

## John Long

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**From:** Joe Maxwell <joemaxwell67@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 19, 2014 10:05 PM  
**To:** John Long  
**Subject:** Board of Aldermen - Communications Dept. Budget

Honorable Aldermen of Somerville,

I am writing because as you consider the budget for the coming fiscal year, I hope you consider the importance of the city's Communications Department. I dearly value the services that are provided, as they keep me well informed of city wide community events to alerts about serious storms. It is immensely helpful that all of this info is as accessible as it is. Being on the go a lot of the time, I can find almost anything that I need through Facebook, Twitter, and other social media. I particularly like that 311 can be contacted through Twitter.

The ResiStat Meetings are another example of the good work that this department is doing. My girlfriend and I went to our first ResiStat meeting recently, and besides it being a very informative and well thought out presentation, it was also great to see more of my neighbors and have the sense of community that was in that room that night. It was inspiring to meet some of our dedicated city workers and to hear more about the changes that are happening to Somerville.

Communication is important, as well as keeping up with the technologies of the times. What this department is doing is vital to Somerville, and I hope you provide them with the funding to keep doing this work.

Sincerely,

Joe Maxwell  
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