



Public Hearing

Developing the 2011-2012 Action Plan

City of Somerville, Mass.

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

**Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning & Community
Development**

Monica R. Lamboy

Executive Director

Thursday February 17, 2011

Ralph & Jenny Center



HUD Action Plan Development 2011-2012

Tonight's Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Overview of a HUD Action Plan
- 2010-2011 Activities & Accomplishments
- Public Comments
- Next Steps



HUD Action Plan Development 2011-2012

Overview of a Consolidated Plan

Under 24 CFR 91, a Consolidated Plan is Required to Qualify for CDBG, HOME, and ESG Funding

A Consolidated Plan Serves the Following Functions:

- A) “A planning document building on a participatory process at the lowest levels;
- B) An application for federal funds under HUD’s formula grant programs;
- C) A strategy to be followed in carrying out HUD programs; and
- D) An action plan that provides the basis for assessing performance.”

The goal of this document and these HUD funds is:

“to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low-and moderate-income persons.”



HUD Action Plan Development 2011-2012

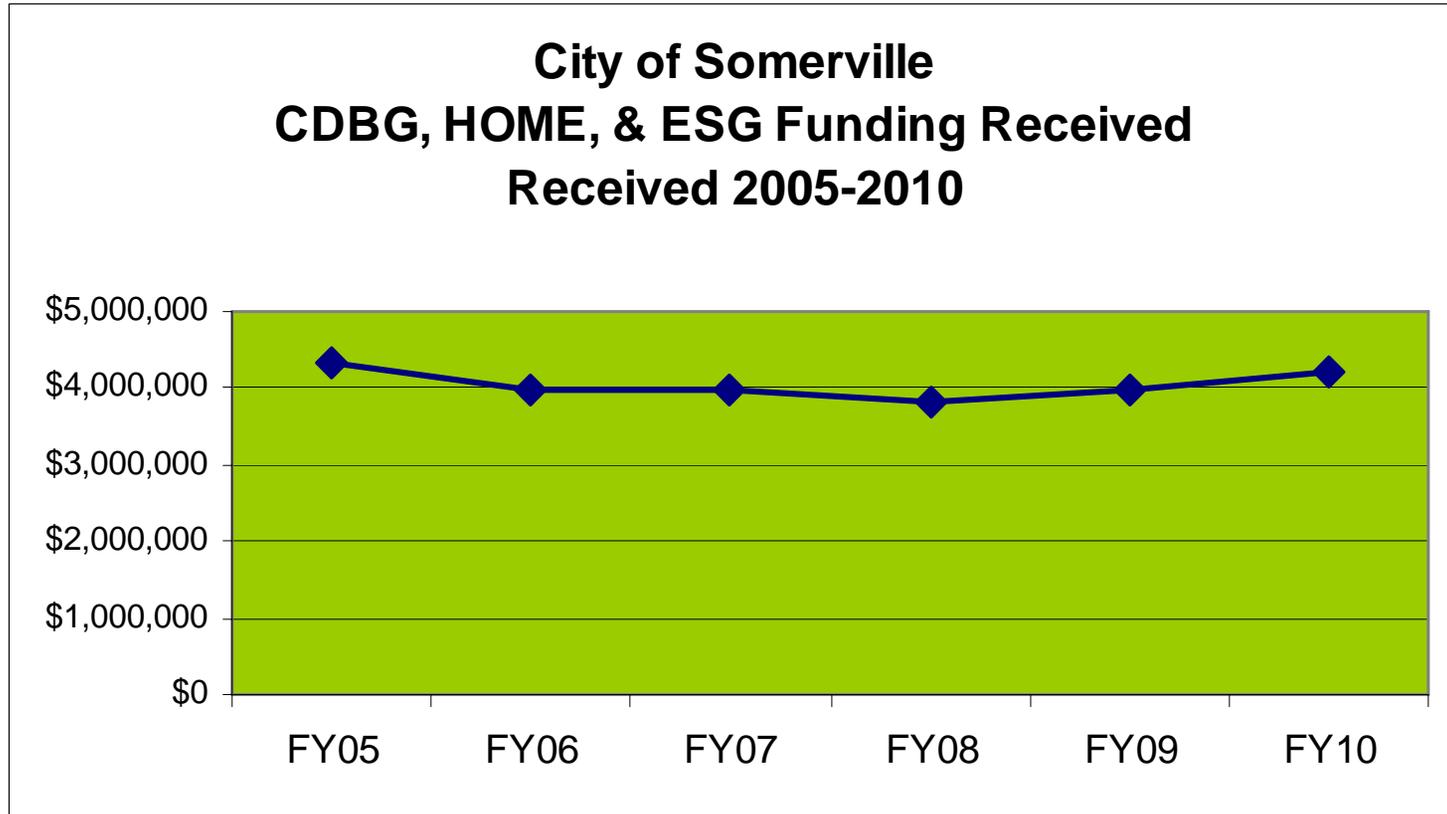
1 Year Action Plan 2011

- 1 Year Action Plans are the plans and budgets for HUD CDBG, HOME and ESG funds for each year guided by the needs and priorities set in the 5 Year Consolidated Plan.
- CDBG Funds can be used in a flexible manner for economic development, improvements to parks and open space, needed public services, and affordable housing projects and programs.
- HOME Investment Partnership Funds can be used to further affordable housing programs and projects.
- Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Funds are to be used to support shelters and programs for homeless persons.



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City of Somerville HUD Funding 2005-2010



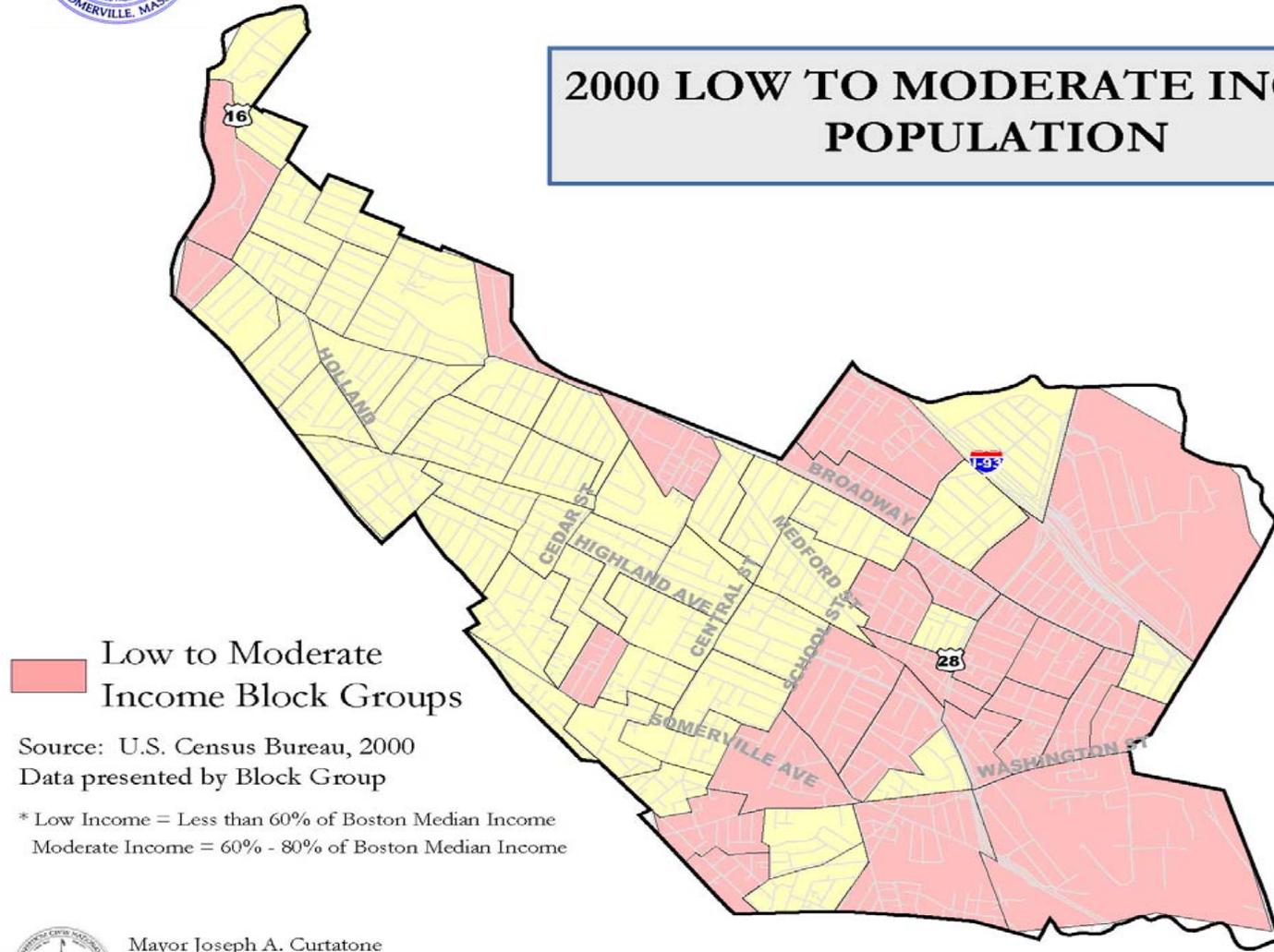
* Note 1: HUD fiscal year was changed from April 1- March 30 to July 1-June 30 effective July 1,2009

