



FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL

Agenda & Meeting Packet

June 18, 2025

Meeting will be held at the **Municipal Building**

2nd floor, Council Chambers

355 East Central Street

7:00 PM

A NOTE TO RESIDENTS: All citizens are welcome to attend public meetings in person. **To view the live meeting remotely, citizens** are encouraged to watch the live stream on the [Franklin Town Hall TV YouTube channel](#) or the live broadcast on Comcast Channel 9 and Verizon Channel 29. Meetings are also archived by Franklin TV on the [Franklin Town Hall TV YouTube channel](#) and shown on repeat on Comcast Channel 9 and Verizon Channel 29 for those who miss the live meeting. **To listen to the meeting remotely** citizens may call-in using this number: 1-929-205-6099. This will not permit participation in the meeting. **To participate in the meeting remotely** citizens are able to join a [Zoom Webinar](#) using the information provided below.

- Zoom Webinar ID # 812 4996 2535
- Zoom Webinar Link [HERE \(https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81249962535\)](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81249962535)
- **Any participants who wish to speak** during the webinar must enter their **full name and email address** when joining the webinar.
- All participants will be automatically muted upon joining the webinar. In order to speak, participants - who have entered full name and email address - will need to select the "Raise Hand" function to request to be unmuted.
- All speakers will be required to state their full name and street address before commenting.

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

- a. *This meeting is being recorded by Franklin TV and shown on Comcast channel 9 and Verizon Channel 29. This meeting may be recorded by others.*
- b. *Chair to identify members participating remotely.*
- c. *Upcoming Town Sponsored Community Events.*

2. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- a. *Citizens are welcome to express their views for up to three minutes on a matter that is not on the agenda. In compliance with G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 20 et seq, the Open Meeting Law, the Council cannot engage in a dialogue or comment on a matter raised during Citizen Comments. The Town Council may ask the Town Administrator to review the matter. Nothing herein shall prevent the Town Administrator from correcting a misstatement of fact.*

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. [May 22, 2025](#)

4. PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS

- a. Proclamation & Performance: Electric Youth

5. APPOINTMENTS

- a. [Council on Aging – Elizabeth Sawyer](#)
- b. [Disability Commission – Cheryl Fisher](#)
6. **PUBLIC HEARINGS – 7:00 PM – None Scheduled**
7. **LICENSE TRANSACTIONS**
 - a. [Farmer–Winery Farmers Market License – La Cantina Winery](#)
8. **PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSIONS**
 - a. [Presentation: Polco National Community Survey Results – Sonya Wytinck, Executive Vice-President of Data & Insights with Polco/National Research Center with Kate Hinckley, Director of GIS and Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator](#)
9. **LEGISLATION FOR ACTION**
 - a. [Resolution 25–38: Establishment of Franklin’s 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee](#)
(Motion to Approve Resolution 25–38 – Majority Vote)
 - b. [Resolution 25–39: FY25 Budget Transfers](#)
(Motion to Approve Resolution 25–39 – Majority Vote)
 - c. [Resolution 25–40: Increased Expenditure Limits For FY2026 on Certain Departmental Revolving Funds Established By Franklin Town Code Chapter 73, As Provided in MGL Chapter 44, Section 53 1/2, As Amended](#)
(Motion to Approve Resolution 25–40 – Majority Vote)
 - d. [Resolution 25–41: Acceptance of Gifts – Senior Center \(\\$95\)](#)
(Motion to Approve Resolution 25–41 – Majority Vote)
10. **TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**
11. **SUBCOMMITTEE & AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - a. Capital Budget Subcommittee
 - b. Economic Development Subcommittee
 - c. Joint Budget Subcommittee
 - d. Police Station Building Committee
 - e. GATRA Advisory Board
12. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
13. **COUNCIL COMMENTS**
14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
 - a. *Exemption #3: Collective Bargaining (all Town unions) - To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the Chair so declares.*
15. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**
 - a. [Resolution 25–42: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Town of Franklin and the Library Union – Franklin Public Library Staff Association, Massachusetts Library Staff Association \(MLSA\), Local 4298, American Federation of Teachers \(AFT\), AFT Massachusetts \(AFL-CIO\)](#)
(Motion to approve Resolution 25–42 – Majority Vote)
 - b. Resolution 25–43: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Town of Franklin and the DPW Union – AFSCME, AFL–CIO, Local 1298, Department of Public Works
(Motion to approve Resolution 25–43 – Majority Vote)
 - c. Resolution 25–44: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Town of Franklin and the Custodians Union – AFSCME, AFL–CIO, Local 1298, Custodians
(Motion to approve Resolution 25–44 – Majority Vote)

- d. Resolution 25-45: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Town of Franklin and the Public Facilities Union – AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Local 1298, Public Facilities Employees
(Motion to approve Resolution 25-45 – Majority Vote)
- e. Resolution 25-46: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Town of Franklin and the Professional Firefighters of Franklin – International Association of Firefighters, Local 2637
(Motion to approve Resolution 25-46 – Majority Vote)
- f. Resolution 25-47: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Town of Franklin and the Franklin Police Association
(Motion to approve Resolution 25-47 – Majority Vote)
- g. Resolution 25-48: Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Town of Franklin and the Franklin Police Sergeants Union
(Motion to approve Resolution 25-48 – Majority Vote)

16. ADJOURN

Note: Two-Thirds Vote: requires 6 votes

Majority Vote: requires majority of members present and voting

**FRANKLIN TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 22, 2025**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on Wednesday, May 22, 2025, at the Municipal Building, 2nd Floor, Council Chambers, 355 East Central Street, Franklin, MA. Councilors present: Theodore Cormier-Leger, Robert Dellorco, Cobi Frongillo, Melanie Hamblen, Glenn Jones, Thomas Mercer, Patrick Sheridan. Councilors absent: Brian Chandler, Deborah Pellegrini. Administrative personnel in attendance: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator; Amy Frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator; Mark Cerel, Town Attorney.

CALL TO ORDER: ► Chair Mercer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Chair Mercer called for a moment of silence. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR: ► Chair Mercer reviewed the following as posted on the agenda. A Note to Residents: All citizens are welcome to attend public meetings in person. To view the live meeting remotely, citizens are encouraged to watch the live stream on the Franklin Town Hall TV YouTube channel or the live broadcast on Comcast channel 9 and Verizon channel 29. Meetings are also archived by Franklin TV on the Franklin Town Hall TV YouTube channel and shown on repeat on Comcast channel 9 and Verizon channel 29 for those who miss the live meeting. To listen to the meeting remotely, citizens may call-in using the provided number. This will not permit participation in the meeting. To participate in the meeting remotely, citizens are able to join a Zoom webinar using the information provided on the agenda. Any participants who wish to speak during the webinar must enter their full name and email address when joining the webinar. All participants will be automatically muted upon joining the webinar. In order to speak, participants who have entered full name and email address will need to select the “raise hand” function to request to be unmuted. All speakers will be required to state their full name and street address before commenting. ► Chair Mercer announced that Councilor Chandler and Councilor Pellegrini will not be in attendance tonight.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: ► Mr. Steve Sherlock, 13 Magnolia Drive, Community Information Director for Franklin Matters, Franklin Public Radio, reviewed Monday’s events for Memorial Day. He explained the Memorial Day parade has had both the start time and route changed. He reviewed locations on social media to find the information and noted the reasons for the change of time and route. He noted Franklin TV will be recording the event and sharing the video later.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: ► *April 30, 2025.* ► **MOTION** to Approve the April 30, 2025 meeting minutes by Dellorco. **SECOND** by Jones. **No discussion.** ► **VOTE: Yes-7, No-0, Absent-2.**

PUBLIC HEARINGS - 7:00 PM: ► *a. License Modification - Change of LLC Managers & Change of Ownership (Beneficial Membership) Interest of a Section 12 Restaurant All Alcoholic Beverages License: Franklin Shed, LLC d/b/a The Shed, Located at 340 East Central St., Franklin, MA 02038 (License Transaction #5a).* ► Chair Mercer declared the public hearing open. ► Mr. Hellen indicated Attorney Richard Cornetta is in attendance. He said this is a change of ownership and manager. ► Attorney Cornetta said this is an application for approval of a change in ownership and revising the managers/officers of the LLC. He said in attendance is principal owner Michael Barker and Syed Azhar. He reviewed how there were two owners originally. He reviewed how the business began with two owners and there will now be four co-owners at 25 percent each. He reviewed that the paperwork will also be amended at the Secretary of State’s office. ► Councilor Jones said this is a great place and great location. He wished them best of luck with the changes. ► Councilor Dellorco said he agreed with Councilor Jones, and they are great people. ► Councilor Hamblen said she likes that they are supporting the staff and elevating them to ownership; that is a very positive thing. ► Chair Mercer said it is a great place. ► Chair Mercer declared the public hearing closed.

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS: ► *a. License Modification - Change of LLC Managers & Change of Ownership (Beneficial Membership) Interest of a Section 12 Restaurant All Alcoholic Beverages License: Franklin Shed, LLC d/b/a The Shed, Located at 340 East Central St., Franklin, MA 02038.* ► Councilor Jones read the license transaction. ► **MOTION** to **Approve** the request by Franklin Shed, LLC d/b/a The Shed, for a change of LLC Managers and Change of Ownership (Beneficial Interest) by **Jones**. **SECOND** by **Dellorco**. **No discussion.** ► **VOTE: Yes-7, No-0, Absent-2.**

PUBLIC HEARINGS - 7:00 PM (continued): ► *b. Transfer, Change of Location and Approval of Manager of a Section 15 Wine and Malt Beverages Package Store License: DeVita's Market, LLC d/b/a DeVita's Market, Located at 198 East Central St., Suite 2, Franklin, MA 02038 (License Transaction # 5b).* ► Chair Mercer declared the public hearing open. ► Mr. Hellen said items b and c are related. He said it will require to two different votes. He said this is for the transfer of license; it is for off-premises consumption. He said with on-premises consumption the town has an unlimited quota of licensees. He explained with off-premises package store they have quotas. He said these two applications are for the transfer, the change of location, as well as the approval of the manger. ► Mr. Cerel recommended opening both hearings and letting them proceed simultaneously.

► *c. Transfer, Change of Location and Approval of Manager of a Section 15 All Alcoholic Beverages Package Store License: Table & Vine, Inc., Located at 348 East Central St., Franklin, MA 02038 (License Transaction # 5c).* ► Chair Mercer declared the public hearing open.

► Attorney Richard Cornetta said he represents the applicant in this application which is DeVita's Market LLC. He introduced Michael Gold, corporate counsel with Big Y and Table & Vine, and John Hickey, attorney representing Michael Donovan. He said in the audience are Michael Donovan and Joseph Halligan, principal of the applicant which is DeVita's Market LLC. He introduced Banshi Patel who will be named manager on the prospective license coming forward. Mr. Cornetta said these two applications are linked by law and contractually. He said they have been working for a few months crafting this deal. He said Mr. Donovan has operated DeVita's Market for many years. He said it is a legacy market. He reviewed the Town Council previously entertained a prior application by another third party to transfer the license last year and the Town Council approved it; however, there were a number of deficiencies with the property and it became a contractual issue and the deal never came to fruition. He said fortunately, this is a new deal that they believe is even better. He said Mr. Halligan has started a new company, DeVita's Market LLC, of which this entity has contracted with Mr. Donovan's corporation, DeVita's Inc., to purchase that business. He said after review of the footprint, it did not make sense to have the full alcohol retail package license at this location. So, it may make sense to scale it down and offer more diverse offerings in the malt and wine areas. He said Table & Vine has been looking for an additional license for offering a wider variety of alcohol. He said Table & Vine had been before the Town Council previously and the Town Council had a problem with the proposal with reasons given at that time were that it involved an all-alcohol license from the other end of town. Mr. Cornetta said Table & Vine decided not to appeal that decision and would be patient and wait for another opportunity. He said we hope that tonight is that opportunity. He said Mr. Halligan is uniquely positioned to purchase DeVita's Market for a number of reasons including he has a rich history in town, is a resident, has a business in town, and has served on many boards and committees in town. He said Mr. Halligan's intention is to do what is necessary to bring it up to code. He said it is important to keep the business open and that Mr. Halligan has said he will upgrade whatever is necessary in 90 days. He said Mr. Patel's resume is included in the application package. He reviewed Mr. Patel's background. Mr. Cornetta discussed public need. He said the law in Massachusetts states that when you make a decision about the transfer of license you should make an assessment of whether it will serve a public need. He explained and reviewed the case law in Massachusetts regarding the public need. He discussed the two licenses that are being exchanged are within one half mile of each other. So, there would be no impacts if you were to transfer the licenses. He reviewed traffic and noise and noted that these are both two existing businesses. He noted the reputations of the applicants Mr. Halligan and Big Y. He noted traffic and said the location of Big Y may even be better. He

reviewed when Table & Vine was applying for the malt and wine license. He said the concern was then about harming other businesses with the license transfer. Mr. Cornetta said the law is pretty clear in this area that competition with existing license establishments is never a valid rationale to deny a license transfer and he cited a 1982 case. He said they do not believe it will harm other businesses. ► Mr. Gold said he was going to talk about Big Y and Table & Vine together. He said they operate clean and safe stores and are a good neighbor. He said he believes this will be a plus for the Franklin customers. He said in their seven other locations they have a full all alcohol license as that is what the customers want. He reviewed the alcohol point-of-sale process at Big Y. He reviewed the change of manager for Table & Vine and reviewed the background of proposed manager Krystle Bigler. ► Mr. John Hickey said he represents DeVita's Inc. which is Michael Donovan and his family. He reviewed the history of DeVita's Market. He said Mr. Donovan has operated DeVita's for the past 47 years. He said this transfer of license will allow DeVita's to stay as DeVita's and allow Mr. Donovan to sell his business and retire. ► Mr. Mark Lenzi, representing his family business Franklin Liquors at 333 East Central Street, explained his location is basically directly across from the Big Y. He reminded all that in late 2022 they came before the Town Council to transfer the Village Mall license and the Town Council said no. He said at that time, Big Y did not appeal that decision because the decision was just. He gave an example from 2014 where a Union Street convenient store wanted just beer and wine and the Town said no because across the street was Union Street Liquors. He said there are many examples in the state where towns say no because stores are across from one another which he reviewed. He reviewed why the BJs and Pour Richards situation is not the same as this. He reviewed the difference regarding security and control. He asked how all the security cameras really indicate control at the Big Y. He reviewed that in 2022 when Big Y was requesting an all-alcoholic beverages license, Mr. Donovan had opposed that upgrade. Mr. Lenzi discussed public need and noted it is very broad on public need and you can go either way with that. He said the Town Council sets the public need, and they decide what to do. He asked the Town Council to say no to this. ► Councilor Cormier-Leger asked if the sale is already a done deal or contingent on the transfer. ► Mr. Cornetta said it was contingent on the transfer of both of the licenses. ► Councilor Frongillo asked about the definition of public need and noted these are two licenses across the street from one another. ► Mr. Cerel said as Mr. Cornetta had read aloud the language in the statute, it is somewhat ambiguous. He said there are court decisions, and they make it clear that business competition is not grounds to deny a license. Public need is within a geographical area. He explained this is similar to if not the same as the BJs transaction which had to come back for a rehearing because we were going to lose at the ABCC. He said the bottom line is that the public need has already been established in this general area by the licenses that are already available, and this is just moving them around in this area. He noted none of these establishments have had any non-compliance or violations. He noted that the Town Council cannot cherry-pick legally between a Ma and Pa operation, a small chain, a bigger chain, and a box store; those are irrelevant considerations legally. He noted in this case they are simply moving locations within a half mile of each other. He noted that the high noon type alcoholic drinks cannot be sold under a beer and wine license. ► Councilor Frongillo questioned the ramifications, including staff time and cost, if the Town Council puts forth a decision that gets rejected by the ABCC. ► Mr. Cerel said an administrative appeal in the ABCC takes staff time and unpaid volunteer time to file paperwork, prepare for a hearing, the hearing, and then once a decision comes down assuming it is overturned then it comes back to the Town Council for reconsideration. He said while this happens, all the applicants and owners are caught in limbo. ► Councilor Frongillo asked about the BJs process. ► Mr. Cerel reviewed the process that had taken place. ► Councilor Sheridan asked about safety. ► Mr. Cerel said it is speculation. He said you look at the track records. He said Table & Vine have had their current license for about 14 years and have had no violations; they have run a clean operation. ► Councilor Hamblen asked how it would be controlled. ► Mr. Gold said they have cameras everywhere, and they watch the store. He said they have an asset protection section. ► Mr. Cerel said they have been selling alcohol and have not had any issues. ► Councilor Hamblen noted that on his application Mr. Patel has two part-time jobs and has a lot of compliance training. ► Mr. Patel explained he usually goes into a business, is there for about six months to a year, teaches new systems, and then it is running by itself. ► Councilor Hamblen said she likes the idea of keeping the DeVita's name and heritage that is there in that spot. ► Councilor Dellorco asked Mr. Cerel what would justify us to say no. ► Mr. Cerel explained that if someone were seeking to bring an additional license into this area, they could say that the public need is

already satisfied. ► Councilor Dellorco said he does not want the kids around alcohol. He said he will vote no anyway. It should not be in supermarkets. He said that is his opinion. He said he does not believe that customers have come in and said I wish there was liquor here in this store. He said he wants to see Mr. Donovan retire, but Mr. Donovan was also here fighting against this, and now he is switching back. He said that does not fly with me. ► Councilor Jones said he wanted to reiterate the justification that we voted no against Big Y in taking a license that was more central to the town and met the need in that area. He said this is simply just moving the license from one address to another on East Central Street. He said he sees no problem in moving it from one point to another. This is still in the same general location on this side of town. ► Mr. Cerel said to Councilor Dellorco that the legislature has made a determination that alcohol in supermarkets is not only appropriate, but they have expanded over a period of time the number of licenses available for just supermarkets. ► Councilor Dellorco said the ABCC should just take it over.

