



# Groundworks Somerville & Mobility Division Summer Youth Workshops

Pedestrian and Transit Advisory Committee

August 21, 2025

# Introduction



- In early 2025, we began meeting with Directors Kenzie Ballard and Em Plotkin of Groundworks Somerville to develop a workshop series for the Summer Green Team.
- We aimed for these workshops to focus on identifying priorities for our streets, learning about what design tools we can use, evaluating a street slated for reconstruction, and then developing street redesign proposals.
- We facilitated a similar series of workshops in Summer 2024 focusing on Western Pearl Street.
- We had also worked with members of the Green Team in spring of 2025 to gather feedback on the Western Pearl Street conceptual design options.
- The summer 2025 series builds on what we learned from these previous workshops.

# General Summer Youth Engagement

- Today, you'll hear from Groundworks Somerville Green Team members about their experience.
- In addition to our work with Groundworks Somerville this summer, we also held street design and community engagement planning focused workshops for the following Mayor's Summer Jobs Programs:
  - Climate Cohort
  - Racial and Social Justice Cohort
- Our main goals in this effort are to expand youth voice in our transportation planning efforts and to learn and better align our work with what's important to young adults in our community.
- In many of our planning processes, we do not see a lot of youth input, so we are working to create more spaces for youth engagement in ways that work for them.