* Note 2: Implementation of Consolidated Plan 2008-2013 started on April 1,2008. HUD 2010-2011 will be the third year of the plan.



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2000 LOW TO MODERATE INCOME POPULATION



Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone
Office of Strategic Planning & Community Development
Mapping prepared by City of Somerville



Map - 6



HUD Action Plan Development 2011-2012

Housing 2008-2013 Goals

- Maintain and Improve Existing Housing Stock
- Create New Affordable Housing
- Increase Affordability of Rental Housing
- Increase Affordable Homeownership
- Prevent and End Homelessness
- Remove Barriers to Housing



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Housing Accomplishments 2008-2013

Lead Hazard Abatement

- Received \$8.6 million over seven years
- Abated over 580 homes
- 29 units received lead abatement in past year

Housing Rehabilitation

- 25 homeowners assisted
- 16 units rehabbed,
- 5 Heating Systems Replaced





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Housing Accomplishments 2008-2013 (Continued)

Tenant Based Rental Assistance

- 37 low-income young adults assisted
- 13 low-income households assisted
- 38 households able to move into permanent housing

Homeowner Assistance

- 26 households received Closing Cost Assistance
- 2 household received Down Payment Assistance
- 1 household[s] purchased affordable homes through Inclusionary Housing Program





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Housing - Homeless Continuum of Care

- 115 emergency shelter beds
- 31 transitional housing units
- 154 permanent housing units
- Provide funding for rental assistance (PASS and Wayside)
- Receives roughly \$2 million annually for housing and services
- Current year received \$2.23 million from HPRP & CoC grant





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Housing- Development Projects



St. Polycarp Village Phase 2:

- 29 rental units for low and mod income for individual and families





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Housing Development Projects

Capen Court-

- 95 affordable senior housing rental units developed by the Somerville Housing Authority
- Fully occupied 2010; solar electric panels to be installed 2011
- Expended \$450,000 of \$500,000 committed.