Councilor Dellorco left the meeting.

► Chair Mercer said he understands Councilor Dellorco's concerns about not wanting kids around alcohol, but the legislature has said it is okay. He said the ABCC tells us what we can and cannot do. He said it is frustrating for him on this with the ABCC. He explained that prior Town Councils have identified the need in this geographic area. He said saying there is not a need is not a reason to deny. He said he gets the competition and the local businesses. He said it is frustrating to make these decisions with the ABCC not here to back us up. ► Mr. Hellen said they have advocated for better legislation on this issue. He said they are equally frustrated. He said the staff has to go to the hearings too. He discussed that these are really hard decisions. He said maybe when the legislators come in, this can be a topic that we talk about. He said the staff support the Town Council on this. ► Mr. Lenzi said in the past, Mr. Cerel has told the Town Council that they cannot say no, but you can say no if you have a history of saying no. ► Mr. Cerel said he does not recall saying that. ► Mr. Lenzi asked that the applicant file the appeal to the ABCC. So, then the Town Council can meet again to change their minds. ► Mr. Hellen said a history of saying no is not a reason to continue to say no; every license application is a case-by-case scenario. He explained the reasoning as to why the Town Council said no regarding the BJs proposed application transfer. He said you would have to look at the substance of why any cases were a no, not just that the Town Council said no. He discussed the ballot question that was rejected statewide regarding supermarket licenses. ► Mr. Lenzi talked about other times he has come before the Town Council to speak. He said every time he speaks or someone else speaks opposing an applicant, Mr. Cerel then gives the Town Council guidance for the applicant and not the people opposing this. He said the Town Council can say no and then let it go to the state. ► Councilor Cormier-Leger said that given that there are three councilors absent who are opposed to this, he would like to motion to table this to a future meeting. ► Councilor Sheridan said he seconds that. ► Chair Mercer said this is a public hearing, and Councilor Cormier-Leger could do that during legislation for action. ► Mr. Cerel said there is a time limitation on acting. ► Mr. Joseph Halligan, 1 Newell Drive, expressed that he appreciates everything said. He said he owns the Big Y property. He has intentions to purchase DeVita's. He discussed how he became aware of the number of deficiencies in the building and improvements that need to be done. He noted that he intends to keep the people living in the apartments upstairs. He noted there are many people whose livelihoods are involved in this. He noted all the properties he has purchased in Franklin and all the improvements he makes to them. He said he wants to keep DeVita's as it is. He said he has been involved in the Master Plan. He said he listens to all the comments and has vision for what to do with the store. He said he plans on keeping the legacy. He said there is more involved than just a liquor license. He said he hopes this can all be considered. He said he would like to see Mr. Donovan retire. ► Mr. Gold explained that it is not an about-face by him, he was just backing up the Lenzi's when Big Y was applying the last time. ► Mr. Hickey talked about why they did not appeal the decision the last time because they do business in town and did not want to start a fight; so, they went along with the decision. He talked about the competition arguments. He said if people do not want to go into their location because they sell alcohol, they can go to another supermarket. He said they are trying to give their customers something different in order to survive in the business. He said they have a liquor license and operate safe stores. ► Chair Mercer declared the two public hearings closed.

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS (continued): ▶ b. Transfer, Change of Location and Approval of Manager of a Section 15 Wine and Malt Beverages Package Store License: DeVita's Market, LLC d/b/a DeVita's Market, Located at 198 East Central St., Suite 2, Franklin, MA 02038. ▶ Councilor Jones read the license transaction. ▶ **MOTION to Approve** the request by DeVita's Market, LLC d/b/a DeVita's Market, for a Transfer of License and Change of Location of the license currently held by Table & Vine, Inc. to be relocated from 348 East Central St., Franklin, MA 02038 to 198 East Central St., Franklin, MA, and to approve Banshi Patel as Manager by **Jones. SECOND** by **Hamblen.** ▶ **MOTION to Table** to a future meeting the request by DeVita's Market, LLC d/b/a DeVita's Market, for a Transfer of License and Change of Location of the license currently held by Table & Vine, Inc. to be relocated from 348 East Central St., Franklin, MA 02038 to 198 East Central St., Franklin, MA, and to approve Banshi Patel as Manager by **Cormier-Leger. SECOND** by **Sheridan. Discussion:** Discussion commenced about when this item could be tabled to and what meeting it could be taken. ▶ **VOTE: Yes-3, No-3, Absent-3.** (Councilor Cormier-Leger, Councilor Sheridan, Councilor Frongillo voted yes to table. As it is not a majority, it fails.) **No discussion** (on the motion for the approval of the license modification). ▶ **VOTE: Yes-5, No-1, Absent-3.** (Councilor Cormier-Leger voted no.)

▶ c. Transfer, Change of Location and Approval of Manager of a Section 15 All Alcoholic Beverages Package Store License: Table & Vine, Inc., Located at 348 East Central St., Franklin, MA 02038.

▶ Councilor Jones read the license transaction. ▶ **MOTION to Approve** the request by Table & Vine, Inc, for a Transfer of License and Change of Location of the license currently held by DeVita's Inc. d/b/a DeVita's Market to be relocated from 198 East Central St., Franklin, MA 02038 to 348 East Central St., Franklin, MA 02038, and to approve Krystle Bigler as Manager by **Jones. SECOND** by **Hamblen. No discussion.** ▶ **VOTE: Yes-5, No-1, Absent-3.** (Councilor Cormier-Leger voted no.)

▶ d. Farmer-Brewery Farmers Market License - Rushford Brewery. ▶ Mr. Hellen reviewed that Rushford & Sons is applying for a license. They are a local business out of Upton and want to participate in the farmers market in the summer. ▶ Mr. Eric Martin of Rushford & Sons (via Zoom) said they are a local brewery in Upton, MA, for the past four years. He said recently Governor Healy approved the ability for local breweries to sell cans to go at farmers markets the same way that wineries are. He said in the application packet are all the required documents. ▶ Mr. Hellen said thank you for choosing the Franklin farmers market. ▶ Councilor Hamblen said they are great people, and it will be a great addition. ▶ Councilor Jones read the license transaction. ▶ **MOTION to Approve** the issuance of a Farmer-Brewery, Farmers Market License to Rushford and Sons Brewhouse, LLC d/b/a Rushford & Sons Brewhouse by **Jones. SECOND** by **Hamblen. Discussion:** ▶ Councilor Frongillo said they are joining one of the best farmers markets around. ▶ Councilor Sheridan confirmed the first farmers market is the first Friday in June. ▶ Councilor Jones said good luck. ▶ **VOTE: Yes-6, No-0, Absent-3.**

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION:

Note: Two-Thirds Vote requires six votes; Majority Vote requires majority of members present and voting.

- a. Resolution 25-31: Acceptance of Gifts - Senior Center (\$180) (Motion to Approve Resolution 25-31 - Majority Vote).** ▶ Councilor Jones read the resolution. ▶ **MOTION to Approve** Resolution 25-31: Acceptance of Gifts - Senior Center (\$180) by **Hamblen. SECOND** by **Cormier-Leger. Discussion:** ▶ Chair Mercer said a big thank you for the continued support of the Senior Center. ▶ **VOTE: Yes-6, No-0, Absent-3.**

PUBLIC HEARINGS - 7:00 PM (continued): ▶ d. FY26 Town Council Annual Operating Budget Second Hearing. ▶ Chair Mercer declared the second public hearing open. ▶ Chair Mercer said they got through the entire budget last night. So, this evening they will open it up to any questions for any item on the budget. He reminded everyone that this is the second public hearing and at the end of this public hearing he will entertain a motion to continue this public hearing until June 4 which is the day after the override

election. He said whether we vote the budget that we have just gone through, or if the override fails and we have to make cuts, that will happen on that night. ► Mr. Mark Minnichelli, 31 Longfellow Drive, asked that assuming the override vote does not pass, is there any way we can get an estimate of what will have to be reduced out of the police budget. ► Mr. Hellen said two for police and two for fire. He said for the superintendent he believes it would be about 12 to 18 employees in the school department. He said for example the fire truck borrowing came in lower. He noted reasons why they did not give specific names of people that would be cut, and he explained that things change. He said the talk from people that they will find the money is not happening. There are going to be cuts on roads, DPW, layoffs on school and municipal sides. He said their goal is to come out with a package of proposals that they agree on. He noted the state budget process is currently in action. He said we are trying to use our best educated guesses. He said at the end of the day, at some point, there will be layoffs. He said people are going to feel it. He said if it does not pass, and it goes into FY27, we could be in a dangerous situation. He said if this does not pass, what about the next fiscal year and the year after that. ► Mr. Minnichelli reiterated that it will be not just expenses but people that will be cut. ► Councilor Cormier-Leger said there continues to be a strong thread on social media that somehow somehow baked into this budget and baked into the override conversation is a new police station for Franklin. He said he needs to for the 1,200th time say publicly there is no police station in this budget; we have never voted on moving a police station to a debt exclusion vote and all that is happening is just discussions on possible locations and lots of community conversation and engagement which he appreciates. He said this vote and this budget and this override have nothing to do with building a new police station for Franklin. He said he wants this put everywhere so people understand. ► Councilor Frongillo said his name was provoked in some of the comments yesterday, so he just wanted to respond to say that he did not feel comfortable with that. He said there was a characterization of some of his comments from over a year ago. He said I wanted to double check and I went back and sure enough it was a mischaracterization of his statements at the time. He said nonetheless, it was suggested that we could just stop paying people more money and that would be a path to fix the fiscal situation. He said if we do not pay competitive salaries, we will see valuable public servants flee the town, and we will be left with the repercussions with staff overturn, low morale, and task paralysis. He said freezing wages is not fiscal responsibility, it is suicide. He said in order for our town to continue to thrive, we must continue to invest in the personnel that makes us thrive. ► Councilor Hamblen said she thanked the Joint Budget Committee for what they did, the FinCom, all the town staff, and school district staff for all their work on the budget process. She said she would like to give out real information. She said when people say they are going to vote no because of the development in town, what you are doing is hurting yourself, the people in your community, and the children in your community. She said development and new growth is part of the revenue. She said we need new growth to pay for the things the same way we need local receipts and your property taxes. She said you cannot have a lot of good services and no new growth and low taxes. She said that is the way it is. She said the Town Council saved a lot of land which took away those areas for new growth. And, that is what is in the Master Plan. If you vote no because you do not like the development, you just totally hurt people and yourself and your own property values. ► Councilor Jones said a huge thank you to everybody who has worked hard to make the budget what it is today. He said this is superb work.

► **MOTION to Continue** these budget discussions to the June 4, 2025, meeting at 7 PM by **Jones**.
SECOND by **Hamblen**. **No discussion**. ► **VOTE: Yes-6, No-0, Absent-3**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued): ► Chair Mercer announced upcoming events. He said June 3 Proposition 2 ½ Override Special Election from 6 AM to 8 PM. In-person early voting final day is Friday, May 30. Saturday May 24 is the last day to register to vote. If you have any questions, please call the town clerk's office. In observance of Memorial Day, the Municipal Building will be closed on Monday, May 26, 2025. The Memorial Day parade will take place on Monday, May 26 at 11 AM. The parade starts at Horace Mann and ends at the Common. Following the parade there will be a Memorial Day ceremony at 12 PM on the Town Common by the War Memorial. The Recreation Department is temporarily relocating to the Parmenter Elementary School at 235 Wachusett Street beginning Monday, June 23. The Recreation Office will be closed on Friday, June 20 to facilitate the move. The Town of Franklin is seeking poets and writers to

contribute original works focused on mental health, healing, and positivity for Overdose Awareness Day on August 31 and National Suicide Awareness month in September. For submission guidelines and additional information please visit the Arts, Culture, and Creative Economy page on our website.

ADJOURN: ► MOTION to Adjourn by Jones. SECOND by Hamblen. No Discussion. ► VOTE: Yes-6, No-0, Absent-3.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Lizardi
Recording Secretary



**TOWN
ADMINISTRATOR**
TOWN *of* FRANKLIN

MEMORANDUM

June 11, 2025

To: Town Council
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator
Amy Frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator

RE: Town Boards & Committees Appointments

We are asking the Town Council to ratify two appointments, made by the Town Administrator, at the June 18, 2025 Town Council meeting, as described below.

New Appointments

- Council on Aging – Elizabeth Sawyer, with a term to expire on June 30, 2026. Elizabeth will be completing the term of a member who resigned mid-term.
- Disability Commission – Cheryl Fisher, with a term to expire later this month on June 30, 2025. Cheryl will be completing the term of a member who resigned mid-term. Her membership renewal will be on the July 23, 2025 agenda with all of the other board and committee members with terms up for renewal.

The volunteer applications for both appointees have been included in the agenda packet for the June 18, 2025 Town Council meeting.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

APPOINTMENTS



Council on Aging

Elizabeth Sawyer
10 Pear Tree Lane
Franklin, MA 02038

The Town Administrator has appointed Elizabeth Sawyer to serve as a Member of the Council on Aging with a term to expire on June 30, 2026.

MOTION to ratify the appointment by the Town Administrator of Elizabeth Sawyer to serve as a Member of the Council on Aging with a term to expire on June 30, 2026.

DATED: _____, 2025

VOTED: _____

UNANIMOUS: _____

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

ABSTAIN: _____ **ABSENT:** _____

RECUSED: _____

Nancy Danello, CMC
Town Clerk

Glenn Jones, Clerk
Franklin Town Council



Town of Franklin MA

355 East Central Street

Franklin, MA 02038

Phone: 508-520-4949

Volunteer Form

Good Government Starts with You!

