

Somerville Community Corridor Planning Coalition

Involving Community
Members In Planning for
Equitable, Sustainable
Communities

Mary Regan, *Community Organizer*,
Somerville Community Corporation



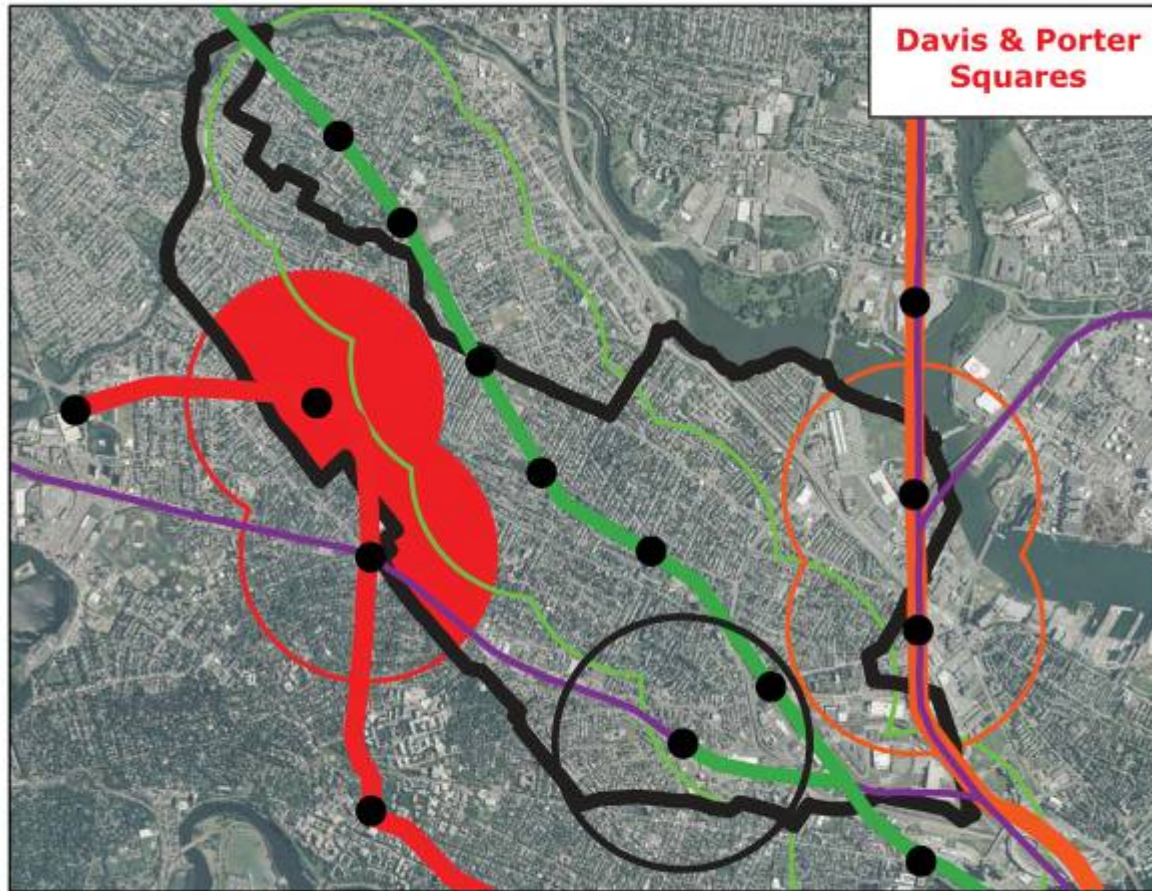
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Context

