the election. B. If an annual town election is scheduled within one hundred (100) days of certification of the recall petitions, the recall election shall be postponed to the date of the annual town election and may, at the discretion of the Select Board, appear on the same or a separate ballot. C. The polls shall be open during the same hours as for the most recent annual town election.

### § XXX-II Ballot Format and Candidate Participation.

A. The ballot shall contain two (2) propositions in the following order:

(1) "For the Recall of [Name of Official] [Title]"

(2) "Against the Recall of [Name of Official] [Title]"

B. The ballot shall also contain the names of the candidates nominated to fill a vacancy resulting from a vote for recall.

C. The official subject to recall may appear on the ballot as a candidate to fill the vacancy by notifying the Town Clerk in writing.

D. The recall election shall take place notwithstanding any vacancy occurring prior thereto.

### XXX-12 Outcome of Election.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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A. If the majority of votes cast are in favor of recall, the candidate receiving the greatest number of votes shall be deemed elected or re-elected to fill the remainder of the term.

B. If the recall fails, the incumbent shall continue in office for the remainder of the term.

§ XXX-13 Limitations on Subsequent Recalls.

No second recall against the same elected official shall be initiated until at least six (6) months after the date of the first recall election

**At 9:25 PM the Moderator Dissolved the 2025 Annual Town Meeting**

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
County of Essex, ss  
to Any Constable in the Town of Marblehead  
Greeting:

You are hereby required and directed in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Marblehead aforesaid who are qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs to meet at the several designated polling places in their respective precincts in said Marblehead to wit:

|            |                                     |                       |
|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Precinct 1 | Abbot Hall                          | 188 Washington Street |
| Precinct 2 | Abbot Hall                          | 188 Washington Street |
| Precinct 3 | Marblehead High School, Field House | 2 Humphrey Street     |
| Precinct 4 | Marblehead High School, Field House | 2 Humphrey Street     |
| Precinct 5 | Marblehead High School, Field House | 2 Humphrey Street     |
| Precinct 6 | Marblehead High School, Field House | 2 Humphrey Street     |

On Tuesday, the 10th day of June 2025 A.D. (it being the second Tuesday in June) at 7 o'clock in the forenoon then and there to bring into the precinct officers of their respective precincts their votes on one ballot for the following-named Town Officers and following Questions to wit:

|                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Select Board                     | 1 for 3 years                  |
| Moderator                        | 1 for 1 year                   |
| Town Clerk                       | 1 for 3 years                  |
| Cemetery                         | 1 for 3 years                  |
| Cemetery                         | 1 for 1-year un-expired term   |
| Cemetery                         | 1 for a 2-year un-expired term |
| Library Trustee                  | 2 for 3 years                  |
| Housing Authority                | 1 for 5 years                  |
| Library Trustee                  | 2 for 3 years                  |
| Light commissioner               | 2 for 3years                   |
| Light Commissioner               | 1 for 1-year un-expired term   |
| Planning Board                   | 1 for 3 years                  |
| Recreation and Park Commissioner | 5 for 1 year                   |
| School Committee                 | 2 for 3 years                  |
| Water and Sewer                  | 2 for 3 years                  |
| Water and Sewer                  | 1 for 1-year un-expired term   |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### Question 1

Shall the Town of Marblehead be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay costs of design, construction, repair, renovation, furnishing, and equipping of the Mary A. Alley Building, including windows, elevators and HVAC systems and acquiring and installing a new roof, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto?

YES\_\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_\_

### Question 2

Shall the Town of Marblehead be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay additional costs of a new roof at the Town's High School, including the acquisition and installation of new rooftop HVAC units, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto?

YES\_\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_\_

For these purposes the polls will be open at each and all of said precincts at 7 o'clock in the forenoon and will be closed at 8 o'clock in the afternoon at each and all of said precincts and you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof at Abbot Hall and ten (10) other conspicuous places in Town as required by the Bylaws not later than June 3, 2025.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant or a certified copy thereof with our doings thereon, to each of the several precinct wardens at the time and place of meetings aforesaid and to the Town Clerk as soon as may be before the said meetings.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Given under our hands at Marblehead aforesaid this  
14th day of May 2025.

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ERIN M. NOONAN, Chair

---

M. C. MOSES GRADER

---

DAN FOX

---

ALEXA J. SINGER

---

BRET T. MURRAY

Select Board of the Town of Marblehead

True Copy

Attest: May 28th, 2025, Christopher Comeau, Constable

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### Marblehead Massachusetts Annual Town Election Tuesday June 10, 2025

The Number of Votes Cast were as follows:

| Precinct | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | Total |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Turnout  | 1257  | 1136  | 985   | 1047  | 1026  | 1170  | 6621  |
| %        | 43.7% | 39.1% | 37.0% | 37.4% | 37.9% | 42.9% | 39.7% |

### Canvas Completed 11:00 PM

#### Select Board 3 Year Term

Vote for not more than One

| Precinct                | 1           | 2           | 3          | 4           | 5           | 6           | Total       |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Yael Magen              | 361         | 344         | 311        | 308         | 325         | 361         | 2010        |
| James Richard<br>Zisson | 803         | 684         | 581        | 653         | 620         | 714         | 4055        |
| All Others              | 1           | 1           | 2          | 1           | 3           | 4           | 12          |
| Blanks                  | 92          | 107         | 91         | 85          | 78          | 91          | 544         |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b> |

#### Moderator 1 Year Term

Vote for not more than One

| Precinct         | 1           | 2           | 3          | 4           | 5           | 6           | Total       |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| John G. Attridge | 894         | 851         | 742        | 806         | 769         | 843         | 4905        |
| All Others       | 13          | 9           | 9          | 4           | 4           | 13          | 52          |
| Blanks           | 350         | 276         | 234        | 237         | 253         | 314         | 1664        |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b> |

#### Assessors 3 Year Term

Vote for not more than One

| Precinct             | 1           | 2           | 3          | 4           | 5           | 6           | Total       |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Michael V. Cannuscio | 806         | 757         | 649        | 683         | 709         | 747         | 4351        |
| All Others           | 2           | 1           | 3          | 2           | 1           | 5           | 14          |
| Blanks               | 449         | 378         | 333        | 362         | 316         | 418         | 2256        |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b> |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### **Town Clerk 3 Year Term**

Vote for not more than One

| <b>Precinct</b>     | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Robin A. Michaud    | 637         | 564         | 495        | 563         | 500         | 627         | <b>3386</b>  |
| Melissa E. Flanagan | 164         | 194         | 122        | 125         | 111         | 137         | <b>853</b>   |
| Theresa M. Tauro    | 380         | 322         | 298        | 299         | 343         | 339         | <b>1981</b>  |
| All Others          | 0           | 0           | 0          | 0           | 0           | 0           | <b>0</b>     |
| Blanks              | 76          | 56          | 70         | 60          | 72          | 67          | <b>401</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b>  |

### **Cemetery Commission 3 Year Term**

Vote for not more than One

| <b>Precinct</b>       | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Gerald P. Tucker, Jr. | 637         | 573         | 467        | 477         | 461         | 566         | <b>3181</b>  |
| Rose A. McCarthy      | 325         | 337         | 277        | 316         | 307         | 312         | <b>1874</b>  |
| All Others            | 0           | 0           | 2          | 1           | 1           | 3           | <b>7</b>     |
| Blanks                | 295         | 226         | 239        | 253         | 257         | 289         | <b>1559</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b>  |

### **Cemetery Commission 1 Year Unexpired Term**

Vote for not more than One

| <b>Precinct</b> | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| David J. Meyer  | 808         | 756         | 363        | 682         | 721         | 753         | <b>4356</b>  |
| All Others      | 1           | 1           | 2          | 0           | 2           | 2           | <b>8</b>     |
| Blanks          | 448         | 379         | 347        | 365         | 303         | 415         | <b>2257</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b>  |

### **Cemetery Commission 2 Year Unexpired Term**

Vote for not more than One

| <b>Precinct</b> | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| David Rodgers   | 927         | 846         | 701        | 749         | 734         | 798         | <b>4755</b>  |
| All Others      | 0           | 3           | 2          | 0           | 2           | 1           | <b>8</b>     |
| Blanks          | 330         | 287         | 282        | 298         | 290         | 371         | <b>1858</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>1527</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b>  |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### Board of Health 3 Year Term

Vote for not more than One

| <b>Precinct</b>  | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Amanda Ritvo     | 737         | 639         | 573        | 613         | 679         | 756         | <b>3997</b>  |
| Kimberly Crowley | 402         | 394         | 309        | 310         | 261         | 331         | <b>2007</b>  |
| All Others       | 1           | 0           | 1          | 0           | 2           | 0           | <b>4</b>     |
| Blanks           | 117         | 103         | 102        | 124         | 84          | 83          | <b>613</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b>  |

### Housing Authority 5 Year Term

Vote for not more than One

| <b>Precinct</b>  | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Theresa M. Tauro | 755         | 689         | 603        | 607         | 627         | 692         | <b>3973</b>  |
| All Others       | 4           | 7           | 6          | 3           | 4           | 10          | <b>34</b>    |
| Blanks           | 498         | 440         | 376        | 437         | 395         | 468         | <b>2614</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b>  |

### Library Trustee 3 Year Term

Vote for not more than Two

| <b>Precinct</b>    | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>    | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Marjorie Norman    | 735         | 671         | 583         | 610         | 635         | 683         | <b>3917</b>  |
| Kathleen A. Waslov | 668         | 614         | 512         | 546         | 572         | 605         | <b>3517</b>  |
| All Others         | 3           | 0           | 2           | 0           | 1           | 5           | <b>11</b>    |
| Blanks             | 1108        | 987         | 873         | 938         | 844         | 1047        | <b>5797</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>2514</b> | <b>2272</b> | <b>1970</b> | <b>2094</b> | <b>2052</b> | <b>2340</b> | <b>13242</b> |

### Municipal Light Commissioner 3 Year Term

Vote for not more than Two

| <b>Precinct</b>     | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>    | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Jean-Jaques Yarmoff | 722         | 641         | 539         | 560         | 622         | 652         | <b>3736</b>  |
| Michael A. Hull     | 771         | 728         | 629         | 651         | 638         | 703         | <b>4120</b>  |
| All Others          | 0           | 1           | 3           | 3           | 2           | 4           | <b>13</b>    |
| Blanks              | 1021        | 902         | 799         | 880         | 790         | 981         | <b>5373</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>2514</b> | <b>2272</b> | <b>1970</b> | <b>2094</b> | <b>2052</b> | <b>2340</b> | <b>13242</b> |



## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### Municipal Light Commissioner 1 Year Unexpired Term

Vote for not more than One

| <b>Precinct</b>       | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Matthew B. Harrington | 785         | 716         | 617        | 630         | 668         | 724         | <b>4140</b>  |
| All Others            | 2           | 2           | 1          | 1           | 1           | 1           | <b>8</b>     |
| Blanks                | 470         | 418         | 367        | 416         | 357         | 445         | <b>2473</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b>  |

### Planning Board 3 Year Term

Vote for not more than One

| <b>Precinct</b>   | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| J. Timothy Swigor | 485         | 462         | 367        | 376         | 354         | 415         | <b>2459</b>  |
| Edward Nilsson    | 660         | 550         | 495        | 533         | 528         | 602         | <b>3368</b>  |
| All Others        | 0           | 0           | 0          | 1           | 0           | 0           | <b>1</b>     |
| Blanks            | 112         | 124         | 123        | 137         | 144         | 153         | <b>793</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b>  |

### Recreation and Park Commission 1 Year Term

Vote for not more than Five

| <b>Precinct</b>          | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>    | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Christopher E. Kennedy   | 786         | 729         | 598         | 605         | 605         | 688         | <b>4011</b>  |
| Rossana Ferrante         | 640         | 587         | 513         | 547         | 525         | 616         | <b>3428</b>  |
| Karin Ernst              | 649         | 595         | 510         | 546         | 549         | 639         | <b>3488</b>  |
| Shelly Curran Bedrossian | 633         | 597         | 523         | 528         | 545         | 608         | <b>3434</b>  |
| Larry J. Simpson         | 685         | 597         | 482         | 529         | 521         | 570         | <b>3384</b>  |
| All Others               | 12          | 2           | 8           | 7           | 1           | 1           | <b>31</b>    |
| Blanks                   | 2880        | 2573        | 2291        | 2473        | 2384        | 2728        | <b>15329</b> |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>6285</b> | <b>5680</b> | <b>4925</b> | <b>5235</b> | <b>5130</b> | <b>5850</b> | <b>33105</b> |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### School Committee 3 Year Term

Vote for not more than Two

| <b>Precinct</b>           | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>    | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Sarah A. Fox              | 128         | 105         | 100         | 94          | 128         | 101         | <b>656</b>   |
| Alison Taylor             | 145         | 125         | 121         | 123         | 113         | 166         | <b>793</b>   |
| Katherine B. Schmeckpeper | 926         | 820         | 698         | 774         | 760         | 855         | <b>4833</b>  |
| Henry Gwazda              | 827         | 750         | 647         | 704         | 676         | 754         | <b>4358</b>  |
| Emily Dejoy               | 301         | 252         | 249         | 255         | 236         | 304         | <b>1597</b>  |
| All Others                | 1           | 2           | 0           | 3           | 0           | 0           | <b>6</b>     |
| Blanks                    | 186         | 218         | 155         | 141         | 139         | 160         | <b>999</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>2514</b> | <b>2272</b> | <b>1970</b> | <b>2094</b> | <b>2052</b> | <b>2340</b> | <b>13242</b> |

### Water & Sewer Commission 3 Year Term

Vote for not more than Two

| <b>Precinct</b>  | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>    | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Thomas L. Murray | 767         | 699         | 603         | 625         | 591         | 692         | <b>3977</b>  |
| James T. Maher   | 594         | 552         | 470         | 492         | 559         | 552         | <b>3219</b>  |
| All Others       | 0           | 1           | 1           | 1           | 0           | 4           | <b>7</b>     |
| Blanks           | 1153        | 1020        | 896         | 976         | 902         | 1092        | <b>6039</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>2514</b> | <b>2272</b> | <b>1970</b> | <b>2094</b> | <b>2052</b> | <b>2340</b> | <b>13242</b> |

### Water & Sewer Commission 1 Year Unexpired Term

Vote for not more than One

| <b>Precinct</b> | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Gregory W. Burt | 818         | 751         | 625        | 630         | 667         | 724         | <b>4215</b>  |
| All Others      | 1           | 1           | 1          | 0           | 0           | 2           | <b>5</b>     |
| Blanks          | 438         | 384         | 359        | 417         | 359         | 444         | <b>2401</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b>  |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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**Question 1:** Shall the Town of Marblehead be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay costs of design, construction, repair, renovation, furnishing, and equipping of the Mary A. Alley Building, including windows, elevators and HVAC systems and acquiring and installing a new roof, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto?

| <b>Precinct</b> | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| YES             | 737         | 689         | 601        | 659         | 616         | 786         | 4088         |
| NO              | 331         | 352         | 293        | 269         | 313         | 299         | 1857         |
| Blanks          | 189         | 95          | 91         | 119         | 97          | 85          | 676          |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b>  |

**Question 2:** Shall the Town of Marblehead be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay additional costs of a new roof at the Town's High School, including the acquisition and installation of new rooftop HVAC units, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto?

| <b>Precinct</b> | <b>1</b>    | <b>2</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>6</b>    | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| YES             | 776         | 740         | 678        | 706         | 685         | 851         | 4436         |
| NO              | 302         | 308         | 226        | 230         | 262         | 251         | 1579         |
| Blanks          | 179         | 88          | 81         | 111         | 79          | 68          | 606          |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>1257</b> | <b>1136</b> | <b>985</b> | <b>1047</b> | <b>1026</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>6621</b>  |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
County of Essex, ss  
to Any Constable in the Town of Marblehead  
Greeting:

You are hereby required and directed in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Marblehead aforesaid who are qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs to meet at the several designated polling places in their respective precincts in said Marblehead to wit:

|            |                                            |                       |
|------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Precinct 1 | <b>Abbot Hall</b>                          | 188 Washington Street |
| Precinct 2 | <b>Abbot Hall</b>                          | 188 Washington Street |
| Precinct 3 | <b>Marblehead High School, Field House</b> | 2 Humphrey Street     |
| Precinct 4 | <b>Marblehead High School, Field House</b> | 2 Humphrey Street     |
| Precinct 5 | <b>Marblehead High School, Field House</b> | 2 Humphrey Street     |
| Precinct 6 | <b>Marblehead High School, Field House</b> | 2 Humphrey Street     |

**On Tuesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> day of July 2025 A.D.** (it being the second Tuesday in July) at 2 o'clock in the afternoon then and there to bring into the precinct officers of their respective precincts their votes on one ballot for the following Question to wit:

### **Question 1**

Shall the town vote to approve the action of the town meeting wherein the Town Meeting voted to approve Article 23, the adoption of three G.L. c 40A sec. 3A zoning overlay districts?

\_\_\_ Yes\_\_\_ No

A yes vote on Question 1 would affirm the Town's adoption of the zoning amendment described in the informational handout.

A no vote on Question 1 would repeal the Town's adoption of the zoning amendment described in the informational handout.

For these purposes the polls will be open at each and all of said precincts at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and will be closed at 8 o'clock in the afternoon at each and all of said precincts and you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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at Abbot Hall and ten (10) other conspicuous places in Town as required by the Bylaws not later than July 1, 2025.

Hereof fail not and make do return of this Warrant or a certified copy thereof with our doings thereon, to each of the several precinct wardens at the time and place of meetings aforesaid and to the Town Clerk as soon as may be before the said meetings.

Given under our hands at Marblehead aforesaid this  
19<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

---

ERIN M. NOONAN, Chair

---

ALEXA J. SINGER

---

M. C. MOSES GRADER

---

BRET T. MURRAY

---

DAN FOX

Select Board of the Town of Marblehead

True Copy

Attest: June 12, 2025, Christopher Comeau, Constable

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### Marblehead Massachusetts Special Referendum Election Tuesday July 8, 2025

The Number of Votes Cast were as follows:

| Precinct | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | Total |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Turnout  | 1348  | 1186  | 1016  | 1123  | 1121  | 1148  | 6942  |
| %        | 46.8% | 40.6% | 38.0% | 40.0% | 41.4% | 42.0% | 41.5% |

### Canvas Completed 9:30 PM

#### Question 1

Shall the town vote to approve the action of the town meeting wherein the Town Meeting voted to approve Article 23, the adoption of three G.L. c 40A sec. 3A zoning overlay districts?

☐ Yes      ☐ No

A yes vote on Question 1 would affirm the Town's adoption of the zoning amendment described in the informational handout.

A no vote on Question 1 would repeal the Town's adoption of the zoning amendment described in the informational handout.

| Precinct | 1    | 2    | 3    | 4    | 5    | 6    | Total |
|----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| YES      | 662  | 544  | 452  | 580  | 488  | 571  | 3297  |
| NO       | 686  | 641  | 564  | 542  | 632  | 577  | 3642  |
| Blanks   | 0    | 1    | 0    | 1    | 1    | 0    | 3     |
| Total    | 1348 | 1186 | 1016 | 1123 | 1121 | 1148 | 6942  |

**TOWN OF MARBLEHEAD ELECTED OFFICIALS 2025**

**SELECT BOARD**

**--Abbot Hall, Marblehead, MA 01945**

|                      | <b>Term Expires</b> |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Erin M. Noonan       | 2026                |
| Daniel Fox           | 2027                |
| Moses Grader         | 2027                |
| James Richard Zisson | 2028                |
| Alexa J. Singer      | 2026                |

**MODERATOR**

|                  | <b>Term Expires</b> |
|------------------|---------------------|
| John G. Attridge | 2026                |

**TOWN CLERK**

**--Abbot Hall, Marblehead, MA 01945**

|                  | <b>Term Expires</b> |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Robin A. Michaud | 2028                |

**ASSESSORS**

**--Mary A. Alley Building, Widger Road, Marblehead, MA 01945**

|                      | <b>Term Expires</b> |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| John P. Kelley       | 2026                |
| Jonathan Lederman    | 2027                |
| Michael V. Cannuscio | 2028                |

**CEMETERY COMMISSION**

**--Waterside Cemetery, Marblehead, MA 01945**

|                                     | <b>Term Expires</b> |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Gerald P. Tucker (Resigned 12/2025) | 2028                |
| David C. Rodgers                    | 2027                |
| David J. Meyer                      | 2026                |

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

**--Mary A. Alley Building, Widger Road, Marblehead, MA 01945**

|                       | <b>Term Expires</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Amanda R. Ritvo       | 2028                |
| Thomas R. McMahon     | 2026                |
| Thomas Andrew Massaro | 2027                |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### **HOUSING AUTHORITY**

**--26 Rowland Street, Marblehead, MA 01945**

|                                | <b>Term Expires</b> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Jean R. Eldridge               | 2026                |
| Kristin Elizabeth Dubay Horton | 2029                |
| Theresa M. Tauro               | 2030                |

### **TRUSTEES OF ABBOT PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**--235 Pleasant Street, Marblehead, MA 01945**

|                         | <b>Term Expires</b> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Gary James Amberik, Jr. | 2026                |
| Katherine H. Barker     | 2026                |
| Marjorie Norman         | 2028                |
| Kathleen A. Waslov      | 2028                |
| David F. Ross           | 2027                |
| John G. Williams        | 2027                |

### **MARBLEHEAD MUNICIPAL LIGHT COMMISSIONER**

**-80 Commercial St., Marblehead, MA 01945**

|                       | <b>Term Expires</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Simon David Frechette | 2027                |
| Michael A. Hull       | 2028                |
| Adam Robert Smith     | 2027                |
| Matthew B. Harrington | 2026                |
| Jean-Jacques Yarmoff  | 2028                |

### **PLANNING BOARD**

**--c/o Community Development Planning Department, Mary A. Alley Building,  
Marblehead, MA 01945**

|                       | <b>Term Expires</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Andrew G. Christensen | 2027                |
| Barton HYTE           | 2027                |
| Marc J. Liebman       | 2026                |
| Edward Nilsson        | 2028                |
| Robert J. Schaeffner  | 2026                |

### **RECREATION & PARK COMMISSION**

**--Marblehead Community Center, 10 Humphrey Street, Marblehead, MA**  
**Term Expires**



## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| Shelly Curran Bedrossian | 2026 |
| Christopher E. Kennedy   | 2026 |
| Karin L. Ernst           | 2026 |
| Rossana Ferrante         | 2026 |
| Larry J. Simpson         | 2026 |

### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**--Mary A. Alley Building, Widger Road, Marblehead, MA 01945**

#### **Term Expires**

|                                   |      |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Katherine B. Schmeckpeper         | 2028 |
| Brian Scott Ota (Resigned 7/2025) | 2026 |
| Jennifer Schaeffner               | 2026 |
| Henry Gwazda                      | 2028 |
| Alfred Williams                   | 2027 |

### **WATER & SEWER COMMISSION**

**--Tower Way, Marblehead MA 01945**

#### **Term Expires**

|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| Gregory Arthur Bates | 2027 |
| Gregory W. Burt      | 2026 |
| Barton Hyte          | 2026 |
| Thomas L. Murray     | 2028 |
| James T. Maher       | 2028 |

**VITAL RECORDS REGISTERED IN 2025**

**Births Recorded – 164**

**Marriages Recorded – 66**

**Deaths Recorded - 192**

## APPOINTED OFFICIALS

### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Thatcher W. Kezer III 2026

### AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT COORDINATOR

Thatcher W. Kezer III 2026

### ANIMAL INSPECTOR \$2,400 per year

Daniel Proulx 2026

Emily DeGrande

### BUILDING COMMISSIONER AND INSPECTORS

Building Commissioner – Stephen Cummings 2026

Local Inspector – Ben Lebowitz 2026

Local Inspector – Roger Ennis 2026

Plumbing Inspector – Bradford Smith 2026

Wiring Inspector – Eric F. S. Chisholm 2026

### CANINE CONTROL CLERK

Robin Michaud – Town Clerk 2026

### ASSISTANT DOG OFFICERS FOR THE PARKS

Peter James 2026

Brad Delisle 2026

Greg Snow 2026

Sam Andrews 2026

John Glabicky 2026

### TOWN COUNSEL at \$2,000 per year

Jeffrey N. Shribman 2026

Assistant Town Counsel:

Brody, Hardoon, Perkins & Kesten 2026

Leonard Kesten 2026

Mead, Talerman & Costa, LLC 2026

Hinckley Allen 2026

### COUNCIL ON AGING DIRECTOR

Lisa Hooper 2026

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR**

Chief Jason R. Gilliland 2026

Charles P. Cerrutti, Assistant 2026

### **FINANCE DIRECTOR**

Aleesha Nunley Benjamin 2026

### **FLAG OFFICER**

Roseann Trionfi-Mazzuchelli 2026

### **FOREST WARDEN – Term: 1 Year**

Chief Jason R. Gilliland, Fire Department 2026

### **HARBOR MASTER AND ASSISTANTS**

Mark Souza, Harbor Master 2026

Craig Smith, *Deputy Harbormaster* 2026

Assistant Harbormasters (Seasonal):

Rick Doane 2026

Andrew Oullette 2026

Matther Thompson 2026

Steve Lalonde 2026

Jarrett Russo 2026

Elmer Herlihy 2026

Mike Collibee 2026

Andrew Nazzaro 2026

Chris Bendixon 2026

Alternates:

Felix Amsler 2026

Jeffrey Flynn 2026

### **KEEPER OF THE LOCK UP**

Chief Dennis King 2026

### **LICENSING AUTHORITY, DULY DESIGNATED AGENTS**

Police Chief Dennis King 2026

Captain: Jonathan Lunt, Acting 2026

Lieutenants:

Eric Osattin 2026

Michael Everett 2026

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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|                                                     |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------|
| David Ostrovitz                                     | 2026 |
| Jason Conrad                                        | 2026 |
| Sergeants:                                          |      |
| Sean Brady                                          | 2026 |
| Brendan Finnegan                                    | 2026 |
| Andrew Dimare                                       | 2026 |
| Timothy Morley                                      | 2026 |
| <b>MEASURER OF LEATHER – Term 1 year</b>            |      |
| Bryan Ruocco                                        | 2026 |
| Amy Egelja                                          | 2026 |
| <b>TOWN DESIGNEE MASS. WATER RESOURCE AUTHORITY</b> |      |
| Vacant                                              | 2026 |
| Alternate: Amy McHugh, Water and Sewer Commission   | 2026 |
| <b>PARKING CLERK /HEARING CLERK</b>                 |      |
| Jeffrey N. Shribman                                 | 2026 |
| <b>CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER</b>                    |      |
| Thatcher W. Kezer III                               | 2026 |
| <b>PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR</b>                        |      |
| Amy McHugh                                          | 2026 |
| <b>RECORDS ACCESS OFFICER</b>                       |      |
| Kyle A. Wiley , Town                                | 2026 |
| Chief Dennis King, Police Department                | 2026 |
| <b>RETIREMENT BOARD – Term 3 Years</b>              |      |
| Charles H. Gessner                                  | 2026 |
| <b>“RIGHT TO KNOW” COORDINATOR</b>                  |      |
| Jason R. Gilliland – Fire Department                | 2026 |
| <b>SEALER OF WEIGHTS &amp; MEASURES</b>             |      |
| Leonard Rose                                        | 2026 |
| <b>SPECIAL AUXILIARY POLICE</b>                     |      |
| Patrolmen:                                          |      |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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|                                                                  |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| James Donovan                                                    | 2026 |
| <b>SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS</b>                        |      |
| Steve Cummings, Building Commissioner                            | 2026 |
| <b>TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER</b>                                   |      |
| Cami Iannarelli                                                  | 2026 |
| <b>TOWN ENGINEER</b>                                             |      |
| Maggie Wheeler Sept                                              | 2026 |
| <b>VETERANS' AGENT &amp; DIRECTOR OF VETERANS' SERVICES</b>      |      |
| Roseann Tionfi-Mazzuchelli                                       | 2026 |
| <b>VETERANS' GRAVES OFFICER</b>                                  |      |
| Roseann Trionfi-Mazzuchelli                                      | 2026 |
| <b>WORKERS' COMPENSATION AGENT</b>                               |      |
| Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association                   | 2026 |
| <b>AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND – Term: 1 year</b>              |      |
| Select Board                                                     | 2026 |
| Kurt James                                                       | 2026 |
| <b>ARMED FORCES LIAISON</b>                                      |      |
| Harry C. Christensen                                             |      |
| <b>BOARD OF ABBOT LIBRARY SECOND CENTURY FUND Term: 1 year</b>   |      |
| Peter Jalbert                                                    | 2026 |
| Judith Eissner                                                   | 2026 |
| <b>CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Liaison Term 1 year</b> |      |
| Robert Peck, Liaison                                             | 2026 |
| <b>CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE</b>                                |      |
| Town Administrator                                               |      |
| Public Works Director                                            |      |
| Community Development Director                                   |      |
| Superintendent of Schools                                        |      |
| Superintendent of Buildings                                      |      |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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|                            |      |
|----------------------------|------|
| David Harris, at large     | 2028 |
| Bert Pechhold, at large    | 2028 |
| William Anderson, at large | 2028 |

### **CARETAKER, FORT BEACH – Term 1 year**

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| David Rodgers | 2026 |
|---------------|------|

### **CHAPLAIN – MARBLEHEAD POLICE DEPARTMENT**

#### **Term 1 year**

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| Rev. James Bixby | 2026 |
|------------------|------|

### **CONSERVATION COMMISSION - Term 3 years/staggered**

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| Kristopher Meola | 2028 |
| Brandon Collins  | 2028 |
| Alison Frye      | 2028 |
| Jessica Norton   | 2026 |
| David Oster      | 2026 |
| David VanHoven   | 2027 |

### **CONSTABLES**

#### **• for the Purpose of Serving Civil Process Term: 1year**

|                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| Mark Ianuzzi       | 2026 |
| Christopher Comeau | 2026 |
| Jared Walsh        | 2026 |
| Julio Carrasquillo | 2026 |
| Yeimi Reynoso      | 2026 |
| Gabriele Mongiello | 2026 |
| Cindy Diaz         | 2026 |
| Douglas Perry      | 2026 |

### **CONSTABLES**

#### **• Shellfish**

|                                              |      |
|----------------------------------------------|------|
| Jack Attridge – Chief Constable - 3 yr. term | 2028 |
| <b>Term: 1 Year</b>                          |      |
| Raymond H. Bates, Jr.                        | 2026 |
| Dave Donahue                                 | 2026 |
| Jeffrey Flynn                                | 2026 |
| Felix Amsler                                 | 2026 |
| Rick Cuzner                                  | 2026 |
| Craig Smith                                  | 2026 |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Douglas Aikman  | 2026 |
| Jen Duffy       | 2026 |
| F. Webb Russell | 2026 |
| Eric Hawley     | 2026 |

### **COUNCIL ON AGING Term: 3 years**

|                  |                               |      |
|------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| Marjorie Shea    | <i>term expired June 2025</i> |      |
| Karen Jancsy     | <i>term expired June 2025</i> |      |
| Phyllis Smith    |                               | 2028 |
| Andrew Gillis    |                               | 2028 |
| Suzanne Gruhl    |                               | 2028 |
| Marcy Schwam     |                               | 2026 |
| Thomas Gawrys    |                               | 2027 |
| Lisa Palmer      |                               | 2027 |
| Meredith Reardon |                               | 2027 |

### **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL**

|                                                |      |
|------------------------------------------------|------|
| Jason R. Gilliland– Marblehead Fire Department | 2026 |
|------------------------------------------------|------|

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE – Term 3 years/staggered**

|                       |                               |      |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| Michael Janko         |                               | 2028 |
| Timothy Shotmeyer     |                               | 2028 |
| Terra Samuels         | <i>term expired June 2025</i> |      |
| Eric Knight           |                               | 2026 |
| Alec Goolsby          |                               | 2026 |
| Lindsay Dube          |                               | 2026 |
| Pat Franklin          |                               | 2027 |
| Molly Teets           |                               | 2027 |
| Mike O’Neil           |                               | 2027 |
| Linda Gifford – Clerk |                               |      |

### **FIREWORKS COMMITTEE – Term 1 year**

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| Alexander Falk | 2026 |
|----------------|------|

### **FORT SEWALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – Term 1 Year**

|                                              |      |
|----------------------------------------------|------|
| Larry Sands, OMIA Rep                        | 2026 |
| Town Planner                                 | 2026 |
| Peter James, Recreation and Parks Department | 2026 |
| Seamus Daly, Glover’s Regiment               | 2026 |
| Judy Anderson, At Large                      | 2026 |



## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Christine Nuccio – At Large 2026

### **GREEN MARBLEHEAD IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**

Town Administrator 2026

Town Planner 2026

1 Select Board 2026

2 Representatives from Sustainable Marblehead 2026

Public Health Director 2026

Building Commissioner 2026

Finance Director 2026

Marblehead Municipal Light Department:  
General Manager 2026

Commission Chair 2026

School Department Representative 2026

### **HARBORS & WATERS BOARD – Term 1 Year**

John Doub 2026

Steven Wolf 2026

Jay Michaud 2026

Rick Cuzner 2026

T. Clark Smith 2026

Alternates:

Karen Finocchio 2026

Gary P. Gregory 2026

Matthew Burke 2026

### **HARRIS STREET CEMETERIES OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE Term 1 year**

Ellen Harrington, at large 2026

John Fasanello, at large 2026

Edward Nilsson, Historical Commission Rep 2026

Daivd Bittermann, Historical Commission Rep 2026

Chris Hardy, at large 2026

### **HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING TEAM - Term: 1 year**

Jason Gilliland, Fire Chief, Emergency Management Director 2026

Maggie Wheeler, Town Engineer 2026

Amy McHugh, Superintendent, Water and Sewer Commission 2026

Alex Eiter, Town Planner 2026

William E. Conly, Historical Commission 2026

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### **HISTORIAN – Term 1 Year**

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| Donald Doliber | 2026 |
|----------------|------|

### **HISTORICAL COMMISSION – Term 3 years/staggered**

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| William E. Conly | 2028 |
| Pam Peterson     | 2028 |
| David Bittermann | 2026 |
| Peter Stacey     | 2026 |
| Edward Nilsson   | 2026 |
| David Krathwohl  | 2027 |
| Chris Butler     | 2027 |

### **MARBLEHEAD CULTURAL COUNCIL – Term 3 years**

|                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| Kathryn Barker     | 2028 |
| Marjorie Norman    | 2028 |
| Alexander MacAaron | 2028 |
| Mark Philip        | 2028 |
| Steve McClure      | 2028 |
| Jeannie Stahl      | 2026 |
| Jennifer Uhl       | 2026 |
| Joe Dipoli appt    | 2026 |
| Jim Murphy         | 2027 |
| Aaron Liber        | 2027 |

### **MARBLEHEAD DISABILITIES COMMISSION – Term 3 years/staggered**

|                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Julie Matuschak     | 2028                      |
| Andrea Mountain     | 2028                      |
| Brigitte Duffy      | 2028                      |
| Amy Hirschcron      | <i>resigned June 2025</i> |
| Gail Mack           | 2026                      |
| Laurie Blaisdell    | 2026                      |
| Amy Malkoff         | 2027                      |
| Maura Dartley-Rocco | 2027                      |
| Samantha Marino     | 2027                      |

### **MARBLEHEAD FOREVER COMMITTEE – Term 1 Year**

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| Karyn Lang       | 2026 |
| Meredith Reardon | 2026 |
| Linda W. Doliber | 2026 |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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|                     |      |
|---------------------|------|
| Kerry O'Shaughnessy | 2026 |
| Kyle A. Wiley       | 2026 |

### **MARBLEHEAD HOUSING COMMITTEE**

Community Development and Planning Director

Town Planner

Deacon John E. Whipple, Task Force Against Discrimination representative

Disabilities Commission representative

Housing Authority representative

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| Mimi Hollister, at large | 2028 |
|--------------------------|------|

|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| Kurt James, at large | 2028 |
|----------------------|------|

|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| Deb Larkin, at large | 2027 |
|----------------------|------|

|                        |      |
|------------------------|------|
| Nisha Austin, at large | 2026 |
|------------------------|------|

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Ramon Garcia, alternate | 2026 |
|-------------------------|------|

|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| Bob Neuss, alternate | 2026 |
|----------------------|------|

### **MASSACHUSETTS ETHICS COMMISSION – Term 1 Year**

#### **MUNICIPAL LIAISON**

|                     |      |
|---------------------|------|
| Jeffrey N. Shribman | 2026 |
|---------------------|------|

### **MARBLHEAD HOUSING AUTHORITY, Tenant Rep.**

|            |      |
|------------|------|
| Bill Kuker | 2027 |
|------------|------|

### **MBTA ADVISORY BOARD – Term 1 Year**

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| Tracy Lawrence | 2026 |
|----------------|------|

### **MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

#### **Term 1 year**

Charles Gessner *resigned November 2025*

### **METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL**

#### **Term 3 years**

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Town Planner, Alternate | 2028 |
|-------------------------|------|

### **OLD AND HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION**

#### **Term 1 year**

|             |      |
|-------------|------|
| Bob Bragdon | 2026 |
|-------------|------|

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| Gary Amberik | 2026 |
|--------------|------|

|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Charles Hibbard | 2026 |
|-----------------|------|

|                       |      |
|-----------------------|------|
| Duncan Facey moved up | 2026 |
|-----------------------|------|

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| Paul Pruett  | 2026 |
| Alternates:  |      |
| Michael Hall | 2026 |
| Vacant       | 2026 |

### **OLD BURIAL HILL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – Term 1 year**

|                                       |      |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Judy Gates                            | 2026 |
| Standley Goodwin                      | 2026 |
| Andrew Galucci                        | 2026 |
| Pam Peterson, Cemetery Representative | 2026 |
| Alex Finigan                          | 2026 |
| Alex Eitler, Town Planner             | 2026 |

### **PLANNING BOARD – Term 3 years**

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| Steve Leverone | 2026 |
|----------------|------|

### **REGISTRARS OF VOTERS – term 3 years**

|                            |      |
|----------------------------|------|
| Timothy Swigor (R)         | 2025 |
| Robin Michaud (Town Clerk) | 2028 |
| Margaret Herrick (D)       | 2026 |
| Anthony Chamay (R)         | 2027 |

### **SISTER CITY LIAISON – Grasse, France – Term 1 Year**

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| Myriam Zuber | 2026 |
|--------------|------|

### **TASK FORCE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION – Term 1 year**

|                                |      |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Helaine Hazlett, Co-Chair      | 2026 |
| Diana Gora, Co-Chair           | 2026 |
| Maura Dartley-Rocco            | 2026 |
| Deacon John E. Whipple         | 2026 |
| Christopher Bruell             | 2026 |
| Reece Dahlberg                 | 2056 |
| Eugenia Guastaferrri           | 2026 |
| Chief Dennis King – Ex-Officio | 2026 |
| Niko Vaughn King, Student Rep  | 2026 |

### **TAXATION AID COMMITTEE – Term 1 Year**

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| Meredith Reardon | 2026 |
| Lisa Hooper      | 2026 |
| Phyllis Smith    | 2026 |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Cami Iannarelli, Treasurer – Ex-Officio

John Kelley, Chairman Board of Assessors – Ex-Officio

### **TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Term 3 years**

Police Chief or designee

Fire Chief or designee

DPW Director or designee

Town Engineer or designee

Town Administrator, Ex Officio

Rich Smyers 2027

Gary Hebert 2028

David Kucharsky 2026

### **TOWN PHYSICIAN – Term: 1 year**

Quadrant Health Strategies 2026

### **TREE WARDEN**

Jonathon Fobert 2026

### **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – Term: 5 years/staggered**

Leon Drachman 2027

Alan Lipkind 2028

William R. Moriarty 2029

Bill Barlow 2030

Benjamin LaBreque 2026

#### **Alternates – Term: 1 year**

Christopher T. Casey 2026

Bruce Krasker 2026

William Rudolph 2026

Marc Liebman 2026

## **ABBOT PUBLIC LIBRARY**



The mission of Abbot Public Library is to serve as a vibrant hub of education, community, and culture for the Town of Marblehead. Following our highly anticipated return to the renovated 235 Pleasant Street facility in July 2024, 2025 marked our first full year of operations in our state-of-the-art home. This year was defined by revitalizing our long-standing community traditions, the expansion of our digital and physical collections, and a transformative surge in community engagement.

### **2025 IN REVIEW**

The library's 2025 statistics reflect a community with a robust appetite for knowledge, highlighted by a 47% increase in total annual circulation to 210,626 items. This surge, driven by enthusiastic responses to our newly renovated building and expanded digital resources, included 136,176 physical and 74,450 digital checkouts.

The library also solidified its role as a premier community "third space." The Killam Children's Room welcomed 19,303 visitors, while our meeting rooms hosted 2,800 reservations with a total attendance of 7,400 participants. In addition, patrons utilized 649 museum passes to explore regional cultural institutions. These figures collectively illustrate a year of extraordinary growth and the deep integration of the library into the daily lives of Marblehead residents.

## **ADULT SERVICES: COMMUNITY, CULTURE AND CARE**

The Adult Department successfully balanced hybrid, online, and in-person programming to meet patrons where they are. The library hosted 245 adult programs with a total attendance of 3,082 participants, representing a 48.5% increase in programming opportunities over the previous year.

Literary engagement remained a cornerstone of the library's mission. Our two long-running book clubs continued to grow, engaging in deep discussions of award-winning bestsellers. Notable highlights from the year's reading list included *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* and *The Poacher's Son*, with *Ordinary Grace*, *The Round House*, and *The Berry Pickers* emerging as the clear membership favorites.

The library's broader programming offered a rich blend of culture, practical support, and local history. New favorites like the Cookbook Club and the Writers and Readers Open Mic flourished alongside essential community services such as weekly technology assistance, tax preparation support, the revitalized Home Delivery program and the development of Memory Kits designed to facilitate reminiscence and social engagement for neighbors living with dementia. Social connection was further fostered through weekly Friday coffee hours featuring coffee from Blue Canoe Cafe.

Our "Library of Things" continues to bridge the digital divide while providing high-value recreational gear including mobile hotspots, Chromebooks, and projectors—as well as popular recreational items like pickleball sets. Our most sought-after museum passes remain the New England Aquarium and the Museum of Science.

Special events throughout the year provided residents with unique educational and cultural experiences. Highlights included the Delvena Theater Company's "Meet Julia Child!" performance, explorations of local folklore with author Peter Muise, a screening of *The Last of the Right Whales*, and a collaborative session with the Marblehead Conservancy on photographing local wildlife. The library also maintained strong educational partnerships, hosting ongoing sessions with Road Scholar and environmental programs with Salem Sound Coastwatch.

The library continued its tradition of fostering local creativity by featuring a diverse array of visual arts in the Carten Gallery, from technical photography to traditional landscapes. Highlights included Bob Hendricks' photo essay, "Splash: The Merger of Art and Engineering," and "Along The Coast," an evocative series of oil paintings by Linda Lea Bertrand capturing the essence of the New England shoreline. The

gallery also showcased the contemporary works of Don Hammontree and Siobhan McDonald's deeply personal exhibition, "This is Where I Lived." The Library also served as a community hub for regional talent by hosting the Seacoast Quilt Guild Spring Show and a group exhibition by the Swampscott Arts Association.

This spirit of collaboration extended to our partnership with the Marblehead Arts Association (MAA). Located on the Main Level near the fiction stacks, this rotating exhibition space provides MAA artist members with high-visibility opportunities to showcase their work, with installations refreshing approximately every six weeks. To further enrich the library's permanent artistic legacy, we were pleased to formalize the acquisition of a painting by Steve McClure.

Getting settled into the new space also included decorating Scully Salon with plants and fireplace accessories.

### **CHILDREN'S SERVICES: BRIDGING LITERACY AND EXPLORATION**



The Killam Children's Room serves Marblehead's youth from birth to age 12 and their families. This year, we focused on bridging the gap between early literacy and independent reading, resulting in 37% more programs. The community's response was enthusiastic, with total room foot traffic tracked at 19,300 visitors, and a 12.5% increase in program attendance, totaling 5,627 participants across 282 sessions.

Our early childhood initiatives thrived this year, featuring high-energy favorites like the Moving & Grooving Playgroup, Story-Time-A-Go-Go, Music with Dara, and Story Time Yoga. Courtesy of the Charles Loudon Fund, we began a pilot project that involved giving new-baby welcome to the library gifts which included a board book, tips on early literacy, information about library programs and services. We also introduced Imagination Playground's big blue blocks to spark collaborative, child-directed play that fosters creativity and problem-solving. For older children, we promoted creativity and literacy through weekly crafting sessions and our popular Summer Reading Program.



We enhanced the physical space for both safety and functionality by enclosing the stairs and installing a new activity wall. Service efficiency was further improved with a redesigned computer station—offering easier access to the self-checkout terminal and catalog—and the addition of new shelving. To complete the transformation, the Seacoast Quilt Guild donated several quilts inspired by award-winning picture books, beautifully blending our nautical and literary themes.

Innovation took center stage in the Thompson Makerspace, which hosted hands-on workshops in Minecraft coding and stop-motion animation. Finally, to support evolving reading habits, we expanded our collection to include audio-enabled books, video games, and newly dedicated sections for graphic novels and early chapter books.

### TEEN SERVICES: RECORD GROWTH AND CREATIVE INNOVATION



This year marked an extraordinary era of growth for teen engagement in the Killam Teen Center, with structured program attendance increasing by 117.3% and passive program engagement rising by 96.6% over the previous year. This surge in participation was driven by both innovative recreational offerings and intentional community outreach. We successfully launched "Teen Game Time," utilizing a new Nintendo

Switch to foster social "couch co-op" gaming, while simultaneously strengthening our ties to the local school district. Enhanced coordination with Marblehead Veterans Middle School led to a significant boost in library card sign-ups for 7th graders, ensuring more students have access to vital academic and creative resources.

Furthermore, the library initiated a meaningful collaboration with the Marblehead High School National Art Honor Society. This partnership will feature student-created art installed directly within the Teen Center, a project slated for completion in 2026 that allows our youth to leave a lasting, creative mark on their dedicated library space.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The progress made in 2025 is a testament to the dedicated collaboration between our Board of Trustees and library staff, sustained by the continued investment of our residents. This local commitment is bolstered by our vital state and regional partners.

We are especially grateful to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) for their essential oversight and the State Aid to Public Libraries funding, which ensures our services meet rigorous professional standards. Our operational success also relies on the Massachusetts Library System (MLS) for delivery and training, as well as our membership in the North of Boston Library Exchange (NOBLE). Beyond providing our patrons with seamless access to a vast regional catalog, NOBLE maintains our critical integrated library system, manages the technical infrastructure for our digital collections, and ensures our local database remains secure and efficient.

**Abbot Public Library Foundation (APLF):** We are grateful for the Foundation's ongoing commitment to public-private partnerships, specifically their collaboration with the Oliver P. Killam Foundation. Through dedicated fundraising, the APLF ensures our library remains a center of innovation for future generations. This year, their support directly enabled the continuation of early literacy initiatives, the development of new programs for teens, and the establishment of new Memory Kits for those living with cognitive impairment and their caregivers.

**Friends of Abbot Public Library:** The Friends continue to sustain the popular Museum Pass program and provide enriching community events through the Road Scholar series. We also appreciate their vital role in supporting the new Home Delivery service, operating the Sail Away Book Shop, and managing successful seasonal book sales.

**The Second Century Fund:** This essential organization continues to play a vital role in modernizing our collections. By supplementing public funding, this endowment sustains our "Library of Things" – providing mobile hotspots, Chromebooks, and essential hardware for both staff and public use. The Fund also ensures seamless digital access through our Overdrive partnership with NOBLE, bringing thousands of ebooks directly to our patrons.

**Driftwood Garden Club:** We thank the members for their continued stewardship of our grounds and look forward to the upcoming redesign of Max's Garden in 2026.

**The Harold and Elizabeth L. Shattuck Memorial Fund:** Generous contributions funded soundproofing for the Thompson Makerspace and improvements to the Killam Children's Room including new shelving, a public computer station, and an engaging activity wall.

**Special Grant Support:** We gratefully acknowledge our grantors for their vital support of library programming. The Oliver P. Killam Mary MacAllister Fund for Fine Arts Programming sponsored popular youth workshops, including stop-motion animation with local artist Steve McClure and an upcoming Teen Center art installation in collaboration with Marblehead High School. We also thank the Marblehead Cultural Council and the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE) Grant of the North Shore for their sponsorship of our early literacy programs. And the Charles Loudon Fund for the support of early literacy programs.

**Community Partners:** Our sincere thanks to the Marblehead Council on Aging (COA) for their partnership in the Home Delivery Program, as well as the Marblehead Conservancy, the League of Women Voters, the Marblehead Arts Association, and local business Blue Canoe Cafe and The Power of Speech for their community collaborations.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### STAFF UPDATES

The library saw several key personnel transitions in 2025. Jane Wolff was promoted to Assistant Director and we welcomed Spencer Stevens as Technical Services Supervisor, Allissa Wyant as Adult Librarian, Dan Saulnier as Technical Resource Specialist and Julia Ricks as Technical Services Assistant.

These changes reflect our commitment to maintaining a high level of expertise and service for the Marblehead community.

**—Kimberly Grad, Director  
Abbot Public Library**



*Library Director Kimberly Grad (center) with Elizabeth and Britt Winer with original artwork by their mother, former library employee Birthe Winer, that was previously featured on the Abbot Public Library card.*

### ABBOT LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

|                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Gary Amberik, Chair       | Term expires 2026 |
| John Williams, Vice Chair | Term expires 2027 |
| Katherine Barker          | Term expires 2026 |
| Marjorie Norman           | Term expires 2028 |
| David Ross                | Term expires 2027 |
| Kathleen Waslov           | Term expires 2028 |

### ABBOT PUBLIC LIBRARY STAFF

|                 |                               |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Kimberly Grad   | Director                      |
| Jane Wolff      | Assistant Director            |
| Spencer Stevens | Technical Services Supervisor |
| Marcia Cannon   | Children's Librarian          |
| Bianca Hezekiah | Teen Librarian                |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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|                   |                                          |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Allissa Wyant     | Adult Librarian                          |
| Cassandra Sprague | Marketing and Communications Coordinator |
| Veronica Rodgers  | Library Circulation Supervisor           |
| Kara Gallagher    | Senior Clerk                             |
| Amber Santman     | Media Specialist                         |
| Julia Ricks       | Library Technical Assistant              |
| Daniel Saulnier   | Technology Resource Specialist           |
| Jan DePaolo       | Children's Senior Library Assistant      |
| Joan Kessel       | PT Senior Library Assistant              |
| Kelly Szalewicz   | PT Senior Library Assistant              |
| Sage Frankenstein | PT Library Assistant                     |
| Pamela Shorr      | Temp. PT Library Assistant               |
| Janet Smith       | Temp. PT Library Assistant               |
| Vacant            | Temp. PT Library Assistant               |
| Richard Leahy     | Custodian                                |
| Miguel Acosta     | PT Custodian                             |
| Wendy Alling      | Page                                     |
| Kira Goldman      | Page                                     |
| David McMeniman   | Page                                     |
| Joshua Slater     | Page                                     |

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Under State mandated legislation, the Board of Assessors is responsible for the full and fair market valuation of real and personal property for the purposes of levying the property tax as of January 1 every year.

The Board consists of a three-member elected panel with one seat up for renewal every year. In 2025, Michael Cannuscio was elected for a 3-year term.

The assessing staff performs all duties of the department under the supervision of the Town Assessor and review of the Board of Assessors.

In determining assessed property values, the primary goal of the Board is to ensure fair and equitable assessments to all taxpayers. Assessments for the average single-family dwelling increased 6.1% to \$1,291,507 and the median single-family assessment increased 7.5% to \$998,500. The average single family tax bill increased roughly 1% to \$11,055 and the median single family tax bill increased 1% to \$8,547.16. The classification hearing held on December 2, 2025, resulted in a single tax rate of \$8.56 per thousand dollars of value.

In addition to property valuations, the department also administers statutory exemptions. Residents who own and occupy their Marblehead property as their domicile may apply for an exemption as long as they meet the statutory requirements. Exemptions are available to qualifying disabled veterans, elderly persons, surviving spouses and blind individuals.

Massachusetts tax law and guidelines for exemptions are constantly changing. Effective November 2016, under the quarterly tax billing system, **the filing deadline for real and personal property tax abatements is February 2nd**, (third quarter tax bill due date) **and April 1st for statutory exemptions** (three months from the mailing of the third quarter tax bill).

The Board of Assessor's granted 140 statutory exemptions for a total of \$166,320.62 to qualified applicants and senior work-off volunteers (as of December 2025).

We urge all taxpayers who may have questions regarding abatements or exemptions to contact the Assessor's Office at 781-631-0236.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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The department is also responsible for excise taxes for boats and motor vehicles. Annually, the boat owner must certify under the pains and penalties of perjury the vessel that is listed on their mooring permit. This information is used in conjunction with the State formula to determine the excise tax amount. For motor vehicles, the excise tax is based upon the MSRP values provided by Registry of Motor Vehicles.

The following 2 tables show the tax dollars raised. The first table is for property and the second table is for excise.

### **REAL & PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX**

| <b><u>CLASS</u></b> | <b><u>% of CLASS</u></b> | <b><u>VALUATION</u></b> | <b><u>TAX LEVY</u></b> |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Residential         | 95.54%                   | \$9,445,217,359         | \$80,851,061           |
| Commercial          | 3.22%                    | \$318,478,519           | \$2,726,176            |
| Industrial          | 0.22%                    | \$21,963,400            | \$188,007              |
| Personal Property   | 1.00%                    | \$99,617,520            | \$852,726              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>        | <b>100%</b>              | <b>\$9,885,276,798</b>  | <b>\$84,617,969</b>    |

### **EXCISE TAX**

| <b>MOTOR VEHICLE</b> | <b># OF BILLS</b> | <b>TAX ASSESSED</b> |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 2025 Excise          | 20,870            | \$3,010,068         |
|                      |                   |                     |
| <b>BOAT</b>          | <b># OF BILLS</b> | <b>TAX ASSESSED</b> |
| FY2025 Excise        | 1,930             | \$128,204           |

Respectfully Submitted,

Board of Assessors  
John P. Kelley, Chairman  
Michael Cannuscio, Secretary  
Jonathan Lederman, Board Member  
Todd Laramie, M.A.A, Assistant Assessor

Office Staff  
Leandro DiFilippo, Administrative Assessor  
Viktorija Babrauskaite, Senior Clerk

## BOARD OF HEALTH

**The Board of Health Promotes and Protects the Health, Wellness and Safety of All Citizens of Marblehead While Ensuring a Clean and Healthy Environment.**

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

In the beginning of 2025, the Marblehead Board of Health's three elected members were: Helaine R. Hazlett, chair, Thomas Massaro, and Tom McMahon. In June, Helaine R. Hazlett stepped down and Amanda Ritvo, was elected to serve a three-year term.

