

# PUBLIC EVENT/SPECIAL ALCOHOL LICENSE APPLICATION

City of Somerville, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Application #: PEL26-000070

File #: 26-017005

**Event Name:** Mutual Aid Medford & Somerville Free Clothing Store

**Business Name:** Mutual Aid Medford and Somerville

**Location:** 50 Cross Street

**Application Type:** Public Event License

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## APPLICANT

**Company Name:**

**Business Address:**

**Work Phone:**

**Email:** mdikoma@gmail.com

**# of days:** 1

**Contact Name:** Michael Ikoma

**Home Address:**

8 Ninth Street UNIT 509  
Medford, MA 02155

**Home Phone:**

**Does this event occupy a public space or significantly affect nearby residents?:** No

**Describe the location in detail:** The area in front of the Cross Street entrance of the East Somerville Community School (50 Cross Street) located between the playground and front doors to the school.

**In the last 5 years, have you been found guilty, liable, or responsible, in any judicial or administrative proceeding, for any violation of the City Wage Theft Ordinance or any State or Federal laws or regulations regulating the payment of wages?**

[City Wage Theft Ordinance](#): No

**Date:** 08/22/2026

**Event Setup Begins:** 07:30 AM

**Start Time:** 10:00 AM

**End Time:** 02:00 PM

**Event Cleanup Ends:** 04:00 PM

**Do You Have a Proposed Rain Date for Your Public Event?:** Yes

**Date:** 08/23/2026

**Start Time:** 10:00 AM

**End Time:** 02:00 PM

**Organization name; if none, your name:** Mutual Aid Medford and Somerville

### **Describe any social or cultural benefits**

**of this event for Somerville residents :** Our free clothing store will be a welcoming space that brings the community together while helping the planet. By offering good, clean clothes for free, we take the pressure off local families so everyone feels supported and included. It is a simple, dignified way for neighbors to support neighbors, creating a kinder, more connected community. At the same time, the store keeps perfectly good clothes out of our local trash bins, giving used clothing a second life and helping our neighborhood become a cleaner, greener place to live.

**Describe any financial benefits of this event for Somerville businesses or organizations:** This grassroots project operates at zero cost to the city or school district, relying entirely on mutual aid volunteers to manage the space. Financially, it functions as a cost-avoidance program for the municipality by diverting heavy textile waste from public garbage trucks and lowering city landfill fees. Additionally, by providing essentials for free, the store creates direct economic relief that allows residents to keep their hard-earned money in their household budgets for other vital expenses, without requiring any public funding or corporate grants.

**What is the budget for this event?:** \$250

**Complete Mailing Address :** Mutual Aid Medford and Somerville c/o Michael Ikoma 8 Ninth Street #509 Medford, MA 02155

**Contact name for follow-up questions (Will be available to the public):** Michael Ikoma

**Email:** mdikoma@gmail.com

**Phone (Will be available to the public):** 617-410-8377

**Event Name :** Mutual Aid Medford & Somerville Free Clothing Store

**Describe the Event:** Mutual Aid Medford and Somerville (MAMAS) hosts a community Free Clothing Store at the East Somerville Community School. This event is open to all community members and features a wide selection of gently used clothing, winter outerwear, and accessories for all ages. Modeled after a traditional retail shopping experience but entirely free of charge, the event allows local residents to browse the inventory and take home the items they need with dignity and without any financial barrier.

**Describe any Entertainment at the Event (if none, type None):** None

**Describe any tents, inflatables, or other temporary structures to be used (if none, type None):** Clothing racks and folding tables

**Describe any accessibility features available to attendees/participants:** The event is fully accessible and designed to welcome all members of our community. Physically, the store is located entirely outdoors on a flat, level surface with zero stairs, ensuring easy entry for individuals using wheelchairs, strollers, or mobility aids. To break down language barriers, we provide dual English and Spanish event signage alongside bilingual volunteers who are available to assist shoppers. Additionally, we provide free snacks and water on-site to ensure participants are comfortable and have their basic needs met while browsing.

**Estimated maximum attendance at one time :** 150

**Estimated total number of people attending:** 500

**Estimated total number of Somerville residents attending :** 300

**Maximum number of attendees you will accommodate:** 500

**Attendee.fees.or.suggested donations:** N/A

**Will this event be open to the public?:** Yes

**Describe your outreach/publicity:** Our outreach strategy uses multiple channels to reach a diverse cross-section of Medford and Somerville. We distribute multilingual physical flyers at local community organizations and neighborhood hubs. Digitally, we promote the event across our social media platforms and collaborate with partner networks such as Somerviva, Food Not Bombs, and the Somerville Homeless Coalition to cross-share posts. Finally, we leverage grassroots word-of-mouth networks to connect with vulnerable or isolated neighbors who may lack internet access.

**Will food be served?:** Yes

**If yes, describe:**1: Potluck - Coffee & donuts and small snacks brought by volunteers

**Will the event be catered?:** No

**Will a grill/open-flame device be used? :** No

**Will any streets be blocked? :** No

**Will any sidewalks be blocked? :** No

**Will any public parks be used? :** No

**Has this event occurred in the last two years? :** Yes

**If yes, prior dates :** November 22, 2025, August 9, 2025, April 19, 2025, November 16, 2024

**Police Detail :** No

**Parking for Attendees :** No

**Restrooms :** Yes

**If yes, please describe the restrooms being provided, and if you are providing portable toilets, state how they will be delivered and removed:**9: We are currently looking into the feasibility of having a portable toilet, including budget and logistics. We have not brought in a portable toilet for our prior Free Store events, so if there are guidelines we need to be aware of, please let us know.

**Liability Insurance :** No

**Approval Conditions:**

**Reviewer:** CS Mayor, Mayor's Office, Approved

**Reviewer:** Kevin Roche, Engineering, Approved

**Reviewer:** Eric Weisman, Public Works, Approved

**Reviewer:** Yianny Tsirigotis, Recreation, Approved

**Reviewer:** Charles Breen, Fire Prevention, Approved

**Reviewer:** Suzanne Rinfret, Traffic and Parking, Approved

**Reviewer:** Mackenzie Richardson, Police, Approved

**Reviewer:** Courtney Henderson, City Clerk, Approved

**Reviewer:** Jesse Moos, Engineering, Complete

**Reviewer:** Emergency Management, Office of Emergency Management, Approved