

Madalyn Letellier

From: David Leung <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 2:39 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: Mayor; [REDACTED] Willie Burnley, Jr.; Wilfred Mbah; Naima Sait; [REDACTED]g
Subject: support for more affordable housing

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Hello, all. My name is David Leung; I live in Somerville at [REDACTED].

I am writing in strong support for affordable housing and rental assistance funding. As a homeowner, I am privileged to live here, and I want to make sure I speak out for everyone.

I used to rent in Somerville in the 90s, and back then, it was vastly easier. Now, if I had just graduated? That would be impossible. Yes, we need a regional solution to the housing crisis, but Somerville must do its part in creating affordable housing.

We must be leaders in tackling the regional housing crisis, and we must show that NIMBYism will not prevail here.

I urge the City to incorporate the following programs currently funded by ARPA into the City's general budget:

- FLEX-ARPArental assistance
- Municipal Voucher Program
- Funding for tenant organizing

Thanks for your time.

best,
dave

Madalyn Letellier

From: Calvin Zhao [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:30 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: Mayor; [REDACTED] Willie Burnley, Jr.; Wilfred Mbah; [REDACTED]
Subject: Supporting Affordable Housing in Somerville

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Hello,

My name is Calvin Zhao and I live in Somerville at [REDACTED]. I am writing to support greater Somerville budget funding towards deeply affordable housing and flexible rental assistance funds. Our city is in a crisis, and I am especially worried about what will happen to key programs including rental assistance, the Municipal Voucher Program, tenant organizing, and other programs that directly support working class Somerville residents once ARP Afunds expire.

What makes Somerville special to me is our community and I am seeing too many of our community members, especially our low-income immigrant community being pushed out of this city. These community members are the heart and soul of Somerville and they are being forced out one by one. As my neighbors continue to be displaced, we need the Mayor's budget to go farther than it has before for housing stability. Thank you for your time.

Calvin