

The Weekly Wrap-up

A Report from Town Administrator Lisa Wong

Enhancing Behavioral Health Services



The South Hadley Police Department received a joint grant with Granby for funding to provide clinical service and support personnel to respond to people in crisis situations, including triage assessments, follow-up, and referrals. SHPD will contract with the Behavioral Health Network. This is a significant step to providing clinical responses to a growing community need.

PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS

There are 104 Active Confirmed Cases this week, down from last week's 193 figure. 16 of these cases are ages 65 and older, 5 are under 5 years old.

Pfizer and BioNTech submitted clinical trial data to the Food and Drug Administration, a major step in the review process. It took four weeks for the approval of the vaccine for 5-11 years olds last year, so a similar timeline could mean that approvals would be as soon as the end of February.

The FDA Advisory panel is set to vote on February 15th, and if they vote to authorize the vaccine, the recommendation will go to the CDC .

Selectboard

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 15 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Agenda and link will be posted on the town website: www.southhadley.org/agendacenter

Town Alerts

With another winter storm on the way, this is a good time to sign up for town notifications and emergency alerts: www.southhadley.org/517/Alerts-Notifications

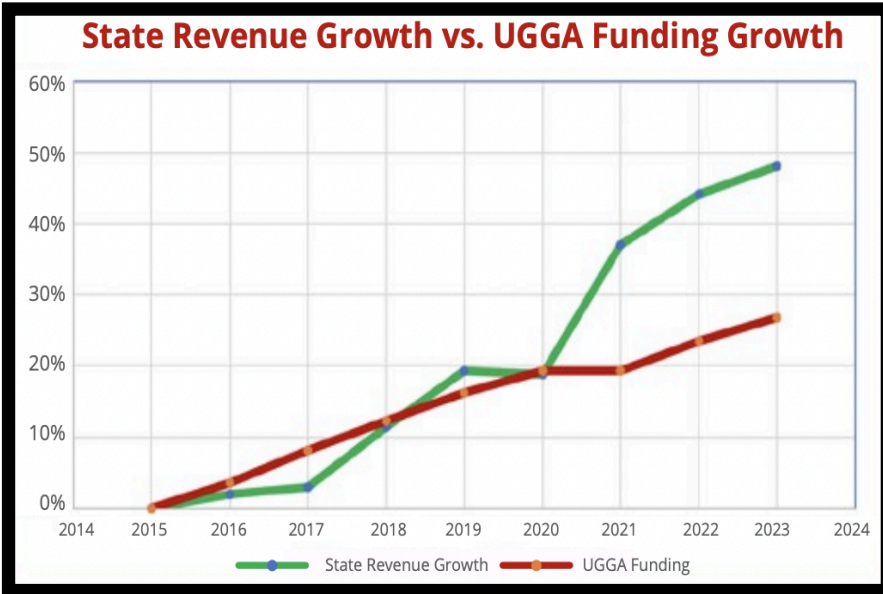
Budget

The Town Administrator will give a virtual budget process presentation to the Know Your Town group on Feb 10 at 7pm.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



KEEP UP WITH SOUTH HADLEY'S LATEST NEWS



The Massachusetts Municipal Association is advocating for Unrestricted General Government Aid, the state budget's contribution to essential local government operations and services, to increase more in line with the State's revenue growth.

South Hadley's BioBot wastewater testing for COVID-19 was recently featured in the news: <https://www.wwlp.com/news/i-team/january-saw-a-seven-fold-increase-in-covid-in-south-hadley-wastewater/>



Happy Lunar New Year! Lunar New Year began on February 1st of this year and varies each year because it begins with the rise of the second new moon after the winter solstice. There are 12 zodiac animals for the 12-year cycle, and this is the year of the Tiger, which is very fitting for South Hadley! If you were born in 2010, 1998, 1986, 1974, 1962, 1950, 1938 or 1926, this is your year!