In 2025, the Marblehead Board of Health met in formal session on seventeen (24) occasions including Town Meeting.

At the May 2024 Town Meeting, the Board of Health proposed expanding the Board to 5 members. It was unanimously passed by the meeting attendees. Additional Board members will be voted in during the June 2026 election.

The Board of Health serves the town in several important ways:

- It is the primary resource for public health discussions, activities, and policy development in the Town.
- It oversees the solid waste and recycling of the town, the Marblehead Transfer Station, and curb side collection.
- It serves as a local and regional resource. BOH members and staff regularly participate in and make valuable contributions to activities, groups, and offices in our region, our state, and our nation.

### **B. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**

The Board of Health provides several levels of public health services to the Town. It manages the traditional disease prevention and control requirements and, at the same time, is becoming more engaged in health promotion driven by the newly emerging definition of public health:

**“PUBLIC HEALTH IS WHAT WE DO AS A SOCIETY TO CREATE  
CONDITIONS IN WHICH EVERYONE CAN BE HEALTHY”**

As examples of that evolution in 2025, the Board began CAHM Creating A Healthier Marblehead began planning for a Wellness Fair and a Substance Abuse Seminar and introduced the concept of developing regular assessments of the health status of the community.

The Board of Health continues to follow the Massachusetts requirements for both state and local laws and regulations to perform many critical duties related to the



protection of public health. These duties cover a wide range of public health control and prevention activities, including disease surveillance; the promotion of sanitary conditions in housing, recreational facilities, and food establishments; elimination of nuisances; the protection of the environment; and manages solid waste and recycling.

BOH members and staff also attended numerous meetings pertaining to finance, COVID-19, collaboration, communicable disease, tobacco control, grant application, sanitation code updates, continuing education, emergency preparedness, mental health as well as other public health-related issues. Meetings were properly and duly posted with the Town Clerk.

**Creating a Healthier Marblehead (CAHM)** is a Board of Health initiative launched to enhance community wellness through data-driven strategies. It focuses on eight dimensions of health- physical, emotional, social, intellectual, spiritual, environmental, occupational, and financial- using survey data from UMass Boston to guide local decisions. The project is funded externally and aims to address mental health, addition, and community wellness without using town tax dollars.

Key components of the CAHM initiative include:

- **Community Survey:** Over 2,550 residents (18+) participated in a survey to measure wellness and identify needs, with results being used to form long-term strategic goals.
- **Focus Areas:** The initiative addresses mental health stigma, addiction recovery education, and improving local health resources.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** The Board of Health is collaborating with UMass Boston for data analysis and exploring partnerships to improve school lunches and support local counseling services.
- **The Board of Health received two Best Practice Grants from the Lieutenant Governor's Office. Which helped support the CAHM initiative** One was to develop a landscape for child and maternal health in Marblehead and the second was to help promote mental health services recommended by the Marblehead Mental Health Task Force and identified in the CAHM Wellness Survey. The Board will pursue the development of a 501c3 organization to help raise funds for public health services not supported by the town budget.

## 1. SCREENING FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

|                                       | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| <b>Babesiosis</b>                     |      | 1    | 1    |
| <b>Calicivirus /Norovirus</b>         |      | 2    | 2    |
| <b>Campylobacteriosis</b>             |      | 5    | 2    |
| <b>Ehrlichiosis</b>                   | 1    | 1    |      |
| <b>Giardia</b>                        | 2    |      |      |
| <b>Group A Strep</b>                  | 2    | 1    | 1    |
| <b>Hepatitis A</b>                    | 1    |      |      |
| <b>Hepatitis B</b>                    |      | 1    |      |
| <b>Hepatitis C</b>                    | 1    | 2    |      |
| <b>Hemophilus Influenza</b>           |      |      |      |
| <b>Human Granulocyte Anaplasmosis</b> | 1    |      | 1    |
| <b>Influenza</b>                      | 73   | 102  | 293  |
| <b>Legionella</b>                     |      |      | 1    |
| <b>Listeria</b>                       |      | 1    |      |
| <b>Meningococcal Disease</b>          |      | 1    |      |
| <b>Monkeypox</b>                      |      |      |      |
| <b>Novel Coronavirus</b>              | 371  | 301  | 114  |
| <b>Pertussis</b>                      |      | 33   |      |
| <b>Salmonellosis</b>                  | 4    | 8    | 3    |
| <b>Strep Pneumonia</b>                |      |      | 1    |
| <b>Vibrio</b>                         |      |      | 1    |

Vaccines protect you, your family, and your community from serious, preventable disease. Learn more about how vaccines can help prevent disease, and current vaccine recommendations.

Vaccination helps prevent the spread of disease, especially to those who are most vulnerable to serious complications (such as infants and young children, the elderly, and those with chronic conditions and weakened immune systems). This is a concept known as herd immunity. By protecting yourself, you also protect members of your community from the spread of vaccine-preventable diseases.

## 2. BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

BP monitoring is conducted Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon at the Board of Health office by appointment only. Additionally, the Public Health

Nurse is at the Marblehead COA on most Thursdays between 11:00 AM-12:00 noon to conduct a blood pressure clinic.

**3. COVID TEST KITS**

In 2025, the Board received and distributed COVID-19 Rapid test kits from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. A total of 90 kits were distributed to Marblehead residents and employees.

**4. DISTRIBUTION OF FENTANYL KITS**

The Board of Health has continued to distributed fentanyl test strips this year. Free fentanyl test strips are located outside of the Mary Alley Municipal Building, one at Fire Headquarters, and one is located at the Police Station.

**5. INFLUENZA CLINICS**

|                                 | 2024 | 2025 |
|---------------------------------|------|------|
| Employee Flu Clinic             | 101  | 119  |
| Council on Aging Flu Clinic Flu | 100  | 93   |
| Total                           | 201  | 212  |

The state Immunization program no longer supplies local health departments with vaccine. The Board purchased a limited amount of vaccine using the revolving flu vaccine account)

**6. SANITATION INSPECTION SERVICES**

All food service and retail food establishments are regulated by the 2013 Federal Food Code (with 2015 Amendments). These establishments are required by law and by the MDPH to be inspected bi-annually. Additionally, walk-through inspections are conducted at the Board of Health’s discretion. These are a less formal visual inspection for those establishments about which the Board has received complaints, those making physical changes, or for the purpose of addressing any type of problem that may arise during the year.

**Establishments Regularly Inspected**

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| i. Food Service Establishments | 92 |
| ii. Retail Food Establishments | 37 |
| iii. Private Clubs             | 11 |
| iv. School Cafeterias          | 7  |
| v. Ice Cream Trucks/Boats      | 2  |
| vi. Mobile Food Service Trucks | 4  |
| vii. Nursing Homes             | 2  |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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|                                  |    |
|----------------------------------|----|
| viii. Assisted Living Facilities | 1  |
| ix. Houses of Worship            | 12 |
| x. Residential Kitchens          | 4  |
| xi. Caterers                     | 22 |
| xii. Farmers' Market Vendors     | 12 |
| xiii. Day Camp Inspections       | 12 |

### 7. BEACH AND SWIMMING POOL INSPECTION SERVICES

Beach samples are taken on a weekly basis from June through September for Devereux Beach, Crocker Park, Gas House Beach, Grace Oliver's Beach and Stramski Beach. 61 samples were taken during the 2025 beach season. (Testing is conducted following bathing beach testing standards set forth under 105 CMR Sect.) Bathing Beach water quality must meet both the single sample and the geometric mean<sup>1</sup> (geomean) standards. Single sample results are intended to represent current conditions while the geomean is intended to reflect typical water quality found during the preceding time (typically a month). Public and semipublic pools are monitored for mandatory on-site quality control and proper management as required by MA 105 CMR 435.000 Minimum Standards for Swimming Pool.

#### 2025 Beach Closures:

##### Grace Oliver

Closed 6/4/2025 Enterococci 110 Single Sample Bacterial Exceedance

Closed 7/10/2025 Enterococci 1071 Single Sample Bacterial Exceedance

Closed 7/24/2025-7/25/25 Enterococci 171 Single Sample Bacterial Exceedance and Geomean Exceedance 44.93

Closed 9/11/2024 Enterococci 115 Single Sample Bacterial Exceedance

### 8. OTHER INSPECTIONS

|                                       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| One Day Permits                       | 31  |
| Camp Inspections                      | 26  |
| Food Establishment Closing Inspection | 7   |
| Food Establishment Opening Inspection | 2   |
| New Business/Change of Ownership      | 4   |
| Food Inspections                      | 212 |
| Food Re-Inspection                    | 6   |
| Foodborne Illness Investigation       | 1   |
| Housing Inspections                   | 4   |
| Pool Inspections Year-round           | 2   |
| Pool Inspections Seasonal             | 6   |

## **10. 2025 COMPLAINTS ADDRESSED BY STAFF**

|                                         |    |
|-----------------------------------------|----|
| Asbestos Inquiry, Complaints/Removal Of | 22 |
| Lead Paint Tests                        | 2  |
| Food and Retail Service Complaints      | 6  |
| General Nuisance                        | 12 |
| Air, Noise, and Odor Complaints         | 6  |
| Housing Complaints                      | 11 |
| Exterior Sanding                        | 9  |
| Rodents                                 | 7  |

Trash Strike - Throughout the trash and recycling collection strike, Marblehead employees demonstrated exceptional hard work, professionalism, and patience. Despite increased workloads, public frustration, and challenging conditions, staff stepped up to maintain essential services and support the community. Their calm persistence, teamwork, and commitment to public service were critical in getting the Town through a difficult period, and their efforts did not go unnoticed.

## **C. SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING**

### **1. THE TRANSFER STATION**

The Marblehead Transfer Station is a very significant resource for the community. Although the decades long transition to become an EPA certified waste management facility has taken longer than expected, the Town has access to an easy to navigate space with competent staff available to help with managing household waste, household recycling and commercial material.

### **2. WASTE REDUCTION**

Marblehead is continually working to maximize waste reduction, recycling and composting to ensure the safe management, reuse, and disposal of solid and hazardous waste. It is a difficult task to address the increasing and environmental cost controls placed on the town by state and federal agencies. The Town needs to focus on decreasing the amount of waste we generate and increasing the amount recycled.

- Marblehead processed 9,238.49 tons of trash in 2025.
- Marblehead recycled a total of 3,031.59 tons of paper, commingled material, cardboard, and metal out of the waste stream, realizing diversion savings of \$385,001.93.
- 2,500 gallons of waste oil were collected for processing. (This includes Town garages.)

- 17.23 tons of electronics were recycled ethically.
- 2 Household Hazardous Waste Days were conducted jointly with the Town of Swampscott. Materials were collected directly from over 325 households.
- 208,280 lbs. of textiles/used clothing were recycled through the clothing bin program generating \$10,414.00.  
1,601 mattresses/box springs were recycled.

### **3. FOOD AND YARD WASTE DISPOSAL**

The Town collects, disposes of and/or composts yard waste and organic matter. The processing figures for 2025 for organic matter, vegetation, brush, and wood waste generation are:

- Leaves & grass: 16,420 cubic yards
- Woodchips (Town Tree Department and power line clearing): 4,280 cubic yards.
- Brush: 9,020 cubic yards
- Curbside Food Waste collected from 751 residents.
- Total Food Waste collected: Marblehead Residential, Marblehead School and Marblehead Transfer Station – 236.8 tons, which generates diversion savings of \$27,805.06

### **4. REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, REFUSE AND ROT**

Most Americans are familiar with the phrase “Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.” These ideas have been promoted over the past decades to reduce the amount of trash and litter here on planet Earth.

In practice, however, most of the public effort has been focused on encouraging consumers to recycle. In Massachusetts, there has been an additional focus on teaching consumers how to recycle correctly and to reduce contamination. Contamination occurs when non-recycling items get mixed in with recyclables.

Despite good intentions and considerable investments in education, most American consumers don’t manage household trash and recycling correctly. Most haul our trash to the curb or place it in a dumpster each week with little thought as to where it goes or what it costs to dispose of it. Yet each year, consumers, municipalities, and businesses in Massachusetts spend millions on solid waste disposal fees. Most of this waste ends up in landfills or incinerators.

According to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Marblehead incinerates about 80% of its trash each year while about 20% goes to landfills. Historically, there were more than 300 operating landfills in Massachusetts.

Today, that number is down to 6 -all of which are due to reach capacity and close by 2030. The state now ships approximately 20% of its trash to other states which is costly and inefficient.

The goal is to move toward a zero-waste system. The Zero Waste International Alliance (ZWIA) defines zero waste as “the conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health.”

REDUCE- Buy Less.

REUSE- Use items multiple times.

RECYCLE- Give items a second life.

REFUSE- Consciously consider your consumption habits

ROT- Compost all organic waste.

**Become a smart recycler by following these guidelines:**

- Empty and rinse all food and beverage containers.
- Remove all plastic and Styrofoam packing from cardboard boxes before recycling.
- Bottles, jars, jugs, and tubs: empty, rinse and replace cap.
- Ignore the recycling symbol (with a number) that’s on most plastic items – it does NOT mean it’s recyclable.
- Consult the online “Recyclopedia” for recycling answers to over 500 items: [RecycleSmartMA.org](http://RecycleSmartMA.org).
- Place it in loose – Please do not put your recyclables in a plastic bag.
- Please NO thin-filmed Plastics such as produce bags, packaging, and bubble wrap.
- Wrapping paper and tissue paper are not recyclable

**5. COMPOSTING**

Composting is the fifth step to achieving zero waste. Even when all actions have been taken to use your wasted food, certain inedible parts will remain and can be turned into compost to feed and nourish the soil. Like yard waste, food scraps can also be composted. Composting these wastes creates a product that can be used to help improve soils, grow the next generation of crops, and improve water quality. Food composting could divert as much as 50% of the residential waste stream. For a small fee, curbside composting is available in Marblehead. Please call the Marblehead Health Office for more information.

## 6. SWAP SHED

A temporary Swap Shed is in place until the new one is constructed. The Swap Shop was established by the Marblehead Board of Health, and it is run by volunteers who are citizens of Marblehead. The Swap Shed is open on Saturdays from 9-11:30. During the winter it is only open the first Saturday of the month. The Swap Shed volunteers should be commended for the work they do to support the idea of Zero Waste.

### **Guidelines for Use of Swap Shed:**

Residents must have a current Facility Sticker to use the Swap Shed. No walk-ins are permitted.

Items must be approved by an attendant.

Items must be functional and have all parts.

Area in front of the Swap Shop is for short term parking – 15 minutes Items left there are intended for Reuse – Not Resale

These items cannot be accepted:

|                          |                                              |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| TV's or Monitors         | Tires                                        |
| Mercury-Containing items | AC units                                     |
| Large Appliances         | Mattresses / Waterbeds                       |
| Microwaves               | Building Materials                           |
| Hazardous Waste          | Child safety equipment (including car seats) |
| Paints or Stains         |                                              |

### **D. A RESOURCE FOR COMMUNITY AND REGION.**

The Board of Health serves as an important hub on health issues for the town and the region. The Board of Health has also been on the cutting edge of adopting policies and regulations, including organic pest management for Town owned properties, by banning tobacco use on all public properties, banning idling of buses and delivery trucks, and recommended at Town meeting banning the use of plastic bags in markets and shops. The Board of Health works with other agencies to address regional health challenges:

**There are two nonprofits which work directly with the Board and receive funding for services provided in partnership:**



## **1. MARBLEHEAD COUNSELING CENTER**

In its 57<sup>th</sup> year, the Marblehead Counseling Center (MCC) continues to strengthen its collaboration with the Board of Health to provide the Town with counseling and community social services. These comprehensive services provide a unique opportunity to any resident or town employee regardless of their ability to pay a fee. Clients work with our experienced, dedicated clinicians to address a myriad of challenges and diagnoses. Additionally, wraparound social services are provided to enhance household stability and create connections to essential resources that help to sustain long-term health and wellness.

During fiscal year 2026, MCC provided direct therapy to 272 different individuals who live or work in Marblehead providing 4620 sessions for individual, couple, and family counseling and social services.

This year MCC continued raising awareness of the Counseling Center's mission through a multi-pronged strategy to ease the process of connecting community members to support. We continued to improve our new website, social media outreach, community presentations, and more as we aimed to reinforce a steady presence as a partner to those seeking assistance. The immense need for quality local mental health services has not abated. New intakes have in fact surpassed pandemic-era levels and complex, trauma-informed interventions for clients of all ages require specialized clinical skills and extended lengths of treatment. MCC's staff persists in rising to meet these needs.

The Marblehead community continues to rely on the Marblehead Counseling Center to address the many critical issues that place great strain on local households. Last year, over 240 hours were dedicated to connecting such households to emergency financial assistance, eviction diversion protection, utility stabilization and more through MCC's social service program. With the generous support of the Marblehead Female Humane Society, our social service worker helps to carry out these efforts to shore up resources that help our neighbors afford to live with dignity while navigating the ever-increasing costs of living.

The Counseling Center continues to collaborate with community organizations to enrich the network in providing programming and responsive services for a healthier Marblehead. Working locally with the Marblehead Mental Health Task Force, the Ministerial Association, the schools, first responders, local physicians and more ensures a seamless, no-wrong-door approach to accessing assistance. Additional regional partnerships with prevention planning, adult education, financial coaching

and career development services have further expanded avenues toward longer term sustainability of community wellness.

## **2. HAWC (Healing Abuse Working for Change)**

The mission of HAWC is to create social change by acting against personal and societal patterns of violence and oppression. HAWC strives to help abused women, children, men, and nonbinary people live free from violence and fear. As a leading domestic violence agency in Massachusetts, HAWC provides a domestic violence helpline, emergency shelter, legal services, advocacy, and counseling services to more than 2,500 families in the North Shore each year. HAWC understands the complexity of abuse, and has expanded its language capacity so abused women, men, nonbinary people, LGBTQ+ individuals, older adults, undocumented individuals, and people with disabilities can feel comfortable accepting its services.

**The Board of Health also participates in several state collaboratives and consortia to participate in efforts to improve the overall health of the Commonwealth. These include:**

### **1. NORTH SHORE/CAPE ANN TOBACCO PROGRAM**

The North Shore Tobacco Control Program strives to change community and social norms regarding the use of tobacco products by supporting proven public health efforts and initiatives to reduce the use of tobacco. This is accomplished by raising public awareness about tobacco issues, such as youth access and secondhand smoke, through prevention, intervention, policies, and enforcement initiatives.

The program is funded through the Massachusetts Tobacco Control Program (MTCP) of the Department of Public Health and is part of Smoke Free Solutions North, the MTCP Community Mobilization Network. MTCP was created through a statewide referendum in 1992, which placed a 25-cent per pack tax on cigarettes and smokeless tobacco products.

In accordance with grant requirements, the North Shore/Cape Ann Tobacco Alcohol Policy Program accomplished the required program assessments for the Town of Marblehead. No violations were identified in 2024.

In addition to the compliance checks, the North Shore/Cape Ann Tobacco Alcohol Policy Program conducted one (1) full round of retailer inspections at each permitted establishment as well as a pricing survey to access pricing trends across the state.

## **2. North Shore Public Health Collaborative (NSPHC)**

The North Shore Public Health Collaborative (NSPHC), a collaborative of eight local health departments: Beverly, Danvers, Lynn, Marblehead, Nahant, Peabody, Salem, and Swampscott. Our work focuses on enhancing and expanding the services our local health departments provide to prevent disease and promote health across our communities.

NSPHC is funded through a state Public Health Excellence grant, which provides local health departments with the funding for shared staff and resources, with a focus on adopting recommendations from the statewide Blueprint for Public Health Excellence.

### **Regional Training Hub**

NSPHC has a separate training program, called the Northeast Training Hub. Its primary objective is to provide standardized and consistent training to local environmental health staff across participating municipalities. These trainings encompass various areas, including food safety, housing inspections, camp regulations, pool safety, septic systems, and soil assessments. Learn more about the program here:

<https://www.northshorepublichealth.com/northeastpublichealthtraininghub>

### **3. NORTH SHORE-CAPE ANN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COALITION**

The North Shore-Cape Ann Emergency Preparedness Coalition works to prepare its communities to respond to public health threats and emergencies, which include terrorism and outbreaks of infectious diseases as well as emergencies caused by a force of nature. This coalition, established in 2004, is a sub-coalition within region 3 of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) regional Public Emergency Preparedness Coalitions and meets monthly. The coalition receives limited funding from a grant provided by the Center of Disease Control (CDC) and is mandated to attain certain standards in emergency preparedness. The North Shore-Cape Ann Emergency Preparedness Coalition has established a website with information for the public and links to other sites that can provide valuable information to our residents. To date, the Board of Health has provided MDPH with 24/7 contact information, submitted a Continuity of Operations Plan, participated in numerous drills, trainings, and conferences, trained key personnel in NIMS (National Incident Management System) and ICS (Incident Control System), updated the All-Hazards Plan, and has submitted a template of our Special Populations Plan.

The coalition is continuing the process of increasing its database of medical and non-medical volunteers through our website and is offering training opportunities for these

volunteers. In the event of an infectious disease epidemic, pandemic, or a natural disaster, volunteers will be greatly needed. Volunteers can register online and/or by calling the Marblehead Board of Health.

#### **4. CODE RED EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**

News and notifications concerning public health, trash and recycling are posted on the Town's website in a timely fashion. This useful media tool allows the posting of links to sites relating to public health, emergency planning, solid waste, and beach water quality. A subscription service on [Marbleheadma.gov](http://Marbleheadma.gov) allows people to sign up for email alerts regarding solid waste, recycling, public health emergencies, as well as other important Town information.

In addition, the Board of Health members and staff attended numerous meetings pertaining to finance, collaboration, communicable disease, tobacco control, grant application, sanitation code updates, continuing education, emergency preparedness, mental health as well as other public health-related issues. Meetings were properly and duly posted with the Town Clerk

#### **E. SUMMARY**

In closing, the Board of Health commends its office staff and transfer station staff for their adaptability and dedication to their positions and work.

As we enter 2026, the Board of Health and its employees will continue to conduct compliance inspections, investigate complaints, and promote policies and programs to protect public health and the environment.

The Board's long-term goal for the Town is to ensure that our community is successful and consistently meets core mandates while striving to improve the overall health of the Town.

The Board wishes to thank other Town Departments for assistance and cooperation in the form of manpower, equipment, and other resources. The Board would like to thank outgoing board member Helaine Hazlett for her years of service, dedication and many contributions on the Board of Health. The Board would like to welcome new member Dr. Amanda Ritvo. The Board of Health and the Town are fortunate to have a willing and able group of volunteers who assist in all aspects of our operation. The Board of Health thanks all those volunteers.

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### **HEALTH OFFICE STAFF**

Andrew H. Petty, R.S., Director of Public Health  
Tracy Giarla, LPN, Public Health Nurse  
Steven Moody, R.S. Health Inspector  
Jo-an Fratini, Senior Clerk

### **TRANSFER STATION STAFF**

Martin Flanagan, Assistant Waste Director  
Michael Louizos, Leader Heavy Equipment Operator  
Chris Monahan, Heavy Equipment Operator  
Kenny Romero, Heavy Equipment Operator  
Kay Monahan, Special Clerk  
Michael O'Shea, Transfer Station Operator  
William MacNeil, Transfer Station Operator

Respectfully Submitted,

### **Board of Health**

Thomas Massaro, Chair,  
Thomas McMahon  
Amanda Ritvo, (Beginning July 2024)

## **BUILDING COMMISSIONER & INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**

### **MISSION:**

The Building Department ensures public safety, health and welfare by regulating construction through Federal, State and Local Codes and By-Laws. The Building Department, in conjunction with the Fire Prevention Office, conducts annual inspections of public and private schools, churches, temples, day care centers, food service establishments, nursing homes, private clubs and places of assembly.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

To the Citizens of Marblehead and the Board of Selectmen, the Building Inspectional Services Department respectfully submits our 2025 Annual Report.

### **PERSONNEL:**

Department staff provide high-level customer service and maintain consistent enforcement of life and building safety.

The department wishes to extend a special thanks to Brad Smith, and Eric Chisolm. These individuals provide 24/7 behind-the-scenes support and maintenance for all Town buildings. The work includes ongoing maintenance, updating lighting fixtures to LED bulbs, electrical service upgrades, repairs and maintenance to the new HVAC system at Abbot Hall and maintaining stop lights. Together, they worked approximately 648 manhours at an estimated value of \$80,000.00 to the Town.

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT:**

Viewpoint, the digital scheduling platform provides cross departmental inspection data, complaint tracking and an improved process for annual inspections. This system provides an intuitive UI, convenience to the public that allows uninterrupted access to permit applications and payments, public viewing of planning, zoning, building, fire, electric and plumbing permits, permit fees and monetary data.

To better manage and coordinate the ongoing duties of the department, we continue meeting weekly to discuss and document the recurring issues related to code enforcement for multiple projects and to update staff of codes as they occur. We meet monthly to review internal policy, workflow improvements and technical efficiencies to benefit all staff members.

### **FINANCIAL DATA:**

Total revenue generated by the Building Department for 2025 was \$1,073,539.00, and is broken down as follows:

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A total of 509 residential building permits were issued in 2024 with \$787,446.00 fees collected. There were 29 commercial building permits issued with \$48,800.00 in fees collected. Express permits numbered 452 (mechanical/HVAC and roofing) with \$132,084.00 in fees. Electrical permits numbered 738 with \$19,200.00 in revenue generated. Gas and plumbing permits combined, numbered 1,045 generating \$45,730.00 in revenue. Sign permits numbered 6 and with 28 dumpster permits, provided a combined net value of \$1,430.00 in fees. Combined Totals: There were 14,056 inspections, 2,909 permits issued, and 3,055 records created.

CROSS DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

In tandem with the Fire Prevention Office, we performed state required annual inspections of all public and private places of assembly, churches, temples, day care centers, restaurants, nursing homes, and private clubs.

The Fire Prevention Officer occupies a single office, operating 37.5 hours per week over 5 days. Together, we have expedited Life Safety review for all projects requiring this level of attention.

With the Police Department, we provide continued support in identifying problem properties; those abandoned dwellings and structures which pose a public health risk. Total revenue for 2025 was \$1,073,539.00

Estimated cost of construction activity for the past 17 years in millions of dollars:

| 2006        | 2007        | 2008        | 2009        | 2010        | 2011        | 2012        | 2013        | 2014        | 2015        |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| \$33.3<br>0 | \$38.1<br>0 | \$25.1<br>0 | \$46.2<br>0 | \$40.0<br>0 | \$40.4<br>0 | \$50.5<br>0 | \$33.2<br>0 | \$41.4<br>0 | \$29.8<br>0 |
| 2016        | 2017        | 2018        | 2019        | 2020        | 2021        | 2022        | 2023        | 2024        | 2025        |
| \$40.6<br>0 | \$43.3<br>0 | \$43.1<br>0 | \$61.9<br>0 | \$44.7<br>0 | \$79.4<br>0 | \$66.<br>10 | \$73.<br>0  | \$68.9<br>0 | \$66<br>0   |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Cummings, Building Commissioner

Ben Lebowitz, Local inspector

Roger Ennis CBO, Building Inspector

Eric F.S. Chisholm, Assistant Wire Inspector

Bradford Smith, Plumbing & Gas Inspector

Andrea Flaxer, Senior Clerk

Ed Medeiros, Public Buildings

Bruce Hamilton, Public Buildings



## **CEMETERY DEPARTMENT**

The Marblehead Cemetery Department respectfully submits their Annual Report for the Calendar year ending December 31, 2025.

Following Chapter 114 of the Mass General Laws, the Cemetery Department has jurisdiction over all Town owned cemeteries.

The Cemetery Department is administered by a Superintendent, who is appointed by a Cemetery Board of Commissioners. The elected three-member Board serves three-year staggered terms and meets monthly to set policy, establish regulations and oversee the cemetery budget.

A set of Rules and Regulations was adopted in 1945 to protect and promote the general welfare of the Cemetery as a whole. These rules are updated periodically as needed. All changes are carefully thought through and voted on by the Board. Current Rules and Regulations are posted on [Marbleheadma.gov](http://Marbleheadma.gov) under Cemetery Department.

This Department's top priority is the delicate task of burying the deceased in a caring and timely manner with as little disruption and discomfort as possible for families and friends of the deceased. The department is also responsible for the complete care and maintenance of Waterside and Harborview Cemeteries along with developing available land for new grave space and reclaiming open land for future cemetery use.

Within Waterside Cemetery, our full-time office clerk works diligently arranging services, answering all questions related to Rules and Regulations, memorials, genealogy, lot sales, lot location and all other general questions. The clerk is overseen by the Superintendent assisting in the day-to-day operations of a very busy office.

Four full-time employees are responsible for all burials that occur, as well as the complete maintenance of approximately forty acres within Waterside Cemetery and Harborview Cemetery. This maintenance includes cutting grass, trimming all hedges, trimming back all trees, trimming around each upright memorial and flush marker along with Spring and Fall cleanup of all leaves, flowers, baskets and wreaths on lots. This small crew is also responsible for the maintenance of all buildings, equipment, roads, water system, walls, fences, gates and benches within our Town cemeteries. Cemetery personnel also install all cement foundations for upright memorials and markers as well as repair stones where an expert is not required.

Cemetery vehicles and personnel also assist the Department of Public Works plowing the streets of Marblehead during winter months along with other Town Departments, while making sure burial services can occur year-round. We also assist in curbside pickup of Christmas trees for the annual tree burning.

The maintenance staff for the Recreation and Parks Department is responsible for the care and maintenance of our historical cemeteries, Old Burial Hill, Hooper Tomb, Harris Street and Green Street Cemeteries.

There are no dogs allowed in our Town cemeteries. Signs are posted at most entrances. Dog bylaws and ordinances apply and are in effect within the cemeteries and will be enforced.

*§ 13-11. Seasonal prohibition of dogs from certain areas. [Added 5-4-1992 ATM by Art. 51; amended 5-1-2006 ATM by Art. 39; 5-7-2007 ATM by Art. 31]*

***No person owning, harboring or having custody or control of a dog shall permit such dog to be on any public cemetery of the Town at any time throughout the year, nor shall such person permit such dog to be on any public beach, athletic area, playground or park of the Town between May 1 and October 1 of each year, provided, however, that this prohibition shall not apply to Chandler Hovey Park, Crocker Park, Fort Sewall, Fountain Park, Upper Seaside Park, Riverhead Beach or the Town designated Dog Park. Whoever violates the provisions of this section shall pay a fine in accordance with the following schedule:***

*A. First offense in calendar year: \$25.*

*B. Second or subsequent offense within calendar year: \$50*

Due to its deteriorating state, the hourglass pool is filled and a temporary flame lit for the Memorial Day services only. The pool is shut down shortly following Memorial Day. We welcome donations to the Eternal Flame Fund. We hope to raise enough to replace or repurpose the hourglass pool.

The Cemetery Department's operating budget comes from Annual Town Meeting appropriations from taxation, department fees, and Perpetual Care Trust Fund interest.

The Cemetery Sale of Lots Fund is a non-interest-bearing fund which we rely on for the development of future grave space and much needed repairs to all buildings and roads. The purchase of all major equipment is also paid out of this fund which is generated by the actual sale of cemetery lots only. The Fund's use is authorized by the Cemetery Board of Commissioners and subject to Town Meeting appropriation. The Perpetual Care Fund is an interest-bearing fund. Typically interest from that fund

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is transferred to the General Fund to help offset the budget. This interest too is voted on by the Cemetery Board and approved for appropriation at Town Meeting.

This Department routinely surveys other Commonwealth Communities and Private Cemeteries as to the fees that are charged and then adjusts to our fees accordingly.

After eighteen years we saw the retirement of the Cemetery Board Chairman Richard F. Coletti. On behalf of all Cemetery Board members and employees past and present who had the pleasure of working with you, thank you for your years of service to the Town of Marblehead. Your selfless service and unwavering commitment to the citizens of Marblehead and this department have been an inspiration to us all. You have consistently put the needs of this department and community we serve above your own, and your dedication has made a profound impact. Thank you for being the best example of what it means to truly serve with heart and purpose.

Welcome to our new Board member, Rabbi David Meyer. Thank you to Gerald Tucker who was forced to step down from the board in December due to a change in his residency. Congratulations to David Rodgers who was voted as Board Chair.

This year, cemetery personnel were able to have Waterside ready for Memorial Day services with no assistance from outside Departments. The odds were against us as we were hit by a Nor'easter the Friday before the weekend. This small four-man crew pulled off the cleanup, Memorial Day preparations and attended to emergency burial services. This Department commends them for their hard work; this truly was a team effort.

Locust Avenue East development began in 2015. Two sections of that area were completed in 2018 and 2020. We are now in the process of developing the rest of that area. This should ensure grave space for at least 10 years. We continue to solicit Town owned land for future burial space.

The new Creesy Green Veterans Cemetery, which was slated to begin development plans in 2028, was fortunate to have a little assistance in 2022. For Arbor Day, Kelly Tree Service generously donated their time and crew to begin Phase One of three by taking down the trees needed. We have also been able to fund the stump grinding of those trees just this year, which moves us further ahead of schedule in this phase.

Thank you to the Tree Department for their continued assistance with the aging trees within our Town's cemeteries. We also wish to thank all other Departments who have helped in any way during the year.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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We extend our appreciation to the DPW for sending in the street sweeper just before Memorial Day and the sander during the winter months.

As Superintendent, I want to take this opportunity to personally thank the following Cemetery employees for their continued dedication to maintaining all the buildings and the grounds of Waterside Cemetery and Harborview Cemetery which is over 40 acres, as well as assisting other Departments when needed. Also thank you to our office clerk who keeps the office running smoothly.

Thank you,

|                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Mary Allain     | senior clerk             |
| Dan Weatherford | mechanic / foreman       |
| Brian Ware      | heavy equipment operator |
| Mike Attridge   | general labor IV         |
| Mark Michaud    | general labor IV         |

Your dedication and hard work does not go unnoticed.  
Wishing everyone a safe and healthy 2026.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Catherine M. Kobialka  
Superintendent

Cemetery Board of Commissioners:  
David C. Rodgers, commissioner  
Gerald P. Tucker, commissioner  
Rabbi David J. Meyer, commissioner

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

### **MISSION:**

The Community Development and Planning department (the Department) was officially created by Article 34 of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting in May of 2024. The Director and Department are responsible for a wide range of activities and duties, including land use planning, housing policy, transportation projects, historic preservation, community development, sustainability efforts, open space conservation programs, administration of regulatory boards, neighborhood improvement efforts, and other activities.

### **DEPARTMENT STAFF:**

Following the creation of the Community Development and Planning department at the 2024 Annual Town Meeting, the Select Board and Town Administrator worked diligently to ensure it was fully staffed by the start of 2025. A key milestone was the hiring of Brendan Callahan, the Town's first Director of the Department of Community Development & Planning. This appointment marked the completion of the Department's staffing, which had begun with the integration of longtime Senior Clerk, Lisa Lyons, and the Sustainability Coordinator, Logan Casey into the newly formed department, as well as the hiring of Grant Coordinator, Donna Cotterell, and former Town Planner, Alex Eitler, in late 2024. With the Director and department now in place, the staff is positioned to carry out its mission of guiding Marblehead's development in a community-focused way.

### **DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING:**

The Director of Community Development & Planning plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of Marblehead by guiding the town's growth and redevelopment in a thoughtful, sustainable, and community-focused manner. Beyond overseeing day-to-day operations, the Director is deeply involved in the long-term planning and implementation of key initiatives that directly benefit Marblehead residents.

A significant aspect of the Director's role is the development of comprehensive plans that align with the town's vision for growth, preserving its historic charm while accommodating future needs. This includes providing technical assistance on complex development proposals, ensuring that projects brought before the Regulatory Boards are well-understood, thoroughly vetted, and aligned with Marblehead's goals for responsible development.

The Director plays an essential part in supporting capital improvement projects, working closely with various town departments to enhance infrastructure, parks and open space, and town buildings. By collaborating with these departments, the Director ensures that projects are planned and executed efficiently, leveraging resources to maximize the town's benefit. This collaborative approach extends to the Director's role in securing funding for these initiatives, where the Director works alongside the departmental staff and from other town departments to apply for state and federal grants aimed at enhancing the town's assets.

In addition to the Director's work on development and planning, the Director chairs the newly established Marblehead Housing Committee, bringing together community stakeholders to address the town's housing needs and ensure that new development reflects the community's values. The Director also serves as a key advisor to the Town Administrator and senior leadership team, providing strategic input on matters ranging from policy to operational challenges.

The Director's leadership extends to managing the department's daily operation and staff. This includes overseeing the preparation of the annual operating budget, ensuring responsible allocation of resources, and administering department funds to ensure that projects and programs are delivered on time and within budget. The Directors guidance and coordination with the department create an environment that fosters collaboration, accountability, and forward-thinking solutions that benefit the town's residents and its organizational operations.

### **TOWN PLANNER & SENIOR CLERK:**

The establishment of the Department of Community Development & Planning was also marked by the expansion of the Town Planner role, which has undergone significant growth and transformation. Under the guidance of former Town Planner, Alex Eitler, responsibilities have broadened, including the incorporation of the Conservation Agent role into the Town Planner position. This shift reflects the Town's evolving approach to land use, zoning, and environmental stewardship.

The Town Planner is responsible for supporting the functions of several key regulatory boards. This includes the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Design Review Committee, and Conservation Commission. The role provides essential technical guidance to both boards and prospective applicants, ensuring development in Marblehead adheres to established regulations while supporting the town's long-term planning goals. The Town Planner's responsibilities include a variety of tasks, such as:

- Provide technical review and interpretation of planning procedures and both state and local legislation for regulatory boards and public bodies.
- Overseeing the administration of the regulatory boards, attending all meetings, and ensuring that the boards are fully supported in their decision-making processes.
- Conducting site visits with prospective applicants and collaborating with developers, landowners, and others to provide guidance on the town's zoning bylaws and subdivision rules.
- Maintaining ongoing communication with regulatory boards, ensuring planning activities are aligned with boards' priorities and keeping them informed of developments.
- Preparing and assisting with the presentation of Town Meeting, ensuring that all proposed initiatives are clearly communicated to residents and decision-makers.

The Senior Clerk, Lisa Lyons, remains integral to the operations of the Department. The Senior Clerk primarily assists the Town Planner with processing regulatory board applications and managing administrative duties for the Department. The Clerk handles numerous applications filed with the regulatory boards and are a vital resource for the public, providing guidance and answering questions related to zoning, regulations, and board procedures.

Together, these two positions reflect the Department's commitment to ensuring Marblehead remains a vibrant, well-managed community, responsible for both growth and preservation needs. At the conclusion of the 2025 calendar year, Alex Eitler left his position as Town Planner, and the Department initiated the re-hiring process to bring in a new Town Planner for 2026. In the interim, the department remains dedicated to continuing its planning work and ensuring a smooth transition.

### **SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR:**

The Sustainability Coordinator advances the Town of Marblehead's environmental and energy goals by developing and implementing programs that reduce energy use, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and promote long-term sustainability. The position leads the implementation of the Town's Net Zero initiatives and works across municipal departments, with local businesses, and with residents to support climate-resilient and energy-efficient practices.

Key responsibilities include researching and securing grants and rebates, coordinating and staffing the Green Marblehead Implementation Committee, conducting energy and emissions analyses, and tracking progress toward community sustainability

goals. The Sustainability Coordinator also supports energy efficiency improvements in municipal buildings, contributes to capital planning efforts, and explores opportunities such as, electrification, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and cross-department projects.

In addition to technical and planning work, the position emphasizes public engagement and education. The Sustainability Coordinator designs and manages outreach programs, collaborates with other departments and community groups, and communicates sustainability initiatives happening in the community.

### **GRANT COORDINATOR:**

The Grant Coordinator plays a pivotal role in supporting the town's growth and sustainability through the identification, development, and administration of grant funding. Established in 2024, this position is integral to securing financial resources for projects that improve infrastructure, enhance public services, and promote community development.

Throughout 2025, the Grant Coordinator was responsible for overseeing a wide range of tasks, including coordinating grant applications, managing compliance with funding requirements, and supporting interdepartmental collaboration. A significant portion of the role involved managing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. This included ensuring that projects met eligibility criteria, tracking progress, and maintaining proper documentation and reporting in coordination with department heads, project managers, and the Finance Department.

The Grant Coordinator also managed the Devereux Beach ADA Improvements Project, coordinating grant requirements, timelines, and communication between the Community Development & Planning Department, Recreation & Parks, and the Disabilities Commission. This project focused on improving accessibility to public infrastructure for residents and visitors at Devereux Beach.

In addition to these responsibilities, the Grant Coordinator led or supported the development and submission of numerous federal, state, and private grant applications. These applications supported a wide range of municipal priorities, including transportation infrastructure improvements such as the Village Street Bridge Replacement and bicycle infrastructure enhancements; historic preservation initiatives including the Abbot Hall Attic & Accessibility Project and related preservation planning efforts; cultural heritage programming such as the Marblehead Rev250 initiative and the “We Were There” public humanities project; and capital



and infrastructure investments tied to waterfront resilience, accessibility, and municipal facilities.

The Grant Coordinator also played a key role in coordinating interdepartmental collaboration during the application process, working closely with the Director, Town Planner, Sustainability Coordinator, Finance Department, DPW, Harbors & Waters, Recreation & Parks, the Housing Authority, and external partners to assemble project scopes, budgets, supporting documentation, and compliance materials necessary for competitive submissions.

The role also involved securing grants for historic preservation and cultural projects. Notably, the Grant Coordinator contributed to the "We Were There" project, which seeks to highlight the histories of Black and Indigenous Marbleheaders during the Revolutionary War. This initiative, along with others, supports the town's efforts to preserve its cultural heritage and engage the community in meaningful ways.

Moreover, the Grant Coordinator was actively involved in advancing climate resilience and sustainability initiatives, including the development of grant applications for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Action Grant, the MAPC Accelerating Climate Resiliency Municipal Grant (Resilient by Design: Cooling Marblehead's Housing for the Future), coastal resilience planning for State Street Landing and Tucker Wharf, and related sustainability-focused funding opportunities. These projects are designed to address the increasing risks associated with sea-level rise, extreme heat, and storm events, while also improving public infrastructure, protecting vulnerable populations, and strengthening long-term municipal resilience.

Through these efforts, the Grant Coordinator supported the integration of climate adaptation strategies into broader planning, housing, and infrastructure initiatives, helping the Town to remain competitive for future state and regional resilience funding.

In addition to individual project management, the Grant Coordinator worked to strengthen the town's internal systems for grant tracking and administration. This included streamlining workflows and providing support to other departments to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of grant management.

Through these efforts, the Grant Coordinator has been essential in securing funding for a wide variety of projects that contribute to the town's infrastructure, cultural preservation, sustainability, and community development goals. The position remains a critical component of Marblehead's ability to access external resources, reduce the

financial burden on local taxpayers, and ensure the long-term success and resilience of the town.

### **M.G.L CHAPTER 40A, SECTION 3A: MBTA COMMUNITIES ACT AND IMPACTS OF NON-COMPLIANCE**

One of the major focuses of the Department's work in 2025 involved continued compliance efforts with the Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40A, Section 3A: MBTA Communities Act (Section 3A). Over the past two years, Town Meeting has considered adopting compliant Section 3A Zoning Districts.

This effort began in 2023, responding requirements of the law, which designated Marblehead as an "Adjacent Community". The Town's Planning Board and Town Planner lead the development effort, soliciting community feedback of locations through several public engagement sessions. The proposed plan aimed to create zoning districts that would not only satisfy state requirements but also align with the needs and character of the community.

The original proposal for the compliant zoning districts was presented at 2024 Annual Town Meeting but was rejected. In the winter and spring 2025 the Planning Board and Town Planner engaged in an extensive public outreach campaign leading up to May 2025 Town Meeting to converse with and answer questions about the proposed overlay plan to provide residents with a clear understanding of the Section 3A legislation and the proposed plan. The Director and Town Planner organized several informational sessions, including detailed PowerPoint presentations, Q&A opportunities, and a "pop-up" engagement session at State Street Landing. These forums were designed to ensure transparency, allow residents to ask questions, and address misinformation about the proposal, with the goal of helping residents make informed decisions at Town Meeting.

In May 2025, Town Meeting successfully adopted Article 23, a compliant Section 3A zoning district plan at the Annual Town Meeting. However, in July 2025, a referendum on the adopted Article was called under Chapter 405 of the Acts of 1954. The Select Board, acting in accordance with the legislation, set a special election date for July 8, and the resulting vote turned over the article approved at 2025 Town Meeting. By July 14, the Town of Marblehead having no approved compliance plan, failed to submit a district compliance application with the EOHLA by the regulatory deadline and became considered non-compliant with Section 3A.

Despite these efforts to engage and address concerns, the proposal faced significant opposition from various segments of the Marblehead community. A key point of

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contention was the potential for increased density, which many residents feared would alter the town's character and quality of life. These concerns were particularly pronounced in the proposed Tioga Way and Pleasant Street Districts.

The Town's non-compliance status with Section 3A has created immediate and significant repercussions for Marblehead's ability to access state discretionary grant funding, including revocation of funding and denial from grant programs the Town had previously been awarded.

After the Town became considered non-compliant with Section 3A, the Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism rescinded a Massachusetts Revolution 250 grant, originally awarded on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, for \$50,000. The celebration, Sails & Stories, was planned to recognize Marblehead's crucial role in the American Revolution and its identity as the "Birthplace of the American Navy."

The Town was denied access to funding and support from programs the municipality has historically relied upon. Notable shutouts included \$519,193 in funding supporting improvements to Town's seawalls, operations funding for the Council on Aging's transportation programs, and funding for improvements to meet the Town's ADA compliance requirements. The Town's recent application to continue design work at State Street Landing and Tucker's Wharf was denied by the State's Coastal Resilience Grant program, after five previous years securing over \$1.1 million in State provided funding. Additionally, the Council on Aging (COA) was advised not to apply for the Community Transit Grant program due to the Town's Section 3A non-compliance, which had previously funded the purchase of three transportation vans as well as operations funding for the COA's senior transportation program. In December, the Town was denied a \$250,000 grant request for ADA improvements for the Mary Alley Building from the State Office of Disability's Municipal ADA Improvement Grant program. The Town had previously received three awards from the Municipal ADA Improvement Grant program, most recently in 2024 with the award and implementation of the Devereux Beach ADA Improvements project.

The Town's non-compliance status has been used to deny over \$3.8 million in grant proposals submitted through various grant programs listed in the Tables below. Notable projects applied for included the Abbot Hall Attic and Accessibility Improvement Project (\$999,320), the Washington Street Corridor Rehabilitation Project (\$301,050), the Coffin School Reuse Study (\$50,000), the Vacant Storefront Program (\$50,000), Downtown Parking Analysis Study (\$30,000), the Marblehead Rail Trail (\$866,930), and the State Street Landing & Tucker Wharf Coastal Resilience Project (\$519,193).

The Town's continued non-compliance also puts at risk funding awards promised but not yet disbursed. In October 2025, the Town applied for an \$11.25 million federal grant request to support the Marblehead Shipyards Resilience Project. As part of the grant application, the department successfully secured a \$1.125 million matching fund commitment from the State's Federal Funds & Infrastructure Office Matching Funds program. If the Town was successful with the federal grant request, the Town may not be able to access the State matching fund commitment due to Section 3A non-compliance.

The loss of these critical funds has had far-reaching consequences for the Town. Not only has it hindered the advancement of key projects, but it has also diminished Marblehead's ability to leverage equitable shares State funding resources designated for all municipalities. As a result, the Town must continue to consider relying more heavily on local funding or deferring these essential initiatives to future years. The loss of these state grant funds due to Section 3A non-compliance represents a significant setback in the town's long-term planning and development efforts.

### **MARBLEHEAD SHIPYARDS RESILIENCY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

The Department continued to advance the Marblehead Municipal Shipyards Infrastructure Improvements Project, a major resiliency and infrastructure initiative focused on protecting and strengthening six Town-owned waterfront properties in the Shipyard Neighborhood, including, Parker's Boatyard, Cliff Street Boatyard, Hammond Park, the Municipal Light Department, Commercial Street Pier, and the Marblehead Yacht Club. The project is designed to address documented risks from sea level rise, storm surge, and aging seawall infrastructure at these facilities that support commercial fishing, marine trades, electric utility operations, and public waterfront access, making them critical to Marblehead's local economy and community life. This project represents a strategic investment in climate resilience, economic stability, public safety, and long-term preservation of Marblehead's historic working waterfront.

Proposed improvements developed with the community throughout 2022, 2023, and 2024 include reconstruction and elevation of deteriorating seawalls, elevation and repaving of boatyard surfaces, installation of wave-attenuating floating docks, stormwater management upgrades, and creation of a continuous ADA-accessible waterfront pathway connecting key public sites. In 2025, the project reached 75% design completion, secured key state and local environmental permitting approvals, and advanced federal and state permitting coordination.

In October 2025, the Town submitted an \$11.25 million funding request to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Port Infrastructure Development Program to begin construction phases of the project. The Department also secured a \$1.125 million state funding commitment toward required project matching funds. In 2024, the estimated final design and construction costs were projected to be \$13.8 million.

### **STATE STREET LANDING AND TUCKER'S WHARF RESILIENCY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

In 2025, the Town advanced a critical coastal resilience planning initiative focused on State Street Landing and the Harbormaster's Office at Tucker's Wharf, two Town-owned waterfront assets central to harbor operations, the commercial fishing fleet, recreational boating, and public access to Marblehead Harbor. The project was supported by a \$210,502 Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Coastal Resilience Grant with \$29,216 in in-kind Town staff matching support.

The site, identified as one of Marblehead Harbor's most vulnerable flooding hot spots underwent detailed, site-specific flood projections through 2070. Analysis confirmed high exposure to sea level rise, storm surge, extreme precipitation, and heat. The Town developed Design Flood Elevations consistent with state climate standards, completed a waterfront infrastructure inspection, and prepared a near-term seawall maintenance plan with cost estimates to stabilize critical assets while long-term improvements are pursued. Building on earlier conceptual work, the project refined resilience alternatives, including structural protection measures, nature-based solutions, and phased adaptation pathways. It also produced conceptual design drawings, cost estimates, and a permitting framework to guide future implementation. Extensive stakeholder and public engagement ensured that resilience strategies reflect operational needs, community values, and long-term fiscal responsibility. This work positions Marblehead to continue to pursue implementation funding and advance short and long-term capital improvements that will protect vital harbor infrastructure, support the local maritime economy, and preserve public waterfront access in the face of accelerating climate impacts.

In 2025, the department requested \$519,193 for the FY 2026 CZM Coastal Resilience Grant program to advance the State Street Landing and Tucker's Wharf project to a 60% design competition stage but was denied due to the Town's Section 3A non-compliance status. The department plans to re-apply to continue design activities in future grant opportunity rounds.

### **CLIFF STREET UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CLOSEOUT PROJECT**

In 2025, Collins Engineers, Inc. supported the Town of Marblehead in submitting a Permanent Solution Statement and analyzing conditions of a past petroleum spill at Cliff Street Boatyard (formerly Cloutman's Boat Yard). As part of the Marblehead Shipyards Resiliency Improvements project work, during historical file review and project due diligence, the team identified an unresolved underground storage tank (UST) release at Cliff Street Boatyard dating back to 1986. The release had never been formally closed with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and remained listed as an active compliance matter. Cliff Street Boatyard was historically utilized as a fuel depot dating back to 1928. The historical on-Site fuel depot utilized petroleum USTs in its operations, including a 1,000-gallon gasoline UST installed circa 1970. Having been reportedly abandoned for approximately ten years, the gasoline UST was removed from the Site in 1986. Upon removal of the abandoned UST, an apparent gasoline release to the subsurface was identified, and a subsequent subsurface investigation confirmed the presence of elevated concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons in soil samples.

To address this issue, Collins engaged The Vertex Companies, a Licensed Site Professional (LSP), to evaluate the site conditions and determine the regulatory path to resolution. Following coordination with MassDEP, the Town received a Notice of Noncompliance (NON) requiring formal action under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, including submission of either a Permanent Solution Statement (PSS) or a Phase I Initial Site Investigation (ISI) and Tier Classification. In January 2025, a subsurface investigation was performed at the site to assess the reported subsurface impacts in the vicinity of the 1,000-gallon gasoline UST that was removed in 1986. In April 2025, an additional subsurface investigation was carried out to delineate the nature and extent of the soil impacts identified during the January 2025 investigation. As a result, the soil impacts were discovered to be limited to an estimated 380 square feet (0.01 acres) of asphalt-paved areas located between two on-site buildings occupied by the Marblehead Yacht Club and the Marblehead Trading Co. Additionally, during Vertex's subsurface investigation performed in January 2025, three groundwater monitoring wells were also installed at the site, which resulted in no identified groundwater impacts exceeding accepted standards. Concentrations of petroleum chemicals in soil have been reduced such that a condition of No Significant Risk (NSR) has been achieved. On August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the Town submitted its report to demonstrate the condition of NSR to human health, safety, public health, and the environment. The Town submitted a permanent solution statement, with no conditions attached. Completion of this work will resolve the long-standing compliance issue and update the site's regulatory status in MassDEP's database to

reflect a clean standing, supporting both environmental stewardship and ongoing resiliency improvements at the harbor.

\$62,120 in ARPA funding was used to support the close out permitting of this project. The Harbors and Waters Board provided an additional \$16,650 in funding to support additional drilling work required to complete the project.

### **VILLAGE STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

The Village Street Bridge (M-04-001) has been identified as structurally deficient through MassDOT evaluations, with deterioration of the bridge deck, steel supports, and drainage systems. The bridge currently has weight restrictions and limited roadway width, constraining larger vehicles and affecting emergency response routes between the east and west sides of Town. The Town Engineer and Department have proposed a project that includes full replacement of the existing superstructure with a precast concrete rigid frame designed for a 100-year service life. The new design would provide two 11-foot travel lanes, 5-foot shoulders, 6-foot sidewalks on both sides, ADA-compliant curb ramps, and a new accessible ramp connection to the Marblehead Rail Trail. These improvements would enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety, improve access to nearby schools, and eliminate current load limitations.

