

Statewide Planning e-News

Rhode Island's Electronic Planning Newsletter

the last 12 months

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-----June 2005 Issue 6-----

Welcome to this month's edition of the Statewide Planning e-Newsletter. Topics in this issue include **Technical** Committee Meeting, **State** Planning Council Meeting, **Transportation** Advisory Committee Meeting, **Draft** Transportation Improvement Program, **Rhode** Island Geographic Forum: GIS in City and Town Hall, **URI** Offers Training in Geographic Information Systems, **Save** these dates.

STATEWIDE PLANNING

Technical Committee Meeting: June 3 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tech/agenda.htm>

State Planning Council Meeting: June 9 at 9:00 a.m., Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/spc/agenda.htm>

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting: June 23 at 6:30 p.m., RI Department of Environmental Management, Room 300, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI. The agenda will be available 10 days prior to the meeting at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tac/agenda.htm>

Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FY 2006-2007 is available for public review. This TIP programs more than \$500 million of federal and state transportation funding to various projects and programs including highways, resurfacing, transit, bicycle paths, bridges, and others. Project proposals were submitted by cities and towns, state agencies, and others. Proposals were scored by several subcommittees of the Transportation Advisory Committee as well as the Transportation Enhancement Advisory Committee and Air Quality Transportation Subcommittee. The program is fiscally constrained and allocates resources to programs in similar proportions as in past years. Comments are now being accepted. Staff contact: Katherine Trapani 222-6479. <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tip/web.pdf>

Rhode Island Geographic Forum: GIS in City and Town Hall; What Worked and What Didn't. Monday, June 20 1:00p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Cranston City Hall, 869 Park Avenue, Cranston RI. Most cities and towns in Rhode Island have either entered the GIS arena or are in the process of doing so. While some municipalities are using the technology to good advantage, others are struggling with implementation and justifying to town management the initial expense and need for continued funding. This forum session will give you the opportunity to hear how six towns are putting GIS to work. Following the presentations, the panel will field questions in an open discussion session on "what worked and what didn't". Direct input from the audience will be strongly encouraged to augment the panel discussion. Contact the RI Geospatial Extension Specialist at URI – greg@edc.uri.edu (401) 874-2180 or the RIGIS Coordinator at RIDOA/DoIT – rigis@admin.ri.gov (401)222-6483. No pre-registration is required.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

URI Offers Training in Geographic Information Systems. Introduction to ArcGIS June 14 – 16, 2005. This hands-on computer course provides an introduction to the capabilities and functionality of ESRI's ArcView GIS software. Taught by authorized ESRI instructors, we teach the fundamentals of working with GIS data, discuss the hardware and software issues, and use the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) database.

All students receive hands-on software instruction in ArcMap, ArcCatalog, and ArcToolbox, a copy of ESRI's training materials with exercises and training data, and a copy of exercises developed using the RIGIS database. Upon successful completion of the course students receive a Certificate of Course Completion.

Registration for the course is \$750.00 and pre-registration is required. To register, contact Alyson McCann at (401) 874-5398 or see on-line at www.edc.uri.edu/gistraining

RHODE ISLAND APA

Save the date June 12 RIAPA Clambake – Narragansett. Contact Michael DeLuca at 780-3136.

-----May 2005 Issue 5-----

Welcome to the May edition of the Statewide Planning e-Newsletter. Topics in this issue include **Technical** Committee Meeting, **State** Planning Council Meeting, **Transportation** Advisory Committee Meeting, **Education** from the census, **Digital** Aerial Photography from Statewide Planning, **The** Office of Training and Development, **URI** Offers Training in Geographic Information Systems, **Water** quality workshops, **Best** Practices in Affordable

Housing Design, **Save** these dates, **RI Drinking Water Week** May 2 – 6, **Smart Growth Implementation Assistance**, **American Wetlands Month**.

STATEWIDE PLANNING

Technical Committee Meeting: May 6 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tech/agenda.htm>

State Planning Council Meeting: May 12 at 9:00 a.m., Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/spc/agenda.htm>

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting: May 26 at 6:30 p.m., RI Department of Environmental Management, Room 300, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI. The agenda will be available 10 days prior to the meeting at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tac/agenda.htm>

Education from the census. New information from the U.S. Census Bureau reinforces the values of a college education. Workers 18 and older with a bachelor's degree earn an average of \$51,206 a year, while those with a high school diploma earn \$27,915. Workers with an advanced degree make an average of \$74,602, and those without a high school diploma average \$18,734.

According to new data released by the Census Bureau titled "Educational Attainment in the United States: 2004", 85 percent of persons 25 years of age and older reported they had completed high school. Rhode Island ranks 45th among the states in its ratio (81.1%) of high school graduates, a standing well below that of its New England neighbors. New Hampshire and Vermont each had high school graduate rates of 90.8 percent. Connecticut's rate was 88.8%, Maine recorded a rate of 87.1%, and Massachusetts was rated at 86.9%.

