



561 Windsor Street, BMZ2, P.O. Box 440343, Somerville, MA 02143  
<https://somervillechamber.org/>

May 18, 2023

Somerville City Council & Planning Board  
C/O Kimberly Wells, Clerk  
Somerville City Hall  
93 Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02143

**RE: Mayor's Request for ordainment of an amendment to Section 12.2 of the Zoning Ordinances to reflect the recommendations in the 2022 Somerville Linkage Nexus Study**

Dear Chair McLaughlin, Chair Capuano, City Councilors and Planning Board Members:

The Somerville Linkage Nexus Study concluded on page 78 (before appendices) as follows.

The above recommendations and analyses were formulated for linkage fees alone. In setting the final fee rates, the City should consider additional fees or exactions that may be implemented and their combined impact on the economics of development and Somerville's competitive position.

I am writing on behalf of the Somerville Chamber to ask the City Council to follow the Study's clear and simple caution before setting the final fee rates. Somerville's economic vitality and commercial tax base has everything to do with our community's capacity to deliver public safety, public works, and public education to all the people of Somerville. It is no wonder that the final words in the body of this study are "combined impact on the economics of development and Somerville's competitive position."

Nick Barker, VP of DLJ Real Estate (a Chamber New Group member) has prepared a friendly brief companion slide show to the Study.

Thank you for your time this evening and for your anticipated consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen V. Mackey", written in a cursive style.

Stephen V. Mackey  
President & CEO

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