

TRANSIT

Action

**Make this
a priority
(Place dot
here to
vote)**

**Write in YOUR
organizations
name if want to
be involved**

**Who else should
be involved**

**Questions/
comments or
other related
ideas**

Collaborate with stores and neighbor cities on an affordable grocery delivery service and shuttle to grocery stores.

Establish a ride-share volunteer program.

Investigate, and if indicated, eliminate MBTA restrictions on bags.

Request training for MBTA drivers for accommodating people with groceries.

Offer a subsidized grocery caddy to assist those walking to access food.

Add bike racks at food retailers and pantries to promote active transit to food assets

AWARENESS of RESOURCES

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Develop graphic, multilingual, educational bulletin boards in food stores, libraries, laundromats, schools, and community & youth centers about food assets.

Host coalesced information online to increase reach of existing resources and discourage duplication; continue to seek alternative resource-sharing methods.

Identify and incentivize community champions or community health workers to promote food resources and help inform and design interventions and policies to improve equitable food access.

Develop a community-wide communication platform to connect consumers to a variety of food resources.

Increase enrollment of SNAP and WIC among those who are eligible.

CULTURAL RELEVANCE & INCLUSION Action	Make this a priority (Place dot here to vote)	Write in YOUR organizations name if want to be involved	Who else should be involved	Questions/ comments or other related ideas
Translate key information into more languages such as Mandarin and Arabic.				
Engage community champions in designing and implementing any related interventions listed from the food system assessment.				
Use an equity lens when considering future food policies and aim for inclusive stakeholder engagement.				

FOOD for SCHOOL-AGED YOUTH Action	Make this a priority (Place dot here to vote)	Write in YOUR organizations name if want to be involved	Who else should be involved	Questions/ comments or other related ideas
Address school nutrition program participation rates – specifically for summer meals, breakfast, and lunch at the high school – collaboration between out-of-school food providers.				
Develop programming that addresses out of school time nourishment specifically during vacations, weekends, snow days, summer and after school.				
Connect more children to out of school programming and work with these programs to provide healthy meals.				
Research feasibility for Somerville to implement a Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) funded Supper Program.				
Explore feasibility to host share tables at schools in Somerville.				
Strengthen partnership with Prospect Hill Academy Charter School to create more wrap around services as it relates to out of school time food access.				

FOOD & NUTRITION EDUCATION

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Continue to embed Farm to School programming into school curriculum.

Advocate for Farm to School funding where gaps remain and capacity is needed.

FOOD RETAIL

Action	Make this a priority (Place dot here to vote)	Write in YOUR organizations name if want to be involved	Who else should be involved	Questions/ comments or other related ideas
Model a healthy neighborhood market initiative after successful examples in other communities; partner with the City's Economic Development staff to pilot a low-risk initiative for market owners and operators.				
Support zoning amendments that allow neighborhood markets to exist in neighborhoods across Somerville.				
Incentivize and provide stores with technical assistance to accept WIC and SNAP, and advocate for continued funding for such programming.				
Introduce price signage at point of selection in neighborhood markets.				

FOOD RETAIL

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Market Somerville as a food destination and expand Union Square Main Streets/ Arts Council-style food tours to Winter Hill and East Somerville neighborhoods.				
Consider food or cooking cooperatives and group procurement options.				
Offer language services at local food retailers.				
Encourage more retailers to offer a senior discount.				

FOOD RECOVERY & WASTE Action	Make this a priority (Place dot here to vote)	Write in YOUR organizations name if want to be involved	Who else should be involved	Questions/ comments or other related ideas
Develop an informational guide for businesses on how to donate or compost food through the lenses of community benefit and trash removal cost savings.				
Incentivize food recovery and transparency of food recovery data through City of Somerville.				
Check in with stores more frequently, perhaps including an annual event to facilitate relationships and reward grocery stores for good donation practices.				
Disseminate information to people in a multitude of store positions, so practices are implemented at all levels and are not dependent on managers alone.				