Rhode Island fairs better in its proportion of residents with a bachelor's degree. Ranked 19th among the states, data reveals that 27.2 percent of Rhode Islanders 25 years and older hold a bachelors degree. Four of the neighboring New England states recorded higher ratios; Massachusetts: 36.7%, New Hampshire: 35.4%, Connecticut: 34.5%, and Vermont: 34.2%. With 24.2% of its population 25 and older having earned a bachelor's degree, Maine's ranking of 39th was the lowest of all six New England states.

The data was collected in the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS). As in all surveys, the CPS data are subject to sampling variability and other sources of error. For further information on the source of the data and accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors and confidence intervals, go to Appendix G of <http://www.census.gov/apsd/techdoc/cps/cpsmar04.pdf>

Digital Aerial Photography from Statewide Planning. The Statewide Planning Program has always maintained a full collection of aerial photography and over the years has made this resource available to the public. This invaluable collection of photographic prints dates from 1939 to 1992. In the past, this resource was only available through actual on site visits to the state Department of Administration and the contracting out for copying and printing of the photos through private printing companies. Although this service is still available, more and more companies, organizations and individuals are taking advantage of accessing this information from their home or office over the Internet through the World Wide Web.

In the year 2000 Statewide Planning initiated a project to scan the collection of aerial photography into a digital form for preservation and future use. As the digitizing year groups of the photographs were completed, they were contributed to the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) and stored on state government computers and at the University of Rhode Island. In addition, the RIGIS through capabilities of the Environmental Data Center at the University began making the resource available "on line" over the Internet. Over the past few years the number of photographs and year groups available have increased to over 5000 photographic images.

To access the collection historic aerial photography over the Internet: go to www.edc.uri.edu and Click on 'Rhode Island GIS Data' under 'Geographic Information Systems'. You will need to fill out a license agreement the first time you use the system.

OFFICE OF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Office of Training and Development is partnering with the Institute for Labor Studies to co-sponsor a number of courses for state employees, some for incentive credit, and for others who wish to attend. For registration forms and other information go to the OTD web site at <http://www.olis.state.ri.us/otd.htm> for full information. Be sure to check the web site for additional courses and updates.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

URI Offers Training in Geographic Information Systems. Introduction to ArcGIS June 14 – 16, 2005. This hands-on computer course provides an introduction to the capabilities and functionality of ESRI's ArcView GIS software. Taught by authorized ESRI instructors, we teach the fundamentals of working with GIS data, discuss the hardware and software issues, and use the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) database.

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Registration for the course is \$750.00 and pre-registration is required. To register, contact Alyson McCann at (401) 874-5398 or see on-line at www.edc.uri.edu/gistraining

Water quality workshops. The University of Rhode Island is sponsoring a series of water quality workshops throughout the state in May. See the information below for specific workshops, times and dates and subjects. For additional information, contact Lisa DeProspero Philo, URI Cooperative Extension for at: 401.874.5687 or LPHILO@MAIL.URI

May 2nd (7:00-8:30pm): *How Changing Land Use Affects Water Quality*, Cumberland Library. The Cumberland Land Trust invites you to attend the first of two unique workshops presented by URI Cooperative Extension, in partnership with the RI HEALTH Office of Drinking Water Quality. Learn how changing land use increases the risk of water contamination, and hear what the assessment results of Cumberland's source waters mean for your community. (See May 16th for information on the second workshop).

May 4th (6:30-8:00pm): *How Local Actions Can Protect Water Quality*, Charlestown Town Hall. The Charlestown Conservation Commission invites you to attend the second of two unique workshops presented by URI Cooperative Extension, in partnership with the RI HEALTH Office of Drinking Water Quality. This workshop addresses the priorities and concerns raised in the first workshop (held in April), as it emphasizes current zoning and land use practices that can control development impacts.

May 16th (7:00-8:30pm): *How Local Actions Can Protect Water Quality*, Cumberland Library. The Cumberland Land Trust invites you to attend the second of two unique workshops presented by URI Cooperative Extension, in partnership with the RI HEALTH Office of Drinking Water Quality. This workshop addresses the priorities and concerns raised in the first workshop (May 2nd), as it emphasizes current zoning and land use practices that can control development impacts.

GROW SMART RI

Best Practices in Affordable Housing Design May 5 or May 12, or May 17. Elizabeth Debs has put together a terrific session on best design practices for affordable housing and community development. As municipal officials and citizens work together to develop affordable housing plans for their communities, one of the questions frequently asked is how to ensure that housing will complement rather than detract from individual community character. You're invited to attend this workshop to discuss housing design with national experts from the HUD Design Advisor Program, Rhode Island architects and community development corporations and RISD faculty. Registration deadline is April 29th (i.e., this Friday.). The Grow Smart web site at <http://www.growsmartri.com/training.html> has all the information including a full brochure, registration form, and directions to workshop sites.

RHODE ISLAND APA

Save these dates for upcoming meetings.

