



# Wilmington, Massachusetts

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

May 6, 2022

TO: Board of Selectmen

RE: Update on Town Hall / School Administration Building Committee

The Town/School Building Committee met on May 4<sup>th</sup> to resume discussions about the building layout and location of the building on the School Street site. Phil O'Brien, LEED, AP from Johnson Roberts Architects, noted that the current programmatic plan removed space for the public works administration and added school administration space. The committee had provided this direction at the last meeting during which the building design was discussed. Based upon the latest adjustments the building is just over 43,000 square feet. In response to a question about whether Veterans' Services should be included, the Town Manager advised that he spoke with Lou Cimaglia, Veterans' Services Director, and his preference is to remain in the former West Schoolhouse.

In response to questions about the building's ability to accommodate future growth, Mr. O'Brien noted that flex space is included in the current layout and that the prospect exists for space currently set aside for conference rooms or storage space to be repurposed for office space. The prospect may exist that, as the requirements and capabilities to store information in formats other than paper evolve, the need for that type of storage may decline in the future. It is possible to establish an area beyond the proposed footprint to expand the size of the building in the future. The committee voted to accept the existing programmatic layout recognizing that it will continue to be tweaked as schematic design moves forward.

A map of the results from a wetland survey was presented which shows an area to the north of the Buzzell Senior Center with an intermittent stream that runs down the hill to the paved parking area. It appears that the stream only runs during certain times of the year but must be factored into the location of the building. Multiple siting options were presented including previously discussed siting along Middlesex Avenue and options with the building at the rear of the parking lot against the embankment. The building remains either 25 or 50 feet away from the flagged intermittent stream. One option previously suggested, but not offered, was to create an L with part of the building running parallel to School Street and the

other part of the building extending parallel to the embankment. This option will be developed for the next meeting. An "H" design was suggested with one side extending perpendicular to the embankment being the school administration and a second side extending perpendicular to the embankment being the town administration with the meeting and conference rooms between them. Development of this suggestion will also be prepared for the next meeting. The committee agreed to allow the designer to consider an option along Middlesex Avenue that would include a portion of the Swain Green.

Dan Pallotta, Owners' Project Manager, expects to issue another newsletter within the next few weeks updating the design progress. He also suggested a community forum in June to encourage input from the public about the existing building layouts and locations that are under consideration. It is hoped that public input will assist with narrowing the options.

Kevin A. Caira  
Selectman

cc: George Hooper, Chairman, Town/School Administration Building Committee



# Wilmington, Massachusetts

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

April 29, 2022

TO: Board of Selectmen

RE: Rail Crossing Safety Issues Update

Chairman Lilia Maselli, Selectman Judith O'Connell and I participated in a Zoom session with Michael Muller, MBTA Executive Director of Engineering and Maintenance for Commuter Rail, Jody Ray, MBTA Deputy Administrator and Abdellah Chajai CEO with Keolis on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Muller stated that the MBTA has completed their due diligence with respect to providing information about proposed location of the new platform to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The FTA will review the information and may request additional information or give the "green light" for the MBTA to proceed with the upgrade to the commuter rail station. If the FTA approves the work, the timeline for completion is estimated to be 10 months exclusive of any shutdown of work during the winter months.

Mr. Chajai provided an update on work performed by Keolis. Work to review the operations and repair the signal systems at crossings in Wilmington has been completed for nine of the 11 crossings. Work remains to be completed at the Glen Road and Salem Street rail crossings. Replacement of sections of track and ballast (stone base under the rails) is fully complete at four rail crossings. Work is partially completed at the Concord Street, Middlesex Avenue, Kilmarnock Street, Woburn Street and former Sweetheart rail crossings. Sections of rail are being replaced and ballast material is being replaced to address drainage issues that contributed to the irregular activation of the crossing arms. Work has not yet begun to address air conditioning units in the so-called bungalows. These buildings house the electronics components that control the signals and rail arms. During the warmer periods of the year heat in the bungalows effects the electronic circuitry which can compromise the proper functioning of the lights and rail arms. Upgrading or adding air conditioning is expected to largely address this issue.

Selectman O'Connell and Chairman Maselli noted the pending culvert and sewer project in North Wilmington as a "heads up" to MBTA officials to anticipate disruptions from the work. Keolis and MBTA personnel were advised that Paul Alunni will be directed to contact an MBTA representative to apprise them of the work plan and anticipated timeline.