Date Submitted: July 16, 2024

Name: Elizabeth Sawyer

Home Address: 10 Pear Tree Lane
02038

Mailing Address: 10 Pear Tree Lane
02038

Phone Number(s): [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Current Occupation/Employer: Retired English Department Head/ Dedham School District

Narrative: In both my professional and personal background, I have been involved in leadership, volunteer service, decision-making, providing solutions, bringing parties together, and caring for others' needs.

I have time available to serve and to focus on the needs of our seniors. (Please note: This updated application includes a new phone number.) Resume will be provided if requested for this position. Thank you.

Board(s) / Committee(s): ___ Council on Aging

APPOINTMENTS



Disability Commission

Cheryl Fisher
69 Central Park Terrace
Franklin, MA 02038

The Town Administrator has appointed Cheryl Fisher to serve as a Member of the Disability Commission with a term to expire on June 30, 2025.

MOTION to ratify the appointment by the Town Administrator of Cheryl Fisher to serve as a Member of the Disability Commission with a term to expire on June 30, 2025.

DATED: _____, 2025

VOTED: _____

UNANIMOUS: _____

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

ABSTAIN: _____ **ABSENT:** _____

RECUSED: _____

Nancy Danello, CMC
Town Clerk

Glenn Jones, Clerk
Franklin Town Council



Town of Franklin MA

355 East Central Street

Franklin, MA 02038

Phone: 508-520-4949

Volunteer Form

Good Government Starts with You!

Date Submitted: July 11, 2024

Name: cheryl fisher

Home Address: central park ter
02038

Mailing Address: 69
franklin

Phone Number(s): [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Current Occupation/Employer: retired

Narrative: I am a certified nursing assistant, and a medical assistant. I am also disabled. I have some knowledge on disability, from working in the medical field.

Board(s) / Committee(s): ___ Franklin Disability Commission

License Transaction:

Farmer–Winery, Farmer’s Market License

Robert Vozzella

La Cantina Winery
230 Cottage Street
Franklin, MA 02038



This is a request for a Farmer–Winery, Farmer’s Market License to allow sale of bottled wine at the Franklin Farmers Market pursuant to Chapter 138, §15F.

MOTION to approve the issuance of a Farmer–Winery, Farmer’s Market License to Robert Vozzella, La Cantina Winery Company.

DATED: _____, 2025

VOTED: _____

UNANIMOUS: _____

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

YES: _____ NO: _____

ABSTAIN: _____ ABSENT: _____

RECUSED: _____

Nancy Danello, CMC
Town Clerk

Glenn Jones, Clerk
Franklin Town Council

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor, Boston, MA 02114
www.mass.gov/agr



Maura T. Healey
GOVERNOR

Kimberley Driscoll
LIEUTENANT

Rebecca L. Tepper
SECRETARY

Ashley E. Randle
COMMISSIONER

5/27/2025

Bob Vozzella
La Cantina Winery
355 Union St

Dear Bob Vozzella,

Please be advised that your application for certification of the Franklin Farmers Market occurring Fridays 6/7/2025 through 10/31/2025 between the hours of 2:00:00 PM to 6:00:00 PM as an agricultural event pursuant to M.G.L.c. Section 15F has been approved.

Please remember that, upon certification of an agricultural event by MDAR, the farm-winery, farm-brewery, pub-brewery or farm-distillery must submit a copy of the approved application to the local licensing authority along with the application for obtaining a special license from the city or town in which the event will be held. Upon issuance of a special license, the winery should confirm that a copy of the special license was sent by the local licensing authority to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) at least seven (7) days prior to the event.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ashley E. Randle".

Ashley E. Randle, Commissioner

1. Applicant information

Name of Licensed Farm-Winery: La Cantina Winery

Farm-Winery License Number: FW-LIC-000110:

State of Issue: MA

Contact Person: Bob Vozzella

Address:

{Address (Street Address):

12.1}

Franklin

Massachusetts

02038

Phone Number [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Correspondence preference: Email

Do you intend to sell, sample, or both? Sell

2. Event Information

Name of Agricultural Event: Franklin Farmers Market

Type of Event: Farmers Market (as defined by MDAR policy)

If you selected "Other Agricultural Event", how does this event promote local agriculture?

Event Address:

200 Main St

Franklin

Massachusetts

02038

Event Phone Number: (508) 498-8325

Event Website: www.franklinfarmersmarketma.com

3. Event Description

What are the date(s) and time(s) of the event?

If this is a weekly event, on what day of the week does the event occur?

Start Date: 06/07/2025

End Date: 10/31/2025

Start Time: 02:00 pm

End Time: 06:00 pm

If this is a weekly event, on what day of the week does the event occur?

Friday

If the event is an agricultural fair, does the event include competitive agriculture?

No

Is the event sponsored or run by an agricultural/horticultural society, grange, agricultural commission or association whose primary purpose is the promotion of agriculture and its allied industries?

No

Event Management

Name of Event Manager: Lauren Kloos

Email Address: franklinfarmersmarketma@gmail.com

Phone Number:



Is this person the on-site manager? Yes

If no, identify on-site manager (include contact information):

If there are multiple managers, list them and include contact information:

Attach on-site manager(s) resume(s) or list any credentials or training of the on-site manager(s):

<https://forms.mass.gov/eoeaa-agr/index.php?gf-download=2025%2F05%2FResume.pdf&form-id=22&field-id=42&hash=52ccb889b5d6c46e8fd378271bd932126d68dc1aef933949ed800ca1f3e27fb9>

General

Attach a plan depicting the premises and the specific location where the license will be exercised:

<https://forms.mass.gov/eoeaa-agr/index.php?gf-download=2025%2F05%2FMarket-Layout.pdf&form-id=22&field-id=44&hash=7236193d94aba3d95b75dc39f58dc04db6c760d62e473961cf3eef146c25ea87>

Consent: I do hereby attest that this information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and I understand that any falsification, omission, or concealment of material fact may subject me to administrative, civil, or criminal liability.

Please type your name: Bob Vozzella

Title: Owner

Farm-Winery, Farm-Brewery, Pub-Brewery or Farm-Distillery License Number: La Cantina Winery

State: MA

For Department use only

Approval:

The event listed above is an approved agricultural event by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources under M.G.L. C138, Sec. 15F.

Electronic signature:

Ashley E. Randle

Date: 5/27/25



Franklin Farmers' Market
200 Main Street
Franklin MA

April 11, 2025

Hello La Cantina Winery

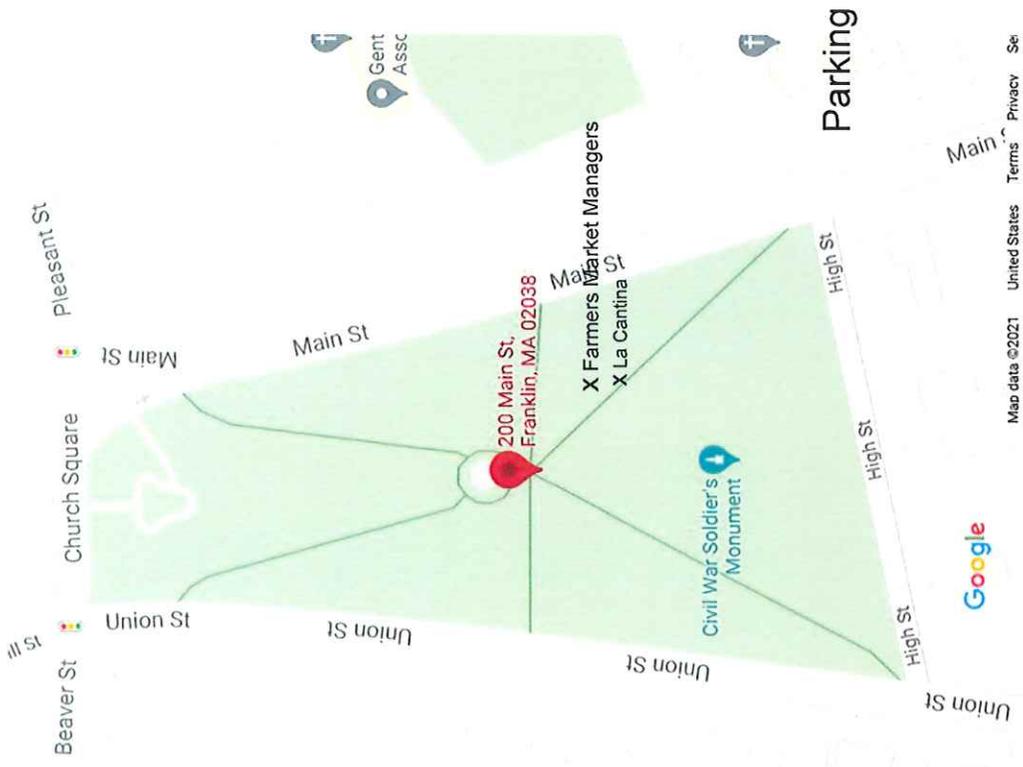
Thank you all for taking the time to fill out the application. La Cantina Winery has been accepted as a vendor to the Franklin Farmers Market, pending all necessary licenses and permits. The Market takes place on Fridays 2-6PM from June 6 to Oct 31 at the Franklin Town Common, 200 Main St, Franklin MA, 02038.

Sincerely
Lauren Kloos and Roger Trahan
Market Managers

franklinfarmersmarketma@gmail.com

A Night Owl Farm	Vegetables grown using organic practices - Eggs from happy hens, small batch flowers
A Slice of Heaven	home made pies
Ackermann Maple Farm	Wood fired Maple Syrup, family owned, Vermont!
Amado Ceramics	Hand made an wheel thrown ceramic vessels - Unique pieces - Safe for food, oven, microwave and dishwasher
Angel Hair Alpacas	Environmentally friendly, highly efficient and luxurious alpaca fiber products. We sell what may be the world's most comfortable socks, incredible hats, scarfs, gloves and mittens. Also the cutest alpaca fleece bears and alpacas ever!
Barbara Sherman w/ Fish from Boston Sword and Tuna	I offer fresh prepackaged fish for sale each week. Depending on the availability, I will bring arctic char, bluefish, cod, haddock, halibut, salmon, sea scallops, striper, swordfish and frozen salmon burgers. All fish will fall under the fin and scallop category. Other fish may be added if available.
BirchTree Bread Comp.	Naturally leavened breads made with local grains, pastries, cookies, house made spreads
Boundless Bakery	Vegan Baked Goods including items such as Whoopie Pies, Cookies, Oatmeal Fruit Bars, Muffins, and More!
Cook's Valley Farm	Our own fresh fruits and vegetables; fresh cut flowers Fresh squeezed lemonade, squeezed and made at the stand, a recipe that was started and began in Marshfield, Ma. 2012, I also do limes or mix limes with lemons, but lemonade is by far the most popular.
DL's Fresh Squeeze	Fresh roasted Coffee
Edward's Coffe	
Eric's Sharper Edge	Sharpening knives, scissors, garden tools etc...
Everything Jalapeno and NOT	Home made Jams, Pickles, Relish and Salsa Hot and not Hot
Fairmount Fruit Farm	Vegetables, Fruit, Eggs Live and pre-cut, certified organic herb and vegetable microgreens and wheatgrass (cat grass). Giant oregano plants, Madagascar Jasmine vine, Creeping Fig vine. Garden starts.
First Leaves Family Farm	Cement gnomes various sizes, cement pots, metal art print for indoor or outdoor use.
Franklin Honey	Raw, unprocessed honey, honey bee related products (lip balm, hand cream, soap, candles) Providing beautiful fresh produce since 1936. Are farm focuses on the quality of our produce.
Kelly's Farm	Along with friendly service.
La Cantina Win	locally produced wine with grapes from around the globe
Lonequilter	Fabric pouches and tote bags. Handy for holding and organizing anything you can think of.
Lunaria Farms	Gourmet Mushrooms and Fresh Herbs
Montville Candy	popcorn.fudge.candy.woopie pies Babka - Chocolate, Cinnamon, Halva, Raspberry, Lemon Ricotta Rugelach - Chocolate, Cinnamon Burekas - Pizza, Feta, Spinach & Feta, Mushroom & Onion, Potato & Onion Pretzels - Challah Pretzels, Jerusalem Bagels
NAVAD Bakers	Challah - Plain, Mini Plain, Raisin, Onion & Poppy, Mini Onion & Poppy Garlic & Thyme, Mini Garlic & Thyme, Challah Buns
Old Exit 17 Farm	-Cut flowers & market bouquets -Potted vegetable, herb, & flower plants -Handcrafts

Peace Bee and Rainbow Song Henna Pumpkin Farm, The Rushford & Sons Brewhouse Sweet Willow Naturals TC Scoops The Photo Hive Three Wishes Bakery Tracey's Granola Wright Old School Chocolate Zeigler's Market Garden	Henna body art, henna kits, beaded hair accessories Pasture Raised Meat & Eggs Beef, Pork, Chicken, Lamb, Goat & Turkey Eggs from Farm Roaming Hens selling 4 packs of local beer made here in Upton Handmade all natural soaps, scrubs, body butters and other body products Locally made FoMu scooped to order. FoMu is a delicious premium vegan ice cream. Individual servings and pints will be available. Photographs of nature and landscapes Notecards of nature and landscapes Calendars We pride ourselves on food inclusivity. Our small batch baked goods are handmade without gluten or nuts that everyone loves and enjoys. organic, nut free granola, made with love Locally made dark chocolate with the boldest flavors Cocoa beans sourced from earth friendly farms Allergen free and Vegan Friendly - sustainably grown vegetables - local seasonal produce
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Map data ©2021 United States Terms Privacy Set



Parking

200 Main St,
Franklin, MA 02038

X Farmers Market Managers
X La Cantina

Civil War Soldier's
Monument

Gent
Assoc

Beaver St
Church Square
Main St
Pleasant St

Union St
Main St
High St

Union St
Main St
High St

Union St
High St

Lauren E. Kloos

EDUCATION

Farmers Market Nutritional Program (FMNP), Massachusetts
Training and Certification, 2021

Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker, Massachusetts
License # 116556

Simmons College, Boston, MA
Master in Social Work, 2009

Assumption College, Worcester, MA
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, 2006

EXPERIENCE

Franklin Farmers Market, Franklin, MA 2021-Present
Manager

- Manage the operation of the farmers market that runs weekly from June to October, incorporating vendors, entertainers and community groups.

Franklin Honey Company, INC, Franklin, MA 2010-Present
Owner and Manager

- Manage day to day runnings of small agricultural business.

Lauren Kloos, LLC, Franklin, MA October 2015-Present
Independent Clinician

- Deliver individual therapy to patients presenting with different issues including but not limited to anxiety, depression, PTSD, ADHD, marital issues, etc.

League School, Walpole, MA Dec 2013-October 2015
Clinician & Supervisor

- Manage clinical cases for children ages four to twenty two with emotional and behavioral problems in a school setting.
- Supervise MSW interns to provide clinical oversight to cases, to promote personal and professional social work growth and development, and to enhance learning in school environment.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member: National Association of Social Workers, 2007 - Present

Rules and Regulations

The Franklin Farmers' Market operates with permission of the Town of Franklin, Massachusetts. The following regulations have been formulated with the cooperation and approval of the Town of Franklin.

The market is located on the Franklin Town Common, and operates every Friday beginning June 6, and ending October 31. Operating hours are from 2:00pm to 6:00pm. Vendors are requested not to arrive earlier than 1:00pm or later than 1:45pm on the day of the market. Vendors must remain at the market until 6pm unless otherwise approved by the market manager.

Any vendor wishing to sell processed foods, baked goods, meat, fish, etc. must obtain a Board of Health certificate from the Town of Franklin and provide proof of their licenses to the market manager with this registration. These items shall be wrapped, covered, and/or refrigerated as deemed necessary by the Town of Franklin Board of Health Agent and the market manager.

Prices shall be predominately displayed by pound, bunch or piece.

All scales are to have a Massachusetts Weights and Measures Inspection seal dated for the current market year.

Product dumping, price gouging, and loud hawking are prohibited.

