

WARD 1

FALL 2019 RESISTAT

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Ward 1 City Councilor &
City Council Vice President Matt McLaughlin



Agenda

- **Quick Updates**
 - Taylor Ko, ResiStat Coordinator
- **Somerville Fire Department**
 - Chief Charles Breen
- **Thinking Outside the Big Box**
 - Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone
- **Rat Study Update**
 - Georgi Silveira, Environmental Health Coordinator
- **Somerville Police Department**
 - Chief David Fallon
- **Recent Flooding**
 - Jess Fosbrook, Director of Engineering
- **Mobility**
 - Cortney Kirk, Streetscape & Public Space Planner
 - Brad Rawson, Director of Mobility

We Want to Hear Your Feedback



SOMERVISION2040

Sustainability • Opportunity • Connectivity • Community • Diversity

Topic chapters are now available for **public review** until November 1, 2019



[Facebook.com/SomervilleNeighborhoodUpdates](https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleNeighborhoodUpdates)



[Twitter.com/SomerUpdates](https://twitter.com/SomerUpdates)

More information:
[somervision2040.com](https://www.somervision2040.com)

SomerBaby



- A universal, free, multilingual home visiting program for families with new babies from birth to one year old
- Designed to give Somerville's newest residents – our newborns – the best start in life by providing a *Welcome Baby Bag* with resources and a few gifts
- A SomerBaby home visitor can help you make connections to resources to support your family, healthy child development, and school readiness!

To schedule a visit, please contact:

Name	Language	Phone	Email
Flor Apolaya	Spanish/English	617-625-6600 x6702	fapolaya@k12.somerville.ma.us
Maria Holz	Portuguese/English	617-625-6600 x2345	mholz@somervillema.gov
Rachel Wilensky	English	617-625-6600 x2344	rwilensky@somervillema.gov

Or sign up online at: <http://somerville.k12.ma.us/somerbaby>

Somerville Prenatal to 3 Year Old Programs

Free, Multilingual Early Childhood programs and resources for new parents and families:

						
Program	Spanish Language Prenatal Class	SomerBaby Home Visiting Program	Parent Child + Literacy Home Visiting Program	Discover & Learn Playgroups	Parent & Guardian Support Groups	Resources and Referrals
Contact	Flor Apolya fpolya@k12.Somerville.ma.us 617-625-6600 x6702	Rachel Wilensky rwilensky@somervillema.gov 617-625-6600 x2344	Fernanda Villar fvillar@k12.Somerville.ma.us 617-625-6600 x6992	Michelle Laskey sfn@k12.Somerville.ma.us 617-625-6600 x6990	Michelle Laskey sfn@k12.Somerville.ma.us 617-625-6600 x6990	Nomi Davidson ndavidson@k12.Somerville.ma.us 617-625-6600 x6966
Families Served	First class in November!	281 Families to date	51 Families 14 Family Child Care Providers For 2019	~210 Families 14 Playgroups in Session 1	~43 Families 3 Groups in Session 1	1,419 Referrals 2018-2019

Lead Service Line Replacement Program

- Check to see if your residence has a water service line made of lead?
→ [somervillema.gov/LeadServices](https://www.somervillema.gov/LeadServices)
- Have your property's lead or non-copper water service line replaced, **free of charge**
- Applications due by December 2019 to be considered for replacement starting Spring 2020

More information on the website above or call the Engineering Dept. at
617-625-6600 Ext. 5400



Rethinking Reusable/Recyclable Materials

Regional and global changes mean we must be very careful about **contamination**

Do Recycle:

- Clean metal, glass, rigid plastic, and paper containers
- Clean paper and cardboard

Don't Recycle:

- Plastic bags
- Plastic wrap or film
- Anything with food on it

Not sure how to dispose of something?



Enter the item name in the Somerville Waste Wizard below to find out.

Waste Wizard
English
Share


 My Schedule


 Waste Wizard

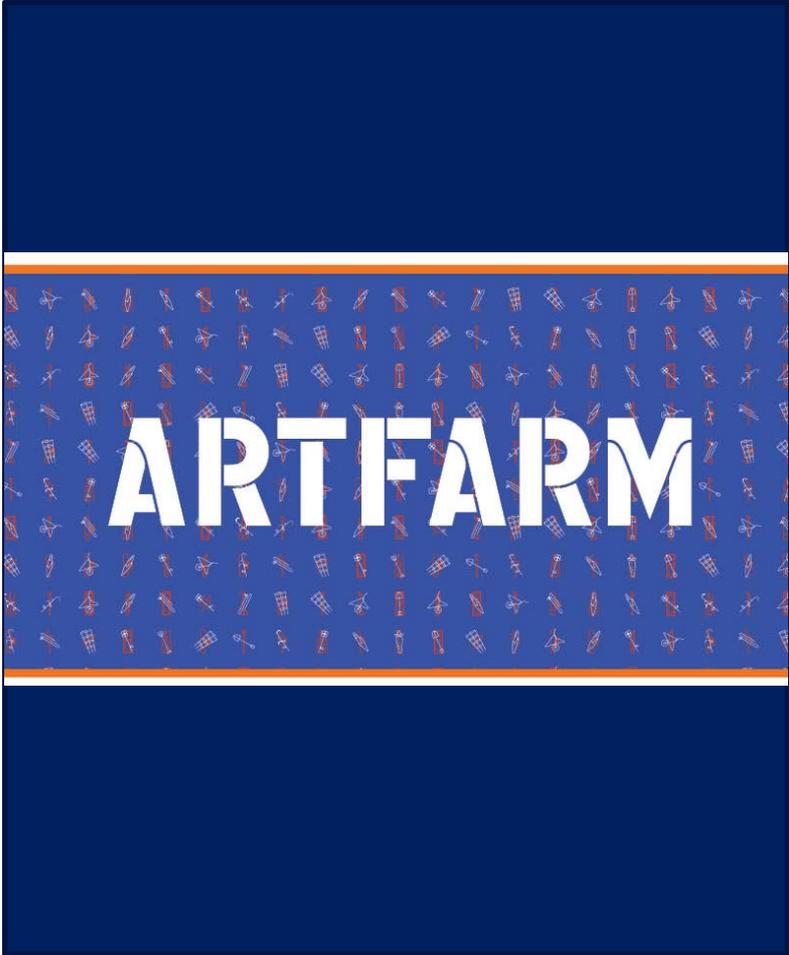

 Need help?

Type the name of an item and we'll tell you how to recycle or dispose of it.

[Privacy](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Cookie Policy](#)

Somervillema.gov/Wizard

RecycleSmartMA.org/FAQ

The logo for ART FARM features the words "ART FARM" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The text is centered within a horizontal band that has a blue background with a repeating pattern of small, colorful icons representing various tools and materials like hammers, saws, and nails. This band is flanked by solid dark blue sections above and below it.

ART FARM

Upcoming Meeting:

- Monday, October 21, 6-8 p.m.
 - Brickbottom Gallery,
1 Fitchburg Street
-

Updates:

- Final stages of design
- Going to City Council for funding

Cross St. East Park



Capuano & East Somerville Turf Renovation



somervillema.gov/TurfRenovation

Foss Park



2 Opportunities to Join the Discussion

Wednesday, **October 30**, 2019
6:30-8 PM
Healey School Cafeteria
5 Meacham St.

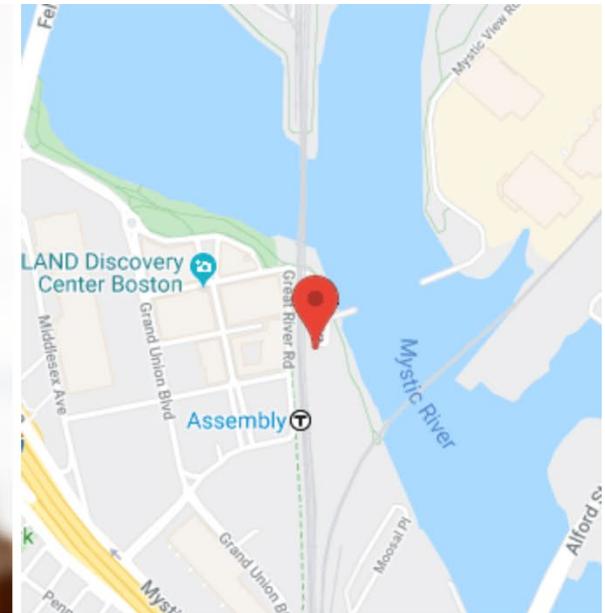
Wednesday, **November 13**, 2019
6:30-8 PM
East Somerville School Cafeteria
20 Cross St.

Discussion groups at the meetings will be held in Spanish, Portuguese, and Haitian Kreyol, in addition to English.

Can't attend either of the meetings? Submit feedback at somervoice.somervillema.gov

- Please note that the SomerVoice page for feedback on Foss Park will be available in about a week or so from today, Oct. 16

Draw 7



Green Line Extension Updates

- Project is on schedule to be open by end of 2021
- **Bridge Closure Updates:**
 - Broadway bridge on track to reopen March 2020
 - Washington St. bridge now expected throughout the winter but will reopen April 2020 instead of Fall 2020
 - Medford St. bridge – Will reopen late spring 2020
 - School St. bridge expected to close early spring 2020
- **Next public meeting:** November 2019

We Remain Vigilant Regarding Traffic Management

- An interdepartmental team to coordinate with state partners
 - Fire, Police, Mobility, Engineering, Traffic and Parking, Communications and other staff

Three pronged approach

1. Advance planning
2. Daily monitoring
3. Rapid response

- **Reboot Your Commute campaign with the GLX team**
- **96** neighboring cities and towns, **84** media outlets, **29** medical facilities, **26** colleges, and large employers in the area

If you have concerns regarding traffic or detours, please continue to report them to **311** or to **construction@somervillema.gov**

Stay Informed



- **MassDOT GLX Updates**
 - mass.gov/GLX
- **City of Somerville Construction Resources**
 - Newsletter: somervillema.gov/ConstructionNewsletter
 - Website: somervillema.gov/Construction
- **City Alerts**
 - somervillema.gov/alerts
- **City Newsletter**
 - somervillema.gov/Enews

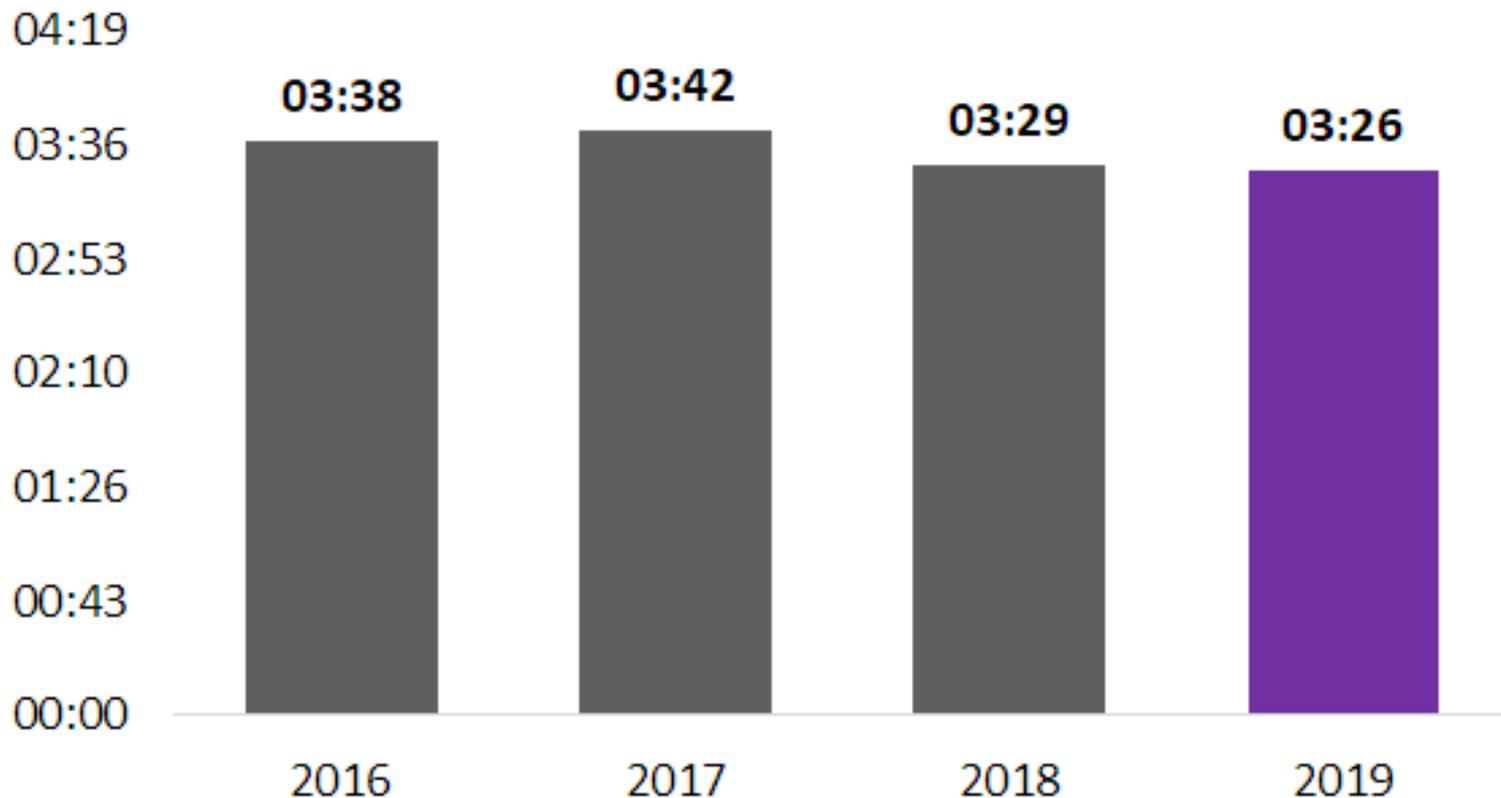
SOMERVILLE FIRE DEPT. RESPONSE TIMES & CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



Chief Charles Breen

Response Times Through Construction

**Avg. Citywide SFD Emergency Response Time:
Construction Period (April through September)**





Saturday, November 16
10 a.m. to Noon



Career Open House

Somerville Fire Department Headquarters
266 Broadway

Want to Learn More?

