Welcome
Policy Update
FY24 Budget

- Governor’s Budget: January/March*
- Ways & Means Hearings: March
- House Budget: April
- Senate Budget: May
- Conference Committee: June
- Governor’s Desk: July 1

we are here
FY24 Budget

Senate Budget Quick Summary:

★ $25M for Mass Cultural Council (0640-0300)

★ $2.2M for Mass Office of Tourism and Travel (7008-0900)

★ $12M for Local Econ Development Projects (7008-1116)
  ○ Many earmarks for arts and cultural organizations

★ $6.6M for Chapter 70, local school aid
FY24 Budget

Mass Cultural Council Budget comparison
★ Governor’s Budget: $25,000,000
★ House Budget: $25,895,000
  ○ $25M for grants and agency operations
  ○ $895K in earmarks for cultural organizations
★ Senate Budget: $25,000,000
FY24 Budget

Next Steps
1. Conference Committee negotiate differences
2. House and Senate vote on final version
3. Budget sent to Governor
4. Governor signs, vetoes or line item vetoes budget
   a. (if needed) Legislature votes to override governor’s vetoes
FY24 Tax Relief Package

Senate Committee on Revenue released their proposal
FY24 Tax Cuts Package

★ Senate plan: $590M
  ○ Child and dependent tax credit
    ■ Increase from $180 to $310 per dependent
  ○ Rent deduction
    ■ Increase from $3,000 to $4,000
  ○ Earned Income Tax Credit
    ■ Increase from 30 percent to 40 percent of federal credit
  ○ Does not include the Governor’s Theater Tax Credit
FY24 Tax Cuts Package (Comparison)

★ Governor’s plan: $742M, but will reach $987M over time
★ House plan: $587M, but will reach $1.1B over time
★ Senate plan: $590M, no change over time
FY24 Tax Cuts Package

Next Steps:
★ Senators can file amendments
  ○ Deadline Monday at 5pm
★ Debate on the amendments
  ○ Begins Thursday
★ Once Senate passes their version goes to Conference Cte
Creative Sector Legislative Agenda

★ Bills are assigned to committees
★ Committees are holding hearings
  ○ Hearings are a time to share your thoughts, your support or opposition to legislation
★ We are holding press conferences
  ○ Come join us!
Advocacy Update
Actions You Can Take Today

★ Sign on to our Senate Budget thank you letter
  ○ Deadline today at 5pm
★ Share your support for the Creative Sector Legislative agenda with your legislators:
  ○ Write your own note about one or more of the bills that you support
  ○ Use our email system to send them a pre populated note
  ○ Attend your legislators offices hours or community meetings
Special Guest: Annis Sengupta
Director of Arts and Culture
Metropolitan Area Planning Council
Policy Spotlight: Cultural Facilities

Somerville’s ONCE Lounge and Ballroom Announces Permanent Closure

Pending Sale of Dorchester Studios Awakens Fears of Artist Displacement

Atwood’s Tavern in Cambridge announces it will close its doors at the end of March
Cultural Facilities: Key Policy Challenges

- **Preserve** the spaces we have
- **Create** the spaces we need
- **Document** the spaces we have and need
- **Allow** the activities we want
Cultural Facilities: Preserve the Spaces we Have

- Development pressure is making it more difficult for spaces to operate.

- Cities and towns are limited in what they can do to address space loss and affordability.
Space Loss: Somerville Arts Space Study

Visualizing Exposure to Development Pressure

RED: most exposed
GREEN: least exposed

★ Arts spaces are vulnerable at lowest exposure to development pressure.

How do you preserve space?
Preservation Case Study:

- Subsidize rents.
- Acquire properties.
- Preserve arts uses in perpetuity.
- Bundle leases.
- Build capacity of arts organizations to own space.
Preservation Policy Idea: Creative Use Restriction

- Allow municipalities to preserve space for creative use through Mass General Law.
- Allow municipalities to create trust funds for creative use spaces.

Support H.3241 / S.530: An Act to preserve space for the creative economy
Cultural Facilities: Create the Spaces we Need

- **Municipal Plans** set the vision for how development will meet the needs and desires of residents.
- **Zoning** establishes land use rules to direct new development in alignment with the vision.
- **Development Review and Permitting** ensure the implementation of the vision.

**Action Alert**

Advocate for zoning that incentivizes development of new cultural facilities.
Cultural Facilities: Document Spaces we Have and Need

- Enables planners to identify where new development may impact existing spaces.

- Provides data to track and quantify space loss and need.

- Allows municipalities to analyze equity of access.

Cities need digital tools to track and map spaces by type of use.
Making Space for Art: Securing Cultural Infrastructure in Boston, Cambridge, Somerville

Cultural Infrastructure Baseline

- Interviews & Focus Groups with Cultural Space Stakeholders
- Interviews and Prototyping with Partners & Municipal Staff

Policy Framework and Action Plan

Digital Planning Platform Demo
Cultural Facilities: Making Space for Art Digital Tool
Cultural Facilities: Allow the activities we want

- **Rules** constrain when, where, and how arts & culture activities can happen.
- **Access to permission** is limited.
- **Enforcement** can be arbitrary.
- **Unintended** consequences can constrain arts & culture activities.
- **Example:** Noise Ordinances
Noise Ordinances

- **Arose** in the mid 20\(^{th}\) century to address health impacts of industrial and mechanical noises.
- **Expanded** to include sounds associated with music, gathering, and entertainment.
- **Artists report that noise ordinances are preventing artistic practice.**

Follow our work: *Making Space for Art: Securing Cultural Infrastructure in Boston, Cambridge & Somerville*
Cultural Facilities Policy Action Summary

✓ Support H.3241 / S.530: An Act to preserve space for the creative economy to give municipalities tools to preserve the spaces we have.

✓ Advocate for zoning that incentives creation of new arts and culture spaces.

✓ Follow the Making Space for Art project and share your experience and feedback.

https://www.mapc.org/resource-library/making-space-for-art/
$10 FOR 10 YEARS