

# The Weekly Wrap-up

A Report from Town Administrator Lisa Wong

## State ARPA Spending Plan on hold



Just over \$3.8 billion in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and state surplus are being debated in the State Legislature. The House passed a spending bill on October 29 and the Senate passed their version on November 10. They began meeting on November 15 to reach a consensus plan before recessing after November 17. A compromise has not yet been reached, and funds for housing, workforce, infrastructure and other priorities may wait until 2022.

### PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS

The Mass Dept of Public Health (DPH) released data on opioid related deaths. The first 9 months of 2021 show a 1% increase over the same period in 2020.

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) reports that drug overdose deaths rose 31% nationally between March 2020 and March 2021. For more information about overdose prevention, visit:

[cdc.gov/drugoverdose/prevention](https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/prevention)

South Hadley reported 5 deaths in 2020 and 2019, 4 in 2018 and 2016, 3 in 2017 and 2 in 2015.

### Thanksgiving

The TA Weekly Wrap-up will be taking a break next week.

Also a reminder that the refuse recycling for Thanksgiving will shift Route #7 to Friday and Route #8 to Saturday.

### Testing site closing

The Saturday testing site at South Hadley Town Hall will be suspended during the cold weather.

Saturday, Nov 20 from 10am-2pm will be the last clinic in 2021.

### Youth Vax Clinic

There has been a change of location and time for the school COVID vaccination clinic for kids.

It will be on November 19th from 2:30-6:30pm at the High School.

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



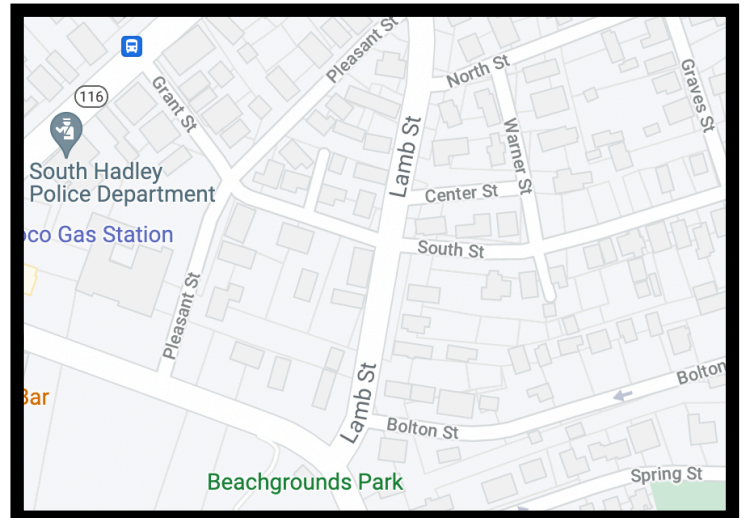
KEEP UP WITH SOUTH HADLEY'S LATEST NEWS



The Massachusetts House and Senate passed H.2144, which authorizes a property on North Street to be transferred from the state's Department of Housing and Community Development to the South Hadley Housing Authority. SHHA began managing the property in 2020, renovating the two-family that had been vacant for over a decade. It will be ready for occupancy soon.

[www.southhadleyhousingauthority.com](http://www.southhadleyhousingauthority.com)

The Center Street Neighborhood Design Project is moving forward. Over the summer, TA Mike Sullivan worked with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to apply for supplement Community Development Block Grant for the design of sidewalks and reviewing right of ways on Center, Graves and Warner Streets. A Notice of Award to BETA Group, Inc. by the town was issued this week for \$62k.



South Hadley will be receiving \$12,100 from MA Dept of Environmental Protection's Sustainable Materials Recovery Program to support recycling programs. The grants were announced on Nov 17th. The South Hadley Department of Public Works will use some of the funds for a container to start the mandatory mattress recycling program a year early, recycling bins for residents, and other programs to be developed.