

Madalyn Letellier

From: Reverend Zachariah Trinagli [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2026 9:57 AM
To: Jon Link; Wilfred Mbah; [REDACTED]; Matthew McLaughlin; Ben Wheeler; Naima Sait; Lance Davis; Emily Hardt; Public Comments; Mayor's Office; Siddiqui, Sumbul; [REDACTED]
Subject: Clean up Davis Square/Porter Square 2026!!!
Attachments: 4174.png; 4167.jpg; 4166.jpg

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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REVEREND ZACHARIAH TRINGALI
House of Mercy Ministries
[REDACTED]
Cambridge, MA 02139
[REDACTED]

June 8, 2026

To:

Mayor Jake Wilson, City of Somerville
Somerville City Council Members
Office of the Mayor
Public Comment Office

Subject: Demand for Immediate Action Regarding Public Safety, Drug Activity, Homelessness, and Conditions Surrounding Davis Square and Porter Square

Dear Mayor Wilson and Members of the Somerville City Government,

I write today as a minister, outreach worker, longtime observer of the Greater Boston area, and concerned citizen regarding the alarming deterioration of public conditions in and around Davis Square and Porter Square.

As someone who remembers Somerville from years past, I find it heartbreaking to witness the condition of areas that were once vibrant gathering places for families, students, workers, seniors, and visitors. The Somerville many residents remember is rapidly disappearing beneath a growing crisis of visible drug

activity, discarded needles, public disorder, untreated mental health struggles, and unsafe conditions surrounding public transportation facilities.

Particularly troubling are the conditions surrounding Davis Square and portions of the MBTA station area. Residents, commuters, families with children, business owners, churchgoers, and visitors are increasingly encountering open drug use, discarded syringes, public intoxication, aggressive behavior, and other conditions that create fear and discourage public use of these spaces.

Porter Square has similarly experienced conditions that raise concerns among residents regarding public safety, cleanliness, and quality of life.

I fully recognize that homelessness, addiction, and mental illness are complex issues that require compassion and effective solutions. Those struggling with addiction are human beings deserving of dignity, treatment, housing, and support. However, compassion for vulnerable populations cannot come at the expense of public safety for families, children, seniors, disabled residents, and ordinary citizens who wish to utilize public spaces without fear.

The current situation has created an environment where many residents no longer feel comfortable bringing children to these areas or utilizing public transportation without concern. Small businesses suffer when customers avoid commercial districts due to visible disorder and safety concerns.

Therefore, I respectfully demand that the City of Somerville take immediate action by:

1. Increasing visible public safety presence in Davis Square and Porter Square.
2. Expanding needle collection and hazardous waste cleanup efforts.
3. Coordinating with the MBTA regarding station maintenance, sanitation, and safety concerns.
4. Increasing outreach services directed toward individuals suffering from addiction and mental illness.
5. Expanding emergency shelter, treatment access, and recovery programs.
6. Conducting regular public safety assessments of transit station areas.
7. Holding public forums allowing residents and business owners to voice concerns directly to city leadership.
8. Publishing transparent reports regarding crime, overdose incidents, public health responses, and safety initiatives.

The people of Somerville deserve public spaces that are clean, safe, welcoming, and accessible to everyone. Families should be able to walk through Davis Square without fear. Children should not encounter discarded needles near public areas. Seniors and disabled residents should feel secure utilizing transit facilities.

I urge the City to treat this matter as a priority. The future character of Somerville depends upon maintaining public spaces that balance compassion with accountability and public safety.