75 Cross Street-

- 8 units of rental housing for formerly homeless individuals and families.
- \$450,000 toward acquisition in progress



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Housing Development Projects



Assembly Square –

- 400 housing units total
- 50 affordable units
- Expected to be completed in 2013

Max Pac –

- 199 units total,
- 25 affordable units (1 affordable homeownership)
- 174 affordable rental units.
- To be Completed in 2013



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Public Services 2008-2013 Goals

- Create opportunities for residents to improve their economic, social and political situation
- Provide children with the best opportunities to live healthy and productive lives
- Create education and leadership opportunities for youth to become involved in the community
- Provide comprehensive programs for low income individuals and families who are having difficulty meeting their basic needs
- Prevent and address homelessness by providing interpersonal and systematic supports to undermine the causes of homelessness
- Provide services to support the elderly and persons with disabilities of all ages



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Public Services Accomplishments 2008-2013

- 8 non-profit agencies are assisting low income residents access necessary services and connect with resources available in the community to participation more fully in community life.
- 4 non-profit agencies are focusing their efforts on improving options for young children.
- 11 non-profit agencies are serving youth and are involving them in the community.
- 5 non-profit agencies are providing emergency assistance for residents to help them meet their basic needs.
- 2 non-profit agencies are serving the needs of the elderly and disabled residents of the City





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Parks & Open Space 2008-2013

Goals

- Renovate existing parks and open spaces to improve condition of Somerville's recreational areas and ensure attractive, safe, and accessible public lands
- Acquire more land to expand Somerville's total open space acreage and ensure access to open space in every neighborhood
- Analyze and improve ADA access to parks and open space, as part of ongoing ADA compliance
- Increase tree canopy and green spaces to promote urban health and sustainability, and reduce the heat island effect
- Increase Off-Leash Recreational Area (OLRA) opportunities throughout the city
- Create Green Performance Standards to raise the bar for sustainable design and building practices in city parks and open space projects
- Craft a City Brownfield acquisition strategy, with a goal of future Brownfield conversion to parks and open space
- Improve accountability and set departmental vision through a series of strategic planning documents



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Parks & Open Space

Accomplishments & Goals 2009-2013

CDBG PARK PROJECTS COMPLETED OR UNDER DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

- Albion Park Complete, fall 2009
- Grimmons Park Complete, fall 2009
- Hodgkins Park Complete, fall 2010
- New Washington OLRA Complete, fall 2010
- Morse-Kelly Park Out to bid, spring 2011
- Dickerman Park Out to bid, spring 2011
- North Street Park In design, spring 2011
- Quincy Street Park In design, spring 2011