May 20 Lunch and afternoon program - The new RI State Land Use Plan. Contact Blanche Higgins at 222-2079
.....June 12 RIAPA Clambake – Narragansett. Contact Michael DeLuca at 780-3136.

RHODE ISLAND DRINKING WATER COMMITTEE

RI Drinking Water Week May 2 - 6. Interested 2nd and 3rd grade students in Johnston, North Providence, Providence, Cranston and Scituate are invited on May 3rd to the P.J. Holton (Providence Water) Purification Plant in Scituate. The National Theater for Children will perform a water/conservation play. *Plus:* special performances by various characters, plus interactive exhibits and handouts on drinking water and water conservation. Attendance is limited and a limited amount of funds are available for transportation reimbursement to schools. Deadline for submitting applications for selection and transportation reimbursement is April 15th. Contact the Drinking Water Week Coordinators at 949-1480 for more information.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Smart Growth Implementation Assistance. EPA is offering an opportunity to apply for free technical assistance that will help communities apply smart growth principles to a real challenge in your community. The Development, Community and Environment Division in U.S. EPA's Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation is seeking applications from communities that want to develop in ways that meet environmental and other community goals. A team of multidisciplinary experts will provide technical assistance to communities that are selected. The deadline for applications is 5 p.m., DST, Thursday, May 19, 2005. See http://www.epa.gov/dced/sg_implementation.htm

American Wetlands Month. EPA will join others across the nation to celebrate American Wetlands Month in May, for the 15th year, with events highlighting the importance of protecting wetlands. The theme for the celebration is "It Pays to Save Wetlands" and focuses on the many economic values of wetlands, such as flood control and improving water quality. The calendar of nationwide events can be found at <http://www.iwla.org/sos/awm/events> and <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/awm/>

Welcome to the April edition of the Statewide Planning e-Newsletter. Topics in this issue include **Technical Committee Meeting**, **State Planning Council Meeting**, **Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting**, **Highway Functional Classification Technical Paper**, **FY 03-05 Transportation Improvement Program**, **FY 06-07 Transportation Improvement Program**, **Recertification Review of the MPO**, **CPLA Spring 2005 Lecture**, **URI Offers Training in Geographic Information Systems**, **RI Drinking Water Week May 2 – 6**, **20th Annual Statewide Historic Preservation Conference**, **2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series**.

STATEWIDE PLANNING

Technical Committee Meeting: April 1 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI
<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tech/agenda.htm>

State Planning Council Meeting: April 14 at 9:00 a.m., Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.
<http://www.planning.ri.gov/spc/agenda.htm>

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting: April 28 at 6:30 p.m., East Greenwich Town Hall, 125 main Street, East Greenwich. The agenda will be available 10 days prior to the meeting at
<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tac/agenda.htm>

Highway Functional Classification Technical Paper has been posted on the website. This contains the report, individual maps for all the cities and towns, and listings of roads for all the cities and towns. Please visit
<http://www.planning.ri.gov/transportation/155/index.htm>

FY 03-05 Transportation Improvement Program: Amendment #12 (Transit Program) was approved by the State Planning Council in February and can be found at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tip/finalAmend12.pdf>

FY 06-07 Transportation Improvement Program: Four regional subcommittees, the Rail Subcommittee, Bike/Ped Subcommittee, and the Air Quality / Transportation Subcommittee are busy evaluating 133 proposals received for the FY 06-07 TIP.

Additionally, the Transportation Enhancements Advisory Committee (TEAC) is evaluating over 100 proposals. A schedule of the subcommittee meetings is maintained on the website.

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tip/tip0607/subcom.pdf> . The subcommittees (with the exception of the TEAC) will be presenting their reports at the April TAC meeting.

Recertification Review of the MPO. Staff is preparing for the triennial review by Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration. This is a review to determine whether our transportation planning program meets federal standards. The review involves 3 major parts. 1) a review of documents, procedures and agreements, 2) a public hearing at the March TAC meeting, and 3) an all day session with federal agencies and others on April 13. Comments are being sought from cities and towns as well as other state agencies and members of the public. Please see the notice for more details on how you can submit comments.

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tip/publicnotice.pdf>

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

CPLA Spring 2005 Lecture: free and open to the public. Lectures begin at 7:00 p.m. and are held in the Weaver Auditorium on the Kingston Campus of URI.

April 28 "International Practice and International Practitioners". Carol R. Johnson Founder, Carol R. Johnson and Associates, Boston, MA. Carol Johnson is one of the most influential landscape architects of her generation.

This series is co-sponsored by the College of the Environment and Life Sciences. General questions about the series may be directed to 874-2249 or to wagre@uri.edu.

URI Offers Training in Geographic Information Systems. Introduction to ArcGIS. June 14 – 16, 2005. This hands-on computer course provides an introduction to the capabilities and functionality of ESRI's ArcView GIS software. Taught by authorized ESRI instructors, we teach the fundamentals of working with GIS data, discuss the hardware and software issues, and use the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) database.

