



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

Housing, Community Development and Equity Committee

Meeting Minutes Dispositions

Wednesday, July 1, 2026

6:00 PM Committee Room and Remote Participation

This meeting was held via Zoom and was called to order by Chair Strezo at 6:02 pm and adjourned at 7:10 pm on a roll call vote of 2 in favor (Councilors Link and Strezo), 1 absent (Councilor Sait).

Others present: Ohemeng Kyeremateng – Director of Recreation, Eric Weisman – Commissioner of Public Works, Amanda Nagim-Williams – Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Denise Taylor – Director of Communications and Public Engagement, Luisa Oliveira – Director of Public Safety and Urban Forestry, Madalyn Letellier – Assistant City Clerk, Legislative Services.

Roll Call

Present: City Councilor At Large Jon Link and City Councilor At Large Kristen Strezo

Absent: Ward Five City Councilor Naima Sait

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Housing, Community Development and Equity Committee Meeting of April 15, 2026. [26-0722](#)

Accepted

Aye: City Councilor At Large Link and City Councilor At Large Strezo

Absent: Ward Five City Councilor Sait

2. That the Director of Parks and Recreation report on the stock and condition of previously installed playground communication boards that assist nonverbal children in playtime. [26-0082](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

Aye: City Councilor At Large Link and City Councilor At Large Strezo

Absent: Ward Five City Councilor Sait

3. That the Director of Mobility provide an update on the Kensington Connector. [26-0059](#)

Sponsors: Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

Aye: City Councilor At Large Link and City Councilor At Large Strezo

Absent: Ward Five City Councilor Sait

4. That the Commissioner of Public Works and relevant departments discuss the future community use of Founders Rink for 2026 and beyond. [26-0052](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

Aye: City Councilor At Large Link and City Councilor At Large Strezo

Absent: Ward Five City Councilor Sait

5. That the Director of Parks and Recreation provide an update on upcoming inclusive playground accessibility plans and redesign projects. [26-0051](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

Aye: City Councilor At Large Link and City Councilor At Large Strezo

Absent: Ward Five City Councilor Sait

6. Conveying an update regarding item #26-0825, a Resolution that the Administration submit a written report to this Council regarding the timeline and process for staffing the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Coordinator role and update this Council on the plan to process ADA complaints and accessibility coordination when this position is vacant. [26-1033](#)

Kept in committee

7. Director of Communications & Community Engagement conveying the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Accessibility Compliance update for city website and digital assets. [26-0973](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

Aye: City Councilor At Large Link and City Councilor At Large Strezo

Absent: Ward Five City Councilor Sait

8. That the Administration discuss the City's volunteer policy and its consistency among various city departments. [26-1077](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Strezo

Kept in committee

9. That the Director of Parks and Recreation discuss the cost barriers and [26-1078](#)

equity constraints that prevent low-income residents and local youth from accessing Somerville programs, such as public skate time at Veterans Memorial Rink on early school dismissal days.

Sponsors: Councilor Strezo, Councilor Clingan, Councilor Davis, Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Hardt, Councilor Link, Councilor Mbah, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Sait, Councilor Scott and Councilor Wheeler

Recommended to be marked work completed

Aye: City Councilor At Large Link and City Councilor At Large Strezo

Absent: Ward Five City Councilor Sait