

**Office of the Mayor
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RECENT HIRE TO KEEP EVERETT MOVING



Mayor Carlo DeMaria Jr. is excited to announce the hiring of Everett resident Kathleen O'Brien. Ms. O'Brien will serve as the city's Mass in Motion Coordinator.

"Kathleen's position is a great benefit to our city," said Mayor DeMaria, "the cornerstone of our City is our people. In order to keep Everett healthy and fit, we need to create the environment where people have plenty of places to exercise, information to make healthy food choices, and the opportunity to exercise the mind."

Ms. O'Brien's position is the result of the Mass in Motion grant awarded by the state to Everett and its community partners, including the Everett Community Health Partnership, Cambridge Health Alliance, Everett School Department, Tri-City Community Action Program (Tri-CAP), the Joint Committee for Children's Healthcare in Everett (JCCHCE), along with other community-based groups.

Everett is one of ten communities across the Commonwealth to receive funds through Mass in Motion, a new health and wellness program started by Governor Deval Patrick. The goal of the Mass in Motion campaign is to give communities the necessary tools to take a holistic approach to community health, by making the environmental, systemic and policy changes necessary to make it easier for people to achieve lasting health and wellness.

The City will receive \$60,000 from Mass in Motion to use toward making Everett a community where all residents have access to healthy, affordable food and numerous places to easily and enjoyably engage in physical activity. This funding will enable the Mass in Motion team to expand existing projects as well as develop new projects such as creating community and schoolyard gardens, increasing the Bike to the Sea path and creating Walking Routes for residents to track the calories they burn while learning fun facts about the city.

Ms. O'Brien is a lifelong Everett resident who recently completed the Graduate Program for Women in Politics and Public Policy from the University of Massachusetts, Boston concentrating in Sustainable Community Development. Ms. O'Brien has a unique perspective to organize community members and lead this challenge as an Everett resident. "I am thrilled to work on this project in Everett" states Ms. O'Brien, "our success will show through increased participation in all the great activities we currently have, and building new opportunities for the entire community to keep healthy. I encourage any Everett residents interested in becoming involved in these projects to contact me."

Ms. O'Brien will work from City Hall and can be reached by email at Kathleen.O'Brien@ci.everett.ma.us, or at 617-394-2282.

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For additional press information please contact Matt Laidlaw, Director of Communications, City of Everett.

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