Contact the Somerville Personnel Dept. at **617-625-6600 x3300**

Or Email Talent Acquisition Manager, Jennifer Mancia at **Jdutra@somervillema.gov**

[somervillema.gov/BecomeAFirefighter](https://www.somervillema.gov/BecomeAFirefighter)

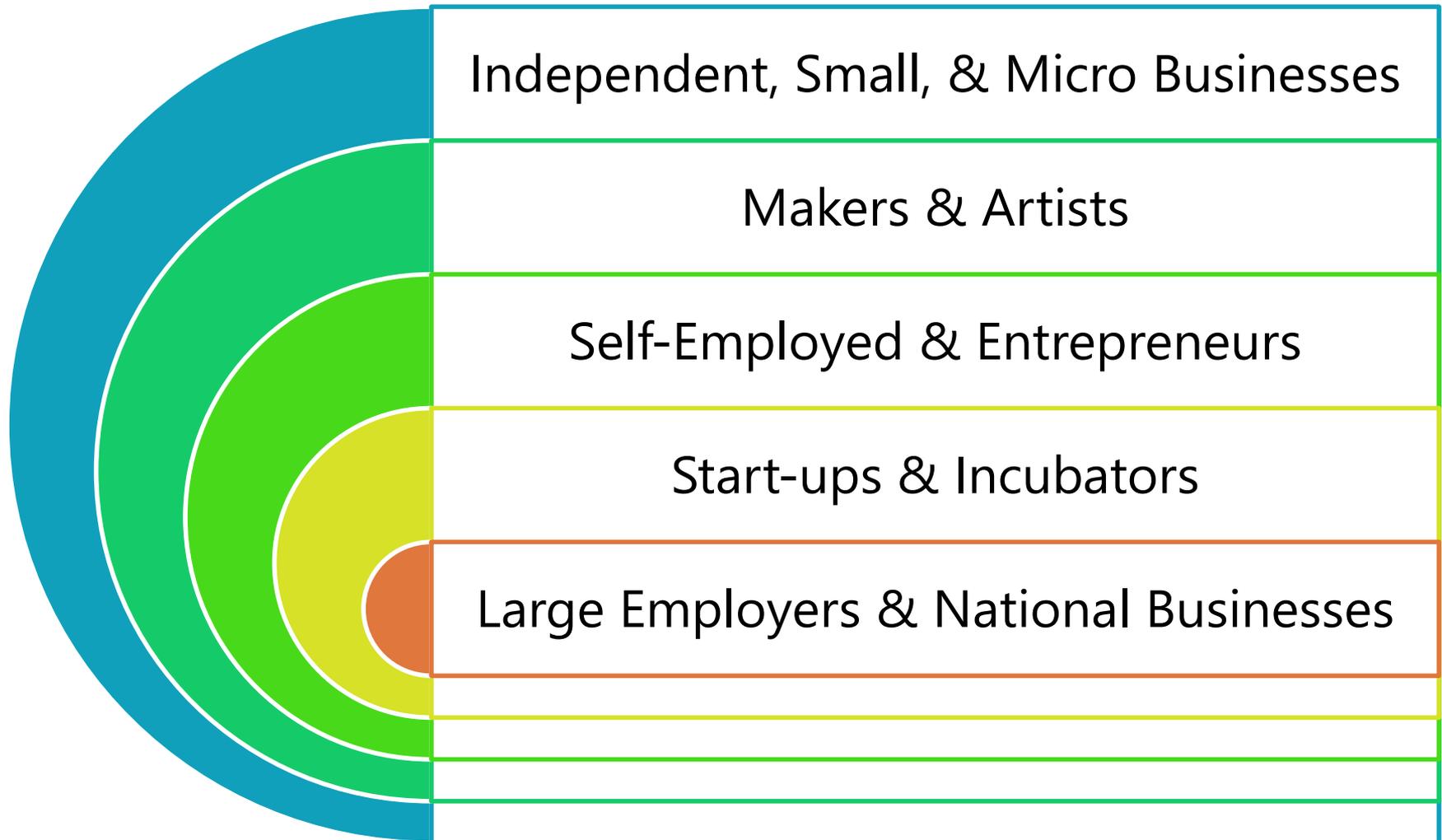
Thinking Outside the Big Box

Helping our Alternative Economies and
Small Business Community

Adapt & Thrive in a Changing World

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Diversity of Our Local Economy



Our Economic
Diversity
Defines Us,
Supports Our
Community
Goals, and
Builds Our
Unique
Quality of Life



Walkability

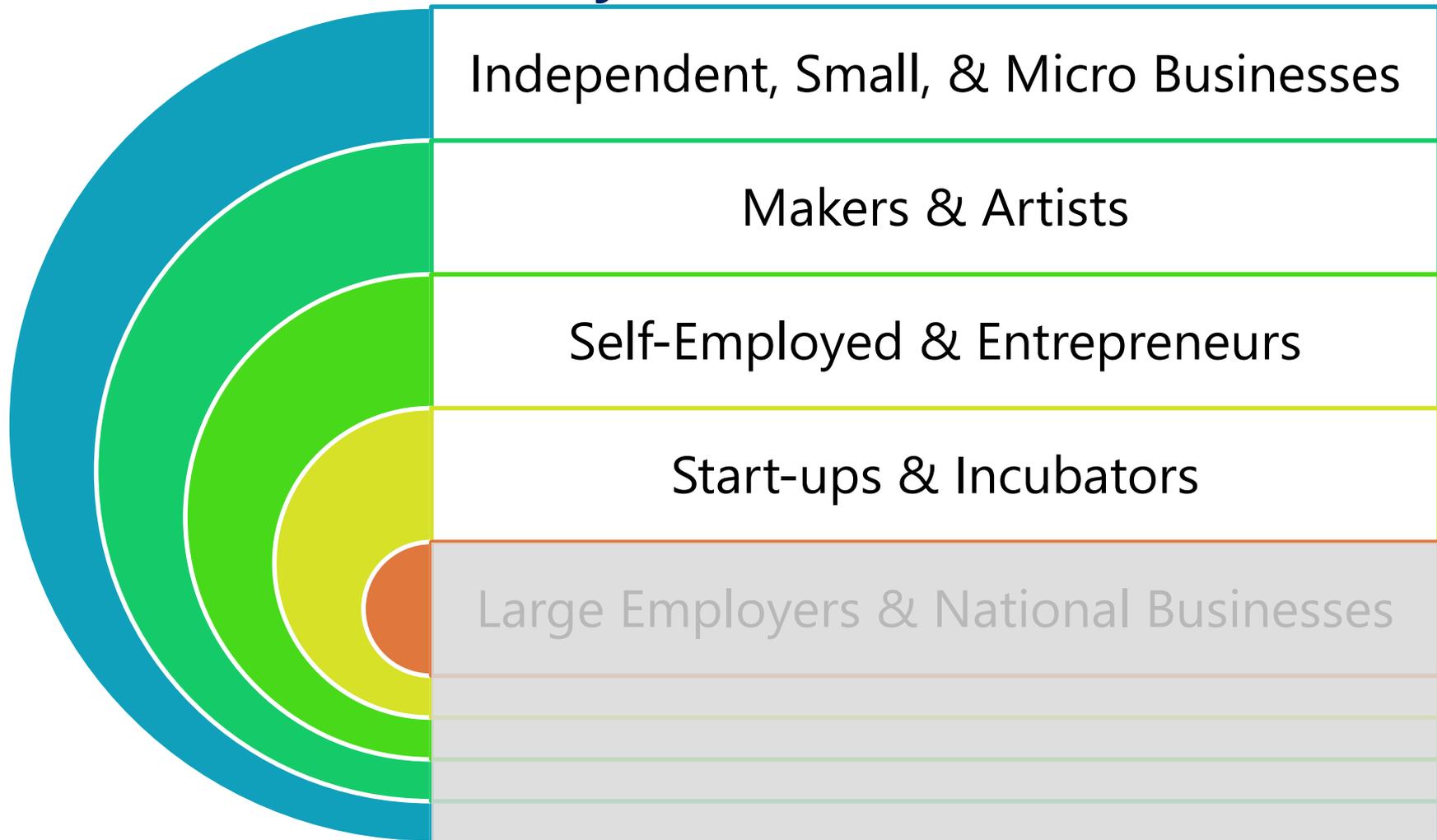


Diversity



Jobs

Focusing on our Alternative & Small Business Economy



How does this
impact you?

A few examples...

Our Local Economy Supports Sustainability

1/3 of Somerville's green house gas emissions come from transportation, with nearly **60%** of that coming from passenger vehicles.

If we want to reduce GHG emissions from transportation we need to:



Our Local Economy Helps Affordability

Residential taxes are among the drivers of affordability.

If we want to keep residential tax rates low while maintaining services, we need to:

Shift more of taxes from of residential to commercial



Commercial taxes, meals taxes, and sales taxes help offset residential taxes



Help small businesses thrive and welcome new ones so those funds increase

Our Local Economy Enhances Our Quality of Life

- Our Happiness Survey showed correlations between residents' overall happiness and factors like availability of cultural events, the physical setting of their neighborhood, and happiness with their neighborhood.

If we want residents to be happy living in Somerville we need to:

Have vibrant neighborhoods and squares

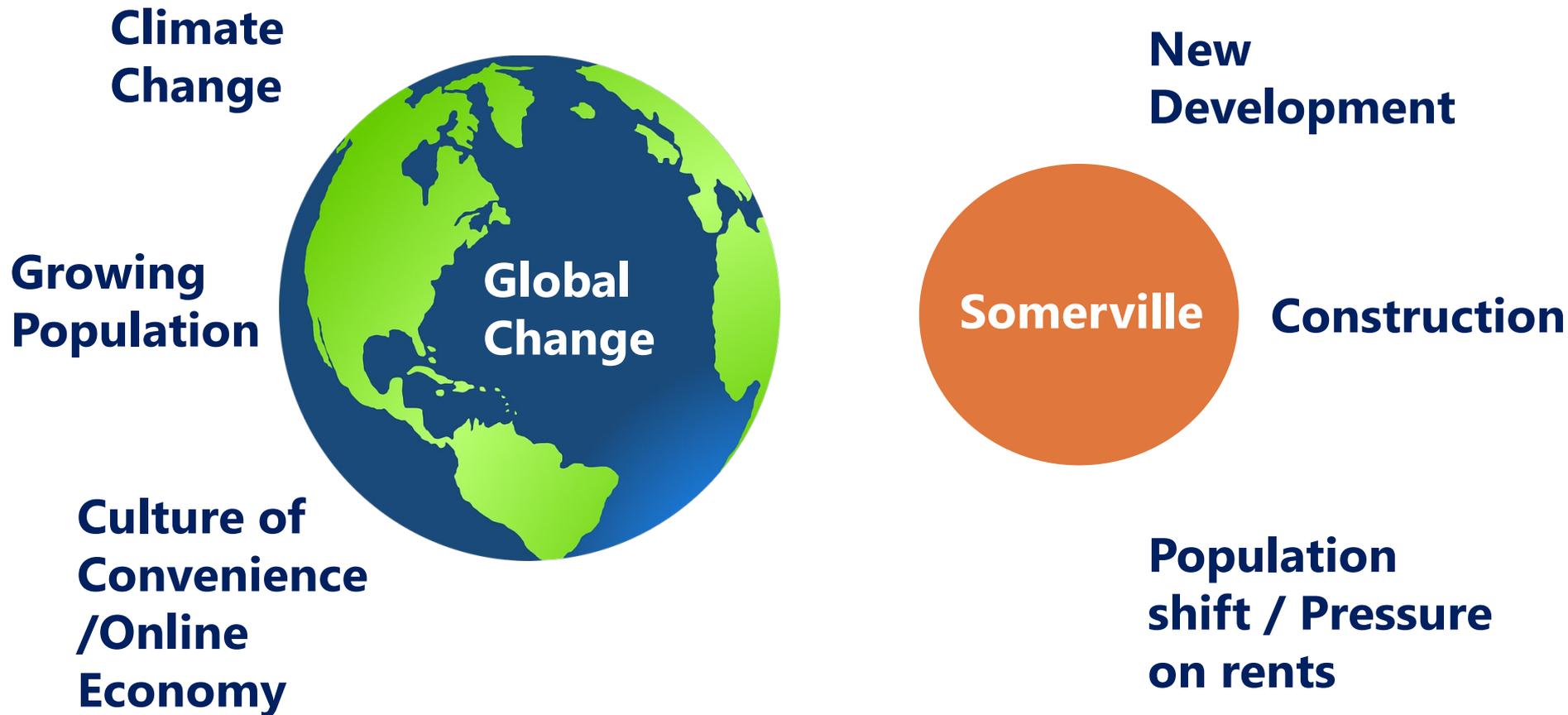


Mobility improvements, density, and cultural events bring people in



Local businesses provide services, amenities, and sense of community

We Are All Experiencing Local & Global Change



How Do We Adapt and Approach these Challenges with Flexibility?

