



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CITY COUNCIL

JUDY PINEDA NEUFELD
WARD SEVEN CITY COUNCILOR

To: Honorable Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and Members of the City Council
From: Judy Pineda Neufeld, City Councilor, Ward 7
RE: Conveying FY 2025 Budget Priorities
Date: March 11, 2024

FY 2025 Budget Priorities

Equity and Inclusion:

That the FY 2025 budget include a dedicated staff person to coordinate services, logistical needs, and city policies to support our unhoused neighbors.

That the FY 2025 budget include increased funding for translation and interpretation services to continue implementation of the language justice work.

That the FY 2025 budget include funding for language justice training for city staff, including culturally competent customer service, trauma informed service, and other relevant trainings.

Youth and Seniors:

That the FY 2025 budget include funding for the Taxi to Health program for low income residents and seniors to have access to transportation to medical appointments and the grocery store.

That the FY 2025 budget include increased funding for afterschool programming and summer programming for our city's youth.

That the FY 2025 budget include increased funding for the childcare assistance program for low income residents.

Economic Justice & Small Business Support:

That the FY 2025 budget include funds for small businesses to increase interior accessibility.

That the FY 2025 budget include funds for small business facade improvement projects.

Housing:

That the FY 2025 budget include increased funding for the flex funds rental assistance program.

That the FY 2025 budget include increased funding for the municipal voucher program.

Public Health:

That the FY 2025 budget include funding for Covid19 tests and masks, particularly for low income residents.

Transportation and Environmental Justice:

That the FY 2025 budget include funding for and quick action on developing a municipal composting program.

That the FY 2025 budget include additional resources for rat mitigation across the city.

That the FY 2025 budget include funding for the Transit Benefits program.

That the FY 2025 budget include funding for additional Miyawaki forest opportunities.

That the FY 2025 budget include increased funding for both the Mobility and Traffic and Parking departments to implement the recommendations from the citywide parking study.

That the FY 2025 budget include funding for increasing access to electric vehicle chargers across the city.

City Infrastructure:

That the FY 2025 budget include funding additional community and constituent engagement staff for construction and planning.

That the FY 2025 budget include additional project managers or other staff to oversee crises, unexpected or emergent needs, and other special initiatives and priorities.