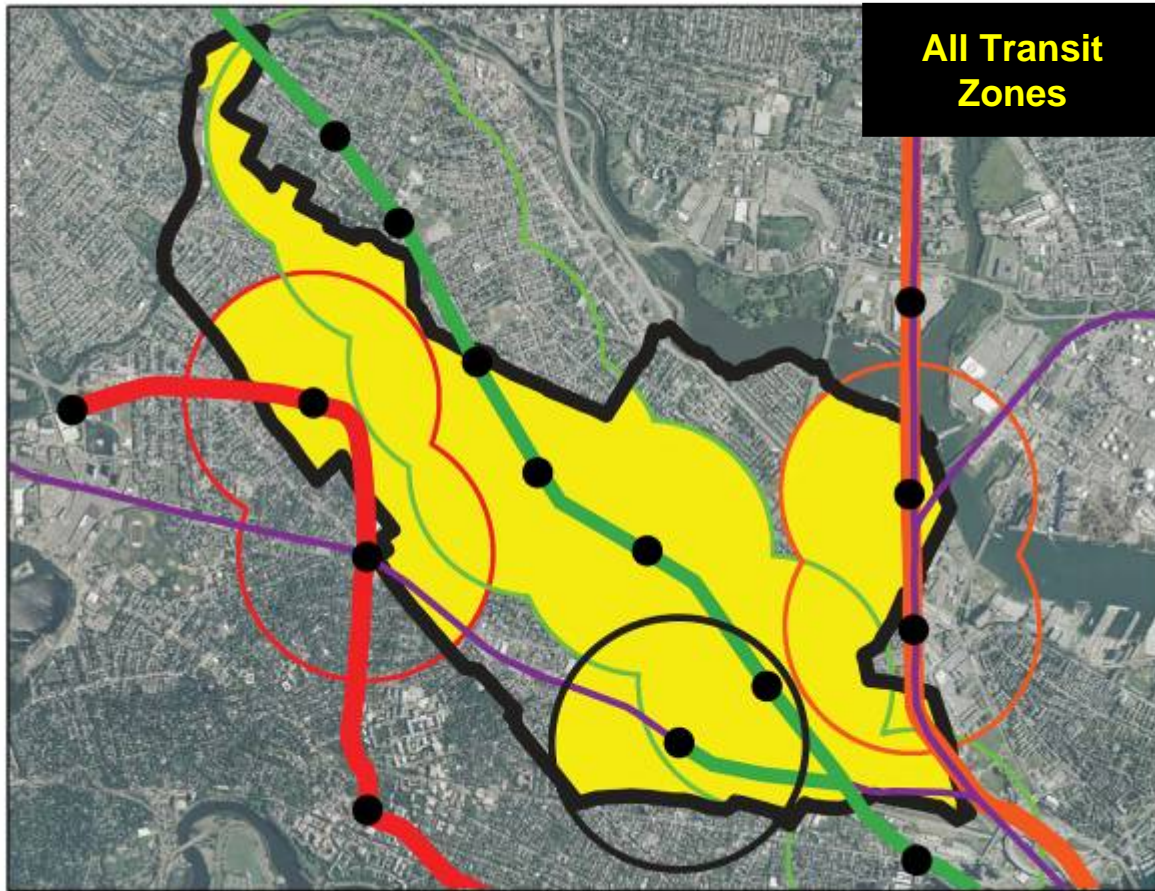
- Somerville, a largely working class city for decades, began a dramatic economic transformation in the 1980's
- Somerville is the most densely populated city in New England, with mainly 2 & 3-family homes, and less than 2 acres of public space per 1,000 residents.
- 42.5% of Somerville residents are low or very low income.
- Somerville is increasingly a community of new immigrants: 29% of the population, 27% people of color
- Housing prices have soared during that same period, as new subway stops and increasing gentrification brought more young and single people to our city.



Current Red Line Transit Zones



All Future Transit Zones



Preventing Displacement

SCC is designing a participatory community planning process along the Green Line Corridor.

Goals:

- to develop policies, tools, zoning and acquisition strategies that focus on affordable housing, access to jobs, and an overall effort to prevent displacement
- to acquire properties for SCC to preserve or develop as affordable housing;
- to insure that the people who are most at risk of being displaced are included in the land use planning effort.



How can residents of Somerville be involved?

- Coalition to involve diverse populations and interests
- Materials in all languages needed
- Grassroots outreach & leadership development
- Community Planning process



Grassroots Process

- Door knocking
- One-on-one interviews
- Leadership development & info sharing
- Data collection
- House meetings
- Community planning meetings



Governmental Process



- State Station planning meetings
- City Zoning process
- City Policy development



Community Planning Process

- Involve community members from the grassroots process
- Share data collected
- Analyze data and identify community priorities
- Utilize services of professionals to plot the priorities
- Mobilize community members to influence policies and leverage political forces



Contact

Somerville Community Corporation

337 Somerville Avenue 2nd Floor

Somerville, MA 02143

617-776-5931

www.somervillecdc.org

info@somervillecdc.org

