

Join the Inaugural Climate Action Commission

Are you passionate about working locally to address the climate crisis, strengthening community resiliency, and advancing climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts in Somerville? The Somerville Climate Action Commission (CAC) is actively seeking up to 13 new members. We invite all eligible residents or Somerville-based business owners or ~~operators~~ those who do business in Somerville to ~~consider applying~~ apply.

What is the Climate Action Commission?

The CAC is the re-envisioned version of the longstanding Somerville Commission ~~on~~ for Energy Use and Climate Change ~~(CEUCC)~~, a standing resident commission since 2001.

The CAC's function is to work with the city to (1) Address both the climate and environmental crises through community and local government operations toward the ultimate goals of creating a healthier, safer, thriving, equitable, resilient community, advancing environmental justice, adapting to climate change, and reversing the climate and environmental crises. (2) Advise the mayor and municipal staff. (3) Mobilize Somerville residents and stakeholders by educating the public, sharing information, and conducting outreach and engagement advocates for the residents of Somerville and City Staff in order to improve the safety, effectiveness, sustainability, and equitability of the pedestrian and public transit experience. -which will help the City continue to implement, Somerville's climate action plan.

Commissioners will advise city staff on its climate action plans, engage the public, give voice to community concerns and opportunities, and advance projects that complement the City's Climate Forward priorities and actions. This is a unique opportunity to shape the CAC as it relaunches!

Who can join?

The CAC is seeking to fill up to 13 positions with the following make up:

- Two members designated **youth representatives** as required by the ordinance. One shall be between the ages of 15 and 17 and the other between the ages of 18 and 25 at the time of appointment.
- At least two members who **reside in each zip code** in Somerville (02143, 02144, 02145). There is a further desire to have at least one member who resides or owns a business in each ward.
- At least one member who is **age 65 or older** at the time of appointment.
- At least two members who **rent their residences**.
- At least two **homeowners**.

- At least one member who **owns or does business** in Somerville, as required by the ordinance, and who may reside outside the city.
- Individuals with some **working knowledge, strong interest and/or experience** in one or more of the following areas that are core to the work of the CAC:
 - Public ~~e~~Outreach~~outreach~~ and ~~e~~Engagement~~engagement~~
 - ~~E~~equity
 - ~~B~~uildings
 - ~~E~~energy
 - ~~N~~atural ~~R~~esources
 - ~~W~~aste
 - ~~T~~ransportation / ~~M~~obility
 - ~~C~~ommunity ~~H~~health
 - ~~R~~esiliency
 - ~~Municipal A~~nd School Operations~~municipal and school operations~~
 - ~~S~~ocial ~~R~~esilience
 - ~~S~~tate ~~C~~limate ~~P~~olicy
 - ~~P~~ublic ~~F~~inance
 - ~~C~~leantech
 - Somerville ~~Community~~Community-Based ~~Organizations~~ ~~Or Advocacy~~
Groups~~organizations or advocacy groups~~
 - ~~Workforce d~~evelopment~~workforce development~~

What is the time commitment?

The Interim CAC meets virtually or in-person/hybrid monthly, usually on the second Tuesday of the month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. In addition to monthly meetings, CAC members participate in occasional sub-committee activities and ~~participate in~~ public outreach and engagement events. This is a volunteer position. CAC members are confirmed by the City Council.

Commissioners ordinarily serve a term of three years. In this inaugural period, however, some members will serve terms of one year or two years to ensure there are overlapping terms across the CAC.

How do I apply?

To apply, send us a message sharing why you are interested in joining the CAC. You can send your message to Kate Crowley, Environmental Policy Manager, by Wednesday, by 5 p.m.

- **Email** your application to kcrowley@somervillema.gov with the subject line “Commission Application”

OR

- **Mail** your paper application to 50 Evergreen Ave, Somerville, MA 02145 ATTN: Sustainability and Environment, Commission Application

When is the application deadline?

Wednesday, [REDACTED] by 5 p.m.

Questions?

If you have questions or would like more information, contact Kate Crowley via email at kcrowley@somervillema.gov or by phone at 857-270-4608.