



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

December 11, 2014

REPORT OF THE LAND USE COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Dennis M. Sullivan	Chair	Present	
Mark Niedergang	Vice Chair	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Absent	

Others present: Alderman Robert McWatters, Alderman Mary Jo Rossetti, Alderman Matt McLaughlin, George Proakis, members of the Planning Board

- Public Hearing on item 197941

Several members of the public, along with Aldermen McWatters and Rossetti, spoke in favor of the proposal.

**197941 - Thirteen registered voters submitting a Zoning Ordinance amendment to prohibit the damage or destruction of any shade or fruit tree during the conversion of a single-family or two-family dwelling.:**

Mr. Proakis read an opinion from the Law Department stating that the proposed ordinance has legal complications and he discussed the SomerVision Neighborhood Committee's reluctance to dictate what homeowners may do on their property. He feels that the zoning overhaul will achieve what this proposal is attempting to do, but in different ways.

Chairman Sullivan's motion *that similar ordinances from other communities be reviewed*, was approved.

The record on this item will remain open until noon on December 18, 2014 to receive written comments.

**RESULT:**

**KEPT IN COMMITTEE**