



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT**  
**KATJANA BALLANTYNE**  
**MAYOR**

**TO:** Mayor Ballantyne and Hannah Carrillo, Legislative Liaison

**FROM:** Emily Sullivan, Climate Change Program Manager

**RE:** Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$28,000 grant with no new match required, from MassDEP to the Office of Sustainability and Environment for the Recycle Dividends Program (RDP).

**DATE:** April 6, 2023

The City of Somerville has participated in the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MassDEP) Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) since 2010. The major funding source through SMRP is the Recycling Dividends Program (RDP). Since 2010, Somerville has received approximately \$387,255 from the RDP for projects including procurement of recycling equipment, mattress recycling, electronic waste recycling, and staff training. The program has awarded over \$55 million to 270 municipalities since 2010.

Somerville applied for \$28,000 from the RDP in 2022. OSE is requesting acceptance of these funds to support the City's waste management and reduction services.

*More information about SMRP and RDP:*

The SMRP was created under 310 CMR 19.300-303 and the Green Communities Act, which directs a portion of the proceeds from the sale of Waste Energy Certificates to recycling programs approved by MassDEP. RDP funding fosters investment in local waste programs including recycling equipment, organics diversion, outreach and education, pilot programs, school recycling, toxics reduction, and more. The RDP provides an incentive for municipalities to improve their recycling programs by implementing best practices and rewards communities with model recycling and waste reduction programs.