Discussion took place about the signage being displayed on commuter rail cars "Help Save Lives Caution Near Train Crossings." Some residents have taken offense to this signage on trains passing through Wilmington in light of the fact that the incident involving resident Roberta Sausville-Devine was not her fault. Mike Muller responded that Operation Life Savers is a national campaign that has been in place for many years and is an effort to reduce the number of injuries and deaths due to actions of individuals. He recognizes the connotation that the message conveys in Wilmington but noted that there are unfortunately a number of incidents that are unlike the incident involving Ms. Sausville-Devine. The commuter cars that have the signage travel throughout the MBTA commuter system and it would not be possible to restrict them from traveling through Wilmington.

The question was posed about checking metrics such as the number of calls about erratic crossing arms to determine whether the actions being taken are having a positive impact. Mike Muller stated that the MBTA can provide that information and suggested that it may be a bit too soon from the date corrective actions on the rail crossings started taking place to see the effects but the MBTA can provide that information for a future session. The next scheduled Zoom session is May 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.



Jeffrey M. Hull  
Town Manager



# Wilmington, Massachusetts

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

May 6, 2022

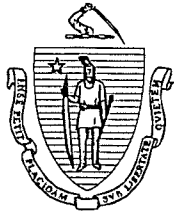
TO: Board of Selectmen

RE: MUNIS Status

The first phase of the financial software conversion from SoftRight to MUNIS took effect the week of May 2<sup>nd</sup> for accounts payable. Over the past several weeks Bryan Perry, Finance Director/Town Accountant, and Beth Lallemand, Assistant Finance Director, have been working with administrative personnel to train them on use of the MUNIS software to process invoices from vendors. Historically, invoices were submitted via hard copy to the accounting office where one person would input all weekly invoices from departments into the SoftRight system. Now each department, including the School Department, inputs invoices into the MUNIS system for approval by the department head and electronic submission to the accounting office. The next major goal for the software conversion will be transitioning payroll from SoftRight to MUNIS followed by accounts receivable and assessing.

  
Jeffrey M. Hull  
Town Manager

cc: Bryan Perry, Finance Director/Town Accountant



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Charles D. Baker, Governor ♦ Karyn Polito, Lieutenant Governor ♦ Jennifer D. Maddox, Undersecretary

To: Local Official  
From: Roberta L. Rubin, Chief Counsel, Office of the General Counsel  
Catherine Racer, Associate Director, Division of Housing Development  
Subject: Subsidized Housing Inventory Biennial Update  
Date: April 25, 2022

POW) TOMMY BRADGER  
7274772442025

The Department of Housing and Community Development ("DHCD") is in the process of updating the Chapter 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory ("SHI"). The methodology for counting units on the SHI is subject to DHCD regulations at 760 CMR 56.00 *et seq.* and c. 40B guidelines at <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2017/10/10/guidecomprehensivepermit.pdf> (see in particular section II, "Measuring Progress Towards Local Goals," and section III, "Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing and Resident Selection Plan" guidelines).

The SHI is used to measure the community's attainment of affordable housing goals for the purposes of M.G.L. Chapter 40B, the Comprehensive Permit Law. A developer may appeal to the state Housing Appeals Committee for review of local action on a Comprehensive Permit if a municipality's SHI-eligible housing does not exceed 10% of its year-round housing stock based on the latest available U.S. Census, which is currently the 2010 U.S. Census.<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to the regulations at 760 C.M.R. 56.03(2)(f), DHCD shall update the SHI biennially.

**Enclosed for your review and use is DHCD's current SHI record for your community, which generally reflects information we have processed as of April 15, 2022, regarding the number of all units that qualify for inclusion on the SHI. Please note the following:**

Corrections to your inventory record should be made by:

- 1) Requesting a copy of the SHI listing for your city/town by emailing [dhcdshiupdate@mass.gov](mailto:dhcdshiupdate@mass.gov).
- 2) Simply writing directly on the SHI listing and returning it as indicated below. To add units or to restore units, please see below.
- 3) Please request that eligible units be added to the SHI by submitting a completed copy of the **"Requesting New Units Form"** (available at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/requesting-new-units-form-0/download>) along with the documentation required by said form. To request the addition of new units and to track units for CDBG and HOME housing rehabilitation units only, please use DHCD's **"Housing Rehab Units Only"** spreadsheet (available at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/housing-rehab-units-only-form-0/download>). **Please note** that the "Housing Rehab Units Only" spreadsheet must be submitted along with copies of use restrictions corresponding to the affordable units. As you are aware, the Housing Appeals Committee ruled in *South Center Realty, LLC v. Bellingham* that affordable rehabilitated units must be subject to a use restriction to be included on the SHI. Please see section II of the aforementioned guidelines for SHI use restriction requirements, including that the term of the use restriction shall be not less than 15 years for rehabilitated units (newly created units require a use restriction term of not less than 30 years).

