



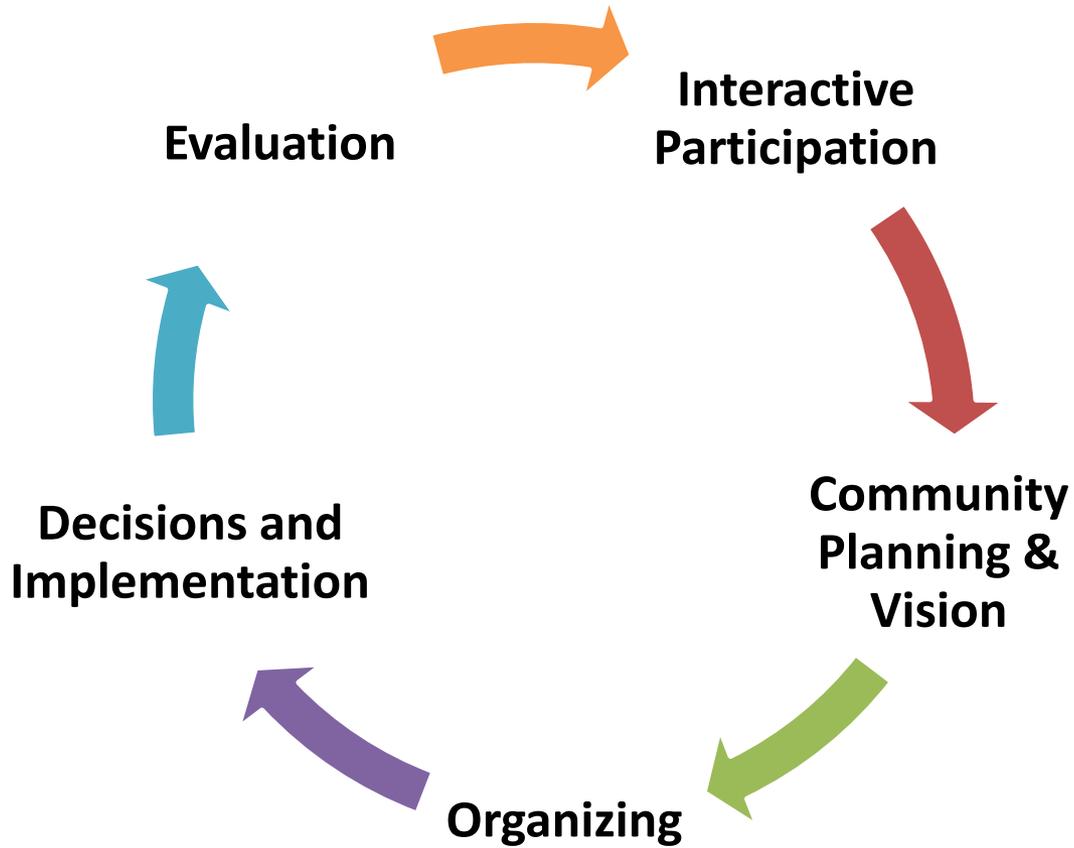
Engage, Influence, Act

The Role of Community Planning in the Organizing Arch

Meridith Levy

Somerville Community Corporation

Cycle of Community Influence



A group of diverse people, including an elderly woman in the foreground, are standing on a cobblestone path outdoors. They are holding large, colorful letters that spell out 'EVERYBODY'. The scene is festive, with colorful triangular flags strung across the path and trees in the background. The text 'Interaction: Having Fun with Community Participation' is overlaid on the image.

**Interaction:
Having Fun with Community
Participation**

East Somerville Community Map



East Somerville Community Mapping Project

English - [Español](#) - [Português](#)

- [The Map](#)
- [The Making of the Map](#)
- [Other Neighborhood Findings](#)
- [Mapping East Somerville's Future](#)

This is a *community map* of East Somerville, located just northwest of Boston. *Click on each icon to learn about the neighborhood.* Where are the community gardens? Do the bus stops have benches or shelters? What intersections have more foot traffic at different times in the day? Take a look at East Somerville through the eyes and ears of people who live here.



