



# City of Somerville, Massachusetts

## Land Use Committee

### Meeting Minutes Dispositions

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**Thursday, September 18, 2025**

**6:30 PM**

**Virtual**

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This meeting was held via Zoom and was called to order by Chair McLaughlin at 6:31 pm and adjourned at 7:09 pm on a roll call vote of 5 in favor (Councilors Davis, Councilor Sait, Councilor Wilson, and Councilor McLaughlin), 0 opposed, and 0 absent.

Councilor Wilson joined the meeting at 6:37pm.

Others present: Yasmine Raddassi - Legislative Liaison, Samantha Carr - City Council Land Use Analyst, Madalyn Letellier - Legislative Services Manager.

#### **Roll Call**

**Present:** Ward One City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin, Ward Three City Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen, Ward Five City Councilor Naima Sait and Ward Six City Councilor Lance L. Davis

**Absent:** City Councilor At Large Jake Wilson

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Land Use Committee Meeting of September 4, 2025. [25-1402](#)

Accepted

**Aye:** Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Ward Five City Councilor Sait and Ward Six City Councilor Davis

**Absent:** City Councilor At Large Wilson

2. That the Director of Planning, Preservation and Zoning provide the Committee on Land Use with an opinion as to whether the City Council may dictate standards and materials used for outdoor bike facilities. [25-0338](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin

Recommended to be marked work completed

3. That the Director of Inspectional Services and the Director of Planning, Preservation and Zoning discuss with this Council, Type IV heavy timber construction now permitted in the 10th edition of Massachusetts State Building Code 780 and potential impacts on inspections, development, [25-0246](#)

and the Zoning Ordinance.

**Sponsors:** Councilor Wilson and Councilor Mbah

Recommended to be marked work completed

4. 15 registered voters requesting a Zoning Text Amendment to amend the Zoning Ordinance sections 3.1.8c, 3.1.9c, 3.1.10c, 3.1.13k, 3.1.13l, 3.2.12l. and 3.2.12m. [25-0200](#)

Recommended to be placed on file

5. That the Director of Planning, Preservation and Zoning draft an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances for transit oriented height and density bonuses for additional affordable housing and other enumerated community benefits. [25-0085](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Davis and Councilor Wilson

Kept in committee

Referenced Documents:

- Land Use - 2025-09-18 Memo (with 25-0246)
- Land Use 2025-09-18 Mass Timber Presentation (with 25-0246)
- Land Use - 2025-09-18 Gilman Square TOD Upzoning Updates (with 25-0085)