At the Same Time, Our Local, Independent Businesses Face Many Challenges:



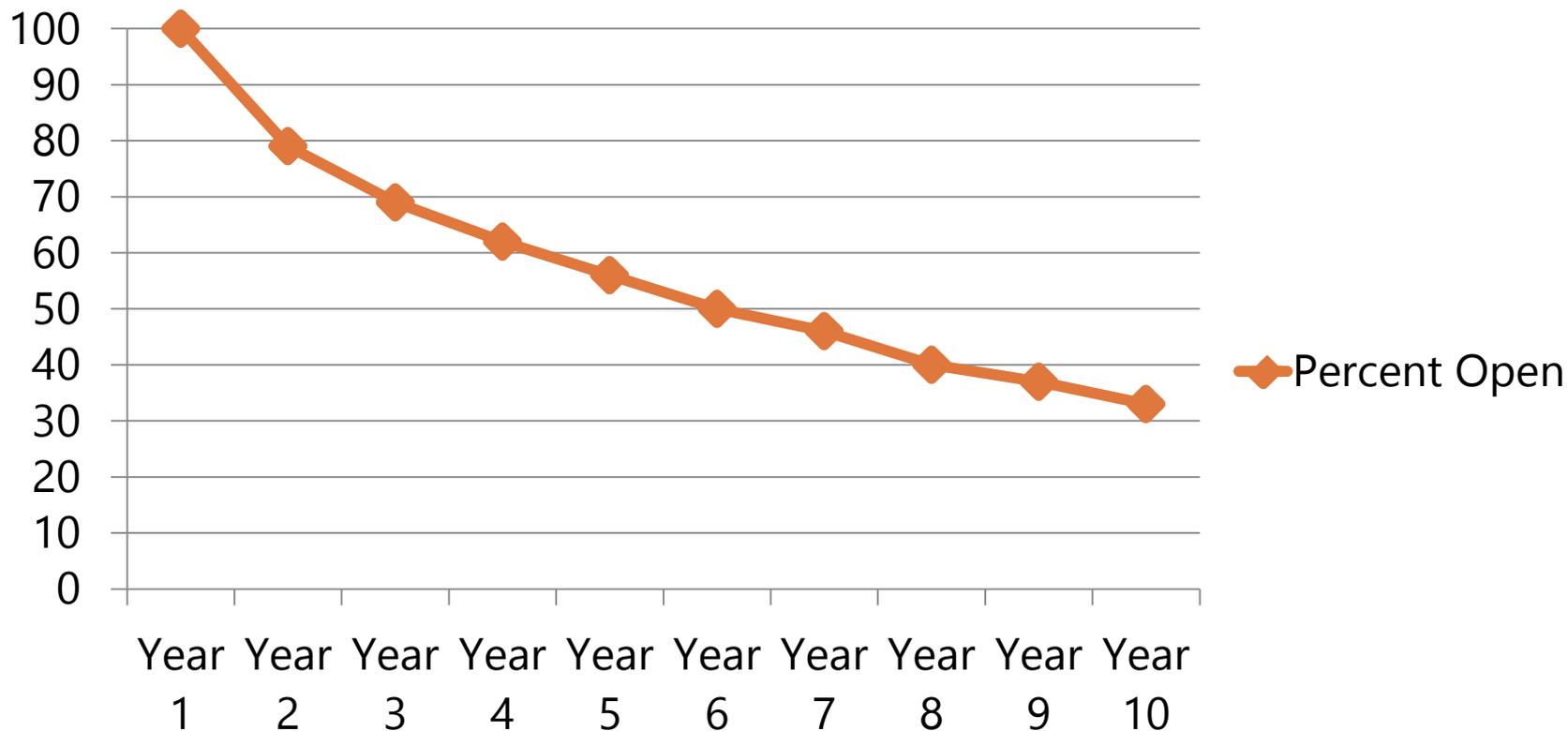
**Survival
Now**

**Resiliency
& Adaptability**

**Stronger
Future**

Half of Small Business Fail Within 5 Years, Two-Thirds Fail Within 10

Percent of Small Businesses Remaining Open During First 10 Years



The old model of economic development wasn't addressing current challenges that small, micro, alternative, and start-up businesses face, so the City began thinking creatively about how to address modern economic development needs.

Alternative Economic Development in Action

Connecting Customers and Small, Local
Businesses

Supporting our creative economy



Economic Development through the Arts

For every **\$1** we spend, we see **\$4.40** in economic impacts

Direct Impact

- Money artists and vendors earn at events
- Money spent on supplies and promotion of events

Indirect Impact

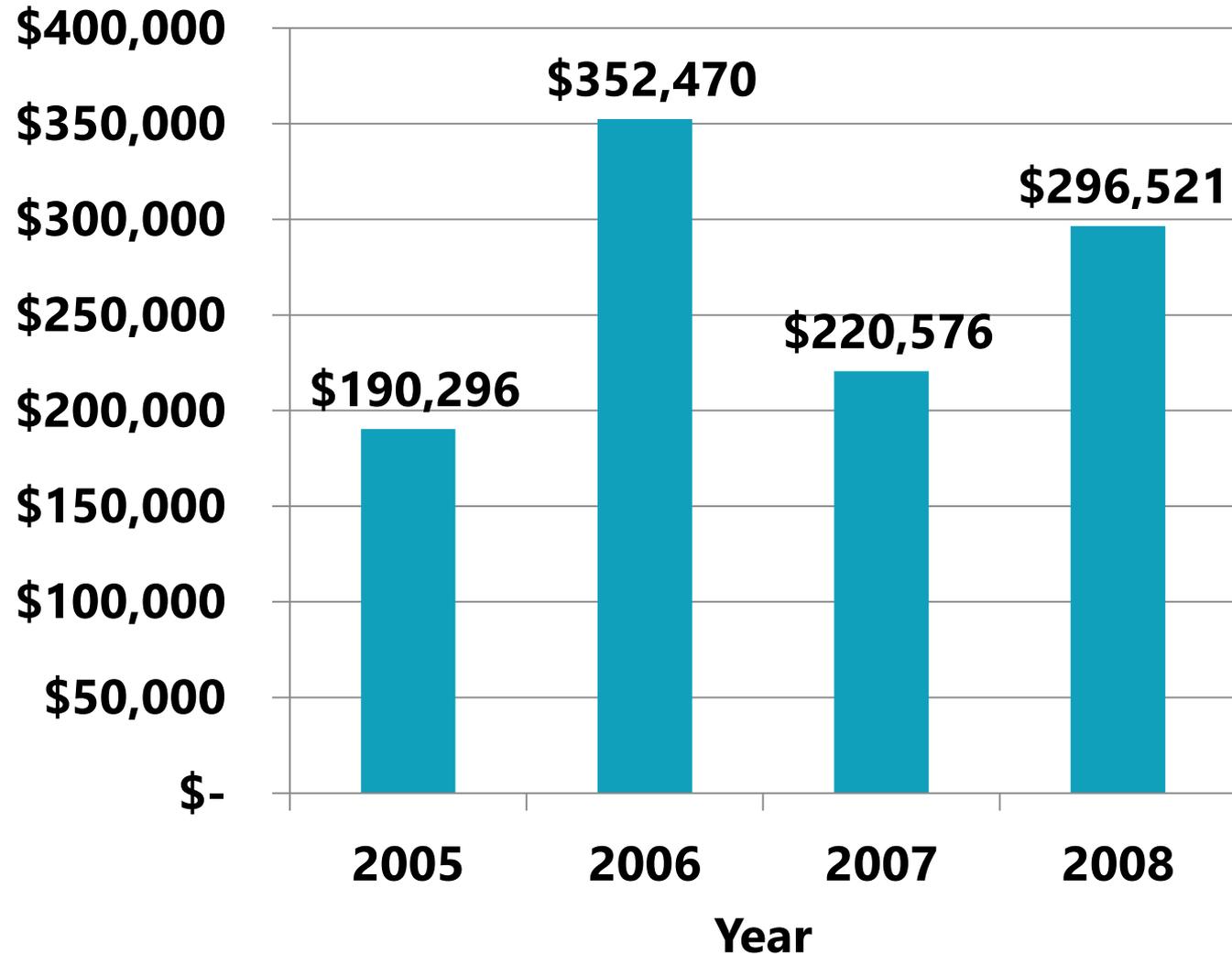
- Attendees patronizing nearby local businesses
- Placemaking brings people back to our businesses



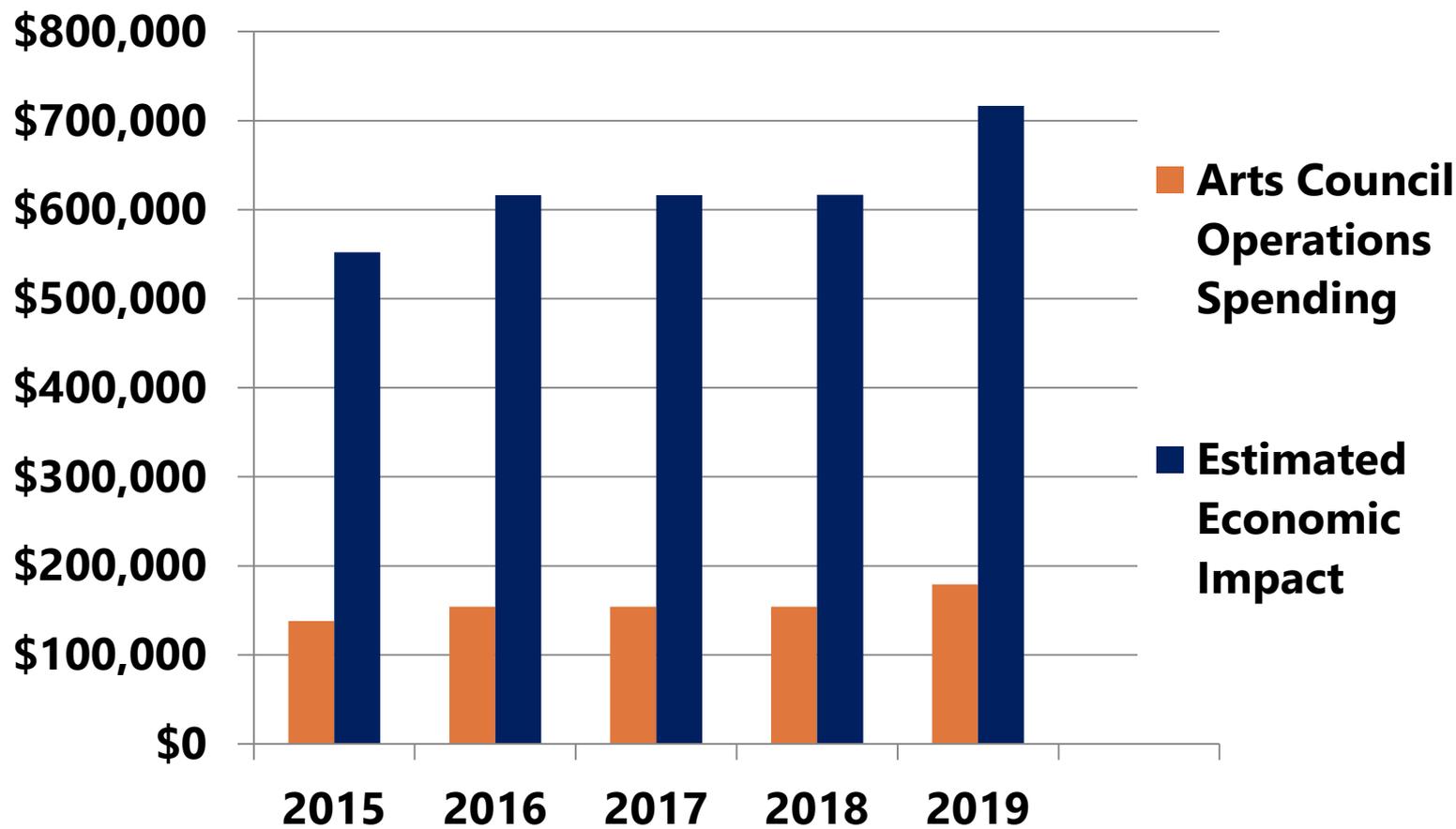
Economic Development through the Arts



Economic Impacts of ArtsUnion



Arts Council Estimated Economic Impact: Approximately \$3M Over 5 Years



Conservatively estimates 4, not 4.4 times operational spending for economic impact and excludes grant funds expended, which would add additional impacts.

