



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 14, 2011

Honorable Bruce Desmond
Honorable Robert Trane
City Hall
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

Re: Board Order #: 190215
Streetscape Improvements on Broadway

Aldermen Desmond and Trane:

Please be advised that OSPCD is in receipt of your Board Order #190215, dated October 14, 2011 which requested information on funding for streetscape improvements to Broadway at the Arlington line.

OSPCD will work with DPW to build upon last year's crosswalk, bumpout, and ADA improvements to Broadway at Clarendon Hill. Specific targeted work will include the addition of trees, bike racks, and a request to MassDOT to improve traffic signalization and Rte. 16 crossings. In addition, DCR is nearing completion of a bike path along Rte. 16 that will increase the safety of travel from Broadway in Somerville to Cambridge, Medford, and Arlington.

If you have any further questions, please direct them to Michael Lambert, Director of Transportation & Infrastructure at mlambert@somervillema.gov or at extension 2522.

Respectfully,

MONICA R. LAMBOY
Executive Director





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April 14, 2011

Honorable William Roche
City Hall
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

Re: Board Order #: 190412
Harris Park

Alderman Roche:

Please be advised that OSPCD is in receipt of your Board Order #190412, dated November 23, 2010, which requested a meeting on Harris Park.

As you are aware we met in the Mayor's Office to discuss potential timelines and strategies for moving forward and then held a community meeting on February 15th. We announced the state grant that we received to help pay for the new Harris Park location on Cross Street East and committed to an expedited acquisition and design process.

As planned, OSPCD will be submitted an Order of Taking for the parcels at the April 14th Board of Aldermen. Moreover, we will have the scope of work for the design consultant complete this week.

If you have any further questions regarding Harris Park, please direct them to Michael Lambert, Director of Transportation & Infrastructure at mlambert@somervillema.gov or at extension 2522.

Respectfully,

MONICA R. LAMBOY
Executive Director





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April 14, 2011

Honorable Rebekah Gewirtz
City Hall
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

Re: Board Order #: 190449
Green Roof Grants

Alderman Gewirtz:

Please be advised that OSPCD is in receipt of your Board Order #190449, dated November 23, 2010, which requested the feasibility of lowering the inspection fee associated with green roof installation.

As you are aware we reported back to the Parks and Open Space Committee that the fee was designed to cover the costs incurred during a roof plan review and inspection.

OSPCD continues to monitor incentives for installing all types of residential and commercial green infrastructure and will certainly publicize them going forward.

If you have any further questions, please direct them to Michael Lambert, Director of Transportation & Infrastructure at mlambert@somervillema.gov or at extension 2522.

Respectfully,

MONICA R. LAMBOY
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April 14, 2011

Honorable Sean O'Donovan
City Hall
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

Re: Board Order #: 190519
#89 Bus Service

Alderman O'Donovan:

Please be advised that OSPCD is in receipt of your Board Order #190519, dated December 9, 2010, which requested an appeal to MBTA regarding inconsistent bus service on the #89 route.

OSPCD met with MBTA planners and submitted this request along with a proposal to improve the service without adding cost. This proposal was developed in conjunction with an MIT-led study of Somerville's bus service that seeks to increase reliability and predictability throughout our transit network. In the MIT analysis, we learned that the 89 route is one of the most frequent buses serving Somerville. The MBTA pledged to implement small changes soon and will create a public review process for larger changes in the fall. I will solicit Board input on bus service before that time.

If you have any further questions, please direct them to Michael Lambert, Director of Transportation & Infrastructure at mlambert@somervillema.gov or at extension 2522.

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April 14, 2011

Honorable Maryann Heuston
City Hall
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

Re: Board Order #: 190683
Impervious Surfaces

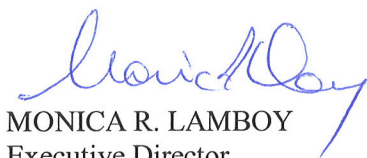
Alderman Heuston:

Please be advised that OSPCD is in receipt of your Board Order #190683, dated January 13, 2011, which requested information on the feasibility, cost, and funding sources associates with eliminating impervious surfaces on the City's school playgrounds.

OSPCD continues to work closely with the Office of Sustainability and the Environment, as well as DPW and Capital Projects to seek incentives for such a comprehensive overhaul. Currently, OSPCD prioritizes the increase of pervious surfaces in all of its playground redesigns. Morse-Kelley Park, Albion and Grimmons Parks, for example, all received complete redesigns that eliminated significant asphalt coverage and added plantings designed to absorb even more groundwater runoff.

If you have any further questions, please direct them to Michael Lambert, Director of Transportation & Infrastructure at mlambert@somervillema.gov or at extension 2522.

Respectfully,



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April 14, 2011

Honorable Dennis Sullivan
Honorable William Roche
City Hall
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

Re: Board Order #: 190692
Emergency Access to the Nunnery Grounds

Aldermen Sullivan and Roche:

Please be advised that OSPCD is in receipt of your Board Order #190692, dated January 13, 2011, which requested assurance that the Broadway Streetscape project would allow for simple and uninterrupted access for emergency vehicles servicing the Nunnery Grounds neighborhood.

OSPCD will work closely with the Somerville Fire Department and the project's design team from Design Consultants, Inc. to ensure that sufficient lane width is provided for emergency vehicles during and after construction, as well as during special events.

If you have any further questions, please direct them to Michael Lambert, Director of Transportation & Infrastructure at mlambert@somervillema.gov or at extension 2522.

Respectfully,

MONICA R. LAMBOY
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