<sup>1</sup> The SHI has not yet been updated to reflect 2020 Census figures. The 2020 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File that has been released by the U.S. Census Bureau does not include data on vacant "seasonal, occasional, or recreational use" units used by DHCD to determine Census "year-round housing units" for the SHI. The SHI will therefore continue to reflect the 2010 Census Year-Round Housing unit figures until such data is released. Promptly upon release of the 2020 Census Year-Round Housing figures, the SHI will be updated to reflect such data.

- 4) Pursuant to DHCD regulations at 760 CMR 56.03(2)(c), if more than one year elapses between the date of issuance of the Comprehensive Permit (or zoning approval under M.G.L. c.40A or completion of plan review under M.G.L. c.40R), and issuance of the **building permit(s)**, units are no longer eligible to be counted on the SHI until such time as the building permits are issued. Furthermore, said regulations state that if more than 18 months elapse between issuance of the building permits and issuance of the **certificate of occupancy**, the units will become ineligible for the SHI until the date that the certificate of occupancy is issued. DHCD has generally removed units from the SHI (providing a unit listing of "0") based on such time lapses. Therefore, please provide as applicable a listing of issued building and occupancy permit numbers and corresponding unit numbers and addresses to ensure or restore inclusion of units on the SHI. Please note that for SHI purposes, building permits are permits to construct units and foundation permits are *not* regarded as building permits.
- 5) Any developments for which the period of affordability has expired or is listed as expiring before **April of 2022** (see "Affordability Expires" column in the enclosed report) have been removed or are **subject to removal** from the SHI unless or until adequate documentation is submitted confirming that the period of affordability has not expired or has been extended. Units that expire during or after April of 2022 are similarly subject to removal. Generally, HOR units with expired affordability end dates have already been removed from the SHI as part of this biennial update.
- 6) DHCD counts group home units on the SHI based on aggregated unit information provided directly by the Department of Mental Health ("DMH") and the Department of Developmental Services ("DDS").
- 7) If you have no changes to the draft inventory, please confirm that your inventory is correct by writing "no changes" and returning the inventory page(s).

This correspondence is being mailed to the Mayor, Town Manager/Administrator, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Planning Director/Department in each community as applicable. We ask that the appropriate officials in each municipality review this information and provide a coordinated response either confirming the information contained in the report, submitting corrections, and/or requesting that DHCD newly add or restore units to the SHI. **Complete information and required documentation must be submitted to ensure units will be newly added or restored to the SHI.**

**We further request that you complete this review and return the enclosed draft inventory record with any applicable corrections, additions, and documentation by June 4, 2022. Please submit this information by emailing it via attachment to [dhcdshiupdate@mass.gov](mailto:dhcdshiupdate@mass.gov). With your submission, please also indicate the best email address to which we may direct electronic communications regarding SHI biennial updates in the future.**

Please additionally note that Planned Production and DHCD's Local Initiative Program ("LIP") are powerful tools to assist communities in meeting their affordable housing goals in a manner consistent with local planning and development goals. The Housing Production Plan Guidelines, available at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/housing-production-plan-guidelines/download>, clarify the requirements of the housing production plans and the steps to implement the plans under the regulations (760 CMR 56.03(4)), including the requirement that certification of the plans be requested of DHCD during the calendar year in which the units were initially SHI eligible. LIP provides communities a method for counting units on the SHI that are not otherwise subsidized in accordance with the regulations. Please see section VI of the aforementioned c. 40B guidelines for further information on LIP requirements. LIP applications for comprehensive permit projects and for Local Action Units ("LAUs") can be found at DHCD's website at <http://www.mass.gov/dhcd> (search under "Local Initiative Program").

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation. If you have any questions, please email [dhcdshiupdate@mass.gov](mailto:dhcdshiupdate@mass.gov), or you may contact Margaux LeClair at (617) 573-1526.