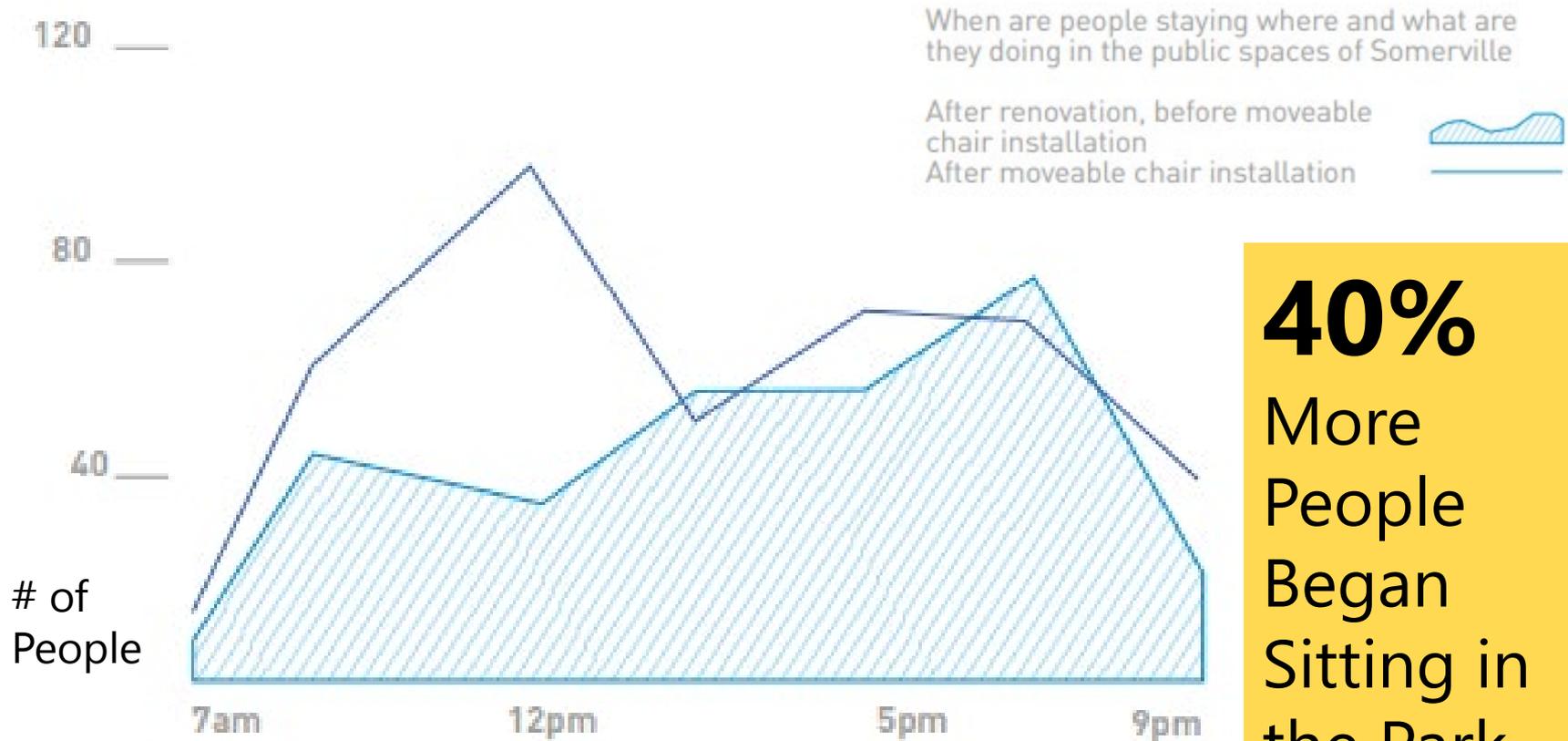
Placemaking

People stick around in places they feel comfortable.

- Activity
- Outdoor furniture
- Parks and other open spaces
- Special events



Placemaking – Furniture & water feature in Kenney Park



40%
More
People
Began
Sitting in
the Park

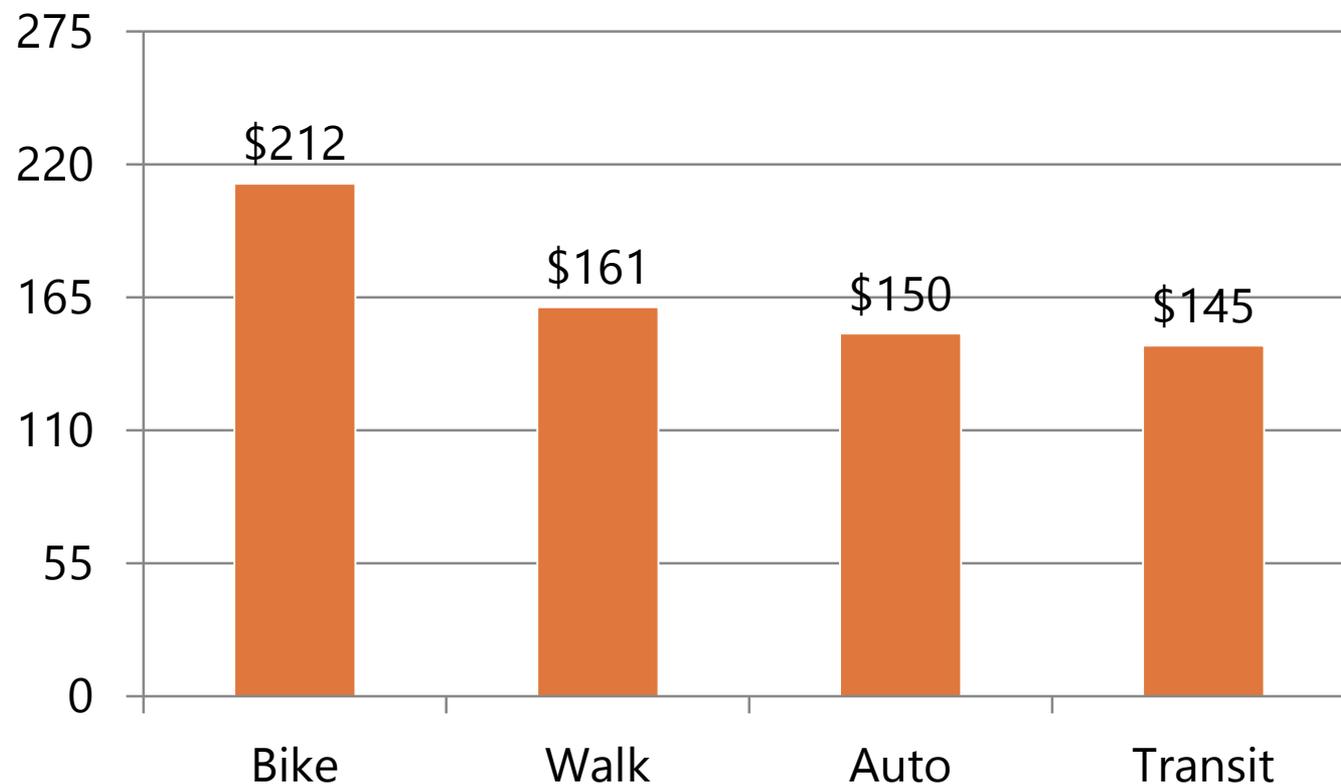
Investing in Mobility is Investment in Local Business



Studies have found that when communities improve pedestrian and cycling infrastructure they gain net new businesses and private investment increases.

Spending per Month by Travel Mode

Portland, OR, Study: Monthly spending on convenience stores, bars, restaurants



Economic Development in Action

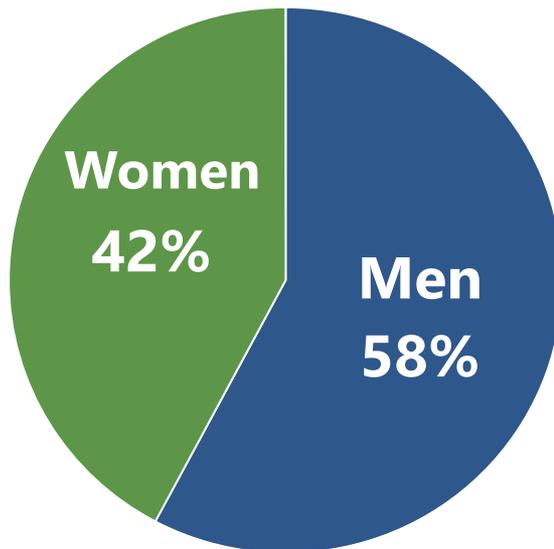
Lowering the Barriers to Entry

2

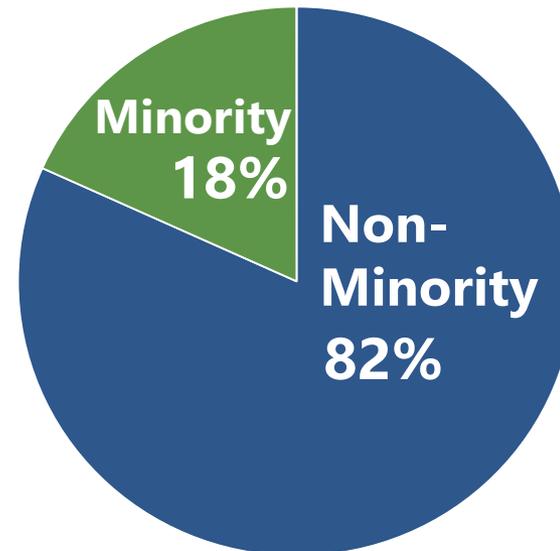


Greater Equity Needed in Somerville Business Ownership

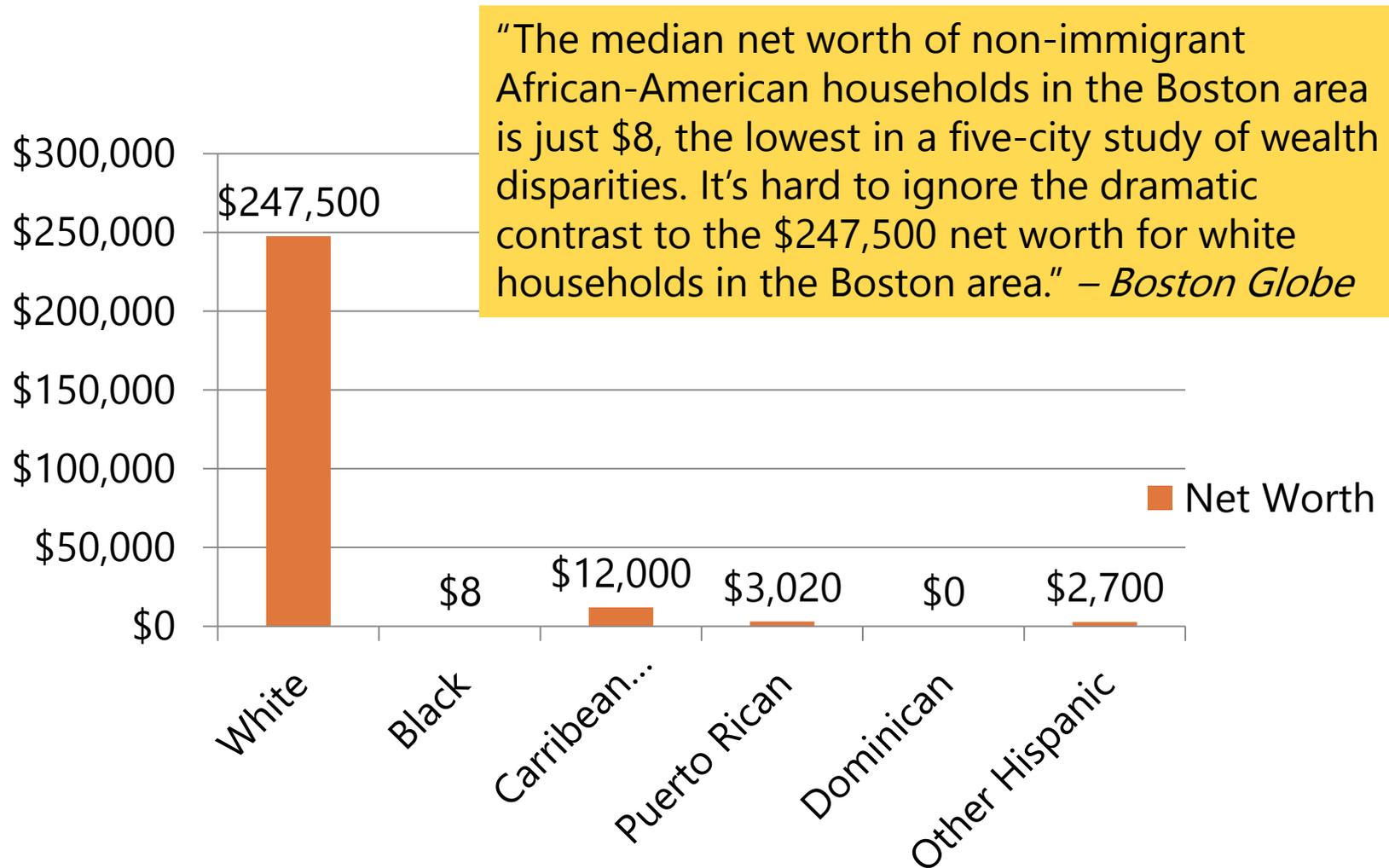
Men-Owned vs. Women-Owned



Minority-Owned vs. Non-Minority-Owned



Boston Data on Racial Wealth Gap



Nibble Global Eats by Local Peeps

Supporting **Diversity**

- **Immigrants are twice as likely to open a business**, often in the food industry
- **More than 40%** of food business owners in Union Square are immigrants
- Nibble: Representing **13 countries** including Venezuela, India, Mexico, Colombia, Somalia, Panama, Ethiopia

Supporting **Equity**

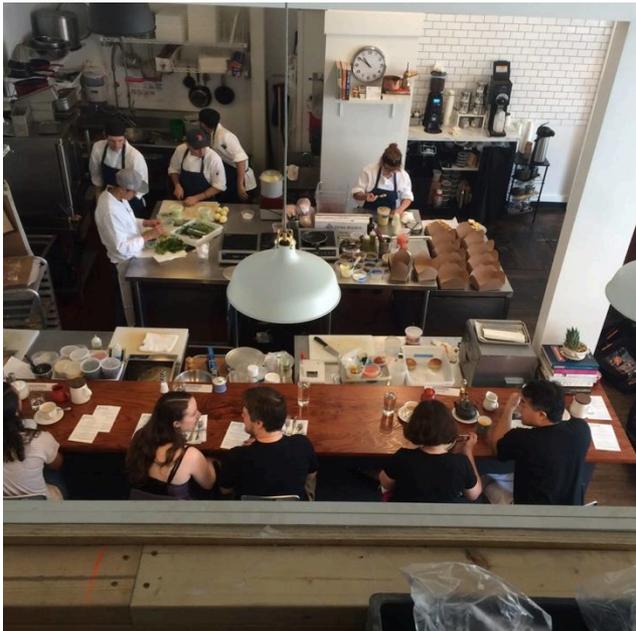
- Help with permitting and certifications
- Multilingual services
- Lower start-up cost and overhead
- ADA Commercial Kitchen

Two new restaurants:

