



Ward 3

MAYOR KATJANA BALLANTYNE

CITY COUNCILOR BEN EWEN-CAMPEN

Agenda

Progress for All

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne

Office of
Sustainability and
Environment

Emily Sullivan, Climate Change Program Manager

Office of Housing
Stability

Fred Berman, Co-Deputy Director

Engineering &
Mobility Divisions
Update

Brian Postlewaite, Director of Engineering, & Brad Rawson, Director of Mobility

Department of
Racial and Social
Justice

Denise Molina Capers, Director

Somerville Police
Department

Chief Charles Femino

Rodent Control &
FOG (Fats, Oils &
Greases) Updates

Colin Zeigler, Environmental Health Coordinator,
Inspectional Services Department

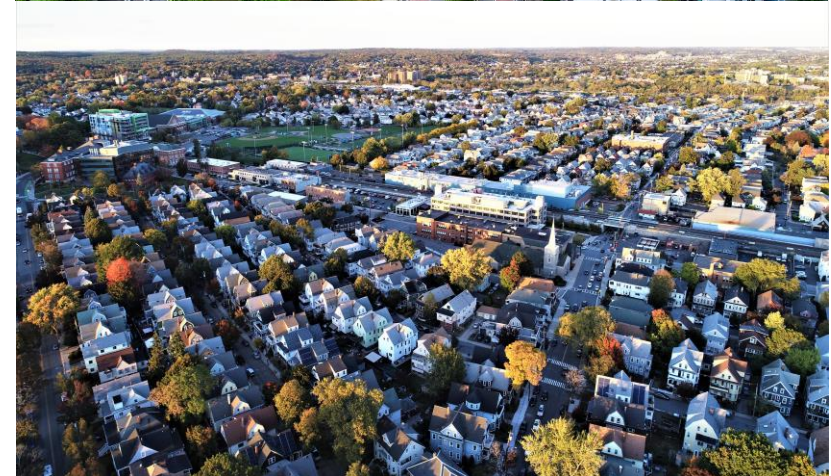
Progress for All

MAYOR KATJANA BALLANTYNE

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Somerville at a Glance

- 4 square miles in size
- 60% population turnover every 3 years
- 81,100 residents as of 2020
- 50+ languages spoken
- Somerville Public Schools students are a majority minority with over 60% identifying as low income
- From 2011 to 2021 we have added 8,856 jobs
- City Budgets 'Then and Now':
 - FY23 Budget: \$309,260,849
- 17 City parks renovated in the last 10 years
- ~ 350 trees to our urban canopy per year



Access and Community

Access is rooted in affordability.

As our community changes, residents must be able to access the change around them.

- Developers, employers, job seekers, workforce development pipelines

Community is residents meeting, talking and coming together on issues that matter to them most.

- SomerVision 2040

Implementing Progress for All

- **It is created through inclusive, intentional efforts always viewed through an equity lens.**
- **How have we been engaging Somerville communities?**
 - COVID Listening Sessions, Participatory Budgeting, event attendance, Voice of Somerville survey
- **What are the issues I'm hearing?**
 - Affordability, COVID impacts, social justice, environment, transportation, infrastructure, quality of life
- **Where is Progress for All headed?**

Office of Sustainability and Environment

EMILY SULLIVAN, CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAM MANAGER

esullivan@somervillema.gov

781-823-9248

www.SomervilleMA.gov/OSE

Mayor's Office of Sustainability and Environment Mission

Develop and implement policies and programs that minimize environmental impacts and greenhouse gas emissions, build resiliency, and increase equity, enabling a healthy and enjoyable environment for all the people of Somerville and a responsible City government.



Community Choice Electricity (CCE)

Electricity supply program organized by the City of Somerville to provide residents and businesses with new, City-vetted options for electricity supply.

- Receive stable, competitive pricing*
- Promote regional, zero carbon, renewable energy generation and job creation
- Renters paying electric bills can participate without landlord permission



**Future savings cannot be guaranteed due to Basic Service rate changes every 6 months for residential and commercial customers and every 3 months for industrial customers.*

Community Choice Electricity (CCE)

To opt-up and for more information
visit [CCE.SomervilleMA.gov](https://www.CCE.SomervilleMA.gov)



- What to know about the program between November 2022-December 2024
 - Doubled the renewable energy
 - Supplier will remain Direct Energy
 - Continue to receive one bill from Eversource
 - Will never knock on your door or call unsolicited
- Choose from three products
 1. Do nothing and receive 20% additional regional, zero-carbon energy
 2. Choose the Basic product for the lowest rate
 3. Opt-up for 100% regional, zero-carbon energy



Become a Climate Ambassador!

