

MY CITY, MY NEWS



City of
Philadelphia

One Philly, A Connected City.

December 1, 2025

Shaping the Future of **PHILADELPHIA, TOGETHER**



Share Your Vision for the City with Philadelphia2050!

*By the **Philadelphia City Planning Commission** and the **Department of Planning and Development***

The Philadelphia City Planning Commission is asking residents to help shape the city's long-term future, and they want to hear directly from you! As part of the first phase of updating the City's comprehensive plan, **Philadelphia2050: Planning Together**, planners have launched the **Vision Survey**—a chance for Philadelphians to express how they want their city and neighborhoods to look in the decades ahead.

Survey questions range from topics like safety and economic opportunity to transportation and neighborhood health, allowing planners to gather insight on what matters most to residents. Your reflections will guide the priorities of the Philadelphia2050 plan—a roadmap that will influence how Philadelphia grows, invests, and meets community needs for years to come.

City employees are encouraged not only to participate themselves, but also to share the survey with Philadelphia friends, neighbors, coworkers, and community networks. A truly representative vision depends on as many voices as possible.

Help shape the future of Philadelphia! Share your ideas, spread the word, and take part in planning a stronger, more vibrant city for generations to come.

You can also take the survey in-person!

For a full list of in-person survey locations, the list of survey questions, and more information about Philadelphia2050, **[read the blog post on phila.gov!](#)**



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hrhelpdesk@phila.gov or 215-686-0880

Calling All City Employees!

Apply to Host a Summer 2026 MIP Intern!

The Mayor's Internship Program (MIP) is seeking passionate and committed City of Philadelphia professionals and departments to serve as mentors and host sites for the next class of talented college students in **summer 2026**.

As a mentor, you will:

- Provide meaningful projects and hands-on professional experiences.
- Share your expertise and inspire the next generation of public servants.
- Support the City's mission by investing in workforce development.
- Gain fresh perspectives and innovative ideas from emerging talent.



Together, let's shape the future of public service and build the next generation of City leaders! Application deadline is **January 9, 2026**.

➔ **If you're interested in hosting an intern, please complete the interest form** or email mip@phila.gov for more information.

Intern Commitment: 10 weeks, full-time (37.5 hours per week)
Program Dates: June 8 – August 14, 2026

Click the logo to view the MIP 2026 flyer for departments!



Submit a Recipe for the City of Philadelphia Workforce Cookbook!



The Office of the Chief Administrative Officer is collecting recipes for the City of Philadelphia Workforce Cookbook! Led by the Employee Engagement, Infrastructure & Operations (EEIO) unit, this citywide project celebrates the heart, culture, and creativity of our workforce.

We're inviting employees from every department to share a favorite recipe that reflects who you are, your heritage, or simply something you love to make. From treasured family dishes to quick weekday favorites, every submission helps tell the story of our diverse and vibrant City workforce.

Together, these recipes will form a one-of-a-kind collection that connects us across departments and celebrates the people who make Philadelphia work. The digital cookbook will be available to all City employees in February 2026. The deadline to submit a recipe is **December 31, 2025**. ➔ **Submit your recipe online!**

Project Warmth: A CAO Initiative

The Office of the Chief Administrative Officer is collecting new, warm socks, hats, gloves, and hand warmers to support unhoused individuals across Philadelphia. Donations will be accepted **November 3, 2025 to January 2, 2026** and can be delivered to Suite 630 in the Municipal Services Building.

Departments are invited to host collection bins in their offices to make it easier for staff to participate. Every item donated helps bring warmth, comfort, and care to those who need it most.

Sign up to host a collection bin in your department using this form!

View the Project Warmth flyer!



OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY ANNOUNCES CLIMATE RESILIENCE PARTNERS

The Office of Sustainability has announced the community-based organizations selected for the Climate Resilience Partner Program. Over 10 months, these Partners will gather feedback from residents, host engagement events, and help identify the solutions communities need as Philadelphia faces increasing heat, flooding, and severe storms. Each group will receive training and grant support and has nominated an Ambassador to participate in workshops and share local priorities with City leadership.

Click the button below to view the list of Climate Resilience Partner organization and learn more about the important role they'll play in shaping Philadelphia's updated Climate Resilience Plan.

[Read about Climate Resilience Partners](#)



LAW DEPARTMENT RECEIVES 2025 WORKPLACE AWARDS

The Law Department is proud to close out 2025 as the recipient of two awards, affirming our commitment to fostering an inclusive workplace centered on community and public service.

The Law Department was recognized as the 2025 Internship Site of the Year Award for Project Career Launch at Drexel University, a school-to-work transition program to prepare young adults on the autism spectrum for career-focused employment.

We were also honored with the Bar Champion Award by the Philadelphia Bar Association, recognizing 100% membership, leadership involvement, active engagement, and meaningful community service.

