



**December 20th, 2018**

## Important Dates & Information

### **OSD: Latest Issue of *Buy the Way Now Available***

Don't miss the December 2018 edition of [Buy the Way](#), the monthly newsletter of the Operational Services Division (OSD).

Click [here](#) to get news and updates from OSD delivered to your inbox.

### **Updated Info for Taxpayers Affected by Merrimack Valley Gas Explosions**

The Department of Revenue has announced it is taking additional steps to address the concerns of taxpayers in Lawrence, Andover, and North Andover who have been affected by the September gas explosions.

The Department recognizes that taxpayers in these areas may be unable to comply with their tax filing or payment due dates that occurred on or

## By the Numbers

*City & Town* provides updates on the progress of the tax rate and certification season while also allowing you to follow the tax rate setting process in real time. Thanks to our Municipal Databank staff, this public information is available 24/7 by [clicking here](#).

Preliminary Certifications Approved: 68

Final Certification: 67 (of 69 total)

LA4 Approved: 348 (348 submitted)

LA13/ New Growth Approved: 348 (348 submitted)

Tax Rates Approved: 335

Balance Sheets Approved: 249

Total Aggregate Free Cash Approved: \$1,118,123,984

## Proposed FY2020 State Owned Land Valuation under MGL C. 58 § 13-17

The Division of Local Services has posted on its website proposed FY2020 state owned land values based on the fair cash value of certain state owned lands (SOL) pursuant to [MGL Ch. 58, §§ 13-17](#). These lands are reimbursed for loss of local tax revenue on the Cherry Sheet's State Owned Land line.

Click [here](#) to display the proposed municipal state owned land values and their share of the total state owned land. In addition, this [link](#) features Frequently Asked Questions about this program.

The Bureau of Local Assessment (BLA) is notified of acquisitions, deletions and agency transfers by the Department of Capital Asset Management (DCAM). In preparation for the FY2020 final numbers, if your community

after the date of the explosions. The Department would like to continue to assist those taxpayers as much as possible.

The Department will waive any penalties associated with any late-filed return or payment that was due on or after September 12th and before December 1st. The Department will waive penalties through December 15th, and will later revisit whether any further extensions should be granted.

If any taxpayer in the affected areas receives notice of a penalty for this period they should reach out to the Department of Revenue at (617) 887-6367.

has newly reported and outstanding acquisitions from **calendar year 2017 and 2018**, you will be notified in January for processing by March 1, 2019. It is imperative you respond to the request for information within 15 days to have the additional acreage included in your 2020 valuation issued on June 1, 2019.

Any community questioning their proposed state owned land valuation should contact the DLS Bureau of Local Assessment at [bladata@dor.state.ma.us](mailto:bladata@dor.state.ma.us).



**Other DLS Links:**

[Local Officials Directory](#)

[Municipal Databank](#)

[Information Guideline  
Releases \(IGRs\)](#)

[Bulletins](#)

[Publications & Training Center](#)

[Tools and Financial Calculators](#)

## December Municipal Calendar

- 31 Water & Sewer Commissioners **Deadline for Betterments to be included on Next Year's Tax Bill** ([M.G.L. c. 80, § 13](#); [c. 40, § 42I](#) and [c. 83, § 27](#))
- 31 Assessors **Mail 3ABC Forms to Charitable Organizations and Forms of List to Personal Property Owners**
- 31 Collector **Deadline for Mailing Actual Tax Bills**  
Quarterly and semiannual communities issuing annual preliminary tax bills mail actual tax bills by this date. Quarterly communities can include actual bills for the 3rd and 4th quarters in a single mailing.
- 31 State Treasurer **Notification of Monthly Local Aid Distributions**, see [IGR 17-17](#) for more cherry sheet payment information, monthly breakdown by program is available [here](#).

## January Municipal Calendar

- 31 DESE **Notify Communities and Districts of Estimated NSS Requirements**  
As soon as the Governor releases the ensuing year's budget, DESE notifies communities and districts of that next year's NSS estimates, which are subject to change once the final state budget is approved
- 31 Pipeline Company **Deadline for Pipeline Company to File Form of List with BLA**
- 31 State Treasurer **Notification of Monthly Local Aid Distributions**, see [IGR 17-17](#) for more cherry sheet payment information, monthly breakdown by program is available [here](#).

To view the municipal calendar in its entirety, please [click here](#).

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Contact *City & Town* with questions, comments and feedback by emailing us at [cityandtown@dor.state.ma.us](mailto:cityandtown@dor.state.ma.us).

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