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RHODE ISLAND DRINKING WATER COMMITTEE

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RI HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

20th Annual Statewide Historic Preservation Conference will be in Newport on Saturday, April 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The conference theme is "Preserving Historic Houses of Worship." There will be 25 different walking tours; discussion panels; lectures; and workshops, as well as presentation of the 2005 State Preservation Awards. Registration costs \$35 (includes coffee, lunch, and reception). For more information, call 732-6335 or visit www.preservation.ri.gov

RHODE ISLAND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series on Rhode Island's Fauna, Flora, Geology, and Ecosystems...All lectures are held at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments served at 7:00 p.m. and RINHS publications will be available for sale.

Art, Aesthetics, and Environmental Activism. April 7, 2005, Alex Frost, Director, Science Editors Company. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute URI Kingston Campus.

For more information call the RINHS office at (401) 874-5800, or email info@rinhs.org, or see <http://www.uri.edu/ce/rinhs/index.htm>

-----March 2005 Issue 3-----

Welcome to the March edition of the Statewide Planning e-Newsletter. Topics in this issue include **Technical Committee Meeting**, **State Planning Council Meeting**, **Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting**, **FY 03-05 TIP**, **FY 06-07 TIP**, **MPO Recertification**, **Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) Program**, **CPLA Spring 2005 Lecture**, **Introduction to ArcGIS**, **Navigating Software Options for Internet Mapping Services (IMS)**, **20th Annual Statewide Historic Preservation Conference**, **2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series**, **2nd Annual Land and Water Conservation Summit**.

STATEWIDE PLANNING

Technical Committee Meeting: March 4 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI
<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tech/agenda.htm>

State Planning Council Meeting: March 10 at 9:00 a.m., Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.
<http://www.planning.ri.gov/spc/agenda.htm>

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting: March 24 at 6:30 p.m., RI Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) 269 Melrose Street, Providence. The agenda will be available 10 days prior to the meeting at
<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tac/agenda.htm>

Rhode Island Forest Resources Management Plan. The State Planning Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed draft Forest Resources Management Plan on March 2, 2005 at 2:00 PM in Room 300 of the R.I. Department of Environmental Management Building, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, Rhode Island at which time and place all persons interested will be heard. Copies of the draft plan are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the Statewide Planning Program, One Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor, Providence, Rhode Island, and at the DEM Division of Forest Environment, 1037 Hartford Pike, Scituate, Rhode Island. Copies may also be viewed at the Statewide Planning's website as a PDF file at
<http://www.planning.ri.gov/forestplan/frmp/text.pdf>

FY 03-05 TIP.

Amendment #10, <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tip/10.pdf>, modifying funding in the Administrative Program and Amendment #11, <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tip/11.pdf>, adding the fields Point Dock to the Enhancement Program were approved by federal agencies.

Amendment #12, <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tip/finalAmend12.pdf>, modifying the Federal Transit Program was approved by State Planning Council.

Amendment #13 Highway Program, see website, public hearing will be held as part of the March 24th Transportation Advisory Committee meeting

FY 06-07 TIP received over 130 project and resurfacing proposals. Staff is currently processing applications. Subcommittee scoring process will follow in March.

MPO Recertification. Federal regulations require that at least once every three years the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration jointly certify that Rhode Island's transportation planning process complies with those regulations.

The review consists of a documentary review called a desk audit and a meeting with transportation planning staff. The Federal review team is also required to solicit input from the general public and local elected officials during the course of the review. The Federal team would especially like to hear the public's input on how well they are involved in the process, if they are given the information that they need to become involved, whether the way in which they can get involved is clearly explained, and whether they feel their input is considered and addressed by

the State Planning Council, MPO for the State of Rhode Island.

The public is invited to submit comments, in person or in writing, related to the transportation planning process and public outreach activities associated with the Long Range Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Unified Planning Work Program, the Highway Functional Classification, and other relevant activities of the MPO. Please click on <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tip/publicnotice.pdf> for details on how to submit comments

After all parts of the review are complete, the Federal team will issue a report that contains the certification decision as well as observations and suggestions for strengthening the process. The report will be shared with those submitting comments should they so desire.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Katherine Trapani by phone at 222.6479 or by email at katherinet@mail.state.ri.us

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) Program. The Department of Environmental Management is pleased to inform all non-profit organizations and municipal and tribal leaders in Rhode Island of the TBA Program. This Program is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administered through the Department's Office of Waste Management.

The purpose of the TBA program is to provide environmental site assessments of Brownfields to determine the actual extent and severity of contamination, if any is present. The Department is strongly encouraging municipalities, non-profit organizations (particularly those partnered with municipalities) and Indian tribes interested in the redevelopment of Brownfields within their jurisdiction to apply for the TBA. The costs of these TBAs are fully paid for by DEM through EPA funding. It is important to note, however, that this program is strictly for site investigations only and does not fund any remediation, if required. The Department would also like to make clear that this program is targeted specifically at government, tribal, and non-profit organizations that are not considered Responsible Parties relative to the contaminated property.