The Town has advanced the project through the MassDOT review process and applied to the Boston Region MPO for Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) construction funding. While the project has not yet been selected for construction funding, the Town has continued to invest Chapter 90 funds towards the design of the project to position the Town for future funding opportunities. Thank you to the Town Engineers and the Department of Public Works for their continued efforts to advance the design and improvements of this critical Town asset.

## ELM STREET PLAYGROUND PHASE I AND II



The Department partnered with the Friends of the Park on Elm Street to redevelop the former Gerry School Playground area. The project was divided into two phases. \$223,490 in ARPA funding and \$54,592 in a donation from the Friends of the Park Elm Street supported the Phase I design and construction activities. Phase I involved clearing the site and constructing a new open space grass area, walking path, an improved public parking lot, and basketball and four-square court. During Phase I construction, the contractor uncovered an abandoned cistern measuring 24 feet in circumference and 24 feet deep. It is believed the cistern was used in the late 1800's for firefighting purposes in the neighborhood then known as "Back Street." Large granite blocks that had been meticulously placed over the cistern were repurposed throughout the site as benches, steppingstones, and stairs. Following the completion of Phase I, the Town began Phase II, which includes the final design of the playground area and the procurement of a contractor to install new playground equipment. A generous donation of \$433,000 from the Friends of the Park on Elm Street funded the Phase II construction activities. Phase II construction is expected to begin in Spring 2026. Thank you to the Friends of the Park on Elm Street for their continued community support. Thank you to Alex Eitler, Town Planner, for his work managing the project.



## DEVEREUX BEACH ADA IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT



In February of 2025, the Town was awarded \$92,000 by the State's Municipal ADA Grant. In February 2025, the Town was awarded \$92,000 through the Commonwealth's Municipal ADA Improvement Grant Program to advance accessibility improvements at Devereux Beach. The project focuses on upgrading accessible parking areas, improving walkway surfaces using Mobi-Mat products, enhancing signage, new Mobi-Chair equipment and implementing restroom improvements including regrading, ramp installation, and fixture height adjustments. Devereux Beach serves approximately 20,000–30,000 visitors per month during peak season and is a premier waterfront destination for residents and visitors alike. These improvements will provide safer, ADA-compliant access to parking areas, restrooms, playground facilities, and the shoreline, ensuring that individuals with disabilities can access the beach with greater independence and dignity. Thank you to the Recreation & Parks Department and the Marblehead Disabilities Commission for their collaboration in developing the grant proposal and supporting project implementation.

**STATE STREET LANDING RESTROOMS HEATING, 2024 TOWN MEETING ARTICLE 51**



The Community Development and Planning department lead the installation of an air-source heat pump to enable access to the State Street Landing Restrooms year-round. The Harbors & Waters Board and the Select Board worked to devise an updated operating plan to enable year-round operation, including the installation of a heat pump heating system to support winter operations. Finally, the Town has also collaborated with local leader Phil Blaisdell and the Friends of State Street Landing to assist the Town with additional monitor and future improvements. Future improvements to ensure longevity of the property include sealing on the doors and improved insulation for the building.

**COFFIN SCHOOL ADAPTATIVE REUSE**

At the May 2025 Town Meeting, voters approved the transfer of the former Coffin Elementary School to the Select Board. In the fall of 2025, the Department issued an Expression of Interest (EOI) to municipal departments, seeking potential reuse options for the building. In addition to the EOI, a Request for Information (RFI) was sent to developers to solicit proposals for redeveloping the site. The Department received five responses to the EOI, which included ideas for affordable housing, a dog park, a cemetery, and temporary boat storage. One RFI response focused on redeveloping the site for affordable housing. The Department held two community meetings, one with direct abutters and neighbors, and a public listening session open to all residents. The meetings were well attended and solicited feedback from neighbors and public. Housing was identified as a priority, with focus on affordability for seniors, veterans, and workforce housing for Marblehead residents. In December,

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the town appropriated \$5,950 to conduct a Hazardous Building Materials Investigation to assess asbestos and lead-based paint risks in the building.

### **ACCELERATING CLIMATE RESILIENCY PROJECT**

In September 2025, the Town of Marblehead, in partnership with the Marblehead Housing Authority and Sustainable Marblehead, was awarded an \$80,000 grant through the Metropolitan Area Planning Council's (MAPC) Accelerating Climate Resilience Program to advance *Resilient by Design: Cooling Marblehead's Housing for the Future*. The initiative will focus on reducing extreme heat impacts at four public housing sites, New Farrell Court, Powderhouse Court, Green Street, and Barnard Hawkes Court, through nature-based design strategies and community-centered planning. The project prioritizes elderly, low-income, and disabled residents who are disproportionately vulnerable to extreme heat. Potential improvements include expanded tree canopy, green infrastructure, permeable surfaces, and enhanced shaded gathering areas designed to reduce the urban heat island effect while strengthening social connections among residents. Project objectives include conducting a robust community engagement process, completing site assessments and conceptual landscape designs at all four housing locations, and developing implementation-ready plans to pursue future construction funding. The Town's Grant Coordinator and Sustainability Coordinator, along with Marblehead Housing Authority staff, are contributing in-kind support for project coordination and outreach. As an ACR grantee, the project team will also participate in MAPC's regional Resilience Community of Practice to share best practices and advance climate equity goals. The project is set to kick off and engage the public in 2026.

### **FIVE CORNERS INTERSECTION REDESIGN PROJECT**

In May 2025, the Town was awarded \$135,000 from the State's MassWorks Program to fund improvements at the Five Corners intersection. Additionally, a local match of \$15,000 will be provided through Article 11 of the 2022 Town Meeting. This project aims to enhance traffic flow, improve safety, and upgrade sidewalks and pedestrian infrastructure to ensure full ADA compliance. Design and public outreach are set to begin in spring 2026. Thank you to the Town Engineer and the Department of Public Works for their continued dedication and collaboration in advancing the design and improvements for this important intersection in the heart of the town's business district.

### **MARBLEHEAD RAIL TRAIL DESIGN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

The Town has made significant strides in advancing the Marblehead Rail Trail, a transformative project that will enhance connectivity and recreational opportunities for residents. The design is progressing on two key rail trail branches – the

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Swampscott Branch and the Salem Branch, both of which will offer distinct and valuable access points to the community. The Swampscott Branch extends from Smith Street to Seaview Avenue, at the boundary between Marblehead and Swampscott, while the Salem Branch runs from West Shore Drive to Lead Mills. Together, these segments will create a network that links neighborhoods and provides much-needed access to natural areas, local amenities, and transportation routes. The trail's design, led by Toole Design, has reached a major milestone with the completion of the 25% design phase this calendar year.

The proposed 10-foot-wide path with 2-foot shoulders will improve neighborhood connections and enhance access points for Marblehead residents. In addition, expanding mobility options, the design includes key site improvements such as enhanced trail crossings, benches, trail markers, signage, and landscaping. These amenities will ensure that the rail trail is not only functional but also welcoming and accessible, fostering a sense of community while promoting healthy outdoor activities.

Beyond the design efforts on the Swampscott and Salem Branches, the Town has secured crucial funding for the Wye Junction segment of the Rail Trail. This segment, which spans Bessom Street to Pleasant Street and from Bessom Street to West Shore Drive, will provide a critical link in the overall rail trail network. With \$140,000 federal earmark and an additional \$35,000 from MassDOT, the design phase for the Wye Junction segment is set to begin in 2026. This new section will further enhance the benefits of the rail trail, creating even more opportunities for residents to explore Marblehead by foot, bike, or other non-motorized means.

## MARBLEHEAD RAIL TRAIL SHOWCASE PROJECT



The Pleasant Street to Smith Street Rail Trail Showcase Project adds a newly constructed 650-foot section of the Marblehead Rail Trail in a highly visible part of town. As part of the construction project, the trail was widened to 11 feet where possible and now provides a two-foot section of grass on each side of the trail for increased visibility and safe passing. The project also implemented green stormwater infrastructure and grading to reduce water pooling on the trail and removed tripping hazards and built upon the pedestrian crossing improvements that were completed at Pleasant and Smith Streets in December 2022.

Construction was completed by Raffaele Construction Corp of Swampscott. The total project cost was \$143,395, which was made possible through the support of state grant programs and federal funding, including a MassTrails grant in the amount of \$60,000 and residual support from American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funding. Designed and built in accordance with the Town's Rail Trail Master Plan, this project demonstrates what a safe, accessible, and connected trail system can look like in Marblehead. With the completion of the project, the trail now improves the safety and accessibility for residents and community members of all ages and abilities. The trail also helps promote and encourage participation in active transportation, such as walking and biking. The Showcase Project represents an important step forward in Marblehead's vision for a fully improved Rail Trail. It highlights the community's commitment to the Complete Streets Policy and Rail Trail Master Plan, ensuring that people walking, biking, and rolling are supported with modern, safe, and inviting infrastructure. The Rail Trail connects residents to schools, conservation areas, civic

spaces, and downtown Marblehead, making it both a recreational asset and a sustainable transportation option.

### **MARBLEHEAD RAIL TRAIL CLIFTON/ROCKAWAY AVENUE PROJECT**

The Clifton/Rockaway Avenue Rail Trail project adds a 475-foot section of the Marblehead Rail Trail along the Swampscott Branch. This section, identified in the 2020 Marblehead Rail Trail plan for improvements, includes two street crossings and retains granite from the former Clifton Train Depot. The department worked with the Historical Commission and local train enthusiasts to preserve part of the depot's granite, which led to a redesign of the trail alignment. Today, a section of the original granite remains. The project also widened the trail to 11 feet where possible, realigned crosswalks, added a raised crosswalk at Rockaway Avenue, and included new landscaping, green stormwater infrastructure, bike racks, benches, and signage. The crossings included 85 feet of newly paved trail. Constructed by Raffaele Construction Corp of Swampscott, the project was designed and built in accordance with the Town's Rail Trail Master Plan, following the same standards as the Showcase project to ensure a safe and accessible trail. The total project cost was \$396,335, which was made possible through the support from American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funding.

### **MARBLEHEAD 2037: MASTER PLAN**

In 2025, the Town Planner and department embarked on a crucial initiative to start the development of the Marblehead 2037 Comprehensive Master Plan. This plan will serve as the strategic roadmap for the town's growth and redevelopment over the next two decades, ensuring that Marblehead maintains its unique character while planning for necessary changes. With the last comprehensive plan dating back to the 1970's and only updated in 1989, this new Master Plan is long overdue. The town's evolving needs and the rapidly changing landscape of our community demand a thoughtful, well-structured framework for the future. The Marblehead 2037 Master Plan will provide clear guidance on how to manage growth, preserve valuable resources, and enhance the quality of life for residents. The Master Plan will focus on seven key areas: Land Use, Housing, Economic Opportunities, Natural and Cultural Resources, Open Space and Recreation, Services and Facilities, and Transportation and Mobility. These areas will guide the town's future planning, ensuring that growth and development are thoughtfully integrated, sustainable, and beneficial for the entire community.

The process of creating a Master Plan will be a community-driven effect, prioritizing broad public engagement to ensure that it reflects the value and priorities of our residents. A Master Plan Advisory Committee was formed, bringing together a

diverse group of stakeholders, including members from town boards and departments such as the Planning Board, Select Board, Conservation Commission, DPW, Schools, Housing, as well as business owners, residents, and youth representatives. This collaborative approach will ensure the plan is comprehensive and inclusive, addressing the needs of all sectors of the community. It's anticipated to be an 18-24 month long process and lead to the creation of a vision that positions Marblehead for continued success, maintaining the town's charm while addressing the evolving needs of residents. The completion of this plan will be a pivotal moment for Marblehead, enabling the town to approach future challenges with a clear, strategic framework that aligns with the community's aspirations. As the years come, the Master Plan will be instrumental to help guide the decisions that will shape Marblehead's future. The Master Plan will equip the town with a clear framework to guide growth, preserve our unique character, and help position Marblehead for continued success and vitality for generations to come.

### **TOWN-WIDE BICYCLE FACILITIES PLAN**

The Town of Marblehead commissioned Toole Design Group, LLC to develop a town-wide Bicycle Facilities Plan through 2024 and 2025. The objective of the Bike Facility Plan is to provide the framework for a network of high-comfort bike facilities (of all types and based on context) that are safe, convenient, attractive, and accessible to residents and visitors of all ages and abilities. This framework will allow the Town to guide future investments in an efficient way and consider other Town priorities in combination with bicycle infrastructure improvements. Three goals, developed through public input and Town guidance, will help to work toward this objective:

1. Make bicycling a safe, efficient, and practical option for all residents and visitors, with specific focus on the safety of children biking to school.
2. Expand the bike network in Town to increase safety, reduce traffic, improve public health, and raise awareness for people bicycling, walking, and rolling.
3. Incorporate safety and bike planning into Town policies.

There were several community engagement and feedback sessions held through 2024. In February of 2025, the final draft of the bicycle facilities plan was presented to the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee. The department hopes to present the final plan to the Select Board in 2026.

### **MARBLEHEAD SUSTAINABLE HERITAGE PROJECT**

The Department advanced the Marblehead Sustainable Heritage Project to work to align the Town's historic preservation framework with its commitment to achieve 100% carbon-free energy by 2040. Understanding that residential buildings account for 44.5% of the Town's greenhouse gas emissions, and many fall within the

jurisdiction of the Old and Historic Districts Commission (OHDC), the Green Marblehead Implementation Committee and the Old and Historic Districts Commission met to discuss potential solutions. In partnership with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) and regional preservation and clean energy experts, the Town developed proposed updates to OHDC guidelines to reduce regulatory barriers while maintaining the character-defining features of Marblehead's historic districts. The project combined comparative research, national best practice review, peer community analysis (Salem, Nantucket, and Concord), local walking tours, expert consultation, and a community charrette. Public engagement revealed strong support for clearer, more consistent standards and greater transparency in the review process.

The project's objective was to provide a balanced approach that integrates environmental sustainability with the preservation of the town's architectural heritage. The resulting proposed recommendations provide a potential path forward on guidance that allows for air source heat pumps, electric vehicle charging equipment, renewable energy generation, and energy-efficient windows under defined conditions that protect historic character. By working proactively to modernize its guidelines and strengthening alignment with state and national preservation standards, Marblehead can position itself as a model community demonstrating that historic districts can meaningfully maintain community character while allowing homeowner's choice and the ability to meet the larger Town sustainability goals. Community members were engaged throughout the process, ensuring that local perspectives helped shape the final guideline recommendations. The full report is available at <https://www.mapc.org/resource-library/marblehead-sustainable-heritage/>

### **TOWN-WIDE MUNICIPAL FIBER INSTALLATION – PHASE II**

In May 2025, the Town was awarded \$89,792 from the State's Community Compact Municipal Fiber program for Phase II of the Town-wide Municipal Fiber project. The project, originally identified as a priority in the 2022 Marblehead ARPA Spending Prioritization Plan, seeks to provide a complete fiber optic loop that would reliably connect all municipal, school and municipal light facilities as well as other utility sites and major intersections to allow for enhanced network capabilities. In 2024, the Town began working with Comm-Tract Corporation to design and procure a fiber "loop" that encompasses a majority of the Town's physical assets using \$500,000 in distributed ARPA funds. Weighing the cost of the additional cabling to the facilities that would be served, it was decided that the Marblehead Neck would not be included in the first phase of the project. Phase II of this project is preparing to complete the Town network by adding a fiber extension to the Marblehead Neck. The Neck is home



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to over eight hundred residents and has 2 municipal facilities, including a public park and sewage pumping station.

The Town sought support from the Commonwealth's Municipal Fiber program to complete the Town-wide municipal fiber network that is becoming the communications backbone of the community. The Town is committed to providing a minimum of five percent of the project cost, \$4,870 in a combination of local matching funds and in-kind support. The project is anticipated to be implemented in 2026.

### **GREEN COMMUNITIES PROGRAM**

The Sustainability Coordinator in coordination with the Green Marblehead Implementation Committee advanced the Town's application to become a designated participant in the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Green Communities Program. This designation will make the Town eligible for state grant funding to support energy efficiency improvements, long-term reductions in municipal energy costs, and accomplish a key goal set out in the Marblehead Net Zero Roadmap. To qualify, municipalities must meet five State established criteria. The Town has successfully completed Criteria 1, 2, 3, and 5. These include allowing as-of-right zoning for renewable and alternative energy facilities; having a reasonable permitting process for qualifying energy projects; adopting a municipal fuel-efficient vehicle policy; and having adopted the Stretch Building Code.

Work is ongoing to complete Criterion 4, necessary for full designation. The Town is in the process of formally adopting a five-year Energy Reduction Plan designed to help reduce municipal energy consumption by 20 percent. This plan outlines targeted energy conservation measures across municipal buildings, vehicles, as well as water and sewer operations. The Select Board will consider adoption of an Energy Reduction Plan in early 2026.

Because the Town is served by the Marblehead Municipal Light Department, designation also requires adoption of the Renewable Energy Charge. The Town will need to secure approval for the Marblehead Light Board to request the implementation of a Renewable Energy Charge to satisfy program requirements and enable eligibility for grant funding.

Once all remaining criteria are met and the application is approved, the Town will be positioned to receive grant funding to implement energy efficiency and renewable energy projects that reduce operating costs, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and advance local sustainability goals. Upon acceptance into the program, the Town is

expected to receive \$150,000 in the form of a designation grant. The Town would further become eligible for the Green Communities Competitive Grant program, which awards up to \$500,000 per round, to advance energy efficiency and decarbonization project across municipal buildings.

**GRANTS RECEIVED BY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

The following tables summarize grant funding received, rescinded, denied, or rendered ineligible during Calendar Year 2025. Grants are categorized based on outcome to distinguish between competitive denials, eligibility-based ineligibility, and awards rescinded due to compliance status.

**GRANTS RECEIVED BY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING IN CALENDAR YEAR 2025**

| Grant Program                                                             | Project Name                                                                                    | Funding Awarded | Matching Funds Provided                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Municipal Fiber Grant Program                                             | Phase II of Town Wide Fiber                                                                     | \$89,792        | \$4,870, in a combination of local cash match and in-kind staff support                            |
| FY26 Accelerating Climate Resilience Grant                                | Cooling Marblehead's Housing for the Future                                                     | \$80,000        | \$56,900, in-kind support from Marblehead Housing Authority and Community Development and Planning |
| Mass Humanities Expand Massachusetts Stories - Promises of the Revolution | We Were There: Reclaiming the Histories of Black and Indigenous Marbleheaders in the Revolution | \$20,000        | \$20,914, in a combination of local cash match and in-kind staff support.                          |
| FFY26 Boston Region MPO - Community                                       | Bike Racks at Various Locations in Marblehead                                                   | \$6,250         | \$1,250, in matching funds from the Rotary                                                         |

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|                                              |                                                        |                       |                          |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Connections Program                          |                                                        |                       | Club of Marblehead       |
| Creative Experiences FY26                    | Juneteenth Festival                                    | \$5,000               | \$0 – No match required. |
| MassCEC On-Street Charging Solutions Program | Technical Evaluation of On-Street EV charging stations | 100% of project costs | \$0 – No match required. |
| <b>Total</b>                                 |                                                        | <b>\$201,042</b>      | <b>\$83,934</b>          |

### GRANTS AWARDED, LATER RESCINDED DUE TO M.G.L SECTION 3A NON-COMPLIANCE IN CALENDAR YEAR 2025

| Grant Program           | Project Name                     | Funding Requested |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Massachusetts 250 Grant | Sails & Stories – Marblehead 250 | \$50,000          |

### GRANTS DENIED DUE TO M.G.L SECTION 3A NON-COMPLIANCE IN CALENDAR YEAR 2025

| Grant Name                                                 | Project Name                                                                               | Funding Requested |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| FY26 Community One Stop - Underutilized Properties Grant   | Abbot Hall Attic & Accessibility Project - Construction Phase                              | \$999,320         |
| FY26 Community One Stop - MBTA Communities Catalyst Funds  | Marblehead Rail Trail Improvements - Design Phase                                          | \$866,930         |
| FY26 EEA Dam and Seawall Repair or Removal Grant           | Marblehead Municipal Shipyard Resilience Project - Construction Phase                      | \$735,000         |
| FY26 CZM Coastal Resilience Grant Program                  | State Street Landing & Harbormaster's - Tucker Wharf Resilience Project - 60% Design Phase | \$519,193         |
| FY26 Community One Stop - MassWorks Infrastructure Program | Washington Street - Five Corners Intersection to                                           | \$301,050         |

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|                                                                                |                                                                                  |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
|                                                                                | Hooper Street - Design Phase                                                     |                    |
| FY26 Municipal ADA Improvement Grant Program                                   | Accessibility Improvements at Mary Alley Municipal Building - Construction Phase | \$250,000          |
| Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant Program (MVP) FY26 MVP Planning 2.0 | Community Resiliency Engaging Arts to Educate (CREATE) Project                   | \$100,000          |
| FY26 Community One Stop - Real Estate Services                                 | Coffin School Reuse and Redevelopment Study                                      | \$50,000           |
| FY26 Community One Stop - Massachusetts Downtown Initiative                    | Downtown Parking Study                                                           | \$30,000           |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                   |                                                                                  | <b>\$3,901,493</b> |

### GRANTS INELIGIBLE DUE TO M.G.L SECTION 3A NON-COMPLIANCE

| Grant Name                                             | Has Town been previously awarded?<br>If so, what projects?                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Community One Stop - MassWorks Infrastructure Program  | Yes, previous grant supported Five Corners Intersection Redesign Project                                                                                     |
| Municipal ADA Grant Program                            | Yes, previous grants supported ADA Improvements at Police Station, Devereux Beach                                                                            |
| MassDOT Community Transit Program                      | Yes, previous grants supported Council on Aging's transportation programs including drivers, fuel, and equipment                                             |
| CZM Coastal Resilience Grant Program                   | Yes, previous grants supported Marblehead Shipyards Resilience Improvements Project, State Street Landing and Tucker's Wharf Resilience Improvements Project |
| Community One Stop - Massachusetts Downtown Initiative | No, previously applied                                                                                                                                       |
| Community One Stop - MBTA Communities Catalyst Funds   | No, previously applied                                                                                                                                       |

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|                                                                           |                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Community One Stop - Real Estate Services                                 | No, previously applied |
| Community One Stop - Underutilized Properties Grant                       | No, previously applied |
| Cooling Corridors Grant Program                                           | No, previously applied |
| CZM Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Program                             | No, previously applied |
| DER Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance and Training Program         | No, previously applied |
| EEA Dam and Seawall Repair or Removal Grant                               | No, previously applied |
| Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant Program (MVP) MVP Planning 2.0 | No, previously applied |

### MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As newly appointed Director of Community Development & Planning, I am proud to lead a department that is already making meaningful contributions to the growth and sustainability of Marblehead. In 2025, our newly established department focused on laying the groundwork for a balanced and sustainable future, preserving our town's historic character while accommodating future needs.

One of the department's key achievements this year was the advancement of the Section 3A Zoning District initiative. After extensive public engagement, the zoning district was adopted at the May 2025 Town Meeting. Unfortunately, the outcome of a special election in July placed the town in noncompliance with the state's zoning mandates. This development has impacted several critical projects, but we remain committed to working with the community to find solutions that align with both state requirements and the values of Marblehead residents.

Our sustainability efforts, led by Logan Casey, have made significant progress, particularly through Marblehead's Net Zero initiatives. With Logan's leadership, we've worked across departments to plan to reduce energy consumption and increase the town's resilience to climate change.

I also want to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of Donna Cotterell, our Grant Coordinator. Donna has played an essential role in advancing several important projects, including managing the Devereux Beach ADA Improvements Project and supporting funding efforts for various climate resilience initiatives. Her expertise and

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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diligence have been instrumental in advancing these initiatives and enhancing Marblehead's infrastructure.

I would also like to extend my deepest appreciation to Lisa Lyons, our Senior Clerk, Lisa's exceptional management and administrative duties for the regulatory boards have been nothing short of outstanding. She has been the backbone of our department, ensuring that all applications are processed efficiently, deadlines are met, and the boards are fully supported in their decision-making. Lisa's ability to stay organized and navigate complex regulatory matters with ease has allowed the department to function seamlessly, and her dedication to the town has been a key factor in our success. Her contributions are invaluable, and I am truly grateful for her hard work.

A special thank you goes to Alex Eitler, Town Planner, who departed in December 2025. Alex's leadership was integral in advancing critical zoning and planning efforts, and his contributions will be missed. We are grateful for his dedication to Marblehead's growth and preservation.

Looking ahead, I am optimistic about the continued success of our department as we navigate the challenges of balancing growth and preservation. We will continue to focus on thoughtful, sustainable development, ensuring Marblehead remains a wonderful place to live, work, and thrive for future generations.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendan Callahan  
Director of Community Development & Planning

Community Development and Planning Department Staff

|                  |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Brendan Callahan | Director                   |
| Alex Eitler      | Town Planner               |
| Lisa Lyons       | Senior Clerk               |
| Logan Casey      | Sustainability Coordinator |
| Donna Cotterell  | Grant Coordinator          |

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

This report is for Calendar Year 2025. The purpose of the Marblehead Conservation Commission is twofold. First, to implement the safeguards specified in the state Wetlands Protection Act, the state Stormwater Management Policy and the Marblehead Wetlands Protection Bylaw in order to help preserve and protect the wetlands and water resources in our Town. Second, to maintain and protect the conservation lands held in trust for all residents of our Town. Of the six communities adjacent to Salem Sound, Marblehead and Salem have the highest density of population, with corresponding pressures on our open space and water resources. The quality of life in Marblehead and its attractiveness is in part dependent on these resources, and we urge all Marblehead residents to join in our efforts to preserve and protect them.

The Commission held regular meetings and public hearings throughout the year 2025. We continued to assist residents in their construction projects while guiding them in their endeavors to protect the wetland resources potentially affected by their construction. During 2025, the Commission received and processed the following:

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Notices of Intent           | 19 |
| Certificates of Compliance  | 19 |
| Orders of Conditions        | 17 |
| Requests for Determinations | 1  |
| Minor Activity Permits      | 19 |
| Enforcement Orders          | 4  |
| Emergency Certificates      | 0  |
| Extension requests          | 20 |
| Minor Modification requests | 3  |

A major ongoing effort of the Commission is the management and mitigation of pollution caused by storm water runoff. This polluting runoff comes from streets, parking lots, driveways and lawns. Lawn chemicals, oil and coolant leaks from vehicles, animal waste, paints disposed of in catch basins (storms drains in our streets) - all these pollutants/nutrients eventually end up in our streams and ocean. The Marblehead Water & Sewer Department already follows the guidelines established by the state to mitigate stormwater pollution runoff into our ocean waters. However, the effort to mitigate this pollution will require a long-term change in the thinking and actions on the part of the general public and in our approach to public infrastructure, including the Historical Commission approving.

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The Commission reminds everyone that our ponds are all in the process of filling in with vegetation. This is a natural process, especially with shallow ponds, and is caused or accelerated, in part, by the inflow of chemicals and fertilizers from abutting lawns and storm water runoff. If you live directly on one of our ponds, please do not fertilize your lawn.

Marblehead has exhausted (read developed) more than 95% of its buildable land. With all the roofs, driveways, streets, parking areas and other impervious surfaces we have built ourselves into one huge catch basin. This has exacerbated our drains problems. All those little open fields, land depressions and pocket wetlands where storm water used to be able to collect and gently seep into the ground are, for the most part, gone. The Commission passed tree replacement regulations in 2023 to encourage planting of additional tree canopy and to discourage removal of healthy trees. The Commission recommends that other departments and the Select Board follow suit to promote a healthy tree canopy in our Town.

Again, this year, we wish to express our gratitude to the Marblehead Conservancy for its continuing efforts to restore, improve and expand walking paths in our conservation lands and for its ongoing program to remove invasive plant species, which are strangling native vegetation in the conservation lands. The ongoing efforts of the Conservancy to preserve and protect these very valuable resources are crucial to the health of these areas, but the Commission will need to start requesting funding to better maintain these important resources available for every resident and visitor to enjoy. The Commission encourages you to explore the many walking trails in Marblehead maintained by the Conservancy. Trail maps are available on the Conservancy's web site.

Please visit us on the Town web site, [www.marbleheadma.gov](http://www.marbleheadma.gov), to find information on our meeting schedules, help with filing permit applications, and accessing the minutes of our meetings.

Respectfully submitted, **Marblehead Conservation Commission**

David VanHoven, Chair

David Oster, Member

Alison Frye, Member

Brandon Collins, Member

Kristopher Meola, Member

Jessica Norton, Member



## COUNCIL ON AGING

Many ask us, what does the COA do for the town of Marblehead. The COA is a municipal agency, a center which oversees the programming and services supporting older adults in Marblehead. We provide local outreach, social and health services, advocacy, information, and assistance for older adults, their families and caregivers. We are supported by a volunteer network, we offer meals, transportation, fitness and recreational programming, wellness activities, lifelong learning and more to MHD residents age 55 and older. (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/aging-services-network#councils-on-aging-coa-and-senior-centers>)

The Town of Marblehead funds approximately seventy-six percent (76%) of COA salaries and thirty-two (32%) of COA expenses. Additional grants and private donations are received by The Executive Office of Aging & Independence (EOAI), (formerly the Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) State's Formula grant, the Friends of the Council on Aging (FCOA), the Harold and Elizabeth Shattuck Memorial Fund (Shattuck Fund), the Marblehead Female Humane Society (MFHS), the Massachusetts Council on Aging (MCOA), Mass. Dept of Transportation (MassDOT), the Federal Older Americans Act of 1965 Titles IIIB & IIIC, and private donations fund the remaining salaries and expenses.

In 2025, the EOAI increased funding from \$15/pp to \$16/pp for residents age 60+ based on the 2020 census and the MFHS provided \$42,000 in direct support of the COA's Transportation program.

The Federal Older American's Act of 1965 granted \$9,000 in Title IIIB funding for the COA's Transportation program and \$14,000 in Title IIIC funding towards the COA's nutrition program. Amounts fluctuate annually and are utilized for salaries.

The FCOA provided \$38,000 in direct funding to the COA for several programs and fitness equipment. An additional \$8,000 was provided to purchase two round metal picnic tables, chairs, and umbrellas for Bibbo Park.

The Shattuck Fund generously awarded \$35,000 to help replace the COA Fitness Center equipment and an additional \$66,490 towards the completion of Bibbo's Park. This funding provided a Founder's Boardwalk and fencing to secure the Park.

Perhaps the most significant celebratory event hosted this year was the dedication of **BIBBO PARK**, in honor of Pat Bibbo. A formal dedication ceremony was held in

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August 2025 with more than 180 people in attendance. The event was sponsored by the FCOA and several members of the community participated: Lisa Hooper, COA Director, Rossana Ferrente, Chair, Recreations & Parks Dept, Janine Glabicky and John Capellotti both personal friends of Pat Bibbo and Liz Michaud. State Representative Jenny Armini and Senator Brendon Creighton honored both Liz Michaud and Pat Bibbo with House of Representatives and State Senate Citations recognizing their commitment and leadership to Marblehead.

**Community Education:** In 2025, 1027 people attended a total of 290 educational events. These included weekly sessions of Coffee with a Cop, and monthly sessions with State Rep Jenny Armini and iPad/iPhone training by KevTech. Programs offered were “Rediscovering the MBTA” with MBTA representatives discussing the latest updates, and participants applied for Charlie Cards. Peter Bowen presented the 2026 Medicare plan changes, and The Curley Law Firm educated participants about Elder Law. Essex County Registry of Deeds informed 46 participants about the Homestead Act and provided each of them with a copy of his/her deed. Eric Knight, retired IT Specialist/Operations Mgr. at the Mass. Office of the Inspector General, visited twice and spoke to more than 40 people about Identity Theft and provided an overview of Cybersecurity. A program on the Jeremiah Lee Mansion with Lauren McCormack was presented along with, the Life of Amelia Earhart with Margaret Arnold, PhD. Town Administrator Thatcher Kezer and Town Moderator Jack Attridge hosted their annual Town Meeting Q&A session. Matt Martin of the National Grand Bank spoke about Scams and a discussion about Slavery in New England by local historian, Joseph DiPioli was given.

A monthly Veterans Coffee Hour was added. This is an informational collaborative program with MHD Veterans Services Agent Roseann, Trionfi-Mazzuchelli and the COA. Attendance ranges from 12–26 Veterans per session.

**Health/Wellness:** Weekly Blood Pressure Clinics run in partnership with the Dept of Public Health Nurse and COA Volunteer Nurses. A total of 48 blood pressure clinics were held during 2025. A flu clinic held on October 8<sup>th</sup> provided high dose flu vaccines to 92 seniors. Bi-monthly foot care appts were offered with foot care nurse Cheryl Wall, RN, BSN, DNS, CFCN, CWOCN completing 117 appointments.

A big thank you to the Parkinsons Fitness Foundation for sponsoring a “free”, bi-weekly Parkinsons Fitness Class offered at the COA, and to Gail Perry-Borden for offering a monthly support group.

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**Fitness/Exercise:** Through the overwhelming generosity of the Shattuck Fund, our Fitness Center equipment was replaced. The Center consists of three treadmills, two elliptical bikes, a recumbent bike and a cross trainer. Partakers enjoyed the Fitness Center more than 1,287 times this year. Additionally, 726 COA members participated in 18,834 Fitness classes. This is a 16% increase from 2024.

There is opportunity for all ability levels in our Fitness programs, including Balance & Mobility, Chair Yoga, Line Dancing, Muscle Conditioning, Osteo Prevention, Parkinsons Fitness, Strength & Stretch, Step It Up, Strong Bones/Strong Bodies, Weight Training, Yoga, and Zumba Gold. Our instructors include Certified Personal Trainers and Physical Therapists.

**Health Insurance Counseling:** The Medicare “SHINE program” (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) is a federally funded program, and volunteers are trained in Medicare health insurance as well as prescription coverage. SHINE counselors Peter Bowen, Lu-Ann Gabel, and Deb Ventresca met with a total of 587 seniors in 2025.

**Intergenerational:** The COA continues its relationship with MHS students, including the afterschool MHS Film Club. The season was hosted by MHS Juniors Matias, Phineas, and Quin at the High School. Transportation to MHS was provided by the COA and the students welcomed their guests in the lobby and escorted them to the conference room. The season kicked off in December with It's A Wonderful Life and continued through April showing films such as La La Land, 12 Angry Men, The Truman Show, Fantastic Mr. Fox, and Jurassic Park, to name a few. A core group of eight COA members were joined by several students. Each meeting concluded with students leading an engaging, intergenerational discussion about the plot, characters, and special effects of the film sharing interesting ideas and perspectives.

MHS students who began as a scrapbooking club in 2024, quickly morphed into visits for “friendly competition” in Chair Volleyball and Indoor Curling with Pat Bibbo and his team-mates, as well as participating in our Zumba dance class with Instructor Kim Crowley. All three activities are thriving today. MHS Ninth Grade Volunteer Day was held on October 22. Approximately fifteen freshmen assisted the FCOA with their annual fundraising campaign by labeling over 6,000 envelopes.

**Nutrition:** AgeSpan’s Grab-n-Go and Traveling Chef programs provided 6,752 meals to 281 seniors. Grab-n-Go meals are offered three days a week and are collected at the COA. The monthly Traveling Chef program is a special sit-down luncheon. This year 3,926 meals were prepared and served to 407 seniors at our Tuesday lunch

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and special events such as our annual St. Patrick's Day & Thanksgiving luncheons as well as our bi-annual Veterans breakfasts. A new monthly pop-up lunch program called the Doug & Mike Road Show was designed in 2025 and has received great reviews. Louise Moore and the MHD Masons support the annual Thanksgiving luncheon event and bi-annual Veterans breakfasts. The FCOA supports all the other programs listed in this paragraph.

The Marblehead Rotary Club generously donated funding to provide a special lobster roll lunch for 75 Meals On Wheels participants. Meals were delivered by members of the COA Board and Rotary members. The COA provides weekly transportation to the MHD Food Pantry, Market Basket, Crosbys, and to the COA for lunch.

**Outreach:** The Outreach Coordinator (OC) receives referrals from various town offices: the Assessor's Office, Marblehead Police Department (MPD), Marblehead Fire Department (MFD), Marblehead Counseling Center (MCC), Jail Diversion Clinician at MPD, Marblehead Housing Authority (MHA), Town Clerk, Veterans Office, Animal Control Officer and Board of Health. In addition, the (OC) continues to work collaboratively with many local medical offices as well as our regional Aging Service Access Point (ASAP), AGESPAN. The (OC) and MFD have established mutual respect and alliance over the last five years. Due to state and federal budget cuts, the Home Safety Team applied again for, and was awarded, \$3,000 from the MFHS. This permitted MFD to purchase equipment (smoke detectors, lockboxes, CO2 detectors) to be used in seniors' homes. We also provided helpful safety information and education. This year over 35 Home evaluations were performed.

The (OC) receives and responds to a steady influx of calls from residents, and others, seeking information or assistance on a variety of subject matters. Many calls begin as information gatherings but conclude in an appointment for a MassHealth application, Public Housing, SNAP, Fuel Assistance, and similar types of concrete support services. The (OC) recorded 46 of these types of applications. Calls requesting information or assistance ranged from 81-244 monthly for an annual total of 1,839.

While many of these issues can be resolved over the phone; others may result in an office/home visit and possible ongoing case management. Case management is a client-centered process where a social worker assesses needs, plans, coordinates, advocates for and monitors a package of services to help the person navigate complex issues or systems with the goal of improved well-being and achievement of goals. The (OC) maintained a case load of 85 clients this year.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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The (OC) makes home visits and schedules office visits for elders in the community. It cannot be stated enough that a home visit is a great assessment tool to evaluate how a person manages in their environment. Discussions are often centered around Behavioral Health issues, Dementia-related questions, Caregiver Support, Adult Day health referrals, isolation, & loneliness. The (OC) conducted 411 home, 622 office visits and delivered holiday goody bags and wreaths to 40 seniors.

To combat social isolation, collaboration was established with other agencies and businesses to ensure our population can do something special and enjoyable. Through a generous donation from the late Pru Garniss' sisters, we were able to finance a trip to Woodman's of Essex in May for "Lunch on Pru" for 40 people. This event was a huge hit and brought together a handful of people who had not seen each other since high school. Transportation was provided by MHD Public Schools. 15 seniors enjoyed lunch at The Essex Tech Maple Street Bistro. In August, through the generosity of the Garniss sisters and the FCOA, the annual trip to Boston via Ferry with lunch and a Trolley Tour was financed for 50 people.

The COA also offers movies twice per month which gets people out of the house to socialize have a snack and schmooze about the movie afterwards. The (OC) and Program Manager (PM) rely on the movie suggestion box that is filled monthly by seniors. Movie afternoons attract 8-10 people.

The (OC) partnered with artist Siobhan McDonald, a certified Dementia Practitioner and OMA Facilitator with the intent of bringing the "Opening Minds Through Art" program to the COA and MHS. This award-winning program was developed at the Scripps Gerontology Center at Miami University in Ohio. It is an evidenced-based intergenerational art making program designed to provide self-expression and social engagement for people living with dementia and memory loss. Each older adult is paired with a trained student volunteer who provides guidance through the art-making process. Siobhan and the (OC) recruited the students and provided training over a 4-week period. We had a core group of 12 seniors and 15 students. This six-week program culminated with an art show and was featured in local newspapers and MHTV. *It is really something to watch when a 76-year-old and a teenager bond over their shared love of rock and roll bands.* The students and seniors highly anticipated coming weekly. Some of the students' parents also came to the art show to meet the "artists". This program permitted caregivers to take 2 hours each week for themselves. MHS has shown willingness to work with us on a second program in 2026 and we are fortunate to have the support of the MFHS for this program.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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The (OC) attended 40 meetings this year. Among them were: Agespan's Farmers Market Coupons Training, MFHS, MPD and detective Theresa Gay concerning specific cases, OMA grant writing, presentations and trainings, Attorney Pat Lausier with (OC) and a few of her clients, Housing Authority and Lafayette Nursing Home Meetings.

The (OC) facilitated and attended 10 presentations at the COA. "Join My Journey" a look at Dementia through the eyes of the patient co-hosted with The Mariner and 25 people attending. MBTA Charlie Card training and sign-up was very well attended. Other presentations were attended by the (OC), mostly surrounding the topics of homelessness, housing and lack thereof and Behavior Health Webinars. The (OC) presently has five homeless senior citizens on her caseload. The (OC) attends the monthly Veterans Coffee for referrals or assistance.

Through the generosity of "Making Ends Meet", the (OC) was given the opportunity to deliver gift certificates from Crosbys to 50 people/families for Thanksgiving and an additional delivery of coupons for 100 people for the December Holidays. The (OC) and (PM) volunteer annually at Wreaths Across America in our local cemeteries.

**Recreation:** Our very popular Recreation programming provides a welcoming setting. This year 929 people participated in a total of 6,779 recreational events that included Drop in Bridge, Canasta, Cribbage, Knitting, Mah Jong and Quilting. Our Knitters Holiday Boutique generously donated all their proceeds to the FCOA. Bocce, Chair Volleyball & Indoor Curling once again surpassed expectations. Bocce's members increased to 86, and our Travel team hosted several players from Beverly, Peabody and Wenham. The COA hosts Anchor to Windward participants who enjoy weekly Bocce games, and friendly competitions with our members. Indoor Curling and Chair Volleyball both had a record growth year. Indoor Curling increased from 18 to 35 players & Chair Volleyball grew from 20 to 28 players.

Every year during the months of May through September, our Golf Team led by Maureen Horan plays twice weekly either at Salem Green or Wenham Golf Course. Member numbers totaled a record of 40 golfers. *For the first time in COA golf, one golfer made a hole – in – one! We are pleased to announce Brian O'Connor did this on the 2<sup>nd</sup> hole at the Wenham Golf Club. Congratulations!*

**Social/Celebration Events:** Our annual volunteer appreciation luncheon was held at the Hawthorne Hotel on May 27<sup>th</sup>, with 77 of our volunteers in attendance. This delightful event is made possible through a grant as well as the FCOA.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Among our most important events is our bi-annual Veterans Breakfast, held each May & November. This event is generously funded and prepared by Louise Moore and the Masons. Our May event served 59 Veterans, while our November Veterans breakfast provided breakfast to 77 Veterans. The Star-Spangled Banner was sung by Lizzie Tauro, who provided a very moving, flawless rendition of our National Anthem.

Our annual Thanksgiving Day at the Masons was attended by 131 participants and more than 25 volunteers. The dedication of Louise Moore and her Team of Masons, Police Chief Dennis King and several officers, as well as the COA Director and her staff, is one of the most anticipated highlights each year. December brought 108 people to our annual FCOA Holiday Open House, where everyone enjoyed a delectable buffet served by members of the FCOA Board.

**Transportation:** More than 6,144 rides for 303 seniors were provided. This is a forty-one (41%) increase from 2024. Thirty-two percent (32%) of rides were to access nutrition services such as the food pantry, grocery stores and to the COA for lunch. Access to both out-of-town and in-town medical and dental appointments was provided to thirty-two percent (32%) of riders. The remaining thirty-seven percent (37%) of rides brought residents in-town to access the Abbot Public library, banks, hairdressers, JCC, pharmacies, Post Office, Public Housing Office, YMCA, and to the COA for all programming. The COA & Abbot Public Library began a Pilot project this year where a Library volunteer and COA driver delivers books to homebound residents.

MassDOT's Community Transit Mobility grant program has provided three of the COA's four current vehicles. Since 2001, the COA has received a total of seven (7) vehicles. The MassDOT Transit Operating grant awarded the COA \$45,000 towards salaries and fuel in FY24/25. The COA will not be granted any future MassDOT cash funding or vehicles unless the Town becomes 3A compliant.

**Volunteer Opportunities:** 20 seniors participated in the Sr. Tax Work Off Program. Volunteers provided 2,102 hours of service to eight Town departments. More than 100 volunteers provided over 6,000 hours of time in 2025. Volunteers provide Fitness Center monitoring, Gardening, handing out grab-n-go meals, fitness instructors, FCOA members, COA Board members and lunch servers to assist in keeping the COA in line with its goals. If the COA were to pay for this assistance the cost would be \$90,000 based on minimum wage.

Students from Brown, Glover, Tower & Veterans schools made special cards throughout the year both for holiday and special events. In December, the Driftwood, Marblehead and Swampscott Garden Clubs also donate their time to make beautiful

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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holiday wreaths, swags, table arrangements and homemade goody bags. These items are delivered by COA staff to more than 100 seniors.

Respectfully submitted: Lisa J. Hooper, MS - Director

### **Board of Directors:**

Marcy Schwam, Chair  
Phyllis B. Smith, Secretary  
Suzanne Gruhl  
Meredith Reardon

Thomas Gawrys, Vice Chair  
Andrew Gillis  
Lisa Palmer

*A big Thank You to Karen Janscy and Marjorie Shea who both completed their Board terms this year.*

### **COA Staff:**

Janice Salisbury-Beal, BS  
Sharon Doliber, LSW  
Linda McCollum  
Doug Laing  
Britony Wells  
David Dragan

Program Manager  
Outreach Coordinator  
Transportation Coordinator  
Nutr Coord / General Laborer  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Part time Custodian

Part time Van Drivers: Rick Broughton, Nicholas Economou  
Ann Martin, Michael Roads





DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The mission of the Town of Marblehead Department of Public Works (DPW) is to maintain and improve the Town’s public ways, stormwater infrastructure, public shade trees, vehicular fleet and to coordinate public way snow and storm operations in a safe, cost effective, and environmentally sustainable manner.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

ARTICLE 11 2022 – Road and Sidewalk Program

| Project               | Contractor                    | Description                                                                  | Schedule |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 2025 Paving           | D & R General Contracting Inc | Full Depth Reclamation Paving of West St, Mystic Rd, and Florence Rd         | 2025     |
| 2025 Paving           | D & R General Contracting Inc | Mill & Overlay of Humphrey St and Tedesco St in part                         | 2025     |
| Sidewalk Improvements | D & R General Contracting Inc | Construction of ADA ramps on West St, Tedesco St, Mystic Rd, and Florence Rd | 2025     |



Full Depth Paving and Sidewalk Improvements  
West Street (left) & Mystic Road (right)

State Chapter 90 Funded Projects

| Project                               | Contractor             | Description                                                                     | Schedule       |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Village Street Bridge Design Services | Greenman Pederson Inc. | 25% design completed and submitted to MassDOT September 2025 for review         | 2025-2026      |
| Preventive Roadway Maintenance        | Indus                  | Applying crack sealing on various roadways town wide                            | 5,135 Gallons  |
| Town-Wide Line Painting               | K5                     | Reapplication of center lines and crosswalks throughout various streets in Town | Completed 2025 |

Public Way Improvements ARPA

| Project                                  | Contractor       | Description                                                                                          | Completed |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Rail Trail Proto-Type                    | Rafaelle         | Pleasant to Smith Street                                                                             | 2025      |
| ADA Sidewalk Improvement                 | R D'Ambrosia     | Prince Street to Maverick sidewalk and multiple crossing improvements                                | 2025      |
| 2025 Redd's Pond Wall and Walkway Design | Pare Engineering | Design, engineering and permitting for the rehabilitation of the Wall and Walkway around Redd's Pond | 2025      |



*Sidewalk Improvements and Town-wide Street Markings*

**ARTICLE 10 ATM 2023 – Lease Purchase**

| Equipment/<br>Vehicle             | Contract                 | Usage                                           | Delivered                                   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| F550 Stake Body<br>Plow Truck     | Colonial Ford            | Snow fleet – highway<br>maintenance             | 2025                                        |
| Aerial Lift Truck,<br>Medium Size | Colonial Ford            | Tree Work, Sign<br>Installation,<br>inspections | 2025                                        |
| International Swap<br>Body        | Minute Man/JC<br>Madigan | Snow fleet – highway<br>maintenance             | Delivered<br>2025-final<br>lease<br>payment |

**Stormwater (Drain) Construction Articles**



Rafaella Construction completed required headwall and outfall repair located at 297 Ocean Aves. This was a year for reviewing capital improvement and large repair projects. The Town’s engineering consultant, Haley Ward Engineers, began permitting and design work for two outfalls located on Ocean Ave, and for future repairs to the Town’s stormwater system at 26 Harbor Ave and 161 Washington Street. The Stormwater Construction Article has been level funded at \$400,000 for the past 4 years. This limited funding is utilized to meet the annual regulatory requirements for the MS4 permit, engineering studies, and design of capital improvements along with maintenance of the entire system. The remaining funds are collected over

multiple years until a capital improvement project can be undertaken. With these funding constraints, the department is only able to initiate capital improvement projects approximately every other or every third year.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS MS4 NPDES PERMIT NUMBER MAR041047

The Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit is administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) (MS4 NPDES Permit Number MAR041047). Annual data was compiled and submitted to EPA and MassDEP in September 2025.

#### MS4 Permit Metrics

| Catch Basins Cleaned (count)           | 1,634 |
|----------------------------------------|-------|
| Catch Basin Debris Removed (tons)      | 63.23 |
| Catch Basins Inspected (count)         | 2,076 |
| Illicit Discharge identified/removed   | 1/1   |
| MS4 Training – Annual<br>(# employees) | 78    |

### DIVISION REPORTS HIGHWAY DIVISION

The Highway Division maintains nearly 70 miles of public streets and sidewalks in Town, including but not limited to, repairing trenches and patching potholes, sidewalk maintenance and rehabilitation, street sweeping, storm and accident debris removal, maintenance and repair of Town fences and street signs, pavement marking, roadside landscaping, and Christmas tree removal. The Division also has oversight of all Public Way projects and supplies equipment or labor as required for other Town Department's tasks.

#### Highway Maintenance - Metrics

| Project         | Description                                                          | Schedule          |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Street Sweeping | Town Wide annually and seasonal weekly sweeping of Business District | ~48 days annually |
| Removal         | Street Sweeping debris (tons)                                        | 21.67             |
| Removal         | Dead animal removal                                                  | 69                |
| Fence           | Fence repair/painting- (Days)                                        | 3                 |
| Signage         | Replacement of street, traffic, and enforcement signs                | 154               |

**STORMWATER (DRAIN) DIVISION**

The storm water system includes over 4,000 catch basins and manholes. The Storm Water Division’s crew responds to flooding issues, blocked storm lines, resident inquiries, the repair of manholes and catch basins, the cleaning and maintenance of stormwater lines and the re-establishing of drainage ditches. The Division also has oversight of all Storm Water Projects

**Stormwater Metrics**

|                                                 |     |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----|
|                                                 |     |
| Drain Structure Repair (Catch Basin/Manholes)   | 16  |
| Drain Repairs (linear feet)                     | 75  |
| CCTV Inspections of Drainage Pipe (linear feet) | 600 |
| Animals Rescued from Town Drains                | 14  |

**TREE DIVISION**

Public shade trees located on public ways are under the jurisdiction of the Tree Warden and are guided by the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 87 and the Town of Marblehead Tree Bylaws. Since 1899, Massachusetts General Law has mandated that all cities and towns in the Commonwealth have a Tree Warden, a requirement that remains in effect today under MGL Chapter 41, Sections 1 and 106.

The Tree Warden duties include inspection of all tree inquiries, whether made by phone, email, or through the online reporting system at [marbleheadma.gov](http://marbleheadma.gov). The tree crew is responsible for day-to-day operations including tree removal, pruning, planting and stump removal. Once again, the state experienced significant drought conditions that directly impacted its forests and street trees. While conditions fluctuated, several regions reached Level 2 (Significant Drought) or even Level 3 (Critical Drought) status by late summer and fall, causing visible stress and long-term health concerns for trees.

The Tree Division purchased 100 seedlings from the Massachusetts Tree Wardens Association that were planted and cared for in conservation areas by the Marblehead Conservancy and other volunteers.

The Tree Division would like to thank residents that made donations to the Town’s tree planting fund. Funds go directly to purchasing and planting trees in Town.



### **Arbor Day**

Gatchell Playground was selected for Marblehead's April 2025 Arbor Day plantings due to its limited tree canopy and the opportunity to reduce heat island impacts. For the fifth year in a row, the Tree Warden partnered with Sustainable Marblehead and local volunteers to plant 18 trees around the park.

Thank you to the volunteers who participated, and special thanks to the DPW/Tree Department crew for pre-digging all 18 planting locations in advance, a key contribution to the success of the event.

### **Elm Street Park**

In October, the Tree Warden worked with the "Friends of The Park on Elm Street" on the continued renovation of the park. Eleven trees were purchased using funds from Town Tree Donation Fund and were planted by volunteers under the supervision of the Tree Warden.



### **Set Back Tree Planting**

At Town meeting residents approved Article 42 Public Shade Trees; Protection: to amend the General Bylaws, Chapter 177 Article IV to add a new Section-9, Set Back Tree Planting. The Town now may plant trees within 20 feet of the public right of way, provided that written permission from the adjoining property owner is obtained first consistent with Massachusetts G.L. c 87, sec. 7. The Article will aid in creating optional tree planting locations to help maintain tree canopy as the Town works to upgrade the sidewalks to ADA compliance.

### Tree Division Metrics

| Tree Warden Inquiries Received/Reviewed | 712 |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|
| Tree Debris (excluding storms)          | 111 |
| Trees Removals                          | 98  |
| Trees Pruned                            | 205 |
| Stumps Removed                          | 83  |
| Trees Planted                           | 37  |

### FLEET MECHANICS DIVISION

The Mechanics Division of DPW maintains and completes maintenance of the Town's vehicular fleet. The Division completes regular preventive maintenance and emergency repairs. The Division operates during all storm events and emergency situations to minimize any delay in completing critical work.

### Mechanics Division Metrics

| DPW Vehicle and Equipment Count                                          | 49       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| DPW Vehicle and Equipment Average Age                                    | 15       |
| Town Vehicle and Equipment Fleet maintained                              | 200 plus |
| Emergency Operations Activated                                           | 4        |
| Snow Fleet / Equipment - maintained for Snow Operations and snow removal | 74       |

### ADMINISTRATIVE

### DIVISION

The Administration supports all DPW Divisions with customer support, coordination, and planning; asset management and GIS; work logs and service call tracking; emergency and safety programs; budgeting; capital improvement programs; permits; annual reporting; accounts payable; and responding to all public inquiries. The Town moved to Munis, a new accounting software, this added hours of work to every department's office staff.

