

# MY CITY, MY NEWS



City of  
Philadelphia

One Philly, A Connected City.

January 21, 2025



## Your Voice Matters: Help Shape Our City's New Safety Campaign!

### ***By the Office of Risk Management***

Risk Management is thrilled to announce an exciting new safety campaign aimed at keeping our City safer, stronger, and more connected than ever before.

But here's the best part: we need YOU to help make it unforgettable!

We're calling on all departments to contribute their creativity, ideas, and insights to help us craft the perfect slogan—one that truly represents the spirit and values of our City.

This is your chance to make a difference and leave your mark on an initiative that will benefit everyone.

Let's work together to create something inspiring, impactful, and uniquely ours.

Below is a survey we created for you to complete to start the process. Let's show the power of teamwork in action! 💬✨

**You can access the survey at this link:**  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/7R8Q9V5](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7R8Q9V5).

It takes just 5-10 minutes to complete!

If you have any questions or encounter issues, please contact Corinne Carter at [corinne.carter@phila.gov](mailto:corinne.carter@phila.gov).

### **This Month We Recognize:**

United Nations World Braille Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day,  
National Glaucoma Awareness Month and Cervical Health Awareness Month

**Follow us on Social Media**

@PhilaOHR

**Submit something to the newsletter**

[bit.ly/philaCitynews](https://bit.ly/philaCitynews)

**Contact us with HR questions**

[hrhelpdesk@phila.gov](mailto:hrhelpdesk@phila.gov) or 215-686-0880



## CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM - SPRING REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Deadline to Enroll: February 7, 2025

If you are seeking professional development opportunities, consider enrolling in the Construction Management Certificate Program. A certificate is awarded to City employees who successfully complete 10 eligible courses in the program. Completion of the program may help candidates meet eligibility requirements for some Civil Service Examinations.

[Sign Up!](#)



## RESOURCE REMINDER: RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT FUND

The Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and the Philadelphia City Fund (PCF) are accepting interest forms for the Resident Engagement Fund.

This Fund allows City departments to pay residents for their time and expertise with gift cards or stipends. It also enables departments to pay for community engagement and provides \$95,000 in seed funding for unbudgeted projects.

[Learn More!](#)



## SUBMIT YOUR PROJECT FOR THE GREEN SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The Green Schools Program empowers Philadelphia students to create a greener, safer city through recycling and sustainability projects.

Schools can receive up to \$2,500 for initiatives, teaching students valuable skills to share at home and in their communities. Foster young creativity and make a difference for our city and planet. Learn more and have your students apply today!

[Learn More!](#)



## WE WALK PHL

We Walk PHL is for anyone interested in staying active, spending time in Philly parks, and connecting with neighbors.

In preparation for 2025, we are hosting 30-min virtual drop-in info sessions open to anyone interested in We Walk PHL. Join us to learn where groups are walking, where to get updates, and how to get involved.

[Learn More!](#)

## Blast from the Past: Pieces of Philly History

*From: Office of the City Representative via PhillyHistory.org*

In August 1965, Martin Luther King Jr. joined Philadelphia NAACP leader Cecil B. Moore, who led desegregation protests at Girard College, for a press conference. Despite past differences, Moore supported King's nonviolent approach. The next day, King addressed 5,000 at a rally at Girard College, now a hub for MLK Day activities in Philadelphia.







## Who is working successPhilly?

### *Meet the Philadelphia Water Department*

At the Philadelphia Water Department (PWD), our dedicated team works tirelessly to ensure that every Philadelphian has access to safe, high-quality drinking water. Supporting our community goes beyond maintaining our vast network of over 3,100 miles of water mains, 3,700 miles of sewers, six treatment facilities, and 34 pumping stations. It's about delivering services with fairness, equity, and a focus on public involvement.

We're excited to spotlight our employees and their contributions to our new **Lead Plumbing and Water Quality Initiatives**. These initiatives represent the latest in our longstanding efforts to safeguard public health while complying with federal mandates.