[Law Department Bar Champion Award](#)



WHAT'S NEW AT CHRISTMAS VILLAGE 2025

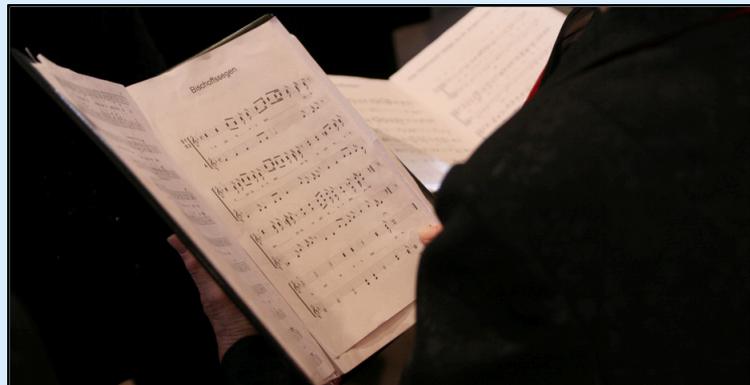
The Christmas Village is open for another magical holiday season! The beloved open-air market returns November 27 – December 24, 2025.

As the Christmas Village celebrates its 18th year, guests can look forward to festive favorites and exciting new upgrades.

Want to see what's new and what's returning this season? Click the button below for all the highlights!



[Read about the 2025 Christmas Village](#)



JOIN THE CITY EMPLOYEE CHOIR

The Municipal Employee Choral Ensemble (MECE) is comprised of City workers who practice during their lunchtime and make a joyous noise at Christmas Village, MSB, and other locations. Its last appearance was October for the Mural Arts dedication of "Civic Views", now permanently mounted at the MSB concourse.

We meet seasonally on Mondays at 1515 Arch Street (18th Floor) at noon for rehearsal. All voice ranges are welcome.

Contact William.Powell@phila.gov for follow-up.

[Email Bill Powell to learn more!](#)

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Making It Happen: Upcoming Events!

PDPH Virtual Information Session - Healthy Holidays

Philadelphia Department of Public Health
December 2, 2025 | 11 a.m.
Virtual - Zoom

Please join us Tuesday, December 2 at 11 a.m. for a virtual information session on **Healthy Holidays** to learn how to keep your loved ones safe this season! We'll share the latest guidance on measles, COVID-19 (including at-home test kits), and RSV so you can enjoy the holidays with peace of mind and good health. Please submit any questions and accommodation requests when registering for the session. All materials will be shared with registrants after. **Register for PDPH Virtual Information Session - Healthy Holidays.**

Falls Writing Group

Free Library of Philadelphia
December 2, 2025 | 5:30 p.m.
Falls of Schuylkill Library, 3501 Midvale Ave

Connect with other writers for motivation, accountability, and inspiration via free writing, prompts and writing games, group sharing, feedback sessions, and more. This will be a positive and non-judgmental community open to writers of all genres and skill levels. Meets most Tuesdays from 5:30 to about 6:45 p.m. in the Adult area of the library. **View Falls Writing Group** on the Free Library calendar.

City of Philadelphia's Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration

Office of the City Representative
December 4, 2025 | 6 p.m.
City Hall, N Broad St & JFK Blvd

Join us as we kick off the holiday season at Philadelphia's annual Holiday Tree Lighting on Thursday, December 4 from 6 - 8 p.m. on the north side of City Hall. This year's celebration features a special performance by GRAMMY® Award-winning headliner Ashanti, plus plenty of festive entertainment, installations, and family-friendly activities. **Read more about the performers, installations, and activities at this year's tree lighting celebration.**

Deaf & Hard of Hearing Community Gathering

Free Library of Philadelphia
December 6, 2025 | 10:30 a.m.
Joseph E. Coleman Northwest Regional Library, 68 W Chelton Ave

Join us on the **first Saturday of every month** from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. for a gathering for deaf and hard-of-hearing communities. This is a welcoming space for deaf, hard-of-hearing, CODA, SODA, and hearing allies to connect, and for community members to share resources and support each other. These family-friendly gatherings are focused on ASL and Deaf culture with activities such as signed stories and ASL rhymes for children and are open to anyone interested. ASL Interpreter will be present. **View Deaf & Hard of Hearing Community Gathering** on the Free Library calendar.

Open Streets: West Walnut

Office of Special Events
December 7, 2025 | 10 a.m.
Walnut Street (Broad to 19th) & 18th Street (Locust to Chestnut)

Center City District, with the support of Rittenhouse Row and the City of Philadelphia, will host a special holiday edition of **Open Streets: West Walnut** on **Sunday, December 7, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** Nearly eight blocks of Walnut Street (Broad to 19th) and 18th Street (Locust to Chestnut) will be closed to vehicles, giving visitors space to stroll, shop, dine, and enjoy festive activities. Highlights include a baby grand piano sculpted from ice throughout the day, a live performance in the afternoon, holiday carolers, strolling bubble magic, a visit from Santa, and a family-friendly zone with games and toys. Select cross streets, including 15th, 16th, 17th, and 19th Streets, as well as the 1700 and 1800 blocks of Sansom Street, will remain open.

