

Ward 1 Fall ResiStat Meeting Notes

Thursday, October 16th, 2008

Officials Present:

- Joe Curtatone, Mayor
- Bill Roche, Ward 1 Alderman
- Tony Holloway, Somerville Police Chief
- Paul Upton, Somerville Deputy Police Chief
- Michael Cabral, Somerville Deputy Police Chief
- Nicholas Stiles, Ward 1 Neighborhood Police Officer
- David Guzman, Planner, Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development
- Stephanie Hirsch, Director of SomerStat

Updates on Issues from Previous Meetings:

After introductions of all attendees, updates were provided on the following topics. Please see the accompanying presentation for more information on these topics:

- Assembly Square and related projects
- Lower Broadway street reconstruction
- East Somerville Community School
- Parks: Ed Leathers Park, McCarthy Field, 0 New Washington Street
- State Issues: Foss Park
- Public Safety
- Languages Capacity and Support

Break-Out Sessions:

The following three breakout discussions were convened:

Public Safety

- Substation: Residents expressed a hope that the Ward 1 substation could be open 24 hours a day, and wondered if it would be possible to have volunteers staff the station.
- Reporting Incidents: The Chief encouraged residents to call 911 for any emergency and to call 311 for any quality of life issue. Residents may also contact their neighborhood police officer, Nicholas Stiles, for any concerns they would like to discuss. Officer Stiles' e-mail address is nstiles@police.somerville.ma.us. The Chief emphasized the residents should report all incidents.

Development Issues

- Lower Broadway: Residents had some questions about the Lower Broadway project. There will be more community meetings on the design and timeline. The project is contingent on securing state funding.
- East Somerville Community School: Residents asked about the timeline for the ESCS. The Mayor said that there will be a plan developed by this winter. It is his number one priority.

Other Issues

- Traffic: Residents expressed concern about traffic violations at Lombardi and Broadway and about drivers who use side streets as a cut-through during commuting hours. Residents also said they were concerned about how the traffic flow will work with the opening of Ikea. The Police Chief said that he would immediately increase enforcement in the area. Other City

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staff said that there has been an extensive analysis of traffic in the area and how Ikea will affect it. The Developer is paying for mitigation work at sites around Assembly Square. The goal is to keep visitors to Ikea off of local roads.

- Inner Belt: A resident was curious about the plans for the soccer stadium. City staff said that there was a study being done to plan for the area, taking into consideration both the possibility of a soccer stadium and a maintenance facility, as well as other possible ways to develop the area.
- Truck Storage Property: A resident asked if something can be done to shield the road from the property where the garbage trucks are stored.