



New England

**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**  
**Office of Community Planning and Development**  
**Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Federal Building**  
**10 Causeway Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Boston, Massachusetts 02222-1092**  
**Telephone (617) 994-8357**  
**Fax (617) 565-5442**

Michael F. Glavin  
Executive Director  
Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development  
City of Somerville  
93 Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02143

FEB - 2 2017

Dear Mr. Glavin:

Subject: FY 2015 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report

HUD Boston has reviewed the City of Somerville (City) FY 2015 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the program year July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The 2015 CAPER has been conditionally approved. This approval is subject to the completion of the following three (3) conditions:

- 1 – The City continues working with Respond and Technical Assistance (TA) until the eCART reporting problems are resolved, working through the remaining eCART issues outside of the eCon Planning Suite;
- 2 – The City provides HUD Boston with a copy of the 2015 eCART report via email (at least), after all issues have been resolved and all data has been entered, verified, and certified as accurate; and
- 3 – The City ensures that the eCART problems are completely fixed, to make sure the same issue does not exist for next year's CAPER.

Based on the information provided, HUD Boston finds the CAPER to be consistent with the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan and One Year Action Plan for FY 2015. The narrative describes how the City is working to meet the goals identified in the plans as well as proposed versus actual outcome results. HUD Boston also finds the City to be within the 15% cap for public services and the 20% cap for planning and administration for the Community Development Block Grant Program.

As a result of this review, HUD Boston has determined the City has carried out its activities and certifications in a timely manner, consistent with the requirements and primary objective of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and with other applicable laws and program requirements. Pursuant to 24 CFR 570.905, HUD Boston finds the City has the continuing capacity to carry out its activities in a timely manner based on the information provided in the City's CAPER.

HUD Boston's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) also reviewed the City's CAPER and provided the following:

"Reviewer Comments:

The City of Somerville, MA (City) ... is a recipient of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding from HUD. The CAPER includes a short section nominally discussing its Analysis of Impediments.

The City notes that its action steps are divided into near, medium, and long terms, and that the implementation of some action steps will move into longer term categories while being implemented. Action steps are not specifically described.

Their near term goals are to focus on building the capacity of the Fair Housing Commission in terms of personnel, educational materials, and financial resources. No indication of progress is given.

The City notes that it is in the midst of planning for 2017 submission of its Assessment of Fair Housing and re-analyzing the impediments that it had previously identified. The City refers the reviewer to the Housing Division for a complete copy of the implementation plan.

Due to a lack of specificity regarding the actions taken, their administrative nature and relative passivity, and the lack of detail as to what actions are forthcoming, FHEO expresses concern that it is unable to evaluate fair housing from the CAPER as submitted. However, because the City is required to submit an AFH in 2017, it would be counterproductive to require resubmission of the CAPER on these grounds."

Please remember that a copy of this letter must accompany all copies of the City's CAPER. If you have any questions, or if HUD Boston can be of assistance, please contact your CPD Representative, William Hodgdon, at 617-994-8354 or [William.m.hodgdon@hud.gov](mailto:William.m.hodgdon@hud.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Shumeyko", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Shumeyko  
Director