I would like to acknowledge the hours of additional work Colleen King spent becoming proficient in MUNIS. And thank her for all the guidance she provided to multiple departments on how to transition to Munis creating requisitions and tracking budgets.

### Administrative Metrics

| Inquiries Received/Reviewed                  | 1,620 |
|----------------------------------------------|-------|
| Street Opening Permits Issued                | 261   |
| Curb Cut Applications Reviewed               | 5     |
| Private Connection to Town Drainage Requests | 5     |

### Collaboration with Other Departments

- Police Department – Accident response, Safe Routes to School, Public Safety Support Memorial Day, Fourth of July/Festival of the Arts, Holiday Walk, support for building upgrades. Generator removal and installation. Install Rapid Flashing Beacons
- Marblehead Municipal Light Department – Utility Tree Trimming, Storm Support
- Fire Department – Training Assistance, Christmas tree pick up; procurement support
- Animal Control – Removal of dead animals from public way
- Cemetery – Memorial Day grounds preparation, Waterside Cemetery Tree Survey
- Recreation & Parks – Beach Parking Lot Maintenance, Tree services support
- Schools – Tree services support, snow preparations,
- Select Board – outside dining barrier setup and removal, rug and moving of furniture
- Town Clerk – Preparation for all voting events
- Council on Aging – Procurement support for Bocce Court project
- Harbor Master – Assist with Ferry Landing and commercial street projects, Boat Ramp Clearing (Little Harbor and Riverhead)
- Water and Sewer – trench repair, camera support, specialized equipment exchange
- Additional collaborations listed in the Town Engineer Division Report Section



**SNOW AND STORM OPERATIONS**

The DPW is the Town’s lead Department for all winter storm operations. **The Town of Marblehead winter storm response is conducted by Town staff only.** Departments that comprise the Snow Team are: DPW (all Divisions), Water and Sewer Departments, Recreation and Parks Department, Cemetery Department, Health Department, and School Department.



The winter of 2025 had approximately 10.6 inches of snow and no blizzard categorized storms. Ice control was part of every winter weather event. The increase demand for road treatment and cost of salt was the largest portion of the Snow budget in fiscal year 2025. The Snow Team is still adjusting to the removal of the historical winter parking ban. To provide the same level of service, the DPW has noted increased work hours and difficulty meeting the same snow pushback limits.

When a snow event of any size is forecasted, the Department requests all residents find off street parking to support snow fighting efforts, regardless of snow restrictions being issued. This allows crews to conduct efficient snow clearing efforts and minimizes the chances of damage. The Department encountered difficulty maintaining the same level of service even after applying additional time and resources due to the lack of the traditional winter parking ban.

We encourage you to review the Snow Emergency information at [Marbleheadma.gov](http://Marbleheadma.gov) for helpful tips and answers to frequently asked questions regarding snow situations.

**Snow and Storm Operation Metrics**

| Snow Emergency Events Called (Code Red) | 0 |
|-----------------------------------------|---|
| Days of Snow and Ice Operations         | 7 |
| Plowable Events                         | 1 |
| Days of Snow Removal Operations         | 0 |

**Message from the Director**

The Department of Public Works continues to advance the development of a Master Transportation Plan. This effort includes coordination of infrastructure improvements that affect final paving and sidewalk upgrades. The DPW met quarterly with the Water and Sewer Commission and National Grid to review capital improvement plans and coordinate project sequencing in conjunction with the Town's pavement management plan.

In 2025, the Department implemented a revised staffing structure that established new leadership roles and expanded cross-training among employees to create a more efficient and unified DPW workforce. The Department also focused on knowledge transfer from two employees who have planned retirements in 2026.

The Town has implemented new technology to improve tracking of accounts payable, payroll, and accounts receivable. To address the increased administrative workload, the part-time General Clerk position in the DPW office was upgraded to a full-time Special Clerk position. I am pleased to announce that Katherine Person was promoted to this role.

Over the past three years, the DPW has worked to maintain a level-funded operating budget. Efforts have included revising job descriptions, restructuring staff responsibilities, and delaying certain capital improvement projects and equipment purchases. During this period, three positions have been eliminated from the department.

Following the failure of the general override at the 2025 Annual Town Meeting, a one-time transfer from the Street Opening Revolving Fund was used for FY26 to support Section 116 (Rebuild/Maintain/Hot Top Pavement/Streets). Continued reliance on revolving funds and position reductions is not sustainable while maintaining the current level of service. Residents are encouraged to participate in the annual budget review process conducted by the Finance Committee and to engage in Town Meeting discussions regarding municipal services.

The DPW would like to acknowledge the retirement of Joe Fagundes, a dedicated employee who started on the crew, who went on to serve as a lead HEO, and later continued supporting the department as a mechanic. Thank you, Joe, for your years of service to the Town of Marblehead.

I would like to thank all Tower Way employees for their continued commitment to improving efficiency and delivering high-quality service. Their efforts support the

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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maintenance of the Town's public ways, shade trees, municipal fleet, and stormwater system.

Amy McHugh

**Director of Public Works**

Amy McHugh

**Town Engineer**

Maggie Wheeler, P.E.

**Administrative Staff**

*Assistant Directors:* Robert Titus (Highway, Tree, Snow Operations),  
James Johnson (Storm Sewer System, Mechanics, Utility Coordinator)

*Tree Warden:* Jonathan Fobert

**Support Staff**

*Senior Clerk II:* Colleen King

*Assistant Engineer:* Caroline Dalton

*General Clerk:* Katherine Person

**Highway and Storm Sewer (Drain) Divisions**

*Working Foreman Construction:* Vladimir Likhтерman

*Working Foreman Maintenance:* Dana Lemieux

*Lead Heavy Equipment Operator:* Steven Risoldi, Justin Boutwell

*Specialized Heavy Equipment Operator,* Matthew Cashman

*Heavy Equipment Operators:* Michael Caira, and Michael Linatopi

*Special Laborer I:* Darby Attridge, Hasan Faryabi

**Tree Division**

*Foreman:* Edwin Park Jr.

*Lead Heavy Equipment Operator:* Alexander Fields

*Specialized Heavy Equipment Operator:* Tyler Slepoy

**Mechanics Division**

*Mechanic Supervisor:* James DiCicco

*Mechanics:* Jose Fagundes, Jeffrey Maskell

## ENGINEERING DIVISION

In 2025, the Town of Marblehead's Engineering Division continued to provide a wide range of engineering services in support of the Town. Following its transition integrating into the Department of Public Works (DPW), the Town Engineer maintains offices at Public Works, 3 Tower Way, and at Abbott Hall, Room 301, 188 Washington St.

The Town Engineer provides the following services for the Town:

- Engineering peer review,
- Construction administration and inspections,
- Engineering design for infrastructure improvement projects,
- Field engineering services for roadway or drainage improvements,
- Street re-number requests
- Oversee and operate the Town's internal GIS Mapping Services,
- Information and records research,
- Facilitate the implementation and coordination of the Town's MS4 program,
- Develop and maintain the Town's Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE), and
- Serving as the Town's Floodplain Administrator.

The Town Engineer is responsible for maintaining and updating the records of Town owned property and infrastructure. Individuals seeking records pertaining to roadway layout, drainage, Town owned buildings and private property lines, were able to make requests via email or in person. Surveyors, attorneys, architects, engineers, and residents are the typical customers requesting this information.

Additionally, the Town Engineer serves on the following boards and committees: Hazard Mitigation Plan Implementation and Monitoring Team; Complete Streets Committee; Harbor Plan Implementation Committee; the Traffic Safety and Advisory Committee, the Bike Plan Steering Committee, the Master Plan Committee, and the Public Works Committee.

The Town Engineer led or supported the following projects in 2025:

1. **Design of the Harold B. Breare Bridge (Village Street Bridge, M-04-001 2Q6) Replacement** (Greenman-Pedersen, GPI) – Project management of 25% design phase. Project reached the 25% design milestone on September 5, 2025, which was subsequently submitted to MassDOT for technical review. *25% design phase funded through Chapter 90, to be submitted for TIP construction funded grant in 2026.*

2. **Engineering Record Digitization Project** (2024-063, Metasource) – Project management and contractor oversight of Engineering files scanning operations, including the review and packaging of all engineering paper files (86 bankers' boxes), data organization for document management system, and contract management. *Project funded through ARPA, Filebound software funded by IT budget.*



**Engineering Files Digitization Project**

3. **Rail Trail “Prototype” Improvements: Smith St to Pleasant St** (2024-041, Raffaele Construction) – Completed in-house CAD design, bidding, construction, oversight/inspections, and management of grant funds for the Rail Trail segment from Smith Street to Pleasant Street. *Design and construction oversight completed in-house, construction funded through DCR MassTrails grant and ARPA.*



**Rail Trail Between Smith St and Pleasant St**

4. **Town-Wide Roadway and Sidewalk Improvements** (2024-030, Year 2, D&R Paving) – Lead town-wide paving implementation. *Design, field*

*layout, and construction oversight completed in-house, construction funded through ATM 2022 Article 11 Roadway Improvements.*

- o West Street, Mystic Road, and Florence Road Full Depth Reclamation – Planning, coordination, sidewalk design, field layout, technical inspections, and construction oversight.
- o Humphrey Street and Tedesco Street Mill and Overlay – Planning, technical inspections, and construction oversight.



**Roadway Reclamation West Street and Final Paving Mystic Road**

5. **Town-Wide Sidewalk and ADA Improvements** (2024-053, Year 1, D'Ambrosia) – In-house design planning, site evaluation, field layout, construction oversight, and general contract support. *Design and construction layout completed in-house, with construction funded by ARPA and ATM 2022 Article 11 Roadway Improvements.*
  - o West Shore Drive at Jersey Street; Lafayette Street at Birch Street; Atlantic Avenue at Gerry Street; Atlantic Avenue at Smith Street – ADA sidewalk improvements at road crossings and rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs)
  - o Pleasant Street from Veterans' Middle School to Maverick St (Abbot Library) – 5-foot sidewalk installation and roadway narrowing
6. **Solar Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon Installation at TSAC Selected Crossings** – Conducted site evaluation of TSAC selected priority crossings for feasibility and oversaw installation of RRFB's at West Shore Drive at Jersey Street; Lafayette Street at Birch Street; Atlantic Avenue at Gerry Street; Atlantic Avenue at Smith Street. Initial installation complete, with final site adjustment required in 2026. *RRFB devices purchased by the Police Chief using grant funds.*
7. **Marblehead Rail Trail Design – Swampscott and Salem Branches** (2024-014 and 2024-015, Toole Design) – Joint project management with DPW Director prior to onboarding of the Community Development

Department. In-house support of design and permitting, file research, site walks, and community engagement support through ongoing design and permitting phases. *This project is currently in design and permitting phase, with work funded by ARPA.*

8. **Marblehead Rail Trail “Early” Construction Swampscott Branch – Clifton Ave to Rockaway Ave** (2024-071, Rafaelle Construction) – Construction implemented in advance of full Rail Trail Branch improvements. Partial submittal review; technical evaluation of construction elements; construction phase redesign in CAD and iterative field layouts to accommodate historical rail curbing, drainage features, and raised crossing; partial sign and line paint field layouts; and miscellaneous construction engineering support for Rail Trail segment from Clifton Ave to Rockaway Ave. *This project was designed under Town contract 2024-014 (above) and both design and partial early phase construction were funded through ARPA. Construction engineering support and construction redesign completed in-house.*
9. **Town-wide Catch Basin Cleaning** (2025-005, BMC) – Prepared bid documents, cost and quantity estimates, bidding support, contracting and coordination for town-wide catch basin cleaning. The Town Engineer established the GIS application for catch basin cleaning, tracking and data management; provided project management support; and oversaw the assistant engineer’s implementation of catch basin cleaning. *In-house contracting, project management, and GIS implementation, with catch basin cleaning maintenance work funded through DPW’s annual Stormwater Construction Article.*
10. **MS4 Annual Activities, Reporting, and IDDE Investigations** (In-house/Woodard & Curran 2024-042) – Prepared documentation for the MS4 Annual Report and IDDE program, which included oversight of 35 days of targeted field investigations. *Project management, reporting, and in-house IDDE investigations, with support from Town consultant, funded through DPW’s annual Stormwater Construction Article.*
11. **Town-wide Line Painting** (MDPW-23-06, K5) – Roadway centerline and crosswalk paint layout and coordination, general contractor oversight, construction administration, and coordination, with support from assistant engineer. *In-house engineering layout of line painting, with work line paint funded through Chapter 90.*
12. **Town-wide Crack Sealing** (2024-028, Year 2, indus inc) – Roadway condition evaluation, pavement preservation planning, contractor coordination, and oversight with support from assistant engineer. *Planning*

*and layout in house, crack seal pavement maintenance funded through Chapter 90.*

13. **Shoe Shed Restoration Walkway Improvement** (McLaughlin Masonry) – Construction inspection, ADA compliant material evaluation, and material selection support. *Funded by Marblehead Historical Commission source(s).*
14. **Waterside Cemetery Paving Evaluation** – Condition evaluation, cost estimating, and planning support for critical paving area at Waterside Cemetery. *Construction scheduled for 2026, to be funded by Marblehead Cemetery Commission funding source(s).*
15. **Reynold Field Design Guidance** – Technical support and geotechnical boring oversight. *Design ongoing, funded by Marblehead Recreation and Parks Commission source(s).*
16. **Stormwater Utility Fund Feasibility Study** – Initial project management and coordination for the Feasibility Study to evaluate a Stormwater Utility Fund. *Feasibility Study to kick off in 2026, funded by DPW's annual Stormwater Construction Article.*
17. **General Paving Planning Support** – General cost estimates for various roadways to support DPW paving planning efforts and supported ongoing utility coordination efforts.
18. **Pleasant Street Corridor (Humphrey Street to Ocean Avenue) Preliminary Design Evaluation** – Preliminary design support and concept review, construction cost estimating, project planning, and grant writing. Additional conceptual design and created preliminary cost estimates for project extension from Ocean Avenue to Prospect Street. MassDOT Project Intake submission completed in partnership with Community Development. Wrote sections of and reviewed grant application package and prepared cost estimate documents.
19. **Beach Street Preliminary Design Evaluation** – Technical review of conceptual design alternates for Beach Street.
20. **Maple Street Preliminary Design Evaluation** – Technical review of conceptual design alternates for Maple Street intersection with Humphrey and Tedesco Street.
21. **West Shore Drive and Village Street Intersection Improvements** – Prepared preliminary design construction cost estimates, project concept and wrote and reviewed grant for design funding. *Grant submitted for MassDOT Complete Streets design funds.*
22. **5 Corners Intersection Improvements** – Preliminary project planning support and review of technical design criteria in coordination with Community Development. *Design to be completed under MassWorks grant in the amount of \$135,000 and Town match of \$15,000.*



23. **Elm Street Playground** – Construction support evaluating unforeseen field conditions and construction engineering support as applicable. *Funded by ARPA and Friends of Park on Elm.*
24. **Town-wide Bicycle Facilities Plan (2024-005, Toole)** – Supported project management of bike plan, provided Town GIS data, served on Steering Committee, participated in public engagement, and reviewed deliverables. *Funded by ARPA.*
25. **Annual Photo survey of Causeway Seawall** (Wheeler & Dalton, 2025)
26. **Floodplain Bylaw Revisions and Implementation** – Wrote revisions of Town Floodplain Bylaws to state standards and oversaw Town Planner’s presentation to the Planning Board, and drafted flood plain permit for Building Commissioner’s implementation.

The Department purchased a Scanner/Plotter, the HP DesignJet T2600 for Town Project use. This device is located at Abbot Hall and is used to scan historical engineering records, incoming plans, and plot large scale plan files.

The Town Engineer worked closely with the Community Development and Planning Department and assisted with the onboarding of the Department’s Director, Brendan Callahan. This included ongoing coordination and information sharing to support a smooth transition. I appreciate the continued collaboration with this department and remain available to provide engineering support for cross-departmental projects.

In summary, the Engineering Department continued to provide engineering support to the Town and advance successful project implementation. Collaboration across Town departments, boards, and the broader community remains essential as Marblehead addresses its evolving infrastructure needs, and I am grateful for this continued partnership.

I would like to especially thank everyone at the Department of Public Works for their contributions and collaboration throughout the year, particularly Amy McHugh, DPW Director, Caroline Dalton, Assistant Engineer, and the wonderful DPW clerks. I also would like to extend thanks to Kyle Wiley, Jennifer Smith, and Pam Granese for their support throughout the year. I am grateful for a productive year of projects and remain committed to preserving and enhancing the Town’s infrastructure.

Thank you.

Maggie Wheeler, P.E.  
Town Engineer

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

The Financial Services department is responsible for the Town's financial functions, including accounting, assessing, payroll, revenue collection, technology, budgeting, capital financing and retirement management. The Financial Services department is overseen by the Town's Finance Director. The Finance Director also serves as the Chief Financial Officer responsible for the management of information technology for the Town. In addition, the Finance Director/CFO serves as an ex-officio member of the Town's Retirement Board and the Town's Compensation Committee.

Within Financial Services, the Accounting office is responsible for the audit and approval of all town expenditures and the preparation of various accounting and financial reports required by the State's Department of Revenue. The Assessors office is responsible for determining all real and personal property valuation within the town. The Treasurer/Collector's office is responsible for the distribution of payroll and vendor checks and the collection of taxes and fees owed to the Town. The Payroll office performs all payroll functions and administers various employee benefits, including health insurance, dental insurance, flexible spending plans, 457 deferred compensation plans, and life insurance. The Payroll office also manages unemployment and workers' compensation benefits.

The Financial Services Department publishes a separate Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the Town on a fiscal year basis (July 1 to June 30) each year. A copy of the latest ACFR (FY2024) is available on the Town's website or by contacting the Finance Department.

Following are the more significant accomplishments of the Financial Services department during 2025:

- Working on the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for the eighteenth year. This award is only given to government units whose annual comprehensive financial reports (ACFRs) achieve the highest standards in government accounting and financial reporting.
- Working closely with the independent CPA audit firm to prepare and issue the Town's FY2025 ACFR.

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- In the context of financing, the Town has maintained its AAA bond rating by the independent rating agency Standard & Poor's (S&P). Marblehead is one of 69 Massachusetts communities to receive the highest municipal rating.
- Completed the annual open enrollment process in April and May for employee and retiree health insurance. The Town began purchasing health insurance plans through the State's Group Insurance Commission (GIC) in July 2012 and is currently in a three-year agreement that is effective through FY2026.
- Conducted an open enrollment in May for optional dental, disability, and vision insurance programs for employees and retirees. Under this program, employees and retirees pay 100% of the premiums for this insurance through a payroll deduction.
- Working on Tyler Munis ERP system conversion for the General Ledger.
- The Financial Forecast presented and completed the Tax Recap December.
- Working on the Department of Revenue reports within specified deadlines, including the balance sheet for Free Cash, and other accounting forms.

### Financial Services Department Staff:

|                         |                                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Aleesha Nunley Benjamin | Finance Director/CFO              |
| Chris Holak             | Town Accountant                   |
| Cami Iannarelli         | Treasurer/Tax Collector           |
| Todd Laramie            | Chief Assessor                    |
| Kathy Carey             | Payroll Administrator             |
| Jennifer Smith          | IT & Communications Specialist    |
| Josh Bogle              | Assistant Treasurer/Collector     |
| Leandro Difilippo       | Administrative Assessor           |
| Viktorija Babrauskaite  | Senior Clerk, Assessor            |
| Jo-an Fratini           | Accounting & Website Assistant    |
| Dmitriy Vaydman         | Accounting Assistant              |
| Linda Gifford           | Retirement Administrator          |
| Amanda Viecegli         | Administrative Clerk, Payroll     |
| Amy Ciccone             | Senior Clerk, Treasurer/Collector |
| Kristin Weatherford     | Senior Clerk, Treasurer/Collector |

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

To the Honorable Select Board and Citizens of Marblehead. As we reflect on the past year, I am pleased to present the annual report of the Marblehead Fire and Rescue Department. This report provides an overview of our activities, accomplishments, and milestones, and serves as a testament to our unwavering commitment to the safety, well-being, and resilience of the Marblehead community.

Throughout 2025, the Marblehead Fire Department faced a wide range of challenges and opportunities. Through each, our members demonstrated exceptional professionalism, dedication, and adaptability. This report reflects the collective efforts of our highly trained firefighters, dedicated civilian staff dispatchers, and the continued support of the community we proudly serve.

From emergency response and fire prevention to community outreach, training, and preparedness initiatives, the following pages highlight the multifaceted role your fire department plays in protecting lives, property, and the environment. As the demands for emergency services continue to evolve, we remain committed to innovation, continuous improvement, and proactive service delivery to meet the needs of our town.

I invite you to review this report and learn more about the work accomplished over the past year. On behalf of the men and women of the Marblehead Fire and Rescue Department, I extend my sincere gratitude for the trust and support you place in us. It is our privilege to serve this community. We look forward to another year of continued collaboration, progress, and success.

### **MISSION:**

The Marblehead Fire Department is a full-service, all-hazards fire and emergency medical services organization committed to protecting life, property, and the environment. We strive to deliver effective, efficient, and customer-focused life safety services through comprehensive prevention and safety initiatives, emergency medical care, fire suppression and rescue operations, emergency management, and community engagement activities.

We are dedicated to providing residents and visitors with the highest level of professional service through timely response, positive intervention, accessibility, and public education. The Marblehead Fire Department is committed to maintaining a

well-trained, well-equipped, and appropriately staffed organization, recognized for outstanding customer service, operational excellence, and fiscal responsibility.

Guided by our core values of **Teamwork, Integrity, Communication, Excellence, and Transparency**, we provide caring, compassionate, and competent service in all that we do. This community puts its trust in us as emergency first responders and expects that when we answer a “911” call we are prepared, professional and able to perform as a team in order to prevent harm, preserve life, and protect property. It is a tribute to everyone in the Department that day-in and day-out, we meet those challenges and that we do so under conditions that can be demanding and dangerous. I commend the men and women of the Marblehead Fire Department who remain dedicated to providing quality and innovative fire, rescue, and emergency medical services to our community.

#### **ADMINISTRATION:**

The administration function of the department is to ensure the effective delivery of Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services, by using sound management principles for budget preparation, revenue collection, and human resource management. Financial responsibility is paramount in the preparation and expenditures of the \$5,489,479.00 budget.

I have established the following goals for the upcoming year.

The Marblehead Fire Department will advocate to hire **two new firefighter recruits** to help bring staffing levels up to an appropriate and sustainable level. Increasing staffing will improve operational readiness and help **reduce firefighter burnout**, ensuring the safety and well-being of both firefighters and the community.

- The **Training Division** will continue to develop and deliver training programs that address the evolving threats and challenges firefighters face on a daily basis. These include the rise in **lithium-ion battery fires**, changes in **modern structural materials**, and an increase in **civil unrest and active shooter incidents**.
- The Training Division will place a strong emphasis on the development of a **mental health training programs** for firefighters. This programs will address **PTSD, anxiety, and other mental health challenges** that result from repeated exposure to traumatic events.

The Marblehead Fire Department will also strive to **replace outdated firefighting gear** with **PFAS-free protective equipment**, in an effort to maintain the highest level of firefighter safety while reducing exposure to toxic PFAS chemicals.

- The department will work collaboratively with the **Town of Marblehead and the Firefighters Union** to implement a **coordinated and multifaceted effort** aimed at reducing firefighter exposure to carcinogens and other occupational health hazards.

The Department will continue the rollout our new records management system First Due throughout Spring; and optimization will continue throughout the year. ·

#### **FIRE RESCUE & EMS OPERATIONS:**

The Marblehead Fire Department consists of **forty-two** full-time personnel, when fully staffed. Due to budget reductions over the past fiscal year, our staffing level has fallen to **thirty-nine** firefighters, which are assigned to fire and emergency rescue. The thirty-nine firefighters are divided into four groups of nine members, consisting of one Captain, one Lieutenant and seven Firefighters. The four groups are commanded by the Duty Captain, who is responsible for the oversight of all activities occurring on their respective groups. Those responsibilities range from incident management to customer service, with an end that ensures that we have mitigated every situation safely, professionally, and most importantly to the satisfaction of our customers. The fire department's primary responsibility is protecting the lives and property of the citizens and visitors, in addition to responding to routine calls for assistance from the public as needed. Services provided include combating all types of fires, providing emergency medical care to the sick and injured, containing and mitigating the effects of leaks and spills of hazardous materials, rescuing those who are physically trapped in such situations as motor vehicle accidents, industrial accidents or collapsed structures, providing ice and water rescue, mitigating the hazards associated from downed power lines or natural gas leaks and providing aid in situations where those in the community need special assistance such as lock out/in situations, or animal rescues. In addition, all of the men and women of the Marblehead Fire Department assist in providing public fire safety and emergency preparedness educational training and programs to the general public; safety inspections, maintaining equipment, apparatus, facilities, participate in daily fire rescue and EMS training. The fire department operates out of two fire stations with two Class Five Ambulance Engine Companies and one Ladder Company, which provides 24/7 coverage. The fire stations are located at 1 Ocean Avenue and 1 Franklin Street. Several specialized pieces of equipment (such as the public safety boats, DEP spill trailer and pump trailer) make up the remaining resources at our disposal.

The Marblehead Fire Department remains an active partner with the Essex County Mutual Aid Systems. The Department has always provided firefighting resources to surrounding communities in their times of need and, in return, Marblehead has

received valuable assistance during fires and other emergency situations within our community. With today's potential hazards and stressed staffing levels, as seen throughout the State, this valuable assistance is truly essential for the purpose of mitigating an emergency of a size or scope beyond the control of an individual Department without the assistance of other surrounding departments.

### **FIRE RESCUE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE:**

The Department responded to 3,552 calls for services in 2025, this reflects a 1.5 percent decrease of overall responses from 2024. Of the 3552 calls for service, 1,461 calls were for medical assistance. Emergency medical responses make up forty-one percent of our total yearly call volume.

The Department currently maintains 39 Emergency Medical Technicians, certified at the BLS level, including the Chief. Our two primary engines are licensed by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Office of Emergency Medical Services as Class 5 Non-Transporting Basic Life Support Ambulances. Members maintain their skills through regularly scheduled training conducted by the Department's Training Officers and EMS Coordinators in conjunction with Cataldo/Atlantic Ambulance Company. All of our apparatus and staff vehicles are equipped with state-of-the-art cardiac defibrillators.

The Marblehead Fire Department continues to be a leader and innovator in out-of-hospital care. All of our in-service companies operate and are equipped at the Basic Life Support level. This includes Defibrillators, Oxygen, Trauma supplies and equipment, Epi-Pens, Aspirin, Narcan, Glucometers, Pulse Oximetry as well as the Lucas CPR device.

All of our EMT's are licensed through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services, and also hold certification in Basic Life Support. Our EMT's are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of training every two years.

The demand for emergency medical services continues to increase every year, and as a result, medical aid responses have become the primary request for the services that the Fire Department provides to citizens of Marblehead and visitors to our community. Our Firefighter EMT's strive to provide the citizens with excellent emergency medical care and customer service, this is exemplified by the countless hours of emergency medical training that all members participate in on a daily basis and the quality of service provided by fire department personnel.

### **FIRE INVESTIGATION:**

The Marblehead Fire Investigation Unit consists of six highly qualified and extensively trained fire investigators: Captains Eric Ridge, McLaughlin, and J. Thibodeau; Lieutenant Cerrutti; and Firefighter Lydon. The unit operates under the leadership of Captain Eric Ridge, who directs and oversees all fire investigations for the department.

The Fire Investigation Unit is responsible for determining the origin and cause of fires within the Town of Marblehead. Unit members conduct post-fire interviews, collaborate closely with law enforcement agencies, and serve as the primary liaison with the State Fire Marshal's Office and the District Attorney's Office to ensure thorough, coordinated investigations.

### **TRAINING AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS:**

In 2025 each member of the department participated in 20 – 40 hours per month of training. The Training Division is headed up by Captain Eric Ridge and Lieutenant Liam Gilliland. They are responsible for the scheduling, coordination and record keeping of all departmental training. Providing comprehensive training can be a difficult task and the Training Division utilizes many resources, such as the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, Target Solutions, Prodigy EMS, and the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA) to help provide props and firefighter training that we do not readily have access to.

All of our firefighters are cross trained in emergency medicine, auto extrication techniques, rescue operations, fire control and suppression, hazardous material response, water and ice rescue and many other skills and techniques that we may be called upon to perform in order to meet the needs of the community. Training our firefighters is an ongoing challenge. Updates to current standards by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), The Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS), and industry best practices are constantly evolving, requiring our Training Officers to continually revise and update training programs to match the departments mission. Most of the firefighter's skill training is conducted during the firefighter's regular work shift. Much of the training is conducted by the respective company officers of each of the four groups. The Training Officers provide lesson plans for specialized training such as Water and Ice rescue, Confined Space rescue, Mayday Operations, Vehicle Extrication, etc. These types of classes are in addition to the daily Company Level Training, that are assigned to each group.

The department has also made physical fitness a priority, in an effort to improve our firefighter's health and wellness and reduce injuries on the job.



Throughout the year the Fire Department regularly conducts fire, rescue, and emergency medical training, and all members participate in daily skills retention training as well as annual comprehensive refresher training courses.

The department continues to benefit from donated used vehicles, and homes scheduled for demolition. With the support of local property owners, we can conduct valuable training in these homes before they are torn down. An ideal donation is a house that is scheduled for removal by the property owner or real-estate developer. The property still belongs to the owner, and after the training has been completed, the structure can be demolished as originally planned. Our department will use these houses to practice firefighting skills that are destructive in nature and would not otherwise be possible to conduct. During training exercises, the Fire Department fills the home with theatrical smoke to practice searching for a victim or lost firefighter. Training like this does not include any live fire scenarios, but we can create a safe smoke-filled environment, by use of a theatrical smoke machine to attain zero visibility, which simulates the conditions encountered in a structure fire. The Department also uses these structures to practice identifying building construction methods, techniques for opening up ceilings and walls to search for hidden fire and cutting holes in roofs to vent smoke. Firefighters also use these properties to practice survival techniques, such as how to rescue a firefighter who has become trapped inside.

This valuable training cannot be duplicated, and we very much appreciate the generous use of these properties by the owners before the homes are demolished.

The vehicles that are donated are used to practice vehicle extrication, and new techniques used to rescue victims who are trapped inside a badly damaged vehicle. According to the National Safety Council, traffic fatalities continue to rise nationwide - which highlights the need for emergency responders to be as well-equipped and skillfully trained. Using actual cars allows firefighters to keep their skills proficient and become more familiar with how their lifesaving cutting and spreading equipment (such as the "Jaws of Life" hydraulic rescue tool) behaves in real-life situations.

### **EMERGING CONCERNS:**

#### **Emerging Fire Risks from Electric Vehicles, E-Scooters, and Home Battery Systems**

The growing presence of electric vehicles (EVs), e-scooters, and residential energy storage systems—commonly referred to as “battery walls”—presents new and significant challenges for the Marblehead Fire Department. Unlike conventional fires,

incidents involving lithium-ion batteries can be exceptionally difficult to manage. These fires can reignite, release toxic gases, and pose electrocution hazards to responders. While EVs may statistically catch fire less frequently than gasoline-powered vehicles, when incidents do occur, they require substantial water resources, specialized training, and updated operational strategies. Many departments, including those in Massachusetts, are still working to build full preparedness for these unique hazards.

### Key Concerns for Firefighters in Marblehead

- **Thermal Runaway:** Lithium-ion batteries can enter a self-sustaining, rapid-fire condition known as thermal runaway. This makes suppression difficult and often requires thousands of gallons of water over extended periods to fully control.
- **Reignition:** Even after a fire appears extinguished, battery packs can reignite hours or days later, creating a persistent hazard.
- **Toxic Fumes and Electrocution Risk:** Fires involving lithium-ion batteries release hazardous gases, and damaged battery packs—particularly those connected to home charging systems or residential battery walls—can deliver dangerous electric shocks.
- **Unique Fire Behavior:** Fires fueled by these energy storage systems progress differently than traditional fires, requiring the Marblehead Fire Department to reevaluate standard firefighting tactics and incident strategies.
- **Training and Equipment Gaps:** Many fire departments, including Marblehead, are still developing specialized training, equipment (such as nozzles designed for EV battery fires), and protocols to safely and effectively manage these complex incidents, as noted by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB).

By recognizing and planning for these emerging risks, the Marblehead Fire Department aims to maintain firefighter safety while protecting the community from the unique hazards posed by modern electric energy systems.

### Rising Cases of Active Shooter Events:

Active shooter incidents have become a significant and growing concern for the Marblehead Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Traditionally, fire and EMS personnel in Marblehead, as in many communities, operated primarily in a “standby” role, awaiting law enforcement clearance before entering an active threat scene. However, the increasing frequency and severity of events such as school shootings, workplace violence, and acts of terrorism have required a reevaluation of

this approach. Modern response protocols now emphasize a more proactive role for Marblehead Fire and EMS personnel, including the ability to operate in or immediately adjacent to the “hot zone” under law enforcement protection. Effective management of these incidents depends on close coordination with local police and regional law enforcement partners to address mass casualty situations, deliver rapid medical care, and provide critical “warm zone” interventions. By adopting these updated strategies, the Marblehead Fire Department enhances its ability to ensure timely treatment for victims while maintaining the safety of responders and the community.

### **FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION:**

The Fire Prevention Inspector is located at 7 Widger Road, in the inspectional services wing of the Mary Alley Municipal Building. The Fire Prevention Inspector delivers a well-structured inspection program of commercial occupancies, residential properties, schools, institutions, and other places of assembly. These buildings are inspected with the intention of removing hazards and correcting unsafe conditions. In addition, the Fire prevention Inspector works to ensure compliance with Massachusetts general Laws, the Code of Massachusetts Regulations, and By-Laws of the Town of Marblehead that are under the authority of the Fire department. The Fire Prevention Inspector works to provide fire and life safety protection to the public by confirming code compliance and enforcing fire prevention laws and codes. The Fire prevention Inspector works closely with the Building Department to provide plan reviews with architects, contractors, business owners, property owners and legal representatives. These reviews focus mainly on life safety systems, and include the inspection and testing of any installation, alteration, modification, or repair to any fire alarm, sprinkler system or other suppression system.

As part of the department’s public education initiative, The Fire prevention Inspector works closely with our SAFE Instructors and public and private schools and various other children’s groups to schedule school visits and host the Fire Prevention Week Open House. Working together in the pursuance of life safety and property protection, citizens of the Town are encouraged to contact the Fire Prevention Office with any concerns that pertain to fire protection and fire safety. The Fire Prevention Inspector, Captain McLaughlin is committed to work hard to identify and reduce the risk of fire in our community while maintaining the best possible customer service and highest standard of professionalism. permitting processes are followed in the construction of new buildings and the rehabilitation of older occupancies. This division is responsible for the implementation and supervision of all fire and life safety inspection programs within the Town of Marblehead.

### **COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION:**

The Marblehead Fire Department continues to take a very proactive approach in the community. Members participate in many community events, such as community meetings, Council on Aging activities, Anchor to Windward activities, Marblehead Housing Authority safety training, and nursing home evacuation drills. Our Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) and Senior SAFE Instructors provide valuable curriculum related to fire safety.

Because we believe in the value of fire safety education and public interaction as a major component in creating a safer community. Firefighters Mark Tentindo, John Lequin and Greg Lydon have taken the lead to act as the department's Public Educators and Community Liaison.

The Fire Department continues to work in cooperation with other town departments and community groups to offer additional services to the community in concert with our all-hazards approach to community risk reduction and safety. We have held several CPR / First Aid classes at no charge to any community member or organization. Additionally, the fire department offers residential safety audits at no charge. Fire and life safety survey's help reduce the risk of fires and other emergencies in the home before they occur.

Another important service the department offers is child car seat installations. Firefighter, Micah Alden-Danforth is the departments certified Child Passenger Safety Seat Technician, and his expertise enables us to provide an invaluable service to our community. Micah installed dozens of cars seats in 2025, at no cost to the community.

### **DEPARTED MEMBERS AND REMEMERANCES:**

We pause to honor the dedicated members of our Fire Department who have answered their final call. Their courage, selflessness, and commitment to serving our community will never be forgotten.

Beyond their service, they were valued colleagues, mentors, and neighbors whose impact will endure. We extend our sincere condolences to their families and loved ones, and we honor their memory by continuing the mission they so faithfully served.

James W. Devine passed away on August 3, 2025, at the age of 92. He was appointed to the Fire Department on April 6, 1966, and served the Town with distinction for 31 years as a firefighter. Mr. Devine retired on October 14, 1997.

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Prior to his appointment to the Fire Department, he honorably served in the United States Air Force during the Korean War.

Gerald P. Tucker passed away on September 19, 2025, at the age of 85. He was appointed to the Fire Department on September 15, 1976. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Tucker served the Town as a Marblehead Police Officer for six years. Over the course of his career, Mr. Tucker dedicated 26 years of service to the Town, retiring on April 15, 1996. Before beginning his municipal service, he honorably served his country in the United States Army.

Harry Christensen, father of Marblehead Firefighter Matthew Christensen, passed away peacefully on April 20, 2025, at the age of 78. A steadfast supporter of the Marblehead Fire Department, Harry was a familiar and welcomed presence at Firefighters Sunday, swearing-in ceremonies, retirement dinners, and the department's annual 9/11 memorial service.

Harry proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps from 1967 to 1968. His extraordinary service and bravery were recognized with numerous honors, including the Silver Star for gallantry in action and two Purple Hearts.

A lifelong resident of Marblehead, Harry demonstrated his deep commitment to the town and its citizens through decades of public service. He served more than 20 years on the Board of Selectmen, was Commander of VFW Post 2005, and held roles as a member of the Marblehead Historical Commission and as Shellfish Constable. Known for his generosity, leadership, and unwavering dedication, Harry freely gave his time, wisdom, and service to others.

Harry Christensen will be remembered for his courage, selflessness, and lifelong devotion to his community and his country.

It is with profound sadness that we recognize the untimely passing of Adam Dixey, son of retired Fire Chief Barry Dixey and his wife, Sandy. His passing leaves an immeasurable void, most deeply felt by his family, whose pride in and love for him were unwavering. His life will continue to be remembered through the enduring bonds of family and community. May he rest in peace.

May they rest in peace.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### **Firefighter Appointments:**

Jeremy Gillis and Kyle Pettinelli were appointed to the department on August 31, 2025. Jeremy and Kyle attended the 10-week recruit program and graduated as part of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, Recruit class S43 on December 19, 2025. I want to wish Jeremy and Kyle a long and healthy career.

### **Promotions:**

Lieutenant Charles Cerrutti was promoted to provisional captain of Group Two on June 29, 2025

Firefighter Douglas Knowles was promoted to provisional Lieutenant of Group Four on February 9, 2025

### **Appointments:**

Firefighter Joseph Grey was appointed as the department's Emergency Medical Coordinator on April 23, 2025.

Firefighter Gregory Lydon was appointed as the Assistant Emergency Medical Coordinator on April 23, 2025.

### **Retirement:**

Captain Thomas Rice retired from the department on June 20, 2025. On behalf of the Marblehead Fire Department and the Town of Marblehead, I would like to extend our deepest appreciation and gratitude to Captain Rice for his 25 years of dedicated and distinguished service. Appointed on May 14, 2000, Captain Rice graduated from Recruit Class 140 in 2001. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 2009 and to Captain in 2018.

During his tenure, Captain Rice served as the department's Fire Prevention Officer for six years. His commitment to public safety and fire prevention significantly contributed to reducing fire-related losses and potential injuries throughout the community. The lasting impact of his efforts will continue to benefit the Town for years to come.

Captain Rice's dedication, extensive experience, and professionalism have been invaluable to the Marblehead Fire Department. His leadership and presence will be sincerely missed. It has been a privilege to work alongside Tom, and I wish him and his family all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the following individuals. First and foremost, my Administrative Assistant Laurie Blaisdell, for her commitment and hard work throughout the year.

Special thanks to the Building Commissioner Stephen Cummings, Town's Wire/Fire Alarm Inspectors, Eric Chisholm, as well as Plumbing Inspector Brad. I would like to express my appreciation to Stephen, Eric and Brad for taking time out of their busy daily schedules to assist the Fire Department with our facility, electrical and plumbing needs.

### **GRANTS:**

The department applied for the 2025 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and, for the seventeenth consecutive year, was successful in securing \$5,100.00 in funding. This year's grant award was used to replace hose and associated appliances, as well as to purchase new smoke ejectors.

In 2025, the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), in partnership with the Department of Fire Services (DFS), announced the availability of grant funding for fire departments across every city and town in the Commonwealth to support the purchase of firefighter safety equipment. Our department utilized these grant funds to acquire ropes and high-angle rescue equipment, as well as to replace several face pieces for our self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

Regrettably, for the first time in 18 years, the department did not qualify for the Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) grant. The Department of Fire Services informed us that our application did not receive sufficient points to meet the funding threshold. Despite this outcome, the department continues to benefit from an exceptionally dedicated and talented team of educators, and both the student education initiative and the Senior SAFE program have been very well received within the community.

The loss of the \$8,100 grant would have significantly impacted our ability to continue providing these vital educational programs to the town's youth and senior population, were it not for the generous support of the Marblehead Female Humane Society and the Marblehead Masons, Philanthropic Lodge F. & A. M.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Firefighter Mark Tentindo, who serves as the SAFE Coordinator, as well as Firefighters Gregory Lydon and John

Lequin, for their unwavering commitment to educating the town's youth and seniors and for increasing awareness of the dangers posed by fire and other hazards.

We invite and strongly encourage all Marblehead seniors to take full advantage of the Senior SAFE program. This fire prevention and life safety education initiative is designed to reduce fire-related risks among older adults in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by addressing the specific hazards most relevant to this population. These risks include smoking-related fires, home oxygen use, cooking safety, and electrical and heating hazards.

In addition to education, the program offers home safety assessments and the installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors when needed. The Senior SAFE Program fosters a collaborative partnership between older adults and the Fire Department through established senior service providers, including the Council on Aging, Elder Services, the Visiting Nurse Association, and Older Adult Living.

### **APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT:**

The standards established by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) provide nationally recognized guidelines that govern nearly all aspects of fire service operations. The Marblehead Fire Department is committed to adhering to these standards to ensure the highest levels of safety, reliability, and performance for its personnel and equipment.

The department employs two mechanics whose responsibilities include, but are not limited to, annual testing and preventive maintenance of all fire apparatus, utility vehicles, and small equipment. Their duties are critical to maintaining operational readiness and compliance with applicable NFPA requirements. The following outlines the primary responsibilities of the department mechanics.

### **Apparatus**

The department operates a total of four fire engines, consisting of two frontline units and two reserve units. These include a 1994 Spartan pumper, a 2006 Pierce Dash pumper, a 2017 Pierce Enforcer pumper, and a 2022 Pierce Enforcer pumper. Each engine is equipped with a 1,500-gallon-per-minute pump, hose, ladders, ventilation fans, tarps, air bottles, tools, medical equipment, and other essential firefighting gear.

In accordance with NFPA 1911, each fire engine is required to undergo an annual pump performance test. Each test averages approximately three hours to complete. Should a pump fail to meet the required performance standards, repairs must be completed and the unit retested to ensure compliance.



Ladder One is a 2013 Pierce Arrow aerial apparatus carrying a wide range of equipment, including hose, hydraulic rescue tools, ground ladders, smoke ejector fans, saws, lighting equipment, and salvage and rescue gear. The apparatus is equipped with a 100-foot aerial ladder, which is essential for accessing rooftops and elevated areas with limited access.

Pursuant to NFPA 1914, the aerial ladder is required to undergo an annual inspection conducted by certified third-party inspectors. This inspection averages approximately five hours to complete. Ladder One will reach 13 years of service next year and will be approaching the latter part of its expected frontline service life. The lead time for the construction and delivery of a new ladder truck is approximately four years. As a result, by the time a replacement ladder is placed into service, the current apparatus will be 17 years old. For this reason, I plan to request funding authorization at the 2026 Town Meeting to ensure a timely and responsible replacement.

### **STATIONS & FACILITIES:**

Fire Headquarters and the Franklin Street Fire Station continue to present significant operational and infrastructure challenges. Fire Headquarters, constructed in 1958, has undergone multiple modifications over the decades, resulting in a tired and aging structure. While the department has invested in several capital improvements to maintain functionality—such as replacing windows, installing energy-efficient LED lighting, and upgrading garage doors—the building continues to experience age-related deterioration.

Although the exterior is repainted on a five-year cycle, recent inspections have revealed water infiltration behind windowsills and wooden trim, causing concealed rot and structural degradation. Continuing to paint deteriorating wood is no longer a cost-effective or sustainable solution. Additionally, the original wooden gutters have begun to fail, allowing rainwater to cascade down the brick façade and erode **mortar** joints. The plumbing infrastructure within the walls is also steadily deteriorating.

One notable improvement this year was the successful repair of the apparatus floor drainage system, which has eliminated the longstanding issue of standing water on the apparatus floor. However, ongoing budget constraints have limited the department's ability to renovate the bathrooms at Fire Headquarters. In addition to being significantly outdated, the facility currently lacks restroom and shower accommodations for female firefighters. Given the strong likelihood of appointing

women to the department in the near future, this deficiency represents both an operational and equity concern that must be addressed.

Despite these challenges associated with a facility that has surpassed its useful life expectancy, department personnel consistently go above and beyond by performing additional duties such as painting, minor carpentry, and basic plumbing repairs. Their willingness to assist with small projects throughout the station helps stretch limited budget resources and maintain day-to-day operations.

At the Franklin Street Fire Station, the window restoration project was halted this year after the Town was notified by the Grant Coordinator that it was not selected for funding through the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF). Town Meeting had previously approved \$130,000 to serve as a matching contribution should the grant be awarded. Following the grant denial, it was determined that these funds would instead be used to install new clapboards on the east and west sides of the building, as this work fell within the scope of the approved funding article.

Moving forward, I will continue to advocate for the Town to explore the feasibility of acquiring property and constructing a modern, state-of-the-art Public Safety Building that would house the Police Department, Fire Department, and 911 Dispatch under one roof.

### **COMMUNITY PROJECTS & EVENTS:**

The Fire Department continues our close partnership with the Elder Act Club and the Marblehead Council on Aging to promote the lockbox program. In 2025, 35 new lockboxes were installed. The program was established to provide at no cost to Marblehead senior citizens and any individual with a disability, a secure lockbox that would be mounted next to the main entrance of the occupants dwelling. The lockbox secures a key to the home that can only be accessed by the Fire Department. There have been more than two hundred lockboxes installed since the inception of the program. Access to a key in the event of a medical emergency has saved countless minutes in providing lifesaving care to Marblehead's seniors and disabled.

The Marblehead Fire Department offers a free and voluntary Home Safety Assessment to any resident that would like one. The Fire Department will assess your living environment for many common life safety hazards. This includes providing an assessment and advice on slip and fall hazards, working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, electrical hazards, home exit planning, kitchen fire safety, combustibles located too close to heating appliances, the File of Life (medical information card), key box access, as well as many other offerings.

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The program is available to any resident, regardless of age. However, the Marblehead Fire Department works closely with the Council on Aging (COA) to provide the very best array of services to our senior population. A representative from the COA can accompany a member of the Fire Department during a survey of a senior's home in order to share a whole host of resources and opportunities of which they may be unaware. Any interested seniors should contact the COA to schedule an appointment.

On behalf of the Fire Department, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the generous individuals and organizations who supported the Firefighters' Annual Holiday Toy Drive. Your donations of new toys and gift cards made a profound difference for children who might otherwise have gone without Christmas gifts. Your continued support year after year has a meaningful impact on hundreds of families within our community and surrounding areas. Through your kindness and generosity, you help bring joy, comfort, and hope to children during the holiday season, brightening what can be a challenging time for many.

I would also like to offer special recognition to the firefighters who devoted their time and effort to ensure the success of this year's toy drive. In particular, Tim Cronin and Alex Ehlert deserve heartfelt thanks for their exceptional leadership in organizing and delivering the many toys and gift cards, helping ensure that every child experienced a truly Merry Christmas.

We are deeply grateful for your ongoing commitment to our community and look forward to working together again next year to bring even more joy to those in need. Thank you for helping make the 2025 holiday season brighter for so many.

The Department continues to maintain a strong and valued partnership with the Marblehead Public Schools. This year, we were pleased to participate in Marblehead High School's Day of Service. We were fortunate to host a group of dedicated and hardworking students who assisted with the annual cleaning and detailing of the fire apparatus. Their willingness to generously donate their time and effort in service to both the Department and the community is sincerely appreciated. We would also like to thank the Marblehead High School administration for providing us the opportunity to participate in this meaningful event.

On June 9, 2025, department members, joined by family, friends and dignitaries, observed our twenty-fifth annual Firefighters Memorial, since the rededication of the firefighter plot at Waterside Cemetery. This annual event honors and remembers firefighters who have passed away or died in the line of duty. The day serves as a

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solemn occasion for the department and our community to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives while serving to protect others from fire and other emergencies.

2025 was another busy year for providing CPR training to the public and private sector, as well as providing CPR/ Defibrillator certification to our town employees. In twenty 2025, we trained over 275 people in the use of CPR and Defibrillators. The dedication and commitment of the public and the town employees has helped keep Marblehead at Heart Safe Community. Since becoming a Heart Safe Community, the number of defibrillators that been purchased and installed in buildings, both public and privately has increased exponentially. The ratio of defibrillators to people is now 1 defibrillator per every 75 people in town.

On April 13, 2024, the Fire Department was honored to participate in the Recreation and Parks Department's Annual Easter Egg Drop Challenge held at the COA. This engaging event brought together children, staff, and community partners for a fun and educational experience that encouraged creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork.

The ingenuity and creativity demonstrated by the participants were truly impressive. The children developed a wide variety of inventive designs to protect their eggs during the drop, showcasing remarkable thoughtfulness, imagination, and enthusiasm throughout the challenge. Their excitement and determination made the event both entertaining and inspiring for everyone involved.

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of Recreation and Parks staff, Fire Department personnel, and community volunteers, the event was exceptionally well organized and ran smoothly. The Easter Egg Drop Challenge was a resounding success and provided a memorable experience for all who attended. The Fire Department appreciates the opportunity to be involved in such a positive community-focused event and looks forward to continued partnerships that promote learning, creativity, and community engagement.

The summer of 2025 in Marblehead closely mirrored the conditions experienced in 2024. Residents who favor hot weather certainly had ample opportunity to enjoy it, with 14 summer days exceeding 90 degrees. On June 24, the town recorded a historic high of 102 degrees, followed by a three-day heat wave.

In response to increasingly extreme summer temperatures in recent years, it has become customary for the Fire Department to partner with the Recreation and Parks Department during periods of excessive heat. Together, they provide residents with a

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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welcome reprieve through the annual *Beat the Heat* spray-down event. The event continues to be well attended and has grown in popularity each summer.

The fire department joined other town entities to participate in the Chamber of Commerce fourth annual Marblehead Spring Celebration. Touch a Truck event. It was well attended, and everyone had a good time.

The Marblehead Firefighters continued their longstanding commitment to charitable service by proudly sponsoring the annual *Firefighters Cooking for a Cure* event on April 12, 2025. This highly anticipated fundraiser brought together firefighters, community members, and supporters for an evening dedicated to raising awareness and funds for a vital cause. All proceeds from the event were donated to the Muscular Dystrophy Association in support of its mission to advance research, provide care, and improve the lives of individuals affected by neuromuscular diseases.

Firefighters from Marblehead and surrounding communities gathered at the Danversport Yacht Club to participate in a friendly yet spirited culinary competition, preparing and serving their signature dishes to attendees. Approximately 500 guests were in attendance, enjoying the food, camaraderie, and opportunity to support an important charitable effort.

The event was an outstanding success, generating an estimated \$14,000 in donations to aid the fight against Muscular Dystrophy. The Marblehead Firefighters extend their sincere appreciation to all participating departments, sponsors, volunteers, and community members whose generosity and support made this event possible. Their continued involvement exemplifies the strong partnership between the fire service and the community it proudly serves.

### **CONCLUSIONS:**

As Fire Chief, I am continually reminded that the greatest strength of this department lies in its people. Our officers, firefighters, and administrative assistant are the foundation of everything we do. As we reflect on the past year, I extend my deepest gratitude to the men and women of the Marblehead Fire Department for their unwavering dedication, professionalism, and steadfast commitment to serving our community. Through every challenge, they continue to rise to the evolving demands of the fire service with skill, integrity, and selflessness. Their service is nothing short of exceptional.

I would also like to recognize and sincerely thank our Civilian Dispatchers. Working diligently behind the scenes, they play a critical role in ensuring the safety of both our

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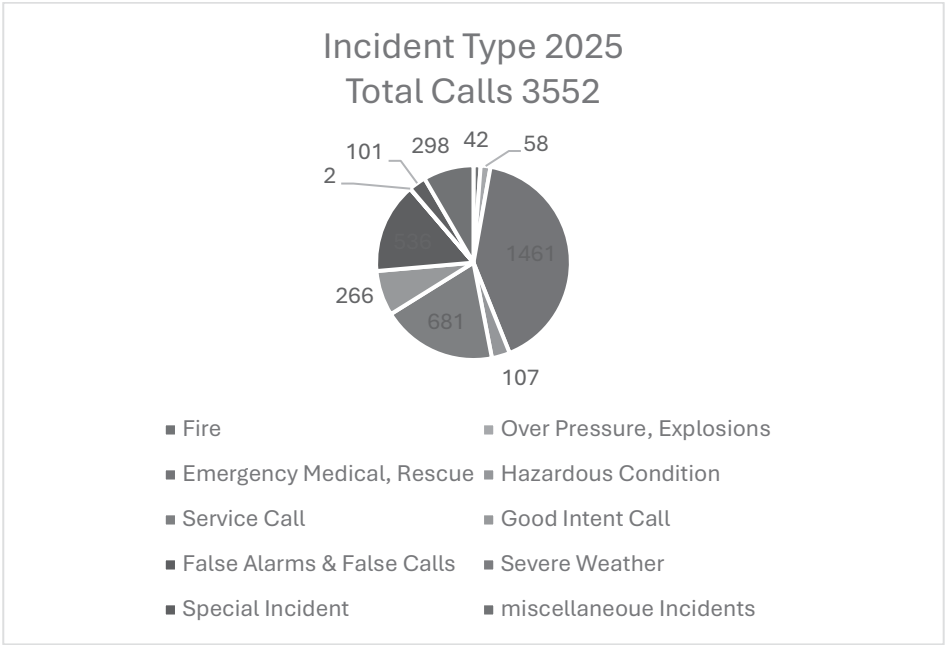
first responders and the public. Their calm professionalism, precision, and tireless efforts are invaluable, and their contributions deserve our highest appreciation.