For more information sign up tonight or online:

bit.ly/SCF-Ambassadors



Somerville Climate Forward Update

- Somerville's Climate Action Plan
- Prioritizes equity, mitigation, adaptation, and resiliency
- Identifies priority actions for the City to address
- We are updating the Plan through September 2023
 - **Make your voice heard**
 - **Help spread the word**
 - **Sign up tonight to learn more about ways to get involved**

More information: www.somervillema.gov/climateforward



Office of Housing Stability

FRED BERMAN, CO-DEPUTY DIRECTOR

What We Do:

Work to prevent the involuntary displacement of Somerville residents; to assist residents who need help finding new housing; and to develop policies and programs that combat displacement and enhance housing stability.



Contact Us:

Phone: 617-625-6600 x 2581

URL: bit.ly/OHS-Referral

Our Services:

- **Help accessing financial assistance** to address rent and mortgage arrears, cover start-up rental costs. **Over \$4.6 million leveraged since the Pandemic.**
- **Case management** to help stabilize tenancies and assist with **housing search and applications for affordable housing and Section 8 vouchers.**
- **Advocacy and referrals for legal services** to prevent evictions and foreclosures.
- **Outreach and education about tenants' rights under state and local laws**, including the Housing Stability Notification Act.
- **Advice, information, workshops, and trainings for Somerville tenants, landlords, and advocates.**



Program and Policy Advocacy



- Implementation of **stronger protections for tenants in apartments being converted to Condominiums.**
- Development, support for City Council passage, and targeted outreach to broaden awareness of the **Housing Stability Notification Act (HSNA)**, requiring landlords to provide tenants facing eviction with **language-appropriate information about rights and resources that can help them avoid becoming homeless.**
- Development in collaboration with lead sponsors on the City Council, and targeted outreach to inform landlords about an **expanded HSNA requirement to provide – at the outset of new tenancies – language-specific information about rights and resources to support housing stability.**
- Advocacy for **State Legislature passage of legislation to strengthen housing stability:**
 - **Transfer Fee to fund affordable housing development**
 - **Rent Stabilization** legislation
 - **Right to Counsel** legislation
 - **Tenant Right to Purchase** legislation
 - **Eviction Sealing** legislation

Engineering and Mobility

BRIAN POSTLEWAITE, DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

BRAD RAWSON, DIRECTOR OF MOBILITY

Green Line Extension (GLX)

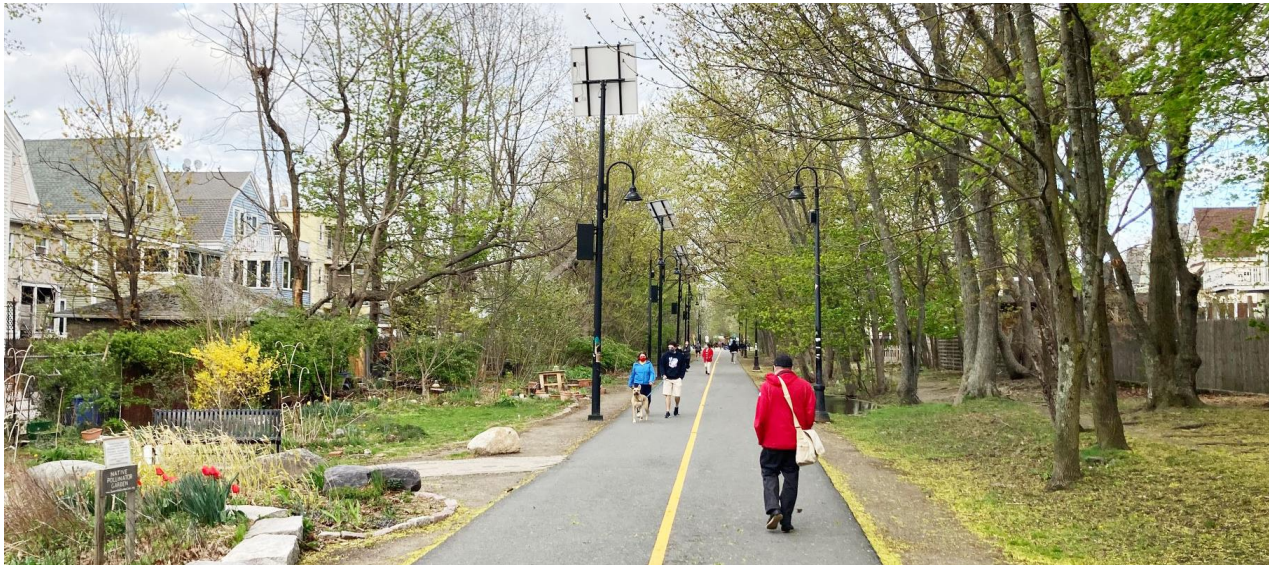
- Green Line Medford Branch Opening: November 2022
- Photo: Test train at Magoun Square Station



