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## BACKGROUND

Located Northwest of Boston, Somerville was founded in 1842. As of 2010, it had a population of 75,754 which makes it the most densely populated municipality in New England. Union Square is the oldest and largest commercial area in Somerville, Massachusetts. It is located between the city of Cambridge and East Somerville.

The Green Line Extension is an initiative created by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. It is a Green line extension of the D and E lines that will be extending into the communities of Medford and Somerville. Together there will be roughly four miles of additional tracks and six to seven proposed new stops along the lines.

## QUICK FACTS

Total Population - 13,685; Non-White 3,489 (25.4%)

Walk Score - 88

Transit Score - 63

Moderate Air Quality - 59

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

Our group is conducting a plan evaluation of the Green Line Extension (GLX), Union Square Redevelopment Plan and Somervision. Additionally, we will be researching two other case studies of transit oriented development to determine their success and failures. Through our research we hope to understand what makes a transit oriented development successful and to address our ultimate research question...



**To what extent do the current plans and policies enable a sustainable transit oriented development for Union Square?**

We have identified that the goal similarities between plans are; promoting public transit, supporting smart growth & sustainable development, and increasing connectivity between cities. As well as determining what qualities make a transit oriented development a successful one. Through our conversations with advisors and extensive research, there are matters to be considered such as; impact of traffic flows, displacement of small businesses and shifting land value. Our group will analyze and present our findings from this past semester to the public in order to identify the best practices to establish a successful transit oriented development.