

Resolution Regarding Staff Parking Availability Around Schools and Incentivizing Alternate Modes of Transportation to Reduce Staff Parking Demand

WHEREAS, the Somerville Public Schools is committed to ensuring a welcoming and supportive educational environment for our staff, which includes facilitating access to respective workplaces; and

WHEREAS, many Somerville Public Schools faculty and staff live in suburban communities and have to drive to work; and

WHEREAS, in the urgency to get to school on time, school staff sometimes have to park in an area not designated for school parking and face significant parking ticket expenses; and

WHEREAS, the Somerville Public Schools also recognizes the challenges of parking availability in a densely populated urban city; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somerville has set a goal of 75% of Work Commutes via Non-Car Mode in perpetuity by 2040 as part of its [Somerville Vision 2040 Mobility Plan](#); and

WHEREAS, the Somerville Public Schools works in partnership with the Somerville Mobility and other divisions of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) to creatively address parking and mobility challenges and work toward the Somerville Vision 2040 Mobility plan goal; and

WHEREAS, the long-awaited and much-anticipated MBTA Green Line Extension, which includes an extended branch from Lechmere Station in Cambridge to Medford Station, along with a new Green Line branch from Lechmere to Union Square in Somerville, expands public transportation access throughout Somerville with six new additional T stations (Union Square, East Somerville, Gilman Square, Magoun Square, Ball Square, and College Avenue); and

WHEREAS, the new MBTA Green Line Extension is scheduled to officially open on December 12, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somerville is continuing to invest in transportation infrastructure improvements and enhancements that include expansion of bike lanes throughout the city and designated bus lanes to support alternative modes of transportation;

THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Somerville School Committee commits to work in partnership with the city to facilitate parking access for staff around school buildings, particularly at schools without a dedicated parking lot and a large staff, while minimizing impacting resident parking access, and to reduce parking demand by incentivizing alternate modes of transportation.

Voted: Unanimously

Date: December 19, 2022

By: Somerville School Committee