For more information please visit: www.somervillema.gov/glx

Community Path Extension (CPX)

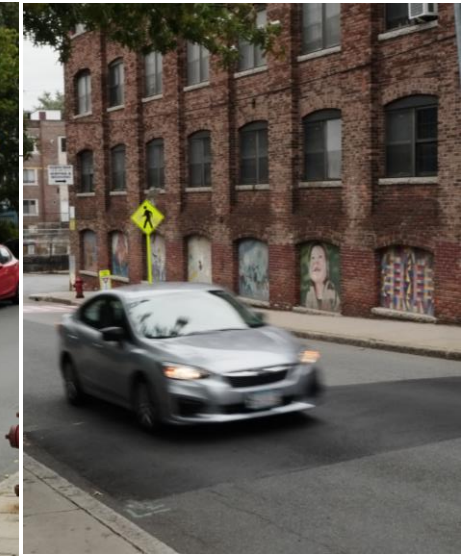
- Community Path Extension Opening: December 2022
- Year-Round Maintenance Challenges



Street Construction



- Clockwise:
 - Highland/Vinal Crosswalk
 - Sycamore Street Speed Humps
 - School Street CPX Crossing



Spring Hill Sewer Separation

Project Phase I

Fall 2022 Community Meeting November 9th at 6:00 PM

- Review of progress made during the 2022 construction season
- In-depth look ahead to winter work and 2023 construction season
- Neighborhood feedback and Q&A session with City staff

Register to Attend



For more information please visit:

voice.somervillema.gov/springhillsewer



Lead Service Line Replacement Program

The City of Somerville has received funding through the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's (MWRA) Lead Loan Program to replace the entire length of a property's lead or other non-copper water service line, at no charge to the property owner.

In 2019, 450 addresses were identified by the Water Dept with a lead water line.



In 2021, the City replaced 58 water lines and identified 11 that were replaced by property owner.

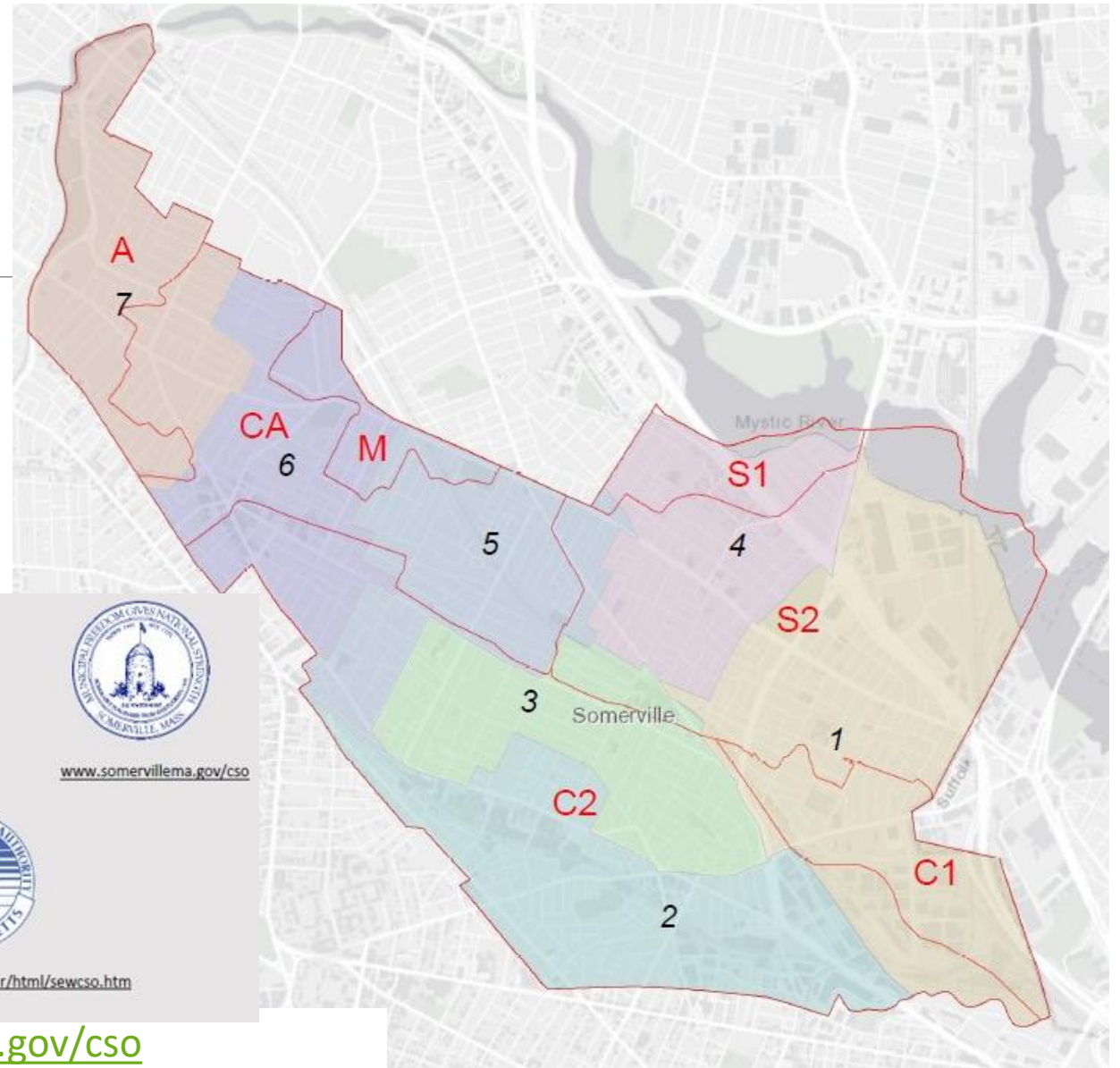
In 2022, the City replaced 102 water lines and identified 23 that were replaced by property owner.