For additional information regarding Brownfields please visit the DEM website at <http://www.state.ri.us/DEM/brownfields/default.htm>. A TBA application can be downloaded from the website for your use or we can send one to you upon request. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ms. Kelly Owens by telephone at (401) 222-2797 extension 7108 or by e-mail at kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

CPLA Spring 2005 Lecture: free and open to the public. Lectures begin at 7:00 p.m. and are held in the Weaver Auditorium on the Kingston Campus of URI.

March 3 "Playgrounds and the Central Artery, What Do They Have in Common?". John Copley, ASLA and Lynn Wolff, ASLA Principals, Copley-Wolff Design Group, Boston, MA. This Boston landscape architecture firm has achieved considerable notoriety for their work on urban streets, plazas, parks and schoolyards.

March 24 "The Construction of Landscapes". Niall Kirkwood, Harvard University, Landscape Architect, Professor and award winning author.

April 28 "International Practice and International Practitioners". Carol R. Johnson Founder, Carol R. Johnson and Associates, Boston, MA. Carol Johnson is one of the most influential landscape architects of her generation.

This series is co-sponsored by the College of the Environment and Life Sciences. General questions about the series may be directed to 874-2249 or to wagre@uri.edu.

Introduction to ArcGIS. This hands-on computer course provides an introduction to the capabilities and functionality of ESRI's ArcView GIS software. Taught by authorized ESRI instructors, we teach the fundamentals of working with GIS data, discuss the hardware and software issues, and use the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) database.

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The course will be held March 14 – 16, 2005. Registration is \$750.00 and pre-registration is required. To register, contact Alyson McCann at (401) 874-5398 or see on-line at www.edc.uri.edu/gistraining

Navigating Software Options for Internet Mapping Services (IMS) free workshop is being offered March 18, 2005 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute at Kingston, University of Rhode Island. This free workshop is designed to introduce you to the myriad of IMS software offerings currently available on the market. Solutions range from basic interactive maps that are automatically assembled for you, to greatly customizable software. You should leave this workshop with a good sense for the capabilities, ease of use, and cost of various IMS software packages. IMS software options to be reviewed during this workshop include: alta4's HTML ImageMapper; ESRI's ArcIMS; ImageMap; and other free extensions for ESRI's ArcView 3.x and ArcGIS 9.0, Manifold IMS, and MapServer. See <http://geospatial.uri.edu> for an updated list of software to be featured.

This event is free and open to the public. The workshop assumes you have basic knowledge of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software and techniques. Pre-registration is required as seating is limited! For more information and to register for this event, please visit <http://geospatial.uri.edu> or contact Greg Bonyne, Geospatial Extension Specialist by phone at (401) 874-2180 or by email at greg@edc.uri.edu.

This RIGIS-sponsored workshop is being offered by the University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension's new Geospatial Extension Program, in partnership with University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension's Geospatial Technology Program and The Providence Plan.

RI HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

20th Annual Statewide Historic Preservation Conference will be in Newport on Saturday, April 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The conference theme is "Preserving Historic Houses of Worship." There will be 24 different walking tours; discussion panels; lectures; and workshops, as well as presentation of the 2005 State Preservation Awards. For more information on Preservation Award nominations see the above article. For more information on the conference please visit www.preservation.ri.gov

RHODE ISLAND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

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Art, Aesthetics, and Environmental Activism. April 7, 2005, Alex Frost, Director, Science Editors Company. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute URI Kingston Campus.

For more information call the RINHS office at (401) 874-5800, or email info@rinhs.org, or see <http://www.uri.edu/ce/rinhs/index.htm>

THE RHODE ISLAND RIVERS COUNCIL, RHODE ISLAND LAND TRUST COUNCIL, RHODE ISLAND ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION COMMISSIONS

2nd Annual Land and Water Conservation Summit. Saturday, March 12, 2005; Memorial student Building, URI Kingston Campus, South Kingstown; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration fee is \$25.00 before March 1 or \$40.00 after March 1. For Information, contact Rupert Friday at RFriday@tnc.org or at (401) 331-7110, x39 or Meg Kerr, RI Rivers Council 714-2313

-----February 2005 Issue 2-----

Welcome to the February edition of the Statewide Planning e-Newsletter. Topics in this issue include **Technical Committee Meeting**, **State Planning Council Meeting**, **Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting**, **FY 06-07 TIP, 06-07 Enhancement project proposals**, **RIGIS strategic plan**, **CPLA Spring 2005 Lecture**, **Training in Geographic Information Systems: Introduction to ArcGIS**, **Traffic Calming: a two-part interactive web seminar**, **Two water related workshops**, **Call for nominations: 2005 state historic preservation awards**, **20th Annual Statewide Historic Preservation Conference**, **2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series**, **Holiday Party 2005 and APA Awards Presentation**, **2nd Annual Land and Water Conservation Summit**, **WTS-URITC Student Career Night**, **Affordable Housing Reader**.

