

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Steve McDonald <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 25, 2026 4:03 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Support for 26-0287 dormer amendment

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Happy Saturday,

I am writing to support agenda item 26-0287, the local YIMBY group's dormer amendment. I appreciate the care and research performed by the YIMBY group. Dormers allow owners to expand and tweak their homes with minimal impact on their neighbors. I support making this as simple as possible.

My name is Steve McDonald and I live at [REDACTED]

Steve

**Madalyn Letellier**

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**From:** Denis Moskowitz <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 25, 2026 4:06 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Support the dormer amendment

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My name is Denis Moskowitz and I live at [REDACTED]. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. I think small modifications like this that don't change the height or footprint of a home should be lightly regulated if at all.

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Mary K <mck02143@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 25, 2026 4:12 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** file item 26-0287, the pro-dormer amendment

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Hello,

I am writing in support of the pro-dormer amendment. It appears to be reasonable and the possible repercussions well researched and positive. It would be nice to make it easier for people to work with existing housing stock to meet their needs.

Thank you for considering this seriously,

Mary Kiesling  


## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Sara Oaklander <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 25, 2026 4:08 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** file item 26-0287

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My name is Sara Oaklander and I live at [REDACTED]. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them.

Thank you.

Sara

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*Sara Oaklander*  
[REDACTED]

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Monte Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 25, 2026 5:49 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Re: file item 26-0287

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Hi. Monte Allen here. I'm at [REDACTED]. I'm writing to support agenda item 26-0287. It's referred to as "the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment". Dormers make it possible for people to expand their living space without encroaching on neighbors. Please remove the constraints that make it hard for people to build dormers.

Respectfully,

Monte Allen

On Sat, Apr 25, 2026 at 4:08 PM Sara Oaklander <[s\[REDACTED\]m](#)> wrote:

My name is Sara Oaklander and I live at 20 Foskett Street. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them.

Thank you.

Sara

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*Sara Oaklander*  
[REDACTED]

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Dan Sheiner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 25, 2026 5:57 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Support for dormers - 56 church st #2

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Hello!

My name is Dan Sheiner and I own [REDACTED]

I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers are an unobstructive, common sense modification to people's homes and we should make it as easy as possible to expand our housing capacity. I urge you to approve this agenda item.

thanks,

Dan

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Thomas Scahill <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 25, 2026 7:13 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Comment on agenda item 26-0287

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Dear Planning Board members,

My name is Tom Scahill and I live at [REDACTED]). I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers are a relatively affordable way for Somerville residents to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption. This amendment would make them simpler and even more cost effective to build. I hope you will approve this amendment.

Sincerely,  
Tom Scahill

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Jacob Guggenheim <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 25, 2026 8:42 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** in support of 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment

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Hi

My name is Jacob Guggenheim and I live at [REDACTED], Unit 2, Somerville MA 02144. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them.

Best,  
- Jacob

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** David Booth [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 26, 2026 8:40 AM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Proposed dormer amendment, file item 26-0287

This email is from an external source. Use caution responding to it, opening attachments or clicking links.

This is a public comment regarding the proposed dormer amendment, filed as item 26-0287.

I wish to express strong support for this amendment. I read it thoroughly, and it is very sensible and well drafted. It will enable home owners to provide much-needed additional housing space, without any significant negative impact. Please get this amendment passed ASAP.

Thanks,  
David Booth  
[REDACTED]  
Somerville, MA

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Ian Beatty [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 26, 2026 9:03 AM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Supporting Dormer Amendement

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My name is Ian Beatty and I live at [REDACTED]. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them. I reviewed the proposed amendment and think it's extremely sensible. I would be pleased if my neighbors built dormers following the proposed amendment.

Sincerely  
Ian

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Joshua Ruby [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 26, 2026 9:17 AM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 26-0287 - Public Comment

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Dear Land Use Committee and Planning Board

My name is Joshua Ruby, and I live at [REDACTED] in Somerville. I have lived in Somerville for over 10 years.

I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Thanks and best regards,  
-Josh

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Joshua Ruby  
[REDACTED]

**Madalyn Letellier**

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**From:** Jamie Fogel <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 26, 2026 6:19 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** I support file item 26-0287 (the pro-dormer amendment)

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My name is Jamie Fogel and I live at [REDACTED]. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them.

Thank you,  
Jamie

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Amanda J Hanna [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, April 27, 2026 7:21 AM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment, agenda item 26-0287

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My name is Amanda Hanna and I live at [REDACTED]. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them.

My family has been planning a renovation that would expand the attic floor of the 2-family home we share with my parents. Currently, all 3 of our children, ages 5, 10 and 12, share one bedroom in our apartment. We would like to finish and expand some unfinished attic space. However, we have worked with an architect to plan our renovation, and have found the Somerville dormer rules to be an incredible hurdle to achieving our goals in an affordable and practical way.