The City is aiming to replace 100+ services in 2023, please visit somervillema.gov/leadservices to see if your water service line is eligible for a no-cost replacement.

Questions? Please email leadservices@somervillema.gov.

Stormwater & CSOs

- Citywide Flood Mitigation and Water Quality Improvements Plan
- Expected Finalization: November 2022
- Joint CSO plan initiated



For more information please visit: www.somervillema.gov/cso
voice.somervillema.gov/citywide-drainage-and-water-quality-master-plan

Racial and Social Justice Department

DENISE MOLINA CAPERS, DIRECTOR



Racial and Social Justice Department

The Department of Racial and Social Justice (RSJ) leads the City of Somerville's equity efforts and collaborates with city departments, constituents, and stakeholders to eliminate the institutional and structural systems that create racial inequities, social disparities, and injustices.

Developing the RSJ Department (Est. in 2021)

■ Social media – Twitter and Facebook



@somerville_rsj



facebook.com/somerville.rsj

■ New Hires:

1. RSJ Coordinator – Amanda Nagim-Williams
2. Community Engagement Specialist – Leonor Galindo
3. Public Information Officer – Haakon Brooks



RSJ Youth League findings
November 2022

Psychological First Aid

Hate/Bias Incidents
November 2022

Reimagining Public Safety

Building knowledge

Staffing and Operations Analysis (March)
Community Visioning Focus groups (August)
Reimagining Policing and Public Safety Perception Survey (September)

Building Capacity

RSJ Community Ambassadors to be announced October 2022

Building Awareness

Reimagining Policing and Public Safety Micro Webpage November 2022

RSJ Fund (Grant Program)

- The purpose of the Racial and Social Justice Fund is to provide a sustainable and enduring source of funding to dismantle systemic racism and social inequality.
- Focus groups November 2022

Civilian Oversight

- Task Force Members – November 2022

Commissions

- Open call for commissioners, 4 seats each: HRC, SCPD, Women's Commission

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act

Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD)

- 4 open seats
 - 3 for persons with disabilities, 1 for a family member of a person with a disability.
- Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm on Zoom.

ADA Internal Survey

- Majority of surveyed leadership staff has some to working knowledge of ADA.
- Informs professional development for City staff around ADA.

Fire Department and Police Department - Training

- Fire Department – October 2022
- Police Department - TBD

ADA Community Survey - November 2022



Somerville Police Department

CHIEF CHARLES FEMINO

SPD Status Update

Community Policing Unit

- Initial program composed of 14 officers which fell to 7 officers. SPD received Regional Community Policing Award in 2017.
- Update: Officers reassigned to patrol to meet staffing of patrol cars; unit no longer exists.

School Resource Officers (SROs) & STEPS Program

- Previously up to 3 SROs were assigned to Somerville schools (2 at SHS). The STEPS program involved up to 20 officers visiting students in a relationship-building capacity.
- Update: SROs reassigned to patrol as program was paused based on School Committee vote. STEPS program was eliminated

Accreditation

- SPD was re-accredited by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission (MPAC) on June 21, 2022. Accreditation reflects the use of best practices in areas of police management, operations, and technical support activities.