STATEWIDE PLANNING

Technical Committee Meeting: February 4 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI
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State Planning Council Meeting: February 10 at 9:00 a.m., Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.
<http://www.planning.ri.gov/spc/agenda.htm>

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting: February 24 at 6:30 p.m., Blackstone Valley Visitor Center, 175 Main St., Pawtucket. The agenda will be available 10 days prior to the meeting at
<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tac/agenda.htm>

FY 06-07 TIP Regional Public Hearings will be: Tuesday, February 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cumberland Public Library, 1464 Diamond Hill Road, Cumberland; Wednesday, February 2 at 1:00 p.m. at the North Kingstown Free Library, 100 Boone Street, North Kingstown; Friday, February 4 at 1:00 p.m. at the Rhode Island Department of Administration, Conference Room A, second floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence. ALL TIP PROPOSALS (EXCEPT ENHANCEMENTS) **MUST BE PRESENTED AT A PUBLIC HEARING.**

Remember that 8 copies of the TIP application forms are due February 4 at 4 pm at the Statewide Planning office.

If you used the Excel file to prepare your applications, you may e-mail that to Walter Slocomb at wslocomb@doa.state.ri.us. Throughout the month of February, Transportation staff will be reviewing applications for completeness, logging project proposals into a database, and reviewing proposals for consistency with the State Guide Plan.

For more information on the TIP, please see Statewide Planning website at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tip/tip0607/web.pdf> or contact Katherine Trapani at 222-6479 or katherineinet@mail.state.ri.us

06-07 Enhancement project proposals also have a submission deadline of February 4, 2005 (to Tom Queenan at

RIDOT by 4:30 p.m.). For information see the RIDOT website at <http://www.dot.state.ri.us/WebTran/enhancement.htm>.

RIGIS strategic plan to guide RIGIS in the future was accepted by the Executive Committee at their December meeting. The full plan will be accessible on the RIGIS web site in the near future.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

CPLA Spring 2005 Lecture: free and open to the public. Lectures begin at 7:00 P.M. and are held in the Weaver Auditorium on the Kingston Campus of URI.

February 10 "Mud on the Street? - Controlling Water Quality During Construction". Terri Hahn, ASLA Principal, LADA PC, Simsbury, CT, environmental planner and landscape architect. Ms. Hahn is recognized for her creative erosion control and water quality planning and design.

March 3 "Playgrounds and the Central Artery, What Do They Have in Common?". John Copley, ASLA and Lynn Wolff, ASLA Principals, Copley-Wolff Design Group, Boston, MA. This Boston landscape architecture firm has achieved considerable notoriety for their work on urban streets, plazas, parks and schoolyards.

March 24 "The Construction of Landscapes". Niall Kirkwood, Harvard University, Landscape Architect, Professor and award winning author.

April 28 "International Practice and International Practitioners". Carol R. Johnson Founder, Carol R. Johnson and Associates, Boston, MA. Carol Johnson is one of the most influential landscape architects of her generation.

This series is co-sponsored by the College of the Environment and Life Sciences. General questions about the series may be directed to 874-2249 or to wagre@uri.edu.

Training in Geographic Information Systems: Introduction to ArcGIS, March 14 – 16, 2005. This hands-on computer course provides an introduction to the capabilities and functionality of ESRI's ArcView GIS software. Taught by authorized ESRI instructors, we teach the fundamentals of working with GIS data, discuss the hardware and software issues, and use the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) database.

All students receive hands-on software instruction in ArcMap, ArcCatalog, and ArcToolbox, a copy of ESRI's training materials with exercises and training data, and a copy of exercises developed using the RIGIS database. Upon successful completion of the course students receive a Certificate of Course Completion.

Registration for the course is \$750.00 and pre-registration is required. To register, contact Alyson McCann at (401) 874-5398 or see on-line at www.edc.uri.edu/gistraining

Traffic Calming: a two-part interactive web seminar is being offered by the RI Technology Transfer Center. The first session is Tuesday February 8th; the second session is Tuesday February 15th. Both sessions of this American Society of Civil Engineer seminar will be held from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. at the RIDOT Maintenance Facility, 2ND floor, 360 Lincoln Avenue, Warwick. There is no cost to attend, but the number of participants is limited. To register, contact Jeff Cathcart by phone (401) 874-9405; by email Cathcart@etal.uri.edu; or by fax (401) 874-2297. Include your name, municipality, city/town, phone, fax and email.

For information on the seminar please visit: <http://www.asce.org/files/pdf/conted/TrafficCalmingFeb05.pdf>.

