

*City of Taunton
Office of the Mayor*



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Contact Person: Radka Barter
508-821-1000

Mayor O'Connell Shares Upcoming Christmas Event Updates

Taunton, MA . . . Today Mayor Shaunna O'Connell shares upcoming Christmas event updates to keep the public informed and to allow for proper holiday planning.

"There is no doubt this year's Christmas activities will be different from previous years, but we will still have much to celebrate and to enjoy here in the Christmas City," said O'Connell. Taunton is heralded as "the Christmas City" due to its lavish Christmas displays, decorations and festivities. Thousands of people descend upon the city at the beginning of December each year to kick off their holiday celebrations.

This year, COVID safety guidelines will effect several changes to the traditional festivities. There will be a virtual Lights On ceremony aired on December 6th. The annual Christmas Parade will not be held as usual.

"We will all miss some of our annual traditions, but we can look forward to seeing our beautifully-lit Taunton Green as well as our newly-decorated City Hall. Taunton residents will have a nice mix of old and new activities to participate in. Luckily, there will be plenty of outdoor displays for our families to enjoy while social distancing," said Mayor O'Connell.

The Taunton Green will be lit up from December 6th through New Year's Day. Residents are welcome to walk around the Green and take in the beautiful displays while following safety protocols by wearing face coverings and maintaining appropriate social distances. With car windows down, residents can enjoy the Christmas music that will be playing outside while driving through the area.

The entire downtown area will be host to many charming displays, including festive window decorations on Main Street businesses, sponsored Christmas trees, all new Gingerbread banners on the light posts, and lovely adornments inside and outside of the new City Hall. Downtown businesses will participate in the annual Window Decorating Contest, beginning on December 5th, complete with online voting and winners to be announced on December 20th.

In a true display of holiday spirit, local businesses, private individuals and city government are all working together to make this Christmas one to remember. Mayor O'Connell is particularly grateful for local sponsors: Morton Hospital, Bristol County Savings Bank, Tallman Insurance, Bank Five, The Lopes Company, Quality Beverage, B&D Construction, and Triumph, Inc. She says she is not surprised by the generosity of local communities. "Christmas brings out the best in all of us. This is truly a time of year when kindness and charity renew our sense of faith and fill us with hope," O'Connell said.

For further updates, please refer to the City of Taunton website (taunton-ma.gov) and Facebook page.

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