Police Reform

- Mandatory certification of all Officers by Massachusetts Peace Officer Standards & Training Commission (POST), an independent state entity composed of 9-members (6 non-LE) appointed by the governor and attorney general. Re-certification mandated every 3 years.

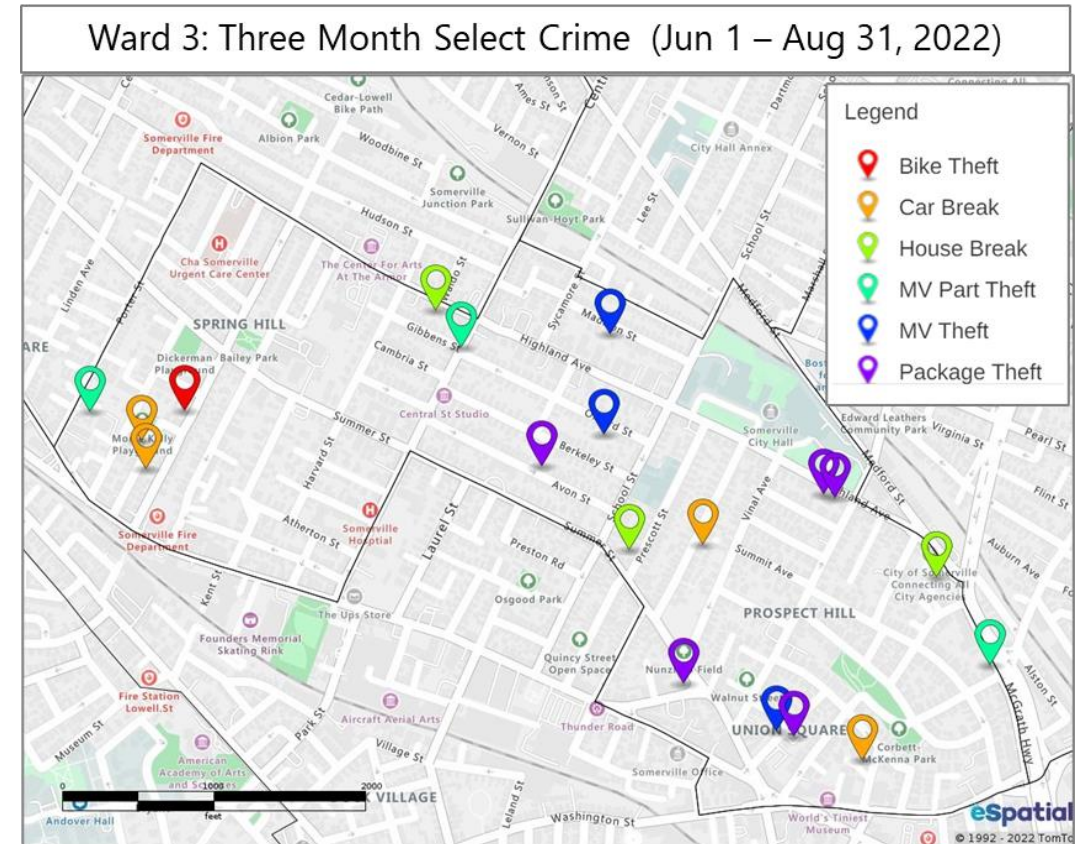
Ward 3 Crime: Crime Trends

Citywide:

- Index crime increased 10% over one year and 11% over two years.

Ward 3:

- Index crime decreased 2% (2 incidents) over one year and 13% (12 incidents) over two years.
- Over the past three months (*map on right*) Ward 3 has seen a small spike in package thefts and car breaks.
- Note that Index Crime is composed of 8 offenses: Homicide, Rape, Aggravated Assault, Robbery, Burglary, MV Theft, Larceny, and Arson.



Index crime statistics based on previous 12 months (9/1/21 – 8/31/22) year-over-year

Ward 3 Crime Prevention

Residents:

- **Package Theft:** Have mail carriers deliver packages to a location less visible from the street (side or rear door / porch).
- **Car Breaks:** Always lock your vehicle.
- **MV Theft:** Never leave your vehicle running without occupants, even when making a quick stop.
- **Theft of MV Parts:** Call 911 to report any suspicious persons, particularly between 1:00 AM and 5:00 AM.
- **Bike Theft:** Be wary of cable locks - they are easily cut with wire cutters. Never lock your bike to wooden posts that can be broken. Keep a file of bike serial numbers and photos.

SPD:

- Area Cars deployed based on temporal patterns and geographical hot spots.
- Increase residents' awareness of crime prevention methods.
- One Detective assigned all catalytic converter thefts for continuity and case linkage. Member of regional taskforce.
- Investigative resources dedicated to cases of violent crime such as robbery, sexual assault, hate crime, and shootings. Property crime assigned based on Criminal Investigation Division (CID) bandwidth and case solvability.