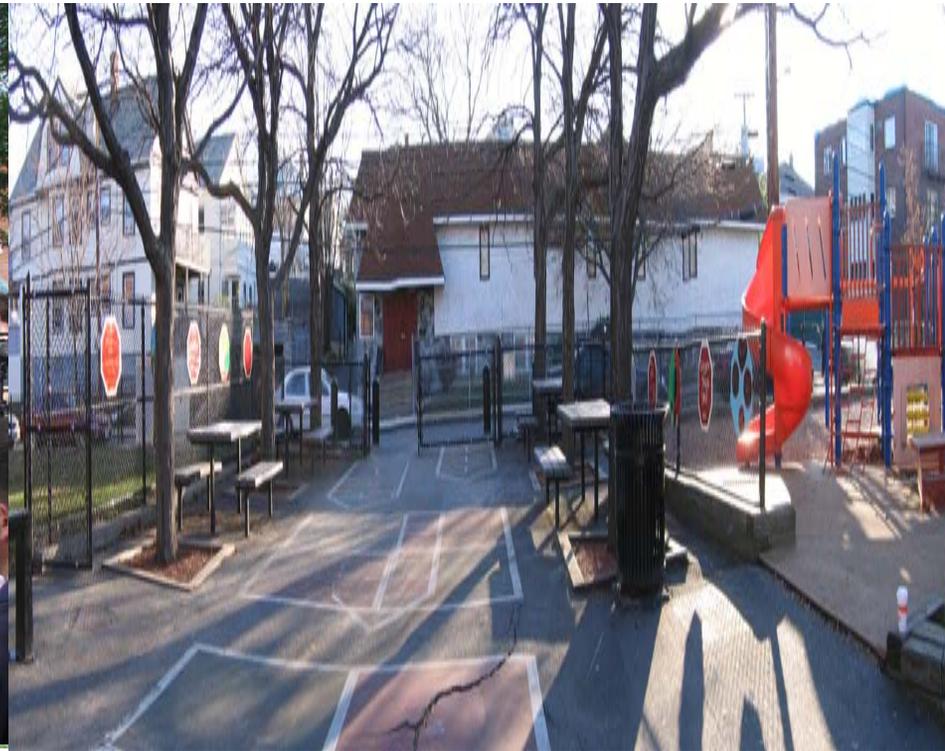


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Parks & Open Space



Hodgkins-Curtin Park Opening



North Street Project



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Transportation & Infrastructure

2008-2013 Goals

- Improve rail transit service to improve connectivity throughout the region for residents and businesses
- Improve bus service within Somerville and connecting to surrounding communities
- Enhance streetscapes, road and intersections to increase vitality in identified commercial districts
- Reduce barriers dividing neighborhoods and districts in Somerville
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle accessibility in the City to support active transportation alternatives
- Improve infrastructure to comply with ADA requirements
- Increase Somerville's role in regional transportation planning and improvements
- Improve basic utilities within Somerville



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Transportation & Infrastructure

Accomplishments 2009-2013

- Lower Broadway: 75% Design Completed
- Inner Belt: Preferred location for Green Line maintenance moved at City's request; consultant on-board to develop master plan
- Assembly Square: \$50 Million for MBTA Orange Line Station; to be bid in March
100% Design Mystic River Path under Rte. 28
- Regional Planning: Metropolitan Planning Organization Seat
Green Line Extension in Conceptual Design
Citywide transportation plan w/MIT
- Bicycling & Walking: Bicycle Committee, Shape-up Somerville and State Trails Committee
Completed 10+ miles of bike lanes and sharrows
Community Path at 25% Design



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Transportation & Infrastructure



Assembly Square Station



Broadway Streetscape



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Economic & Community Development 2008-2013 Goals

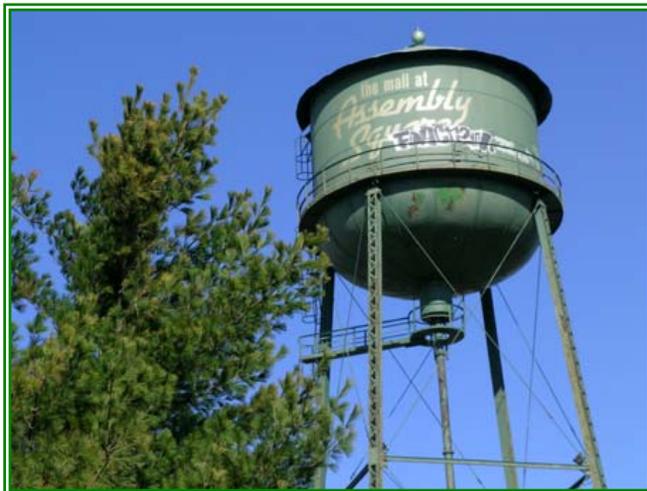
- Encourage investment and development in underutilized areas of the City
- Build a partnership between City government and community organizations to encourage participation in economic development initiatives
- Enhance vitality of existing commercial districts through support of existing businesses and attraction of others to support a healthy business mix
- Increase local job opportunities
- Enhance ability of Somerville residents to compete for local jobs



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Economic Development Accomplishments 2008-2013

