



# City of Framingham

## Proclamation

### January 30, 2024

### 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Downtown Framingham Inc.

**WHEREAS**, in 2004, a group of community leaders and business leaders including Dale Hamel and the late Ted Welte founded what is known today as Downtown Framingham Inc. Then known as Framingham Downtown Renaissance (FDR) the goal was to support, engage, and enhance the downtown business district;

**WHEREAS**, in 2012, DFR hired its first-ever director Holli Andrews;

**WHEREAS**, Downtown Framingham Inc. has become a mix of people and businesses, rich with diversity and languages;

**WHEREAS**, the mission of Downtown Framingham Inc. (DFI) is to enhance the economic and cultural vitality of Downtown Framingham by following the tenets of the Main Streets America Model in economic vitality, promotion, design and organization;

**WHEREAS**, Downtown Framingham Inc. successfully advocated for parking signs installation on Concord Street;

**WHEREAS**, DFI has received Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) funding from the City of Framingham, and the CDBG microenterprise outreach resulted in more than 10 applications submitted for evaluation, fostering local business development.

**WHEREAS**, Downtown Framingham Inc. hosted the inaugural Marathon Fest at Jack's Abby showcasing its commitment to community engagement and vibrant events.

**WHEREAS**, DFI has played a pivotal role in recruiting, managing, and supporting haircuts for the SMOC day center and MetroWest Care Connections resource fair, providing more than 30 haircuts and contributing to the well-being of those in need. These accomplishments underscore Downtown Framingham Inc.'s dedication to fostering a thriving and connected community.

**WHEREAS**, Through various initiatives and programs, and collaborating with the City of Framingham, Downtown Framingham Inc. has worked tirelessly to create a more vibrant and welcoming downtown area. Their efforts have focused on promoting local businesses, enhancing public spaces, and creating opportunities for community members to come together and engage with one another.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED**, We, City of Framingham Mayor Charlie Sisitsky and the City Council, hereby celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Downtown Framingham Inc. organization and declare **Wednesday, January 31, 2024 Downtown Framingham Inc. Day in the City of Framingham.**

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Charlie Sisitsky, Mayor

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Tracey Bryant  
District 9 Councilor & Vice-Chair

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George P. King, Jr.  
Councilor-at-Large

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Christine A. Long  
District 1 Councilor

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Brandon Ward  
District 2 Councilor

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Michael P. Cannon  
District 4 Councilor

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Noval Alexander  
District 5 Councilor

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Leslie White Harvey  
District 8 Councilor

Attested to by:

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Lisa Antonio Ferguson, City Clerk  
Emily L. Butler, Assistant City Clerk