Provide assistance to current local businesses before, during, and after construction.



Employers should not interfere with union organizing activity in the development.



At least 40% of the housing in the development should be affordable.



Employers should participate in the Somerville First Source Jobs Program.



At least 30% of the open space in the development should be publicly accessible.



The developer and employers should fund a job training center.



At least 50% of the open space should be publicly accessible.



At least 75% of open space in the development should be publicly accessible.



WALKABILITY TO LOCAL BUSINESSES & NEIGHBORHOODS!

A Recovery Center

Omnwen 75% nan espas ouvri pral piblik.



Pelo menos 75% do espaço comercial deve ser de baixo custo.

Estabelecer proteções de longo prazo para as empresas locais por meio de contratos protegidos.



Al menos el 40% de las viviendas en el desarrollo serán accesibles.

UNION SOURCE NEEDS



NO
PARKING
ANY
TIME
→

ONE WAY
NO
PARKING
ANY
TIME

MASTERS
PRINTING & SIGNS
617-625-5422
617-625-5422
Business Cards - Envelopes - Banners - Flyers - Post Cards - Magnets - T-Shirts - Signs - Business Cards - Envelopes - Banners - Magnets - Post Cards - Brochures

EL PASO

Corona

De Não me troque
us le que por um
hor, condomínio

SOMERVILLE
WE NEED
FOR FAMILIES

Don't trade
us for
condos



A group of diverse people, including men and women of various ages and ethnicities, are standing in a line on a cobblestone path outdoors. They are holding large, colorful letters that spell out the words "EVERYBODY SOMETHING". The letters are in various colors like orange, green, yellow, blue, and red. The background shows trees and a building with a sign that says "WITTE". There are also colorful triangular flags hanging from the trees. The overall atmosphere is positive and community-oriented.

Creating the Community Plan



The ESI Community Action Plan

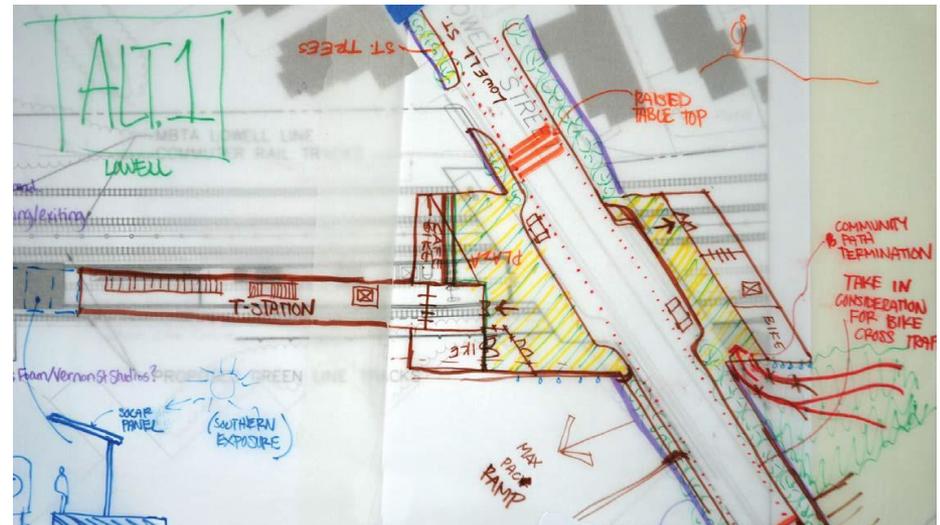
Adopted by East Somerville Community
October 10, 2007