The market is considered a class "B" market; defined as vendors growing or creating their own products, or selling the products of other New England producers that are previously approved by the market manager. In the event, there is reasonable doubt that a vendor is not adhering to this definition, the market manager will have the right to conduct an on-site inspection of the vendor's farm, kitchen or workshop at a mutually agreeable time. At this inspection, the market manager will verify that the vendor is capable of creating the products that they offer for sale.

No vendor shall have the right to sub-lease, sell, transfer, or permit any other person the use of their market space without prior approval of the market manager.

Vendors should park their cars on the Union St side of the common after unloading.

Tent weights are required on all tents for every market.

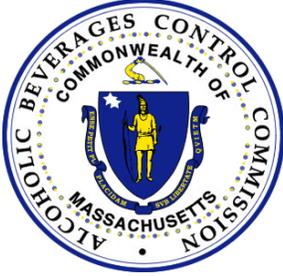
Vendors are required to clean their spaces and remove all debris prior to leaving.

Any market disputes should be brought to the attention of the market manager. All questions or concerns shall be directed to the market manager.

Vendors will be required to comply with health and safety regulations set by the State of Massachusetts, Town of Franklin and Market Manager. These will be provided once available.

The market manager reserves the right to cancel the privileges of any vendor who willfully violates any of these rules, *without reimbursement of market fees paid*.

The seasonal fee for attendance is \$250.00/year. Due by May 15th. Check made payable to "Franklin Farmers Market".



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the State Treasurer
Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission

FARMER-WINERY LICENSE

M.G.L. c. 138, § 19B

This Farmer-Winery License authorizes the following licensee to produce, rectify, blend, or fortify, keep and expose for sale and to sell wine containing not more than twenty-four percent alcohol by weight:

La Cantina Winery Company

355-357 Union Street
Franklin, MA 02038

Approved by the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission on September 12, 2024

Jean Lorizio, Chairman

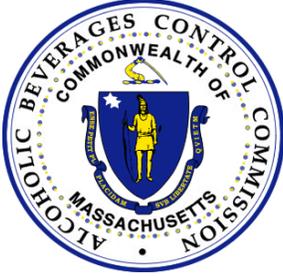
Crystal Matthews, Commissioner

Deborah Baglio, Commissioner

License Number: **FW-LIC-000110**
Record Number: **2024-000009-FW-REN**
Capacity: **5K Gallons or Less**

THIS LICENSE WILL EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2025 UNLESS REVOKED OR CANCELLED DURING THIS PERIOD

THIS LICENSE SHALL BE DISPLAYED ON THE PREMISES IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE WHERE IT CAN BE EASILY READ



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the State Treasurer
Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission

SALESMAN'S PERMIT

M.G.L. c. 138, §§ 19A & 22

This Permit authorizes the following permittee to act as a Salesman:

ROBERT VOZZELLA

355 Union St.
Franklin, MA 02038

La Cantina Winery Company

Approved by the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission on August 26, 2024

Jean Lorizio, Chairman

Crystal Matthews, Commissioner

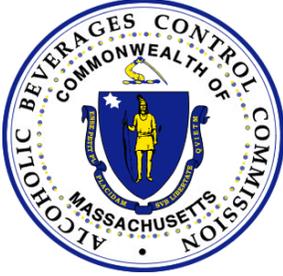
Deborah Baglio, Commissioner

License Number: **SP-LIC-007608**

Record Number: **2024-000095-SP-REN**

THIS PERMIT WILL EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2025 UNLESS REVOKED OR CANCELLED DURING THIS PERIOD

THIS PERMIT SHALL BE CARRIED BY THE PERMITTEE AT ALL TIMES



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the State Treasurer
Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission

TRANSPORTATION & DELIVERY PERMIT

M.G.L. c. 138, § 22

This Permit hereby authorizes the use of the following vehicle for transportation and delivery of alcoholic beverages:

Vehicle Plate Number

7143SF

Related License:

ROBERT VOZZELLA

ABCC License Number: SP-LIC-007608

License Type: Salesman Permit

Approved by the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission on August 26, 2024

Jean Lorizio, Chairman

Crystal Matthews, Commissioner

Deborah Baglio, Commissioner

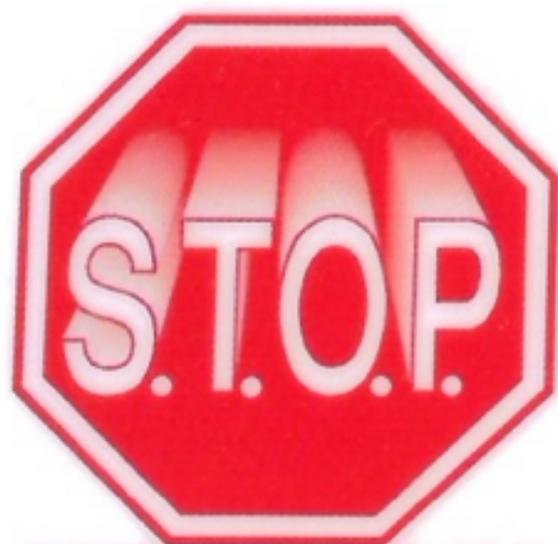
License Number: **TR-LIC-003667**

Record Number: **2024-000095-SP-REN**

THIS PERMIT WILL EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2025 UNLESS REVOKED OR CANCELLED DURING THIS PERIOD

THIS PERMIT SHALL BE CARRIED IN THE VEHICLE AT ALL TIMES

This card certifies satisfactory completion of training
in the S.T.O.P. Alcohol Awareness Server Program.



Issued: 05/24/2024

Code: 2024 - 109

Name:

Robert Vozzella

355 Union Street

Franklin, MA 02038

SERVER TRAINING ON PREMISE

Expiration Date: 05/24/2027

Instructor: Frank J. Faubert 401-943-5454



**TOWN
ADMINISTRATOR**
TOWN of FRANKLIN

MEMORANDUM

June 11, 2025

To: Town Council
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator
Amy Frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator

RE: National Community Survey Results

As you are aware, Franklin conducted [The National Community Survey](#) (NCS) earlier this year, and we are happy to share that the results are in! A consultant from [Polco](#) / [National Research Center](#) will attend the June 18th Town Council meeting to give a comprehensive presentation and discussion on the results, along with Jamie Hellen and Kate Hinckley who will also give a brief presentation.

The data presented in the final [Report of Results](#) demonstrates that overall, residents are very happy in Franklin and enjoy an exceptional quality of life. It also provides insight into the areas residents feel there is room for improvement. Although the survey can't possibly address every question or issue that exists within the Franklin community, it provides valuable data to incorporate into future policy discussions and strategic planning.

While the survey findings will be discussed at length during next week's Town Council meeting, a few noteworthy points are mentioned below:

- This survey was 100% funded through a federal ARPA grant. **ZERO dollars were spent out of the Town's budget.**
- Franklin's random sample study yielded a 20% return rate, which is double the standard expectation of 10%. Well done!
- The NCS has been a Town Council goal for four years and we are now able to check this off the list!

For additional information, please visit the [National Community Survey](#) page on our Town website.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Franklin, MA

The National Community Survey

Report of Results
2025

Report by:



Visit us online!
www.polco.us



National Research Center at Polco is a charter member of the AAPOR Transparency Initiative, providing clear disclosure of our sound and ethical survey research practices.

About The NCS™

The National Community Survey™ (The NCS™) report is about the “livability” of Franklin. A livable community is a place that is not simply habitable, but that is desirable. It is not only where people do live, but where they want to live. The NCS was developed by the experts from National Research Center at Polco in partnership with the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and has been administered in hundreds of communities across the United States.

Great communities are partnerships of the government, private sector, community-based organizations and residents, all geographically connected. The NCS focuses on the livability of Franklin by categorizing survey questions into the ten main “facets” of community livability shown below, which have been identified through years of extensive survey research as those that are most impactful to residents’ quality of life.

- Economy
- Mobility
- Community Design
- Utilities
- Safety
- Natural Environment
- Parks and Recreation
- Health and Wellness
- Education, Arts, and Culture
- Inclusivity and Engagement

The report provides the opinions of a representative sample of 973 residents of the Town of Franklin collected from January 8th, 2025 to February 19th, 2025. The margin of error around any reported percentage is 3.1% for all respondents and the response rate for the 2025 survey was 20%. Survey results were weighted so that the demographic profile of respondents was representative of the demographic profile of adults in Franklin.



How the results are reported

For the most part, the percentages presented in this report represent the “percent positive.” Most commonly, the percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good, very safe/somewhat safe, etc.). On many of the questions in the survey, respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving a “don’t know” response is shown in the full set of responses included in the “complete data” section; however, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the main body of the report. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

Comparisons to benchmarks

NRC's database of comparative resident opinion is comprised of resident perspectives gathered in surveys from over 500 communities whose residents evaluated the same kinds of topics on The National Community Survey. The comparison evaluations are from the most recent survey completed in each community in the last five years. NRC adds the latest results quickly upon survey completion, keeping the benchmark data fresh and relevant. The communities in the database represent a wide geographic and population range. In each tab, Franklin's results are noted as being "higher" than the benchmark, "lower" than the benchmark, or "similar" to the benchmark, meaning that the average rating given by Franklin residents is statistically similar to or different (greater or lesser) than the benchmark. Being rated as "higher" or "lower" than the benchmark means that Franklin's average rating for a particular item was more than 10 points different than the benchmark. If a rating was "much higher" or "much lower," then Franklin's average rating was more than 20 points different when compared to the benchmark.

Methods



Selecting survey recipients

All households within the Town of Franklin were eligible to participate in the survey. A list of all households within the zip codes serving Franklin was purchased from NRC's mailing vendor, Go-Dog Direct, based on updated listings from the United States Postal Service. Since some of the zip codes that serve the Town of Franklin households may also serve addresses that lie outside of the community, the exact geographic location of each housing unit was compared to community boundaries using the most current municipal boundary file. Addresses located outside of Franklin boundaries were removed from the list of potential households to survey. From that list, addresses were randomly selected as survey recipients, with multi-family housing units (defined as those with a unit number) sampled at a rate of 5:3 compared to single family housing units.

An individual within each household was randomly selected using the birthday method. The birthday method selects a person within the household by asking the “person who most recently had a birthday” to complete the questionnaire. The underlying assumption in this method is that day of birth has no relationship to the way people respond to surveys. This instruction was contained in the introduction of the survey.

Conducting the survey

The 5,000 randomly selected households received mailings beginning on January 8th, 2025 and data collection for the survey remained open for 6 weeks. The first mailing was a postcard inviting the household to participate in the survey. The next mailing contained a cover letter with instructions, the survey questionnaire, and a postage-paid return envelope. All mailings included a web link to give residents the opportunity to respond to the survey online, as well as QR codes to further encourage participation. All follow-up mailings asked those who had not completed the survey to do so, and those who had already done so to refrain from completing the survey again.

The survey was available in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, Hindi, and Simplified Chinese. All mailings contained paragraphs in all languages instructing participants on how to complete the survey in their preferred language.

About 1% of the 5,000 mailed invitations or surveys were returned because the household address was vacant or the postal service was unable to deliver the survey as addressed. Of the remaining 4,930 households that received the invitations to participate, 973 completed the survey, providing an overall response rate of 20%. Of the 973 responses, 968 were completed in English and 5 were completed in Simplified Chinese. The response rate was calculated using AAPOR's response rate #2 for mailed surveys of unnamed persons.¹

It is customary to describe the precision of estimates made from surveys by a “level of confidence” and accompanying “confidence interval” (or margin of error). A traditional level of confidence, and the one used here, is 95%. The 95% confidence interval can be any size and quantifies the sampling error or imprecision of the survey results because some residents' opinions are relied on to estimate all residents' opinions. The margin of error for the Town of Franklin survey is no greater than plus or minus 3.1 percentage points around any given percent reported for all respondents (973 completed surveys).

In addition to the randomly selected “probability sample” of households, a link to an online open-participation survey was publicized by the Town of Franklin. The open-participation survey was identical to the random sample survey, with two small updates; it asked a question to confirm the respondent was a resident of Franklin and also a question about where they heard about the survey. The open-participation survey was open to all town residents and became available on February 5th, 2025. The survey remained open for 2 weeks. The data presented in the following tabs exclude the open participation survey data, but a tab at the end provides the complete frequency of responses to questions by the open-participation respondents.

Analyzing the data

Responses from mailed surveys were entered into an electronic dataset using a “key and verify” method, where all responses are entered twice and compared to each other. Any discrepancies were resolved in comparison to the original survey form. Range checks as well as other forms of quality control were also performed. Responses from surveys completed on Polco were downloaded and merged with the mailed survey responses.

The demographics of the survey respondents were compared to those found in the 2020 Census and 2022 American Community Survey estimates for adults in the Town of Franklin. The primary objective of weighting survey data is to make the survey respondents reflective of the larger population of the community. The characteristics used for weighting were age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, housing type, and housing tenure. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm.² The results of the weighting scheme for the probability sample are presented in the following table.

NRC aligns demographic labels with those used by the U.S. Census for reporting purposes, when possible. Some categories (e.g., age, race/Hispanic origin, housing type, and length of residency) are combined into smaller subgroups.

		Unweighted	Weighted	Target ⁴
Age	18-34	6%	28%	28%
	35-54	30%	35%	34%
	55+	65%	38%	37%
Hispanic origin	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	97%	96%	96%
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	3%	4%	4%
Housing tenure	Own	88%	78%	78%
	Rent	12%	22%	22%
Housing type	Attached	25%	35%	35%
	Detached	75%	65%	65%
Race & Hispanic ori..	Not white alone	10%	15%	15%
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	90%	85%	85%
Sex	Man	43%	48%	48%
	Woman	57%	52%	52%
Sex/age	Man 18-34	3%	14%	15%
	Man 35-54	13%	17%	17%
	Man 55+	28%	16%	16%
	Woman 18-34	3%	14%	14%
	Woman 35-54	17%	17%	17%
	Woman 55+	36%	21%	21%

The survey datasets were analyzed using all or some of a combination of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), R, Python, and Tableau. For the most part, the percentages presented in the reports represent the “percent positive.” The percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good, very safe/somewhat safe, essential/very important, etc.), or, in the case of resident behaviors/participation, the percent positive represents the proportion of respondents indicating “yes” or participating in an activity at least once a month.

On many of the questions in the survey, respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in the “complete data” section. However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the reports. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

Contact

The Town of Franklin funded this research. Please contact Jamie Hellen of the Town of Franklin at jhellen@franklinma.gov if you have any questions about the survey.

Study Limitations

All public opinion research is subject to unmeasured error. While the methodologies employed for this survey were designed to minimize this error as much as possible, these other sources of potential error should be acknowledged, and can include non-response error, coverage error, recall bias and social desirability bias. Non-response error arises when those who were selected to participate in the survey did not do so, and may have different opinions or experiences than survey responders. For general resident surveys, where the results are meant to be generalized to the entire adult population living in households, the mailing lists based on the Delivery Sequence File from the United States Post Office may exclude certain types of housing units, such as those in multi-family buildings where mail is addressed to a named resident at the address rather than to a specific unit or where residents only receive their mail at a post office box and the geographic location of a residence cannot be determined, there may be a coverage error, although for most locations, this is minimal. Respondents may not perfectly remember their experiences in the past year (such as participation in social or civic events, for example), and for some survey items, they may answer in ways they think cast their responses in a more favorable light (recall bias and social desirability bias).