	Contact Name	Service	Contact Info.
Substance Misuse	MA Substance Use Hotline	Treatment program info	800-321-5050
	Cambridge Health Alliance	Walk-ins Tue. 11:30; MA Health accepted	617-591-6051
	Caspar First Step Outreach - Wet shelter & Community Outreach Van	Assist in accessing detox.	617-661-0600
	Riverside Community Care	Outpatient; MA Health accepted	617-623-3278
	North Charles	Maintenance therapy; MA Health only	617-661-5700
	Column Health	Counseling, medication assisted treatment	339-368-7696
	Learn 2 Cope	Family support; Mon. 7 PM	1575 Cambridge St, CAM
	Family Anonymous	Family support; Tue. 7 PM	121 Washington St, MEF
	SPD, COHR Unit Therapeutic Supports, Jail Diversion	Therapeutic Supports; Jail Diversion	617-625-6600 ext. 7281
Mental Health	Cambridge Health Alliance	Inpatient & outpatient services	Adults: 617-591-6033 Juveniles: 617-665-3458
	BEST Team	Psychiatric emergency services; MA Health	800-981-4357
	Riverside - Child Guidance Center	Juvenile / family services	617-354-2275
	Neighborhood Counseling & Community Services	Counseling, skill & strength-based strategies	781-600-6074
	SPD, COHR Unit Therapeutic Supports, Jail Diversion	Therapeutic supports; Jail diversion	617-625-6600 ext. 7281
	Somerville Health Department	Supportive services	www.somervillema.gov/support
	Psychology Today provider finder	Find a provider	www.psychologytoday.org
	INTERFACE Referral Service	Find a provider; Monday- Friday 9-5pm	888-244-6843 https://interface.williamjames.edu/
Domestic Violence	RESPOND	Shelter, crisis hotline, services, education	Hotline: 617-623-5900, Services: 617-440-7267
	Maureen DiPaolo, SPD Family Services	Victim Witness Advocacy	617-625-1600 x 7279
Sexual Assault	BARCC (Boston Area Rape Crisis Center)	Free legal consultation, counseling, and education for survivors and family members of survivors	Hotline: 800-841-8371 https://barcc.org
Additional	De Novo	Free civil legal assistance and psychological counseling specializing in work with immigrants and refugees, services based on income eligibility	617-661-1010 Denovo.org

Substance Misuse, Mental Health, Domestic Violence, and Sexual Assault Support

Contact SPD (non-emergency)

Questions or concerns:

Police@police.Somerville.ma.us

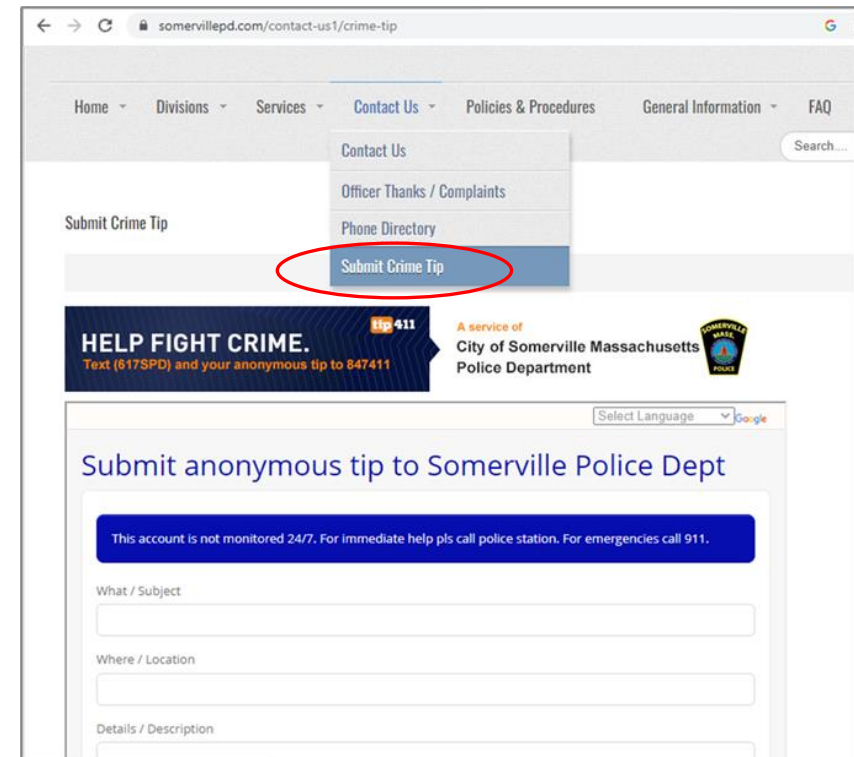
Submit an anonymous crime tip:

