

September 30, 2020

Mr. Oliver Sellers-Garcia  
Director of Sustainability & Environment  
City of Somerville, Massachusetts

By email to [ogarcia@somervillema.gov](mailto:ogarcia@somervillema.gov).

Mr. Sellers-Garcia,

I realize this is a very last-minute submission, but I wanted to express my interest in the Mayor's Commission on Energy Use and Climate Change, assuming there is still a need for members. From both a personal and professional perspective I think the City's initiatives regarding climate change, including the work of the Commission, is very interesting and important, and I would be excited to participate in the brainstorming and evaluation of ideas for Somerville to continue to lead in this arena. Serving on the Commission would be synergistic with the work I do, which includes tracking and developing municipal climate change mitigation and adaptation issues, such as Brookline's bylaw to restrict natural gas infrastructure in buildings.

I work at Harvard Law School's Emmett Environmental Law & Policy Clinic, and have practiced environmental, energy and land use law in Massachusetts for approximately fifteen years. In the last few years, my work has included a focus on the authority of Massachusetts cities and towns to pursue climate change related matters, such as forms of net zero building mandates to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As a resident of Somerville, I would be honored to help contribute to the City's continued progressive work in this arena.

My understanding, however, is that the Commission may be seeking a member with experience on federal initiatives that could be relevant to the Commission's work. If that is still a priority, or if the Commission needs a member with an engineering or other technical background, then I would defer to other candidates who would be a better fit from those perspectives. While I am generally aware of federal actions relevant to climate change, this is not an area that I track as closely.

I've included a resume with this email and am happy to provide further information if helpful.

Sincerely,



Aladdine Joroff