- 27 Storefront Improvements
- 2010- 17 projects under contracts/construction,



- Assembly Square Drive to be completed in June 2011



HUD Action Plan Development 2010-2011

Economic Development Accomplishments 2008-2013

- Union Square Transportation Study
- 6 Micro Loans

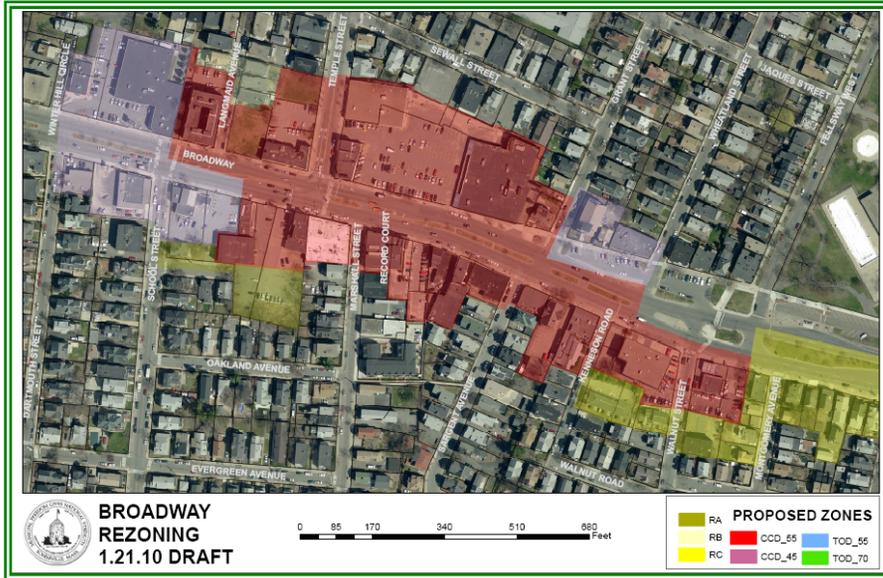


- Inner Belt Scoping Study
- 10 Business Development Workshops
- Boynton Yards Transportation and Infrastructure Study



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Economic Development Accomplishments 2008-2013



- Broadway Rezoning Passed



- Best Retail Practices – 11 new participants
- Broadway Streetscape Planning





HUD Action Plan Development 2009-2010

Historic Preservation 2008-2013 Goals

- Highlight Somerville's unique assets to its residents and visitors, generating pride & economic activity
- Create and implement programs that encourage the improvement of historically significant resources
- Ensure that City policies, regulations, and procedures support the maintenance of historically significant resources
- Stabilize neighborhoods & individual character
- Document historically and architecturally significant resources



HUD Action Plan Development 2010-2011

Historic Preservation Accomplishments 2008-2013



- Historic Neighborhood Walking Tours and Events
- Restoration of Milk Row Cemetery

- Expansion of Union Square and Mt. Vernon Historic Districts
- Study of Union Square properties underway
- Engineering study of Prospect Hill Tower initiated





HUD Action Plan Development 2011-2012

CDBG-R

Activity	Percent	Amount
Housing Rehab	32.4%	\$250,000
Retail Best Practices	1.3%	\$10,000
Retail Best Practices (\$2,000 Grants)	6.2%	\$48,000
Storefront Improvements	33.4%	\$258,238
Union Square Design Annex	2.6%	\$20,000
Inner Belt Planning Study	9.1%	\$70,000
Public Service Grants	15%	\$115,806
Total	100%	\$772,044

- 14 Storefront Improvements
- 24 Shop Keepers to receive funds for retail best practices
- 23 Housing units anticipated for rehab
- 8 Public Service contracts were issued to improve economic opportunities for low income residents
- Jobs were created in healthcare, biomedical and environmental fields.
- ESOL classes enabled residents to improve their job prospects.