The YIMBY proposal would make it much easier for us to move forward with our hoped-for renovation. I have spoken to other residents, who have also told me that the current dormer rules are overly restrictive and difficult, and very different from what neighboring municipalities require.

Thank you for your attention to this matter!

Sincerely,  
Amanda Hanna

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Greg Stanton Marra [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, April 27, 2026 8:37 AM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Dormers

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I'm Greg Stanton Marra, and I live at [REDACTED], Somerville, MA 02143. I want to write in supporting agenda item 26-0287, the dormer amendment. Dormers are an easy way for us to add a bit more housing without changing our neighborhoods, and we should make them easier to build. Please help make it simpler!

Thanks,  
Greg

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Abby Hare <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 26, 2026 8:46 AM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Support of Dormers

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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My name is Abby Hare and I live at [REDACTED]. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them.

Thanks!

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Allison Bland [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 27, 2026 4:31 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Comment in support of file item 26-0287

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Good afternoon,

My name is Allison Bland, and I am a resident at [REDACTED]. I'm writing in support of the dormer amendment. As a homeowner who has considered expanding my home in order to grow my family and live in Somerville long-term, I found the current rules for building dormers to be a significant barrier. I worked with an architect and engaged multiple contractors who warned against this project due to the current rules. I am supportive of the amendment so that dormers are simpler to build and more residents are able to modify their existing homes.

Thank you,  
Allison Bland  
[REDACTED]

**Madalyn Letellier**

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**From:** Michelle weiner [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, April 27, 2026 7:09 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Dormers

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*My name is Michelle Weiner and I live at [REDACTED]. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them.*

**Madalyn Letellier**

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**From:** Eric Schwartz [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 27, 2026 7:19 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** YIMBY dormer amendment

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Hello:

My name is Eric Schwartz and I live at [REDACTED], Somerville MA 02143. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them.

Thank you.

— Eric Schwartz  
[REDACTED]

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Scott Dugas [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 28, 2026 4:23 AM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Dormer amendment

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My name is Scott Dugas and I live in ward 3. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them. We allow triple deckers so we should allow people to expand their living space.

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Maddy Augustine [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 28, 2026 9:08 AM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** file item 26-0287 Dormer Reform

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Good morning,

My name is Madeline Augustine and I live at [REDACTED]. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption. This is an easy way to expand homes in one of the densest areas in the country, and the city should make the approval process simple and straightforward.

Thanks!

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Madeline Augustine  
[REDACTED]

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Aaron Weber [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 28, 2026 12:34 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** In support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment.

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Good afternoon,

I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them.

When Somerville YIMBY first planned this amendment, we chose it specifically because it was an uncontroversial proposal. It addresses just a few pieces of low-hanging fruit in the city's zoning ordinance, things like rules that don't add anything but complexity, idiosyncrasies that make Somerville a harder place to do business, and zoning topics that really should be left to building code. City staff have confirmed that these are good changes and face little opposition from the public or city staff.

Despite the statement from Planning Board Chair Capuano, in our first hearing a year ago, that he's "not necessarily gung-ho about housing," supporting housing production remains a key part of the city's official plans. This amendment is a small step in support of those plans, and we should implement it promptly.

Aaron Weber  
[REDACTED]  
Somerville, MA 02143

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Reetika F [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 29, 2026 8:40 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Dormer amendment support

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*My name is Reetika Fleming and I live at [REDACTED], Somerville MA 02145. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city ought to make it simpler to build them.*

*Thanks*

*Reetika*

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Vered Brandman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2026 1:22 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** In support of file item 26-0287

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Hello,

My name is Vered Brandman and I'm a Somerville resident at [REDACTED]. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. Dormers allow people to modify and expand their homes without significant neighborhood disruption, and the city should make it simpler to build them.

Thank you for your time,  
Vered

Vered Brandman  
She, her, hers  
[REDACTED]

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Patrick Brand [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2026 3:01 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** support for dormer reform

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Hello,

My name is Patrick Brand; I live at [REDACTED] and wanted to express my support for agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment, ahead of the hearing on the 16th. These strike me as basic common-sense reforms allowing people to modify their property in a simplified way, without requiring extended neighborhood input. I hope the Committee and the Planning Board make building these easier.

Best,  
Patrick

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Max Meinhold [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2026 4:00 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Dormers

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Hello,

I am Max Meinhold, of [REDACTED]. I'm writing in support of agenda item 26-0287, the Somerville YIMBY dormer amendment. I understand dormers as a simple modification to homes, that fit well into some of the usual styles of homes in Somerville, and allow residents to add space to a home with a minimally disruptive project, both for the neighborhood and the resident. As such, I think they should be easier to get approved to build, so that there isn't friction that would encourage more costly and disruptive options.

Max Meinhold



**Planning Board Coordinator**

Planning, Preservation, & Zoning  
City of Somerville  
93 Highland Avenue | Somerville, MA 02143  
Email: [PlanningBoard@somervillema.gov](mailto:PlanningBoard@somervillema.gov)

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