Las Carolinas and Nibble Kitchen



Regulations for Today's Reality



- **New Public Liquor Licenses**

- Existing businesses can increase the profit by ~20%
- Lowering the cost to enter the restaurant industry
- \$3,500-\$5,000 per license (with annual fees of \$2,000-\$3,500) vs. upwards of \$100k in Somerville and more than \$400k in Boston

- **Food Trucks**

- Flexibility
- Lower upfront costs
- Avoid challenge of real estate

Economic Development in Action

Adapting to New Ways of Working

Alternative Work Spaces & Room to Grow

- In 2016 there were **5.6 million** small and micro businesses in the U.S.
- Start ups and small businesses that need office or production space may not be able to afford or need large spaces
- We need places where businesses can begin and grow



89%
with
fewer than
20
employees



GREENTOWN LABS

Incubator space for cleantech companies

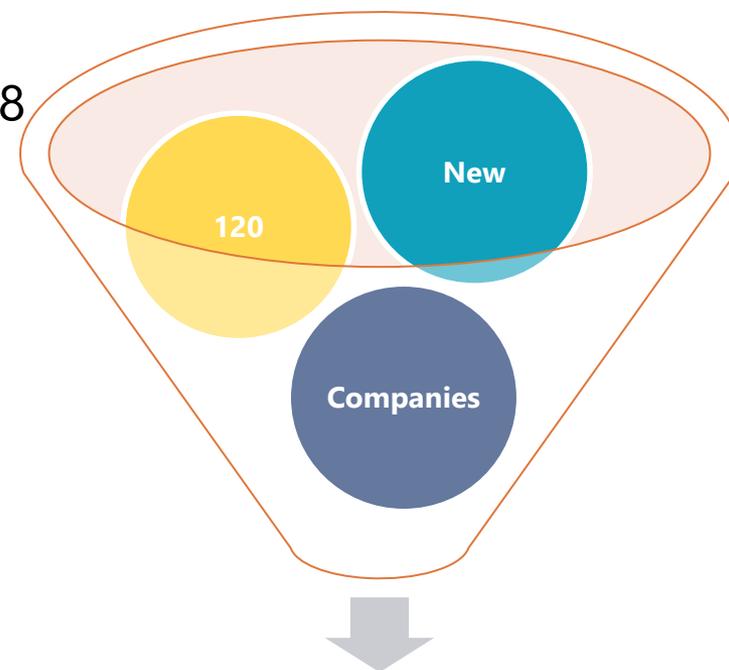
- Home to more than 120 companies
- Some have expanded and moved into their own larger spaces
- Created 900 jobs

City support

- Helped find appropriate real estate
- Supported expansion with I-Fund loan
- Opportunities for companies to partner with Somerville

Launching new larger companies within Somerville:

- RightHand Robotics
- L3
- Voxel 8



900 New Jobs

Artisan's Asylum: One of the World's Largest Maker Spaces



\$30M ESTIMATED LOCAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

- \$20M in venture capital to member companies
- \$4M in Kickstarter funding to launch member-made products
- 150 small businesses supported
- 100 jobs created
- 2,400 trained in fabrication arts each year, from jewelry to welding to 3D design

WE ARE A FABRICATION WONDERLAND

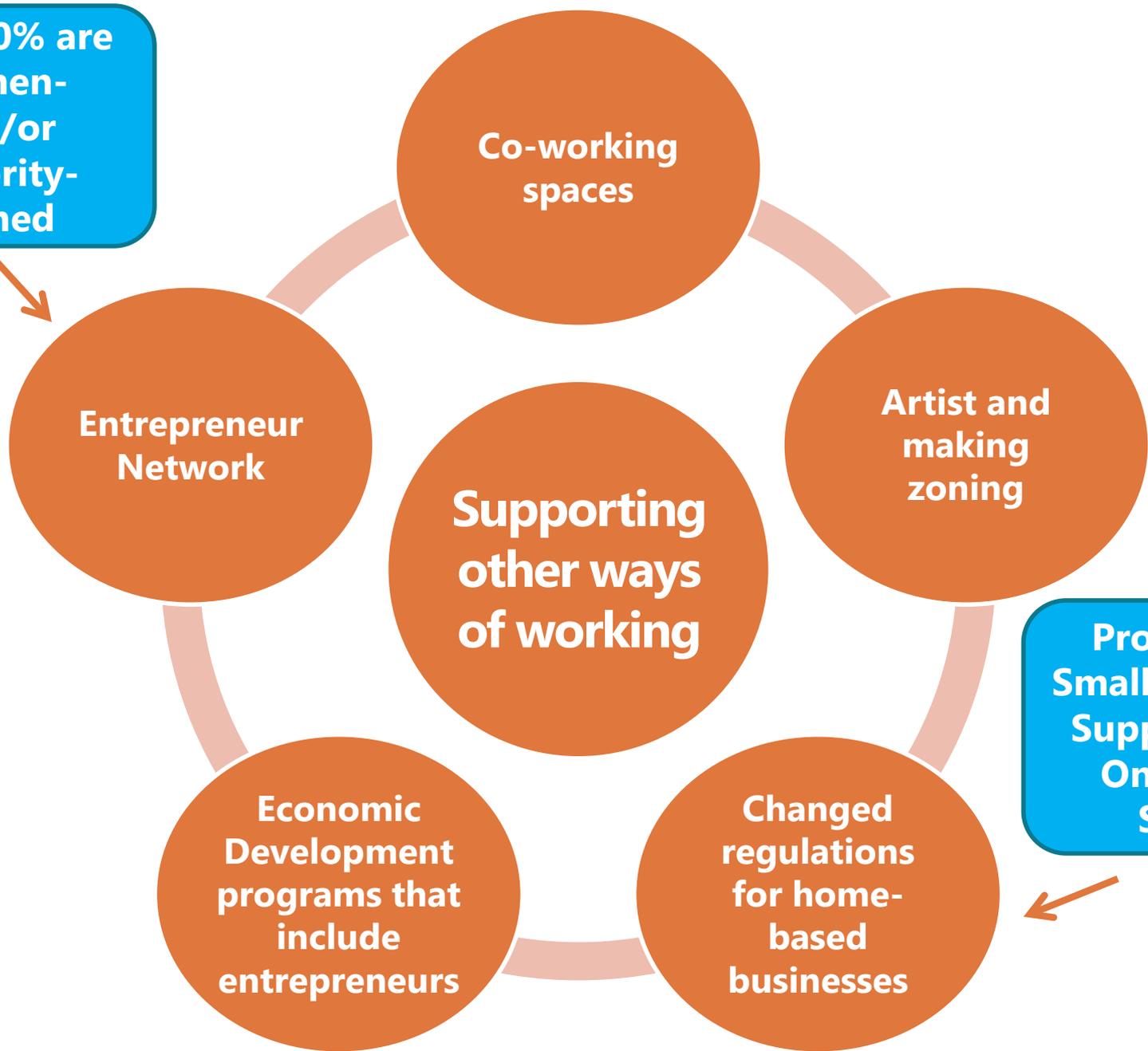
Artisan's
ASYLUM

Artisan's Asylum: City Support

- City facilitated their access to a Somerville location at their founding.
- Ongoing City partnerships both with Artisan's and with their members
- Donated SHS machining equipment after State grant provided schools with new equipment
- Zoning Overhaul would establish their current location as a permanent fabrication district.



75%-80% are women- and/or minority-owned



Programs: Small Business Support and One Stop Shop

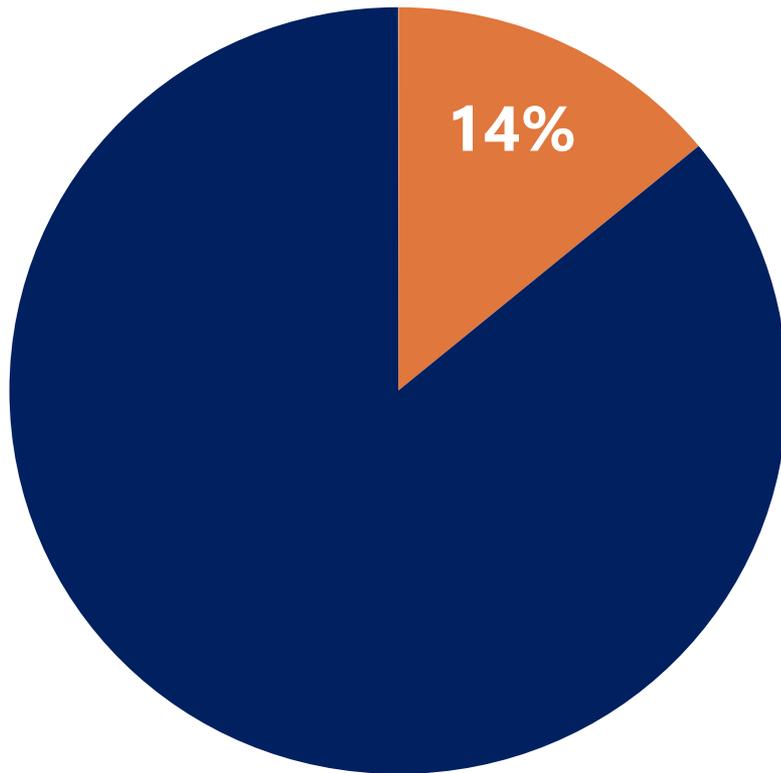


Economic Development in Action

Investing in Ourselves

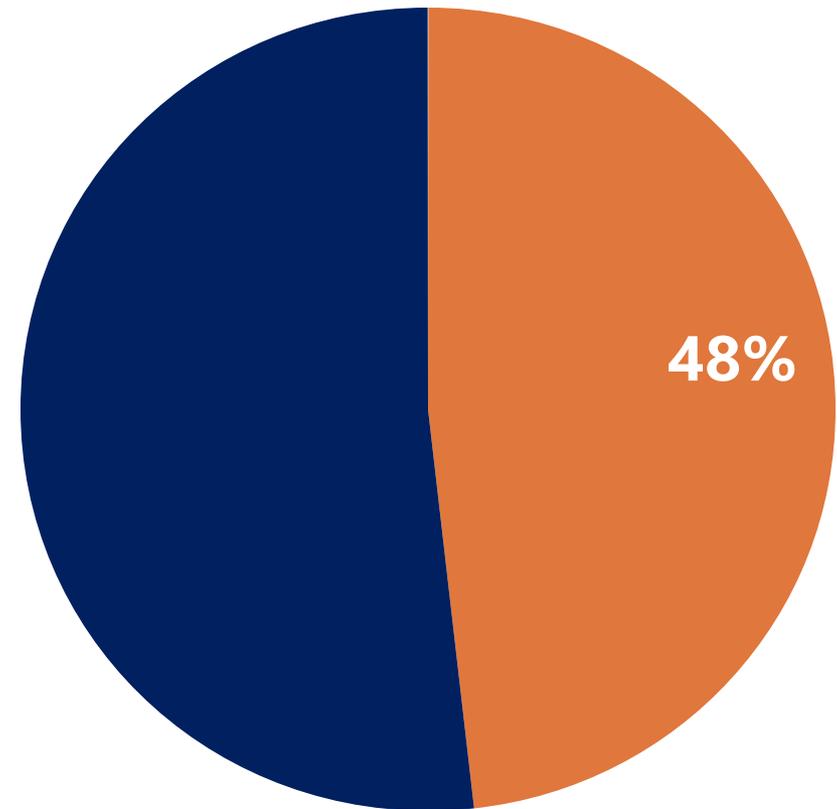
Return on Investment of Spending Locally

Chain Retailers



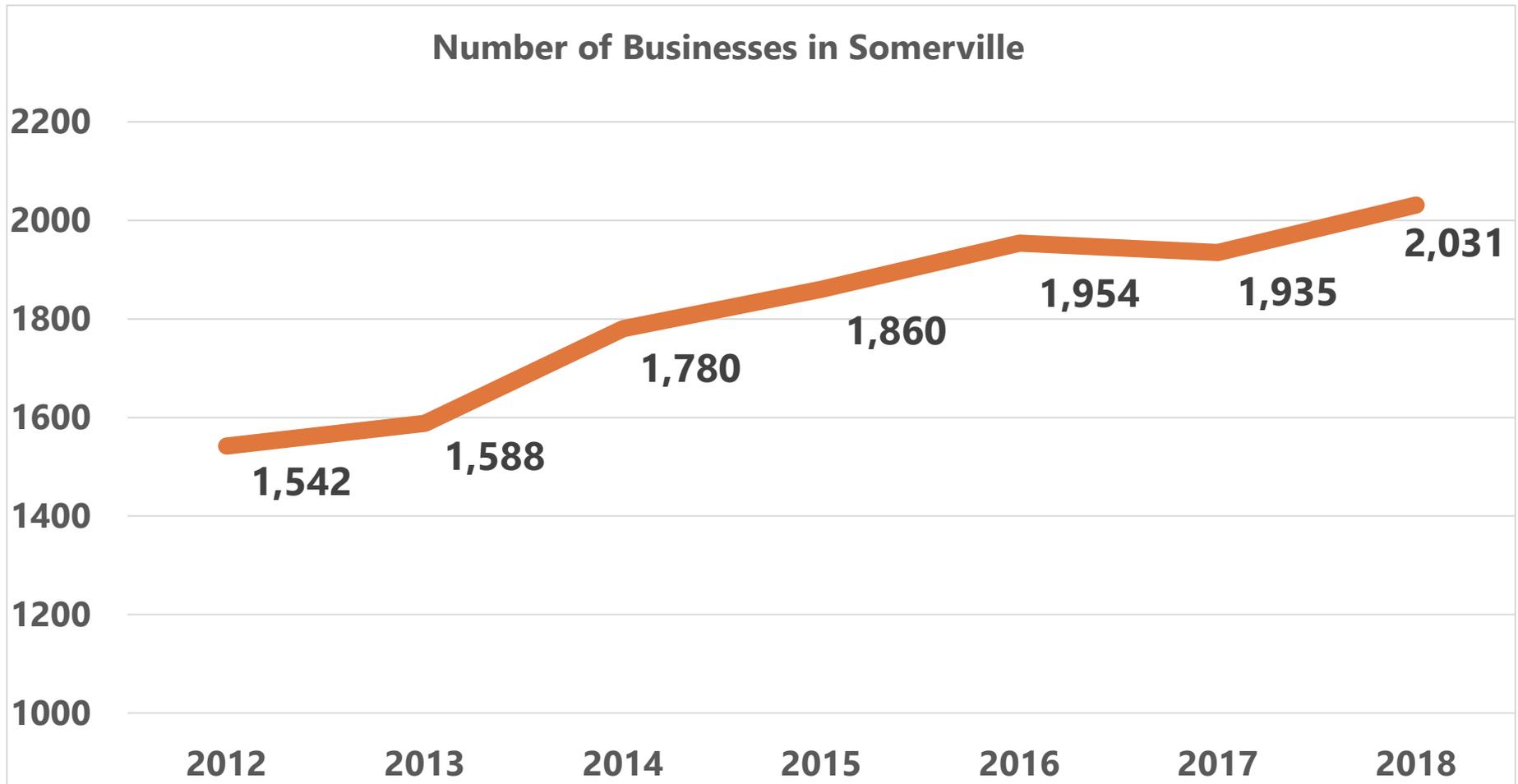
**Local Recirculation of
Revenue: 14%**

Independents



**Local Recirculation of
Revenue: 48%**

489 Net New Businesses 2012-2018



Our Daily Choices Impact Our Future as a Community



If we enjoy the perks of having these local businesses here, it is up to us to support them.