For a listing and description of other ASCE web seminars please visit

http://www.asce.org/conted/distancelearning/online_webseminars.cfm#Traffic

Two water related workshops are being offered by the Cooperative Extension at the Coventry Planning & Development Offices, 1670 Flat River Road, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Linking Land Use to Water Quality, February 2nd

Building Drinking Water Protection into Town Ordinances, February 16th

For further information and to register, contact Lisa Philo at 874-5687

RI HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

Call for nominations: 2005 state historic preservation awards. Each year, the RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission presents State Historic Preservation Awards to honor individuals, organizations, and projects for their outstanding contributions to the preservation of our state's historic resources. The Commission is seeking nominations for the 2005 Awards, which will be presented at the Statewide Historic Preservation Conference on Saturday, April 23 in Newport. The nomination deadline is February 14, 2004. For an awards nomination form, please visit the Commission's website at www.preservation.ri.gov/conference/index.html or contact Sarah Zurier at 222-4142, szurier@preservation.ri.gov

20th Annual Statewide Historic Preservation Conference will be in Newport on Saturday, April 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The conference theme is "Preserving Historic Houses of Worship." There will be 24 different walking tours; discussion panels; lectures; and workshops, as well as presentation of the 2005 State Preservation Awards. For more information on Preservation Award nominations see the above article. For more information on the conference please visit www.preservation.ri.gov

RHODE ISLAND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series on Rhode Island's Fauna, Flora, Geology, and Ecosystems...All lectures are held at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments served at 7:00 p.m. and RINHS publications will be available for sale.

Early Successional Habitats--Thickets, Shrublands, and Old Fields: Management and Their Role in Wildlife Diversity. February 3, 2005, Brian Tefft, Principal Wildlife Biologist, RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute, URI Kingston Campus.

Art, Aesthetics, and Environmental Activism. April 7, 2005, Alex Frost, Director, Science Editors Company. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute URI Kingston Campus.

For more information call the RINHS office at (401) 874-5800, or email info@rinhs.org, or see <http://www.uri.edu/ce/rinhs/index.htm>

RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION

Holiday Party 2005 and APA Awards Presentation. February 17, 6:00 p.m. at The Hotel Providence, 311 Westminster Street (downtown), Providence. Registration and buffet dinner is \$30.00, please reserve by February 11. Make checks payable to RIAPA, PO Box 14752, East Providence, RI 02914. APA contact Blanche Higgins at bhiggins@planning.state.ri.us or at 401.222.2079.

THE RHODE ISLAND RIVERS COUNCIL, RHODE ISLAND LAND TRUST COUNCIL, RHODE ISLAND ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION COMMISSIONS

2nd Annual Land and Water Conservation Summit. Saturday, March 12, 2005; Memorial student Building, URI Kingston Campus, South Kingstown; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration fee is \$25.00 before March 1 or \$40.00 after March 1. For Information, contact Rupert Friday at RFriday@tnc.org or at (401) 331-7110, x39 or Meg Kerr, RI Rivers Council 714-2313

WOMEN'S TRANSPORTATION SEMINAR

WTS-URITC Student Career Night: Tuesday, February 15, 5:30 - 8:00 PM Memorial Union, University of Rhode Island. Call Pam Sherrill, Pare Engineering, 401 334-4100 for further information. Hear speakers from various transportation careers explain what they do, what they look for when they hire. Students invited from undergraduate and graduate engineering, planning and related programs from colleges and universities throughout Rhode Island

AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION

Affordable Housing Reader "supertopic" information access is now available from one web page. APA has assembled more than 100 documents and articles from APA publications that examine the affordable housing problem in the U.S. and identify and evaluate various solutions. These articles appear in this Affordable Housing Reader, which is accessible to all visitors to the APA website at <http://www.planning.org/affordablereader/>.

-----January 2005 Issue 1-----

Welcome to the January edition of the Statewide Planning e-Newsletter. Topics in this issue include **Technical Committee Meeting**, **State Planning Council Meeting**, **Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting**, **FY 06-07 TIP, 06-07 Enhancement** project proposals, The **American Community Survey 2003**, 2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series, **Training** in Geographic Information Systems: Introduction to ArcGIS 1, **Housing** and Community Development course offering, 2nd Annual Land and Water Conservation **Summit**, **WTS Dinner**, **WTS-URITC Student Career Night**.

STATEWIDE PLANNING

Technical Committee Meeting: January 7 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tech/agenda.htm>

State Planning Council Meeting: January 13 at 9:00 a.m., Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/spc/agenda.htm>

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting: January 27 at 6:30 p.m., Room 300 in the Department of Environmental Management, 235 Promenade St, Providence, RI. The agenda will be available 10 days prior to the meeting at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tac/agenda.htm>

