

Carver Journal

Welcome to the Carver Journal!

Introducing a newspaper for all of Carver! We'll be covering town news, local government, events and other happenings here in Carver.

Our first complete edition will be available — free — on September 24, 2025.

We'd like to thank everyone who works hard to make Carver such a special place.

For more information, check out our site at carverjournal.com.

There, you can find information about advertisements, sign up for home delivery and read stories right as they are published.

Coming soon, the Carver Journal will be available to pick up at select Carver businesses. You can sign up for home delivery online. Fill out the form at carverjournal.com/delivery.

Town nears decision on controversial MBTA law

by Nick Mossman

After over a year of deliberations, the town is set to propose a plan to comply with a controversial housing law that requires Carver to zone for multi-family housing by the end of this year.

The law, known as the MBTA Communities Act, was passed overwhelmingly by the state legislature in 2021, 143-4 in the state house and 40-0 in the state senate to address rising home and rent prices in the commonwealth.

Under the law, Carver is one of 177 towns required to create zoning for multi-family housing. The town is required to zone for 235 multifamily units suitable for families with children by the end of the year.

Carver is not required to build any housing or water and sewer infrastructure as part of the law.

According to the Executive Office of Housing and Liveable Communities, this policy opens the door to easily-created walkable communities near public transit. Critics of the law, however, have argued that this policy could strain resources in



The street-facing front of the Carver Town Hall. Photo by Paul Owen

smaller towns, like Carver, which may not have the resources to sustain multi-family housing developments.

In fact, there's no commuter rail stop within town lines.

Commuters have to drive miles to get to the nearest rail stops in Middleboro Kingston and Halifax.

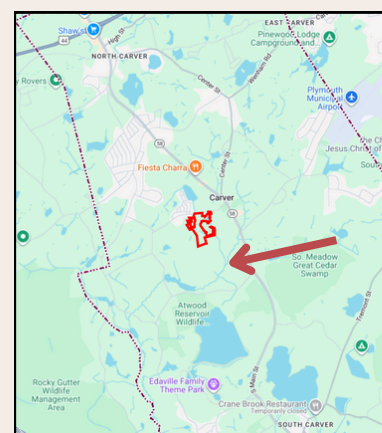
Nonetheless, Carver is classified as an "adjacent small town" according to the law.

In early August, the Carver Planning Board identified five potential sites to zone for multi-family housing.

On Aug. 26, the board voted 3-1 to propose 30-32 West Street as the site to rezone.

The site is located near the center of town and is currently occupied by Ferreira's Used Cars & Parts.

"The chances of a developer coming in and making something of that property, it's very slim to none because of the contamination that will



The 30-32 West Street property, according to the Mass GIS Data Hub.

cost someone a fortune," said Mari Ellen Williams, Chair of the Planning Board during the meeting.

Town Planner Thomas Bott quickly jumped in to clarify that the planning board does not know for certain if the proposed site is contaminated.

"I don't want to disparage someone's property," Bott said. "But it certainly would look like a duck."

Now, the site proposal set, the planning board will continue

MBTA law continued

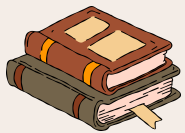
with a series of discussions before the plan is voted on by the public.

Now, the proposal is set to go up to a public vote in a Special Town Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7 at Carver Middle High School.

The last day to register to vote before the Special Town Meeting will be Friday, Sept. 28, according to the town clerk's office. Prospective voters can register online on the Secretary of the Commonwealth's website.

More information about the MBTA bylaw and planning board process can be found on the front page of the town's website, carverma.gov, by clicking on "MBTA Community Zoning Information." A list of special town meeting articles can be found at carverjournal.com/stm-warrant-2025

*Contact Nick Mossman at
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Things to do:**Bring your kids to storytime:**

Stop by the Carver Public Library on Wednesday, Sept. 24 with your little ones at 10:30 a.m. for stories, songs and other activities!

Take in a matinee:

The Carver Council on Aging is playing "The Fall Guy" featuring Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt Friday, Sept. 26 at noon. To attend, register with Alice at 508-866-4698 x3

**Catch a concert:**

Uncle John's Banjo, a four-piece bluegrass Grateful Dead cover band will play at Three Sips Brewing Company in South Carver on Friday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. Entry is \$10.

**Hey! Carver has pickleball!**

by Bob Bentley



Two people play pickleball at the recently opened Carver pickleball courts at 48 Lakeview St. Photo by Paul Owen

Did you know Carver has pickleball courts? The Recreation Committee (with Community Preservation Act funding) recently opened six pickleball courts behind the Council on Aging, at 48 Lakeview St., in South Carver.



The new Council on Aging deck overlooks the pickleball courts. Photo by Paul Owen

Pickleball is suitable for all ages and skill levels. It's easy to learn, has low physical impact, and is ideal for seniors and children. Right now, use is on a first-come, first-served basis. Check it out!

Calling all writers!

Interested in writing for Carver's newspaper? Get in touch! The Carver Journal is looking for volunteers to cover events, town government and other related issues. Prior experience in journalism is welcomed, but not required.

Our Mission

The Carver Journal strives to publish accurate information about news and events happening around our town. Our goal is to increase residents' knowledge about what's going on in Carver, promoting public engagement and awareness.



Did you know that the Carver Journal has even more content online?

Interested in learning more? Getting involved? For more stories, photos, calendars and other info, check out our site at carverjournal.com or contact stories@carverjournal.com