

**April 13, 2022**

**To the Somerville City Council Land Use Committee & Somerville Planning Board**

**Attention:**

**Ben Ewen-Campen; Chair**

**Lance Davis; Vice Chair**

**Michael Capuano; Chair**

**Matthew McLaughlin**

**Re: Proposing a zoning map amendment to change the zoning district of the contiguous parcels containing 250-256 Somerville Avenue and 5-27 Allen Street (odd side only: 5-7, 9, 11, 13, 17, 21-23, and 27) from Urban Residence (UR) to Neighborhood Residence (NR).**

**Ordinance #213243**

**ID #28246**

Dear Somerville City Council Land Use Committee and Somerville Planning Board:

As a Somerville developer and resident of 17 Village Street Somerville, MA 02143, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed zoning map amendment to change the zoning district along with the above-referenced properties and areas of Somerville Avenue and Allen Street, as sponsored by Ward 2 City Councilor Scott.

From a developer's standpoint, spot zoning map amendments such as the subject amendment brought forth by Councilor Scott would have a devastating impact on future real estate development in Somerville. Developers in the Somerville market rely heavily on the recently passed zoning overhaul due to the recentness of it, as well as the comprehensive city wide efforts over 10+ years that helped to formulate the code. Allowing spot changes on a whim and without proper process and notice would undermine the extensive process our community and elected officials spent years conducting. The delivery of additional housing units is the only way to address the housing crisis we are currently experiencing in Somerville. In my opinion, a downzone of the western side of Allen Street from UR to NR should not be something that is considered at this time and would create a dangerous precedent for development in Somerville.

Respectfully,

DocuSigned by:  


7AD12C31ADC4469...  
Attila Javor

17 Village Street

Somerville, MA 02143

April 6, 2022

To the Somerville City Council Land Use Committee & Somerville Planning Board

Attention:

Ben Ewen-Campen; Chair  
Lance Davis; Vice Chair  
Michael Capuano; Chair  
Matthew McLaughlin

**Re: Proposing a zoning map amendment to change the zoning district of the contiguous parcels containing 250-256 Somerville Avenue and 5-27 Allen Street (odd side only: 5-7, 9, 11, 13, 17, 21-23, and 27) from Urban Residence (UR) to Neighborhood Residence (NR).  
Ordinance #213243  
ID #28246**

Dear Somerville City Council Land Use Committee and Somerville Planning Board:

As a Somerville (resident) at 25 Lewis St, I am writing to express my strong OPPOSITION and anger at the proposed zoning map amendment to change the zoning district along with the above-referenced properties and areas of Somerville Avenue and Allen Street, as sponsored by Ward 2 City Councilor Scott, and as scheduled to be heard by you on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

- The proposed zoning amendment will severely impact future development along Allen Street and halt the delivery of MUCH NEEDED housing - especially AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS.
- I am not aware of any public process prior to this petition being brought forth.
- Union Square will be the new hub of Somerville given the T Station and high-rise commercial development. Urban Residential development on the West Side of Allen Street is a necessary step in the development of our City.
- Neighborhood Residential zoning on the West Side of Allen Street would prevent redevelopment and leave large portions of open land and dilapidated structures directly in the new “heart” of Somerville and goes against the Union Square Neighborhood Plan that took 5+ YEARS to plan with plenty of public comment.

I wholeheartedly oppose this zoning map amendment and do not feel it is in the best interest of the City of Somerville or the goals of SomerVision.

**Please record me in OPPOSITION of this zoning amendment proposal. Thank you.**

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
*Ashley Strickland*  
8190BDD13C94A9  
Ashley Strickland

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 25 Lewis Street Somerville, MA  
\_\_\_\_\_

April 14, 2022

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**Attention:**

**Ben Ewen-Campen; Chair**  
**Lance Davis; Vice Chair**  
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ID #28246**

Dear Somerville City Council Land Use Committee and Somerville Planning Board:

As a Somerville (**business owner**) at Bobby potaris, I am writing to express my strong OPPOSITION and anger at the proposed zoning map amendment to change the zoning district along with the above-referenced properties and areas of Somerville Avenue and Allen Street, as sponsored by Ward 2 City Councilor Scott, and as scheduled to be heard by you on April 7<sup>th</sup>. I am directly impacted by this proposed zoning amendment as are my property rights.

- I am a business owner in Union Square and was not included in these discussions. I was not aware of this proposed map amendment until the week of April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- I want to see continued development in Union Square, in accordance with the Union Square Neighborhood Plan
- The West Side of Allen Street currently consists of small old buildings and needs to be redeveloped into mid-size Urban Residential developments due to the proximity to the new MBTA station and core of the Square
- This proposed map amendment is not a logical zoning change the City Council Land Use Committee & Somerville Planning Board should consider. This is a step backwards for the City instead of a step towards fulfilling the goals of SomerVision.

**Please record me in OPPOSITION of this zoning amendment proposal. Thank you.**

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
 C5414886144F4BA...

Name: Bobby Potaris

Address: 53 bow st somerville ma 02143

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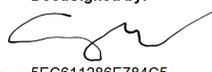
Dear Somerville City Council Land Use Committee and Somerville Planning Board:

As a Somerville (**business owner**) at Neighborhood, I am writing to express my strong OPPOSITION and anger at the proposed zoning map amendment to change the zoning district along with the above-referenced properties and areas of Somerville Avenue and Allen Street, as sponsored by Ward 2 City Councilor Scott, and as scheduled to be heard by you on April 7<sup>th</sup>. I am directly impacted by this proposed zoning amendment as are my property rights.

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Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
 5EC611286E784C5...

Name: Shelia Borges

Address: 25 bow street somerville

Please email a copy of the signed Letter of Opposition to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov) and [Cityclerk@somervillema.gov](mailto:Cityclerk@somervillema.gov)

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ID #28246

Dear Somerville City Council Land Use Committee and Somerville Planning Board:

As a Somerville (business owner) at BRAZIL STARR INC, I am writing to express my strong OPPOSITION and anger at the proposed zoning map amendment to change the zoning district along with the above-referenced properties and areas of Somerville Avenue and Allen Street, as sponsored by Ward 2 City Councilor Scott, and as scheduled to be heard by you on April 7<sup>th</sup>. I am directly impacted by this proposed zoning amendment as are my property rights.

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Please record me in OPPOSITION of this zoning amendment proposal. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: ANA STARR

Address: 29 BOW ST SOMERVILLE MA

Please email a copy of the signed Letter of Opposition to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov) and [Cityclerk@somervillema.gov](mailto:Cityclerk@somervillema.gov)

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Sincerely,

Name: DIRCE SILVA

Address: 36 UNION SQUARE #

Please email a copy of the signed Letter of Opposition to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov) and [Cityclerk@somervillema.gov](mailto:Cityclerk@somervillema.gov)

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Please record me in OPPOSITION of this zoning amendment proposal. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: Malcolm Jones M.P.J.

Address: 328 Somerville Ave Somerville MA

Please email a copy of the signed Letter of Opposition to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov) and [Cityclerk@somervillema.gov](mailto:Cityclerk@somervillema.gov)

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Sincerely,

Name: EDSON LINO

Address: 311 SOMERVILLE AVE