FOOD RECOVERY & WASTE Action	Make this a priority (Place dot here to vote)	Write in YOUR organizations name if want to be involved	Who else should be involved	Questions/ comments or other related ideas
Provide Somerville-area stores with a clear, simple, area-specific infographic for guidelines, resources, and data that can be posted near food donations. Emphasize local/community connections, need, and availability of services.				
Develop an emergency response plan for Somerville pantries for climate change impacts (i.e. superstorms, electrical outages) and food shortages.				
Set up more cold storage in sites across the City to store fresh food that emergency and supplemental food providers can use.				

<p>URBAN AG, COMMUNITY & HOME GARDENS</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>Make this a priority (Place dot here to vote)</p>	<p>Write in YOUR organizations name if want to be involved</p>	<p>Who else should be involved</p>	<p>Questions/ comments or other related ideas</p>
<p>Formalize community gardens access process and track their use.</p>				
<p>Use an equity approach when considering community gardens waitlist.</p>				
<p>Consider opportunities and incentives for increasing backyard gardening, such as landlord engagement and discounted raised beds and rain barrels.</p>				
<p>Incorporate discussions about soil safety when addressing urban agriculture opportunities.</p>				
<p>Support efforts to support a wider range of urban agriculture practices, from window boxes to rooftop farms and beyond.</p>				

FOOD JOBS & FOOD SERVICE WORKERS

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Develop and improve relationships with food retailers to improve outreach to food service workers.

Encourage improved employer practices like back-of-house profit/tip-sharing models.

Provide workforce training programs and workers' rights workshops.

Join advocacy efforts to work towards increasing the minimum wage.

Utilize opportunities to share stories as it relates to food workers' experience with food access and security.

FOOD JOBS & FOOD SERVICE WORKERS Action	Make this a priority (Place dot here to vote)	Write in YOUR organizations name if want to be involved	Who else should be involved	Questions/ comments or other related ideas
Explore night-time childcare solutions for late shift workers.				
Increase education and awareness of transportation options for late night/early morning shift workers, including business paying for transit for workers required to leave after T shut down.				
Support Person in Charge (PIC) food safety training programs for food service workers in order to improve communication gaps between ISD and the food establishment, reduce or eliminate language barriers around food safety issues, reduce communication burdens, and reduce re-inspection rates.				
Find funding and space for a community kitchen for nutrition education and community meals.				

PERMITS

Action

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Questions/ comments or other related ideas

Review the permitting and licensing process for permanent and temporary food permits.

Adopt 2013 food code.

Examine and publicize the resources and assets Somerville offers to make it easier to start food businesses.

Streamline the permitting process and outline it in a translated tool with clearly designated gatekeepers to promote food business growth.

Work with ISD to make it easier to give samples of cooked foods at events.

Encourage public distribution of multilingual forms at relevant events like Ignite.

POLICY

Action

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Encourage municipal planning processes to include food access in neighborhood and transit planning; identify current and upcoming opportunities to begin this intentional inclusion and point people.

Identify multi-sector, multisystem approaches for promoting tap water.

Consider opportunities for streamlining funding and administration of Farmers Market match programs.

Create models for healthy food and beverage policies to be enacted at municipal and organizational levels, and subsequently encourage their adoption.

Continue to align local food system goals with Massachusetts Food System Collaborative.

FUTURE RESEARCH PROJECTS Action	Make this a priority (Place dot here to vote)	Write in YOUR organizations name if want to be involved	Who else should be involved	Questions/ comments or other related ideas
Study best practices and regional feasibility for incentivizing business and institutions to reduce or divert wasted food.				
Create composite index for store availability and affordability and incorporate these indicators into a food access map.				
Measure Somerville's Food Swamp to Healthy Food Ratio.				
Activate all the food asset maps produced for this assessment.				
Better understand daily food access opportunities and gaps for youth and seniors through case studies.				

FUTURE RESEARCH PROJECTS Action	Make this a priority (Place dot here to vote)	Write in YOUR organizations name if want to be involved	Who else should be involved	Questions/ comments or other related ideas
Map Somerville’s Food and Nutrition Literacy resources.				
Engage in community dialogue about structural racism in the food system.				
Learn more about ‘just green enough” concept and see if applicable for “just food enough” per CUNY food policy institute.				
Host an online free public space where all locally produced food system related reports can be accessed.				