

Progress/history of community path greenways in Somerville and surrounding areas:

When the Red Line was built in a tunnel under an abandoned railroad from Davis Sq. to Alewife in the mid-1980's, some wanted to "give" the land above the tunnel to the adjacent landowners. Fortunately, residents fought for a public path and the Linear Path (connecting to the Minuteman Bikeway, the busiest rail-trail in the USA) was born (first photo), adding a beautiful and practical way to walk and bicycle to the Davis Square and Alewife red line stations. Large amounts of new housing was built along this path to take advantage of this amenity.



In the 1990s, the land above the continuation of this abandoned railroad (Central Mass Railroad) to the east was also converted to where the tracks remained at Cedar St.:

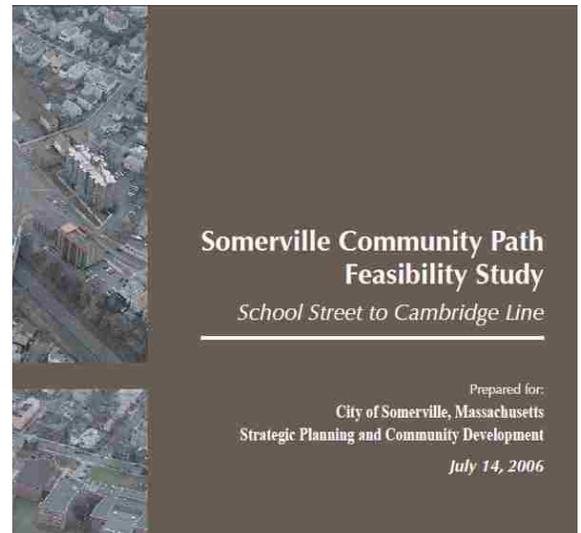


Around 2000, Lynn and Joel, who lived near the end of the Path at Cedar St., organized tours and clean-ups on the abandoned railroad right-of-way and got the City to do a Feasibility Study to extend the Community Path to Cambridge and Boston along the Lowell commuter rail line:



In the mid-2000's, the State finally agreed to build the Green Line extension along the Lowell line Commuter line and advocated convinced the State to require that: ***“The project will be coordinated with the Somerville Community Path project such that development of Phase 1 and future phases of the path will not be precluded, if at all possible, by the Green Line extension.”*** EOT's Expanded ENF 10/1/2006.

In 2006, another Feasibility Study was done and a new 199 housing development was proposed that promoted its location directly on the Community Path



In September 2008, a ¼ mile section of the Path through Somerville Junction Park was dedicated and in December 2008, the State released a conceptual plan of how the Community Path could be built along with the Green Line extension.



Somerville Community Path: Viability of Spur Extension from Lowell Street to Mystic Valley Parkway

Unfortunately, only about \$4.5 million of the necessary ~\$20 million to build the Community Path as part of the Green Line extension has been necessary and 10/16/09- the Draft EIR states that *“Construction of the Path is not intended to be part of the Green Line construction project”*.

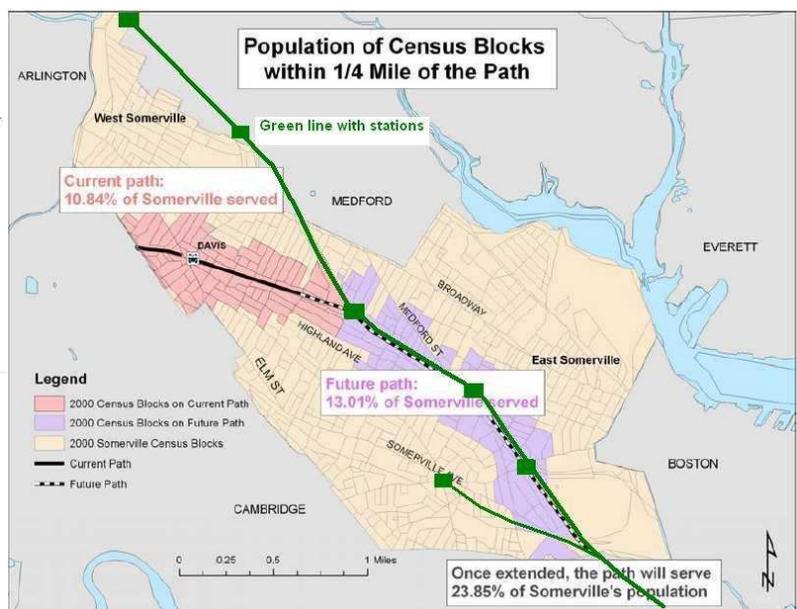
Green Line Extension Project

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Boston, Massachusetts

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The City, the DCR, the Friends of the Community Path, the Somerville Bicycle Committee, Shape-Up Somerville, STEP and other advocates are working to get people walking and bicycling and to get other connecting Paths along Alewife Brook and the Mystic River in Somerville constructed to connect with the Somerville Community Path/