Finally, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the citizens of Marblehead, along with our town officials, boards, committees, and fellow town departments, for their continued support throughout the year. It is through this strong partnership that we are able to provide the essential services that protect and serve our community. You can be assured that the Marblehead Fire Department remains fully committed to delivering the highest level of emergency and non-emergency services in the most effective and efficient manner possible.

Thank you for your continued trust and support. Together, we make Marblehead a safer and stronger community for all.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason R. Gilliland Chief of Department





## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### APPARATUS

|             |                                                  |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Engine 3    | 2006 -- 1500 G.P.M. Pierce Pumper                |
| Engine 2    | 2017- 1500 G.P.M. Enforcer Pierce Pumper         |
| Engine 4    | 1994 – Spartan Pump                              |
| Engine 1    | 2022 – 1500 G.P.M. Enforcer Pierce Pumper        |
| Ladder 1    | 2013 – 100 ft. Pierce Aerial Ladder-Quint        |
| C1          | 2023-- Ford F150 Pickup Truck (Chief's Vehicle)  |
| C2          | 2022-- Ford Escape (Fire Prevention)             |
| H1          | 2017 -- Ford F250 Pickup Truck- Training Vehicle |
| Rescue Boat | 2002 – 24 ft. Defender Boat                      |

### DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

|                                                  |                     |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| CHIEF Jason R. Gilliland                         |                     |
| FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER Captain Gregg McLaughlin |                     |
| CAPTAINS                                         |                     |
| Scott R. Murray                                  | Eric M. Ridge       |
| Act. Cpt. Charles P. Cerrutti                    | Joseph M. Thibodeau |
| LIEUTENANTS                                      |                     |
| Grant W. Glavin                                  | Adam J. Hatfield    |
| Act. Lt. Douglas B. Knowles                      | Liam F. Gilliland   |
| FIREFIGHTERS                                     |                     |
| Micah Alden-Danforth                             | Kraig M. Hill       |
| Patrick B. Attridge                              | James M. Horgan     |
| Mark P. Barcamonte                               | John Lequin, Jr     |
| Arthur H. Boardway                               | Matthew W. Lunt     |
| William W. Boardway                              | Gregory T. Lydon    |
| Todd S. Burt                                     | Scott T. Martin     |
| Matthew G. Christensen                           | John K. Morris      |
| Timothy D. Cronin                                | Joshua P. Norman    |
| Richard A. Ehlert                                | Kyle Pettinelli     |
| Samuel E. Frontero                               | Charles W. Sprague  |



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|                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Aidan Gillis         | Brent A. Tarasuik       |
| Jeremy Gillis        | Mark J. Tentindo        |
| Eric M. Gledhill     | Matthew J. Tina         |
| Joseph D. Gray       | Eric Verhault           |
| Jeffrey K. Greenberg |                         |
| ADMINISTRATIVE       | Laurie R. Blaisdell     |
| DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN  | Monsignor Timothy Moran |

**FIRE PREVENTION**

The main objective of the Fire Prevention Office is the protection of life and property through Community Risk Reduction. This is accomplished by effective code enforcement through plan review, inspection and educating the public about fire safety principles. The Fire Prevention office is located at the Municipal Building as part of Inspectional Services, to ensure that new construction, renovations of structures and existing structures are code compliant.

This year the Marblehead Fire Department transitioned to a new records management system (RMS), known as First Due RMS. First Due includes fire prevention and building preplan modules along with several other modules including incident documentation. The new RMS allows for the integration of several separate systems into one platform. The RMS allows electronic notification of inspection reports, inspection tracking and follow-up notifications. 48 buildings were preplanned (notable building features, after-hour contacts and any life safety hazards), allowing real time notification to responding firefighters and dispatchers.

The Fire Prevention Office is using The Compliance Engine by Brycer for third party review of all life safety system inspection reports. Brycer reviewed 395 inspection reports in 2025 (up from 275 reports last year). All reports were reviewed, deficiencies flagged and repair tracking with follow-up notifications were sent. The deficiency rate was 8.76%.

Captain McLaughlin serves on the Massachusetts 527 CMR 1.00 Equipment Committee representing the Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts. Massachusetts is set to promulgate an updated 527 CMR 1.00 Fire Code in 2026, which resulted in several meetings throughout the year. He is also the Vice President of Essex County Fire Chief’s Fire Prevention Division. In 2025, Captain McLaughlin attended training provided by the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services including: the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Building Code, Presenting to the Appeals

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Board, Municipal Hearing officer and Orientation to the National Emergency Response System.

As part of Community Risk Reduction, the elderly home safety program continues to provide access boxes and smoke/carbon monoxide detectors for private residences. Firefighters spend time educating students in schools, camps and community events about fire and life safety. On duty Firefighters conducted fire drills at educational facilities in conjunction with Fire Prevention.

I would like to thank Chief Gilliland, who devoted a considerable amount of time over the summer conduction inspections and Captain Ridge along with Lt Gilliland who were instrumental in the rollout of the First Due RMS.

|                                              |      |
|----------------------------------------------|------|
| 2025 Fire Prevention Results                 |      |
| Residential Dwelling Sales Inspections       | 253  |
| Construction Final Inspections               | 44   |
| Plan Reviews                                 | 60   |
| Annual Inspections                           | 106  |
| Tank Removal Permits/Inspections             | 50   |
| Tank Storage Permits                         | 26   |
| Dumpster Permits                             | 194  |
| Sprinkler/Ansul Inspections                  | 15   |
| LPG Storage Permits/Inspections              | 16   |
| Fire Drills                                  | 14   |
| Oil burner Permits/Inspections               | 20   |
| Tank Truck, Welding, Blasting, Cannon, Other | 3    |
| Marine fueling Permits/Inspections           | 5    |
| Flammable storage Permits/Inspections        | 3    |
| Life Safety Inspection Reports Reviewed TCE  | 395  |
| First Due Building Preplans                  | 48   |
| TOTAL                                        | 1252 |

Respectfully submitted, Captain Gregg McLaughlin Fire Inspector

### **Training Report 2025**

The mission of the Training Division is to provide quality training to our members ensuring their readiness to respond to any emergency in the Town and surrounding area. The safety of our firefighters and citizens is of the highest priority.

The Training Division serves to provide training resources and assist company officers and their members in improving company operations. The goal is to maintain a high level of proficiency, efficiency, and readiness. In addition, we strive to reduce and prevent accidents, injuries, and occupational illnesses.

The Training Division coordinates all in-house training by developing a monthly training calendar based on identified training needs and mandated training topics. The company officers are responsible for conducting regular drills and classroom training on the respective shifts. Outside agencies and independent instructors provide additional knowledge and skills in areas that require specialized training. A goal for 2026 is the improvement of our department's ISO rating. Training is one part of this process, and we will focus on ensuring our training meets the requirements to improve our rating through proper allocation and documentation. The Training Division has implemented training software that allows members to complete specific classes to meet the ISO credentials.

Every Marblehead Firefighter is a Massachusetts licensed Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Emergency medical response is a large part of our job and Firefighters train a minimum of 40 hours in a two-year cycle to maintain their certification. The Training Division coordinates this training to ensure firefighters are ready to expertly respond to any medical emergency above and beyond the minimum standard.

All newly appointed firefighters are required to complete the ten-week recruit-training program at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. Firefighters Jeremy Gillis and Kyle Pettinelli attended the Massachusetts Fire Academy in Springfield from October through December. Firefighters are encouraged to utilize the fire academy after their graduation to hone their skills through the free courses and training it provides.

Finally, structures that are due to be torn down can be utilized by firefighters to practice tasks including but not limited to roof ventilation, hose movement, and rescue scenarios. The Training Division is grateful to the citizens of Marblehead who graciously donated the use of their structures for firefighting training. These

structures provide an invaluable resource that cannot be substituted with training props or mockups. Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Captain Eric M. Ridge  
Lieutenant Liam F. Gilliland

### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

#### **Introduction:**

It is my privilege to present the annual report highlighting a portion of what the Marblehead Emergency Management program has accomplished over the past fiscal year. The information contained in this report provides a snapshot of the work undertaken to strengthen relationships, enhance coordination, and manage threats, hazards, incidents, and risks within the Town of Marblehead. Through daily collaboration and ongoing projects with local, regional, and state partners, we continue to build and sustain community resilience.

Emergency management in Marblehead can best be described as project management operating at varying speeds, sometimes proactive and long-term through planning initiatives, and at other times immediate and response-driven. Looking ahead, our focus remains on further strengthening resilience through comprehensive planning, training, exercises, public outreach, and continuous improvement, while remaining responsive to the evolving needs of the Marblehead community.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the dedicated professionals within our department, our public safety partners, town officials, volunteers, and community stakeholders. Your commitment to service is the foundation of our success. Together, we will continue working to enhance the safety, preparedness, and resilience of Marblehead.

#### **Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP):**

The Marblehead Emergency Management Director, in close coordination with town department heads, is actively engaged in strengthening and enhancing the Town's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). This ongoing effort reflects a shared commitment to preparedness, resilience, and the safety of our residents. Through collaborative planning sessions, interdepartmental coordination, and a thorough review of existing protocols, the team is identifying opportunities to improve response capabilities, clarify roles and responsibilities, and incorporate

lessons learned from recent events and evolving best practices. The updated CEMP will further align local operations with state and federal guidance, strengthen communication strategies, and ensure continuity of essential services during emergencies. By working together across departments, including public safety, public works, health, schools, and administrative leadership, Marblehead is proactively enhancing its readiness to respond effectively to natural disasters, severe weather, public health incidents, and other potential emergencies. This ongoing work underscores the Town's dedication to protecting lives, property, and the well-being of the entire community.

### **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT):**

For the coming year, it is the goal of the Marblehead Emergency Management Department to work with the community to form a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). This initiative is designed to strengthen our community's preparedness, resilience, and ability to respond effectively during emergencies and disasters. The Marblehead CERT program will provide residents with hands-on training in disaster preparedness, fire safety, light search and rescue, basic disaster medical operations, and team organization. By equipping volunteers with these essential skills, we aim to build a trained, organized group of community members who can support first responders during large-scale incidents and assist neighbors when professional resources may be delayed or overwhelmed. Marblehead has a strong tradition of civic engagement and neighbor helping neighbor. The establishment of a CERT team would build on that tradition by empowering residents to take an active role in community safety. CERT volunteers will serve as a vital link between the Emergency Management Department and the public, helping with emergency response, public education, event support, and disaster recovery efforts. We encourage interested residents to consider joining this important initiative. Together, we can enhance Marblehead's readiness and ensure our town remains prepared, connected, and resilient in the face of any emergency.

### **Hazardous Mitigation Plan:**

Marblehead's Hazard Mitigation Plan is a long-term strategy that helps our community identify natural hazards and reduce risks to people, property, infrastructure, and the environment. Unlike emergency response plans, it focuses on preventing or minimizing future disaster losses. Marblehead has recently updated our plan in 2024 to comply with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and maintain eligibility for federal disaster-mitigation funding through Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).

**Purpose and Importance** The plan:

- Assesses risks from hazards such as coastal and inland flooding, high winds, severe storms, and extreme temperatures.
- Estimates potential losses to guide decision-making.
- Prioritizes actions that reduce risk before disasters occur.
- Is required for access to certain federal and state hazard mitigation grants.

Without an approved plan, the town could lose access to critical funding for resilience and infrastructure improvements.

**Development Process** The plan is developed through:

1. **Planning and Coordination** – A town committee oversees the update, incorporating public input and coordinating with state and federal partners.
2. **Risk Assessment** – Identifies likely hazards and evaluates potential impacts.
3. **Mitigation Strategies** – Recommends projects and policies such as infrastructure upgrades, land-use planning improvements, and community education.
4. **Plan Maintenance** – Establishes a process for ongoing monitoring and periodic updates.

**Key Hazard Areas** Based on past assessments, Marblehead's primary risks include:

- Coastal flooding and storm surge
- Inland flooding from intense rainfall
- Wind and winter storm impacts
- Erosion and sea-level rise

These hazards threaten roads, homes, utilities, and public spaces.

**Conclusion**

Marblehead's Hazard Mitigation Plan is a risk-based, regularly updated strategy designed to reduce disaster losses, strengthen resilience, and secure continued access to federal and state funding. Proactive planning helps the town make informed investments that protect the community and reduce long-term costs.

**Code Red:**

For the past 18 years, the Town of Marblehead has utilized CodeRED as its primary mass notification system. During that time, the platform successfully delivered dozens of emergency alerts related to snowstorms, Causeway closures, and water main breaks, as well as general community notifications regarding elections, road paving, and trash collection.

In Fall 2025, the Town's emergency notification capabilities were impacted when OnSolve's legacy CodeRED platform was targeted in a cyberattack. As a

precautionary measure, the vendor permanently decommissioned the legacy system and transitioned customers to a replacement platform, Crisis24, branded as “CodeRED by Crisis24.” The vendor reports that a comprehensive security audit, along with additional third-party security testing and hardening, has been completed. However, the new platform has also experienced reliability concerns, and the Town is actively working with Crisis24 to address ongoing notification and service issues.

According to the vendor, the cyber incident was contained within the CodeRED environment and did not impact municipal networks or other Town information systems. Importantly, 9-1-1 services were not affected. The vendor also advised that system restoration relied on backups current through March 31, 2025. As a result, registrations or updates made after that date may not have carried over, potentially requiring residents to re-enroll or rebuild notification preferences.

The breach exposed certain user data, including phone numbers, email addresses, and passwords. Subsequent forensic updates suggest that the scope of exposed data may have been more limited than initially reported, and some affected datasets may not have included active passwords. The investigation remains ongoing.

Out of an abundance of caution, residents were advised to:

- Change any passwords that were reused from a CodeRED profile across other personal or business accounts.
- Remain alert for phishing or scam messages impersonating the Town, public safety agencies, or notification vendors.
- Ensure Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) are enabled on mobile devices, as WEA operates independently from CodeRED.
- Monitor personal accounts for suspicious activity and report suspected fraud through appropriate channels.

It is vitally important that Marblehead maintains a reliable, secure, and resilient emergency notification system moving forward. As we move into 2026, the town will be transitioning over to a new mass notification system .

## FORT SEWALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE



2025 was the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the American Revolution, Fort Sewall continues to provide a focal point for this commemoration. In 2025 several events were hosted at the fort including:

- Ceremonial firing of the cannon on the upper parade gun platform and reading

***2025 Fort Rangers: Left to right Roger Carlone, Michelle Gatta, Bob Erbetta, Mary McAllister, Cheryl Yoffe and FSOC Chair Larry Sands (picture courtesy of Christine***

***of the Declaration of Independence on 4<sup>th</sup> of July***

- Annual Marblehead Festival of Arts Champagne Reception
- Celebration of 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of US Marine Corps
- Marblehead 250, a 2-day open house at various historic locations (including Fort Sewall) to celebrate contributions of Marbleheaders during the War for Independence
- Expansion of Fort Ranger Program to provide staffing from Memorial Day through the end of October from Noon to 4 PM 7 days per week!



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Almost 8,000 visitors toured inside with the Fort Rangers in 2025. They hailed from 41 different states, the District of Columbia and 30 different countries (including all of Europe, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, China, Iran, Poland, Russia, Israel, Colombia, and Venezuela).

On August 21, 2025, we celebrated the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the US Marine Corps. The event included a host of dignitaries, including Congressman Seth Moulton, the Quantico Marine Band, Silent Drill Platoon, color guard, a Marine flyover and a birthday cake!



***Pictures from 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of US Marine Corps.  
Left photo courtesy of Glover's Marblehead Regiment  
Right photo courtesy of SemperDrone.***

FSOC is a group appointed by the Select Board whose function is to advise the board on issues related to historic Fort Sewall. The FSOC generally meets monthly either in the Select Board Room at Abbot Hall (or via Zoom) at 9:00 AM. Please check the town calendar at [Marbleheadma.gov](http://Marbleheadma.gov) to verify the meeting schedule.

The Committee is comprised of the following members: Larry Sands – Old Marblehead Improvement Association, Chair; Christine Nuccio and Judy Anderson – At Large Members; Seamus Daly - Glover's Marblehead Regiment; Alex Eitler, Town Planner and Peter James, Recreation and Park Department are both ex-officio members.

As a reminder, the primary objectives of the restoration project were to:

- Address safety issues
- Increase public awareness of Fort Sewall's historic significance
- Preserve the structural integrity of the Fort
- Enhance the visitor experience

***Thank you to all for your continued support of Fort Sewall, please visit and enjoy!***

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Sands, Chair

## **GREEN MARBLEHEAD IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**

In 2025, the Green Marblehead Implementation Committee advanced several initiatives supporting the Town's Net Zero by 2040 goal, with a focus on municipal electrification and energy efficiency planning, and sustainable infrastructure improvements. A key milestone was adoption of the Town's Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) First Procurement Policy by the Select Board in September 2025. The policy establishes an electric-first approach for light-duty municipal vehicles beginning in FY27. The Committee also supported development of an On-Street EV Charging Grant, reviewed the Town's Energy Reduction Plan, and reviewed public EV charging data to inform future infrastructure planning.

The Committee made substantial progress toward Green Communities designation. Working with PowerOptions and the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, the Town developed a comprehensive Energy Reduction Plan establishing a municipal energy-use baseline and identifying strategies to achieve a minimum of 20 percent energy usage reduction over five years. Municipal energy data were consolidated in MassEnergyInsight, and the plan was presented to the Select Board and Public Works Committee. Discussions also continued with the Municipal Light Department regarding the Renewable Energy Charge as part of the designation requirements.

Additional efforts in 2025 included support for municipal building decarbonization and active transportation improvements. Heat pump installations and weatherization projects advanced at several municipal facilities, including the State Street Restrooms and the Mary Alley Building. The Marblehead Rail Trail Prototype Project was completed with support by the MassTrails program, and a Boston MPO grant was awarded to install bicycle parking at various locations throughout town. The Committee also continued collaboration with the Old and Historic District Commission through the Sustainable Heritage initiative to align preservation and sustainability objectives.

The Committee partnered with the Old and Historic Districts Commission on the Marblehead Sustainable Heritage Project, a grant initiative aimed at aligning the Town's long-standing commitment to historic preservation with its pledge to achieve Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040. Recognizing that residential buildings account for nearly half of Marblehead's greenhouse gas emissions, many of which are located within the Old and Historic Districts, the Committee worked collaboratively with MAPC, Town staff, preservation professionals, and residents to

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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address regulatory barriers that have limited the adoption of clean energy technologies. Through comparative research, walking tours in Marblehead and Salem, a joint session with the Old and Historic Districts Commission (OHDC), expert review, and a well-attended public charrette, the project developed clear, balanced draft recommendations for solar energy systems, air source heat pumps, electric vehicle charging equipment, and energy-efficient windows. The resulting recommendations provide a thoughtful path forward, which is the Committee is advancing in partnership with the OHDC in 2026.

### Green Marblehead Implementation Committee Members:

|                              |                                                                |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Andrew Petty                 | Health Director                                                |
| Joe Kowalik and Michael Hall | Light Department General Manager                               |
| Eileen Mathieu               | Sustainable Marblehead                                         |
| Elaine Leahy and Lisa Wolf   | Sustainable Marblehead                                         |
| Alexa J. Singer              | Select Board                                                   |
| Thatcher W. Kezer III        | Town Administrator                                             |
| Jean-Jacques Yarmoff         | Chair, Municipal Light Board                                   |
| Michael Pfifferling          | Assistant Superintendent of Finance<br>and Operations, Schools |
| Brendan Callahan             | Community Development & Planning<br>Director                   |
| Logan Casey                  | Staff to the Green Marblehead<br>Implementation Committee      |

## HARBORS AND WATERS

The Harbors and Waters Board is pleased to submit its annual report for the period ending December 31, 2025.

The Harbormasters department has continued its dedication to its waters by maintaining its training and knowledge of all rules and regulations in place. Public safety is the department's first responsibility and will maintain its preparedness for any situation.

### **Main Harbor 2025**

|                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| New permanent assignments        | 39       |
| Temporary assignments            | 32       |
| Approximate Main Harbor waitlist | 2100     |
| Waitlist Time                    | 20 years |

### **West Shore 2025**

|                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| New permanent assignments       | 61        |
| Temporary assignments           | 26        |
| Approximate West Shore waitlist | 284       |
| Waitlist time                   | 2-3 years |

2025 provided a great boating season with amazing weather and calm seas. The boaters of Marblehead showed us that safe boating is a priority with our lowest year for "calls for service" in my 8+ year tenure. Fourth of July festivities went off without a hitch. Capital improvements may not have been noticed but general updates of facilities and equipment were completed. These tasks included general dock repairs, Safety Equipment updates, Software/Billing enhancements, Redecking of Stramski Pier, and other misc. repairs.

The Harbormaster's Patrol staff responded to various calls and rendered such aid as, towing disabled vessels, dewatering vessels, providing medical assistance, conducting search and rescue operations, investigating fuel and oil spills, maintaining public access facilities and removing any hazards to navigation.

The Harbormaster and the Harbors and Waters Board extend its gratitude to The Select Board, as well as all departments and their employees that provided service and support to the Harbormasters operations.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Souza Harbormaster Town of Marblehead

**Harbors and Waters Board Members**

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| John Doub - Chairman | Jay Michaud    |
| Rick Cuzner          | Clark T. Smith |
| Steve Wolf           |                |

**Alternate Members**

Gary Gregory  
Karen Finocchio  
Matt Burke

**Harbormaster Personnel**

|                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Mark Souza            | Harbormaster           |
| Craig Smith           | Deputy Harbormaster    |
| Jarrett Russo         | Assistant Harbormaster |
| Theresa Colbert Tauro | Office Manager         |
| Cara Goldwasser       | Clerk                  |

**Seasonal Assistants**

|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Rick Doane       | Felix Amsler         |
| Matthew Thompson | Hayden Hall          |
| Elmer Herlihy    | Mike Collibee        |
| Andrew Nazarro   | Christian Bendickson |
| Stephen Lalonde  | Jeffery Flynn        |

**CVA Pump-out Crew**

|            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| Tyler Dana | Leo Burge |
|------------|-----------|

## HUMAN RESOURCES

The Director of Human Resources, under the direction of the Town Administrator, collaborates with department heads and office staff to assist with a wide range of management responsibilities, including labor relations, contract administration, and personnel management.

Human Resources (HR) responsibilities involve managing the entire employee lifecycle, from finding and hiring talent (recruitment, onboarding) to training, performance management, compensation, benefits, and ensuring legal compliance, while also fostering a positive workplace culture, handling employee relations, and overseeing strategic workforce planning to align people with business goals. Key areas include recruiting, training, payroll, benefits administration, employee relations, policy enforcement, and maintaining a safe work environment.

The following are the more significant accomplishments of the Human Resources department during 2025:

We rolled out the annual open enrollment process in April and May for health insurance through the:

- Group Insurance Commission (GIC)
- Altus Dental Insurance
- Benefit Strategies Flexible Spending Plan
- Boston Mutual Life Insurance
- Voya Financial 457 Plan
- Short Term Disability

Human Resources oversaw collective bargaining negotiations for both the Massachusetts Municipal Employees Union and the Marblehead Coalition of Police Local 437. Human Resources' role involves strategic preparation (analyzing market trends), negotiations (representing the employer, balancing interests, drafting agreements, ensuring legal compliance, resolving conflicts, and communicating effectively), and post-agreement management (protecting the organization's interests while fostering good employee relations, focusing on wages, benefits, safety, and working conditions).

We are pleased to announce the launch of our Pay and Classification Study in partnership with MGT, Inc. As part of our ongoing commitment to fairness, transparency, and competitiveness, this initiative helped ensure that our job descriptions are accurate, our pay structure is equitable, and we remain competitive in attracting and retaining top talent. The focus of this study is for the MMEU and administrative staff.

We rolled out Tyler/Munis for our new financial software. We have updated all financial software to roll out a more updated payroll system. We are in the beginning stages of rolling out the recruitment software.

Human Resources provides direct support to the Marblehead Compensation Committee, which is established under Marblehead By-Law, Chapter 43. In this role, HR works closely with the compensation committee, which consists of the Town Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, and the Public Health Director to ensure that compensation decisions are consistent, data-driven, legally compliant, and aligned with the Town's classification and pay framework.

HR's support of the compensation committee includes:

- Preparing and reviewing job description updates.
- Conducting classification and reclassification analyses.
- Providing market data and internal equity comparisons.
- Ensuring compliance with collective bargaining agreements and Town policies.
- Coordinating implementation of approved compensation actions through payroll and personnel systems.

Human Resources Department Staff:

Thomas Howard  
Kathryn Carey  
Amanda Viecegli

Director of Human Resources  
Payroll Administrator  
Benefits Coordinator



## MARBLEHEAD CULTURAL COUNCIL



The Marblehead Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCCs) sponsored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, which serves all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. As the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, the Local Cultural Council (LCC) program enriches the cultural life of all of these cities and towns in Massachusetts. Led by municipally appointed volunteers, in 2025 LCCs awarded \$7.5 million supporting over 7,300 community-based programs that included everything from field trips to lectures, festivals, science programming, workshops, music and dance performances.

*Photo Credits: Jim Murphy*



In 2025 the Massachusetts Cultural Council allotted a little over \$8,000 to the Marblehead Cultural Council to fund projects in the arts, sciences, and humanities. Every fall applications are reviewed and then awarded in the early winter for the upcoming year. Twenty-four applications were received and 13 awarded.

1. A Celebration of Frank Sinatra (\$500), Matthew Arnold
2. Colonial Craft Fair (\$1529), Marblehead Museum and Historical Society
3. Headers in the Revolution (\$1500), Marblehead 250
4. JCCNS Seacoast Singers, Jewish Community Center of the North Shore
5. Live Music Making History Live (\$300), John Waterman
6. Meet Julia! (\$300), The Delvena Theatre Company
7. MLK Day of Service (\$500) SPUR
8. Nature in Your Neighborhood (\$325), Ipswich Wildlife
9. Poetry/Spoken Word Workshop and Performance (\$500), Jordan Hamel, (Cancelled and funds carried over to 2026 grants)
10. Social Fabric (\$500), Julia Cseko
11. STEAM Workshops (\$1200), Salem Sound 2000
12. The 80s Comedy Boom (\$250), Nick Zaino
13. The Slave Economy in Essex County and New England (\$500), Joseph DiPoli

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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The Marblehead Cultural Council solicits input from Marblehead residents requesting feedback as well as preferred interests on events the Council might fund and sponsor in the future. In 2025 this information was collected via an on-line survey available on our website, and through a QR code link in the Marblehead Current and posted throughout popular town establishments. This feedback directly informed the application guidelines and priorities which are reviewed and updated at the end of each summer. This year the survey had 135 respondents, the highest number in years.

In May the Council hosted an open reception at the garden of Abbot Public Library to congratulate, meet, and honor the 2025 grantees. The North of Boston Program Officer from the Massachusetts Cultural Council attended. This type of event is specifically encouraged by the Massachusetts Council.

Marblehead Cultural Council members are appointed by the Marblehead Select Board. In 2025 the Marblehead Cultural Council consisted of ten members including Jeanie Stahl (Chair), Katherine Barker (Co-Chair), Aaron Liber (Co-Chair), James Murphy (Treasurer), Marjorie Norman (Secretary), Joseph Dipoli, Alexandra MacAaron, Mark Philip, Steve McClure, and Jennifer Uhl. The appointments of Lisa Seltzer and Rose Gould ended mid-year.

Public meetings are generally held every two months at the town library with agenda items posted via the town clerk's office. Once approved, meeting minutes are posted on the Marblehead Cultural Council website.

Contact and further information can be found at:

Website: [MarbleheadCulturalCouncil.org](https://www.marbleheadculturalcouncil.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MarbleheadCulturalCouncil>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mhdculturalcouncil>

Email: [MarbleheadCulturalCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:MarbleheadCulturalCouncil@gmail.com)

Mail: Box 1217, Marblehead, MA 01945

Selectman's Office: 781-631-0000

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jeanie Stahl, Chair

Marblehead Cultural Council



[massculturalcouncil.org](https://www.massculturalcouncil.org)

## MARBLEHEAD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Town of Marblehead has a long and important history, reflecting the early settlement of New England, the establishment of the fishing trade, and the fight for independence in the American Revolution. This history continues through the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. It is the Marblehead Historical Commission's mission to identify, preserve and protect Marblehead's historical assets – its places, artifacts and stories, while making these resources accessible to all. We work to educate the public about Marblehead's proud history, working together with other organizations to help achieve our mission.

The Commission has spaces in Abbot Hall to display and store historic artifacts. The Commission maintains the Maritime Museum, the Sign Museum, the Gift Shop and office space for research and cataloging items in the collection.

The Gift Shop, staffed by volunteers, is managed by Valerie Carlone. The Gift Shop is open during the tourist season from late May through late October, and for Christmas Walk in December. The Maritime Museum and the Select Board Room are also staffed by docents during the season. The Maritime Museum is self-guided and remains open year-round following Abbot Hall's schedule.

The Collection Management operations are managed by Collection Manager Peter Stacey. His work is supported by several volunteers with cataloging and archival activities. They also answer numerous requests for information and images.

Following are the Historical Commission highlights of 2025:

- The Commission appointed Associate Commissioners: Pat Franklin, Chris Johnston and Dotti Giles to one-year terms.
- The Abbot Hall Gift Shop opened in June and closed in late December. The Gift Shop's use of credit cards for purchases continues to result in increased sales.
- The FY2025-26 priority for the Marblehead Historic Preservations Survey is the Historic District. This is the final area to be surveyed. The Historic District was surveyed about 50 years ago, but there is more to learn and better research access. Research work by John Clemson is scheduled to begin in the spring.
- Cataloging work continued on newly received gifts and existing uncatalogued items led by Collections Manager Peter Stacey. He is assisted by volunteers Roberta Daniels and Carol Fullerton, Linda Harlan and Cory Crane.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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- The Commission provided positions for eight Council on Aging Senior Tax Work-off program participants in the office, Gift Shop and Maritime Museum. The work these volunteers perform covers a wide range of activities and is extremely valuable to the Commission.
- The Commission made repairs and improvements to the Archival storage area in Abbot Hall basement. Masonry repairs addressed a small leak in the outside corner wall. The humidifier was also replaced to maintain relative humidity levels in the storage space.
- The new Sign Museum continues to be very well received, and additional signs have been donated, with approximately 90 signs on display now.
- The Ten-footer shoe shed project continues. Chris Butler has completed renovations on the exterior of the building and work will begin soon to complete the interior display. Signage and interpretation plans are underway. A handicapped accessible path leading to the shed has been completed by Sean McLaughlin, Mason, which was funded by the Harold B. and Elizabeth L. Shattuck Fund.
- Volunteer Dottie Giles has continued work on installing and maintaining the Abbot Hall display cases.
- The Commission is part of a group working on plans to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States and has planned events and celebrations in 2024 and 2025. Plans are underway for the 2026 celebrations, for the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend and also in September,
- Collaboration with the Swampscott Historical Commission for the preservation of the Glover farmhouse continues. Ed Nilsson serves as liaison to the Save the Glover committee.
- The Commission supported the Marblehead Rail Trail Project with financial assistance to reconfigure the Clifton Station curbing in order to retain its historic significance.
- The Commission continued maintenance of its web site through the efforts of Commissioner David Krathwohl. Access the website at [www.marbleheadhistory.org](http://www.marbleheadhistory.org).

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Our organization is composed entirely of volunteers: Peter Stacey, Carol Fullerton, Roberta Daniels, Linda Harlan, Dotty Giles, Valerie Carlone, Pat Franklin, David Krathwohl, Bill Conly, Ed Nilsson, David Bittermann, Pam Peterson, Chris Butler, Chris Johnston, and the many Gift Shop volunteers and Maritime Museum docents.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Peterson, Chair

### Commissioners

David Bittermann  
Chris Butler  
William E. Conly, Vice Chair  
David Krathwohl  
Edward Nilsson  
Pam Peterson, Chair  
Peter Stacey, Collections Manager

### Associate Commissioners

Pat Franklin  
Chris Johnston  
Dotti Giles

## MARBLEHEAD HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Marblehead Housing Authority (MHA) is pleased to submit our annual report for the year ending December 31, 2025.

The Marblehead Housing Authority was established in 1948 to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing for those of low income, including the elderly, families, and those with disabilities.

For more than 70 years, the Marblehead Housing Authority has carried out this mission, and provided affordable housing to some of the community's most vulnerable seniors and families.

Currently, more than 500 people call the MHA home.

The MHA manages 3 housing programs and maintains 307 units of housing located at eight sites.

The developments are of various ages, sizes, and configurations, and are as follows:

|                        | 1 bedroom  | 2 bedroom | 3 bedroom | Total      |
|------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>Family Housing:</b> |            |           |           |            |
| Barnard Hawkes Ct.     | N/A        | 12        | 10        | 22         |
| Broughton Road         | N/A        | 33        | 21        | 54         |
| New Broughton Road     | N/A        | 4         | 4         | 8          |
| <b>Elderly Housing</b> |            |           |           |            |
| Powder House Court     | 38         | N/A       | N/A       | 38         |
| Green Street Court     | 32         | N/A       | N/A       | 32         |
| Farrell Court          | 64         | N/A       | N/A       | 64         |
| New Farrell Court      | 48         | N/A       | N/A       | 48         |
| Roads School           | 41         | N/A       | N/A       | 41         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>223</b> | <b>49</b> | <b>35</b> | <b>307</b> |

The Marblehead Housing Authority is a quasi-government agency authorized by State Law and regulated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC).

The Board of Commissioners consists of three members elected by the Town, one member (a resident) selected by the Select Board following an interview process and

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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one member appointed by the Governor. All members of the Board serve a 5-year term.

The Board usually meets on the third Tuesday of each month and conducts its Annual Meeting and election of officers every June.

The Board of Commissioners is responsible for establishing policy and approving and monitoring the MHA's annual budget. The MHA Board has established policies and procedures in accordance with the state regulations under which the Authority operates and monitors the operations of the Authority on a regular basis.

### **Administration:**

MHA contracts with the Salem Housing Authority to form a partnership through a Management Services Agreement. The Salem and Marblehead Housing Authority work in partnership with one Executive Director, Cathy Sheehan who is responsible for the day-to-day management and operations of the agency and its personnel team.

MHA is eligible for subsidy under its contributions contract with EOHLC. The Marblehead Housing Authority receives no funding from the Town of Marblehead.

### **Eligibility**

Please feel free to access the MHA website at [www.marbleheadha.org](http://www.marbleheadha.org) for the most up to date information and links to apply for housing programs. In order to determine eligibility for public housing, anyone wishing to apply for housing must submit an application and supporting documentation. The MHA conducts a review of income and assets to determine preliminary eligibility.

The Net Income Limits for determining eligibility for state-aided housing are listed below and represent 80% area median income:

| <b><u>No. in Household:</u></b> | <b><u>Net Income Limit:</u></b> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 person                        | \$82,950                        |
| 2 people                        | \$94,800                        |
| 3 people                        | \$106,650                       |
| 4 people                        | \$118,450                       |
| 5 people                        | \$127,950                       |
| 6 people                        | \$137,450                       |
| 7 people                        | \$146,900                       |
| 8 people                        | \$156,400                       |

**Local preference** is given to eligible applicants who provide sufficient documentation they live or work in the Town of Marblehead.

Veteran's Preference **is given to family housing and to elderly applicants.**

### **Applications**

All eligible applicants are screened to determine whether or not they are qualified for public housing. This includes a criminal record check, landlord history, and credit report.

The Housing Authority wishes to thank its dedicated staff for all of their hard work during the past year.

We value the partnership, co-operation and support from the town, community groups, public agencies, private groups and the residents of Marblehead in our efforts to provide safe, affordable housing for the tenants of the MHA.

The MHA wishes to express its sincere appreciation for the outstanding cooperation of the Town departments and the people of Marblehead who supported and assisted us in our efforts to provide quality affordable housing for the residents.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cathy Hoog, Executive Director

### **Board of Commissioners:**

Jenn Schaeffner, Chairperson, Governor's Appointee

Jean R. Eldridge, Assistant Treasurer

Kristin duBay Horton, Member

Terri Tauro, Vice Chairperson

Bill Kuker, Resident Commissioner, Treasurer



## **MARBLEHEAD HOUSING COMMITTEE**

The Marblehead Housing Committee was established in 2025 with the merger of the Fair Housing Committee and the Housing Production Plan Implementation Committee to address the need for affordable housing within the town and across the Commonwealth. The Committee's mission works to expand access and fair affordable housing for all residents through education, advocacy, and strategic implementation. The Committee works to support the development and availability of affordable housing opportunities in accordance with the state and federal guidelines. Households earning 80% or less of the area median income may qualify for such housing, typically made available through lotteries. Marblehead continues to fall below the state's 10% affordable housing goal, remaining at approximately 4% in recent years. While distinct from the state-aided public housing managed by the Marblehead Housing Authority, affordable housing remains a vital focus for the Committee.

The Housing Committee meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month. The regular meetings are hybrid and meet in person at Abbot Hall and on Zoom. The agendas are posted on the Town's website and at the office of the Town Clerk.

In 2025, the Committee was active in discussion surrounding MBTA 3A Zoning Law, Article 23, which aimed to bring Marblehead in compliance, and passed at the Annual Town Meeting, but due to a referendum to overturn the results of town meeting, MBTA 3A failed to pass in a town-wide special election, rendering the town noncompliant. Committee members worked collaboratively with Town Officials, the Planning Board and Town Planner, and new Community Development and Planning Director, Brendan Callahan, to develop education strategies for residents. The town's newly structured planning functions-formed by the creation of the Department of Community Development and Planning has supported the Committee's efforts, including finding strategies for zoning compliance and housing initiatives. The Committee was active in the discussion surrounding the former Coffin School future reuse. The Committee submitted a letter of recommendation to the Select Board.

The Marblehead Housing Authority (MHA) provided updates on the redevelopment of the Broughton Road public housing site. Winn Companies was selected as development partner and is working on the design and securing funding to advance this project. The North Shore HOME Consortium director, Kevin Hurley, attended a meeting to educate and promote HOME Funds available to the Town. HOME Funds are allocated for the Town to assist in the development of affordable housing.

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In 2025, the Housing Committee furthered its commitment to affordable housing through direct involvement in the implementation of the Housing Production Plan. The Committee actively supports the use of HOME Funds, federal dollars allocated to assist in affordable housing development, helping the town leverage these resources for new housing opportunities. Additionally, the Housing Committee plays a crucial role in advising and supporting the allocation of funds from the Marblehead Housing Trust, ensuring that funding is directed toward projects that address the community's affordable housing needs. By prioritizing these efforts, the Committee works to foster sustainable and equitable housing solutions for Marblehead residents.

Respectfully submitted, **Marblehead Housing Committee**

Brendan Callahan, Chair  
Deacon John E. Whipple, Member  
Cathy Sheehan, Member  
Mimi Hollister, Member  
Kurt James, Member  
Debra Larkin, Member  
Nisha Austin, Member  
Ramon Garcia, Member

MARBLEHEAD MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT

Our mission at the Marblehead Municipal Light Department (MMLD) is to deliver reliable, cost-competitive power to our customers, while reducing the carbon intensity of our portfolio and maintaining a safe and healthy operating environment for employees and customers.

Key Statistics:

In 2025, MMLD saw a moderate increase in energy sales and significant increase in system peak energy demand, relative to 2024.

| Annual Metric                  | 2025         | 2024         |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Energy Sales (MWh)             | 102,469      | 98,811       |
| Energy Revenue (\$)            | \$21,692,029 | \$21,519,213 |
| System Peak Energy Demand (MW) | 34.2 MW      | 31.1 MW      |

Noted Accomplishments:

In addition to satisfying our mission, MMLD noted several achievements in 2025:

- In cooperation with the Municipal Electric Association of Massachusetts, MMLD conducted a customer satisfaction survey that confirmed strong customer support, relative to other public and investor-owned electric utility providers. Specifically, customers reported an average positive rating of 82.5% across all measured organizational characteristics, with over 90% of customers indicating that MMLD meets their expectations "all" or "most of the time." Over two-thirds of customers (69.4%) viewed their electric rates as reasonable.
- An internal employee survey was conducted to gain critical feedback and inform MMLD’s General Manager and Board of Commissioners on professional satisfaction, workplace culture, vision alignment, and priorities for improvement from the perspective of Department staff.
- The MMLD Board of Commissioners commenced its search for a new General Manager in May by establishing a five-member Selection

Subcommittee comprised of Simon Frechette (MMLD Commissioner), Adam Smith (MMLD Commissioner), Alexa Singer (Marblehead Select Board Member), Greg Chane (MMLD Distribution Manager), and Tom Howard (Marblehead Human Resources Director). The Selection Subcommittee screened five candidates from nearly 100 applicants, ultimately referring three finalists to the Board of Commissioners. In July, the Board of Commissioners interviewed finalists in public session and selected Jonathan Blair as the next General Manager.

- A federal grant of \$1.3 million was awarded to MMLD from the Department of Energy's Grid Resilience Innovation Partnership to support planned fortification of Marblehead's twin, 23kV sub-transmission supply lines. Phase 1 of the project will replace seven utility poles adjacent to the Railyard Substation in Salem with steel or composite alternatives, while Phase 2 will move the existing overhead conductor between Lead Mills and West Shore Drive underground. These improvements are expected to enhance system reliability and resiliency while also enabling future expansion of transmission capacity by providing spare conduit for a potential third supply line. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2028.
- Progress continued on the new Village 13 substation, with most construction elements being completed and migration of electrical connections remaining. The project is expected to achieve commercial operation in 2026.

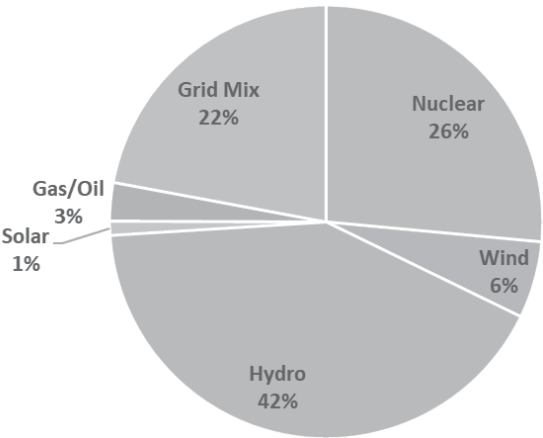
**Power Portfolio:**

MMLD procures power for the Marblehead community through a combination of ownership of generation assets, contractual agreements with third parties to buy power, and open market purchases through the Independent System Operator of New England (ISO-NE) marketplace. While ownership and power purchase agreements prescribe the source of generation, market purchases on the ISO-NE marketplace are subject to the real-time regional power mix at time of delivery. In 2025, MMLD's power portfolio was over 75% carbon free.

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| Generation Source                    | Energy Received (MWh) |                |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
|                                      | 2025                  | 2024           |
| Millstone Nuclear                    | 14,158                | 15,616         |
| Seabrook Nuclear                     | 14,739                | 13,074         |
| NY Power Authority Hydro             | 8,104                 | 8,626          |
| Hydro-Quebec                         | 5,471                 | 6,588          |
| Berkshire Wind 1                     | 1,566                 | 953            |
| Berkshire Wind 2                     | 2,426                 | 1,739          |
| Hancock Wind                         | 2,266                 | 2,186          |
| Eagle Creek Hydro                    | 1,368                 | 1,801          |
| First Light Hydro                    | 5,563                 | 6,707          |
| Brookfield Hydro                     | 25,135                | 7,123          |
| Master Sgt Cotton Solar PV           | 1,143                 | 1,217          |
| Stony Brook Intermediate             | 2,631                 | 1,103          |
| Northeast Reliability Center         | 368                   | 766            |
| Stony Brook Peaking                  | 95                    | 106            |
| Marblehead Wilkins Plant             | 32                    | 95             |
| Hedged Power Contracts               | 382                   | 16,456         |
| ISO-NE Interchange                   | 23,716                | 22,716         |
| <b>Total Wholesale Energy Supply</b> | <b>109,163</b>        | <b>106,873</b> |



## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### MMLD Team

MMLD's success is built upon the skills and dedication of our team. We welcome staff who joined us this year and wish the best for those who have moved on!

|                 |                                                   |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Jon Blair+      | General Manager                                   |
| Joe Kowalik*    | General Manager                                   |
| Lori Whalen     | Customer Service                                  |
| Matt Barrett    | Business Manager                                  |
| Megan Milan     | Business Administrator                            |
| Chris Dunbar    | Information and Systems Technology Manager        |
| Greg Chane      | Distribution Manager                              |
| Michael Hall+   | Energy Programs Manager                           |
| John Wright+    | Senior Substation and Power Operations Specialist |
| Jose Acosta+    | Fleet Mechanic & Facilities Operations Specialist |
| Didi Rubano     | Senior Meter Technician                           |
| Colin Coleman   | Manager of Technical Operations                   |
| Matt Karakoudas | Crew Leader                                       |
| Kerry Homan     | Crew Leader                                       |
| Adam Bernard    | Crew Leader                                       |
| Scott Kent      | Lineworker                                        |
| John Ragusa     | Lineworker                                        |
| Sean Flynn+     | Lineworker                                        |
| Joe Snow        | Lineworker                                        |
| Jason Young+    | Lineworker                                        |
| Jack Ravagno*   | Substation and Power Operations Specialist        |
| Trevor Conroy*  | Lineworker                                        |
| Paul Camarda*   | Lineworker                                        |
| Nate Kobialka*  | Substation and Power Operations Specialist        |

*+ Joined MMLD in 2025*

*\* Departed MMLD in 2025*

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Blair, General Manager

Jean-Jacques Yarmoff, Chair, Board of Commissioners

Simon Frechette, Vice Chair, Board of Commissioners

Matt Harrington, Secretary, Board of Commissioners

Michael A. Hull, Member, Board of Commissioners

Adam Smith, Member, Board of Commissioners

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

### BALANCE SHEET

For the year ending December 31, 2025

| <b>Assets</b>                                |                         |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Plant Investments                            | \$ 22,176,773.03        |
| Current Assets:                              |                         |
| Cash - Operating                             | 7,838,387.43            |
| Petty Cash                                   | 500.00                  |
| Construction                                 | -                       |
| Accounts Receivable                          | 3,685,851.17            |
| Materials & Supplies                         | 276,968.32              |
| Total Current Assets                         | \$ 11,801,706.92        |
| Depreciation Fund                            | 5,251,971.26            |
| Insurance Escrow Account                     | 1,138,349.12            |
| Hydro Savings Reserve                        | -                       |
| MMWEC - NEPEX Reserve Trust                  | 584,535.44              |
| Rate Stabilization Reserve                   | 3,446,182.70            |
| Consumer Deposits                            | 233,280.50              |
| Prepayments                                  | 1,722,216.36            |
| Pooled Financing Reserve-MMWEC               | 462,193.64              |
| MMWEC 2015A Peabody Project                  | 379,435.47              |
| Deferred Outflows-Pensions                   | 1,337,413.00            |
| Deferred Outflows-OPEB                       | 846,944.00              |
| Total Assets                                 | <u>\$ 49,381,001.44</u> |
| <b>Liabilities And Surplus</b>               |                         |
| Accounts Payable:                            |                         |
| Depreciation                                 | \$ 42,240.40            |
| Operating                                    | 2,838,185.78            |
| Consumer Deposits                            | 1,400.00                |
| Total Accounts Payable                       | \$ 2,881,826.18         |
| Consumer Deposits                            | 231,880.50              |
| Bonds Payable                                | 3,066,139.78            |
| Accumulated Provision For Rate Stabilization | 3,446,182.70            |
| Reserve-MMWEC Reserve Trust                  | 584,535.44              |
| Net Pension Liability                        | 6,628,547.00            |
| Deferred Inflows-Pensions                    | 166,759.00              |
| Deferred Inflows-Opeb                        | 2,790,341.00            |
| Reserve for Uncollectible Accounts           | 378,823.58              |
| Reserve for Future Compensated Absences      | 111,741.40              |
| Opeb Liability                               | 3,951,599.00            |
| Contribution In Aid For Construction         | 192,829.76              |
| Unappropriated Earned Surplus                | 24,949,796.10           |
| Total Liabilities And Surplus                | <u>\$ 49,381,001.44</u> |

NOTE: Financials are calendar year based and subject to MMLD independent audit

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### STATEMENT OF INCOME

For the year ending December 31, 2025

|                                   |                     |                               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Operating Revenue                 |                     | \$ 21,772,332.19              |
| Less Expenses:                    |                     |                               |
| Operating                         | 17,460,514.79       |                               |
| Maintenance                       | 2,043,425.07        |                               |
| Depreciation                      | <u>1,294,619.67</u> |                               |
| Total Expenses                    |                     | <u>20,798,559.53</u>          |
| Operating Income                  |                     | 973,772.66                    |
| Investment & Interest Income      |                     | 782,865.48                    |
| Less Interest on Long Term Debt   |                     | <u>104,941.18</u>             |
| Net Income Transferred to Surplus |                     | <u><u>\$ 1,651,696.96</u></u> |

### STATEMENT OF SURPLUS

For the year ending December 31, 2025

|                                              |                                |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Balance December 31, 2024                    | \$ 23,637,800.07               |
| Add: Credit balance transferred from income  | <u>1,651,696.96</u>            |
| Subtotal                                     | 25,289,497.03                  |
| Deduct: Amount transferred to Town Treasurer |                                |
| Strategic electrification fund               | -                              |
| Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)             | (360,000.00)                   |
| Yearend 2024 Auditor Adjustment              | <u>20,299.07</u>               |
| Balance December 31, 2025                    | <u><u>\$ 24,949,796.10</u></u> |

NOTE: Financials are calendar year based and subject to MMLD independent audit



## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### OPERATING EXPENSES

For the year ending December 31, 2025

|                                                |                     |                         |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Power Generation Expenses:                     |                     |                         |
| Fuel                                           | \$ 13,880.68        |                         |
| Misc. Other Power Generating Expense           | 1,876.52            |                         |
| Maint. of Other Power Generation               | <u>120,416.81</u>   |                         |
| Total Power Generation Expense                 |                     | \$ 136,174.01           |
| Power Supply Expenses:                         |                     |                         |
| Electric Energy Purchased                      | 10,041,198.54       |                         |
| Misc. Purchased Power Expense                  | <u>3,846,624.07</u> |                         |
| Total Power Supply Expenses                    |                     | 13,887,822.61           |
| Distribution Expenses:                         |                     |                         |
| Information Systems                            | 154,592.07          |                         |
| Station Expense - Labor & Other                | 19,153.08           |                         |
| Station Expense - Heat & Electricity           | 82,879.51           |                         |
| Street Lighting                                | 17,926.11           |                         |
| Meter Expense - Inspection, Testing, Resetting | 90,192.13           |                         |
| Customer Installation Expense                  | 41,972.08           |                         |
| Misc. Distribution Expense                     | 214,878.50          |                         |
| Maintenance of Structures                      | 193,709.23          |                         |
| Maintenance of Station Equipment               | 52,869.30           |                         |
| Maint. of Overhead & Underground Lines         | 1,421,283.56        |                         |
| Maintenance of Line Transformers               | 4,680.38            |                         |
| Maintenance of Meters                          | <u>45,687.71</u>    |                         |
| Total Distribution Expenses                    |                     | 2,339,823.66            |
| Customer Account Expenses:                     |                     |                         |
| Supervision of Customer Accounting             | 158,234.88          |                         |
| Meter Reading - Labor & Expenses               | 41,768.36           |                         |
| Customer Records & Collections                 | 164,965.43          |                         |
| Uncollectible Accounts                         | (47,188.57)         |                         |
| Interest Paid on Consumer Deposits             | <u>10,927.18</u>    |                         |
| Total Customer Account Expenses                |                     | 328,707.28              |
| Advertising, Conservation, Energy Audits       |                     | 366,541.72              |
| Administrative & General Expenses:             |                     |                         |
| Administrative Salaries                        | 467,081.30          |                         |
| Office Supplies & Expenses                     | 351,107.80          |                         |
| Outside Services Employed                      | 222,834.59          |                         |
| Property Insurance                             | 49,851.83           |                         |
| Injuries & Damages                             | 585.00              |                         |
| Rents                                          | 2,145.00            |                         |
| Employee's Pensions & Benefits                 | 1,027,735.98        |                         |
| Maintenance of General Plant                   | 114,550.32          |                         |
| Transportation                                 | 80,140.45           |                         |
| Miscellaneous General Expense                  | <u>128,838.31</u>   |                         |
| Total Administrative & Gen. Expenses           |                     | 2,444,870.58            |
| Total Operating & Maintenance Expenses         |                     | <u>\$ 19,503,939.86</u> |

## **OLD AND HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION**

In 2025 the Old and Historic Districts Commission (OHDC) reviewed 135 applications over 22 meetings and referred 5 to Public Hearings. The Commission granted 129 Certificates of Appropriateness and denied one application. There were no appeals to the Select Board. The Building Department administratively approved 17 roofs on behalf of the Commission. Violations were typically resolved satisfactorily through OHDC hearings. However, Town authorities continue to pursue the following violation of significance: 59 Front Street – Haley Scimone.

The Commission is currently staffed with 5 full-time members and 1 alternate member. All members attend hearings regularly for current affair awareness, deliberation consistency, and administrative duties.

The Commission worked with the Green Implementation Committee and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council on the Marblehead Sustainable Heritage Project which proposed recommendations to OHDC guidelines aimed to integrate clean energy measures into the districts in historically appropriate ways. The work will continue in 2026 to clarify OHDC guidelines concerning these measures.

The Commission strives to evaluate the merit of each application, both as an individual property with particular circumstances as well as a member of the larger historic community. The Commission welcomes all interest and is grateful to those who recognize the value in participating. We are pleased to be a resource available to all.

The Commission continues efforts to publicize exterior features which are regulated within the District and therefore require a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) as well as exclusions that do not. Descriptions of both are included in the OHDC By-laws that are available on the Town website <http://www.ecode360.com/MA1991>.