Invest in Local Businesses,
Invest in Our Somerville

EAST SOMERVILLE RAT STUDY UPDATE

Georgianna Silveira

Environmental Health Coordinator

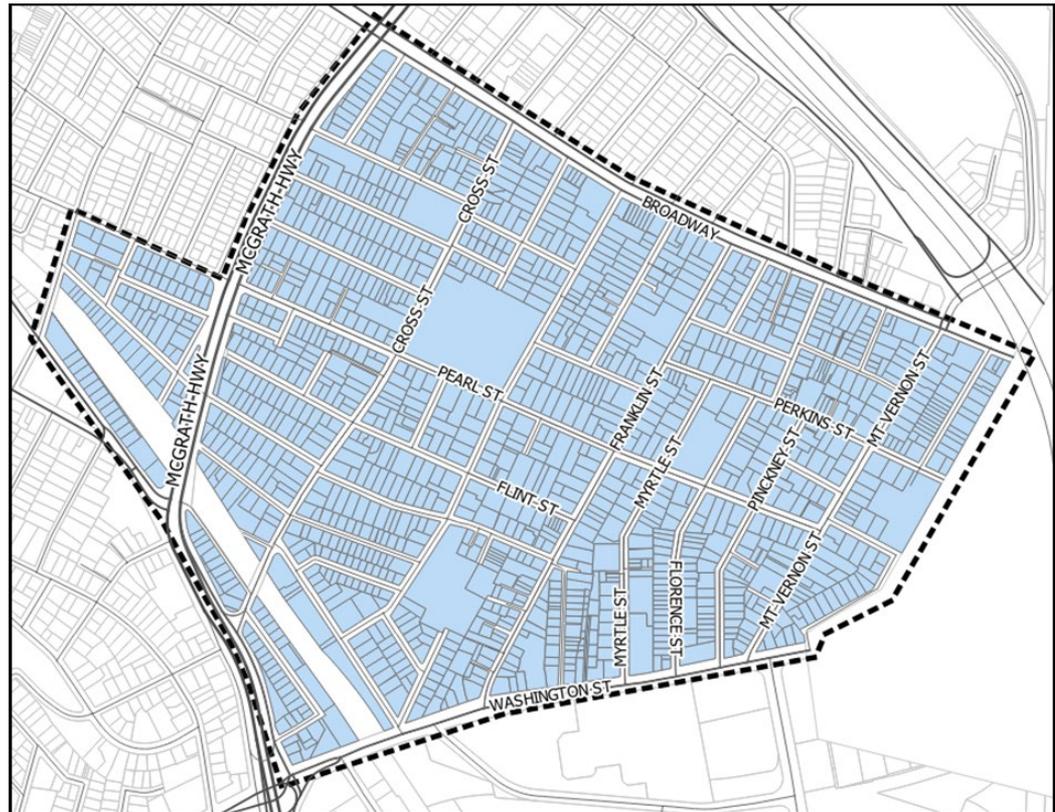
Health and Human Services

The Study

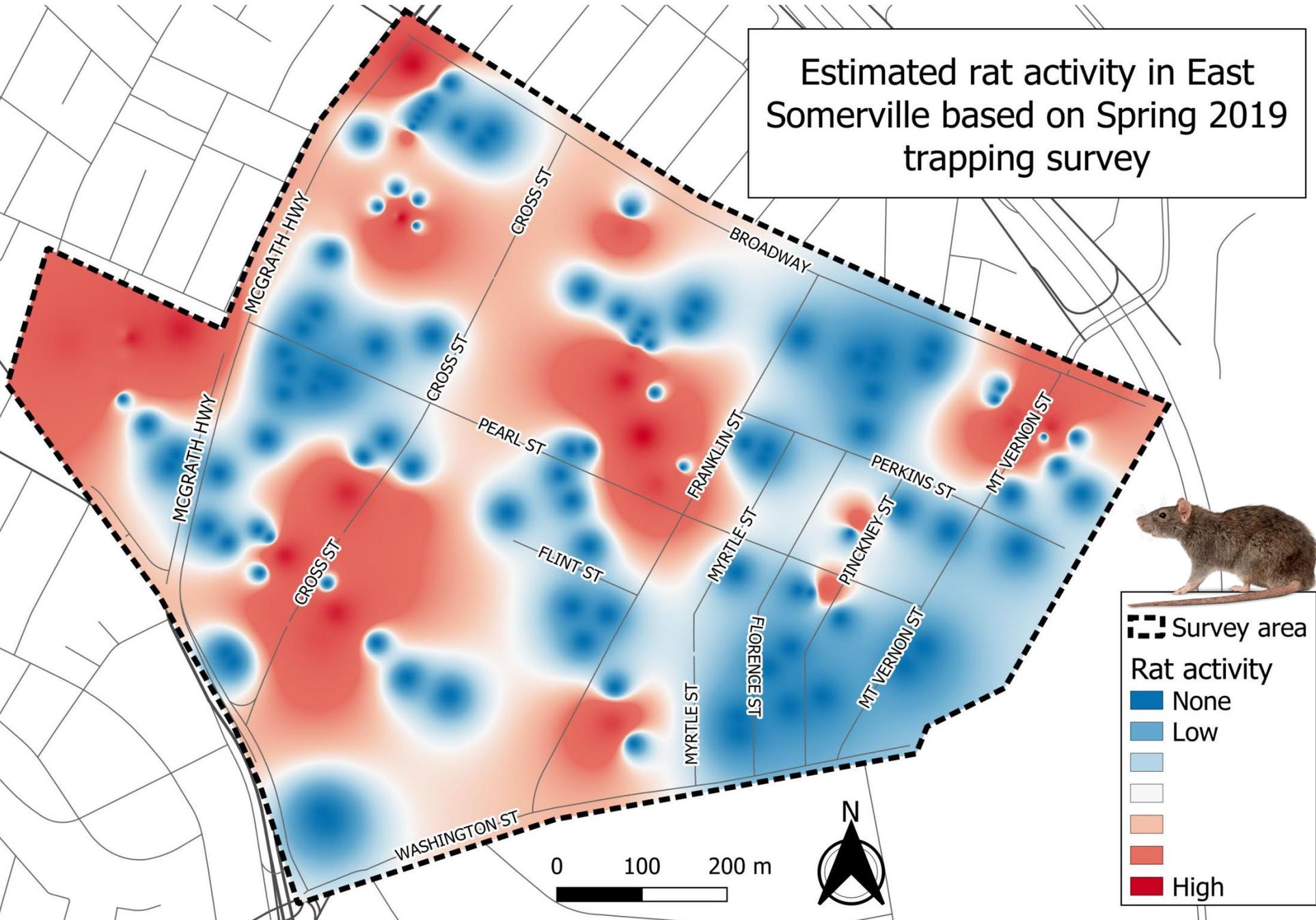
April 29 – May 17
2019



- **295** total traps
- **134** properties
- Caught **90** rats at **31** properties



Estimated rat activity in East Somerville based on Spring 2019 trapping survey



Results and next steps

Findings

- Higher rat activity is around:
 - properties with multiple trash violations
 - suspected active construction sites
- No difference in activity around areas that were recently baited by the city



Actions

- Increase education and outreach directed at tenants as well as property owners
- Finalization of new rodent abatement requirements for construction permits
- Increase participation in the city's baiting programs to make them more effective
- Development of new studies to address unanswered questions!

SOMERVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief David Fallon

Ward 1 Crime

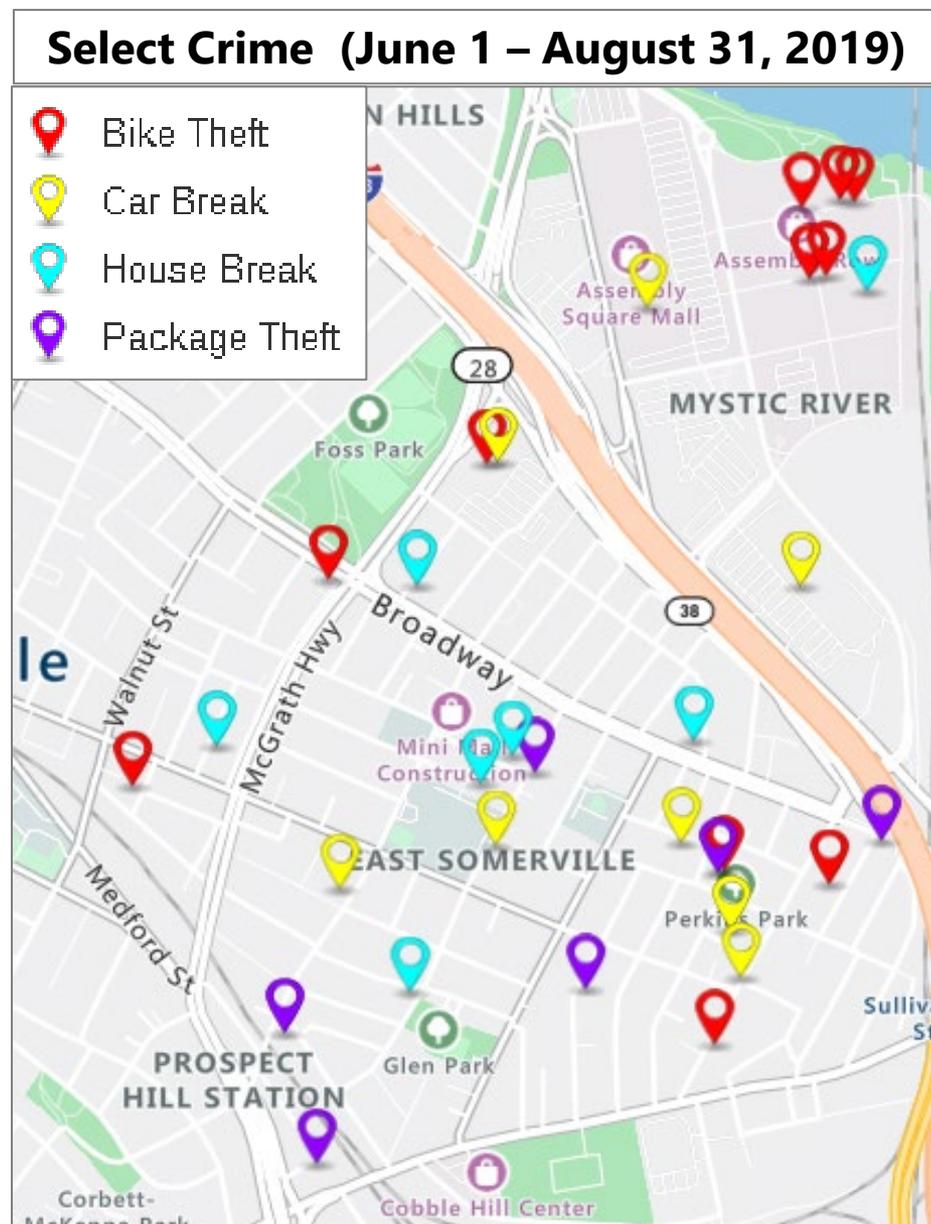
Index Crime Trends

Citywide:

- Index crime decreased 2% over one year and 3% over two.

Ward 1:

- Index crime decreased 5% over one year and 6% over two. However, bike thefts have increased sharply over the past year, both citywide and in Ward 1. In Ward 1, the majority occur in Assembly Row.