<https://somerillepd.com/contact-us1/crime-tip>



Community Meeting slides:

<https://www.somervillema.gov/communitymeetings>

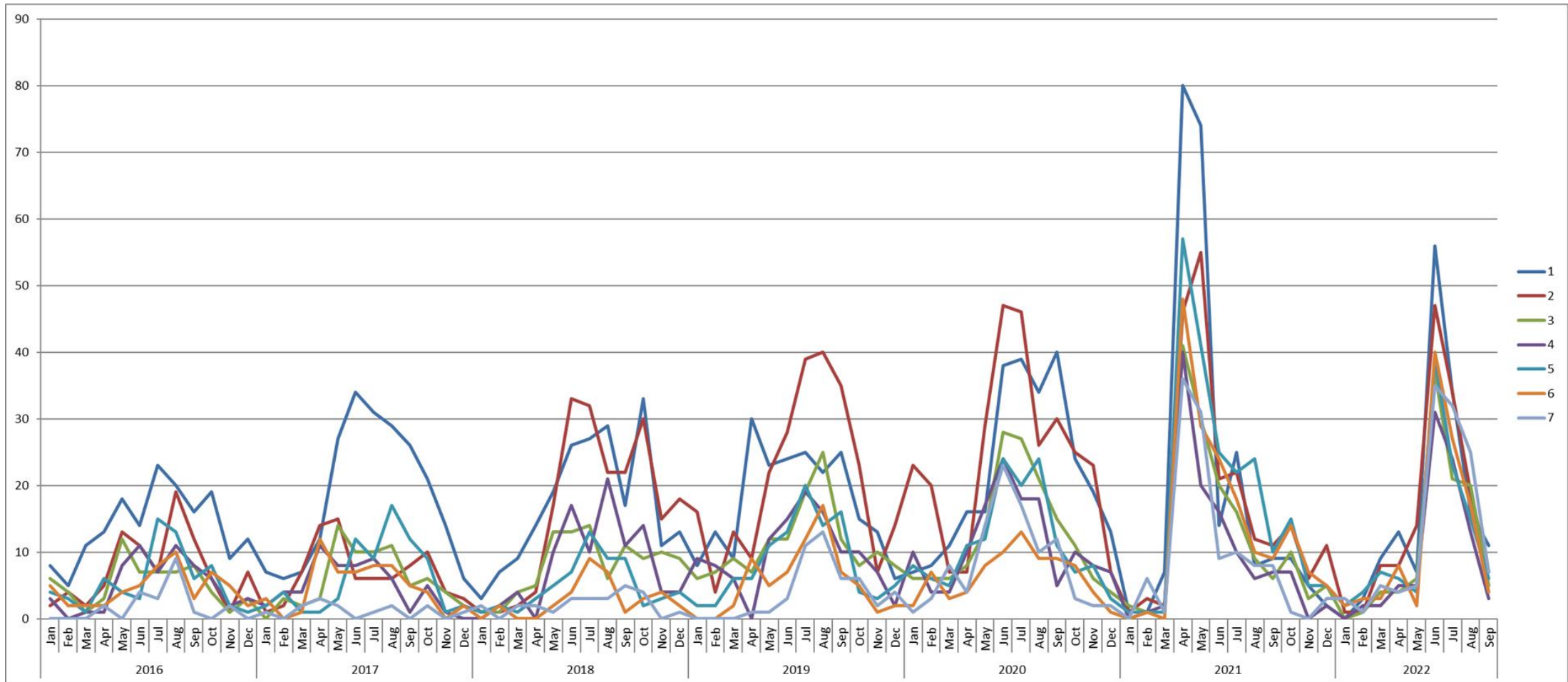


Rodent Control & Fats, Oils and Greases (FOG) Updates

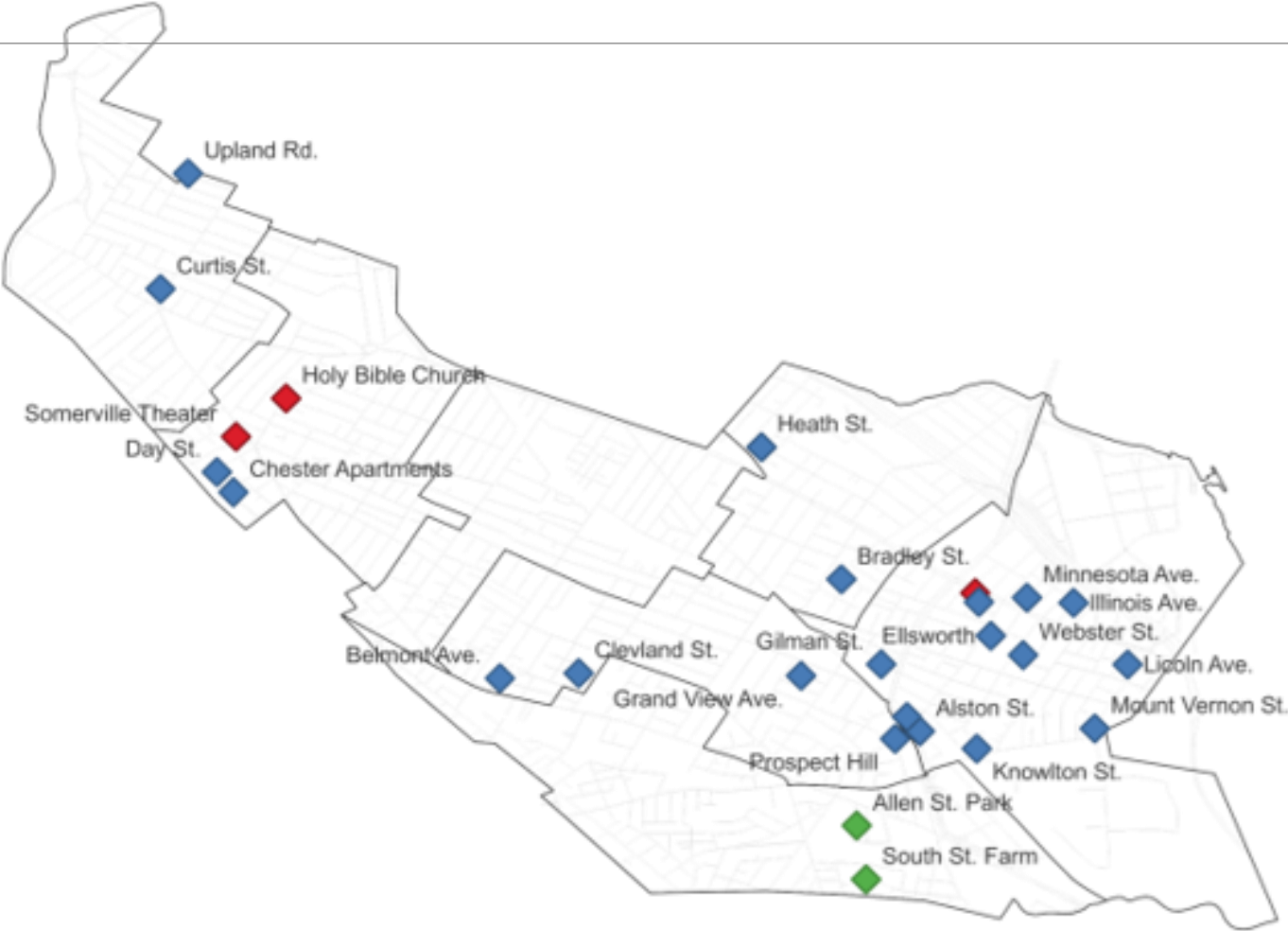
COLIN ZEIGLER, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COORDINATOR

CZEIGLER@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV

311 Calls by Ward Annual Trends



Community Site Visits



27 Residential Visits!

- Residential Visits 2022
- Commercial
 - Community Garden
 - Residential
 - Street
 - Wards



Trash Barrel Replacement in Parks

Phase I: Glen Park, Florence Park, Perry Park, Lincoln Park, Prospect Hill, and Lexington Park. Are all primed for replacement of open barrels.

- The received quote is being processed by staff

Phase II: East Branch Library Grounds, Allen St Playground, Grimmons Park, Trum Field and Nathan Tufts Park.

- Awaiting quotes and timeline.

Fats Oils and Greases (FOG) Regulation Update

- By order of the EPA and in concert with Mass DEP, the Somerville BOH has recently implemented revamped fats, oils, and greases (FOG) pretreatment regulations.
- **A FOG Management Plan will be required during the 2023 renewal period for Food Preparation Establishments as a part of their HFL.**
- City Inspectors will review documents and practices during routine inspections

What is included in a FOG Plan?

- Information and Documents to include
 - Proof of licensed operators: Pumping (cleaning), maintenance, and measuring
 - Description of operations
 - Pumping, cleaning and maintenance documents of FOG Management Device and hoods
 - Average Daily discharge calculations
 - Waste manifests: Amount generated, transportation and disposal contracts
- Submit along with a renewal or application for permit
- For more information: <https://www.somervillema.gov/fog>

Still have questions?

Email cm@somervillema.gov

Thank you.