#### **Key projects include:**

- Lead Testing in Schools and Childcare Facilities: Offering lead plumbing assessments to protect our youngest residents.
- Service Line Material Mapping: Sharing an interactive map with PWD's service line records to increase transparency.
- Citywide Notifications: Keeping residents informed about their service line materials and potential updates.



These programs reflect our deep commitment to protecting Philadelphia's families and enhancing water quality for generations to come. To learn more about our initiatives and how they can benefit you, visit [water.phila.gov/lead](https://water.phila.gov/lead).

Thank you to our incredible PWD team for their hard work and dedication to making these programs possible!

## Making It Happen: Upcoming Events!

### Come Heal with Us - CRG Healing Space

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
January 22, 2025 | 12 - 1 p.m.  
Virtual - Zoom

With the start of a new year comes new challenges. With new challenges comes new stressors. So, in collaboration with the DEI Team at DBHIDS, the LGBTQ+ CRG is offering a virtual healing space that is open to all. The healing space will offer a confidential space for people to share their burdens and find support amongst their colleagues. [\*\*RSVP here!\*\*](#)

### 2025 Point in Time Count!

Office of Homeless Services  
January 22, 2025  
Virtual and In-Person Events

Volunteers are needed for the 1/22/2025 Point-In-Time Count! Roles include Team Leader, Counter, Youth and Young Adult Guide, or Event Logistics volunteer, to survey those experiencing homelessness. This federally mandated data is vital for understanding and addressing homelessness in Philly. Questions? *Contact: [sherylle.linton-jones@phila.gov](mailto:sherylle.linton-jones@phila.gov)* - [\*\*Learn more and sign up here!\*\*](#)

### Picture Perfect - Get a Headshot with Creative Services!

Women of Color Resource Group  
January 24, 2025 | 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Innovation Lab, MSB, 16 fl.

The WOC CRG invites you to an exciting in-person event during our General Body Meeting on January 24! Attendees can receive a FREE professional headshot, courtesy of the City of Philadelphia Creative Services Department. Spots are limited to 30 participants, so register early for this valuable opportunity! [\*\*Register here!\*\*](#)

### Credit Building Fundamentals: Building Credit as an Asset

Department of Commerce  
January 27, 2025 | 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.  
Virtual - Zoom

Join Commerce for a virtual webinar to learn more about how the credit system works, why credit building matters, how reports & scores are generated, and the role debt plays in credit building. This session will be held on Monday, January 27, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. [\*\*Please register if you are interested in attending this session.\*\*](#)

### Know Your City: Ombudsperson

Young Employee Resource Group  
January 28, 2025 | 12 p.m.  
Virtual - Teams

Join the Young Employee Resource Group (YERG) Tuesday, Jan 28 at 12pm for a virtual Know Your City session, hosted by the City's Employee Ombudsperson, Shakeya Foreman, JD! Learn about the mission of the office, how they equip employees to resolve workplace concerns, and ways to engage. [\*\*Email kelsey.hubbell@phila.gov to RSVP\*\*](mailto:kelsey.hubbell@phila.gov)

### Get Involved in the Vision Zero Five-Year Action Plan

Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems

The City of Philadelphia Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS) is planning the next five-year Vision Zero Action Plan. To develop these plans, the City needs input from all Philadelphians about their traffic safety concerns and their goals for the safe future of Philadelphia. The City has developed several tools to gather public input for the Action Plan. You can review the list. [\*\*Learn more and visit visionzerophl.com to get involved!\*\*](https://visionzerophl.com)

### 2025 Annual Cyber Security Awareness Training

Office of Innovation & Technology  
February 3, 2025 to March 7, 2025

The 2025 Cybersecurity Training is coming soon! This mandatory training for all City employees & contractors teaches effective ways to safeguard data and devices. **\*\*Important Update\*\***: The training has moved to SmarterU, also known as the Citywide LMS. The course takes no longer than 45 minutes. [\*\*Complete the training at phila.smarteru.com\*\*](https://phila.smarteru.com)