Administration of OHDC is coordinated by Lisa Lyons in the Community Development and Planning Department at the Mary Alley Municipal Building. Her tireless efforts on behalf of applicants and the Commission alike are critical to our mission and greatly appreciated. Meeting minutes are posted on the Town website.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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The Commission would also like to acknowledge with gratitude the assistance of the Building Inspection Department, Engineering Department, Zoning Board, Conservation Commission, Assessors' Department, Town Clerk's Office and the Select Board's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Hibbard, Chair  
Gary Amberik, Secretary  
Robert Bragdon  
Paul Pruett  
Duncan Facey  
Michael Hall, Alternate

## PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board is an elected board comprised of five members, each with a three-year staggered terms and one appointed associate member. The board members for the year 2025 were Robert Schaeffner, Barton Hyte, Edward Nilsson, Andrew Christensen, and Marc Liebman. Steven Leverone served as the board associate member. The Town Planner, Alex Eitler, oversaw the board's administrative process and provided technical assistance to prospective applicants and interested parties.

The Planning Board meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month and as needed at other times. The regular meetings were held remotely on Zoom for the first half of the year and began meeting in person in the Select Board's room during the fall. The agendas are posted on the Town's website and at the office of the Town Clerk.

It is the responsibility of the Planning Board to approve different types of development including divisions of land to create new lots, all new nonresidential buildings over 700 square feet and all new residential construction and also additions that are over 500 square feet within the shoreline and harbor front districts. In addition to the site plan approval special permits and subdivision control approvals, the board issues smart growth special permits, wireless communication special permits, incentive zoning special permits and land disturbance permits for larger projects when there is no conservation commission jurisdiction. State and local laws which govern the process for these approvals are Massachusetts General Laws (MGL) Chapter 40A (the Zoning Act); MGL Chapter 41, Sections 81K – 81GG (the Subdivision Control Law); the Town of Marblehead Subdivision Rules and Regulations Chapter 258 of the by-laws of the town of Marblehead, MGL Chapter 40A and the Town of Marblehead Zoning Bylaws.

Permits issued in 2025 include three (3) Approval Not Required – Form A applications (ANR) and seven (7) Site Plan Approval Special Permits.

At the 2025 Annual Town Meeting, the Planning Board sponsored an article to establish a new zoning district that was compatible with the MBTA 3A state requirements. The adoption of the proposed zoning district failed. The Planning Board assisted with the research and development of this proposed zoning district and provided key advice on how to best tackle this state requirement.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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The Board participated in discussions regarding the development of the Town of Marblehead's Master Plan and the Town Charter and reviewed and approved (with conditions) an application from the Marblehead School Department for the use of lights at the athletic fields at 2 Humphrey Street.

The Planning Board also prepared the following Town Bylaw amendments:

- Amend the town's accessory dwelling units zoning bylaw Article IX Section 42 to bring the bylaw section into conformance with new state laws and associated amendments to sections related to the provision.
- Amend the town's flood zone bylaw Article XII to update and bring into conformance with new flood maps and amend related sections 200-8.
- Introduce a new provision and map changes to adopt 3A MBTA Communities zoning overlay districts that would allow construction of multi-family housing as a matter of right in three areas: Tioga Way District, Pleasant Street District, and Broughton Road District.
- A citizen sponsored zoning article to amend the zoning bylaw to add a new provision to allow fishing gear and lobster trap storage seasonally allowed as an accessory use with conditions.

The 3A MBTA article was passed at Town Meeting and was subsequently voted down in a referendum vote.

The Planning Board thanks the Building Department for information on zoning interpretation and other assistance.

The Board thanks Maggie Wheeler, the Town Engineer, who provides technical assistance to the board and to prospective applicants. Planning Board applications are processed in the Community Development and Planning Department. The board extends special thanks to Lisa Lyons and Jenn Smith for their assistance in keeping the board running smoothly. The Board would like to express our sincere gratitude to Alex Eitler, Town Planner, for his invaluable technical assistance and thorough review of applications. Alex, who vacated his position in December, has been dedicated and integral part of our team. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors and thank him for his contributions to the town.

Robert Schaeffner, Chairman

Andrew G. Christensen

Barton Hyte

Edward O. Nilsson

Alex Eitler – Town Planner

Marc Liebman

Steven Leverone, Associate Member

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Marblehead Police Department (MPD) is pleased to submit to the citizens of Marblehead our Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 2025.

The accomplishments highlighted in this report are the direct result of the commitment to excellence by sworn police personnel, our Joint Dispatch Communications Center, and MPD's civilian support staff.

**Our Mission:** The MPD is committed to the protection of lives and property, and the safety of the community we serve, both residents and visitors. We strive to maintain the highest standard of professional and proven police practices and to preserve individual rights and liberties afforded to all citizens under the law. We are dedicated to a procedural, transparent and cooperative effort with the community to identify and address their concerns, reduce the fear of, or, actual crime, participate in crime prevention and social justice diversion programs and improve the quality of life of our residents and visitors.

**Operational Overview:** Throughout 2025, MPD provided a range of traditional and non-traditional police services, balancing calls for service, proactive patrol, investigations, major event coverage, and community engagement. The Joint Dispatch Communications Center logged 20,249 calls in 2025 and remained the Town's communications hub for police, fire, and ambulance emergency response, while also supporting walk-in activity at the police station. Our highest number of calls includes medical calls (1094); burglar alarms (447); parking complaints (867); motor vehicle stops (732); motor vehicle accidents (336) and Property Checks (5,582).

The Police Department focused considerable efforts and resources on major events; community engagement; technology improvements; restorative justice work; specialized training; policy review and development; employee health and wellness; data analysis; grant writing; and operational functions.

The accomplishments highlighted in this report are the direct result of the commitment to excellence by sworn personnel, our Joint Dispatch Center, and MPD's civilian support staff.

**Accreditation (Reaccreditation):** During 2025, MPD successfully achieved its second reaccreditation, reaffirming the Department's ongoing commitment to

MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

professional excellence, accountability, and best practices. In May 2025, MPD underwent an on-site assessment by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission. The assessment was completed in two days (rather than the customary three), reflecting the Department’s preparedness and organization. Following reaccreditation, MPD began work to fully digitize the accreditation process to support efficiency, accountability, and compliance with evolving state systems and mandates, in advance of the Department’s next assessment cycle in 2028.

**Court actions and Crime trends:** Court Actions, Enforcement Activity, and Public Safety Support. In 2025, MPD had: 37 arrests and 13 protective custodies, 114 criminal applications, resulting in 49 probable cause hearings before Magistrates at Lynn District Court, 5 arrest warrants requested and 12 summonses applied for 50 restraining orders and 9 Harassment Prevention Orders issued by the Court, 87 discovery requests answered in coordination with the District Attorney’s Office MPD continued to emphasize timely follow-up investigations, victim-centered policing, and coordinated work with prosecution partners to ensure strong case outcomes and accountability.

Our overall crime rate in Marblehead went down 22% in 2025! Property crime is down 33%, while crimes against the person are down 41%. MPD continues to focus on educating the public regarding active fraudulent schemes, crime sprees (car breaks), while using technology and proactive patrols to reduce vandalism and other crimes throughout Town. MPD Detectives and Patrol officers continue to conduct thorough initial and follow up investigations, while proactively patrolling neighborhoods to reduce theft, vandalism or other illicit activity.

|          | Crimes<br>Against<br>Property | Crimes<br>Against<br>Society | Crimes<br>Against<br>Persons | Group<br>B<br>Crimes | Total |
|----------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-------|
|          |                               |                              |                              |                      |       |
| 2025     | 166                           | 7                            | 56                           | 161                  | 390   |
| 2024     | 246                           | 10                           | 95                           | 152                  | 503   |
| % change | -33%                          | -30%                         | -41%                         | +5%                  | -22%  |

**JDP Program, Opiate Settlement Funds and Essex County Outreach**

During 2025, our Jail Diversion Mental Health Clinician Gina Rabbitt was responsible for (600) six hundred cases involving individuals suffering from either mental health or substance abuse related issues. Mental health/substance use calls and follow-ups increased substantially in 2025, nearly doubling, reflecting both higher

demand and greater public awareness of available services. Program development continued throughout the year, including Recovery Coach Academy training (CCAR model), opioid-related funding initiatives, and planning for an Addiction Education and Awareness series.

Five hundred and sixty-eight (568) of the cases were diverted from the Emergency Department (ED). Five hundred and ninety-eight (598) of the cases were diverted from the Justice System. Through the opiate settlement funds, our clinician dedicated 8 hrs. per week towards opiate and substance use disorders through direct follow up and education community education efforts. MPD also partnered with Essex County Outreach to further divert individuals from the criminal justice system, while finding them resources and treatment for substance use disorders. MPD has also partnered with Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery (PARI) to identify resources for officers to utilize when needed and expand naloxone and fentanyl strip distribution.

### **Traffic / Parking Enforcement and Road Safety:**

Traffic safety remained a year-round priority in 2025. 315 traffic accidents investigated, 355 written citations issued and 443 verbal warnings documented, 11 arrests and 46 criminal applications involving Chapter 90 violations, 22 civil motor vehicle hearings. MPD issued 1,578 parking tickets issued town wide for a total of \$48,500 in fines. There were 11 traffic studies conducted with 692 selective enforcement directed patrols to problem locations, MPD continued to use enforcement, education, and data-informed deployment to address speeding, roadway hazards, and neighborhood safety concerns.

MPD has also worked with the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee to address the traffic change requests that have been received, as well as help facilitate the improvement of traffic safety in Town. Several neighborhood traffic concerns were discussed through this forum, identifying and clarifying needs, while providing Town residents with options and data, needed to help make real time decisions and for planning in the future. TSAC secured funding for and identified eight locations for the installation of rapid flashing beacons pedestrian activated warning systems.

**Community Services and Engagement:** MPD is proud of every one of our efforts to connect with the community. In 2025, we added and continued several programs, while continuing our unique collaboration with the Council on Aging through the Citizen Police Academy, TRIAD, Coffee with a Cop, High School community service day, Car Seat Install Day held at the MPD and work with the Make a Wish foundation. We held one Citizen Police Academy, our Tenth!, while finishing the planning for a follow up “master” CPA program which will start in January of 2026.



Janice Salisbury-Beal leads our TRIAD team (TRIAD is a collaborative effort among local police, Fire, Council on Aging, Sheriff's department and interested individual seniors) and the monthly meetings. MPD personnel attended regular community meetings (70 attended by patrol – dozens by the Detectives, SRO and administrative staff) with a diverse cross section of civic groups and neighborhood associations, to include both Rotary organizations, cub scouts, boy scouts, girl scouts, the LOWV, Fairwinds Child Day Care Center, the Marblehead Racial Justice Team, School PCOs, TFAD, MMHTF, the ADL's North Shore advisory board, and The Massachusetts ADL Law Enforcement committee.

MPD strengthened partnerships with the Council on Aging / Elder Affairs, the Marblehead Housing Authority, and service providers supporting residents at risk (including individuals facing mental health crises, substance use challenges, cognitive impairment, social isolation, or housing instability). These efforts increased non-enforcement visibility, strengthened relationships with vulnerable populations, encouraged early reporting before issues escalated, and reinforced MPD's role as a proactive resource for residents. Officers provided presentations focused on scam and fraud prevention, personal safety and situational awareness, elder abuse and neglect recognition and reporting, and resources available through the Police Department and partner agencies. Residents demonstrated increased willingness to seek assistance, share information, and participate in collaborative solutions. MPD collaborated with the Salem Police Department's Community Impact Unit (CIU). MPD officers joined Salem's CIU for over a month and experienced non traditional approaches to typical quality of life issues.

Department staff participated in several civic engagements; to include Thanksgiving Dinner organized by the COA at the Masonic Temple; the Breast Friends Cancer Walk, Special Olympic Cruiser Convoy and Law Enforcement Torch runs, attending the Essex County District Attorney Summer Camp, the Doug Flutie Foundation for autism awareness and helped fulfill a local youth's wish through Make a Wish. In solidarity with our Jewish and other Faith Based communities, MPD attended several events and trainings to address the rise in antisemitism and hate and hosted active threat trainings while helping create security plans. **Special Events:** The Marblehead Police facilitated several events throughout the year, that included: the Fourth of July fireworks, Memorial Day Parade, Veteran's Day memorial and 911 ceremonies, the Horribles Parade, the Christmas Walk and tree lighting, Menorah Lighting, and the Marblehead Festival of Arts Concert series and activities.

### **Technology: Technology, Special Units, and Operational Improvements**

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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**UAS (Drone) Unit:** The UAS Unit supported public safety operations throughout 2025, providing security support for large events and operational assistance during incident response, including an apprehension where drone deployment assisted in locating and capturing an individual.

UAS deployments supported Town events including the Horribles Parade, Independence Day events, Christmas Tree Lighting, Santa's Landing, Christmas Walk, and Menorah Lighting.

**IT / Infrastructure Improvements:** In coordination with municipal partners and internal staff, MPD advanced technology modernization and operational resilience, including transition to a new IP phone system, workstation upgrades, replacement of main network switches, and continued improvements to infrastructure and cybersecurity safeguards.

**Licensing:** Firearms Licensing Activity: In 2025, MPD issued 300 firearms credentials. Liquor licenses: Sworn personnel serve as licensing officers as appointed by the Select Board responsible for making notifications of violations.

**Evidence and Drug Destruction:** In 2025, the Property and Evidence Room processed 291 items, a 7.9% increase from 2024. Items included found/booking property and evidentiary items for criminal prosecution. \$6,504.13 was deposited into the Town's general fund through unclaimed property procedures. Approximately 930 pounds of prescription medications safely disposed of through the CVS Medication Disposal for Safer Communities Program (an 18% increase from 2024) \$1,200 program award used to offset processing fees and purchase destruction materials

**Grants:** MPD is committed to applying for and managing competitive grants to improve our department. In FY 25, we were awarded approximately \$345,000 in grant funds. These include the Federal *Ballistic Vest Reimbursement* fund, *State 911 Training and Support Grants* ; *Municipal Road Safety Grant Program*; for extra patrols geared at impaired driving and speeding, along with a speed feedback sign and traffic data box, MPD was awarded \$121,310 from Massachusetts Department of Mental Health (DMH) for our civilian mental health clinician and training. Our local State representatives secured funding of \$35,000 for a major equipment upgrade at MPD. MPD assisted nonprofits in their applications for grant funds under the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Nonprofit security grant program.

**Training:** Training is an area that MPD has committed to expand and increase the average hours each officer is trained each year. All active duty, sworn police officers,

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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have been certified by the POST Commission. Additionally, all dispatchers met yearly dispatch certification requirements. MPD staff also attended several specialized training courses that are recommended but not required. These trainings were focused on: Accident reconstruction and analysis, Freedom and Hate Speech, Suicide intervention and prevention, Electronic Controlled Weapons, Health, Wellness and Resilience, internal affairs investigations, National Center for Biomedical Research and Training, Recovery Coaching, Emergency Management Planning for Schools and Leadership. I'd like to highlight the individual efforts of sworn personnel (Lt. Dave Ostrovitz and Sgt. Tim Morley) to become MPTC instructors in several areas (ECW, Laws and Procedure, Legal Updates, Health and Wellness), and desire to teach internally. MPD employees contributed maximum points to the Town's MIIA insurance training program. MPD implemented a formal Field Training Officer program in 2021. In 2025 we had two officers (Nolasco and Boutillier) graduate from the Police Academy and complete their FTO training.

**Personnel:** There were notable personnel changes in 2025. Captain Matt Freeman retired and was replaced by Acting Captain Jonathan Lunt. Sgt. Osattin was promoted to Lieutenant and Officer Andrew Dimare was promoted to Sergeant. One new hire, Boutillier, joined the department and is working full-time. Ruth Curtis, Calvin Powers, Deborah Frongillo and Joe Dipoli retired from their posts as crossing guards after decades of combined service. Our long-time animal inspector, Daniel Proulx also moved on.

**Joint Dispatch Center:** The MPD/MFD Dispatch team stood out again in 2025. The Dispatch "GIS Dashboard" has greatly expanded and provides a valuable tool to Town departments. This interactive ArcGIS Online Dashboard provides instant access to vital information that Dispatchers use when dispatching first responders and other personnel.

**Miscellaneous:** I'd like to identify a few other services provided by MPD in 2025 that can go unnoticed: MPD processed 993 Public Records requests, and 70 Notary Public requests. MPD works tirelessly with stakeholders to address those suffering from substance use disorders and mental health issues. We continue to support community conversations on substance use disorder awareness and education using opiate settlement funds and with community partners. MPD stands out against all forms of hate and bias and works with our community partners to prepare for and react to incidents of violence, or threats of violence. Chief Dennis King received ADL's Law and Education Day Community Leadership award. Many of these efforts are with the *TFAD*, whose members are dedicated to addressing all forms of

discrimination and hate. At MPD, our backup generator project is complete and a major flooring project was completed on the first floor.

I would personally like to take this opportunity to thank the officers and staff, both sworn and civilian, of the MPD for their dedication and professionalism in carrying out their duty throughout the year. It does not go unnoticed, with positive feedback and letters of accolades coming in from residents regularly.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dennis A. King  
Chief of Police

## **ANIMAL CONTROL**

ACOs:

The following is the report of the Animal Control Department for the year 2025:

Dogs Licensed 3010, Tickets issued: Failure to Leash 32, Pooper Scooper 10, Excessive Barking 8, Failure to License 24, Seasonal Beaches and Parks 13, Failure to Vaccinate 1. These figures do not include verbal warnings that are generally given as a first offense.

11 dogs were brought to the shelter. Nine dogs were claimed by their owners. This information does not include the dogs that were picked up wearing tags or microchipped that were directly brought home. The two dogs that went unclaimed were adopted through Friends of Marblehead Abandoned Animals. 3 cats were brought to the shelter. One was claimed and the other two were again adopted through the shelter. Quarantines issued: 8 dog on dog; 4 dog to person; 3 cat to person; 4 cat unknown/wildlife; 2 dog unknown/wildlife.

There were Two Dangerous dog hearings, and the Animal Control Office directly received approximately 538 phone calls.

Lastly, we are working with the community to educate them on living with our wildlife neighbors and have taken a pledge on solving conflict with wildlife in a humane nonlethal matter. There is an increase in our need to help orphaned wildlife as their habitat continues to dwindle.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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We are seeing a huge increase in secondary poisonings to our raptor population as more and more rodenticides are being used by the public. We are hoping to educate the public on the use of nontoxic, non-lethal, cruelty free methods of controlling the rodent population.

Respectively Submitted

Animal Control Officer

Betsy Cruger

Laura Consigli

Animal Inspector: Emily Degrande

Police Department Personnel 2025:

### Ranking Officers:

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Chief          | Dennis A. King |
| Acting Captain | Jonathan Lunt  |

### Lieutenants:

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Michael Everett | Jason Conrad |
| David Ostrovitz | Eric Osattin |

### Sergeants:

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Timothy Morley | Andrew DiMare    |
| Sean Brady     | Brendan Finnegan |

### Patrol Officers:

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Christian Henniger   | Andrew Clark           |
| Christopher Adkerson | Adam Mastrangelo       |
| Dean Peralta         | Nicholas Michaud       |
| Sean Sweeney Jr.     | Brandon Boutilier      |
| Jason McDonald       | Robert Owen Picariello |
| Neil Comeau          | Charles Sweeney        |
| Daniel Gagnon        | Douglas Mills          |
| Nicholas Fratini     | Dennis DeFelice        |
| Christopher Gallo    | Tyler Bates            |
| Theresa Gay          | Sam Rizos              |
| Taylor Nolasco       |                        |

### E-911 Dispatchers:

Amy Gilliland/Supervisor Adrienne Javery

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Scott Kaufman  
Teresa Collins  
Anthony Boccuzzi  
Rose Gould (PT)

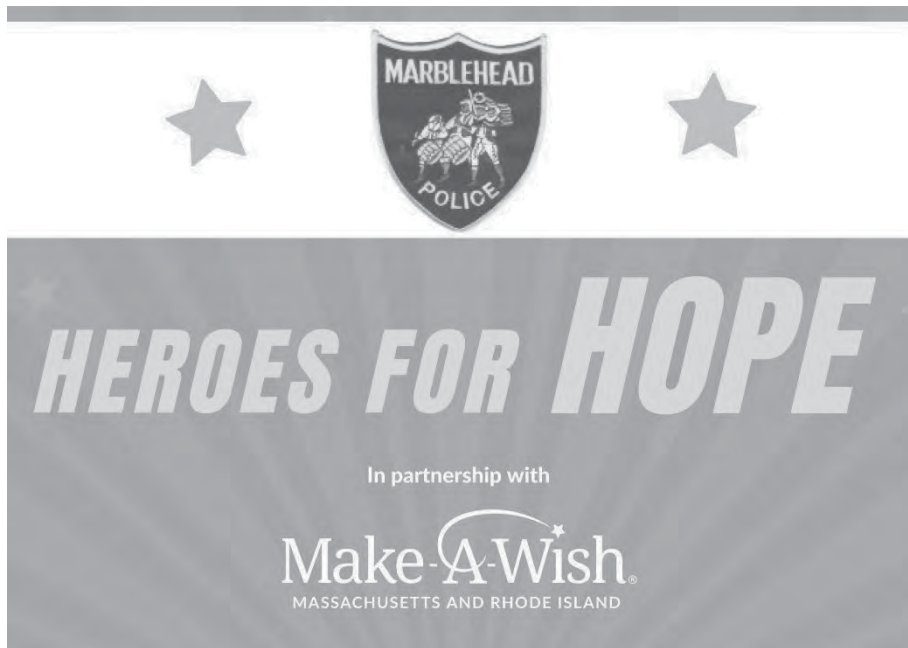
Alexandria Roy-Michaud  
Madison Smith  
Amanda Broughton

Administrative Assistant:  
Margo Sullivan

Facilities: Appointed Special Police Officer  
Dennis Laing James Donovan

School Traffic Supervisors:

|               |                |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Thomas Adams  | Peg Powers     | Cliff Powers  | Carol Merrigan |
| Paul Williams | Pat Ayer       | Carol Dinnes  | Wendy Keyes    |
| Ian Solberg   | Sean McElhiney | Chuck Jones   | Hayden Holt    |
| Annette Brady | Daniel Szafran | Leslie Teague | Allyson Malin  |





## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

The Public Works Committee was adopted by Article 20 of the March 9, 1970, Town Meeting. The Committee historically met reviewed and reported on subjects from efficiency, personnel policies, capital equipment requests, recommendations on department structure and function. As Town Government has been reconfigured over time, most duties of the Committee are now completed by Human Resources, Compensation Committee, the Town Administrator, and the Town Administrator's Department Head Meetings.

While reviewing By-laws to prepare for The Water and Sewer Commission meeting with the Town Charter Committee, I came across the Public Works Committee Chapter 24-15 Article VII of the Town By-Laws. Since the Public Works Committee had not been amended since 1989 nor removed by Town Meeting, the Committee reconvened on October 27, 2025. The first order of business was to appoint the Committee Chair, Amy McHugh, DPW Director, and Secretary, Andrew Petty, Director of Public Health. This meeting also reviewed duties of the Committee and discussed the Committee's revised mission going forward. The Committee has been meeting monthly since October, as required by the By-Laws. The lively discussion around the duties of the Committee resulted in Committee members' desire to keep the Public Works Committee with amended duties and revising the Committee members to address the proposed mission and duties of the Committee.

Revisions to the By-Law were discussed at every meeting, and a proposed Article for Town Meeting was reviewed and approved by the Committee. The intended purpose of the Article is as follows:

1. Remove those duties that are completed by the Human Resource Department and the Town Administrator, which did not exist in 1969 or 1989.
2. Add Department Heads who oversee work in the public way, public property, and public buildings.
3. Create a list of duties
  - a. that speak to efficiency of departments,
  - b. Provide platform to review and make recommendations to the appropriate Town Officials on Projects within the Public Ways/Buildings
  - c. Review Warrant Articles that involve the Public Ways/ Properties/ Buildings.
4. To accept public comment on Committee work



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5. Propose that the Committee meet quarterly and as needed, since the revised duties of the Committee differ from the original By-Law.

The Committee is not intending to replace Department Heads Meetings, but to continue with Open Meetings of designated Department Heads who fall under various Elected Boards and Commissions, including the Select Board, Municipal Light Commission, Water and Sewer Commission, Recreations and Parks Commission, Cemetery Commission, Board of Health. Additionally, critical public safety departments Police and Fire, were not seated on the the Public Works Committee and the Committee is proposing to add these entities.

On December 1, 2025, the Committee also reviewed presentations from Recreations and Parks proposed Reynolds Playground Project and the Sustainable Coordinators Energy Reduction Plan. All meetings were hybrid and had public attendance. Meeting Agendas and Minutes are posted on the Town website under the Highway Department Documents.

I am pleased to report that the reconvened Public Works Committee meetings in 2025 were well attended, with members demonstrating commitment and enthusiasm for the recommendations that the Committee could provide. The continued existence of the Public Works Committee preserves a valuable forum for staff to share operational insight and technical expertise, to develop recommendations ensuring sound policy decisions, and effective management of public resources.

I hope the residents see the value in the Public Works Committee and approve the proposed Article to amend By Law 24-15.

Respectfully submitted

Amy McHugh  
Chair  
Public Works Committee.

## RECREATION AND PARKS

### OVERVIEW

The Recreation & Parks Commission submits this report for the year ending December 31, 2025.

The Commission is made up of five residents who are elected annually at a general town election in June. The Commission's scheduled meetings are generally held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM in the Community Center at 10 Humphrey Street. These meetings consist of reports, the appearance of persons or groups on the agenda, the review of correspondence submitted for consideration, discussions of plans and objectives, and reviews of policies, rules, and regulations as needed. The Commission reviews and approves the hiring of personnel when recommendations are presented. Budgets are reviewed by the Commission annually and they act as an advocate with the Finance Committee and at Town Meeting.

### 2025 SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS

#### A. PARKS

##### Fields and School Athletic Facility Maintenance

The Department maintained the fields and is responsible for the field preparation, including lines, for the following sports:

- High School (Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Frosh) football, baseball, softball, lacrosse, soccer, and field hockey;
- Youth Sports baseball, softball, lacrosse, soccer, and football;
- Men's softball and soccer, and co-ed softball.

Fields opened for the season in late March. The spring sports required the lining of fields for varsity school sports first. Then followed by youth sports, mid-April through the summer; adult softball through September; followed by Varsity/JV soccer, field hockey, and football at the end of August. In September, October, and November, all varsity, junior varsity, and middle school football, soccer, field hockey fields, and youth sports fields were maintained for their seasons.

The mowing and trimming of athletic fields is done on weekdays with school in session due to extensive usage on afternoons, evenings, and weekends. Line marking with latex paint and/or non-caustic chalk is also done while classes are inside the

schools. Mowing of properties began in April and continued through November on a five day per week schedule. Leaf cleanups ran October through December, and spring cleanups ran March through May.

Early spring and late fall field scheduling depended on when fields were dormant, wet, frozen, or overused in any one area. Fall remains the best time to do seeding and sod work on fields but was frequently in conflict with the demands of the activities scheduled and the department's continual shortage of funds, materials, and manpower versus those demands.

All line marking, mowing, and field schedule changes were coordinated by Superintendent Peter James. In the summer and fall, employees maintained the lines on high school and youth sports fields. These efforts continually earned praise from the school athletic department and youth sports leagues. The field paint budget continues to be strained by additional field requests and rising paint costs.

During the year the Sports Committee met at the Community Center with Shelly Bedrossian and Chris Kennedy acting as liaison for the Commission twice during the year. Throughout the year, there was an open line of communication with the Public Schools, Board of Health, and sports organizations to help ensure various town sports teams and coaches could minimize conflicts and maximize usage. This included opening additional indoor gym space to youth leagues to enable practice and play.

The Departments budget was level-funded but needs for services to fields and athletic fields exceeds budget allotments. Budget and staff limitations, requests for extra work, and changes on short notice remained a continual problem.

### **Field and Property Permitting and Management**

The Commission received numerous requests for non-profit, town organizations, fundraising, and business use of the Community Center and the parks. These requests must be approved by a vote of the Commission as required in the Town By-laws.

#### **Permit Application Process:**

The application and insurance permitting process, as well as the Kayak, Float and Pram Permit process continue to be streamlined online for Marblehead Recreation & Parks properties including Devereux Beach, Crocker Park, Chandler Hovey Park, Community Center room rentals, Riverhead Beach, Stramski, and other department properties and special requests.

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Below is the list of approved requests:

- At the Community Center:
  - Birthday Parties
  - Board of Health Wellness Event
  - Boy Scouts
  - Council on Aging Meals on Wheels Program
  - Cub Scouts
  - Elder Act
  - Friends of the Council on Aging
  - Girl Scouts
  - Making Ends Meet and Adopt A Family
  - Marblehead Festival of the Arts
  - Marblehead Housing Authority
  - Youth Baseball
  - Youth Cheerleading
  - Youth Lacrosse
  - Youth Soccer
  - Sports Organization Committee Meetings
- Castle Rock
  - Wedding Ceremonies
- Chandler Hovey and Crocker Park:
  - Glen Urquhart School Lighthouse Field Trip
  - Old North Church Weekend Service
  - Clifton Lutheran Church Outdoor Service
  - Marblehead Festival of the Arts
  - Rotary Club 5K Race
  - Wedding permits
- Devereux Beach and Riverhead parking areas:
  - Birthday Parties
  - Boys & Girls Club Salem
  - Breast Friends Walk
  - Celebration of Life Ceremonies
  - Corinthian Yacht Club (Float & Race Boat & Trailer Storage)
  - Eastern Yacht Club (Float & Race Boat & Trailer Storage)
  - Etchells New England Sailing Competition

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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- o Family Reunions
  - o Grace Community Church Easter Service
  - o Marblehead Carnival
  - o Marblehead Cruise-In
  - o Marblehead Dollars for Scholars, Run for the Fund
  - o Marblehead Festival of the Arts
  - o Marblehead Public School Village Teachers
  - o Polar plunge to support Changing Futures, Inc., which funds cystic fibrosis research.
  - o St. Adelaide's Catholic, Peabody
  - o Run Miles for Mary 5K
  - o Wicked Half Marathon
  - o Winter dock storage
- Gatchells Park & Raimo Zone
  - o Birthday Parties
- Gerry Playground & Stramski Beach:
  - o Beach BBQs for Residents
  - o Birthday Parties
  - o Rack storage for prams/kayaks
  - o Intergenerational Gardens
- Hobbs Field & Playground
  - o Birthday Parties
- Reynolds Field, Bud Orne Rink
  - o Festival for Dogs, Festival of Arts Celebrations
- Seaside Park
  - o Marblehead Police Department, Make a Wish
  - o Rotary Club of Marblehead Easter Egg Hunt
- Veterans Middle School Courts
  - o Marblehead Pickleball Tournament
- Village School Track
  - o Cub Scouts
- School Fields Trips and Field Days
  - o The Department issued permits for parks and beaches across Marblehead with groups from Children's Workshop Montessori School, Jewish Community Center of the North Shore, Glover School, Vets Middle School, Burlington Public Schools, and Tower School at the following locations: Devereux Beach, Gatchells Park, Glabicky Field, Hobbs Playground, Seaside Basketball Courts, Stramski Beach.

### **Building, Parks, and Facility Remodel and Maintenance**

**Reynolds Field (Green Street) Refurbishment Project** Marblehead Recreation & Parks is leading the Reynolds Field and Outdoor Rink Refurbishment Project. With the funds from the town's Larz Anderson Trust, which currently totals 3.2 million, the Commission is working with an engineering and design firm on the options for refurbishing the Reynolds Field.

Three engineering and design firms responded to the RFQ for the Reynolds Field Refurbishment project and the commission interviewed firms in September. On September 30, 2025, the Recreation and Parks Commission unanimously voted at its public commission meeting to accept the RFQ from CHA Associates. CHA Associates' specialty in sports facilities, coupled with their in-house resources and extensive municipal experience, present the best long-term value for the town.

On October 22, at the Select Board meeting, the Marblehead Recreation & Parks Commission requested that the Select Board approve the project planning stage and the disbursement of funds from the Larz Anderson Trust which currently totals 3.2 million.

During the month of September, the Recreations & Parks Commission also coordinated a series of five community and public engagement sessions – both in person and online – to provide residents the opportunity to contribute ideas or discuss challenges before the project development phase began. The most discussed topics were parking, the dog park, microplastics, drainage, traffic, and area safety.

Future stages of the project – slated for 2026 – include final design development for all three phases, community coordination and presentations, continued community engagement, final approval from the Select Board, and development of construction documents for Phase 1.

### **Stramski Building Renovation**

The Recreation & Parks Department continues overseeing renovations on the Stramski Building for recreation and sailing programs. Work highlights of the year included completed carpentry finishes and both rough electrical and plumbing by Essex Tech programs. New water lines were run to the building and the Department continues to winterize the property each fall with construction underway. The renovated building will have an event space with a catering kitchen and two meeting rooms on the second floor.

### **Devereux and Riverhead Beach Upgrades**

The Department continues to manage the properties at Devereux Beach and Riverhead Beach. The Department leases part of the Riverhead Beach property each summer to qualified vendors for seasonal on-the-water programming and SUP rentals. In the winter, the Department manages float storage for individuals at Riverhead Beach. In the summer, the department maintains and manages the parking fees at Devereux and the kayak rentals at Riverhead Beach. New upgrades for these properties this year, include:

- Building and installing new kayak and pram racks for a capacity of more than 150 vessels at Riverhead Beach, in addition to installing and upgrading the pram racks at Stramski's beach property.
- The Town received an ADA grant to upgrade the accessibility of Devereux Beach. New Mobimats were installed, thresholds to bathrooms were lowered, and accessible access from the ADA parking spaces to the pavilion was created.

### **Tennis & Pickleball Courts**

The Department continues to maintain and update its Outdoor Racket Court Policies based on community usage of courts and feedback. The Department manages an online court reservation system through SuperSaaS, which allows the Department to track trends and data on court usage and community needs.

#### **Court Reservation Systems:**

- Tennis Drop-In Courts
- Pickleball Drop-in Courts
- Badminton Drop-in Indoor Courts

The Department continues to initiate the Veterans Middle School & Seaside Park Pickleball Courts Open Play system. Open Social Play is available daily to the community.

### **Memorial Benches – NEW Memorial Bench Assessment and Policy**

The Department spearheads the maintenance and upkeep of memorial benches. A moratorium on new memorial benches continues to be in place. However, the Department is underway with a new assessment of the conditions of existing benches and opportunities for new bench locations and an updated policy on steps to create new memorial opportunities. Current benches maintained by The Department are located at Chandler Hovey, Castle Rock, Memorial Park, Crocker Park, Seaside Park, Gatchell's Playground, Fountain Park, Stramski and Redd's Pond.

### **Rail Trails**

The department continues to work collaboratively with the Marblehead Conservancy to maintain 5 miles of trails and 150 acres. The Department provides labor, support and tools as requested and needed through January 25, 2032.

### **Jacobi Community Center**

The Marblehead Recreation & Parks Department executed a contract for cleaning of the Community Center for public use, and Council on Aging and Recreation & Parks programming.

### **Additional Park and Property Renovations and Upgrades**

Renovations continue at several properties in town. The department also made upgrades or repairs throughout the year as needed to park and town properties, including:

1. Fountain Park survey and developing structural upgrades site plan.
2. Green Street, light replacement and fix
3. Gatchell's field lights and poles replaced in partnership with Marblehead Youth Baseball. New field lights enable Marblehead Youth Baseball to host up to six games per weeknight at Gatchells Park and up to 10 games on weekends.

### **Building and Comfort Station (Restroom) Maintenance**

In addition to the Community Center, the Department oversees other buildings and facilities throughout the town. The Department continuously maintained a workshop and equipment storage at Devereux Beach, maintenance garage on Vine Street, Reynolds Playground storage room, Gerry (Stramski's) locker room and sailing classroom, Hamond Nature Center, and the Seaside Park grandstand storage area.

The department-maintained comfort stations (restrooms) at the following locations: Chandler Hovey Park, Devereux Beach, Crocker Park, Fort Sewall, Reynolds Playground, Gerry Playground, Gatchell's Playground, and Hamond Nature Center on a seasonal basis. Water and sewer costs, electricity, cleaning supplies, and paper goods came from the department budget. Restrooms at Devereux Beach, Chandler Hovey, Fort Sewall and Crocker Park were maintained throughout the season by an external cleaning company on the weekends. Throughout the day, restrooms were maintained by Department Staff. The Department completed the winterizing of all comfort stations in early November.



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Doggie bags were provided through the town's budget at Crocker Park, Redd's Pond, Fort Sewall and the Dog Park. Dogs are prohibited from all athletic fields and children's playgrounds. All other parks require dogs to be leashed. In 2025, the Department reviewed a Pooch Pass Program that would allow more space for off leash area and play for dogs and additional disposal receptacles.

### **Equipment Replacement and Seasonal Staffing**

The department continued to look for reliable seasonal maintenance staff from April through November. With the Department's mechanic of many years retired, a new mechanic filled the position for 2025.

### **Facility & Grounds Landscape Maintenance Program**

The Parks staff was responsible for the landscape maintenance, mowing, trimming of trees and shrubs, and removal of litter on the following properties in 2025. (Note: "\*" denotes athletic fields requiring continuous mowing, lining, and reconditioning for the Town's sports programs):

| <b>Recreation &amp; Parks Properties:</b> | <b>Cemetery &amp; Historic Grounds:</b>                       | <b>Public Landings:</b>      |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Castle Rock Park                          | Cressy Street Cemetery                                        | Barnegat trash               |
| Chandler Hovey Park                       | Green Street Cemetery                                         | Clark Landing trash          |
| Community Center                          | Hooper Tomb Cemetery                                          | Cloutmans trash              |
| Crocker Park                              | Harris Street Cemetery                                        | Commercial Street trash      |
| Devereux Beach                            | Old Burial Hill Cemetery                                      | Parker Yard trash            |
| Devereux Beach Garage                     | Redd's Pond                                                   | Tucker Wharf Trash           |
| Fort Beach                                | Waterside Cemetery<br>(when requested by Cemetery Department) |                              |
| Fountain Park                             |                                                               | <b>Other Public Grounds:</b> |
| Gerry Playground                          | <b>School Dept. properties:</b>                               | Fort Sewall                  |
| *Gatchells Playground                     | Brown School                                                  | Gas House Beach              |
| Green Street Woods Bike Park              | Coffin School                                                 | Grace Oliver's Beach         |
| *Hobbs Playground                         | Eveleth School                                                | Red Steps Way                |
| Memorial Park                             | Glover School                                                 | Fort Sewall turnaround       |
| *Orne Playground                          | *Marblehead High School                                       | Brookhouse Drive             |
| *Reynolds Playground                      | Lincoln Ave. Reserve                                          | Gallison Avenue Way          |
| Riverhead Beach                           | *The Village School                                           | Gatchells Green              |
| *Seaside Park                             | *The Veterans Middle School                                   | Lovis Cove Beach             |

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|                           |                                            |                                                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Vine St. Garage           |                                            | Gerry School                                             |
| <b>Other:</b>             | <b>Other Public Building's properties:</b> | <b>Conservation Commission Lands (As labor permits):</b> |
|                           | Abbot Hall                                 | Bicycle, exercise, & conservation trails                 |
| Traffic Islands (donated) | Abbot Library                              | Robinson Farm                                            |
| All Public litter barrels | Gun House                                  | Hamond Nature Center                                     |
|                           | Mary Alley Building                        | Forest River                                             |
|                           | OKO Building                               | Hawthorn Pond                                            |
|                           | Old Town House                             | Steer Swamp                                              |
|                           | Powder House                               | Wyman Woods                                              |
|                           | Tower Way Grounds                          | Ware Pond                                                |

### **B. RECREATION PROGRAMS**

The Marblehead Recreation & Parks Department was off to a busy start in 2025. A series of events and programs were offered and available for ages 2.5 through adult.

Pickleball classes, the sold-out weekly ski program, and our pre-school sports classes continue to be popular offerings in our community. Our events continue to draw large crowds to trick or treat through festive scarecrows or dance the night away at the Sweetheart Dance.

#### **Recreation Programs Offered by SEASON:**

##### **1. WINTER I Programs offered - Indoors ONLY (January – Feb)**

- Afterschool @ Brown School
  - o **NEW!** Art Club
  - o Games to the Max
  - o Kangaroo Club
  - o Super Girls
  - o Sports Programs, Coach Karl
- Afterschool @ Glover School
  - o Sports Programs, Coach Karl
- Afterschool @ Village School
  - o Writing Club
- Badminton Drop-in Courts
- Basketball Classes
- Basketball Leagues
- Basketball Scrimmages
- Chess Wizards
- Chinese Classes
- **NEW!** Clay Creations

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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- **NEW!** Dungeons & Dragons
- Karate Classes
- Soccer Classes
- Pickleball, beginner and advanced lessons
- Ski Bradford, Tuesdays
- Soccer, Futsal Boys
- Soccer, Futsal Girls
- Soccer League, Indoors
- **NEW!** Valentine's Sound Healing & Chocolate Meditation

### 2. WINTER II Programs offered - (March-April)

- Afterschool @ Brown School
  - Games to the Max
  - Kangaroo Club
  - Recorder Club
  - Sports Programs, Coach Karl
- Afterschool @ Glover School
  - Crafts & Books
  - Sports Programs, Coach Karl
- Afterschool @ Village School
  - Writing Club
- Badminton Drop-in
- Basketball Scrimmages
- Karate Classes
- Floor Hockey Classes
- NO School Day April 22
- Soccer Classes
- Soccer, Futsal Girls
- Soccer Scrimmages
- Sports & Games
- Super Soccer Stars
- T-Ball Classes

### 3. SPRING Programs offered - Indoors & Outdoors (May-June)

- Afterschool @ Brown School
  - Games to the Max
  - Kangaroo Club
  - Sports Programs, Coach Karl
- Afterschool @ Glover School
  - Crafts & Books
  - Sports Programs, Coach Karl
- Badminton Drop-in
- Basketball Clinics
- Cheer Clinics
- Field Hockey Classes
- Karate Classes
- Mountain Biking w/TheyRide
- Pre-school Mini Sports
- Pickleball Academy, beginner and advanced lessons

- **NEW!** Slime & Messy Arts & Crafts
- Soccer Classes
- Soccer Leagues
- Sports & Games
- Super Soccer Stars
- T-Ball Classes
- T-Ball Leagues
- **NEW!** Tennis Pre-school Lessons

#### **4. SUMMER Programs – Indoors and Outdoors (June – August)**

##### **Summer Program Participants by the Numbers**

- Playground Programs: **1,350**
- EAST COAST SUP Partnership Programming: **900**
- Youth Sailing: **275**
- Tennis Programs: **250**
- All Other Programming: **1,800**

##### **Summer Long Programs**

###### **Playground Program**

The Marblehead Recreation & Parks Department's signature Playground Program welcomed more than 150 children each week, with more than 1,350 participants throughout the summer—running from June 30 through August 21, 2025. The Director of the Playground Program and counselors provided programming and staffing for 1,350 kids aged 4.5-Grade 8 over eight weeks.

###### **Sailing Programs – Adult and Youth**

The Marblehead Recreation & Parks Department offers sailing programs for more than 275 adults and youth grades 3-9. It's designed for sailors of all levels of sailing experience to build confidence to feel comfortable and enjoy being out on the water! Class curriculum includes on land and on water coaching that teaches water safety and basic sailing techniques. The youth program is offered for seven weeks 9–3 PM and the adult programs are offered on evenings throughout the summer.

###### **Tennis Programs**

The Department Tennis Programs served up fun and skills for more than 250 youth participants throughout the summer.

Tennis 4 Kids: our beginner tennis program is a fun and engaging way to introduce kids to the sport of tennis for ages 4–grade 4.

Tennis Match Play: participants improved tennis skills and strokes with players of similar abilities for grades 4-7.

### **SUP East Coast Style**

The partnership with SUP East Coast Style provided programming to more than 900 participants throughout the summer. FUN and safety were the two main ingredients in all of SUP East Coast Style programs, available in full, half day, or hourly class programs from ages 3 through adult.

### **SPECIALTY Week-long Summer Programs**

The Marblehead Recreation & Parks Department offers specialty week-long programs throughout the summer including STEAM, sports and other unique programs:

#### **STEAM Programs**

- Chess Wizards
- Crime Scene Investigation, Marblehead Police Department
- Ghoul School
- Hogwarts STEAM Express
- IncrediFlix!: Animation Flix & Minecraft Movie
- LEGO Robotics & Engineering
- LEGO Robotics Master
- Minecraft Mania
- Nature Program: Glover Teachers
- Play-Well TEKnologies: LEGO Materials
- Scrapbooking
- Scratch Coder!
- Top Secret Science: 100 Hands-On Experiments
- Video Game Designer

#### **Summer Sports Programs and Clinics**

- Badminton Drop In
- Baseball Hitting, Giardi
- Correia Youth Soccer Clinics
- Basketball Clinic, Bugler
- Basketball Clinic, Moran/Giardi
- Field Hockey Clinics, Callaghan
- Field Hockey Conditioning & Scrimmages, MHS
- Football Clinic, Rudloff
- Football Wide Receiver/Quarterback Clinic, Evenings

- Fox Pickleball Academy
- Games to the Max: Brown & Glover Teachers
- Legends Summer Softball
- Magicians Baseball & Softball Clinic
- **NEW!** Mountain Biking Marblehead w/TheyRide
- MHS Strength & Conditioning Clinic
- Soccer Skills Development, Girls
- Super Soccer Stars
- Yoga, Lighthouse
- Yoga, Devereux Beach
- **NEW!** Youth Running, Coach Heenan

5. **FALL I Programs (September - October) & Fall II Programs (November – December)**

- Afterschool @ Brown School:
  - Art Club
  - Coach Karl Sports
  - Games to the Max
  - Music Games & More
  - Kangaroo Club
  - Super Girls
- Afterschool @ Glover School
  - Coach Karl Sports
  - Crafts & Books
  - Sports Fun with Coach Olivia
  - Traveling Chorus
- Badminton Drop-In
- Babysitting Class w/ Debbie LaFlame
- Basketball Classes
- Basketball League, Boys & Girls, Weekend, Ages 4.5–Grade 3
- Basketball Girls League, Grades 6–8
- Biking with TheyRide
- Chess Wizards
- Field Hockey Skills & Drills
- Field Hockey Clinics
- Fox Pickleball Academy
- **NEW!** Gagaball & Recess Games
- **NEW!** LEGO WeDo 2.0 Robotics
- Karate Programs
- Soccer Classes
- Soccer Leagues

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- Soccer Scrimmages
- Sports Fun & Games
- **NEW!** Squish Splatter  
& Slime
- Super Soccer Stars
- T-ball Classes
- **NEW!** Winter  
Wednesdays at the Rec
- Youth Basketball Clinic  
- Night Out!

### **2025 Public Events & Initiatives**

The Department launched a series of *new* and annually beloved events and programs in 2025 to meet the needs of our residents and families highlighted below:

#### **NEW! Chinese New Year – January 24**

Marblehead Recreation & Parks welcomed community members to celebrate the coming year of the snake! More than 50 children and families gathered to celebrate with hands-on craft stations and ceremonial festivities.

#### **Ski Bradford – Weekly Ski & Ride Program 2025**

The Recreation & Parks Department launched the annual six-week program on Tuesday afternoons to Bradford Ski Mountain. Every Tuesday, 40 kids in grades 3-7 packed onto a Healey Bus, chartered by Marblehead Recreation & Parks. The Department was able to lead and kick off the winter 6-week program because of high interest in our one-day ski programs as well as the driver availability of charter school buses through Healey Bus company. Each week Jan-March, 40 participants, 1 Rec & Park staff member and 3 parent volunteers traveled to the mountain for an evening of energetic skiing and outdoor winter fun!

#### **Sweetheart Dance – Friday, April 4**

Nearly 400 children and their special sweetheart attended this sold-out event with a live DJ, dancing, dessert decorating and more! This annual, beloved event sells out each year and is a highly-coveted, affordable, family soiree!

#### **An Egg-citing Egg Drop Challenge with Marblehead Fire Department – Sunday, April 13**

The Marblehead Recreation & Parks Department and the Marblehead Fire Department teamed up to provide the widely popular “Fire Truck Egg Drop Challenge”, during which children designed contraptions to protect a raw egg as it was dropped from the top of a 50-foot ladder fire truck. The event drew nearly 80 children ages 3 – grade 6 to enter the egg drop challenge.

#### **No School Day @ Gatchell’s! – April 22**

Marblehead Public School students did not have the full April break in 2025 due to making up school days. However, for the one “no school day” on Tuesday, Marblehead Recreation & Parks staff provided a fun and safe day of games, sports, and arts and crafts!

#### **Bug Out – July 11**

Young children joined Marblehead Recreation & Parks and Hands on Nature this summer to BUG OUT! Participants discovered some of our fascinating local bugs -



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such as beetles, worms, slugs, ladybugs, butterflies and caterpillars! The event included hands on learning stations: close-up observations of preserved North American insect specimens, views through bug-glasses; hands on build-a-bug activities, an insect-based craft project, a butterfly tent, and more!

### **Haunted Hamond: Summer Camp Gone Wrong! – October 25**

Nearly 500 children and community members experienced the terror of summer camp gone wrong through a lite scare or extreme scare preference!

### **2025 Scarecrow Stroll – October 18**

Nearly 900 children, families, and community members strolled and trick-or-treated through festive scarecrow designs. The 2025 Scarecrow Stroll drew the most scarecrows yet – more than 70 - from businesses, scout groups, and individuals. Highlights included a giant horse scarecrow from Crosby's, sports program themed scarecrows, timely K-pop demon hunters scarecrows and eager children enjoying cider from the Landing Restaurant.

### **2025 List of Public Events**

(\*Many new events highlighted above)

**January-  
February**

**Weekly Ski Trip Bradford Mountain, Tuesdays\*  
NEW! Chinese New Year – January 24**

**April**

**Sweetheart Dance – April 4  
Fire Truck Egg Drop – April 13**  
In partnership with Marblehead Fire Department  
**No School Day @ Gatchell's! – April 22, 2025**

**July**

**Bug Out – July 11**

**September**

**September No School Days: September 23 & 24, October 2 & November 10**  
Spend the day with our Recreation team for a fun-packed mix of games, sports, and arts & crafts that will keep kids active, creative, and smiling from start to finish!

**October**

**NEW! Scarecrow Station: Create with Us! – October 3**  
More than 50 children and families joined us on a sunny, clear Friday afternoon from 3-5:30 PM to paint & decorate a pre-built

scarecrow! Participants left the mess at home and joined us for an afternoon of creative Scarecrow-making!

**Scarecrow Stroll 2025 – October 18**

The sixth annual Scarecrow Stroll drew nearly 900 children, families, and community members together to stroll through the most scarecrow creations of any year – over 70!

**Pumpkin Decorating: Paint, Glitter, Glue and Foam Stickers too! – October 22**

Marblehead Recreation & Parks provided the pumpkins, paint, glitter, glue, and foam stickers too!—everything to inspire the imagination! In this sold out event, 50 children and families decorated festive pumpkins at Gathcells Park on a sunny fall day.

**Haunted Hamond: Summer Camp Gone Wrong! – October 25**

**December            Gingerbread House Decorating - December 3**

**D. NEWS & MEDIA**

**Stories on Events and Programs**

***Marblehead Current***

“Revamped leash laws may be headed to Town Meeting”

January 14, 2025

<https://marbleheadcurrent.org/2025/01/14/revamped-leash-laws-may-be-headed-to-town-meeting/>

***Marblehead Current***

“Town wins \$92K to make Devereux Beach more accessible”

February 10, 2025

<https://marbleheadcurrent.org/2025/02/10/town-wins-92k-to-make-devereux-beach-more-accessible/>

***Marblehead Current***

“YOLK’S ON GRAVITY: Marblehead kids conquer the egg drop”

April 14, 2025

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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<https://marbleheadcurrent.org/2025/04/14/yolks-on-gravity-marblehead-kids-conquer-the-egg-drop/>

### ***Marblehead Current***

“League of Women Voters Observer Corps: Rec & Parks meeting”

May 20, 2025

<https://marbleheadcurrent.org/2025/05/20/league-of-women-voters-observer-corps-rec-parks-meeting/>

### ***Marblehead Current***

“Kids learn skills, resilience at Green Street Bike Park”

June 18, 2025

<https://marbleheadcurrent.org/2025/06/18/kids-learn-skills-resilience-at-green-street-bike-park/>

### ***Marblehead Current***

“With \$2.6M proposal, Rec & Parks seeks to reimagine an aging rink”

July 1, 2025

<https://marbleheadcurrent.org/2025/07/01/with-2-6m-proposal-rec-parks-seeks-to-reimagine-an-aging-rink/>

### ***Marblehead Current***

“OBSERVER CORPS REPORT: Rec & Parks meeting”

July 18, 2025

<https://marbleheadcurrent.org/2025/07/18/observer-corps-report-rec-parks-meeting/>

### ***Marblehead Independent***

“Public-private partnership delivers major cost savings on Gatchell lighting project”

September 18, 2025

<https://www.marbleheadindependent.com/public-private-partnership-delivers-major-cost-savings-on-gatchell-lighting-project/>

### ***Marblehead Current***

“Boo! Several spooky Halloween activities coming to town”

October 8, 2025

<https://marbleheadcurrent.org/2025/10/08/boo-several-spooky-halloween-activities-coming-to-town/>

### ***Marblehead Weekly News***

“Fall favorite returns next weekend”

October 8, 2025

<https://marbleheadweeklynews.com/marblehead-scarecrow-stroll-contest/>

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### ***Marblehead Current***

“Marblehead Youth Basketball tips off 21st season”

October 11, 2025

<https://marbleheadcurrent.org/2025/10/11/marblehead-youth-basketball-tips-off-21st-season/>

### ***Marblehead Independent***

“Marblehead scarecrow stroll, contest takes place Saturday”

October 17, 2025

<https://www.marbleheadindependent.com/marblehead-scarecrow-stroll-contest-takes-place-saturday/>

### ***Marblehead Independent***

“Nearly 900 attend Scarecrow Stroll and contest in Marblehead”

October 19, 2025

<https://www.marbleheadindependent.com/nearly-900-attend-scarecrow-stroll-and-contest-in-marblehead/>

### ***Marblehead Current***

“Ice rink, other Reynolds Field improvements moving forward”

December 11, 2025

<https://marbleheadcurrent.org/2025/12/11/ice-rink-other-reynolds-field-improvements-moving-forward/>

### ***Marblehead Weekly News***

“Parks & Rec provide Coffin School update”

December 3, 2025

<https://marbleheadweeklynews.com/parks-rec-provide-coffin-school-update/>

## **E. DEPARTMENT STAFF**

The Recreation & Parks Department is very fortunate to have a great staff of full and part-time employees. Our employees strive to make a positive difference and are committed to our community, and, are willing to go the extra mile.