Table 1: Objectives Sorted by Importance

Objective Sorted by Importance: Yellow=top objective Green=very important Pink=most critical Blue=somewhat important	Community Partner to Lead (as of 10/10/07) ✓=Leader * =No Leader
Jobs 2: Community Benefits Campaign, Assembly Square	✓
Housing 2: Produce more units	✓
Housing 1: Preserve expiring use buildings	✓
Housing 3: Prevent mortgage foreclosures	*
Jobs 3: Support small businesses through networking services	*
Imm 1: Create immigrant organizing committee	✓
Housing 4: Campaigns to get more money for affordable housing	*
Schools 1: protect services for English Language Learners	*
Jobs 1: Create Workers resource group	*
Imm 2: Sanctuary City campaign	✓
Imm 3: Bring groups together to create Emergency Plan	✓
Youth 2: Form a group to extend Open Gyms and youth programming	✓
Youth 1: Youth-employment training center	✓
Schools 2: full service school model	*
Access 4: Host group of ESOL providers to expand and improve ESOL services	✓
EJ 1: Tackling indoor and outdoor air pollution	✓
Access 1: Create/update resource guide for services	✓
Access 5: Computer literacy classes	*
Streetscape 3: City community planning process for Broadway	✓

Community Corridor Planning





Core Community Principles for Neighborhood Development Along the Green Line Corridor

As part of Community Corridor Planning, a grassroots initiative to engage Somerville residents in the land use planning of the Green Line Corridor, community members ratified a list of eleven core principles. The principles listed here were chosen from a larger list of principles generated by over 300 residents who participated at various community meetings held between April and October, 2009, which were then prioritized and ratified at a community meeting attended by 150 people on October 28, 2009. The community members engaged with CCP would like to see all decisions related to the planning of the Green Line and the land use in the half mile areas around the 7 proposed stations to reflect this list of Corridor Core Principles.

- **More Local Jobs:** We want a fixed percentage of respectable jobs of all types with good wages and benefits for Somerville residents, from construction to permanent.
- **Increase Commercial and Economic Development:** We want to see the creation of squares as destinations, with careful attention to mixed use of commercial/residential, reuse of buildings, and economic development to increase the tax base.
- **Keep and Add Local Businesses:** We want locally owned, culturally diverse, clean businesses in commercial areas with employees who live in Somerville.
- **Keep Somerville Affordable:** We want to make sure people of all economic means have the ability to afford housing and living costs, so that Somerville residents, such as child care workers, cab drivers, local business employees and others can stay here affordably.
- **Maintain Our Diversity:** Preserve and encourage economic and ethnic diversity of residents and businesses.
- **Improve the Green Environment:** We want a safe, environmentally friendly neighborhood with more green space, trees, and gardens; reduction of noise; avoidance of light pollution; and prevention of toxic chemicals in the air.
- **Encourage Walking and Biking:** We want to encourage walking and cycling, through safe, bike/pedestrian friendly design of streets and paths around and between stations.
- **Create Community Gathering Spaces:** We want both indoor and outdoor safe, public gathering spaces for community members.
- **Improve Access:** We want above standard, safe access to and between stations for people with disabilities, strollers, and pedestrians in general
- **Community Involvement:** We want to make sure residents are included on an ongoing basis in the planning, design, and zoning changes to the stations and areas around them. Youth, artists, and others should help design stations, with attention to amenities. We need an easy and clear process for residents to address problems as they come up, with ways of immediately resolving unseen impacts.
- **Connecting Buses and Trains:** We want to ensure inter-modal access between neighborhoods and stations. For new train service to be adequate and speedy, and for existing bus lines to continue to serve areas not connected by train.

