

Pedestrian & Transit Advisory Committee

City Hall, 93 Highland Ave, Somerville, MA

02143

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www.somervillema.gov/ptac

September 2025 Meeting Agenda

Somerville Pedestrian & Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC)

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne

Meeting Information

Thursday, September 18, 2025, 6:30-8:00 PM

This meeting will be hybrid:

- In-person meeting location: 101 South Street, Somerville, MA 02143.
 - Enter through the door on the far-left side of the building, next to Windsor Street.
- Zoom info to join remotely via computers, tablets, and smartphones:
 - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89181225932?pwd=aWpoL2FtaUh3aGdVbHNRWUJmeDRNQT0
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 - Passcode: 152274
 - Or join by phone:
 - Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
 - o US: +1 646 558 8656
 - Webinar ID: 891 8122 5932
 - o Passcode: 152274
 - o International numbers available: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcVy69ROJG

Members

- 1. Ted Alexander
- 2. Ginny Alverson
- 3. Caroline Bodager
- 4. Meredith Brown
- 5. Laura Evans
- 6. Christopher Ferry
- 7. Preston Gutelius
- 8. Satoko Hirai (Digital Comms. Officer)
- 9. Brenda Marvin (Secretary)
- 10. Steven Mulder

- 11. Barbara Myers
- 12. Bianca Norkunas
- 13. Vitor Pamplona (Vice Chair)
- 14. Zach Rosenberg
- 15. Alessandra Seiter (Chair)
- 16. Robert Stanzel
- 17. Carole Voulgaris
- 18. Mackenzie Webb
- 19. J.T. Scott (Ex Officio, City Councilor, Ward 2)
- 20. Justin Schreiber (Ex Officio, OSPCD Mobility)

21. Katherine White (Ex Officio, OSPCD Mobility)

Agenda

Procedural Business (10 Minutes)

- Roll call and guest introductions
- Vote on August draft minutes
- Announcements

Subcommittee Updates (10 Minutes)

- Community Events
- Design Review
- Special Projects

MBTA Presentation on Automated Bus Lane Enforcement (25 Minutes)

- Alex Hallowell, Director of Transit Priority at the MBTA, will present on the MBTA's preparations for automated bus lane and bus stop enforcement.
- The MBTA has been working on this in earnest since January 2025, when a statewide law was
 passed allowing the MBTA, regional transit authorities (RTAs), and municipalities to use cameras to
 enforce parking in bus stops and bus lanes. The law still does not allow for automated enforcement
 of moving vehicles.
- For details before our meeting, review the <u>slide deck</u> and <u>recorded presentation</u> given to the MBTA Board of Directors in April 2025.

Discussion on Long-Term Considerations for Bus Route 90 (40 Minutes)

- On June 15, the MBTA launched service changes to bus route 90 in East Somerville. The changes re-routed the 90 from Broadway, Cross St, and Tufts St onto Washington St. That same day, PTAC sent a letter to the MBTA advocating that the 90 be restored to Cross St and Broadway in the next schedule update, ensuring critical service for East Somerville families by the 2025-26 school years. There was also an outpouring of support for route restoration from community members beyond PTAC, including current students. In July, we were thrilled to learn that the 90 would be restored to Cross St and Broadway in time for fall school reopening. This route restoration has since happened.
- However, challenges with bus route 90 remain including frequency concerns, operational
 difficulties on Cross St, and alignment with the MBTA's ongoing <u>Bus Network Redesign</u> project.
 There will need to be long-term solutions to these challenges to ensure the sustainability of bus
 service in the areas currently served by the 90.
- At this PTAC meeting, Mobility staff will describe these challenges, potential solutions, and trade-offs to frame a discussion among committee members.

Other Business (5 Minutes)

Public comment.

Online Meeting Addendum

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025 by the Massachusetts State Legislature, this Somerville PTAC meeting will be conducted in part via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audio-video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website.