Survey Validity

See the Polco Knowledge Base article on survey validity at <https://info.polco.us/knowledge/statistical-vali>

1. See AAPOR's Standard Definitions for more information at <https://aapor.org/standards-and-ethics/standard-definitions/>
2. Pasek, J. (2014). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from <https://surveyinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Full-anesrake-paper.pdf>
3. Targets come from the 2020 Census and 2022 American Community Survey

Key Findings

Highest-performing areas:

- Franklin received strong ratings for quality of life, and about 8 in 10 survey respondents indicated that they would recommend living in Franklin to someone who asked, and plan to stay in the city for the next five years.
- The vast majority of residents reported feeling safe in their neighborhoods and Franklin's downtown/commercial area during the day. Similarly, most participants indicated that they feel safe from violent and property crime, both of which scored above the national benchmark. Safety services also received strong ratings, and both crime prevention and animal control received above-average scores.
- About 8 in 10 community members rated the overall quality of the natural environment as excellent or good, and many environment-related topics received high scores, including:
 - Air quality (91% excellent or good)
 - Cleanliness (88%)
 - Recycling (84%; higher than the national benchmark)
- Specific parks and recreation amenities such as town parks (84% excellent or good), recreation programs or classes (81%), and availability of paths and walking trails (79%) received favorable ratings, indicating that residents value outdoor community spaces.

Focus areas:

- While ease of travel by car in Franklin was rated positively (72% excellent or good), some mobility-related questions received relatively lower ratings, including: ease of walking (67%), ease of public parking (58%), ease of travel by bicycle (46%), and ease of travel by public transportation (42%).
- Residents offered high ratings of importance (91% essential or very important) and relatively low ratings of quality (55% excellent or good) to the economy in Franklin, suggesting a priority and opportunity for growth for the community. The overall economic health of Franklin and employment opportunities were rated positively by only about half of residents. Similarly, economic development and the vibrancy of Franklin's downtown/commercial areas also received less than favorable ratings.
- Though about 9 in 10 respondents positively rated their neighborhood as a place to live, several other aspects of community design showed opportunities for improvement, including:
 - Well-planned commercial growth (40% excellent or good)
 - Well-planned residential growth (35%)
 - Land use, planning, and zoning (32%)
 - Availability of affordable quality housing (25%)

Other notable results:

- When asked what types of housing Franklin should prioritize for future development, residents indicated single-family homes (82% high or medium priority) and 55+ housing (64%) as the top choices.
- Regarding the priorities the Town should focus on for future housing development, survey respondents identified affordability (90% high or medium priority), sustainability and environmental impact (89%), and preserving the town's unique character and sense of community (89%) as the top three factors.
- About 7 in 10 residents felt that current public education programming, services, and staff should be increased. The majority (84%) of community members indicated that it's important for Franklin to prioritize educational opportunities over the next two years.

National Benchmark Comparisons:

Of the 123 evaluative questions asked, 7 items were higher, 1 item was lower, and 115 items were similar to the national benchmarks.

Higher

- Overall feeling of safety
- From property crime
- From violent crime
- Affordable high-speed internet access
- Crime prevention
- Animal control
- Recycling

Lower

- The overall direction that Franklin is taking

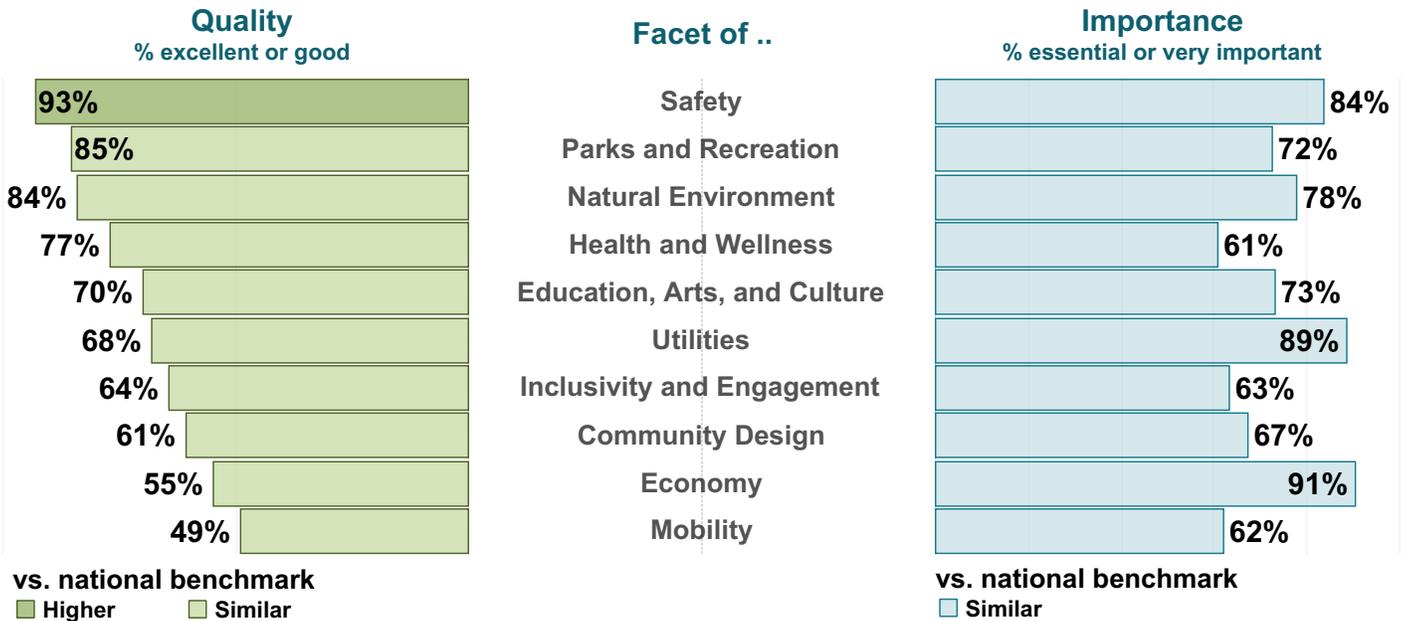
Facets of Livability



Every jurisdiction must balance limited resources while meeting resident needs and striving to optimize community livability. To this end, it is helpful to know what aspects of the community are most important to residents and which they perceive as being of higher or lower quality. It is especially helpful to know when a facet of livability is considered of high importance but rated as lower quality, as this should be a top priority to address.

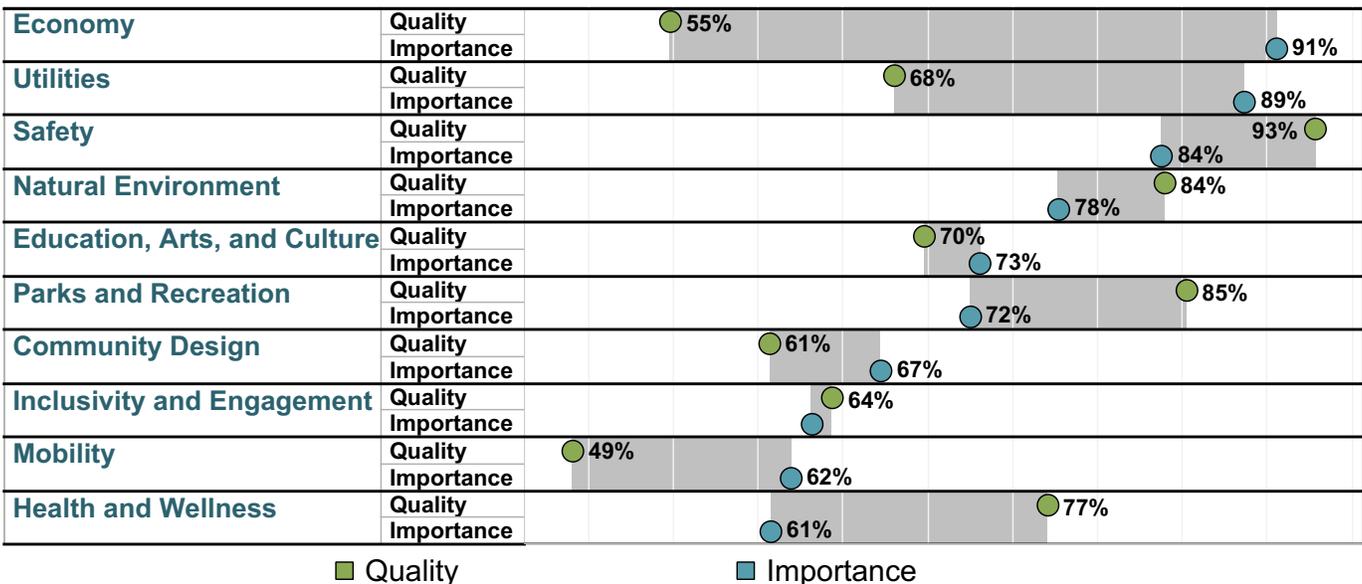
Quality and Importance by the Numbers

The table below shows the proportion of residents who rated the community facets positively for quality and the priority (importance) placed on each. Also displayed is whether local quality ratings were lower, similar, or higher than communities across the country (the national benchmark).



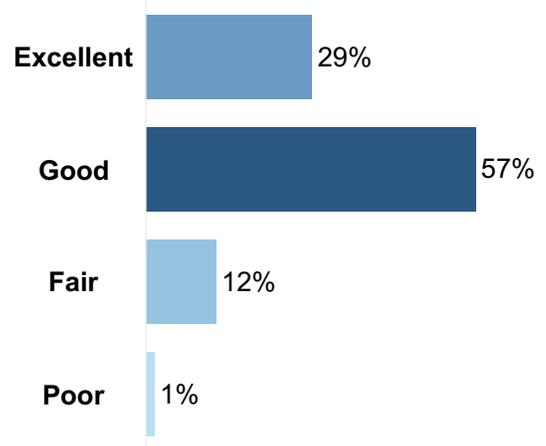
Quality/Importance Gap Analysis

The gap analysis chart below shows the same data as above; however, this chart more clearly illustrates the comparative differences in quality and importance ratings for each facet, as well as the absolute ratings for each.





The overall quality of life in Franklin, 2025



Quality of Life

Measuring community livability starts with assessing the quality of life of those who live there, and ensuring that the community is attractive, accessible, and welcoming to all.

Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Franklin.
 (% excellent or good)

vs. national benchmark⁷

Franklin as a place to live	88%	Similar
The overall quality of life in Franklin	86%	Similar

Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.
 (% very or somewhat likely)

Recommend living in Franklin to someone who asks	84%	Similar
Remain in Franklin for the next five years	83%	Similar

Please rate each of the following in the Franklin community.
 (% excellent or good)

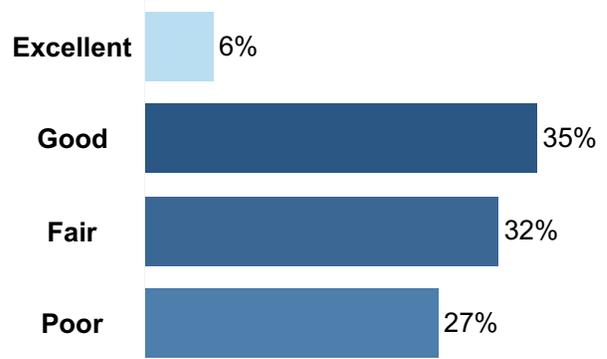
Overall image or reputation of Franklin	80%	Similar
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7. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Governance

Strong local governments produce results that meet the needs of residents while making the best use of available resources, and are responsive to the present and future needs of the community as a whole.

Overall confidence in Franklin government, 2025



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Franklin. (% excellent or good)

Service	Percentage	vs. national benchmark ^a
Overall customer service by Franklin employees (police, receptionists, planners, etc.)	88%	Similar
Public information services	72%	Similar

Please rate the following categories of Franklin government performance. (% excellent or good)

Treating residents with respect	67%	Similar
Treating all residents fairly	58%	Similar
The job Franklin government does at welcoming resident involvement	52%	Similar
The value of services for the taxes paid to Franklin	50%	Similar
Generally acting in the best interest of the community	46%	Similar
Being honest	45%	Similar
Informing residents about issues facing the community	45%	Similar
Being open and transparent to the public	42%	Similar
Overall confidence in Franklin government	42%	Similar
The overall direction that Franklin is taking	38%	Lower

Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following? (% excellent or good)

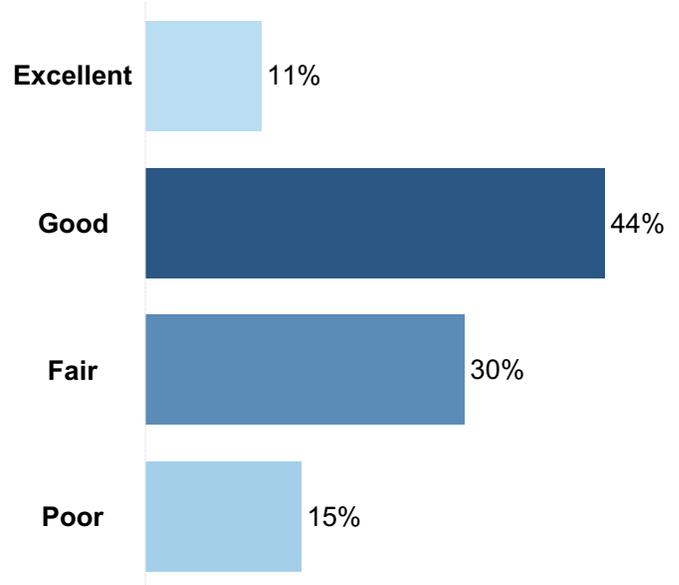
The Town of Franklin	71%	Similar
The Federal Government	37%	Similar

Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.
 (% excellent or good)

Contacted the Town of Franklin (in-person, phone, email, or web) for help or information	53%	Similar
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting	38%	Higher
Attended a local public meeting (of local elected officials like City Council or County Commissioners, advisory boards, town halls, HOA, neighborhood watch, etc.)	23%	Similar
Contacted Franklin elected officials (in-person, phone, email, or web) to express your opinion	20%	Similar

8. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Overall economic health of Franklin, 2025



Economy

Local governments work together with private and nonprofit businesses, and with the community at large, to foster sustainable growth, create jobs, and promote a thriving local economy.

Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Franklin.
(% excellent or good)

		vs. benchmark ⁹
Franklin as a place to work	73%	Similar
Franklin as a place to visit	57%	Similar

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Franklin as a whole.
(% excellent or good)

Overall economic health of Franklin	55%	Similar
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Please rate each of the following in the Franklin community.
(% excellent or good)

Overall quality of business and service establishments in Franklin	79%	Similar
Variety of business and service establishments in Franklin	66%	Similar
Shopping opportunities	61%	Similar
Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	50%	Similar
Employment opportunities	49%	Similar
Cost of living in Franklin	32%	Similar

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Franklin.
(% excellent or good)

Economic development



51%

Similar

What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:
(% very or somewhat positive)

What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:



26%

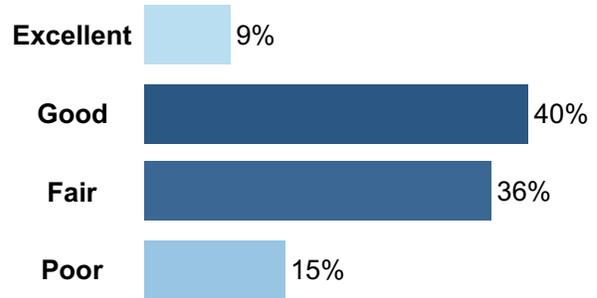
Similar

9. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Overall quality of the transportation system in Franklin, 2025

Mobility

The ease with which residents can move about their communities, whether for commuting, leisure, or recreation, plays a major role in the quality of life for all who live, work, and play in the community.