We want to thank the Department’s employees for their dedication to our Town’s natural resources and recreation opportunities. The following people worked for the Department during the past year:

- Peter James, Superintendent of Parks

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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- Jaime Bloch, Superintendent of Recreation
- Olivia Ballard, Recreation Supervisor
- Brad Delisle, Working Foreman/Building and Grounds
- Willis Iannarelli, Mechanic Maintenance Craftsman
- Greg Snow, Turf Specialist
- Kyle Cambece, Thomas Cronin, John Glabicky and Mario Otto, Maintenance/Groundskeepers
- Lisa Smith, Recreation Customer Service & Community Engagement Coordinator (*\*as of October 2025*)

There are more than 50 part-time and seasonal instructors and office staff who worked in the various recreation programs, playground, and other leisure services within the Department. There were also seasonal maintenance workers and caretakers for the parks, and summer maintenance workers.

The Commission would like to thank the staff of the Tree, Highway, Health, Harbormaster, Building, Schools, Finance, Municipal Light, Cemetery, Police, Fire, and Water/Sewer Departments for their continued support and the Town Administrator, Town Clerk's, and Selectmen's office for their assistance during the past year.

Every year there are many who volunteer with maintenance and coaching recreation programs for the Town. The Commission wants to express its thanks on behalf of all the residents who benefit from the countless hours volunteered, making Marblehead a great place to live.

Respectfully submitted,

Rossana Ferrante, Chair  
Shelly Bedrossian, Vice Chair  
Karin Ernst  
Chris Kennedy  
Larry Simpson

Matthew Martin, Chairman (*\*term end June 2025*)  
Linda Rice-Collins, Vice Chair (*\*term end June 2025*)

Peter James Superintendent of Parks, Town of Marblehead  
Jaime Bloch, Superintendent Recreation, Town of Marblehead

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### **SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

I hereby submit my report as Sealer of Weights and Measures for the Town of Marblehead from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. I have inspected, sealed, and adjusted or condemned a total of fifty-seven measuring units in town. Fees totaling \$741.00

Respectfully submitted

Leonard Rose  
Sealer of Weights and Measures

## **SHELLFISH CONSTABLE**

The contiguous beach which ranges from the end of Gallison Avenue to the end of the Veterans Memorial Causeway, known as Devereux, Tucker's, and Goldthwait beaches, were opened for the harvesting of surf clams on October 1, 2025. Marblehead is issued a conditional license to open our fishery by the Division of Marine Fisheries on an annual basis. The clamming season in Marblehead is historically during the months of October through April. The areas may open later and/or close temporarily during the season when storms and environmental issues arise. As of the writing of this report, there have been 60 licenses issued, 4 fewer than in 2024.

Monitoring clammers, checking water quality and testing of the clams is performed regularly by the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries and residents that have volunteered to serve as Shellfish Constables. Because of the diligence of our Constables, we have a very healthy fishery with many undersized clams paving the way for "keepers" in the following years. The primary shellfish in this location is the Atlantic Surf Clam (*Spisula solidissima*).

A license is required for anyone wishing to harvest shellfish and licenses must be obtained through the Town Clerk's office at Abbot Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Attridge, Chief Shellfish Constable

Constables:  
Douglas Aikman  
Raymond Bates  
David Donahue  
Rick Cuzner  
Jeffrey Flynn  
Eric Hawley  
Craig Smith, Asst. Harbormaster  
F. Webb Russell  
Jennifer Duffy  
Felix Amsler

## TASK FORCE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION



In the summer of 1989, a series of hate crimes horrified Marblehead and resulted in community outrage and condemnation. A concerned citizen requested that the Board of Selectmen appoint a task force in response. As a result, on August 2, 1989, the Marblehead Task Force Against Discrimination (TFAD) was established.

The TFAD updated mission statement is: “The Marblehead Task Force Against Discrimination is committed to ensuring that Marblehead is a respectful, supportive, welcoming, and inclusive community for its many diverse citizens and visitors.”

To accomplish its mission, TFAD responds to acts of discrimination, bigotry, hate, and intolerance; expresses the community’s condemnation of such acts; collaborates with community groups to provide programs that combat discrimination and promote respect; and seeks to support those affected by discrimination and hatred in Marblehead.

The Task Force would like all citizens to know about TFAD’s work and how to reach out for help if needed. For this reason, the Task Force continues to be grateful for the Town Moderator’s permission to display Marblehead’s No Place for Hate banner at Town Meeting.

In May, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month at the High School was chaired by student representative Maren Potter. There were several craft activities for students to try, including origami, paper lantern-making, and Chinese letter writing. The event was met with great enthusiasm and was instrumental in forging connections within the school, highlighting the importance of diversity and cultural appreciation while honoring the local Asian community.



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As part of its ongoing efforts to raise awareness, TFAD had a booth at the Marblehead Farmers Market on August 23rd, where members distributed leaflets detailing its mission and resources to help citizens and visitors in Marblehead reach out for help and report hate crimes and violence. TFAD's "No Place for Hate" stickers were distributed by TFAD members who were available to speak with community members and visitors about TFAD and its work in the community. Additionally, there was an opportunity to participate in a craft project developed by the Racial Justice Team, which was supported by the Task Force. The project was offered to youngsters to color a drawing, "Walk In My Shoes".



The Task Force Against Discrimination continues to hold monthly meetings. The Task Force is fortunate to have an Observer from the League of Women Voters at each meeting, who records the minutes and submits them to the local press. The Marblehead Task Force Against Discrimination and the Marblehead Racial Justice Team would like to thank the citizens of this magnificent town for promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion. During this past year, the citizens have held a town-wide celebration of the LGBTQIA+ community, raised the Juneteenth flag over our Town Hall, and honored transgender members of our community for their courage in advancing visibility and acceptance. Marblehead Pride stickers, which were created by Task Force member Reece Dahlberg, were also made available.

On November 18, 2025, in conjunction with the Jewish Community Center of the North Shore, the Task Force Against Discrimination hosted a discussion with Alice Hoffman about her newest book, When We Flew Away: A Novel of Anne Frank Before the Diary, for students at the Veterans Middle School. Books were generously donated by the Lappin Foundation, Marblehead Public Schools, and other community members to the students of Veterans Middle School, Marblehead Community Charter Public School, and the Epstein Hillel School.

In January, in honor of Rev. Martin Luther King Day, TFAD supported the Marblehead Racial Justice Team's Community Breakfast. Additionally, along with a proclamation by the Select Board, TFAD observed the Third Annual International Holocaust Remembrance Day, a commemoration declared by the United Nations in 2005. Jared Kaplowitch, a Marblehead High School Senior, shared the story of his survivor great-grandparents at noon at Abbot Hall and in the evening at Temple Emanu-El.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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There continues to be an unprecedented rise in antisemitic incidents. Chief King and Marblehead law enforcement have been vigilant in protecting the Jewish institutions and houses of worship. We appreciate all that TFAD member (ex officio) Chief of Police Dennis King, along with the officers on his staff, have accomplished in protecting our citizens and in investigating the incidents that have occurred throughout the year.

Marblehead is a “No Place for Hate” community, a designation earned through the Anti-Defamation League. Incidents of racism, ageism, sexism, anti-Semitism, ableism, Islamophobia, and homophobia run counter to that designation. Marblehead citizens will find our “No Place for Hate” stickers displayed on over 100 businesses in town and on the doors of schools, places of worship, and other public spaces. These stickers are a reminder that hatred, bigotry, and discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated.

We would like to remind all our fellow citizens that, in addition to the Task Force Against Discrimination, there are many resources available if you witness an incident or are the target of hatred of any kind. These resources include:

**Police:** suspected violations of the hate crimes law should be reported to the police in the first instance, so you can be informed of your rights. Please contact the Marblehead Police at 781-631-1212.

**Attorney General Andrea Campbell:** The AG has established a hotline managed by attorneys and staff from the AG’s office. While not every incident will be appropriate for legal action, the AG’s office tracks reports and may refer appropriate matters to local law enforcement or the Attorney General’s Criminal Bureau at 1-800-994-3228.

**The Task Force Against Discrimination:** Please reach us through the Selectmen’s office at 781-631-0000 or [wileyk@marblehead.org](mailto:wileyk@marblehead.org).

TFAD acknowledges the tremendous participation of member Maren Potter for her role as Marblehead High School student representative and wishes her well as she moves on to Northeastern University. The Task Force welcomed a new member, Veterans Middle School teacher, Maura Dartley-Rocco.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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The Task Force Against Discrimination continues to call on all Marblehead residents to join with the Task Force in its ongoing efforts to ensure that Marblehead is a respectful, supportive, welcoming, and inclusive community that values its many and diverse citizens and visitors.

Respectfully submitted,

Helaine R. Hazlett, Co-Chair  
Diane Gora Co-Chair  
Chief Dennis King, ex officio  
Christopher Bruell  
Reece Dahlberg  
Maura Dartley-Rocco  
Jean Guastaferr  
Deacon Joe Whipple  
Niko Vaughn King, student representative



## **TOWN MODERATOR**

Marblehead's form of government is Open Town Meeting, a tradition that places legislative authority directly in the hands of its citizens. Every registered voter is invited to participate as a Legislator, with the right to attend, speak, and vote on matters that shape the Town's future. Residents may also submit articles for consideration while the warrant is open.

Town Meeting serves as Marblehead's lawmaking body. Its primary responsibilities include reviewing and approving the annual operating budget, considering capital expenditures, adopting or amending bylaws, and acting on other essential articles brought before the Town. Through this process, Marblehead affirms its commitment to civic engagement, ensuring that the collective voice of its citizens guides the policies, priorities, and stewardship of the community. Open Town Meeting embodies the democratic values that have defined Marblehead for centuries, offering voters a direct role in decisions that sustain the Town's character and well-being.

The overwhelming turnout at our last recent Town Meeting, which required relocation to the Marblehead High School Fieldhouse, was both historic and inspiring. It reflected a deep and genuine interest in the Town's affairs and in the Open Town Meeting process itself. I am sincerely grateful for the support shown by the community and for the seriousness with which residents approach this responsibility.

As Town Moderator, I remain available to any citizen who has questions about Town Meeting or who is interested in participating. Whether you are submitting an article, attending for the first time, or simply seeking to better understand the process, I encourage you to reach out. An informed and engaged electorate is the foundation of Open Town Meeting, and your participation is essential to its continued strength and success.

Jack Attridge  
Town Moderator

## **VETERANS' AGENT**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

**THE MARBLEHEAD VETERANS SERVICES OFFICE WILL ASSIST AND SERVE ALL VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES WITH ALL VETERAN RELATED MATTERS. THE VETERANS OFFICE WILL GO OVER AND ABOVE TO HELP VETERANS/THEIR FAMILIES IN NEED IN MARBLEHEAD.**

Marblehead Veteran Services assists in applying for federal benefits through the Veteran's Administration. These benefits include enrolling in the VA HealthCare System, applying for a service-connected disability or VA Pension, Aid and Attendance, and much more. In some cases, there will be benefits for the surviving family members when their Veteran passes. The Commonwealth of MA offers state Veteran benefits, through MGL Chap. 115. Chapter 115 Benefits are financial, medical, and service benefits to qualified Veterans and their dependents who meet the income guidelines. Other local benefits include property tax exemptions and abatements, education, annuities, job training and mental health counseling, to name a few. We also assist with Food Gift Cards to help Veterans cover the ever-rising cost of groceries. Currently, there are 5 Veterans who receive Chap. 115 Benefits in Marblehead. In the last year, this office has completed and submitted approximately over 125 VA Claims for Veterans or their surviving family members for disabilities stemming from the Veteran's time in the Armed Forces. This doesn't include the many other benefits that have been applied for, such as Education, Burial Assistance, and more.

This office also assists and conducts funeral services along with local chaplains and VFW Post 2005. All those who served on active duty are entitled to Military Honors. Yearly, this Agent attends all required Federal, State and Association trainings and passes all required Certification Exams. Executive Office of Veteran Services has implemented a "Learning Management Training" curriculum for agents to complete and pass.

This office has, at a minimum two mandatory ceremonies per year: Memorial Day and Veterans Day. This office will continue to keep the traditions Marblehead holds near and dear to their heart for these ceremonies, as well as bringing in some new ones.

Due to the passing of two very important pieces of Legislation, The PACT Act and The HERO Act, the number of Veterans and their families who we serve has grown.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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We have teamed up with the COA to do regular get-togethers for Veterans, usually, a monthly Coffee, which has helped to spread the word about the increase in VA Benefits. We have also outreached to the various other organizations and resources Marblehead has, to better assist our Veterans.

In 2025, the VA made monthly payments to 221 Veterans/Family Members. Here is the breakdown:

### 2025 VA Payments to Vets/Surviving Spouses in Marblehead

| Vet Comp \$/# of Vets | Vet Pension \$/# of Vets | DIC Comp \$/# of Widows | Death \$/# of family members | Total \$/# in total paid out | Average per Payee |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| \$356,800.50/194      | \$6521.0/7               | \$28,633.16/16          | \$5602.0/4                   | \$397,556.0/221              | \$1798            |
|                       |                          |                         |                              |                              |                   |

This was paid out in 2025 to Marblehead Residents – all tax free, per month, with the exception of the Death Benefit, which is a one-time payment!

Respectfully submitted,  
Roseann Trionfi-Mazzuchelli  
Veteran Service Officer

## WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

The Water and Sewer Commission is a five-member elected board, members of which serve three-year alternating terms. Monthly public meetings are typically held on the first Tuesday of each month. A public rate setting hearing is convened every year. In 2025, the Public Rate Hearing was held in June. The Commission oversees the Water Department and the Sewer Department, both of which are enterprise funded.

### The Commission



The Water and Sewer Commission has suffered a great loss of an exemplary leader with the passing of F. Carlton Siegel (Carl). Carl began his tenure on the Water and Sewer Commission in 1989, starting a 36-year endeavor serving the rate payers of Marblehead. Carl served as the chair for 23 consecutive years since 2002.

Carl's tenure on the Water and Sewer Commission can be considered the longest time served since the combining of the separate Water Commission and Sewer Commission in 1980. He will be remembered for his practical wisdom, ingenuity, passion, and generosity in sharing his prowess and skillset regarding

all things water and sewer.

As a retired Professional Engineer who worked for General Electric, every project benefited from Carl's review. His ability to read blueprints and question how certain components were constructed or interacted with systems was second to none. He proudly served our Country in the U.S. Navy as a machinist where he developed a talent that he was more than gracious in sharing with the Town. His tireless efforts were recognized for quality and workmanship by his colleagues and the employees of the Water and Sewer Commission. Simply put, the Town, and in particular, the ratepayer, benefited from a better conclusion to all initiatives Carl was involved with, thanks to his dedication, and long-term vision.

Since 1989, the water department repaired 401 water breaks. Carl was onsite for most, if not all of these repairs. While onsite, you would always hear Carl offering advice and suggestions to the crew, often saying "measure twice, cut once".

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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His compassion for Marblehead residents was evident, especially at the annual rate study. Under his leadership, meticulous consideration of the water and sewer systems were contemplated to develop equitable rates for the safe and efficient operation of the Commission.

During his years on the board, he sat through 36 budget cycles, each requiring a minimum of 3 review sessions; reviewed by the Commission, Finance Committee, and Town Meeting. At every budget review session, Carl would open with “we will review water first and sewer last, we bring it in and then we send it out”.

Carl’s professionalism showed, as he was the ideal Commissioner. He has the ability to ask questions, collect information, and apply high expertise in so many areas so that he could guide the departments without micromanaging or becoming entrenched in daily operations of the departments. He spoke to the employees in a way that was unique to each one of us. His compassion for his workforce will be missed.

Carl understood the roles and responsibility of his elected seat and became a consummate Commissioner. Under Carl’s leadership, the Commission focused on the improvement and maintenance of water and sewer infrastructure that has been in place since early 1900’s. With emphasis on safety, Carl followed the philosophy, “work smarter, not harder”.

The Commission has developed two highly technical and efficient departments. As Chairman of the Board, Carl was always mindful of the Rate Payer. The majority of projects were completed on a pay as you go philosophy. Regarding larger projects, Carl advocated for ways to spread the cost over time, thereby keeping a steady rate and expediting construction time. The Sewer Relief Fund was utilized for the Marblehead Sewer Force Main Replacement under Salem Harbor’ and at Carl’s suggestion, it was voted by the board to take a 10 year loan saving the Rate Payer a million dollars in interest. The MWRA local assistance program, 0% interest loan, was used for watermain upgrades. A FEMA Grant for phase II of the Pleasant Street Drainage Project was awarded to the Commission saving the Town over 2 million dollars. During the 23 years Carl was at the helm, the Commission received seven awards of excellence. The staff at the water and sewer departments will miss his leadership, support, and most of all, his friendship.

### **Highlights of 2025**

#### **Water**

Marblehead received approximately 40.74 inches of rain during 2025. As you all remember, Marblehead experienced long durations of no rainfall during the hottest



months of the year. This resulted in increased water use which can be attributed to the many properties that utilized irrigation systems. The Commission encourages all residents to review their lawn maintenance plans and use best practices to conserve water. GREENSCAPES North Shore Coalition is an excellent resource for lawn care and gardening guidance: [www.greenscapes.org](http://www.greenscapes.org)

The water crew supported the major water main rehabilitation project that took place from March to October by operating water main gates for planned shutdowns, testing procedures, flushing of water mains, and providing support for the contractor whenever needed. Water gates that were needed for construction were tested during overnight shutdowns and replaced where required. 254 homes were connected to the temporary bypass for this water project. The water department was present at every appointment for both connection and disconnection, which often happened over the weekend.

The water crew also assisted 678 homeowners with the determination of water service line materials through onsite inspections.

### **Sewer**

The sewer department continues to make strides in the infiltration and inflow removal program. Inflow is where clear groundwater enters the sanitary sewer system through illegal connections. These connections are made directly to the sewer through sump pumps, floor drains, roof leaders or indirectly to the sewer through hoses into slop sinks. In 2025, twenty-five sump pumps were found. This number of pumps can theoretically put as much water into the system while they are working as 625 homes discharging wastewater. We all need to work together to eliminate these connections and if you are not sure please give us a call and we will inspect your system and let you know if the setup is correct at no cost to you. The cost of collecting and treating storm water that goes into sanitary system is passed on to all sewer rate payers.

If you would like further information on how you can minimize potential issues caused by Infiltration and inflow, visit [www.RESUMP.org](http://www.RESUMP.org) for more information.

The Sewer Crew supported and reviewed all work completed by the contractor during the sewer main rehabilitation project.

The Sewer Employees should be commended for their ability to be proactive during times of extreme wet weather and pump station operating restriction by deploying Emergency Generators and Bypass Pumps preventing possible sanitary sewer overflows.

## Capital Improvements Projects

### Water

#### Contract 190 – Water Main Improvements

In 2025, the Commission continued the multiyear water main improvement project with N Granese & Sons. This year, the Commission completed a combination of pipe replacement and cleaning and lining; both with the goal of improved water quality and increased fire-flow. Replacement areas focused on upgrading dead end water mains and elimination of these dead ends through looping where possible. Cleaning and lining areas focused on restoration of existing pipe to increase water quality and fire flow to those areas. 2025 was a large construction year for the Water Department. Overall, almost 2 miles of pipe was rehabilitated.

Replacement: Curtis Street, 1,000 feet of 6" unlined cast iron pipe replaced with 8"



*Figure 1: Cleaning and Lining Equipment*

cement lined ductile iron pipe. Roosevelt Ave, 1,000 feet of 6" unlined cast iron pipe replaced with 8" cement lined ductile iron pipe, dead end water main eliminated. Gerry Street, 600 feet of 6" unlined cast iron pipe replaced with 8" cement lined ductile iron pipe. Bubier Road, 2,000 feet of 6" unlined cast iron pipe replaced with 8" PVC pipe. Full replacement of 2 galvanized iron water services and public side replacement of 115 existing copper services and emergency service shut offs.

Cleaning and Lining: Rowland Street, 1,300 feet of 6” cast iron unlined water main cleaned and lined with cement. Cross Street water main dead end eliminated through connection to Rowland Street with 8” cement lined ductile iron pipe. Pleasant Street (Spring Street to Washington Street) 1,600 feet of 12” cast iron unlined water main cleaned and lined with cement. Pleasant Street (Lafayette Street to Vine Street) 1,800 feet of 12” cast iron unlined water main cleaned and lined with cement.

### **Burkes Tank Cleaning and Sample Station Installation**

In 2025, the Water Department began draining the Burkes Hill water tank to prepare for its scheduled cleaning. While it was drained, the Commission made the decision to install new sample taps at 3 varying heights within the water tank. This will give the Commission the ability to better track the water quality that is within the tank and promote improved water quality through turnover.

#### **Sewer**



*Figure 3: Exterior View of Sample Stations*

### **Contract 191 – Sewer Rehabilitation**

Following the infiltration and inflow plan developed in response to an EPA Administrative Order issued to the town in 2020, the Commission developed and procured a multi-year sewer rehabilitation contract which was awarded to National Water Main Corporation. This contract includes the spot repair and lining of sewer mains and manholes in the Clifton Pump Station District. Year 1 of the contract was completed in early 2025 with the following work: 4,521 feet of 8” sewer main lined with cured in place liner, 2,643 feet of 10” sewer main lined with cured in place liner,

117 service top-hats, 24 manholes cleaned and repaired, and spot repairs of approximately 168 feet of sewer main. This work allowed the Commission to take a step in eliminating the infiltration and inflow in the sanitary sewer system. In the coming years we will continue with this sewer rehabilitation work. Areas are chosen through extensive investigations including flow metering, smoke testing, review of historic records, and video inspections.

### **Contract 184 – Pump Station Service Replacement**

This contract was awarded to Dagle Electrical Construction Corporation and began in 2023. Supply chain issues caused major delays in completing this project. This project was completed in 2025 and included the installation of above-ground electrical boxes at Village, Nahant, Harbor, and Sumac sewer pumping stations. Completion of this project provides safety and ease of emergency power generation to the pumping stations.

#### **Engineering and Design**



*Figure 4: Nahant Street Pump Station Electrical Box*

**Haley Ward (formerly CES, Inc.):** The Commission’s Consulting Engineers provided support on many of the Commission’s ongoing projects:

- Water Service Line Inventory Program
- Contract 190 - Water Main Improvement: Year 2 field engineering, Year 3 Design
- Contract 191 – Sewer Rehabilitation: Year 1 field engineering, Year 2 design
- Burkes Tanks Sample Port Improvements

## Regulatory Requirements

### Water - PWS ID 3168000

In 2025, the Water Department continued its review of material for the 7,982 water service lines in Marblehead following the EPA revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule. To date, we have successfully identified 6,970 water services through a combination of record review and field inspections. We thank all 1,337 residents who have completed the self-reporting method of service identification. We are happy to report that no lead service lines have been identified and the majority of service lines in Marblehead are copper. The Commission is still working on identifying the remaining 1,012 services through continued record review and field inspections. If a property's water service line material is classified as unknown or is one of the 4 properties in town with a water service that is galvanized requiring replacement, a letter was sent to the property notifying that a further inspection was required to record the service line material. The Commission has taken a 0% interest loan with the MWRA which includes grant value for service replacement that meet certain criteria. The Commission recommends that you contact the water department (email: [water@marbleheadma.gov](mailto:water@marbleheadma.gov)) to confirm the year of installation and the material used for the water service. Should your service material be galvanized iron, the water department will be happy to discuss the procedure for water service line replacement. A grant under the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) was awarded to the Commission that provided 100% of the cost reimbursement for developing the water service line inventory and lead service line replacement plan. The Department continued to work with Haley ward to complete the tasks of reviewing existing records that contain information on material on the public and/or private side of each service, created an inventory form for the public to complete a self-investigation of the private side of their service while also offering appointments for the water department to complete this survey, excavation at multiple water service line locations of undocumented material were also completed.

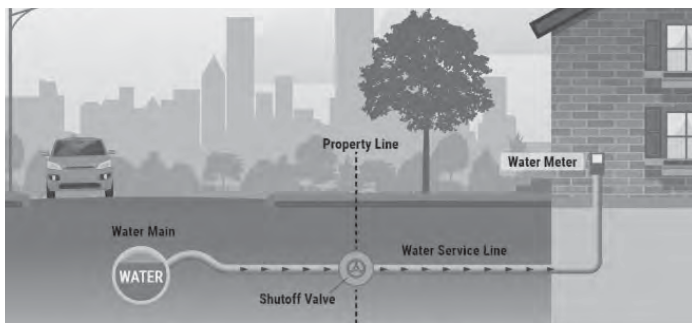


*Figure 5: Public vs Private Water Service Line*

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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In addition to daily monitoring of water quality, the Water Department collected over 300 water samples that were tested for coliform and other bacterial organisms to ensure that the quality of water provided meets U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (Mass DEP) drinking water standards.

Each year Marblehead tests 20 homes for lead and copper levels. The results were all below the Action Levels for lead and copper set by Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP).

|        | 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value | Action Level | MCLG | Samples Over Action Level |
|--------|-----------------------------------|--------------|------|---------------------------|
| Lead   | 2.11                              | 15           | 0    | 0 of 20                   |
| Copper | 86.8                              | 1300         | 1300 | 0 of 20                   |

Along with residential homes tested, the Commission annually selects two schools to participate in the Lead and Copper Program. In 2025, one lead sample from the four samples collected tested above the action limit of 15ppb. The school immediately took the fixture out of service, replaced the fixture, and completed repeat sampling. Results will be received and reviewed prior to the fixture being put back in service. All schools in Marblehead were tested in 2016. Sample results from 2016 to present can be found by using the links provided on the Marblehead water department's web page: [www.marbleheadma.gov/water](http://www.marbleheadma.gov/water).

The Water Department also completed the following regulatory reports:

- Annual Statistic Report,
- Consumer Confidence Report
- Cross Connection Control Program.

### **SEWER – Co-Permittee NPDES MA0100501**

The annual report required by the Marblehead Co-permit with SESD was completed and submitted in March.

In 2025, the multiyear contract to eliminate infiltration and inflow continued. The Department is targeted to meet the 10-year reduction quota for removal of Infiltration/Inflow from the Sanitary Sewer System.

The Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) Notification Plan included the purchase and installation of 10 Sign Boards containing information about beach and water quality. The Board of Health and Sewer Department were awarded a grant for this educational resource. The locations of these sign boards coincide with swimming areas, stormwater outfall locations, and sewer pump station locations.

The main reason for the installation of these sign boards is to provide the public with notification of beach closures and Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO's). An SSO is the accidental discharge of sewerage from the municipal sanitary sewer system. When an SSO occurs and it reaches the waterways, these sign boards provide a location for the Commission to notify the public. Simultaneously, these sign board provide a location for public education and resources about the sanitary sewer system, the stormwater system, and beach information.

SSO's are most commonly caused by blockages in the sanitary sewer system or the surcharging of the system during wet weather events. How can you help stop SSO's? By being conscious of what you flush and remove any illicit sump pump connections from your home. If you do not know if you have an illicit sump pump connection, please call the Commission for an inspection or go to [www.resump.org](http://www.resump.org) to request an inspection.

If you find yourself at the location of one of these sign boards, enjoy learning more about the Town's sewer and drainage systems and how you can help to stop SSO's and protect the local waterways.



*Figure 6: Completed Sign Board*

MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Reports were submitted to Mass DEP, EPA, Division of Marine Fisheries and Marblehead departments on four sanitary sewer overflows.

**WATER DEPARTMENT**

Marblehead received an average of 1.80 million gallons/day (MGD) of water from Massachusetts Water Resource Authority (MWRA) in 2025. This is higher than the pervious year’s average of 1.74 million gallons/day (MGD). The department operates and maintains the distribution system, which consists of over 100 miles of pipe, two pump stations, and a water storage tank. The eight-member crew repairs water main breaks, completes hydrant maintenance on over 890 hydrants, conducts biannual hydrant flushing, read and installs water meters, collects water samples, and responds to all emergencies and customer service calls 24/7. The crew assists residents with water usage issues and responds to any questions they may have concerning their water. Employees trained in water sampling monitor the water entering the system 365 days a year.

**Emergency Response**

The Water Department responded to and completed 6 water main break repairs. The Water Department’s emergency planning and training provided limited to no interruptions of water delivery during the repair work.

In 2025, the Water Department responded to 131 emergency dig safes requests. This requires marking out all water infrastructure in the requested area within 1 hour. Requests are received 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

The crew responds to all requests for pipe identification from contractors excavating in Marblehead.

**WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT**

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Water Breaks                    | 6        |
| 2. Hydrants Replaced               | 6        |
| 3. Hydrants Repaired               | 15       |
| 4. Backflow Preventer Device Tests | 308      |
| 5. New Water Service               | 10       |
| 6. Inside Valves Replaced          | 26       |
| 7. Water Services Repaired         | 3        |
| 8. Meter Program Replacement       | 46       |
| 9. Frozen Meters                   | 9        |
| 10. Radio Reader Installations     | 54       |
| 11. Main Gate Valve Exercised      | 434      |
| 12. Dig Safe mark outs             | 2,015    |
| 13. Leak Detection performed       | 1,500 ft |



**Water Department Employees:** Eric Hildonen, Working Foreman; Matt Cronin, Water Technician; Michael Marsters, Mechanic Pipefitter II; Corey Smith, Mechanic Pipefitter II; Jameson Hare, Mechanic Pipefitter I; Casey O'Brien, Heavy Equipment Operator; Andrew Bedrossian, Special Laborer; Samuel Andrews, Special Laborer  
The Commission would like to congratulate William Dow and wish him a long and healthy retirement. We would also like to welcome Samuel Andrews to the water department crew. Sam's attitude and work ethic have made his transition to the water team effortless.

### **SEWER DEPARTMENT**

The sewer department operates and maintains the sewer collection system, which consist of 28 pump stations, over 100 miles of pipe, and over 3,000 manholes. The eight-member crew inspects, repairs, and maintains the entire collection system; including sewer main cleaning, root control, fats oil and grease removal, daily pump station inspections, and preventative maintenance. The crew responds to all emergencies and customer service calls 24/7.

Marblehead sent an average of 1.78 million gallons per day (MGD) of sewage with an average of 79 lb/day of Total Suspended Solids loading and an average of 2,833 lb/day Biological Oxygen Demand loadings to South Essex Sewerage District. Following the Infiltration and Inflow plan, the Commission has inspected 6,582 properties and 550 illegal sump pump connections have been removed.

### **Emergency Response**

The sewer department completed root removal and resealing of a manhole on Bartlett Street. This manhole was a significant source of infiltration in the sewer system. Responded to all SCADA Alarms. Sargent Road pump station had restricted operations during a period where Pump #3 required repair.

The department responded to and corrected four SSO's in 2025. 4/22/25 339 Atlantic Ave. Cause: contractor bypass failure during sewer lining project. 4/22/25 357 Atlantic Ave. Cause: contractor bypass failure during sewer lining project. 6/25/25 Washington Street. Cause: Contractor broke sewer main. 8/6/25 Beach Street. Cause: Mechanical failure of Vac Truck during maintenance operations.

In 2025, the Sewer Department responded to 120 emergency dig safes requests. This requires marking out all sewer infrastructure in the requested area within 1 hour. Requests are received 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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### SEWER DEPARTMENT REPORT

- |                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Sewer Lines Cleaned          | 39,990 feet |
| 2. Root Treatment               | 19,241 feet |
| 3. Grease Control               | 5,734 feet  |
| 4. Wet Wells Cleaned            | 61          |
| 5. Lines Televised – Sewer      | 29,900 feet |
| 6. Service Repaired – Permits   | 19          |
| 7. New Services – Permits       | 12          |
| 8. Manhole inspections          | 51          |
| 9. Manholes Repaired            | 36          |
| 10. Pumping Stations Maintained | 28          |
- Emergency generators and alarms were tested weekly, and the maintenance and repair of all systems was completed. Work included Check Valves, Alarms, pump maintenance and rebuilds.
- |                |    |
|----------------|----|
| 11. Generators | 14 |
|----------------|----|
- Contract with–Sherborn Consolidated; Received minor and major maintenance
- |                                               |    |
|-----------------------------------------------|----|
| 12. Rolling Stock – Maintenance and Repair of | 31 |
|-----------------------------------------------|----|
- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 13. Electrical Maintenance |  |
|----------------------------|--|
- Contract - Jasco Electric
- |                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| 14. Dig Safe Mark Outs | 1,767 |
|------------------------|-------|
15. A sewer Crew visits the 26 stations 6 days a week and the larger pump stations 7 days a week. During these visits they maintain pumps, check valves, humidifiers, HVAC, alarms, sump pumps, lights, and wet wells. All this work minimizes catastrophic failures at our aging sewer system.
16. The Sewer Department has worked diligently to protect sewer utilities through means of sewer main inspections and marking sewer mains in all project areas, including National Grid, Department of Public Works, and Water Department projects.

### **Sewer Department Employees:**

Jonathan Morley, Working Foreman; Brian Conrad, Mechanic Supervisor; Michael Atkins, Mechanic Supervisor; Jim DeCoste, Station Mechanic Pipefitter II; Reginald Kernizan, Station Mechanic Pipefitter II; Paul Acciavatti, Mechanic Pipefitter I; Erik Sandgren, Mechanic Pipefitter I; Salvatore Curiale, Heavy Equipment Operator

### ADMINISTRATION

Our office staff has once again been active; processing over 30,000 bills while collecting over \$13 million in revenue, assisting with 283 real estate transactions, and addressing customer inquiries. The online payment program continues to be a

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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convenient bill payment option; customers can register for online payment at [www.marbleheadma.gov](http://www.marbleheadma.gov).

In 2025, the purchase of Munis by the Select Board altered the procedures of accounts payable and procurement for all departments. The Commission revised procedures to incorporate Munis, which ultimately increased all Commission employees' job duties significantly.

The GIS Technician made strides in enhancing the Town's asset management program with Geographical Information Systems. With his expertise, all town employees will soon be experiencing asset management in a map based environment.

**Office Staff:** Dianne Rodgers, Office Manager; Jean Johnson, Billing Technician; Lynne de Grandpre', Special Clerk; Erin McLaughlin, Special Clerk

**Field Support Staff:** Ian Parlee GIS, Field Technician; Anne Smith, Part-Time Clerk; Paul Jalbert, Part Time General Clerk; Mark Fulton, Part Time General Clerk

Since 2004, the Water and Sewer Commission has contributed annually to the Town's general overhead expenses. In 2025, the water department contributed \$145,448 while the sewer department contributed \$119,818. This financial contribution offsets the town services (not including health insurance) provided to the Commission.

The Commission offers multiple ways to obtain information about their departments. Frequently Asked Questions and general information can be found on the town website: <https://marbleheadma.gov/water-sewer-commission/>. Specific Questions can be emailed to [water@marbleheadma.gov](mailto:water@marbleheadma.gov) or [sewer@marbleheadma.gov](mailto:sewer@marbleheadma.gov). Customers looking for information on water quality and general source water information should visit the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority website [www.mwra.com](http://www.mwra.com).

Customers looking for information on the sanitary sewer system and sewer treatment plant should visit the South Essex Sewerage District website at [www.sesd.com](http://www.sesd.com).

The Commission would also like to remind the public to sign up for Sanitary Sewer Overflow notifications <https://resump.org/>. This website also offers information on how residents can help with the Towns Infiltration and Inflow Reduction Program.

Bethany and I would like to thank all the water and sewer employees for the exemplary work they provided during a year with multiple construction projects and new technologies that were implemented throughout the year.

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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As always, we encourage customers with emergencies or questions concerning Marblehead's water or sewer systems to call the office at 781-631-0102.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy McHugh  
Superintendent

Bethany Spangler  
Assistant Superintendent

### **Marblehead Water and Sewer Commission**

Thomas Murray (Chairman).  
Gregory Bates (Vice Chairman)  
Barton Hyte (Secretary)  
Greg Burt  
James Maher

## REPORT OF THE SOUTH ESSEX SEWERAGE DISTRICT

The South Essex Sewerage District (“SESD”) facility and staff provide the region essential wastewater treatment, keeping our waterways clean and protecting public health. The treatment facility fulfilled its mission throughout 2025 and performed these services to the Town of Marblehead within the approved budgeted amount. The Marblehead Water and Sewer Commission would like to recognize the employees of the SESD and commend them for their dedication to the member communities.

SESD celebrated the **Centennial Anniversary** of our wastewater treatment utility. From 1925 to 2025, SESD has served local municipal sewer departments by collecting and treating wastewater. In support of this essential community service, we process approximately 25 million gallons of wastewater per day, maintain 29 miles of interceptor and force main pipes, and serve approximately 190,000 residents and businesses from our member communities of Beverly, Danvers, Marblehead, Peabody, and Salem.

SESD is subject to MGL Chapter 59 Section 20B (Prop 2 ½). SESD is facing a crisis situation in 2027 and needs relief from this situation for two reasons.

1. Projected Operations and Maintenance Cost Increases.
2. Costs and debt association with capital upgrades.

SESD has prepared a Centennial Plan which identifies the capital improvements required to keep the treatment plant running efficiently, establishes a projection of costs, locates advantageous funding sources, and creates a schedule. For more detailed information on the Centennial plan, please contact SESD or visit [www.SESD.com](http://www.SESD.com).

The Town of Marblehead and the SESD are committed to protecting our surrounding waterways and the environment and providing outstanding service to the residents of Marblehead.

We would be pleased to answer any questions concerning the Town’s wastewater collection system or the related SESD facilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy McHugh  
SESD Board Representative



**SESD** Wastewater Treatment  
For a Cleaner Environment

**SOUTH ESSEX SEWERAGE DISTRICT****Expenses and Revenue Report****Town of Marblehead****Fiscal Year 2025**

Report Prepared by: Karen A. Herrick, District Treasurer

**REVENUE**

| <b><u>Description</u></b>          | <b><u>Method of Apportionment</u></b>                             | <b><u>Percent of Total</u></b> | <b><u>Marblehead Amount</u></b> | <b><u>SESD Total</u></b> |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Assessment Revenue                 | FY25 Budgeted Apportionment                                       | 12.09%                         | 3,150,539                       | 26,069,121               |
| Member Refunds Paid                | Actual                                                            | 0.00%                          | 0                               | (700,000)                |
| Chemical Reimbursements            | District Apportions                                               | 0.00%                          | 0                               | 0                        |
| Sewer Rate Relief                  | Fixed Amount Budgeted for Marblehead Utilization                  | 0.00%                          | 0                               | 0                        |
| Septage Revenue                    | District Apportions                                               | 8.25%                          | 4,750                           | 57,560                   |
| MCWT Loan Subsidies                | Based on Cost Apportionment Agreements                            | 0.00%                          | 0                               | 0                        |
| Interest Income, Investment Income | Actual & District Apportions Based on Average Monthly UFB Balance | 13.28%                         | 36,118                          | 271,921                  |
| Energy Savings Revenue             | Actual                                                            | 7.67%                          | 9,582                           | 125,000                  |
| Misc Revenue Other Income          | Actual                                                            | 8.12%                          | 87                              | 1,069                    |
| Special Assessment                 | District Apportions                                               | 0.00%                          | 0                               | 4,312                    |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>              |                                                                   | <b>12.39%</b>                  | <b>3,201,076</b>                | <b>25,828,983</b>        |

# MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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## EXPENSES

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Method of Apportionment</u>                           | <u>Percent of Total</u> | <u>Marblehead Amount</u> | <u>SESD Total</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 2000               | Based on Percentage of Flow                              | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 182,000           |
| 3000               | Based on Percentage of Flow                              | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 315,654           |
| 4000               | Based on Percentage of Flow                              | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 71,057            |
| 5000               | Based on Percentage of Flow                              | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 376,038           |
| 6000               | Based on Percentage of Flow                              | 7.70%                   | 17,560                   | 227,975           |
| 7000               | Based on Percentage of Flow - 3 Yr. Avg. Flow and Solids | 8.12%                   | 407,165                  | 5,013,978         |
| 7100               | Based on Percentage of Flow                              | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 16,764            |
| 7200               | Based on Percentage of Flow                              | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 19,767            |
| 7300               | Based on Percentage of Flow                              | 100.00%                 | 5,460                    | 5,460             |
| 7400               | Based on Percentage of Flow                              | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 23,365            |
| 7500               | Based on Percentage of Flow                              | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 18,405            |
| 7600               | Based on Percentage of Flow                              | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 37,606            |
| 8010               | Based on Percentage of Flow - 3 Yr. Avg. Flow and Solids | 8.12%                   | 251,491                  | 3,096,956         |
| 8020               | Based on Percentage of Flow - 3 Yr. Avg. Flow and Solids | 7.64%                   | 165,840                  | 2,170,964         |
| 8030               | Based on Percentage of Flow - 3 Yr. Avg. Flow            | 7.70%                   | 85,483                   | 1,109,788         |

# MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

| <u>Description</u>              | <u>Method of Apportionment</u>                       | <u>Percent of Total</u> | <u>Marblehead Amount</u> | <u>SESD Total</u> |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 8040                            | Based on Percentage of BOD                           | 9.01%                   | 116,407                  | 1,291,337         |
| 8060                            | Based on Weighted Percentage of BOD/TSS              | 8.20%                   | 479,811                  | 5,851,622         |
| 9000                            | Based on Percentage of Flow                          | 100.00%                 | 154,903                  | 154,903           |
| Special Assessment              | Actual                                               | 8.24%                   | 14,832                   | 180,000           |
| Principal – Long Term           | Based on Cost Apportionment Agreements               | 63.68%                  | 1,022,262                | 1,605,330         |
| Interest – Long Term            | Based on Cost Apportionment Agreements               | 27.82%                  | 47,250                   | 169,815           |
| MWPAT Loan Subsidies            | Based on Cost Apportionment Agreements               | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 0                 |
| MWPAT Administrative Fees       | Based on Cost Apportionment Agreements               | 10.09%                  | 14,020                   | 138,944           |
| Interest – Short Term           | Based on Cost Apportionment Agreements               | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 0                 |
| Debt Expense – Origination Fees | Based on Cost Apportionment Agreements               | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 0                 |
| Lieu of Taxes                   | Based on Cost Apportionment Agreements               | 9.50%                   | 47,510                   | 500,000           |
| Intergovernmental Fines         | Based on Cost Apportionment Agreements               | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 0                 |
| Stabilization                   | Based on Percentage of 3 Yr. Avg. of Flow and Solids | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 0                 |



MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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| <u>Description</u>    | <u>Method of Apportionment</u> | <u>Percent of Total</u> | <u>Marblehead Amount</u> | <u>SESD Total</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Transfer to CPF's     | Actual                         | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 0                 |
| Misc. Expense         | Actual                         | 0.00%                   | 0                        | 0                 |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> |                                | 12.53%                  | 2,829,993                | <b>22,577,726</b> |

|                                                                     |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FOR MARBLEHEAD</b> | <b>\$371,083</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals met in eleven regular sessions in **2025** from January to November, via Zoom, at which it took the following actions: approved **45** and denied **1** special permit request, granted **2** extension requests, allowed the withdrawal of **5** applications without prejudice, and sustained a building commissioner's determination as part of one Appeal petition.

Board members were Alan Lipkind, William Barlow, Leon Drachman, Benjamin Labrecque, and William Moriarty. The alternates were Bruce Krasker, William Rudolph, Christopher Casey, Marc Liebman. Special thanks to Lisa Lyons and Town Planner, Alex Eitler in the Community Development and Planning Department. The Board wishes him well as he undertakes new challenges abroad.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Moriarty  
Chair

## SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

### MARBLEHEAD SCHOOLS ON THE WEB

Information about all Marblehead Public Schools programs can be found by visiting: <https://www.marbleheadschoools.org>

### MARBLEHEAD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

<https://www.marbleheadschoools.org/school-committee>

|                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Sarah Fox           | Term Expired June 2025    |
| Brian Ota           | Term Expired June of 2025 |
| Jennifer Schaeffner | Term Expires June of 2026 |
| Alison Taylor       | Term Expired June of 2025 |
| Al Williams         | Term Expires June 2027    |

### ORGANIZATION

School Committee Chairperson, Jennifer Schaeffner  
School Committee Vice-Chairperson, Alison Taylor  
School Committee Secretary, Al Williams

### REGULAR MEETINGS

The regular scheduled meetings of the School Committee are held in the High School Library bi-monthly at 6:00 p.m. except during the months of July and August. School Committee meetings are broadcast live and recorded via YouTube. Links to the meetings can be found on the Marblehead Public Schools' website

### 2024-2025 SCHOOL HOURS

|                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| High School    | 7:55 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. |
| Middle School  | 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. |
| Village School | 8:00 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. |
| Glover School  | 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. |
| Brown School   | 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. |

## MARBLEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Marblehead Public Schools Mission Statement

Our Mission is to foster in our students a passion for learning, and to provide a safe nurturing environment in which they can develop the values, knowledge and skills needed to achieve full potential in their personal, social and work lives, and to become contributing members of society.

### Marblehead Public Schools Vision Statement

A model school district, exemplary in its student engagement and academic excellence, where all students meet their highest potential with the support of outstanding instructional leadership and in partnership with the community.

Aligning with this mission and vision, our primary budgetary goals are to provide students with the highest quality administrative and instructional staff, curriculum and assessment tools, and an environment conducive to the potential of greatest student achievement. Long and short-term strategic planning, and the budget process, drives the prioritization of these goals with student achievement and growth always at the forefront of planning.

## MARBLEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS PERSONNEL

### Administration and Administration Support Staff

| Name               | Position                                          | Telephone |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| John Robidoux      | Superintendent of Schools                         | 639-3140  |
| Julia Ferreira     | Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning | 639-3140  |
| Mike Pfifferling   | Assistant Superintendent Finance and Operations   | 639-3140  |
| LisaMarie Ippolito | Assistant Superintendent Student Services         | 639-3140  |
| Victoria Ryan      | Asst. Director to Student Services                | 639-3140  |
| Lisa Dimier        | Executive Assistant to the Superintendent         | 639-3140  |
| Kathleen Gustafson | Executive Assistant to Student Services           | 639-3140  |

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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|                        |                                              |          |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------|
| Kelley Ferretti        | Human Resources Manager                      | 639-3140 |
| Kristin Morello        | Asst. Business Manager                       | 639-3140 |
| Allison McMahon        | Payroll Coordinator                          | 639-3140 |
| Maria Sena-Rosales     | Accounts Payable/Receivable                  | 639-3140 |
| Stephen Kwiatek        | Director of Information Technology           | 639-3140 |
| Katie Farrell          | Database Specialist                          | 639-3140 |
| Todd Bloodgood         | Director of Facilities                       | 639-3140 |
| Lisa Manning           | Facilities and Transportation<br>Coordinator | 639-3140 |
| John Costantino        | Director of Food Services                    | 639-3100 |
| Kent Wheeler           | Athletic Director                            | 639-3100 |
| Mark Tarmey            | Asst. Athletic Director                      | 639-3100 |
| Caja Johnson           | METCO Director                               | 639-3100 |
| Meaghan Kalpin         | Lead Nurse                                   | 639-3100 |
| Carole Donnelly        | Special Education Chairperson                | 639-3112 |
| Lauren Skelton         | Special Education Chairperson                | 639-3190 |
| Ashlee Liebman         | Special Education Chairperson                | 639-3159 |
| Megan Aponte           | Special Education Chairperson                | 639-3120 |
| Susan Allen            | Special Education Chairperson                | 639-3100 |
| Michele Carlson        | High School Principal                        | 639-3100 |
| Lynsey Donaldson       | HS Asst. Principal                           | 639-3100 |
| Daniel Richards        | HS Asst. Principal                           | 639-3100 |
| Kari Roy-Githinji      | HS Front Office Secretary                    | 639-3140 |
| Kristina Gallagher     | HS Front Office Secretary                    | 639-3100 |
| Loretta Benman         | Guidance Office Secretary                    | 639-3100 |
| Linda Kuszmar          | HS Registrar/Student Activities              | 639-3100 |
| Matthew Fox            | Veterans Middle School Principal             | 639-3120 |
| Catherine Koch         | Veterans School Asst. Principal              | 639-3120 |
| Christine Beitz        | Veterans Front Office Secretary              | 639-3120 |
| Kim Falvey             | Veterans Front Office Secretary              | 639-3120 |
| Scott Williams         | Village School Principal                     | 639-3159 |
| Jennifer Emmett-Conrad | Village School Asst. Principal               | 639-3159 |
| Maryann McKie          | Village Front Office Secretary               | 639-3159 |
| Ingrid Lord            | Village Front Office Secretary               | 639-3159 |

MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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|                 |                               |          |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Mary Maxfield   | Brown School Principal        | 639-3112 |
| Linda Mills     | Brown Front Office Secretary  | 639-3112 |
| Ginellie Iraola | Brown Front Office Secretary  | 639-3112 |
| Frank Kowalski  | Glover School Principal       | 639-3190 |
| Dawn Whittier   | Glover Front Office Secretary | 639-3190 |

**Central Administration**

The 2024-2025 school year presented some challenges as a new leadership team began the work of aligning the district mission and vision to ensure relationship-building and trust were the focus of moving forward successfully. The administrative team worked with the school committee and the union to progress through collective bargaining, a strike, and into the balance of a school year where stakeholders began to come together in positive ways to ensure our students were being educated in safe, nurturing and appropriate environments; setting them up for academic and social/emotional success.

**The Office of Teaching and Learning**

The goal of the Marblehead Public Schools Office of Teaching and Learning is to fully align teaching and learning, grades preschool through twelve, within a multi-tiered systems of support framework to ensure all students meet or exceed academic and social-emotional learning expectations. The focus throughout the year was on ensuring students and staff had the resources needed to refine, broaden, and deepen curriculum and instruction alignment within Marblehead Public Schools. The leadership team and instructional coaches continued to work collaboratively with educators to plan professional development, which allowed for alignment among our Professional Learning Communities in support of instructional excellence and student achievement.

**Student Services**

The Student Services Department administrative team was new this year and focused primarily on establishing systems, expectations, and compliance with regulations. Professional development opportunities were provided to ensure appropriate training was in place and that staff had the resources necessary to service students. The department strived to build consistent processes and procedures so that there was consistency across all grade levels. The Student Services Department continued to collaborate with other administrative leaders and stakeholders such as the Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) to discuss bringing improvements to

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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the Department and the overall service delivery for students receiving special education.

The Lucretia and Joseph Brown Elementary School and the Glover Elementary School serve students in grades Prekindergarten through grade 3. The total number of students enrolled at the Lucretia and Joseph Brown School for the year ending June of 2025 was 447. The total number of students enrolled at the Glover School for the year ending June of 2025 was 319. The Village Elementary School serves students in grades 4 through 6. The total number of students enrolled at the Village School for the year ending June of 2025 was 513. The Veterans Middle School Serves students in grades 7 and 8. The total number of students enrolled at the Veterans Middle School for the year ending June of 2025 was 405. The High School serves students in grades 9 through 12. The High School also serves a population of postgraduate students. The total number of students enrolled at the High School for the year ending June of 2025 was 851.

### **2025 Scholarships**

Marblehead Dollars for Scholars

Oliver P. Killam Scholarships

National Grand Bank of Marblehead Scholarship

Marblehead Academy Scholarship

Philip T. Clark Scholarship

Arms Around Sophia Memorial Scholarship

Brooke L. Yanow Scholarship

“You Hold My World” Allie Castner Memorial Scholarship The Arrangers of Marblehead Garden Club Memorial Scholarship

Rotary Club of Marblehead Scholarship—*The Randolph E. & Barabara Goodwin Scholarship*

Rotary Club of Marblehead Harbor Scholarship

METCO—Tyrone Bumpurs Memorial Scholarship

Marblehead Arts Association Larrabee Scholarship

Marblehead Chamber of Commerce Scholarship

Marblehead Democratic Town Committee *Edwin L. Goldberg & Selma L. Goldberg Memorial Scholarship*

Rachel McKay Student Athlete Memorial Scholarship

Women With Promise Scholarship

Jason M. Garfield Scholarship

Richard Carey Williams, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Frances “Fraffie” Welch & Ed Bell Scholarship

MHS Class of 2004 Health Promotion Scholarship

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Philanthropic Lodge Scholarships

Karl Johnson Scholarship

Todd Norman Memorial Trades Scholarship

Todd Norman Memorial Athletic Scholarship

Magicians Gridiron Club Scholarships

The Willia H. Bray Memorial Scholarship, The Carey Family Memorial Scholarship,

The John O. Wolfgram Memorial Scholarship, The William Finigan Memorial

Scholarship, The Dr. George L. MacDonald Scholarship, The William Peabody

Memorial Scholarship, The Tremaine M. Roberts Memorial Scholarship, The C.