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Charles D. Baker, Governor  
Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor  
Jamey Tesler, Secretary & CEO

**massDOT**  
Massachusetts Department of Transportation

April 28, 2022

Jeffrey Hull  
Town Manager  
121 Glen Road  
Room 11  
Wilmington, MA 01887

MASSDOT  
12/28/22 10:12:28

Dear Jeffrey Hull:

We are happy to announce \$100,000,000 in statewide funding for the Winter Recovery Assistance Program, also known as WRAP. WRAP provides supplemental funding to cities and towns for improvements to their transportation networks in response to this past winter's harsh weather. Program funding is allocated using a formula based on a municipality's share of local roadway mileage. Wilmington's WRAP funding apportionment is \$322,055.27 based on its locally owned mileage of 96.569226900000004.

WRAP is a reimbursement-based program, and municipalities must enter into an agreement with MassDOT before incurring any costs. Funding must be spent on eligible expenses in order to be reimbursed by MassDOT, and municipalities must submit online project reports with each reimbursement request. Please only begin WRAP work after receiving a Notice to Proceed from MassDOT. To initiate the contracting process, email [WRAPReporting@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:WRAPReporting@dot.state.ma.us) with the contact information (including email address) of your municipality's authorized signatory. The spending deadline for WRAP funding is **June 30, 2023**.

Additional program details including contracting, eligible costs, project reporting, and key deadlines are available online at [www.mass.gov/winter-recovery-assistance-program-wrap](http://www.mass.gov/winter-recovery-assistance-program-wrap). Thank you for your commitment to improving the Commonwealth's transportation infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Charles D. Baker  
Governor

Karyn E. Polito  
Lieutenant Governor



**TOWN OF WILMINGTON**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**Office of the Director**  
**121 Glen Road**  
**Wilmington MA 01887**  
**(978) 658-4481**

May 3, 2022

Mr. Jeffrey Hull, Town Manager  
Town of Wilmington  
121 Glen Road  
Wilmington, MA 01887

Re: 21 Day Notice – 2022 Vegetation Management

This letter is to inform the Town of Wilmington of the intention to selectively spray herbicides within Town owned Rights of Way, pursuant to 333 CMR 11.05-11.07 Rights of Way Management. This treatment is conducted as a component of an integrated vegetation management program which also utilizes mechanical and natural control techniques.

The Town of Wilmington's five-year Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) for 2020-2024 and Yearly Operations Plan (YOP) for 2022 is posted on the Town of Wilmington's Tree Division website: [http://wilmingtonma.gov/Pages/WilmingtonMA\\_PublicWorks/tree](http://wilmingtonma.gov/Pages/WilmingtonMA_PublicWorks/tree). A hard copy can be provided upon request.

All of the herbicides selected for this program are registered by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, the Massachusetts Pesticide Board, and are recommended for use in and around sensitive areas jointly by the Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. The potential herbicides used as part of the Plan are listed on page 4 in the Yearly Operations Plan.

Foliar herbicide treatments will take place between June 1, 2022 and October 21, 2022. The exact time is dependent upon weather conditions and field crew availability. Treatments will be made by licensed / certified applicators.

In compliance with 333 CMR 11.06-11.07, no herbicide applications will occur before the conclusion of the 45-day YOP review period, the 21-day treatment notice, and the 48 –hour newspaper notice. At the end of the these review periods, which can run concurrently, no application shall commence more than ten days before nor conclude more than ten days after the treatment periods listed above.

The treatments will be performed by in-house Wilmington DPW crews. For inquiries concerning the safety of the herbicides please contact:

Director of Rights of Way Program  
Department of Agricultural Resources  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 500  
Boston, MA 02114-2151

Technical questions related to the treatment program, VMP, or YOP may be directed to DPW Operations Manager Jamie Magaldi at 978-658-4481.

Sincerely,

Jamie M. Magaldi, PE, MCA  
Operations Manager / Tree Warden

cc: Board of Health, Planning & Conservation, DPW Water Division, Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau

Water & Sewer  
Tree

Highway & Fleet Maintenance  
Engineering

Parks & Grounds  
Cemetery

**TOWN OF WILMINGTON  
RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

To: Jeff Hull  
From: Karen Campbell  
Re: Lifeguard status (as of 5/3/22)  
Date: May 3, 2022

As you know, it is currently a challenge nationally, statewide and locally to hire Lifeguards. A few factors that appear to be contributing to this shortage include:

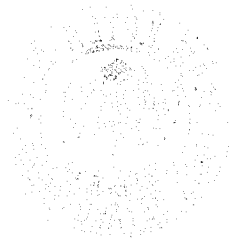
- + a much smaller pool of high school and college students that are looking for employment
- + a lack of certification opportunities during COVID
- + a heightened fear of litigation as paid employees are held responsible for various situations

In general, people are booking more immediate plans rather than looking ahead. We have people interested in trips for tomorrow, for classes and programs after registration deadlines and we are not surprised that students looking for summer jobs are not applying yet. All that being said...