LINK SOMERVILLE EQUITY STANDARDS

Connecting people, policy, and place



EQUITY GOALS

**Local Jobs: 30% of new jobs in Somerville go to Somerville residents**

- These should be good jobs with a living wage, full benefits, full-time schedule, and career opportunities
- Developers contribute to a jobs trust fund in order to provide residents with adequate training, including ESL training and job counseling
- Employers use a first source program to provide Somerville residents with opportunities for all new jobs

30% of new jobs in Somerville go to

**Local Businesses: Keep and add local businesses**

- Mitigate the negative impacts of construction on businesses
- Preserve the current mix of small businesses and minimize turnover
- Maintain strong, diverse, stable, and safe business districts

20-35% of new housing units are permanently affordable

**Affordable Housing: Of new housing production, 20-35% should be permanently affordable for low- and moderate- income households**

- Most new units should be in a transit walkshed
- Increase the amount of new housing dedicated for families of four or more

125 acres of

**Open and Green Space: New acreage of accessible open, green, and growing space in environmental justice (EJ) neighborhoods**

- Increase open space proportional to EJ communities
- Preserve and expand existing open space in EJ communities
- Encourage urban farming at new parks, gardens, and rooftops
- Improve public access, programming and interactive activities at city parks

Improve and increase mobility options in transform

**Mobility: Improve and increase mobility options in transforming areas as identified in SomerVision's Transportation Goals**

- Complete build-out of the Community Path Extension as part of the Green Line Extension
- Guarantee funding for complete build-out of the Green Line Extension
- Create a north-south bus route connecting Temple and Broadway to Somerville Avenue and Washington Street
- Improve and extend bike infrastructure and pedestrian-oriented walkways
- Replace McCarthy Overpass with at grade boulevard

Keep and add local

**Land Use: Community decision-making for public and neglected properties**

- Increase community participation in planning discussions, especially among new immigrants, working class residents and communities of color
- Work with negligent property owners to improve or release their property
- Obtain community amenities for disposition properties, prioritizing uses reflected in Equity Standards

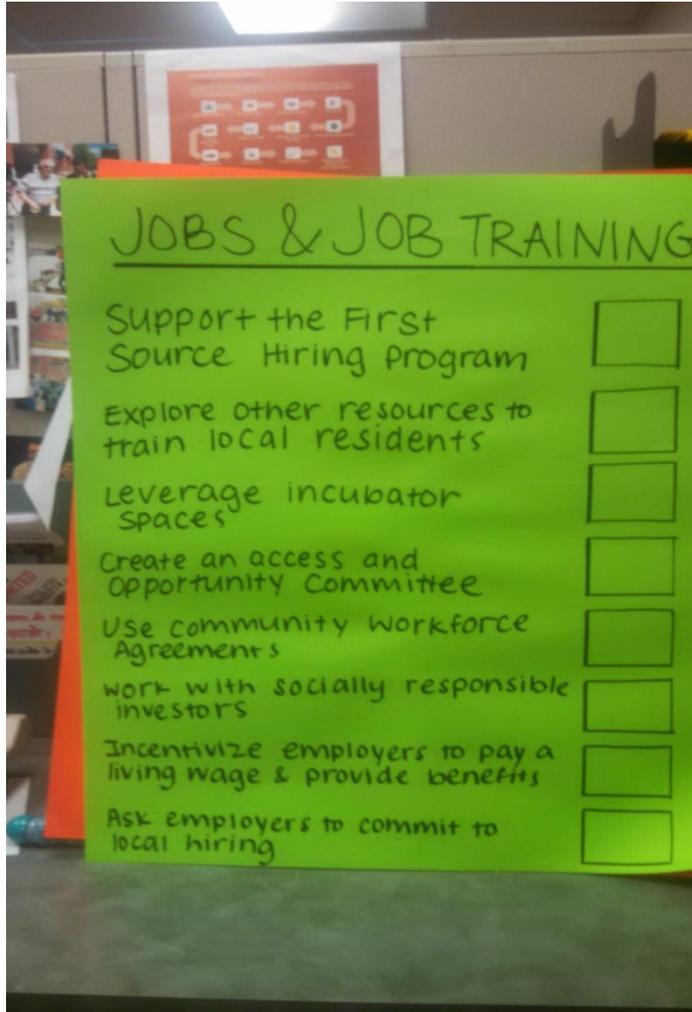
Community members engaged in process for public an

From Vision to Action:



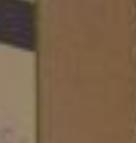
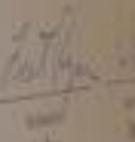
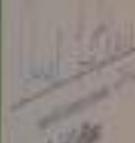
WE ARE UNION UNITED!