Elliott Roundy Memorial Scholarship, The Dr. Robert F. Jackson Memorial

Scholarship, The Earl & Betty Reynolds Scholarship, The Jeffrey Dropo Scholarship,

The John Larkin Scholarship, The Donald Flynn Scholarship, The William Esso

Haines Memorial Scholarship, The Bruce Jordan Scholarship, The Alex Kulevich

Scholarship, The Harriett Siegel Memorial Scholarship, The William Kiely

Memorial Scholarship, The Marblehead Youth Football Scholarship, The Arthur

Carey Memorial Scholarship, Herb Carey Memorial Scholarship, The Manny

Decastro Memorial Scholarship, The John Leary Memorial Scholarship, The William

Willis Scholarship, The Danny Sullivan Memorial Scholarship, The Gill Bray

Scholarship, The William Gillis Scholarship, The James Galante Scholarship, The

David Borne Scholarship, The Hilary Rockett Scholarship

William Gillis Memorial Scholarship

Friends of Marblehead Hockey Scholarship

Friends of Marblehead Basketball Scholarship

Marblehead All Sports Boosters Scholarships

David M. Stern Memorial Scholarship

Daynor Prince Scholarship

Stephen “Grids” Gridley Scholarship

James R. Galante Memorial Baseball Scholarship

Sterny’s Way Sports Scholarship

Sterny’s Way Arts Scholarship

Michael Robert Interest Memorial Scholarship

Jay Perry Memorial Scholarship

Marblehead Softball Little League Scholarship

Marblehead Youth Basketball —James Galante Memorial Scholarship

Michael Joseph Patrick Joyce Scholarship

Jeff Scogland Memorial Football Scholarship

Jeff Scogland Memorial Performing Arts and Visual Arts Scholarship

Wilhelmina Denning Jackson Art Scholarship

Tri-M Scholarship



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Friends of Performing Arts Music Scholarship  
Friends of Performing Arts Theatre Scholarship  
Friends of Performing Arts Theatre Scholarship in Memory of Jeff Scogland  
Marblehead Little Theatre Scholarship  
Shubie's Marketplace Hospitality Scholarship in Memory of Melanie Nangula  
Hatutale  
Marblehead Firefighters Local 2043 Annual Scholarship  
Marcia Joan Cronkhite Memorial Scholarship  
Adam Rosenthal Scholarship  
Alan D. Cashman Scholarship  
Bunny Hannaway Art Scholarship  
Chaplain Rollins VFW Scholarship  
Donald J & Barbara S. Gray Scholarship  
Gail Salinsky Scholarship  
Gary M. Ogan Memorial Scholarship  
Judy Haley Daponte Memorial Scholarship  
Marblehead Festival of Arts Scholarship  
MMEU Local 1776 Scholarship  
Ryan Walter Fader Memorial Scholarship  
Sarah Ellen Thompson Scholarship  
Susan A. Cohen Esposito Memorial Scholarship  
Tax Checkoff Scholarship  
Thomas L. Mulcahy Scholarship  
Walter Chapman Jr. Scholarship  
Zelia Hall Hodgkins Scholarship  
Gerry #5 Scholarships  
Butler Croteau Family Scholarship, Edgar Snow Doliber Scholarship, Howard  
"Wardie" Williams Memorial Scholarship, John S. Humphrey Jr. Fund Scholarship,  
John Stuart "Stu" Curtis Memorial Scholarship, Jody E. LaLonde Scholarship, Joseph  
Homan Scholarship, Matthew Leland Athletic Scholarship, Richard Tutt Scholarship,  
Robert D. Ross Memorial Scholarship, Ronald Champlin Memorial Scholarship,  
Thomas Hartnett Scholarship, Thomas Roche Scholarship

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### **2025 Graduates**

Valedictorian-Olivia Goldwater  
Salutatorian-Nicholas Regnault  
James Achterhof  
David Alexander Alpert  
Nicolas Lucius Altonian  
Tatum Margaret Amberik  
Julia Rose Aneshansley  
Nathaniel Owen Assa  
Madeleine Jean Auerbach  
Andreson Pereira Bacelar  
Austin James Bacon  
Bernardo Jr Bannis  
Margaret Allison Beauchesne  
John Anthony Bender  
Ella Lela Benedetto  
Finn Noel Bergquist  
John Lawrence Bickell  
James Peter Bickell  
Lucas Parks Birke  
Brandt Harrison Bishop  
Avrey Sandra Black  
Lucy Jane Bland  
Olivia Rose Bloodgood  
Jacob Robert Bobowski  
Marco Bonalume  
Maria Sergeevna Bondarenko  
Luka Bornhorst  
Laura Botnaru  
Cody Emerson Bouchard  
Benji Nat Boyd  
Isaac Howell Brenneman  
Carson Thomas Brooks  
Joey Aaron Brown  
Brooke Royce Brown  
Carley Jane Brown  
Jeremy Matthew Bunnell  
Juliet Grace Burchfield  
Elise Charlotte Burchfield  
Leo Nathan Burdge  
Brinleigh Sondra Callahan  
Thomas Paul Carlson  
Evan Michael Carroll

Savannah Dory Caruso  
William Patrick Cerrutti  
Abigail Lynn Childs  
Lorenzo Chizzotti Freire Gaudioso  
Ella Patricia Commoss  
Chloe Eve Conley  
Clive Dowling Connolly  
Thomas Patrick Conway  
Samantha Rose Cooper  
Campbell Meredith Crane  
Tucker William Crane  
Caroline Rioux Crosby  
Seamus Braeden Crowley  
Adelyn May Cruickshank  
Tristan Xavi De La Rocha  
Rachel Ellen Delisle  
Sean William Dolan  
Logan Jay Doody  
Ireland Belle Doran  
Gavin Wilson Drake  
Annabelle Plauche Drayer  
Max Victor Dressel  
Nicholas Alexander Dube  
Courtney Ryan Duffy  
Connor Adrian Dunleavy  
Charlotte Amalie Dye  
Connor Charles Dyer  
Sophie Penelope Emmanuel  
Iyanuth Eung  
Ethan Ori Farfel  
Gunther Albert Fehrenbach  
Gavin Michael Ferretti  
Madeline Mae Ferris  
Paige Sydney Fletcher  
Quentin Mercer Fletcher  
Madison Carney Forbes  
Reese Mizner Friedman  
Julius James Galante  
Yandel Nmn Garcia  
Dante John Genovesi  
Lucio Geraci  
Ramona May Gillett  
Dylan James Gilmore  
Lani Rose Gilmore

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Ari Tyler Gold  
Drew Samuel Goldman  
Olivia Winter Goldwater  
Justin Emmanuel Gonzalez  
Abigail Rose Goodwin  
Cole Westcott Goodwin  
Sarah Grace Gorham  
Marc Joseph Grazado  
Brayden Ryan Greenway  
Claudio Eduardo Gusmao Gonzalez  
Zoi Angeliki Guzzini  
Jamie Stella Haliotis  
Maxine Wyman Hall  
Alexis Ingalls Hallisey  
Raine Jean Hamilton  
Maxwell Emerson Hart  
Kyle Brooks Hart  
Camden Warner Harvey  
Andualem Eric Tadele Hawley  
Henry Rene Hays  
Sean Hunter Heenan  
Gabrielle Marjorie Hendy  
Jacob Joseph Hershfield  
Olivia Grace Hodgkinson  
Courtney Anne Hoguet  
Olivia Grace Homan  
Aria Hoover  
Ethan Michael Horgan  
Nathan Russell Jaffe  
Jayden Elijah Janock  
Samuel Blue Jendrysik  
Miles Violet Jenkins  
Sophia Frances Johns  
Nina Elise Johnson  
Nicholas Jemsic Jones  
Arielle Nicole Kahn  
Anya Alina Kane  
Jared Jack Kaplowitch  
Aribelle May Karas  
Eliza Brewster Kay  
Scarlett Kate Kindle  
Courtney Elaine Klocker  
Ava Victoria Laham  
Valerie Janna Leblanc  
Sierra Rose Leinberry

Gavin Mitchell Lepler  
Kenny Louis  
Shane Aris Lucas  
Ava Grace Machado  
James Christopher Mackenzie  
Nattapong Mahantasanpong  
Cade Ryan Mahoney  
Rebecca Elizabeth Mann  
Edith Magnolia May  
Ian Bruce McComish  
Justin Douglas McDonald  
Jordan David McFarlane  
Lyla Brooke McGovern  
Caleb Shane Merriam  
Luke Jameson Miller  
Sonia Blunn Miller  
Crew Cammett Monaco  
Jayvery Bettencourt Monegro  
Adelaide Parker Mooney  
Reece Oelzner Moore  
Kyran Preston Moore  
Kiernan Charles Moss  
Bridgette Eleanor Moss  
Alidor Joseph-Beia Mulombe  
Charles Soule Murray  
Oliver Thomas Murtagh  
Lilah Asher Nagel  
Owen Filene Newburg  
Grady Walton Norfleet  
Jason Edward Novik  
Hannah Niamh O'Brien  
Sean Robert O'Grady  
Jose Ambiorix Ortega Cepeda  
Nourin Mohamed Osman  
Megan Kelly Parkman  
Elizabeth Miriam Payson  
Abigail Rose Peach  
Edysael Pena Rosario  
Edoardo Pezzoli  
Reese Marika Pignato  
Gregory Isaac Podstrelov  
Gary Anisim Podstrelov  
Jonah Potach  
Maren Zoey Potter  
Leah Tierney Power

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Callie Alyssa Prince  
Joseph Michael Proulx  
James Matthew Pulido  
Cameron Joseph Quigley  
Rory Jones Raitto  
Nicolas Alexander Regnault  
Ezra Finnegan Reid  
Nathaniel James Ricciuti  
Genevieve Elizabeth Riegler  
Harrison Tiemann Robbins  
Sophie Elizabeth Robinson  
Leonardo Kane Rosato  
Pietro David Rose  
Nathaniel French Rosen  
Charlotte Skye Roszell  
Gabriel Antonio Ruiz  
Caitlyn Margaret Ryan  
William Martin Ryan  
Carter Burke Sahagian  
Aeva Marie Salem  
Bohdan Dorosaenko Schaye  
Brady Hayden Selvais  
Siena Valentine Shacter  
Stefan Magnus Shepard  
Matthew Bana Sherf  
Sydney Jean Shull  
Lilah Elise Lujian Siegel  
Stephen Julius Slavet  
Boden Alexander Smith  
Gretchen Katherine Smith  
Madison Abigail Smith-Miller  
Jeremy Adam Sorkin

Gianna Marie Stellato  
Jordyn Nicole Stritzke  
Peter David Sullivan  
Quinn Robert Sullivan  
Carter Caroline Sullivan  
Aoife Cait Sullivan  
Thomas Tadesse  
Samuel Edward Tanger  
Talia Rue Tanger  
Cheyenne Elizabeth Tarasuik  
Samuel William Abbot Thompson  
Marin Margaret Diane Tiffany  
Liam Robert Tolan  
Paige Nieman Tredwell  
Anthony Arion Vizio  
Aidan Apollo Vizio  
Yuri Volkov  
Jonathan Colt Wales  
Graydon Allen Waller  
Nadia Noor Warab  
Brady Allan Weed  
Jack Shiloh Whalen  
Colin Robert White  
Leonardo Julius Winocour  
Sydney Claire Woodard  
Genevieve Thea Wykes  
Benjamin Leo Zaltsman  
Benjamin Franklin Zamansky  
David Royal Zampese  
Morgan Beth Zion  
Emma Davis Zurn

**2026 Annual Town Meeting Warrant**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
County of Essex, ss  
to Any Constable in the Town of Marblehead  
Greeting:

You are hereby required and directed in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to warn and give notice to the inhabitants of Marblehead, qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Marblehead High School, Field House, 2 Humphrey Street, Marblehead, MA, on Monday, the fourth day of May next A. D. 2026 (it being the first Monday in May) at 7:00 o'clock in the afternoon to act on the following articles in the Warrant for said meeting as follows:

**ARTICLE 1: Articles in Numerical Order**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt an order requiring articles in the Warrant to be taken up in their numerical order, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 2: Reports of Town Officers and Committees**

To receive the report of the Town Accountant, the reports of the Town Officers, and special committees, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 3: Consent Articles**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the following consent articles:

**f. Assume Liability**

That the Town will assume liability in the manner provided by Section 29 of Chapter 91 of the General Laws, for all damages that may be incurred by work to be performed by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for the improvement, development, maintenance and protection of tidal and non-tidal rivers and streams, harbors, tidewaters, foreshores and shores along a public beach in accordance with Section 11 of Chapter 91 of the General Laws and authorize the Select Board to execute and deliver a bond of indemnity therefore to the Commonwealth. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**g. Accept Trust Property**

That the Town will vote to accept certain trust property, gifts or grants to be administered by the Town or modify the terms thereof. Sponsored by Town Counsel.

**h. Lease Town Property**

That the Town will vote to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to let or lease such land, buildings or structures owned by the Town on such terms as they may determine. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**i. Contracts in Excess of 3 Years**

That the Town will authorize the Select Board, pursuant to G. L. c. 30B § 12, to enter into contracts in the best interest of the Town in excess of three (3) years but not more than ten (10) years. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**j. Financial Assistance for Conservation**

That the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission and other proper officers of the Town to apply for financial assistance from public and private sources to be expended by the Conservation Commission for the purchase of vacant land and any other purpose, authorized by Section 8C of Chapter 40 of the General Laws as amended, or to reimburse the Town for sums of money expended for such purposes or both. Sponsored by the Conservation Commission.

or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 4: Amend Zoning Bylaw - 3A Multi-Family Overlay District**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw and map to adopt a 3A Multifamily Overlay District by adding a new provision, as follows:

**Amendment #1**

ARTICLE 200-43.

B. Purpose. The purposes of 3A Multi-family Overlay District (3A Overlay) are:

- (7) To lower the permitting barrier for multifamily housing and to comply with the MBTA Communities Act, G.L. c. 40A § 3A;
- (8) To allow as-of-right multi-family housing in a variety of overlay zoning districts; and
- (9) To ensure high-quality site planning, architecture, and landscape elements that are consistent with the visual identity of the Town of Marblehead.

C. Scope and authority.

- (1) The 3A Multifamily Overlay District is superimposed over the underlying zoning district (s) as shown on the 3A Multifamily Overlay District Map dated [insert date], which is hereby made part of the Zoning Map of the

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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Town of Marblehead. The use and dimensional regulations and all other provisions in the underlying district(s) shall remain in full force except for uses allowed in the 3A Overlay. At the option of the owner, development of land within a 3A Overlay may be undertaken through the plan approval process under this § 200-43 or by complying with all applicable requirements of the underlying district. Uses and dimensional controls of the 3A Overlay are not subject to any special permit requirements of the underlying district or applicable overlay districts.

- (2) The 3A Overlay consists of two subdistricts: the Broughton Road 3A Subdistrict and the Tedesco 3A Subdistrict. The boundaries of each district are as shown on the 3A Multifamily Overlay District Map

D. Definitions. All definitions are as they appear in §200-7 and §20-44D of this Bylaw. To the extent that there is any conflict between §200-44 and G.L. c. 40A, § 3A, the latter shall control.

E. Use Regulations.

- (1) The following uses shall be permitted subject to plan approval:

| Table D: Permitted Uses         |                               |                        |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Residence Uses                  | 3A Broughton Road Subdistrict | 3A Tedesco Subdistrict |
| Multifamily development project | Yes                           | Yes                    |
| Mixed-use development project   | No                            | Yes                    |

- (2) Nonresidential uses permitted as-of-right in the underlying district(s) are permitted as part of a mixed-use development project in the 3A Tedesco Subdistrict.

- (3) Prohibited uses or activities in the 3A District.

(a) Any use prohibited by the underlying zoning in effect as of the date of adoption of this Bylaw.

(b) Any use not listed in § 200-43D is expressly prohibited.

F. Dimensional Regulations.

- (1) New buildings within the 3A Overlay shall be subject to the bulk, dimensional, and density requirements in Table E, Table of Dimensional and Density Requirements:

| Table E: Dimensional and Density Requirements |                               |                        |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
|                                               | 3A Broughton Road Subdistrict | 3A Tedesco Subdistrict |
| Minimum lot area (sq. ft.)                    | 7,460                         | 27,460                 |
| Maximum Residential Density (units/acre)      | 19                            | 25                     |
| Minimum frontage (lin. ft.)                   | 35                            | 35                     |
| Minimum front setback (lin. ft.)              | 6                             | 6                      |
| Minimum side setback (lin. ft.)               | (a)                           | (a)                    |
| Minimum rear setback (lin. ft.)               | (a)                           | (a)                    |

Notes to Table E:

(a) Except as to any boundary abutting any other business district, six feet; as to any boundary abutting any residential district, nine feet. May be reduced at the discretion of the approving authority.

(b) One square foot of open land area (in addition to the areas of required parking spaces on the lot) for each two square feet of gross floor area.

- (2) Renovation of existing buildings may maintain the existing building footprints and may expand them only to the extent that the expansion complies with the dimensional requirements for new buildings.
- (3) When applying the allowable density in Table E, Table of Dimensional and Density Requirements results in a number that includes a fraction, the fraction shall be rounded up to the next whole number if it is 0.5 or greater. If the result includes a fraction below 0.5, the fraction shall be rounded down to the next whole number.
- (4) Signage. Commercial signage proposed within a mixed-use development project shall comply with the Marblehead Sign Bylaw, Chapter 148 of the Marblehead General Bylaws, in effect as of the date of adoption of this § 200-43.

G. Off-Street parking.

- (1) Off-street parking shall comply with the following minimum requirements:

| Table F: Off-Street Parking Requirements |                               |                        |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
|                                          | 3A Broughton Road Subdistrict | 3A Tedesco Subdistrict |
| Dwelling unit (2 or more bedrooms)       | 2.0                           | 2.0                    |
| Nonresidential use                       | N/A                           | 1.0 space/300 sq. ft.  |

- (2) Fractional spaces. When applying the minimum required parking standards in § 200-43F results in a number that includes a fraction, the fraction shall be rounded up to the next whole number if it is 0.5 or greater. If the result includes a fraction below 0.5, the fraction shall be rounded down to the next whole number.
- (3) Location of parking. Any surface parking lot shall be located at the side or rear of a building, relative to any public right-of-way or public open space. Subsurface parking that requires blasting may be disallowed if the approving authority finds, based on the results of a geotechnical analysis, that it is not



possible to mitigate any extraordinary adverse impact of blasting on nearby properties.

- (4) During the plan approval process, the approving authority may modify the parking requirements in Table F or prescribe safeguards and conditions as it deems appropriate, provided it finds that:
  - (a) Meeting the requirements in Table F is impractical for the proposed development;
  - (b) The modifications are appropriate for the proposed use; and
  - (c) The modifications will not result in or exacerbate existing parking or traffic problems in or near the proposed development.
- (5) The approving authority may impose use or occupancy conditions appropriate to the modifications.
- (6) Each parking space shall be at least nine feet wide and 18 feet long and shall be designed with appropriate means of vehicular access to a street as well as maneuvering areas. Access and maneuvering areas shall not be obstructed or used for the parking of motor vehicles.

H. Design standards.

- (1) To ensure that new development shall be of high quality, all applications shall comply with the Town of Marblehead Smart Growth Overlay District design standards as approved by the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) on May 1, 2009 (“Design Standards”). The Design Standards shall govern the issuance of plan approvals for development projects within the 3A Districts. All applicants shall file an application with the plan approval authority for development projects within 3A Districts. In the event of any conflict between this Bylaw and the Design Standards, this Bylaw shall govern.
- (2) The following additional requirements shall apply to structures in the 3A district:
  - (a) All structures shall have a 9 x 12 pitch gable roof.
  - (b) Dormers shall be permitted, provided that:
    - (i) No dormer shall exceed the peak of the roof;
    - (ii) There shall be a clear visual separation between the roof eaves of the building and the dormer; and
    - (iii) There shall be at least three feet of space between the side walls of the dormer and the edges of the roof; and
    - (iv) Each dormer shall have clear windows only on the front wall, accounting for at least 25 percent of the wall area.
  - (c) All windows shall be double-hung.
  - (d) All siding shall be clapboard.

- (3) The following site development and landscaping requirements shall apply to development projects in the 3A Overlay District:
- (a) A landscaping plan prepared by a registered landscape architect with a valid Massachusetts license shall be submitted as part of the plan approval submission process and shall comply with the plan approval authority's 3A Overlay Rules and Regulations. Landscape plans should be designed to integrate with building placement, circulation, and open space, thereby creating a cohesive environment.
  - (b) Plantings shall include species that are native or adapted to the region. Plants on the Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List, as may be amended, shall be prohibited.
  - (c) A landscape edge shall be provided along public street frontages and maintained consistent with the requirements of this section.
  - (d) Street trees should be provided along the property line. Wherever possible, the trees should match the existing street trees in type and planting detail. Existing rows of trees along a street should be maintained.
    - (i) Shade trees should be provided at an average rate of one tree per 15 lineal feet of street frontage, preferably planted as groups of trees than rigidly spaced apart and located between 12 to 20 feet away from the traveled way. The caliper width shall be not less than two and one-half inches in diameter.
    - (ii) Transitional buffers shall be required between properties in the 3A Overlay and abutting residential districts to create a compatible transition with the surrounding neighborhoods. Landscaping within buffer areas may include shade, ornamental, or evergreen varieties, considering the quality and character of existing vegetation, soil types, light conditions, drainage, and so forth.
  - (e) Parking Area Design.
    - (i) Parking Area Plantings. In parking lots containing 30 or more spaces, a minimum of one deciduous shade or ornamental tree and two shrubs, exclusive of any required perimeter plantings, shall be planted for every 3000 square feet of parking lot. When planted, deciduous trees shall have a minimum height of 10 feet or a caliper width not less than two and one-half inches in diameter.
    - (ii) Trees and soil plots shall be so located as to provide visual relief and wind interruption within the parking area, and to assure safe patterns of internal circulation.
    - (iii) In parking lots with more than 75 spaces, the expanse of pavement shall be interrupted by separating rows of parking spaces from each

other by installing a combined planting strip and sidewalk at least eight feet in width. Design of planting strips and sidewalks shall take into account the need to store snow, locate light poles, install deciduous trees, and allow safe pedestrian movement. In addition, if an existing parking lot is expanded to over 75 spaces, planting strips and sidewalks may be required for the entire lot as determined by the plan approval authority. All proposals to construct or modify parking lots shall be approved by the plan approval authority.

- I. Affordable housing. Affordable Housing Requirements shall apply to any development under this § 200-43. In any development with more than six dwelling units, at least 10 percent of the units shall be affordable for households with income not exceeding 80 percent of the area median income as determined by EOHLC.
- J. Administration. The Planning Board shall act as the approving authority and shall adopt Rules and Regulations to implement this § 200-43. The Board's Rules and Regulations shall include, at a minimum, administrative rules and submission requirements and procedures for plan review, and shall be filed with the Town Clerk. The plan review process for development under this § 200-43 shall be as provided under § 200-44(K), together with any rules and regulations adapted by the Planning Board to administer this § 200-43.
- K. Effective Date. The effective date of this § 200-43 shall be the date of adoption by Town Meeting. However, no applicant shall proceed with construction pursuant to this § 200-43 until final approval by the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General.
- L. Severability. The provisions of this § 200-43 are severable. If any provision of this § 200-43 is held invalid, the other provisions shall not be affected but shall remain in full force.

#### **Amendment #2**

To amend the Marblehead Zoning Map by adding the 3A Multifamily Overlay District and its two subdistricts: the Broughton Road District and Tedesco District. The boundaries of the two districts are delineated as 3A Broughton Road Subdistrict and 3A Tedesco Subdistrict are as shown in the 3A Multifamily Overlay District Map dated February 11, 2026, which is hereby incorporated in the Marblehead Zoning Map and which is on file with the Town Clerk.

Or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 5: Amend Zoning Bylaw - Accessory Dwelling Units**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Marblehead Zoning Bylaws Accessory Dwelling Units, as follows (**underline and bold is new language** and ~~cross out~~ is removed language) and change all the rubrics accordingly.

§ 200 Article IX, § 200-42. Accessory dwelling units.

A. Purpose. This section authorizing the provision of accessory dwelling units is intended to:

- (1) Increase the number of small dwelling rental units available in the Town;
- (2) Increase the number of affordable rental units available in Town;
- (3) Increase the range of choice of housing accommodations to meet the needs of households;
- (4) To increase the supply of housing and the diversity of housing options, in response to demographic changes such as smaller households and older households;
- (5) To encourage the efficient use of the Town's housing supply while preserving the character of the town's neighborhoods;
- (6) To maximize privacy, dignity, and independent living among family members preserving domestic family bonds as well as to protect the stability, property values, and the residential character of the neighborhood.

B. General requirements.

- (1). Accessory dwellings units shall only be permitted in a zoning district that permits single-family residential dwellings.
- (2). No more than one accessory dwelling unit shall be permitted for each principal dwelling unit.
- (3). Accessory dwellings units are only allowed in or as an accessory to **Principal Dwellings** ~~single family dwellings~~.
- (4). Accessory dwelling units are allowed within or attached to an existing **Principal Dwelling** ~~single family structure~~ or detached accessory building **that is affixed to a foundation with a permanent foundation** and that is accessory to **an** existing **Principal Dwelling** ~~single family structure~~.
- (5). Short-term rentals, as defined, are prohibited in both the accessory and principal dwelling units.

C. Exterior appearance and size. The accessory dwelling unit shall be designed to maintain the appearance and essential character of **the Principal Dwelling** ~~a one-~~

family dwelling with accessory structures, subject further to the following conditions and requirements:

- (1).** Where two or more entrances exist on the front facade of a dwelling, one entrance shall appear to be the principal entrance and other entrances appear to be secondary.
- (2).** All stairways to the accessory dwelling unit above the first floor shall be located on the rear or side of the dwelling.
- (3).** The accessory dwelling unit shall not contain in excess of 900 square feet of gross floor area or exceed 50% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is less.
- ~~**(4).** The accessory dwelling unit shall not contain more than two bedrooms.~~
- (45).** The accessory dwelling unit shall meet all regulations of the Board of Health.
- (56).** The accessory dwelling unit shall be clearly subordinate in use, size and design to the principal dwelling.

D. Procedure. For all detached accessory dwelling units or accessory dwelling units which require a change in footprint or height and which are attached to the principal dwelling, shall require Site Plan Review by the Planning Board in accordance with section 200-38 hereof and which the Planning Board shall approve or approve with conditions but shall not deny.

**Any accessory dwelling unit which is proposed on a pre-existing non-conforming lot shall be subject to review by the Zoning Board of Appeals pursuant to G.L. c. 40A sec. 6 which shall consider the issuance of a finding that the proposed accessory dwelling unit is not substantially more detrimental to the neighborhood than the existing non-conforming structure(s) located thereon. Said review shall ONLY consider any extension or intensification of existing non-conformities. In the event the proposed accessory dwelling unit is located within all required setbacks and does not intensify the open area requirements, then no review by the Zoning Board shall be required. The Zoning Board of Appeals may not consider the use but only the impact on the dimensional standards when considering the finding.**

E. Additional conditions and requirements for all accessory dwelling units.

- (1) The accessory dwelling unit must be capable of being discontinued as a separate dwelling unit without demolition of any structural component of the principal dwelling.
- (2) There shall be no occupancy of the accessory dwelling unit until the Building Department has issued a certificate of occupancy certifying that

the principal dwelling and accessory dwelling unit are in compliance with all applicable health and building and fire codes.

- (3) The building permit/certificate of occupancy shall be revoked upon determination by the Building Inspector that any condition imposed by the Town has not been fulfilled.
- (4) By filing the application for a building permit for an accessory dwelling unit, all owners consent to an inspection upon reasonable notice by the Building Inspector to ensure compliance with all terms of this section.
- (5) Parking for accessory dwelling units there shall be one additional parking space per accessory dwelling unit which is in addition to what is required for the principal use. Except if the ADU is located within ½ mile form a commuter rail station, subway station, ferry terminal or bus station no parking is required. A bus station is defined as a location serving as a point of embarkation for any bus operated by a Transit Authority. For routes that allow flag stop locations where passengers may signal for a bus to stop at any point along its designated route, the entire route shall be considered a Bus Station.

F. Enforcement and termination. In addition to the authority of the Building Commission under any other provisions of this bylaw, statute or regulations, the following shall apply:

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Building Commissioner to administer and enforce the provisions of this bylaw.
- (2) No building shall be constructed or changed in use or configuration until the Building Commissioner has issued a permit.
- (3) Any new building or structure shall conform to all adopted state and Town laws, bylaws, codes and regulations. No building shall be occupied until a certificate of occupancy has been issued by the Building Inspector where required.
- (4) The Building Commissioner shall issue a cease-and-desist order on any work in progress or on the use of any premises, either of which are in violation of the provisions of this chapter.
- (5) The accessory dwelling unit use shall terminate immediately upon any violation of any term or condition of this bylaw that the owner fails to appeal or cure, upon 30 days' written notice mailed to the applicant and to the occupants at the dwelling address by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- (6) Duties of owner upon termination include:
  - (a) The owner shall discontinue the use of the accessory dwelling unit as a separate dwelling unit.

- (b) The kitchen facilities of the accessory dwelling unit shall be removed.
- (c) Any additional exterior entrance constructed to provide access to the accessory dwelling unit shall be permanently closed.

G. Severability. All the clauses of this bylaw are distinct and severable, and if any clause shall be deemed illegal, void, or unenforceable, it shall not affect the validity, legality, or enforceability of any other clause or portion of this bylaw.

H. Definitions. For the purpose of this Section 200-42 the following words shall have the following meanings:

**ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT**

A self-contained housing unit, inclusive of sleeping, cooking and sanitary facilities on the same lot as a principal dwelling, subject to otherwise directly from the outside or through an entry hall or corridor shared with the principal dwelling sufficient to meet the requirements of the state building code for safe egress; (ii) is not larger in gross floor area than ½ the gross floor area of the principal dwelling or 900 square feet, whichever is smaller .”

**EXISTING DETACHED ACCESSORY BUILDING** – A detached accessory building that is lawfully existing as of the effective date of this bylaw and that has a permanent foundation.

**GROSS FLOOR AREA** – The sum of the areas of all stories of the building of compliant ceiling height pursuant to the Building Code, including basements, lofts, and intermediate floored tiers, measured from the interior faces of exterior walls or from the centerline of walls separating buildings or dwelling units but excluding: crawl spaces, garage parking areas, attics, enclosed porches and similar spaces. Where there are multiple Principal Dwellings on the lot, the Gross Floor Area of the largest Principal Dwelling shall be used for determining the maximum size of a Protected Use ADU.

**PRINCIPAL DWELLING UNIT**

A dwelling unit permitted as a principal residential use under § 200-11 Classification of uses, limitation of uses.

**SHORT-TERM RENTAL UNIT**

An owner-occupied, tenant-occupied or non-owner-occupied property, including, but not limited to, an apartment, house, cottage, condominium or a furnished

accommodation that is not a hotel, motel, lodging house or bed-and-breakfast establishment, or accessory dwelling unit where: (i) at least one room or unit is rented to an occupant or sub-occupant; and (ii) all accommodations are reserved in advance; provided, however, that a private owner-occupied property shall be considered a single unit if leased or rented as such. For the purpose of this, the Accessory Dwelling Unit Bylaw, a short-term rental shall be anything leased for fewer than ~~90~~ 31 days.

Or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Planning Board.

**ARTICLE 6: Unpaid Accounts**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to provide for the payment of any unpaid accounts brought forward from previous years, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 7: Departmental Revolving Funds**

To see if the Town will vote to fix the maximum amount that may be spent during FY 2027 beginning July 1, 2026, for the revolving funds established in the town bylaws for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in accordance with G.L. c. 44 § 53E ½, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 8: Purchase of Equipment of Several Departments**

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate any sums of money for the purchase and/or lease of equipment for several departments of the Town, and to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 9: Lease Purchase**

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c. 44 §21C, to authorize the Select Board to enter into lease purchase agreements for the lease and purchase of vehicles and certain capital for a period of time not in excess of the useful life of the property to be procured on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deem in the best interest of the Town; and to authorize the Select Board to take all actions necessary to administer and implement such agreement and to fund said lease purchase through an annual appropriation in the Capital Budget, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.



**ARTICLE 10: Capital Improvements for Public Buildings**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to existing Town or School buildings, infrastructure, and the purchase of necessary equipment including computer hardware and software to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 11: Walls and Fences**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction and reconstruction of walls and fences for the protection of highways and property, including engineering services in connection therewith; to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, any land or easements necessary therefore; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 12: Stormwater Construction:**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or otherwise fund a sum of money for the construction, reconstruction, permitting and maintenance of Town's stormwater system for surface drainage, including engineering services in connection therewith, and for general Department of Public Works purposes as they relate to the Town's stormwater system, including the purchase or lease of equipment, and to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, any land or easements necessary therefore, and to raise the money for such purposes by the issue of bonds or notes or in any other manner, to be expended by the Department of Public Works, or to take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 13: Consent Articles, Water and Sewer**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the following consent articles:

**a. Water Department Construction**

That the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to be expended by the Water and Sewer Commission for the construction, reconstruction and extending of water mains, replacement of water meters, appurtenances, engineering, consultants, surveys including revenue studies and other general Water Department purposes, and to authorize the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise any lands or easements necessary.

**b. Sewer Department Construction**

That the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to be expended by the Water and Sewer Commission for the construction or reconstruction of sewers for sanitary purposes and for sewerage disposal, pump stations, original pumping equipment, metering equipment, safety equipment, replacement of said equipment, engineering, consultants, surveys, including revenue studies and other general Sewer Department purposes, and to authorize the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise any lands or easements necessary.

**c. Water and Sewer Commission Claims**

That the Town will vote to authorize the Water and Sewer Commission and the Select Board acting jointly to compromise any claims for damages or suits pending against the Town of Marblehead on account of acts which may have occurred during the construction of the water, sewer and storm water systems,

or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners.

**ARTICLE 14: MWRA Local Water System Assistance Program, Interest Free Loan, Water Distribution Improvements.**

To see is the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the construction and reconstruction of the water distribution system, including all incidental or related costs; and to authorize the treasurer with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow said sum pursuant to G.L. c 44 §§ 7 and 8 or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore, whether through the Massachusetts Water Recourse Authority (“MWRA”) Local Financial Assistance Program or federal or state loan programs, and to authorize the Town to apply for, accept and expend any federal or state grants or loans that may be available for the project, and further, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Water and Sewer Commission.

**ARTICLE 15: Proposed Reclassification and Pay Schedule (Administrative)**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 121 of the Bylaws, Classification and Wage Salary Plan, by changing certain job titles where indicated and reclassify certain positions in the Administrative Pay Schedule; to strike out the pay schedule as it relates to Administrative personnel, substitute in place thereof the new pay schedules and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said new pay schedules effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 16: Proposed Pay Schedule and Reclassification (Traffic Supervisors)**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 121 of the Bylaws, Classification and Wage Salary Plan, by changing certain job titles where indicated and reclassify certain positions in the Traffic Supervisors Pay Schedule; to waive the pay schedule as it relates to Traffic Supervisor personnel, substitute in place thereof the new pay schedules and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said new pay schedules effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 17: Proposed Reclassification and Pay Schedule (Seasonal and Temporary Personnel)**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 121 of the Bylaws, Classification and Wage Salary Plan, by changing certain job titles where indicated and reclassify certain positions in the Seasonal and Temporary Personnel Pay Schedules; strike out the pay schedules as they relate to seasonal and temporary personnel, substitute in place thereof the new pay schedules and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said new pay schedules effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 18: Compensation – Town Officers**

To see if the Town will vote to revise the compensation of the Town Clerk as the Town by vote may determine and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said revision effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 19: Collective Bargaining (Fire)**

To see if the Town will, pursuant to G.L. c. 150E § 7, vote to appropriate the sums of money sufficient to fund the collective bargaining agreement for fiscal year 2027 with the International Association of Firefighters AFL/CIO CLC Local 2043, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 20: Ratification of Salary Bylaw**

To see if the Town will vote to ratify certain actions taken by the Compensation Committee under Chapter 43 Section 3(e) as last amended and amend the classification table by reclassifying certain positions, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Compensation Committee.

**ARTICLE 21: Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the gross operating and maintenance budget of the Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2026, and appropriate a sum of money for the Town's assessment of the same, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

**ARTICLE 22: Available Funds Appropriate to Reduce Tax Rate**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the free cash balance in the hands of the Town Treasurer, including any surplus or part of surplus in the Electric Light Department for use of the Assessors in setting the tax rate, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 23: Expenses of Several Departments**

To see what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriations from Federal Revenue Sharing moneys, to defray the necessary and usual expenses of the several departments of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 24: General Stabilization Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Free Cash to fund Town's General Stabilization Account, or take any other action relative to. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 25: School Buildings Capital Needs**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of making renovations and extraordinary repairs, including all professional feasibility studies, design, architectural and engineering fees, or significant capital expenditures for the Brown, Glover, Village, Veterans Middle, Marblehead High School and the school building known as the Eveleth School and their respective school grounds, and to raise the money for these purposes by the issue of bonds or notes, by the transfer of an unused/prior appropriation and borrowing authority for such purposes, by the passage of a one-time capital exclusion and/or debt exclusion or in any other manner, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the School Committee

**ARTICLE 26: School Buildings Technology Needs**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of making renovations, upgrades and extraordinary repairs, including all professional feasibility studies, design, architectural and engineering fees, or significant Technology

expenditures for the Brown, Glover, Village, Veterans Middle, Marblehead High School, and to raise the money for these purposes by the issue of bonds or notes, by the transfer of an unused/prior appropriation and borrowing authority for such purposes, by the passage of a one-time capital exclusion and/or debt exclusion or in any other manner, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the School Committee.

**ARTICLE 27: School Department Capital Needs**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for school department capital needs, and to raise the money for these purposes by the issue of bonds or notes, by the transfer of an unused/prior appropriation and borrowing authority for such purposes, by the passage of a one-time capital exclusion and/or debt exclusion or in any other manner, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the School Committee.

**ARTICLE 28: School Department Supplemental Appropriation**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to supplement the School Department's operating budget for fiscal year 2027, contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 ½, so called, ballot question, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the School Committee.

**ARTICLE 29: Supplemental Appropriation and Expenses of Several Departments**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to supplement the Town's General Government operating budget beginning in FY2027, contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2½, so called, ballot question, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 30: Rescind Bond Authorization**

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the \$1,619,627 portion of the \$54,844,767 borrowing authorization approved by the Town on May 7, 2019 (Article 51) and voted by ballot question on June 18, 2019 for the design and construction of a new Elementary School (Gerry Elementary School) that has not been used and that is no longer needed for such purpose; or to take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

**ARTICLE 31: Administrative Benefit Amendment**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 43 of the bylaws to provide the administrative employees of the Town with updated benefits and to appropriate or

## MARBLEHEAD TOWN REPORT 2025

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transfer from available funds a sum of money to make such benefits effective as follows:

Add 3 Personal Days for Administrative personnel  
Accelerate the award of a 5<sup>th</sup> week of vacation

|                      | <u>Current Schedule</u> | <u>Proposed New Schedule</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>0 – 4 years</b>   | 3 weeks                 | 3 weeks                      |
| <b>5 – 9 years</b>   |                         | 4 weeks                      |
| <b>5 – 14 years</b>  | 4 weeks                 |                              |
| <b>10 – 19 years</b> |                         | 5 weeks                      |
| <b>15 – 19 years</b> | 5 weeks                 |                              |
| <b>20+ years</b>     | 6 weeks                 | 6 weeks                      |

Longevity – increase each longevity amount by \$750 per year

|                        | <u>Current Award</u> | <u>Proposed Award</u> |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Not less than 5 years  | \$1,000              | \$1,750               |
| Not less than 10 years | \$1,100              | \$1,850               |
| Not less than 15 years | \$1,200              | \$1,950               |
| Not less than 20 years | \$1,300              | \$2,050               |
| Not less than 25 years | \$1,400              | \$2,150               |
| Not less than 25 years | \$1,500              | \$2,250               |

or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

### ARTICLE 32: Mooring Fees in Marblehead Waters

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 190, Section 190-5-C of the Town of Marblehead General Bylaws as set forth below (underline and bold new, ~~crossout~~ removed):

- C. The Harbormaster shall collect from the applicant a mooring permit fee of ~~\$10.00~~ **\$12.00** per foot for Marblehead Harbor, Little Harbor, and Dolibers Cove. All other locations in Marblehead anchorage shall be assessed ~~\$9.00~~ **\$11.00** per foot. Working commercial fishermen shall have their permit fee abated to a rate of ~~\$5.00~~ **\$7.00** per foot upon approval of the Harbormaster. Such fee shall be assessed on a per-foot basis, measured from the stem in a straight line aft to the stem of the vessel. Booms, boomkins or pulpits are exempt from the measurement. The minimum mooring permit fee shall be \$20. The mooring permit fee for a float shall also be assessed at ~~\$6.50~~ **\$12.00** per lineal foot basis of the overall length. Said fee shall be collected before a mooring permit is issued. All fees collected by the Harbormaster shall be paid to the Town of Marblehead. All permits shall expire on the first day of February following the year of issue.

Or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Harbors and Waters Board.

**ARTICLE 33: Amend General Bylaws Part I, Chapter 39 – Prohibition of Cryptocurrency Automatic Teller Machines**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws Part I to include a new Chapter 39, Prohibition of Cryptocurrency Automatic Teller Machines as follows:

Chapter 39          Prohibition on Cryptocurrency Automated Teller Machines (ATMs)

§ 39-1 Purpose and Intent

The Town, acting upon reports of the Marblehead Police Department, finds that unregulated cryptocurrency Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) pose risks to consumers, including financial fraud, money laundering, and lack of recourse for users. Virtual currency ATMs are able to convert currency into virtual currency instantaneously and irreversibly, which exposes the most vulnerable of our citizens to unnecessary risk. The Town further finds that the current absence of sufficient federal and state consumer protections and regulatory oversight for such devices necessitates a municipal prohibition to safeguard residents and preserve public safety. The purpose of this article is to prohibit the use of Cryptocurrency ATMs within the Town in an effort to protect our citizens.

§ 39-2 Definitions

For purposes of this Bylaw, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

(a)      Cryptocurrency: A digital or virtual currency that uses cryptography for security and operates independently of a central bank, including but not limited to Bitcoin, Bitcoin Cash, Coinhub, Dash, LiteCoin, Ripple, ZCash, Ethereum, and similar blockchain-based tokens. Cryptocurrency is a digital representation of value used as a medium of exchange, a unit of account, or a store of value, but does not have legal tender status as recognized by the United States Government.

(b)      Cryptocurrency Automated Teller Machine (Cryptocurrency ATM): Any self-service kiosk, machine, or device installed in a publicly accessible location that enables users to buy, sell, exchange, or transfer cryptocurrency through the machine using cash, debit card, credit card, or other means of payment.

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### § 39-3 Prohibition of Cryptocurrency Automated Teller Machines

No person, business, or entity shall install, operate, maintain, or allow the installation or operation of a Cryptocurrency ATM within the geographic boundaries of the Town of Marblehead. All Cryptocurrency ATMs existing in the Town of Marblehead as of the Effective Date of this Bylaw must be removed within sixty (60) days after the Effective Date.

### § 39-4 Enforcement and Penalties

This Bylaw shall be enforced by the Marblehead Police Department, the Building Department or any other authorized designated agent of the Town Administrator.

Any person or entity found to be in violation of this bylaw shall be subject to a fine of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per day, per device, enforceable under the non-criminal disposition pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 21D.

Each day during which a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

### § 39-5 Severability

If any provision of this ordinance is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect.

or to act in any other manner in relation thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

### **ARTICLE 34: Dissolve Public Works Committee (adopted 3.19.70 ATM Article 20)**

To see if the Town will vote to repeal Article VII Public Works Committee Section 24-15 of the Marblehead General Bylaws, and thereby dissolve the Public Works Committee, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Select Board.

### **ARTICLE 35: Amend General Bylaw, Public Works Committee**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Marblehead General Bylaw Article VII, Section 24-15, Public Works Committee, as follows (**underline and bold is new language** and ~~cross out~~ is removed language).

**Public Works Committee**

### **§ 24-15. Membership; officers; report; duties.**



- A. The Superintendents of the ~~Sewer~~, Water and Sewer, of Recreation and Park, ~~Municipal Light~~, and of Cemetery Departments; General Manager of Municipal Light; ~~the Surveyor of Highways, the Health Directors of Public Works, of Public Health and of Community Development and Planning;~~ the Town Engineer; ~~the Wire Inspector, the Tree Warden; and the Building Commissioner;~~ Fire Chief; Police Chief; and the Town Administrator, shall constitute a Public Works Committee for the Town. The Committee shall appoint one of the members of the Committee to be Chair and may from time to time remove and replace the individual and appoint someone to act in the individual's place during that individual's absence. It shall be the Chair's duty to call and preside at the meetings of the Committee. The Chair ~~and it~~ shall file a written report to be included in the Town Report upon the activities, accomplishments, and proposals of the Committee. The Committee shall from time to time elect or designate a Secretary who shall keep minutes of the meetings and give notice of all regular and special meetings. The Committee shall meet at least ~~once each month~~ quarterly at a time and place designated by the Chair.
- B. It shall be the duty of the Committee:
- (1) To coordinate the work of the several departments engaged in public works for the purpose of obtaining the most efficient use of equipment and manpower;
  - (2) To make recommendations to appropriate Town officials with respect to proposed projects or plans within the public way, public property, or public buildings;
  - (3) To make recommendations on proposed Articles to be presented at Town Meeting that involve the Public Way or Public Buildings;
  - (4) To accept public comments regarding projects and proposals within the public way, public property, or public buildings;
  - ~~(2) To devise uniform recordkeeping forms and procedures with reference to the use of manpower and personnel which will record the hours worked by each employee, the nature of the work done and for what department;~~
  - ~~(3) To devise uniform recordkeeping forms designed to show with respect to each vehicle or piece of equipment its utilization from day to day in terms of hours, location, project worked on, department for which used, and also to record mileage, maintenance, repairs, etc.;~~
  - ~~(4) To devise and implement so far as possible uniform personnel policies and procedures in all departments;~~
  - ~~(5) To take such steps as may be possible to bring about pooling and centralized housing, maintenance and repair of vehicles and equipment;~~
  - ~~(6) To review and implement communication procedures to the end that citizens' needs and requests may always be known and attended to promptly;~~

(7) To continuously explore opportunities for joint purchasing, both among the departments engaged in public works and also with other Town departments;  
(8) To coordinate requests for capital equipment appropriations and purchases and to develop joint manpower forecasts for planning and budgeting purposes;  
(9) ~~(5)~~ To make recommendations to appropriate Town officials respecting the combining or elimination of departments, the transfer of functions from one department to another or other modifications in the structure of the Town government which may lead to greater efficiency or economy in the carrying out of the public works.

Or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Public Works Committee.

**ARTICLE 36: Amend Certain Bylaws Related to the Department of Public Works – Housekeeping**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Marblehead Bylaws related to the Department of Public Works to ensure uniformity and accuracy, as follows (underline and bold is new language and ~~cross-out~~ is removed language).

Chapter 45, Article II, §45-5. Composition.

Said Department shall be comprised of the Highway Department, the Storm Water (Storm Sewer) Department ~~the surface drain construction department~~, and the Tree Department.

Chapter 106, Article I, §106-1. Physical examination required.

Any person for any of the following positions, before becoming an employee of the Town, shall submit to a physical examination by a reputable doctor to be designated by the Select Board. Those positions are:

Fire fighters

EMTs

Police officers

Any employee that works under the water department, sewer department, ~~drains or department of public works, tree department, highway department~~

Recreation and Parks employees

Board of Health employees

Inspectors

Custodial staff

Animal Control employees

Cemetery employees

Harbor Master employees

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And any other position which the Human Resources Director or, if there is none, the Town Administrator determines to be in the best interest of the Town to require a physical examination prior to employment with the Town.

Chapter 162, Article I, §162-2. Excavations.

- A. No person, except the **Department of Public Works Director** ~~Highway Surveyor~~, in the lawful performance of the ~~Surveyor's~~ **Director's** duties, or those acting under the **Director's** ~~Surveyor's~~ orders, shall make or cause to be made any excavation in a public street or way, for any purpose whatever, without having first obtained written permission from the ~~Surveyor of Highways~~ **Director** acting for and in behalf of the Select Board.
- B. When an excavation is made in a street for any purpose, the person or persons by whom or for whom such excavation has been made shall cause a rail or other sufficient fence to be placed so as to enclose such excavation, and the dirt, gravel or other material thrown therefrom, and such fence shall be maintained the whole time that such excavation continues.
- C. Such **rail or** fence, excavation and material excavated shall be lighted by a lantern, lanterns, or other proper and sufficient light, from the beginning of twilight throughout the whole of every night, during the entire time that such excavation or construction exists.

Chapter 162, Article II, §162-7. Notice.

- A. Whenever the Select Board or the **Department of Public Works Director** ~~Surveyor of Highways~~ are about to construct or repair any street or way, the surface of which is paved with block or macadam or rolled, they may, before beginning the work, give reason of such intention to the departments of the Town, to corporations liable to be affected thereby, and to all abutting owners having connections by drains or otherwise with structures in the street.
- B. If any such parties have any work to be done in such public streets or ways, they shall consult and arrange with said Select Board in order that such work may be done before the surface of such way is again prepared for and opened to the public travel. After such notice and opportunity has been given, no such parties shall, for the space of three years, break up or disturb the surface of said street or way within the area so constructed and repaired, except in case of reasonable necessity.

**ARTICLE 37: Limit Municipal Employment Contracts to One Calendar Year**

To limit employment contracts for municipal employees, excepting union contracts, to the term of one calendar year. Existing multi-year contracts would become one year contracts upon expiration of said contract. Or take any other action relative to. Sponsored by William Kuker and others.

**ARTICLE 38: Restore Elected Terms of the Select Board to One Calendar Year**

To restore the elected terms of the Select Board to the duration of one calendar year, to take effect for the 2027 elections. Or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by William Kuker and others.

**ARTICLE 39: Repeal Article 34, Department of Planning and Community Development**

To repeal Article 34 as passed by 2024 Town Meeting establishing the “Department of Planning and Community Development” thereby eliminating, disbanding and defunding said Department and all offices, positions and associations related to said Department. Or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by William Kuker and others.

**ARTICLE 40: Resolution affirming the Town of Marblehead’s commitment to the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution**

To see if the Town will adopt the following resolution: Resolution affirming the Town of Marblehead’s commitment to the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution

WHEREAS, in celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our country, the Town of Marblehead recognizes the enduring importance of this nation’s founding and the principles articulated in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United State which have sustained American democracy for nearly two and a half centuries; and

WHEREAS, Constitutional principles of separation of powers, enumerated checks and balances, and the independence of the judiciary, and the protections of free speech, free assembly, and other fundamental rights are steadfast commitments essential to the well-being of our nation and the integrity of its governance; and

WHEREAS, Marblehead proudly exhibits *The Spirit of ’76* painting by Archibald Willard in Abbot Hall, which conveys not only the determination to achieve independence from tyrannical power, but also the successful conclusion of the Civil War which secured freedom and union for all; and

WHEREAS, Marblehead has a long and distinguished tradition of resisting authoritarian rule and usurpation of power on land, river, and sea, and of defending

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liberty through civic engagement, such as through Marblehead's Committee of Grievances established in 1772 by Messrs. Gerry, Orne, Doliber and others; and WHEREAS the Town of Marblehead is compelled to stand against any threats and harms to these rights and principles.

NOW, THEREFOR, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Marblehead hereby affirms its unwavering commitment to founding principles and documents, civic responsibility, and the rule of law protecting the rights and welfare of all its people as we honor and celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States of America.

Or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by Kate Borten, Lynn Nadeau and others.

Given under our hands at Marblehead aforesaid this  
25<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.



DAN FOX, Chair



M. C. MOSES GRADER



ERIN M. NOONAN



ALEXA J. SINGER



JAMES R. ZISSON

Select Board of Marblehead

A True Copy

Attest:



, Constable

\*ADA ADVISORY – Anyone in need of special accommodations for Town Meeting, please contact the office of the Select Board at 781-631-0000 by April 17, 2026, in order that reasonable accommodations may be made.

## Departmental Information

### Emergency:

**FIRE**

**911**

**POLICE**

**911**

**Town of Marblehead Official Website: <https://marbleheadma.gov/>**

*(Note: All phone numbers are 781 Area Code unless otherwise noted.)*

|                                                                     |                           |          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Assessments                                                         | Assessors                 | 631-0236 |
| Birth, Marriage & Death Certificates                                | Town Clerk                | 631-0528 |
| Board of Appeals (Zoning)                                           | Community Development     | 631-1529 |
| Building Permits                                                    | Building                  | 631-2220 |
| Burial Permits                                                      | Health Department         | 631-0212 |
| Cemetery                                                            | Cemetery                  | 631-1182 |
| Collector of Taxes                                                  | Finance                   | 631-0587 |
| Council on Aging                                                    | Council on Aging          | 631-6737 |
| Elections                                                           | Town Clerk                | 631-0528 |
| Finance Director                                                    | Finance                   | 631-1705 |
| Fire Prevention                                                     | Fire Department           | 639-3428 |
| Fuel Oil Storage                                                    | Fire Department           | 639-3428 |
| Harbormaster                                                        | Harbormaster              | 631-2386 |
| Health                                                              | Health Department         | 631-0212 |
| Historical Commission                                               | Abbot Hall                | 639-3425 |
| Library                                                             | Abbot Public Library      | 631-1480 |
| Licenses – alcohol, common victualler<br>entertainment, second hand | Select Board Office       | 631-0000 |
| Licenses – marriage, dog                                            | Town Clerk                | 631-0528 |
| Light Department                                                    | Customer Service          | 631-5600 |
| Plumbing Permits                                                    | Building                  | 639-9151 |
| Police Administration                                               | Police Dept.              | 631-1212 |
| Recreation                                                          | Recreation & Park         | 631-3350 |
| Schools:                                                            | Administration            | 639-3140 |
|                                                                     | High School               | 639-3100 |
|                                                                     | Veterans Middle School    | 639-3120 |
|                                                                     | Village School            | 639-3159 |
|                                                                     | Lucrecia and Joseph Brown |          |
|                                                                     | School                    | 639-3112 |
|                                                                     | Glover                    | 639-3191 |
| Streets, Sidewalks                                                  | Public Works              | 631-1750 |
| Town Administrator                                                  | Select Board Office       | 631-0000 |
| Town Treasurer                                                      | Finance                   | 631-1033 |
| Trees                                                               | Tree Warden               | 631-2721 |
| Veterans' Benefits                                                  | Veterans' Agent           | 631-0990 |
| Water & Sewer                                                       | Water & Sewer             | 631-2694 |
| Weights & Measures                                                  | Sealer                    | 631-2220 |
| Wiring Permits                                                      | Building                  | 639-9151 |
| Zoning Enforcement                                                  | Building                  | 631-2220 |

### FEDERAL AND STATE SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES:

|                                         |                          |              |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| US Senators:                            | Elizabeth Warren         | 617-565-3170 |
|                                         | Ed Markey                | 617-565-8519 |
| US Representative (6 <sup>th</sup> Dt.) | Seth Moulton             | 978-531-1669 |
| MA Representative (8 <sup>th</sup> Dt.) | Jennifer Balinsky Armini | 617-722-2000 |
| MA Senator (3 <sup>rd</sup> Dt.):       | Brendan P. Crighton      | 617-722-1350 |