



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
KATJANA BALLANTYNE  
MAYOR

July 9, 2025

Dear President Vander Ark and Members of the Republic Services Leadership Team,

I am writing today concerning the ongoing work stoppage your company is experiencing and to strongly urge you to continue negotiating with Teamsters Local 25 in good faith, doing all you can to resolve these union negotiations as expeditiously as possible. As I'm sure you will agree, like all workers, sanitation workers deserve fair compensation for their labor.

Waste and recycling collection is an essential service to ensure a safe and clean city environment. Over one hundred businesses and residences in Somerville rely on Republic Services to provide private trash services, which maintain public health standards on their properties and prevent negative impacts on abutting residents or business owners. Unfortunately, the ongoing work stoppage has negatively impacted businesses and residents in the City of Somerville, especially given the recent hot and humid conditions, with temperatures approaching triple digits.

I urge all parties to return to the bargaining table to reach a fair agreement in a timely manner. I urge you to expeditiously resolve the contract negotiations in good faith, with terms that ensure fair compensation for all workers.

Respectfully,

Katjana Ballantyne

Mayor of Somerville