We currently have the Beach Supervisor, Andrea Gillis, and 6 certified Lifeguards hired for the summer. One of those can't begin working weekdays until June 24, and another is leaving July 9 for an internship opportunity. Andrea and I will be running a Lifeguard Certification course from June 4 – 8 which we will publicize to try to attract additional guards. We have one candidate already planning to attend. We also received an application from a prospective guard yesterday. Andrea will interview her as soon as possible.

I prefer to open the Beach with 15 to 20 Lifeguards. Last year we managed with 11 although we had many closures due to poor weather conditions and the large live-in goose family. It has helped that we have added the Gate Attendant position to reduce the required number of guards per shift.

We began advertising for Lifeguards in January by posting the position in Town Hall and on the Town website, on Face Book and in the Daily Apple, and on the Employment page for Massachusetts Recreation and Parks Association. We have been in touch with the WHS Athletic Director and the Swim Team Coach to attempt to recruit new guards. We have contacted area pools that run certification classes including the Burbank YMCA, the



Lowell YMCA, St. Johns Preparatory School and the Shawsheen Technical School to advertise for guards. We have worked with an instructor to offer a class over April vacation. We are re-advertising the position every four to six weeks. We have also included information in our Winter, Spring and Summer newsletters. We are networking at monthly regional Aquatics meetings for Recreation Departments in the area with beaches and pools. We have signs in Town Hall, and many residents have greeted me lately with "Got Guards?" Hopefully the word is out that we are looking!

While we hold Orientation for our Beach Staff from June 9 – 11, we will continue to hire any Guards that meet our criteria through early July, if necessary. We have had to be very flexible with start dates and work schedules in order to maintain the number of Lifeguards we have.

There are some communities that are already saying they will not be able to open facilities this summer due to the lack of Lifeguards (i.e. Framingham), and others that are reducing hours. I certainly hope we don't get to this point, but obviously we can't be open if it is not safe for our residents. If we can't maintain staffing for 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., I would work with Andrea to see if we can at least cover 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. so that the most popular beach hours are covered. We may have to cut more drastically if we don't get more Lifeguards, or if the Lifeguards hired have limited availability. Some area beaches have closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, for example.

I am open to any suggestions, with the exception of wearing a swimsuit in public. Please don't hesitate to contact me for any further clarification, updates or to answer any questions.

**BLATMAN, BOBROWSKI, HAVERTY & SILVERSTEIN, LLC**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

9 DAMONMILL SQUARE, SUITE 4A4  
CONCORD, MA 01742  
PHONE 978.371.2226  
FAX 978.371.2296

CHRISTOPHER J. ALPHEN, ESQ.  
Chris@bbhslaw.net

April 26, 2022

Mr. Daniel J. Veerman  
Chairman, Wilmington Zoning Board of Appeals  
Town of Wilmington  
Room 5, 121 Glen Road  
Wilmington, MA 01887

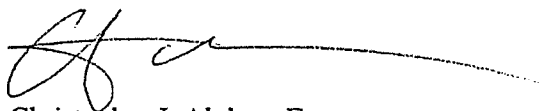
RE: **Comprehensive Permit – 100-104 West Street, Wilmington, MA**  
**100 West Street, LLC – Extension of Time**

Dear Chairman Veerman:

Please be advised this office represents 100 West Street, LLC (the “Applicant”) regarding the above referenced Comprehensive Permit Application which was filed on April 22, 2022. Pursuant to G.L. c. 40B, § 21 and 760 CMR 56.05(3), the Applicant hereby extends the time for the Board to open the public hearing until May 25, 2022.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact us.

Very Truly Yours,



Christopher J. Alphen, Esq.

cc:  
George X. Pucci, Esq. (by email)

Boy Scout Troop 322  
364 South Street  
Tewksbury, MA 01876  
(978) 658-9784

2022 APR 21 10 55 AM  
2022 APR 21 10 55 AM

April 21, 2022

Wilmington Board of Selectmen  
Attn: Lilia Maselli  
121 Glen Road, Rm 11  
Wilmington, MA 01887

Dear Wilmington Board of Selectmen:

This letter is to ask for your assistance in recognizing the achievements and service of Cyrus Paul Rich for his accomplishment of reaching the rank of Eagle Scout on August 13, 2020.