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Franklin as a whole. (% excellent or good)

		vs. benchmark ¹⁰
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Franklin	49%	Similar

Please also rate each of the following in the Franklin community. (% excellent or good)

Ease of travel by car in Franklin	72%	Similar
Ease of walking in Franklin	67%	Similar
Ease of public parking	58%	Similar
Traffic flow on major streets	51%	Similar
Ease of travel by bicycle in Franklin	46%	Similar
Ease of travel by public transportation in Franklin	42%	Similar

Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months. (% yes)

Walked or biked instead of driving	51%	Similar
Used bus, rail, subway, or other public transportation instead of driving	42%	Higher
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	37%	Similar

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Franklin. (% excellent or good)

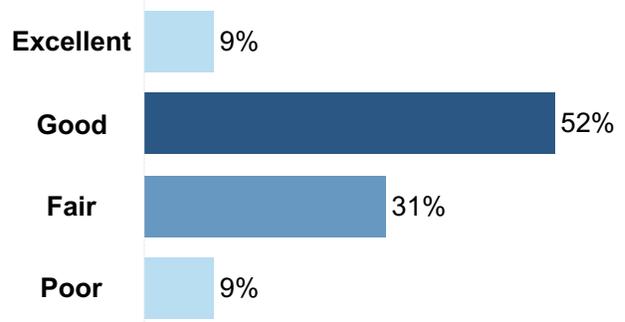
Snow removal	82%	Similar
Traffic enforcement	68%	Similar
Street cleaning	68%	Similar
Street lighting	62%	Similar
Sidewalk maintenance	62%	Similar
Traffic signal timing	56%	Similar
Bus or transit services	51%	Similar
Street repair	44%	Similar

10. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Community Design

A well-designed community enhances the quality of life for its residents by encouraging smart land use and zoning, ensuring that affordable housing is accessible to all, and providing access to parks and other green spaces.

Overall design or layout of Franklin's residential and commercial areas, 2025



Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Franklin. (% excellent or good)

		vs. benchmark ¹¹
Your neighborhood as a place to live	90%	Similar

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Franklin as a whole. (% excellent or good)

Overall design or layout of Franklin's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	61%	Similar
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Please also rate each of the following in the Franklin community. (% excellent or good)

Overall appearance of Franklin	73%	Similar
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	71%	Similar
Well-designed neighborhoods	63%	Similar
Public places where people want to spend time	62%	Similar
Variety of housing options	49%	Similar
Overall quality of new development in Franklin	41%	Similar
Well-planned commercial growth	40%	Similar
Well-planned residential growth	35%	Similar
Availability of affordable quality housing	25%	Similar

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Franklin. (% excellent or good)

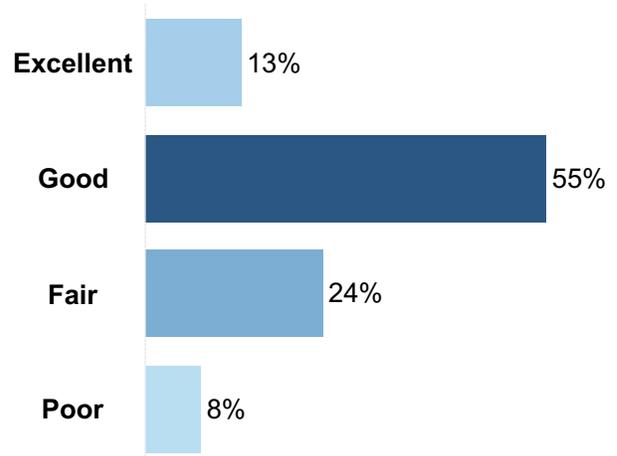
Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc.)	48%	Similar
Land use, planning, and zoning	32%	Similar

11. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Utilities

Services such as water, gas, electricity, and internet access play a vital role in ensuring the physical and economic health and well-being of the communities they serve.

Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Franklin, 2025



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Franklin.
(% excellent or good)

		vs. benchmark ¹²
Garbage collection	92%	Similar
Sewer services	84%	Similar
Storm water management (storm drainage, dams, levees, etc.)	75%	Similar
Power (electric and/or gas) utility	74%	Similar
Affordable high-speed internet access	73%	Higher
Drinking water	71%	Similar
Utility billing	64%	Similar

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Franklin as a whole.
(% excellent or good)

Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Franklin (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband)	68%	Similar
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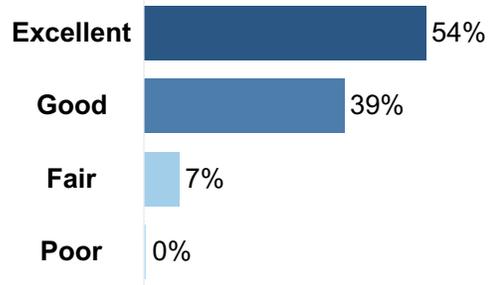
12. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.



Safety

Public safety is often the most important task facing local governments. All residents should feel safe and secure in their neighborhoods and in the greater community, and providing robust safety-related services is essential to residents' quality of life.

Overall feeling of safety in Franklin, 2025



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Franklin as a whole.

(% excellent or good)

vs. benchmark¹³

Overall feeling of safety in Franklin	93%	Higher
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Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:

(% very or somewhat safe)

In Franklin's downtown/commercial area during the day	97%	Similar
In your neighborhood during the day	96%	Similar
From violent crime	96%	Higher
From property crime	92%	Higher
From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	91%	Similar

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Franklin.

(% excellent or good)

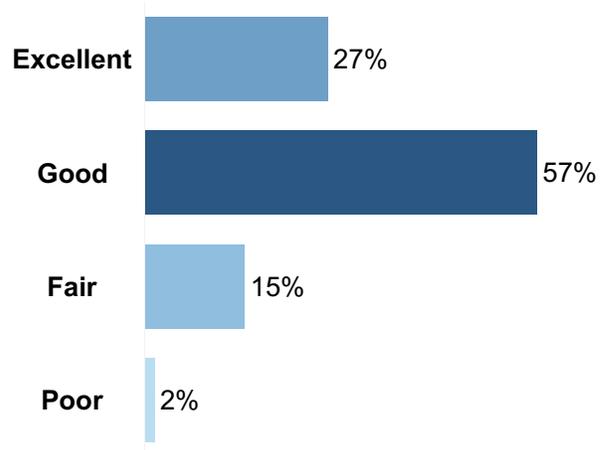
Fire services	94%	Similar
Ambulance or emergency medical services	94%	Similar
Crime prevention	90%	Higher
Police/Sheriff services	90%	Similar
Animal control	88%	Higher
Fire prevention and education	87%	Similar
Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations)	75%	Similar

13. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Natural Environment

The natural environment plays a vital role in the health and well-being of residents. The natural spaces in which residents live and experience their communities has a direct and profound effect on quality of life.

Overall quality of natural environment in Franklin, 2025



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Franklin as a whole.
(% excellent or good)

vs.
benchmark¹⁴

Overall quality of natural environment in Franklin	84%	Similar
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Please also rate each of the following in the Franklin community.
(% excellent or good)

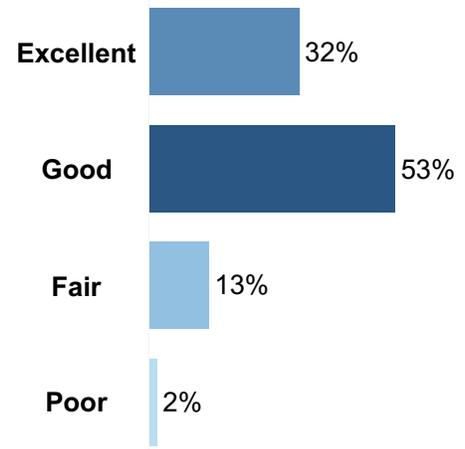
Air quality	91%	Similar
Cleanliness of Franklin	88%	Similar
Water resources (beaches, lakes, ponds, riverways, etc.)	65%	Similar

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Franklin.
(% excellent or good)

Recycling	84%	Higher
Yard waste pick-up	70%	Similar
Franklin open space	68%	Similar
Preservation of natural areas (open space, farmlands, and greenbelts)	65%	Similar

14. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Overall quality of the parks and recreation opportunities, 2025



Parks and Recreation

"There are no communities that pride themselves on their quality of life, promote themselves as a desirable location for businesses to relocate, or maintain that they are environmental stewards of their natural resources, without such communities having a robust, active system of parks and recreation programs for public use and enjoyment."

- National Recreation and Park Association

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Franklin as a whole.
 (% excellent or good)

		vs. benchmark ¹⁵
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	85%	Similar

Please also rate each of the following in the Franklin community.
 (% excellent or good)

Availability of paths and walking trails	79%	Similar
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	77%	Similar
Recreational opportunities	73%	Similar

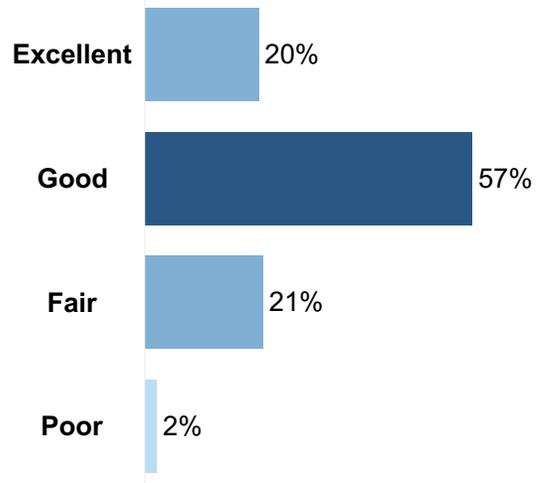
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Franklin.
 (% excellent or good)

Town parks	84%	Similar
Recreation programs or classes	81%	Similar
Recreation centers or facilities	75%	Similar

¹⁵. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.



Overall health and wellness opportunities in Franklin, 2025



Health and Wellness

The characteristics of and amenities available in the communities in which people live has a direct impact on the health and wellness of residents, and thus, on their quality of life overall.

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Franklin as a whole.
(% excellent or good)

		vs. benchmark ¹⁶
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Franklin	77%	Similar

Please also rate each of the following in the Franklin community.
(% excellent or good)

Availability of preventive health services	69%	Similar
Availability of affordable quality food	67%	Similar
Availability of affordable quality health care	64%	Similar
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	52%	Similar

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Franklin.
(% excellent or good)

Health services	76%	Similar
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Please rate your overall health.
(% excellent or very good)

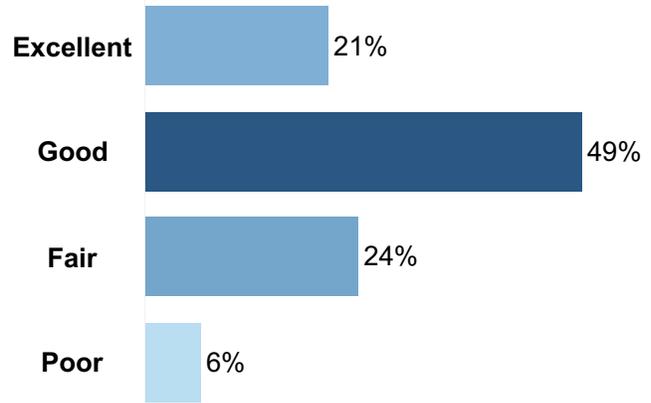
Please rate your overall health.	76%	Similar
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16. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Overall opportunities for education, culture and the arts, 2025

Education, Arts, and Culture

Participation in the arts, in educational opportunities, and in cultural activities is linked to increased civic engagement, greater social tolerance, and enhanced enjoyment of the local community.



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Franklin as a whole. (% excellent or good)

vs. benchmark¹⁷

Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	70%	Similar
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Please also rate each of the following in the Franklin community. (% excellent or good)

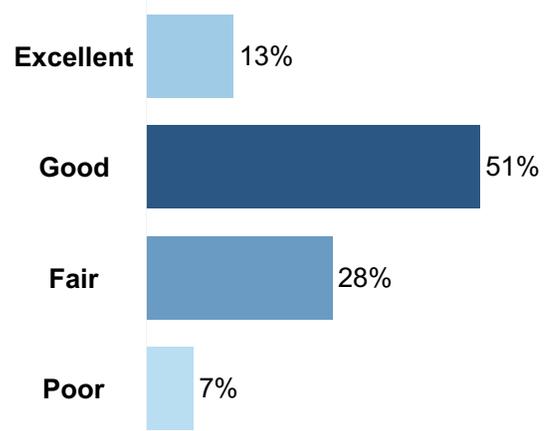
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	75%	Similar
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	71%	Similar
K-12 education	70%	Similar
Community support for the arts	69%	Similar
Adult educational opportunities	67%	Similar
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	49%	Similar

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Franklin. (% excellent or good)

Public library services	96%	Similar
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17. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Residents' connection and engagement with their community, 2025



Inclusivity and Engagement

Inclusivity refers to a cultural and environmental feeling of belonging; residents who feel invited to participate within their communities feel more included, involved, and engaged than those who do not.

Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Franklin.
(% excellent or good)

		vs. benchmark ¹⁸
Franklin as a place to raise children	87%	Similar
Sense of community	73%	Similar
Franklin as a place to retire	52%	Similar

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Franklin as a whole.
(% excellent or good)

Residents' connection and engagement with their community	64%	Similar
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Please rate the job you feel the Franklin community does at each of the following.
(% excellent or good)

Making all residents feel welcome	79%	Similar
Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	72%	Similar
Taking care of vulnerable residents (elderly, disabled, homeless, etc.)	68%	Similar
Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	64%	Similar

Please also rate each of the following in the Franklin community.
(% excellent or good)

Opportunities to volunteer	76%	Similar
Neighborliness of residents in Franklin	71%	Similar

Opportunities to participate in community matters	70%	Similar
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	66%	Similar
Sense of civic/community pride	66%	Similar
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	65%	Similar

Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.
 (% excellent or good)

Volunteered your time to some group/activity in Franklin	33%	Similar
Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	19%	Similar

18. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

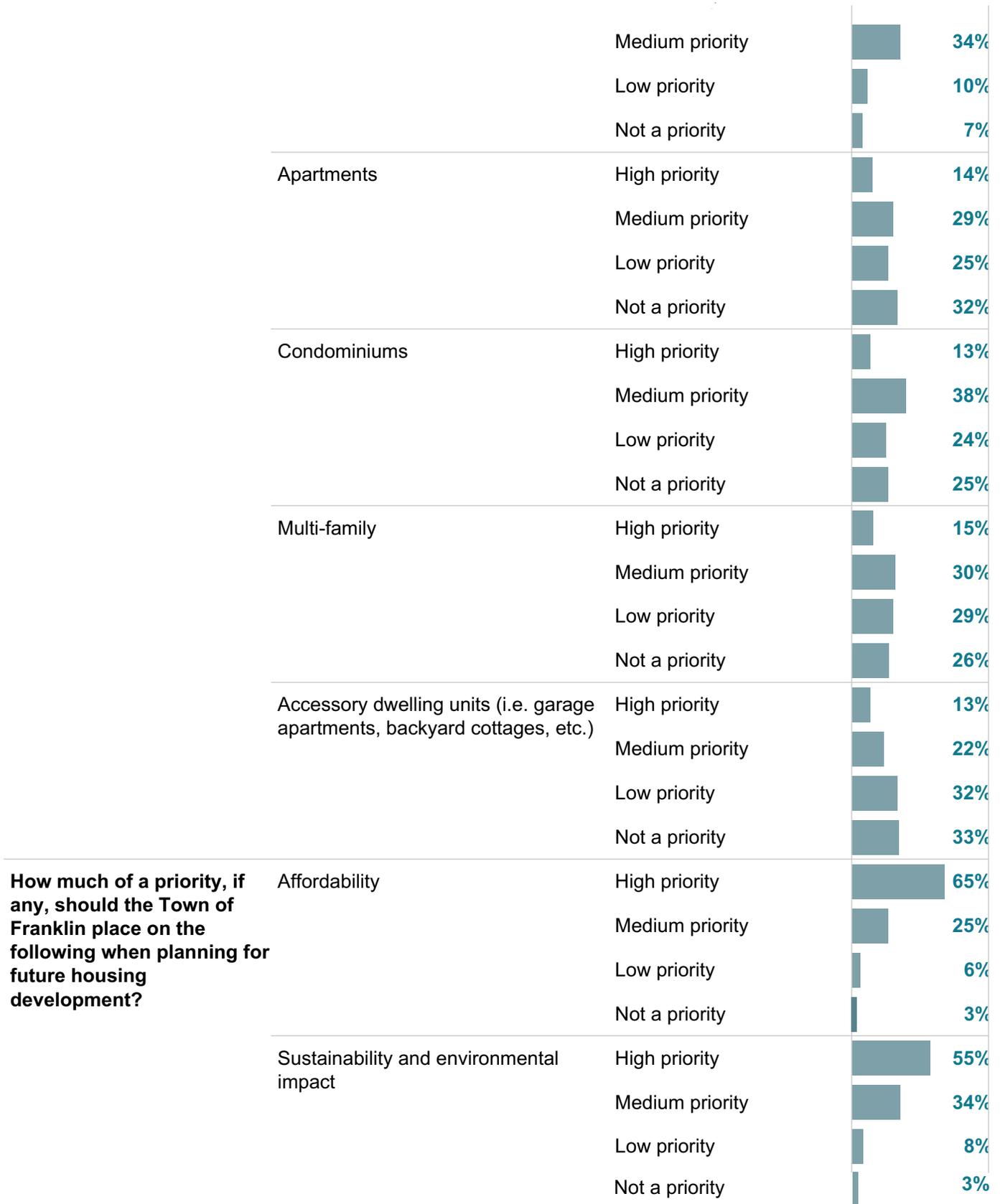
Custom Questions



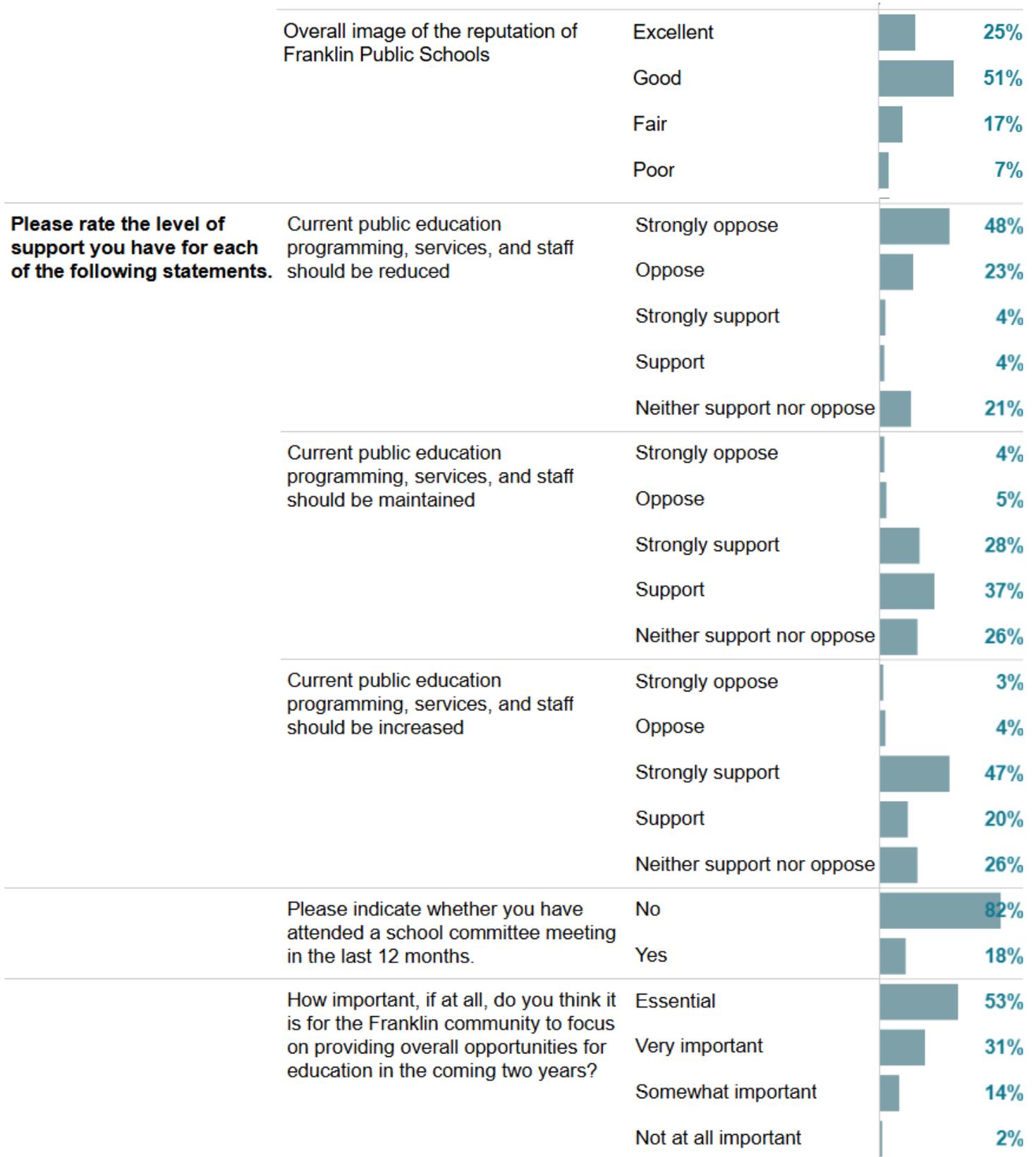
Below are the complete set of responses to each custom question on the survey. By default, “don’t know” responses are excluded, but may be added to the table using the response filter below.

Include "don't know"
No

Please rate the current response time for Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) calls.	Excellent	66%	
	Good	30%	
	Fair	3%	
	Poor	1%	
Do you currently utilize the Town's online payment system for billing/permitting/licensing/etc.?	No	33%	
	Yes	67%	
What is your primary source of information?	Digital News	38%	
	Social Media	25%	
	Television	19%	
	Newspapers	10%	
	Other	4%	
	Podcasts	4%	
What is your primary social media source?	Facebook	40%	
	Instagram	18%	
	None	15%	
	Other	12%	
	Twitter	6%	
	Podcasts	4%	
	Bluesky	3%	
	TikTok	3%	
What types of housing do you feel the Town of Franklin should prioritize for future development?	55+ housing	High priority	27%
		Medium priority	37%
		Low priority	23%
		Not a priority	13%
Single-family homes	High priority	48%	



Preserving the town's unique character and sense of community	High priority	52%	
	Medium priority	37%	
	Low priority	9%	
	Not a priority	2%	
Proximity to schools, parks, and essential services	High priority	32%	
	Medium priority	49%	
	Low priority	14%	
	Not a priority	5%	
Traffic management and transportation options	High priority	50%	
	Medium priority	41%	
	Low priority	7%	
	Not a priority	1%	
Diversity in housing options	High priority	28%	
	Medium priority	37%	
	Low priority	23%	
	Not a priority	13%	
Please rate the following aspects of Franklin Public Schools.	Overall quality of PreK - 12 educational experience	Excellent	31%
		Good	44%
		Fair	19%
		Poor	5%
Variety of extracurricular and curricular activities (ex: sports, clubs)	Excellent	28%	
	Good	41%	
	Fair	18%	
	Poor	13%	
Student preparedness for post-secondary education	Excellent	25%	
	Good	52%	
	Fair	17%	
	Poor	6%	
Maintenance of building facilities	Excellent	21%	
	Good	61%	
	Fair	16%	
	Poor	2%	



The Town of Franklin 2025 Community Survey

Please complete this survey if you are the adult (age 18 or older) in the household who most recently had a birthday (the year of birth does not matter). Your responses are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

1. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Franklin.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Franklin as a place to live.....	1	2	3	4	5
Your neighborhood as a place to live	1	2	3	4	5
Franklin as a place to raise children.....	1	2	3	4	5
Franklin as a place to work.....	1	2	3	4	5
Franklin as a place to visit.....	1	2	3	4	5
Franklin as a place to retire.....	1	2	3	4	5
The overall quality of life in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sense of community.....	1	2	3	4	5

2. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Franklin as a whole.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall economic health of Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall design or layout of Franklin's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Franklin (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband).....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall feeling of safety in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of natural environment in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts.....	1	2	3	4	5
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	1	2	3	4	5

3. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.

	<u>Very likely</u>	<u>Somewhat likely</u>	<u>Somewhat unlikely</u>	<u>Very unlikely</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Recommend living in Franklin to someone who asks.....	1	2	3	4	5
Remain in Franklin for the next five years.....	1	2	3	4	5

4. Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:

	<u>Very safe</u>	<u>Somewhat safe</u>	<u>Neither safe nor unsafe</u>	<u>Somewhat unsafe</u>	<u>Very unsafe</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
In your neighborhood during the day.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
In Franklin's downtown/commercial area during the day	1	2	3	4	5	6
From property crime.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From violent crime.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	1	2	3	4	5	6

5. Please rate the job you feel the Franklin community does at each of the following.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Making all residents feel welcome	1	2	3	4	5
Attracting people from diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Taking care of vulnerable residents (elderly, disabled, homeless, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5

6. Please rate each of the following in the Franklin community.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall quality of business and service establishments in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of business and service establishments in Franklin	1	2	3	4	5
Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	1	2	3	4	5
Employment opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Shopping opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Cost of living in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall image or reputation of Franklin	1	2	3	4	5

7. Please also rate each of the following in the Franklin community.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Traffic flow on major streets.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of public parking.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by car in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by public transportation in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by bicycle in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of walking in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-planned residential growth.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-planned commercial growth.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-designed neighborhoods.....	1	2	3	4	5
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Public places where people want to spend time.....	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of housing options.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality housing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of new development in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall appearance of Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness of Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Water resources (beaches, lakes, ponds, riverways, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Air quality.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of paths and walking trails.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)... ..	1	2	3	4	5
Recreational opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality food.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality health care.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of preventive health services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality mental health care.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Community support for the arts.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool.....	1	2	3	4	5
K-12 education.....	1	2	3	4	5
Adult educational opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sense of civic/community pride.....	1	2	3	4	5
Neighborliness of residents in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to volunteer.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to participate in community matters.....	1	2	3	4	5
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5

8. Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.

	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Contacted the Town of Franklin (in-person, phone, email, or web) for help or information.....	1	2
Contacted Franklin elected officials (in-person, phone, email, or web) to express your opinion.....	1	2
Attended a local public meeting (of local elected officials like Town Council or County Commissioners, advisory boards, town halls, HOA, neighborhood watch, etc.).....	1	2
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting.....	1	2
Volunteered your time to some group/activity in Franklin.....	1	2
Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate.....	1	2
Voted in your most recent local election.....	1	2
Used bus, rail, subway, or other public transportation instead of driving.....	1	2
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone.....	1	2
Walked or biked instead of driving.....	1	2

The Town of Franklin 2025 Community Survey

9. Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Franklin.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Public information services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Economic development.....	1	2	3	4	5
Traffic enforcement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Traffic signal timing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street repair.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street cleaning.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street lighting.....	1	2	3	4	5
Snow removal.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sidewalk maintenance.....	1	2	3	4	5
Bus or transit services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Land use, planning, and zoning.....	1	2	3	4	5
Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Affordable high-speed internet access.....	1	2	3	4	5
Garbage collection.....	1	2	3	4	5
Drinking water.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sewer services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Storm water management (storm drainage, dams, levees, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Power (electric and/or gas) utility.....	1	2	3	4	5
Utility billing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Police/Sheriff services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Crime prevention.....	1	2	3	4	5
Animal control.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ambulance or emergency medical services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fire services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fire prevention and education.....	1	2	3	4	5
Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations).....	1	2	3	4	5
Preservation of natural areas (open space, farmlands, and greenbelts).....	1	2	3	4	5
Franklin open space.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recycling.....	1	2	3	4	5
Yard waste pick-up.....	1	2	3	4	5
Town parks.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation programs or classes.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation centers or facilities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Health services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Public library services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall customer service by Franklin employees (police, receptionists, planners, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5

10. Please rate the following categories of Franklin government performance.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
The value of services for the taxes paid to Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
The overall direction that Franklin is taking.....	1	2	3	4	5
The job Franklin government does at welcoming resident involvement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall confidence in Franklin government.....	1	2	3	4	5
Generally acting in the best interest of the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Being honest.....	1	2	3	4	5
Being open and transparent to the public.....	1	2	3	4	5
Informing residents about issues facing the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Treating all residents fairly.....	1	2	3	4	5
Treating residents with respect.....	1	2	3	4	5

11. Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
The Town of Franklin.....	1	2	3	4	5
The Federal Government.....	1	2	3	4	5

12. Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Franklin community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.

	<u>Essential</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>
Overall economic health of Franklin.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Franklin	1	2	3	4
Overall design or layout of Franklin’s residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.).....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Franklin (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband)	1	2	3	4
Overall feeling of safety in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of natural environment in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities.....	1	2	3	4
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Franklin.....	1	2	3	4
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts.....	1	2	3	4
Residents’ connection and engagement with their community	1	2	3	4

13. Please rate the current response time for Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) calls.

- Excellent Good Fair Poor Don’t know

14. Do you currently utilize the Town’s online payment system for billing/permitting/licensing/etc.?

- Yes No

15. What is your primary source of information?

- Podcasts Newspapers Digital News Television Social Media Other

16. What is your primary social media source?

- Facebook Instagram TikTok Twitter Bluesky Podcasts Other None

17. What types of housing do you feel the Town of Franklin should prioritize for future development?

	<u>High priority</u>	<u>Medium priority</u>	<u>Low priority</u>	<u>Not a priority</u>
55+ housing.....	1	2	3	4
Single-family homes	1	2	3	4
Apartments.....	1	2	3	4
Condominiums.....	1	2	3	4
Multi-family.....	1	2	3	4
Accessory dwelling units (i.e. garage apartments, backyard cottages, etc.).....	1	2	3	4

18. How much of a priority, if any, should the Town of Franklin place on the following when planning for future housing development?

	<u>High priority</u>	<u>Medium priority</u>	<u>Low priority</u>	<u>Not a priority</u>
Affordability.....	1	2	3	4
Sustainability and environmental impact.....	1	2	3	4
Preserving the town’s unique character and sense of community.....	1	2	3	4
Proximity to schools, parks, and essential services.....	1	2	3	4
Traffic management and transportation options.....	1	2	3	4
Diversity in housing options	1	2	3	4

19. Please rate the following aspects of Franklin Public Schools.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don’t know</u>
Overall quality of PreK - 12 educational experience	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of extracurricular and curricular activities (ex: sports, clubs)	1	2	3	4	5
Student preparedness for post-secondary education	1	2	3	4	5
Maintenance of building facilities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall image of the reputation of Franklin Public Schools.....	1	2	3	4	5

The Town of Franklin 2025 Community Survey

20. Please rate the level of support you have for each of the following statements.

	<u>Strongly support</u>	<u>Support</u>	<u>Neither support nor oppose</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Strongly oppose</u>
Current public education programming, services, and staff should be <u>reduced</u>	1	2	3	4	5
Current public education programming, services, and staff should be <u>maintained</u>	1	2	3	4	5
Current public education programming, services, and staff should be <u>increased</u>	1	2	3	4	5

21. Please indicate whether you have attended a school committee meeting in the last 12 months.

- Yes No

22. How important, if at all, do you think it is for the Franklin community to focus on providing overall opportunities for education in the coming two years?

- Essential Very important Somewhat important Not at all important

Our last questions are about you and your household.
Again, all of your responses to this survey are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

D1. In general, how many times do you:	Several times a day	Once a day	A few times a week	Every few weeks	Less often or never	Don't know
Access the internet from your home using a computer, laptop, or tablet computer.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Access the internet from your cell phone	1	2	3	4	5	6
Visit social media sites such as Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Nextdoor, etc.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Use or check email.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Share your opinions online.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Shop online	1	2	3	4	5	6

D2. Please rate your overall health.