### 2025 Immigrant Heritage Month

Office of Immigrant Affairs  
June, 2025  
Various Locations

The Office of Immigrant Affairs is excited to announce Immigrant Heritage Month (IHM) this June! IHM celebrates the rich diversity and stories that shape America. We're inviting organizations with cultural events, movie screenings, or educational programs to collaborate with us. Stay tuned for details on partnering with OIA to make this celebration truly special! [\*\*Learn more about IHM!\*\*](#)

### Braille Literacy Month

Office for People with Disabilities  
January, 2025

January is Braille Literacy Month, a time to raise awareness about the importance of Braille as a vital tool for literacy and independence among people who are blind or visually impaired. Established in honor of Louis Braille, the inventor of the Braille system, this month highlights the ongoing need to promote Braille education and ensure equal access to information. [\*\*Learn more!\*\*](#)



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## Employee Resources

### City Resource Group Meetings

City Resource Groups (CRGs) are designed to make the City of Philadelphia a more inclusive place to work by creating intentional, employee-led spaces for City employees who are members and allies of diverse communities. Content and meeting topics across each CRG vary, however, all groups focus on the following:

- Networking: Meet and build community with City employees beyond your department
- Talent Development: Participate in professional development seminars to increase your skills or join a CRG leadership team
- Enhance Diversity & Inclusion Strategies and Initiatives: Work closely with the Office of DEI and understand how you can contribute to your department's DEI goals

Learn about the groups [here](#), or for information on how to join a CRG or CRG leadership team, email Brenna.Schmidt@phila.gov

### CITYWIDE IT TRAINING

The Office of Innovation & Technology contracts with several vendors to provide information technology training. This is available on site, hands-on, and interactively to all City Departments. The Order Form and the Course Catalog are posted on the Office of Innovation and Technology Intranet, see Forms and Document Page. Please note that all training requires the approval of both the department's authorized personnel and fiscal agent.

**[VIEW AVAILABLE COURSES](#)**

### COVID-19 INFORMATION

**PDPH Call Center:** Looking for information or resources related to COVID-19 including [information about where you can get free masks, test kits, and hand sanitizer](#)? Call the PDPH hotline, Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. to speak with a trained Information Specialist. **CALL** 215-685-5488 or **EMAIL** [publichealthinfo@phila.gov](mailto:publichealthinfo@phila.gov)

### DISCLAIMER

This is a citywide email, distributed to all employees with a phila.gov email address. Attendance at events during work hours must be approved by your supervisor. Occasionally, some information you receive may be applicable only to a certain group of employees, like exempts. We will clearly label such information, but if you have questions, please contact your HR administrator. Any special citywide discounts have been approved in advance by the Chief Integrity Officer and are available to all City employees who are interested.

Reference in this newsletter to any specific commercial product, process, or service, or the use of any trade, firm or corporation name is for the information and convenience of City employees, and does not constitute endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the City of Philadelphia.

### READYPHILADELPHIA

Stay connected to the weather forecast and important information from the City, directly to your phone! The city's emergency notification system is now available in 11 languages including American Sign Language. Text READYPHILA to 888777 to receive alerts to your device or sign up with your preferred language by visiting our ReadyPhiladelphia [webpage](#) for phone and text alerts.

**[SIGN UP FOR ALERTS](#)**

### CITY COLLEGE FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYMENT

Have you seen the new homepage for the City College for Municipal Employment? Check it out on [phila.gov](http://phila.gov) and explore some of the options and details!

<https://www.phila.gov/programs/city-college-for-municipal-employment-ccme/>

### LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

NEW self-care and mental health resources for employees coping with the impact of COVID-19 are now available on the LMS, in addition to a variety of training and career development resources. Simply visit the Knowledge Base on the LMS for more information on COVID-19 Employee Self-Care. **[ACCESS THE LMS](#)**

### CITY INTRANET

Receive updates and access City resources like central duplication, an updated org chart, and updates on employee benefits and programs! All announcements listed here are also posted to the City's Intranet. **[CHECK IT OUT](#)**