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HPRP

Activity	Percent	Amount
Community Action Agency of Somerville	9.4%	\$111,375
Great Boston Legal Services	7.0%	\$82,375
Somerville Community Corporation	29.8%	\$352,125
Somerville Homeless Coalition	39.4%	\$464,750
Somerville Mental Health Association	9.4%	\$111,375
Administration	5.0%	\$59,067
Total	100.0%	\$1,181,067

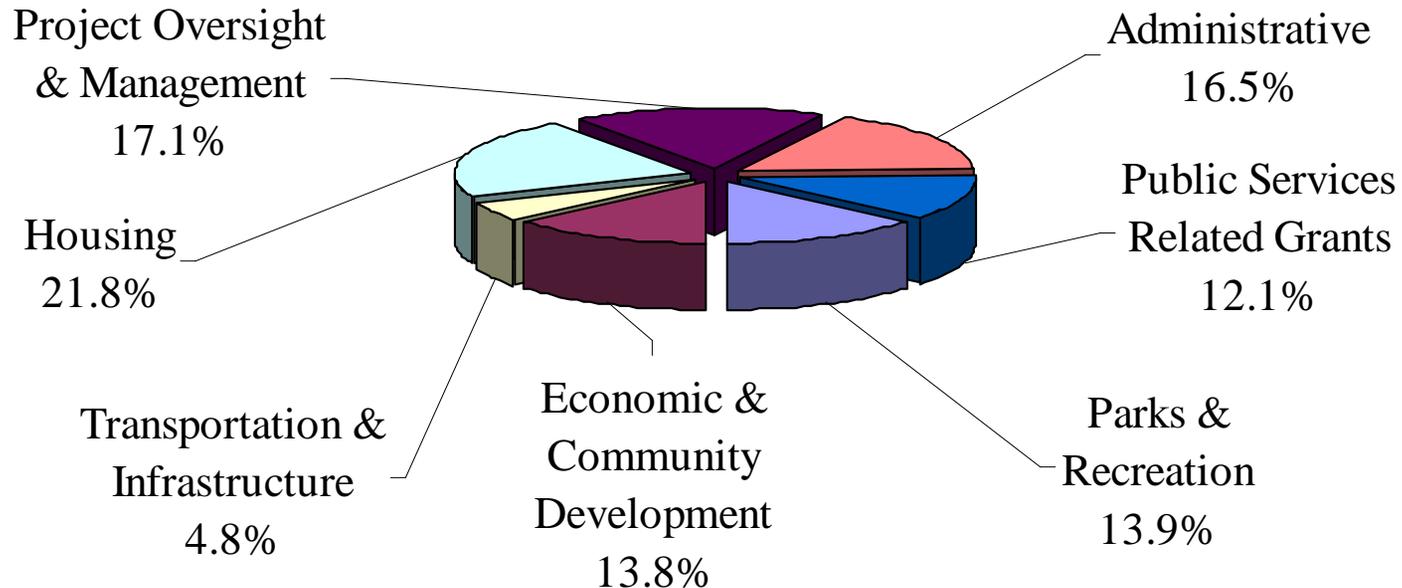
- The City received \$1,181,067 to Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-House at-risk residents.
 - The City has a time frame of 3 years to develop a strategy and address this problem.
- A Coalition of agencies was formed to address the problem and were awarded funding.
- 154 persons (57 households) received Financial Assistance.
- Approximately 35% of the contract funds have been expended in the last 12 months (33% through the contracted period).



HUD Action Plan Development 2011-2012

Approved HUD Action Plan 2010-2011

**City of Somerville
2010-2011 H.U.D. Action Plan
New Entitlement Funds & Program Income
CDBG, HOME, ESG**





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Questions And Comments





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Public Comments & Questions

- Verbal: at any of the Consolidated Plan Public Hearings
- Via Email: BOBrien@somervillema.gov
- In writing to:
 - OSPCD Attn: Brianna O'Brien
 - 93 Highland Avenue
 - Somerville, MA 02143
- Submit: from Feb. 18th through Mar. 18th 2011
- Visit the City's website more information at www.somervillema.gov



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Next Steps

- **2/17/11**: Public Comments & Questions
- **3/10/11**: Draft Consolidated Plan & 1 Year Action Plan Published for Public Review
- **3/22/10**: Public Hearing -Public Comments & Questions One Year Action Plan
- **4/14/11**: Submittal to Board of Aldermen
- **5/13/11**: Final Adopted Plan Submitted to HUD