

From: **jenn harrington**

Date: Fri, May 19, 2023 at 11:53 AM

Subject: Mayor's Listening Tour—Music Space: A thank you and notes from the musicians and promoters

To: Ben Ewen-Campen, Judy Pineda Neufeld, Kristen Strezo, Willie Burnley, Jr., Charlotte Kelly, Jake Wilson, Matthew McLaughlin, Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott, Jesse Clingan, Beatriz Gomez Mouakad, Lance Davis

Dear Somerville City Council,

Mayor Ballantyne met with a group of Somerville musicians and promoters last week where we talked about the drastic impacts of gentrification on the local music scene. This morning, we sent the mayor a thank you letter that included an overview of what was discussed.

Since many of you included affordable housing and arts/arts space (and some of you did not) in your FY2024 budget requests, I'm sharing this letter with you so that you can see how inequity, loss of valuable assets, and violence rises in just one sector of our community when we do not protect who lives and works in our city as well as the spaces they thrive in.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/12\\_eaYlb6khberjKmsDq9xUMVdTW9yfyFKWOuXfVcd-w/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/12_eaYlb6khberjKmsDq9xUMVdTW9yfyFKWOuXfVcd-w/edit?usp=sharing)

It's amazing that a small group met for one afternoon and documented almost 6 pages of solutions! We were *so lucky* to have several strong writers in our group who could formalize the good thoughts and ideas presented by everyone who attended. May there be independent writing/editing advocates in all future community discussions!

Enjoy the sun!  
Jenn Harrington  
Ward 3