LAST DAY: 2025 Combined Campaign

Office of Human Resources
December 12, 2025

December 12 is the final day to donate to charity through the **2025 Combined Campaign**. By making a one-time donation or pledging a set dollar amount per 2026 paycheck, City employees can support vetted charities that are making a difference in Philadelphia and beyond. **You can donate online through the giving portal!**

Civic Engagement Academy Learning Series - Asset Mapping

Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity
December 17, 2025 | 6 p.m.
Virtual - Zoom

The Civic Engagement Academy (CEA) Learning Series provides community members with the tools to create lasting positive change. The trainings encourage local problem-solving and prepare residents to become community leaders, organizers, and activists. In this training, you will learn how to identify the right people and resources for your work. **Register for CEA Learning Series - Asset Mapping**, and **view the CEA Learning Series - Asset Mapping flyer!**

Open Mic Night

Free Library of Philadelphia
December 19, 2025 | 5:30 p.m.
Nicetown-Tioga Library, 3720 N Broad St

We are bringing back open mic nights! Join us for an evening of music, poetry, spoken word, and more at our Nicetown Café. Program runs from 5:30 - 8 p.m. and is for ages 21 and older. Upcoming date is **December 19**. **View Open Mic Night** on the Free Library calendar!

Coffee & Conversations: An Open Mic Spoken Word Night

Free Library of Philadelphia
December 30, 2025 | 4:30 p.m.
Walnut Street West Library, 201 S 40th St

Join us for Coffee & Conversations, a monthly open mic and spoken word gathering where poetry, storytelling, and community come together. Each month we explore a new theme, inviting you to listen, reflect, and share words that inspire connection and creativity. The evening features dynamic performances from talented poets, followed by an open mic where community voices shine. Whether you're a seasoned performer or stepping to the mic for the first time, this is a welcoming space to celebrate the power of words. Free coffee and refreshments provided. To **register for Coffee & Conversations**, click **Check Availability**, and choose the date you would like to attend. **View Coffee & Conversations** on the Free Library Calendar

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Work ResourcePhilly

YOUR CITY. YOUR MISSION. YOUR FUTURE.

STAY CONNECTED. STAY INFORMED.

Whether you're in the office or out in the field, the City of Philadelphia Employee Website is your one-stop destination for the latest news, tools, and updates that matter to YOU including:

- ✔ Benefits & Open Enrollment Info
- ✔ Training Opportunities
- ✔ Resources to Help You Thrive
- ✔ Payroll Access
- ✔ Employee News
- ✔ Share Your Story

GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW CITY EMPLOYEES.

From Water to Parks & Rec, from Licenses & Inspections to Health – we're all on the same team. The Employee Website helps build a stronger, more connected City workforce by sharing stories, spotlighting departments, and celebrating our collective impact.



 City of Philadelphia | *One Philly, for all.*

Visit [EMPLOYEE.PHILA.GOV](https://employee.phila.gov)
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[Employee.phila.gov](https://employee.phila.gov)

Employee.phila.gov is a new online resource designed to support City employees. This hub brings together essential information in one easy-to-access location! Need details on benefits, workplace policies, or well-being programs? The hub site has you covered with clear, up-to-date information. The site also provides tools to help you share career opportunities with friends, family, and community members who may be interested in joining the City workforce. [Explore the page!](#)

CITY RESOURCE GROUP MEETINGS

City Resource Groups (CRGs) create employee-led spaces to support diverse communities and allies, helping make the City a more inclusive workplace. CRGs offer networking, leadership opportunities, and skill-building through professional development. Members also collaborate with the Office of DEI to support departmental diversity goals. [Learn more about CRGs](#) or email Brenna.Schmidt@phila.gov to join or get involved.

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](#)

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](#)

LANGUAGE ACCESS PHILLY

All City departments must have a Language Access Plan (LAP) to ensure residents with non-English language preference (NELP) can access services for free.

Language Access Philly connects departments with interpretation and translation services to support multilingual communities. Need help? Contact your Language Access Coordinator or [visit the Language Access Philly resource page](#).

DISABILITY ACCESS RESOURCES

The City of Philadelphia is committed to making City services accessible to all residents, including people with disabilities. Through policies, programs, and resources, the Office for People with Disabilities works to support inclusion and access. Explore accessible spaces, disability data, systems navigation videos, and key policies. Learn more on [the website](#) and contact the Office for support.

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. Please note, you must be connected to either City Wi-Fi, LAN, or through approved VPN to access. [CHECK IT OUT](#)

SEPTA KEY ADVANTAGE

There's still time to get on board with **SEPTA Key Advantage**. Whether you're already enrolled or thinking about signing up, keep riding with ease. Log in to app.jawntpass.com to register your KeyCard today.

RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT FUND

Resident Engagement Fund: City departments seeking funding to pay residents during community engagement activities can apply through the Resident Engagement Fund, administered by the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. [LINK HERE](#) or email ResidentComp@phila.gov

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](#) and explore some of the options and details!

DISCLAIMER

This is a citywide newsletter, 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.