Would you be so kind as to send Cyrus a letter of congratulations, along with any other items you wish to be presented to him during his Eagle Court of Honor ceremony to be held on July 17, 2022 at 1:00 p.m..

Please address your letter and recognitions to:

Eagle Scout Cyrus Paul Rich  
6 Temple Street  
Tewksbury, MA 01876

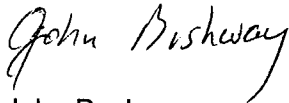
Please send letters to:

Troop 322  
364 South Street  
Tewksbury, MA 01876

All of the recognitions will be displayed during his Court of Honor.

Thank you very much for taking time from your busy work schedule to help this community and Troop 322 recognize the personal achievement and service of Eagle Scout Cyrus Paul Rich.

Sincerely,



John Bushway  
Committee Chair, Troop 322



Town Manager Jeffrey Hull  
121 Glen Road  
Wilmington, MA 01887

TOWN MANAGER  
22 MAY 5 PM 2007

Dear Tree City USA Community Member,

On behalf of the Arbor Day Foundation, I congratulate Town of Wilmington on earning recognition as a 2021 Tree City USA. We are so thrilled that Town of Wilmington takes pride in creating a community that places unique value on the planting and caring of trees.

Town of Wilmington is part of an incredible network of more than 3,600 Tree City USA's, with a combined total population of 155 million. The Tree City USA program is one of the Arbor Day Foundation's earliest programs. We are proud to partner with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters to maintain this community.

Over the last few years, it has become increasingly clear of the value and importance that trees hold for our future. Cities and towns across the globe are facing challenges when it comes to air quality, water resources, personal health and well-being, and energy use. Town of Wilmington shows its residents and peers that they are forward-thinking and eager to combat these issues. By showing your dedication to urban forestry, you demonstrate a commitment to a brighter, greener future.

We hope you are as excited as we are to share this accomplishment with your local media and your residents. Enclosed in this packet is a press release for you to distribute at your convenience.

State foresters will receive the Tree City USA recognition materials and coordinate on how to distribute them. We will forward information about your awards to your state forester's office to facilitate the presentation. Your community's Arbor Day ceremony would be the best time to mention the Tree City USA award.

Again, we are excited to celebrate your commitment to the people and trees of Town of Wilmington and thank you for helping us plant, nurture and celebrate trees.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Lambe'.

Dan Lambe  
Arbor Day Foundation Chief Executive



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Arbor Day Foundation

Lauren Weyers

[lweyers@arborday.org](mailto:lweyers@arborday.org)

**Arbor Day Foundation Recognizes Town of Wilmington as a Tree City USA®**  
*Town of Wilmington earns the Tree City USA recognition for their commitment to urban forestry*

LINCOLN, Nebraska (4/8/2022) – Town of Wilmington was named a 2021 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to effective urban forest management.

Town of Wilmington achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: forming a tree board or department, creating a tree-care ordinance, having an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation. The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

"Tree City USA communities benefit from the positive effects that an urban tree canopy has year after year," said Dan Lambe, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "The trees being planted and cared for by Town of Wilmington ensure that generations to come will enjoy a better quality of life. Additionally, participation in this program helps cultivate a sense of stewardship and pride for the trees the community plants and cares for."

Planting trees in an urban space comes with a myriad of benefits past the recognition of this program. Urban tree plantings help reduce energy consumption by up to 25%, which will reduce general energy costs and help with the overall cooling of the city as well. In addition, members of the community benefit from properly placed trees as they increase property values from 7–20%. Trees also positively affect the local ecosystem by helping to clean water and create animal habitats to encourage biodiversity.

More information on the program is available at [arborday.org/TreeCityUSA](http://arborday.org/TreeCityUSA).

**About the Arbor Day Foundation**

Founded in 1972, the Arbor Day Foundation has grown to become the largest nonprofit membership organization dedicated to planting trees, with more than one million members, supporters and valued partners. Since 1972, almost 500 million Arbor Day Foundation trees have been planted in neighborhoods, communities, cities and forests throughout the world. Our vision is to lead toward a world where trees are used to solve issues critical to survival.

As one of the world's largest operating conservation foundations, the Arbor Day Foundation, through its members, partners and programs, educates and engages stakeholders and communities across the globe to involve themselves in its mission of planting, nurturing and celebrating trees. More information is available at [arborday.org](http://arborday.org).