

# Mattress Recycling Program

February 2022



# Background

- Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (Mass DEP) issued its final 2030 Solid Waste Master Plan
- Establishes goals to reduce disposal statewide by 30 percent over the next decade.
- Mattresses are added to the list of materials banned from disposal or transport for disposal in Massachusetts
- This ban will be effective from November 1st, 2022

# Somerville's preparation

- Somerville is initiating mattress recycling program starting in end of March for all residential units that receive City trash and recycling services.
- Public education is under preparation
  - Environmental Service Guide
  - Waste Wizard
  - Social Media
  - SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs

# Proposed procedure

- Recyclable mattresses will be picked up once a week.
- There will be a fixed day when mattresses will be picked up.
- Resident will contact 311 to notify address week in advance.
- The resident will keep the mattress on the curb after 4 PM prior to the pickup day and before 7 AM on pickup day.
- A separate box truck from trash contractor will pick up on the scheduled pickup day.
- As of now, there will be no cost for mattress recycling. However, mattresses kept for trash on any other day will be ticketed in the near future.

# Bedbug infested mattresses

- For bed bug infested mattresses, residents will be advised to mark with some paint, ketchup, etc., so that no one will pick up.
- Keep it on the curb trash day and it will be picked up as trash.

# How mattress recycling works

- Each mattress or box spring is sent along a conveyor belt, where the foam and fabrics are stripped from the framework and the metal is removed.
- The remaining foam and fabrics are sent into a baler and are then shipped to a recycler to be made into new foam.

# Thank you

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