

# WESTFORD BUSINESS CONNECTION



Town of Westford

## TRAINING GRANTS AVAILABLE

The following summary of grants is from the Greater Lowell Workforce Investment Board:

**Express Program Training Grant:** Designed for small employers (100 employees or fewer) and labor unions to quickly and simply provide training for employees using off-the-shelf training. Total grant request cannot exceed \$30,000 per company for a two-year period; \$3,000 per course, per trainee.

**General Program Grant:** Companies of any size may apply, grants are awarded to employers, employer organizations, labor organizations and training providers. Applicants can choose trainer(s) of their choice. Grants up to \$250,000 may be awarded. Priority is given to applications focused on employee skills attainment and achievement of transferable skills.

**Hiring Incentive Training Grant:** Companies of any size are eligible to apply. Assists companies in paying for training new employees that meet certain criteria: Massachusetts residents who have been unemployed for 6 months or more; the period of unemployment is waived for Veterans. Total grant request cannot exceed \$30,000 per company; \$2,000 per new hire. Note: application must be submitted within 30 days of new hire's start date.

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FALL 2013

### Follow up from June 2013 Breakfast meeting

On June 6, 2013, Juniper Networks hosted a Business Breakfast for the Town's major employers. This newsletter provides follow up on many of the items discussed at that meeting:

- Minot's Corner Intersection Construction
- Transportation Management
- Workforce and Affordable Housing

## TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT

Westford is participating in a planning process related to establishing a regional Transportation Management Association called CrossTown Connect. The potential benefits of this organization are ride-matching services, guaranteed rides home, and technical assistance for local employers related to pre-tax transit benefits. The town has new website dedicated to transportation resources: <http://www.westfordma.gov/transportation>.

### Special Town Meeting

Monday, October 21, 2013

7:30 p.m. at

Abbot School Gymnasium,

25 Depot Street



## PUBLIC POLICY FOCUS: SIGNS

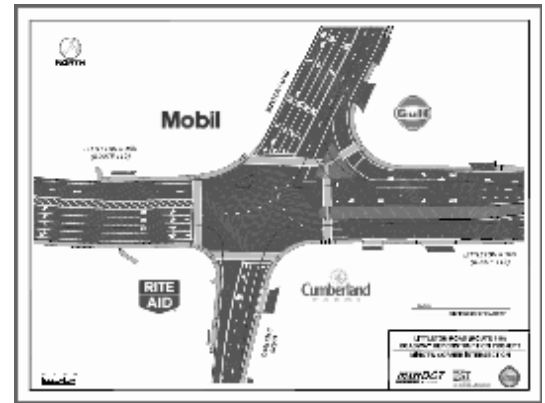
The current sign bylaw in Westford is proposed to be replaced in its entirety with a new bylaw. Special Town Meeting will consider the proposal on October 21, 2013. Planning Board hearings on the proposed bylaw start September 16, 2013 at 7:35 p.m. Find a copy of the proposed text on the Town's website: [www.westfordma.gov/signbylaw](http://www.westfordma.gov/signbylaw)

## TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS AT MINOT'S CORNER

The Minot's Corner project broke ground this summer. The reconstruction and widening of the Littleton Road (Route 110) / Boston Road / Carlisle Road intersection will improve capacity and safety. An additional lane is being added to each approach of the intersection. Sidewalks and pedestrian facilities will be added and improved throughout the intersection. Overall intersection operations and safety will be improved. The intersection will also be connected to the recently signalized Route 495/Boston Road ramps.

Follow the project on Twitter at [@westfordtraffic](https://twitter.com/@westfordtraffic)

If you have questions contact [pstarratt@westfordma.gov](mailto:pstarratt@westfordma.gov) or call the Engineering Department at 978-692-5520.



Portion of Minot's Corner re-design

## WORKFORCE HOUSING

There are several projects in Westford featuring multi-family units and affordable units that are available for rent or for sale at prices less than some of the larger single family homes.

**Abbot Mill**—129 rental apartments in Forge Village, 7 Pleasant Street , [www.abbotmill.com](http://www.abbotmill.com)

**Cottages in the Woods**— 20 single family homes for sale to buyers meeting qualifications for an affordable home (4 left). [www.cottagesinthewoods.com](http://www.cottagesinthewoods.com)

**Graniteville Woods**—186 units of attached and detached single family homes for sale. Mixed income (some for qualified affordable buyers, some are market rate). [www.granitevillewoods.com](http://www.granitevillewoods.com)

**Princeton Westford Apartment Homes**—200 units of rental apartments under construction at 16 Littleton Road. Expected completion of first units, fall 2014.

**Tadmuck Meadows**—37 for sale Townhomes, including a mix of market rate and affordable units. [www.tadmuckmeadowswestford.com](http://www.tadmuckmeadowswestford.com)



## TRAINING GRANTS (CONTINUED)

For details and requirements for all grants go to: <http://www.mass.gov/lwd/employment-services/business-training-support/wtff/>

Employers and organizations interested in applying for any of the WTFP grants are encouraged to attend information sessions. Information sessions give an overview of all of the Workforce Training Fund Grant programs including features and benefits, amount of available funding, and how to apply for each grant using the online application process. Upcoming sessions:

**Wed., Sep 18, 8:00-10:00 AM; Middlesex Community College, Bedford Campus, Trustees House, 591 Springs Road, Bedford.**

**Thur., Oct 17, 8:00-10:00 AM; Middlesex Community College, Lowell Campus, Federal Building, Rm. 310, 50 Kearney Square, Lowell.**

**To register contact:** Cherie Comeau; 978-656-3174; [comeauc@middlesex.mass.edu](mailto:comeauc@middlesex.mass.edu)