Citywide and Ward 1 Crime

Bike Theft



Residents:

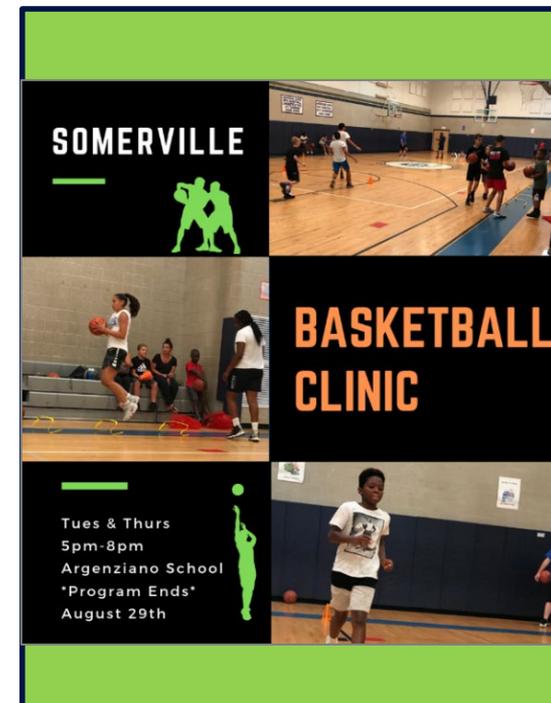
- Always lock your bike to a fixed object (even if stored inside a garage or shed)
- Be wary of cable locks which are easily cut with wire cutters
- Never lock your bike to wooden posts that can be broken
- Take indoors overnight, if possible. If not, store somewhere with low street visibility (back yard, back porch, etc.) – but always locked.
- Keep a file of bike serial numbers and photos

SPD Efforts:

- Sergeant assigned to oversee bike theft investigations
- Prioritize suspect identification and bike recovery
- Analyze temporal and geographical patterns of incidents
- Neighborhood Police Officers and Area Cars deployed based on temporal patterns and hot spots
- Increase residents' awareness of crime prevention methods

Youth Engagement Successes

- **Basketball Clinic for Somerville Youth**
 - SPD Officers held a basketball clinic for youth ages 10 – 19 yo, every Tues. & Thurs., July 16 – August 29th
- **Junior Police Academy**
 - Held two one-week Academies with a total of 61 graduates, ages 11 – 14 yo
 - Activities included: District Attorney Marian Ryan presentation, National Guard fitness challenge, CPR training, Cataldo first aid presentation, K-9 presentations, team building, daily physical fitness



Accreditation

The Somerville Police Department was awarded Accreditation by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission (MPAC) on June 4, 2019.



Accreditation is a self-initiated evaluation process by which police departments strive to meet and maintain standards that have been established for the profession, by the profession. These carefully selected standards reflect critical areas of police management, operations, and technical support activities. They cover areas such as policy development, emergency response planning, training, communications, property and evidence handling, use of force, vehicular pursuit, prisoner transportation and holding facilities. The program not only sets standards for the law enforcement profession, but also for the delivery of police services to citizens of the commonwealth.

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

	Contact	Service	Contact Info.
Substance Misuse	MA Substance Use Hotline	Treatment program info	800-327-5050
	Cambridge Health Alliance	Walk-ins Tue. 11:30; MA Health accepted	617-591-6051
	Caspar First Step Outreach	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
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
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 Services	Cambridge Health Alliance Victims of Violence Program	Adult out-patient trauma clinic providing mental health services for crime victims	617-591-6360
	De Novo	Free civil legal assistance and affordable psychological counseling for low-income people	617-661-1010 Denovo.org

RECENT FLOODING

Jess Fosbrook

Director of Engineering



Examples:



**Washington St. Underpass
June 13, 2017**



**Lake St.
September 2, 2019**

Flooding is a Citywide Concern for:



Public Safety and Health



Property Damage



Combined Sewer Overflows
(CSOs)

Weather Events Linked to Flooding

Precipitation-Based Flooding



Short bursts of intense rain

Rainfall intensity exceeds 0.3 inches within a 15 minute period



Sustained rains

Long duration storms



Snow melts

Ice and snow can block catch basins

Coastal Flooding

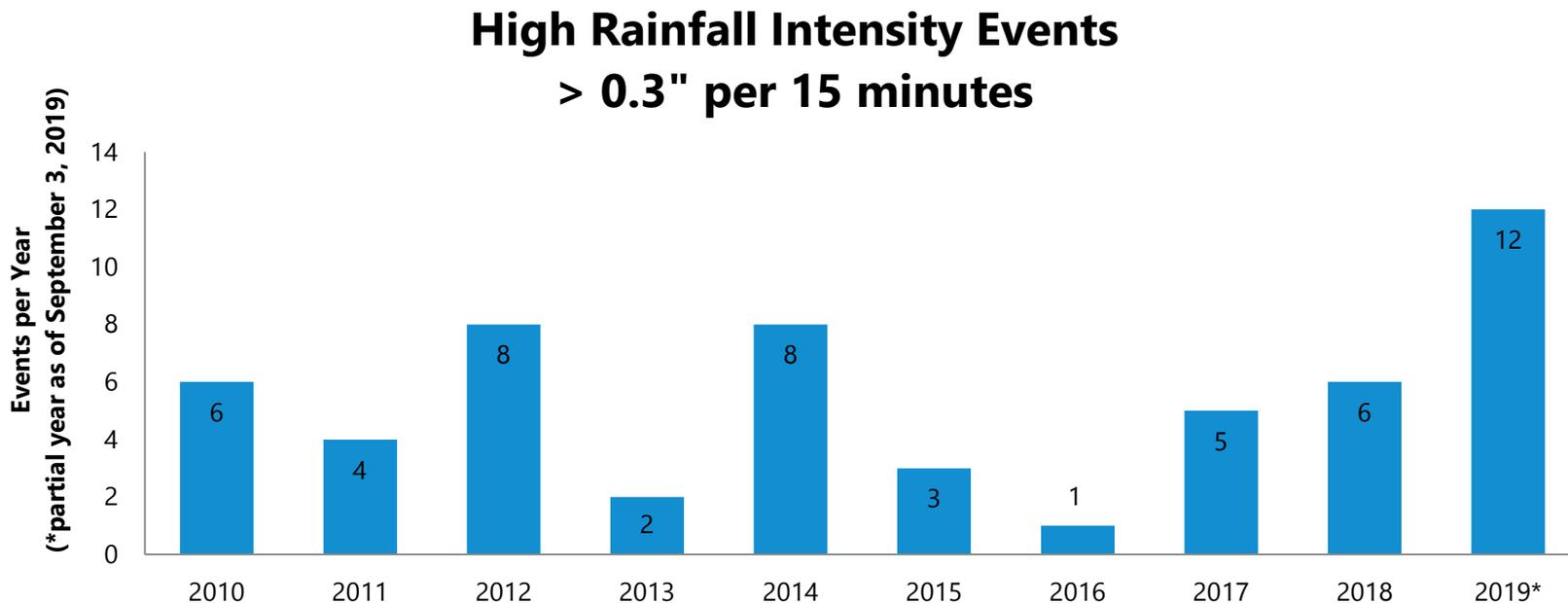


Storm surge

Such as NYC experienced during Hurricane Sandy

We've Seen More Events of High Rainfall Intensity in 2019

Climate change is expected to increase rainfall intensity over time.



Data source: United States Geological Survey, collected at Fresh Pond in Cambridge, MA

City Response

- During Flood Events
 - Sewer dispatches crew(s) to respond to constituent reports of active flooding
 - Crew assesses basin and system condition
 - Crew disperses flood where possible
- After Flood Events
 - Engineering receives email reports to inform long-term system improvement plans

Problems are Deeper than Emergency Response



Pipe Capacity and Development Density

Limited space for the rainfall to travel



Pipe Condition

Pipe breaks and debris inhibit flow



Climate Change

Increased precipitation, storm surge intensity, and sea level rise will affect the Northeast



Geography

Some areas of the City are more prone to flooding due to elevation



Catch Basin Condition

Without regular cleaning and maintenance, flow can't reach pipes

Path to Long-Term Fixes

Starting point 2018		Study/prioritize 2019		Design/build 2019 +	
Project	CIP Cost Estimate (FY19-FY28)	Project	CIP Cost Estimate (FY19-FY28)	Project	CIP Cost Estimate (FY19-FY28)
Somerville Ave. Utility & Streetscape Improvement	\$39.07M Sewer Enterprise (USQ DIF) + MassWorks	Sewer System Evaluation Study and Asset Management Plan	\$10.35M Sewer Enterprise	Poplar St. Stormwater Pump Station	\$21.37M Sewer Enterprise (USQ DIF)
		Hydraulic Modeling and System Improvement Analysis	\$1M Sewer Enterprise (Annual OM)	Spring Hill Sewer Separation	\$14.18M Sewer Enterprise (USQ DIF)
				Sewer Separation Projects (3)	\$50.82M Sewer Enterprise, MWRA, I/I

Please note that dollar amounts are for FY19 CIP spending forward. These do not include prior year spending.

In the meantime...

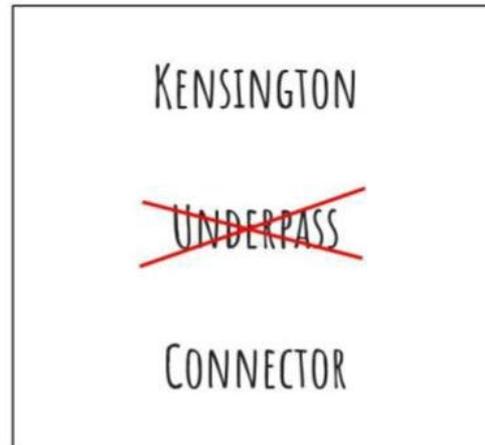
- Flood risk communication



Mobility & Safe Streets

Cortney Kirk, Streetscape & Public Space Planner
Brad Rawson, Director of Mobility

Kensington Connector



STARTS & STOPS

T's declining ridership: Why and where



JOHN BLANDING/GLOBE STAFF

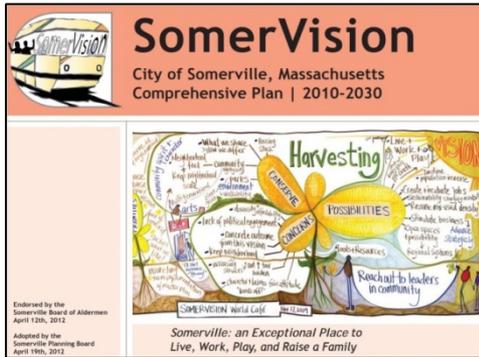
By [Adam Vaccaro](#) | GLOBE STAFF NOVEMBER 10, 2017

Local, regional and state plans are calling for expansion of dedicated bus lanes



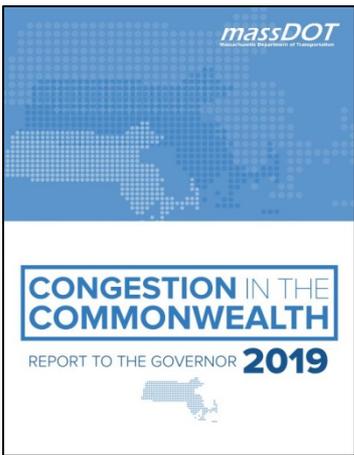
Priority action: “Convert City streets to dedicated bus lanes”

somerillema.gov/sites/default/files/somerville-climate-forward-plan.pdf



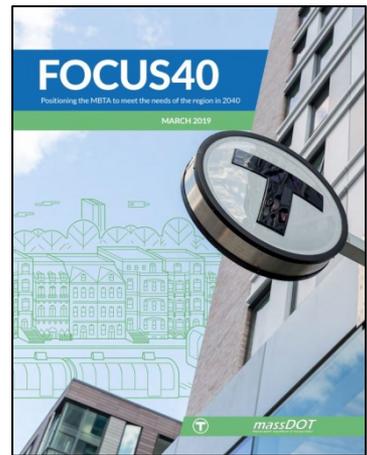
Priority action: “Provide for bus lanes on City streets”

somerision2040.com/somerision2030/



Priority action: “Complete the buildout of the bus priority network as rapidly as possible”

mass.gov/service-details/congestion-in-the-commonwealth-2019



Priority action: “Expand bus priority to additional bus corridors”

mptafocus40.com/focus40theplan

MBTA has published performance data for new bus lanes



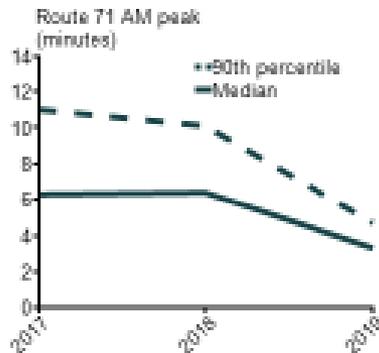
On Street Infrastructure



3 examples of bus priority infrastructure and impacts on customers

Mt. Auburn (Cambridge)

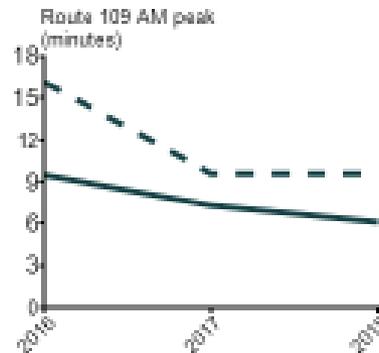
Routes 71 & 73



- Up to 5 minutes saved per trip versus 2017
- 50% reduction in variability versus 2017

Broadway (Everett)

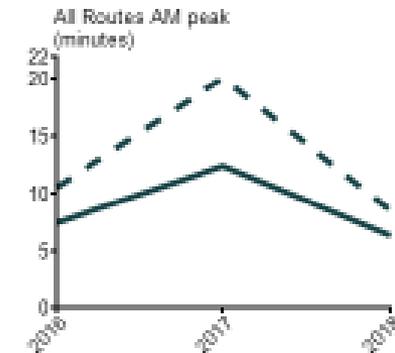
Routes 97, 104, 109, 110 & 112



- Up to 7 minutes saved per trip versus 2016
- 40% reduction in variability versus 2017

Washington St. (Boston)

Routes 30, 34, 34E, 35, 36, 37, 40, 50, & 51



- Up to 2-3 minutes saved per trip versus 2016
- 10% reduction in variability versus 2016