I request a written response outlining what actions the City intends to take regarding these concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Reverend Zachariah Tringali
House of Mercy Ministries

[REDACTED]
Cambridge, MA 02139

[REDACTED]

LINE
ELEVATOR →



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MTA
**ELEVATOR
SERVICE**
1-617-222-2828
OR
1-800-392-6100
AND THEN PRESS 8

**TRANSIT
POLICE**
**ELEVATORS/
ESCALATORS**

ARE SUBJECT TO
**VIDEO
SURVEILLANCE**

REPORT CRIME TO POLICE
617-222-1212





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TIMES HAVE CHANGED

IN THE OLD SUMMERSVILLE NEIGHBORHOODS

WELCOME TO
DAVIS SQUARE
SOMERVILLE
INCORPORATED 1842

ANOTHER
PROMISE
BROKEN

DAVIS
SQUARE

BAGELS + COFFEE

SHOP
DINE
DISCOVER
DAVIS
SQUARE



DAVIS
RED LINE - ALL TRAINS

NEXT TRAIN ? MIN
WATCH YOUR STEP
WATCH YOUR BACK

DRUGS
THEFT
ASSAULTS
NO SAFE
PLACE
ANYMORE

WHERE
ARE WE
GOING?

REVEREND
NO CHURCH
NO HOME
STILL PRAYING
FOR DAVIS SQUARE

POLICE
SOMERVILLE

ANOTHER
SHOOTING
IN SOMERVILLE

ANYTHING
HELPS
GOD BLESS

HOLY
BIBLE



Madalyn Letellier

From: Jonah Abrams [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2026 9:16 PM
To: All City Council; Public Comments; Jon Link; Wilfred Mbah; [REDACTED]
Ben Wheeler; Matthew McLaughlin; JT Scott; Ben Ewen-Campen; Jesse Clingan; Naima Sait; Lance Davis; Emily Hardt
Subject: Re: Davis Square homeless problem

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City Councilors,

I am following up on my message from last month, included below, as things are getting even worse in Davis Square. Earlier this evening, I sat in JP Licks and watched through the windows as a crowd of homeless people openly passed around and smoked a crack or meth pipe in full view of children going in and out of the ice cream shop. Beyond that group was another crowd throwing trash everywhere and stumbling around high on drugs. I counted at least 25 such people just within the plaza. That's the most I've ever seen at one time. This is moving in the wrong direction under your watch.

Enough is enough. When are you going to recognize that this permissiveness and inaction makes Davis Square a magnet for junkies across the region and makes it deeply unpleasant for families and law-abiding citizens trying to enjoy their community? Start cracking down on this behavior. Hold people accountable to a minimum standard of respectable conduct. Make the square an uncomfortable place to be an antisocial junky and a welcoming place for everyday people. That really should not be too much to ask.

Thanks,
Jonah

Sent from my iPhone

> On May 14, 2026, at 11:00 AM, Jonah Abrams [REDACTED] wrote:

>

> City Councilors,

>

> Last week, my wife was entering Diesel Cafe when two homeless drug addicts in front got into a fight, screaming and throwing things at each other, one with his pants falling down and rear end exposed. The visiting parents of an international student watched from inside the shop, horrified, and had to usher my wife inside to safety. This was a threat to my family's safety, an embarrassing look for the city in front of visiting guests, and a continuation of the sketchy, seedy element that has taken root in the neighborhood.

>

> This week, windows were smashed at the T station and at Tsurumen ramen shop. Every day, there are homeless people smoking and doing drugs inside the station at the top of the stairs. Now, this morning, I'm hearing there was a stabbing. And on top of all this, I understand the city is allowing (endorsing?) a homeless shelter down the block, cementing the presence of these folks in the square.

>

> The weather has barely been warm for a week and the old problems are back, the same as before. The city has basically put up a flashing neon sign saying, "if you're a homeless drug addict who wants to make your surroundings filthy, unstable, sketchy, and unpleasant for everyday people, come to Davis Square, where you'll be allowed to act with impunity."

>

> It's okay to use law enforcement to reverse this trend. Search people constantly and confiscate their drugs. Arrest people for disorderly conduct. Cite them for littering and arrest them for unpaid citations. Remove the port-a-potty. Make this a persistently uncomfortable place to be an antisocial, belligerent junky until they pack up and go somewhere else.

>

> I have sent this same message to the mayor's office, but I also expect the city council to stand up for the right of everyday citizens to enjoy public spaces without crime, disorder, filth, and general sketchiness. Please change the city's strategy and address this, aggressively and urgently.

>

> Thanks,
> Jonah Abrams

>

> Sent from my iPhone