- Excellent Very good Good Fair Poor

D3. What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months?

Do you think the impact will be:

- Very positive Somewhat positive Neutral Somewhat negative Very negative

D4. How many years have you lived in Franklin?

- Less than 2 years
 2-5 years
 6-10 years
 11-20 years
 More than 20 years

D5. Which best describes the building you live in?

- Single-family detached home
 Townhouse or duplex (may share walls but no units above or below you)
 Condominium or apartment (have units above or below you)
 Mobile home
 Other

D6. Do you rent or own your home?

- Rent
 Own

D7. About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance, and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?

- Less than \$300 \$2,500 to \$3,999
 \$300 to \$599 \$4,000 to \$6,999
 \$600 to \$999 \$7,000 to \$9,999
 \$1,000 to \$1,499 \$10,000 or more
 \$1,500 to \$2,499

D8. Do any children 17 or under live in your household?

- No Yes

D9. Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?

- No Yes

D10. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)

- Less than \$25,000 \$100,000 to \$149,999
 \$25,000 to \$49,999 \$150,000 to \$199,999
 \$50,000 to \$74,999 \$200,000 to \$299,999
 \$75,000 to \$99,999 \$300,000 or more

D11. Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?

- No Yes

D12. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
 Asian
 Black or African American
 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 White
 A race not listed

D13. In which category is your age?

- 18-24 years 55-64 years
 25-34 years 65-74 years
 35-44 years 75 years or older
 45-54 years

D14. What is your gender?

- Woman
 Man
 Identify in another way → go to D14a

D14a. If you identify in another way, how would you describe your gender?

- Agender/I don't identify with any gender
 Genderqueer/gender fluid
 Non-binary
 Transgender man
 Transgender woman
 Two-spirit
 Identify in another way

Thank you!

Please return the completed survey in the postage-paid envelope to:
National Research Center, Inc., PO Box 549, Belle Mead, NJ 08502



**TOWN
ADMINISTRATOR**
TOWN of FRANKLIN

MEMORANDUM

June 11, 2025

To: Town Council
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator
Amy Frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator
RE: Franklin's 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee

We are starting to prepare for Franklin's 250th anniversary which, as you know, occurs on March 2, 2028. This 250th Anniversary Celebration is a goal of the Town Council for the 2024-25 session.

The Town will need to establish an anniversary committee in order to start fundraising and planning the yearlong festivities. With this, we are asking the Town Council to approve the establishment of a Franklin 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee consisting of thirteen (13) voting members and five (5) non-voting members as well as the establishment of a special fund for the said purposes of this committee, as defined below in MGL, Section 53I.

MGL, Section 53I - A city or town, for the celebration of the two hundredth, two hundred and fiftieth, three hundredth and three hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its settlement or incorporation, and for the celebration of any semicentennial anniversary occurring thereafter, or for other special celebrations or events sponsored by the city or town for the benefit, enjoyment and edification of its residents and visitors, may appropriate money annually during the 5 years preceding such anniversary or special event. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 53 or any other general or special law to the contrary, such city or town may establish in its treasury a special fund in which shall be deposited such sums as may be appropriated by it under this section, and any and all sums received from the sale of commemorative items, admission charges or other monies received in connection with the anniversary or special event. Any and all such sums received by the treasurer shall be kept separate from other moneys, funds or property of such city or town and the principal and interest thereof may, from time to time upon the authorization of the mayor or city manager, as the case may be, the board of selectmen or the majority of any special committee established to plan such celebration or special event, be expended for the purposes of said celebration or special event in the year of such celebration or special event and in the year preceding

or succeeding the same. Any surplus remaining in said special fund after such celebration or special event is concluded, shall be transferred by such treasurer into the treasury of such city or town.

All thirteen (13) voting members of the Committee will be appointed by the Town Administrator and ratified by the Town Council. The one (1) member of the Cultural District Committee, one (1) member of the Cultural Council, one (1) member of the Historical Commission, and one (1) member of the Library Board of Directors will be recommended to the Town Administrator by the Chair of each respective committee. The one (1) member of the Dean College organization will be recommended to the Town Administrator by the President or Interim President of Dean College. The eight (8) At-Large Franklin Resident members will be selected through the Town's standard volunteer application process.

The charge is a draft. The Council should discuss the appropriate amount of members and what other stakeholders should be included or not. The most important variable with the committee membership is the dedication, passion and time to do the work to define, develop and execute a successful, community wide and inclusive anniversary. This work will be able to be conducted by town staff. Volunteers are required to do most of the work.

The Town Council will select from among its membership a Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Clerk. The person chosen for the Treasurer position will be required to liaison with the Town Comptroller on committee finances and accounting. The Town Administrator will also appoint five (5) ex officio non-voting staff members to the Committee to help ensure coordination of all aspects of events and activities of the celebration. In the event of a vacancy, the Town Administrator may choose to select a replacement using the same process. The Committee will be formed in the fall of 2025 and will dissolve on June 30, 2029.

The Committee will plan, organize, and carry out events and activities pertaining to Franklin's 250th Anniversary celebration, which will be held throughout the Town's semiquincentennial year, culminating with a signature event marking the Town's 250th anniversary.

The mission of the Committee is to have events throughout the year recognizing Franklin's Past, Present and Future – engaging all citizenry and businesses in a celebratory, collaborative, and unified manner.

These events and activities can be similar to what many other communities have done during their celebrations and may include, but are not limited to: A gala, carnival, parade, concert and/or fireworks; Public art installation, time capsule, monument, tree or other commemorative gesture; Commissioning or endorsing poetry, theater, essays, musical composition; and/or Tours, races, historical exhibitions and/or speaker series revolving around a range of historical events, people and places that helps Franklin tell its unique story.



TOWN OF FRANKLIN RESOLUTION 25-38

ESTABLISHMENT OF FRANKLIN'S 250th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, The Town Council desires to establish a 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee to plan, organize, and carry out events and activities pertaining to Franklin's 250th Anniversary celebration, which shall be held throughout the Town's semiquincentennial year, 2028.

NOW THEREFORE, the Franklin Town Council hereby establishes the 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee as follows:

1. The Town Council has determined to appoint no more than thirteen (13) members to the 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee, including the following representation and nomination selection criteria:
 - a. Member of the Cultural District Committee
 - b. Member of the Cultural Council
 - c. Member of the Historical Commission
 - d. Member of the Library Board of Directors
 - e. Member of the Dean College organization
 - f. At-Large, Franklin Resident
 - g. At-Large, Franklin Resident
 - h. At-Large, Franklin Resident
 - i. At-Large, Franklin Resident
 - j. At-Large, Franklin Resident
 - k. At-Large, Franklin Resident
 - l. At-Large, Franklin Resident
 - m. At-Large, Franklin Resident
2. All thirteen (13) voting members of the Committee will be appointed by the Town Administrator and ratified by the Town Council. The one (1) member of the Cultural District Committee, one (1) member of the Cultural Council, one (1) member of the Historical Commission, and one (1) member of the Library Board of Directors will be recommended to the Town Administrator by the Chair of each respective committee. The one (1) member of the Dean College organization will be recommended to the Town Administrator by the President or Interim President of Dean College. The eight (8) At-Large Franklin Resident members will be selected through the Town's standard volunteer application process. The Chair of the Town Council shall select the Chair, Vice-Chair, Clerk and Treasurer of the Committee.
3. The Town Administrator shall appoint five (5) ex officio non-voting staff members to the Committee.
4. Terms of the committee members shall end on June 30, 2029.
5. Duties of the committee are as follows:

- a. Engage town boards, committees and departments for input, ideas and coordination of the yearlong celebration.
- b. Plan a rich program of events, activities and information throughout the year recognizing Franklin’s Past, Present and Future – engaging all citizenry and businesses in a celebratory, collaborative, and unified manner.
- c. Create a townwide calendar and communication strategy to ensure information relating to Committee programs and activities are accessible to the public.
- d. Plan and implement fundraising activities in accordance with MGL Chapter 53, Section 53i.

This Resolution shall become effective according to the provisions of the Town of Franklin Home Rule Charter.

DATED: _____, 2025

VOTED: _____

UNANIMOUS: _____

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

ABSTAIN: _____ **ABSENT:** _____

RECUSED: _____

Nancy Danello, CMC
Town Clerk

Glenn Jones, Clerk
Franklin Town Council



**TOWN
ADMINISTRATOR**
TOWN of FRANKLIN

MEMORANDUM

June 11, 2025

To: Town Council
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator
Amy Frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator

RE: Resolution 25-39: General Funds Appropriations, Transfers and Adjustments FY25

We are requesting the Town Council to approve Resolution 25-39 which, if approved, will authorize year-end adjustments to FY25 Appropriations. Each year the Council is required to make certain adjustments to cover unanticipated costs. The proposed transfers for FY25 are as follows:

- \$17,100 for the Norfolk Aggie School – adjustments to rates and enrollment
- \$25,000 for the Recreation Dept. – adjustment to enrollment in tennis program

DEPT #			
SOURCES	TYPE	DEPARTMENT	AMOUNT
147	Personnel	Treasurer/Collector	<u>42,100</u>
		TOTAL SOURCES:	42,100
USES			
395	Expense	Norfolk Aggie	17,100
630	Expense	Recreation	<u>25,000</u>
		TOTAL USES:	42,100

Please let us know if you have any questions.



**TOWN OF FRANKLIN
RESOLUTION 25-39**

**APPROPRIATION: GENERAL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS,
TRANSFERS AND ADJUSTMENTS FY25**

PURPOSE: To transfer FY25 Appropriations to cover unanticipated shortfalls as follows:

DEPT #			
SOURCES	TYPE	DEPARTMENT	AMOUNT
147	Personnel	Treasurer/Collector	<u>42,100</u>
		TOTAL SOURCES:	42,100
USES			
395	Expense	Norfolk Aggie	17,100
630	Expense	Recreation	<u>25,000</u>
		TOTAL USES:	42,100

MOTION:

Be It Moved and Voted by the Town Council that the sum of Forty-Two Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$42,100) be transferred from the sources indicated above, to the uses and in the respective amounts stated above, prior to June 30, 2025.

This resolution shall become effective according to the provisions of the Town of Franklin Home Rule Charter.

DATED: _____, 2025

VOTED: _____

UNANIMOUS: _____

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

ABSTAIN: _____ **ABSENT:** _____

RECUSED: _____

**Nancy Danello, CMC
Town Clerk**

**Glenn Jones, Clerk
Franklin Town Council**



**TOWN
ADMINISTRATOR**
TOWN *of* FRANKLIN

MEMORANDUM

June 11, 2025

To: Town Council
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator
Amy Frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator
RE: **Resolution 25-40: Increased Expenditure Limits FY26**

We are asking the Town Council to approve Resolution 25-40 which, if approved, will set new expenditure limits for two revolving funds established under Franklin Town Code, Chapter 73 for FY26.

MGL Chapter 44 §53E½ requires that we set the expenditure limit for each revolving fund established under Franklin Town Code, Chapter 73 annually. We did this with Resolution 25-22 on June 4th, but have since determined that we need to increase the expenditure limits for two departmental revolving funds as specified below:

- Section 5B. Senior Center Activities Program: Increase from \$125,000 to \$200,000
- Section 5C. Senior Center Supportive Day Program: Increase from \$100,000 to \$150,000

The Senior Center continues to grow in popularity, with strong participation in its wide range of activities and programs. With \$185,500 in revenue generated in FY25, we are well-positioned to support this increase. At the same time, the demand for the Supportive Day program has increased, and it's important to ensure that expenditure limits align with this rising need.

Please let us know if you have any questions.



**TOWN OF FRANKLIN
RESOLUTION 25-40**

**INCREASED EXPENDITURE LIMITS FOR FY2026 ON CERTAIN
DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS ESTABLISHED BY FRANKLIN
TOWN CODE CHAPTER 73, AS PROVIDED IN MGL CHAPTER 44, §53E½, AS AMENDED**

WHEREAS, the Franklin Town Council has adopted a bylaw establishing a chapter of the Franklin Town Code: Chapter 73 Departmental Revolving Funds, as provided in MGL Chapter 44, §53E½, as amended by Chapter 218 of the Legislative Acts of 2016, and

WHEREAS, MGL Chapter 44, §53E½, as amended, further provides that the municipality’s legislative body shall annually set the expenditure limit for each revolving fund established under the local bylaw,

WHEREAS, the Franklin Town Council on June 4, 2025 with Resolution 25-22, approved expenditure limits of the revolving funds but now finds these limits need to be increased,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED AND VOTED THAT The Franklin Town Council hereby sets new expenditure limits for the revolving funds established under Franklin Town Code: Chapter 73 Departmental Revolving Funds for Fiscal Year 2026 specified below, as follows:

Section 5B. Senior Center Activities Program: Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000)

Section 5C. Senior Center Supportive Day Program: One Hundred Fifty-Thousand Dollars (\$150,000)

This Resolution shall become effective according to provisions of the Town of Franklin Home Rule Charter.

DATED: _____, 2025

VOTED: _____

UNANIMOUS: _____

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

YES: _____ NO: _____

ABSTAIN: _____ ABSENT: _____

RECUSED: _____

Nancy Danello, CMC
Town Clerk

Glenn Jones, Clerk
Franklin Town Council



**TOWN
ADMINISTRATOR**
TOWN *of* FRANKLIN

MEMORANDUM

June 11, 2025

To: Town Council
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator
Amy Frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator
RE: **Resolution 25-41: FY25 Budget Transfers**

The Senior Center has received generous donations in the total amount of \$95.

The donations to the Senior Center totaling \$95 will be used at the discretion of the Senior Center to provide services and programs to senior citizens in the Franklin community.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all who donated. Thank you for your continued and generous support.

Donation Summary:

- **Senior Center - \$95**
 - Various Tip Jar Donations \$95

DONATION TOTAL: \$95



**TOWN OF FRANKLIN
RESOLUTION 25-41**

ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS – SENIOR CENTER

WHEREAS, The Franklin Senior Center has received generous donations in the total amount of ninety-five dollars and zero cents (\$95.00) to be used at the discretion of the Department as follows:

SENIOR CENTER – \$95

Donations to be applied at the discretion of the Senior Center, through the Council on Aging Gift Fund, to provide services and programs to senior citizens in the Franklin community.

Donor information is included in the June 18, 2025 Town Council meeting agenda packet.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Town Council of the Town of Franklin on behalf of the Senior Center gratefully accepts these generous donations to be used at the discretion of the Department for the purpose noted above.

This resolution shall become effective according to the provisions of the Town of Franklin Home Rule Charter.

DATED: _____, 2025

VOTED: _____

UNANIMOUS: _____

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

YES: _____ **NO:** _____

ABSTAIN: _____ **ABSENT:** _____

RECUSED: _____

**Nancy Danello, CMC
Town Clerk**

**Glenn Jones, Clerk
Franklin Town Council**



**TOWN
ADMINISTRATOR**
TOWN *of* FRANKLIN

MEMORANDUM

June 11, 2025

To: Town Council
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator
Amy Frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator
RE: Ratification of the MOAs between the Town of Franklin & all Town Unions

We are requesting the Town Council to approve resolutions 25-(42-48), which will ratify the Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs) between the Town of Franklin and all seven Town unions, to become part of each respective union's collective bargaining agreement, as listed below:

- Library Union - Franklin Public Library Staff Association, Massachusetts Library Staff Association (MLSA), Local 4298, American Federation of Teachers (AFT), AFT Massachusetts (AFL-CIO)
- DPW Union - AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Local 1298 Department of Public Works
- Custodians Union - AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Local 1298, CustodiansPublic Facilities Union - AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Local 1298, Public Facilities Employees
- Professional Firefighters of Franklin - International Association of Firefighters, Local 2637
- Franklin Police Association
- Franklin Police Sergeants Union

All seven MOAs will be in effect from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028.

Please let us know if you have any questions.