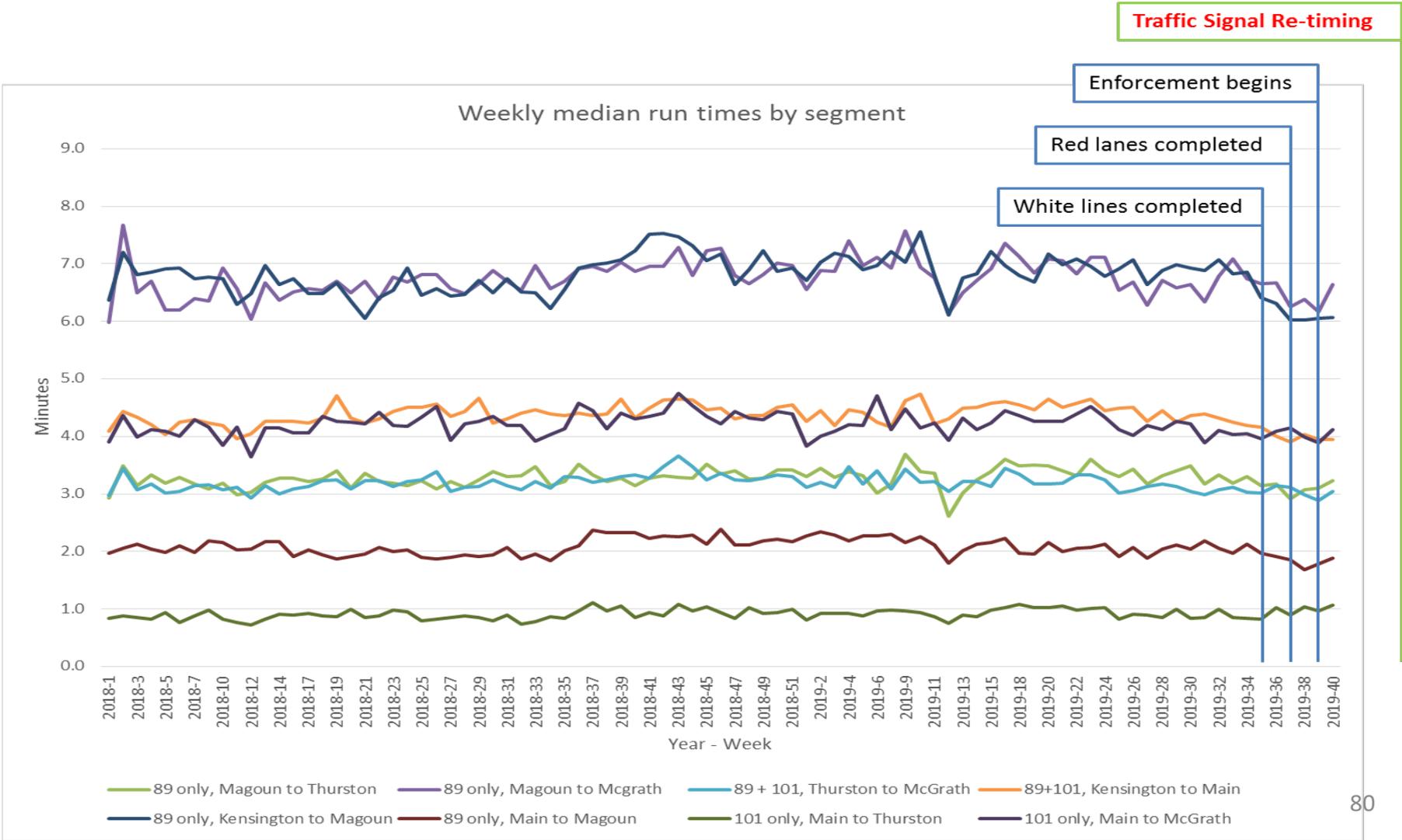
Bus priority reduces travel times and makes trips more reliable

Note: 2017 spike in travel times in Rosindale at least partially driven by construction; Mt. Auburn data from weekdays in April – May; Broadway data from Sept. – Oct. Mt. Auburn implemented Oct. 2018, Broadway in Nov. 2017, and Rosindale in May 2018.
Source: HASTUS

Draft for Discussion and Policy Purposes Only

Winter Hill project is not yet complete, but data monitoring has begun

Broadway (Somerville) Routes 89 and 101

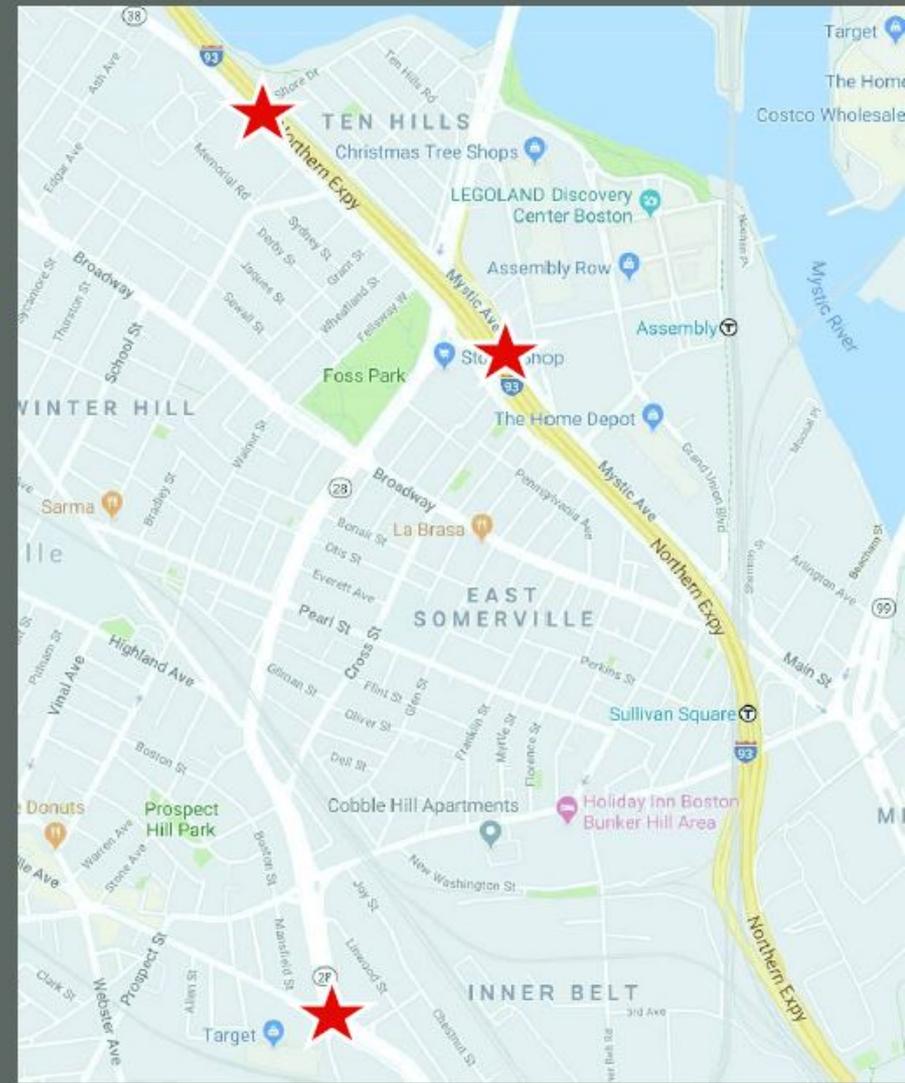


City is working with MassDOT on Pedestrian Safety at State Roads

Crash Location #1: **Kensington Connector**

Crash Location #2: **Route 38 at Shore Drive**

Crash Location #3: **McGrath / Medford**



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Crash Location #1: Kensington Connector

to Assembly Square



to Foss Park

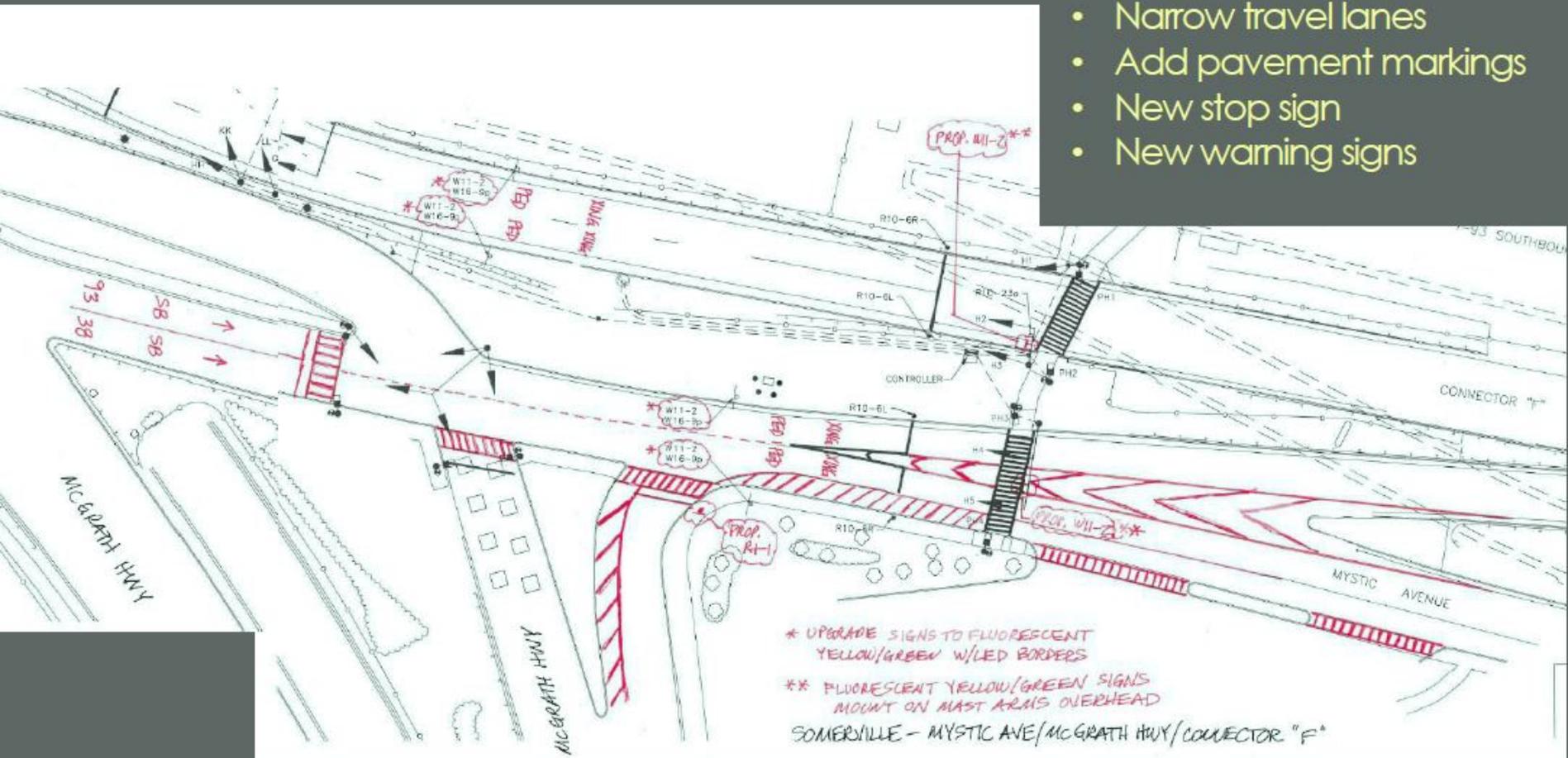
Stop & Shop

City is working with MassDOT on Pedestrian Safety at State Roads

Crash Location #1: Kensington Connector

Post-Crash Interim Measures

- Narrow travel lanes
- Add pavement markings
- New stop sign
- New warning signs



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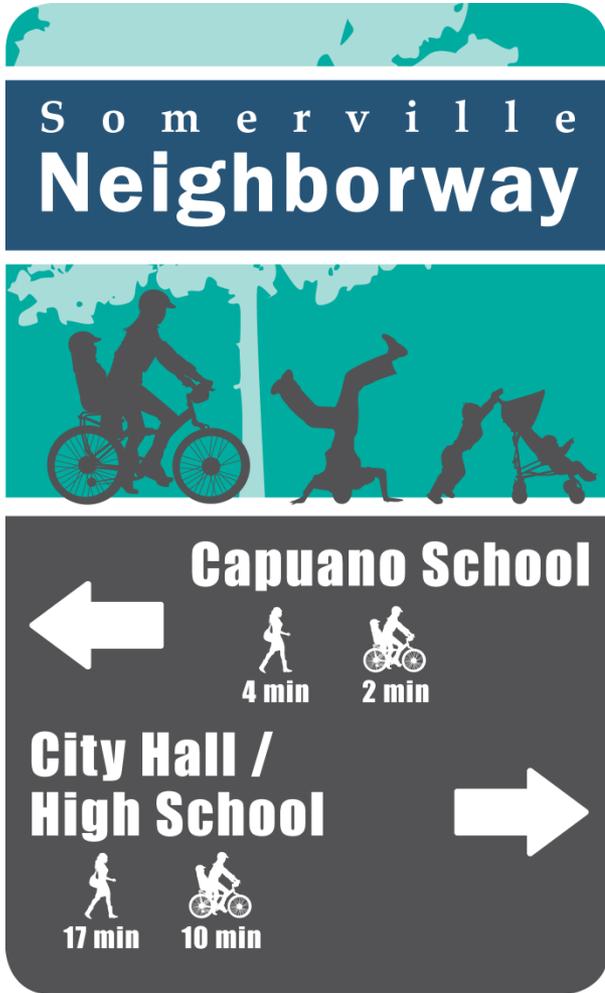
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City is working on Neighborhood Traffic Calming



City is expanding the “Neighborways” network of local streets



Wayfinding Signs to be Installed



Enhanced Crosswalk

Painted bump-out

Planter

Two-Way for Bikes

THANK YOU

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SomervilleMA.gov/Newsletter