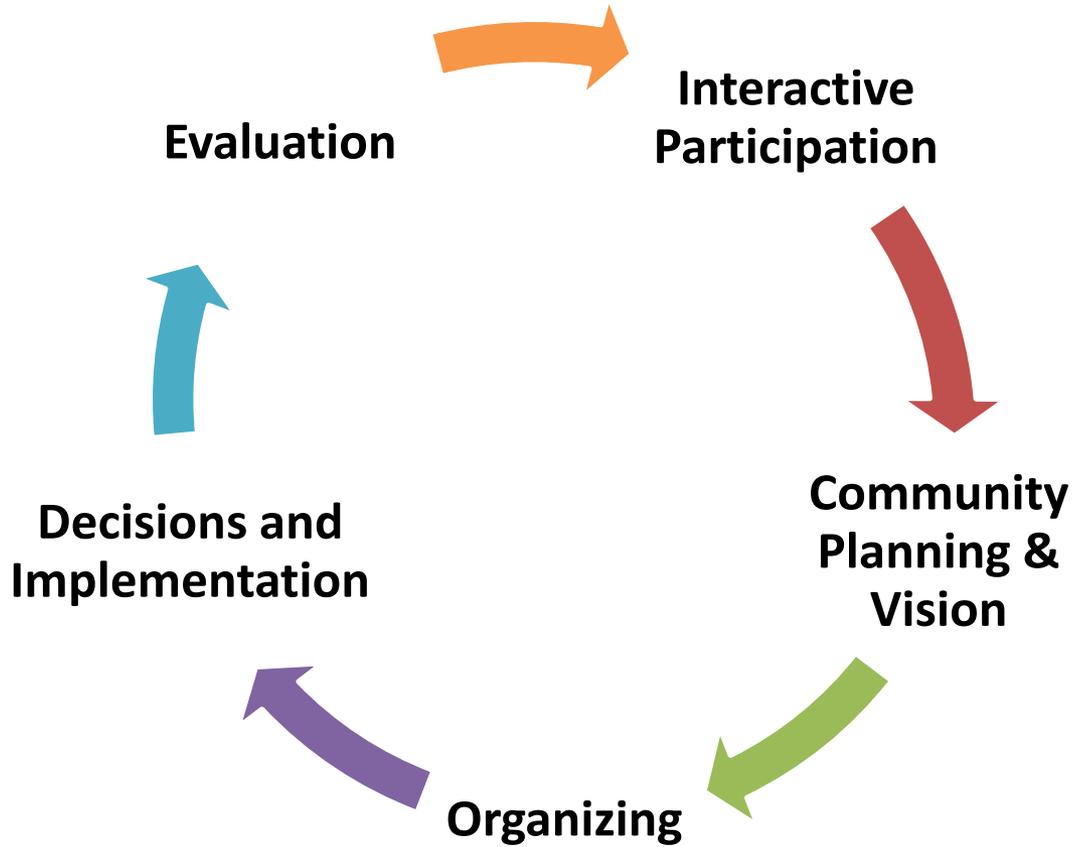
TRANSITION FORCE INITIATIVE NOW PROGRAM

Members of Leadership

 David C. Kim Chair	 David C. Kim Chair	 David C. Kim Chair
 David C. Kim Chair	 David C. Kim Chair	 David C. Kim Chair
 David C. Kim Chair	 David C. Kim Chair	 David C. Kim Chair



Cycle of Community Influence





Somerville Community Corporation

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