06-07 TIP Regional Public Hearings will be in January and February; all TIP proposals (except enhancements) must be presented at one of these public hearings. The dates for the hearings are: Monday, January 31 at 1:00 p.m. at the Middletown Public Library, 700 West Main Road, Middletown; Tuesday, February 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cumberland Public Library, 1464 Diamond Hill Road, Cumberland; Wednesday, February 2 at 1:00 p.m. at the North Kingstown Free Library, 100 Boone Street, North Kingstown; Friday, February 4 at 1:00 p.m. at the Rhode Island Department of Administration, Conference Room A, second floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence. City and town governments, if they decide to submit proposals, shall hold a local public hearing on projects they intend to submit for the TIP, after public notice in accordance with local procedures, and prior to the proposal submission deadline of 4:00 p.m. on February 4, 2005. Applications with local hearing dates after February 4, 2005 will not be accepted. For more information on how to submit a project proposal, please see Statewide Planning website at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tip/tip0607/web.pdf>. For more information please contact Katherine Trapani at 222-6479

or katherineinet@mail.state.ri.us

06-07 Enhancement project proposals also have a submission deadline of February 4, 2005 (to Tom Queenan at RIDOT by 4:30 p.m. Transportation Enhancements are non-traditional transportation improvements with links to the intermodal transportation system. Enhancements serve to integrate a transportation facility into the surrounding community and natural environment. For information on enhancements, application guidelines and application forms see the RIDOT website at <http://www.dot.state.ri.us/WebTran/enhancement.htm>.

The American Community Survey 2003 data have been tabulated for all fifty states and the District of Columbia. The resulting state profiles reveal that Rhode Island ranks 45th in the percentage of occupied housing units that are owner-occupied. Only the States of Alaska, Nevada, California, Hawaii, and New York, and the District of Columbia ranked lower. The ACS profiles also reveal that Rhode Island renters pay higher median monthly rent, \$686 (ranked 19th), than 32 other states.

Higher rents may be tied to Rhode Islands' higher than average median household income, \$48,854 (ranked 13th), and lower than average poverty rate, 11.3% (ranked 27th). Indicative of Rhode Island's income ranking may be its higher than average percentage of residents who hold college degrees. Tied with California, Rhode Island ranks 13th in the percentage of people with a Bachelor's Degree (29.1%).

The American Community Survey is conducted annually by the U.S. Census Bureau. For current or historical data contact Mark Brown at Statewide Planning at 222-6183 or at mbrown@planning.state.ri.us.

RHODE ISLAND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series on Rhode Island's Fauna, Flora, Geology, and Ecosystems...All lectures are held at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments served at 7:00 p.m. and RINHS publications will be available for sale.

Early Successional Habitats--Thickets, Shrublands, and Old Fields: Management and Their Role in Wildlife Diversity. February 3, 2005, Brian Tefft, Principal Wildlife Biologist, RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute, URI Kingston Campus

Art, Aesthetics, and Environmental Activism. April 7, 2005, Alex Frost, Director, Science Editors Company. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute URI Kingston Campus

For more information call the RINHS office at (401) 874-5800, or email info@rinhs.org, or see <http://www.uri.edu/ce/rinhs/index.htm>

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Training in Geographic Information Systems: Introduction to ArcGIS 1. This hands-on computer course provides an introduction to the capabilities and functionality of ESRI's ArcView GIS software. Taught by authorized ESRI instructors teaching the fundamentals of working with GIS data, discuss the hardware and software issues for working with ArcView, and use the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) database.

All students receive hands-on software instruction in ArcMap, ArcCatalog, and ArcToolbox, a copy of ESRI's training materials with exercises and training data, and a copy of exercises developed using the RIGIS database. Upon successful completion of the course students receive a Certificate of Course Completion.

Courses scheduled for: January 10–12, 2005, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. and March 14–16, 2005 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Registration for the course is \$750.00 and pre-registration is required. To register, contact Alyson McCann at (401) 874-5398 or see on-line at www.edc.uri.edu/gistraining

Housing and Community Development course offering: CPL 591 Special Problems in Planning (3 cr), \$295. City planning as applied to urban policy in cities and metropolitan areas. Includes social, economic and physical planning in the context of community development programs and management process. Thursdays, 5:00 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. at the URI Feinstein Providence Campus starting January 20, 2005. Call (401) 277-5200 for information and registration.

The Rhode Island Rivers Council, Rhode Island Land Trust Council, Rhode Island Association of Conservation Commissions

2nd Annual Land and Water Conservation Summit. Saturday, March 12, 2005; Memorial student Building, URI Kingston Campus, South Kingstown; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For Information, Contact: Rupert Friday, RI Land Trust Council 331-7110 ext. 39 or Meg Kerr, RI Rivers Council 714-2313

WOMEN'S TRANSPORTATION SEMINAR

WTS Dinner, Tuesday January 18, 2005 at the Gatehouse Restaurant, Four Richmond Square, Providence, RI. Registration at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Featured speaker: Ms. Laurie Cullen, Senior Vice President for Planning and Environment, T. F. Green Airport. WTS members \$40, non-members \$45, students \$15. RSVP by January 13 to Christine Ann Palmer, Christinep@crossmaneng.com fax (401) 738-8157. Call Pam Sherrill at (401) 334-4100 or Mona Manachi at (401) 222-2468 x4290 for information.

WTS-URITC Student Career Night: Tuesday, February 15, 5:30 - 8:00 PM Memorial Union, University of Rhode Island. Call Pam Sherrill, Pare Engineering, 401 334-4100 for further information. Hear speakers from various

transportation careers explain what they do, what they look for when they hire. Students invited from undergraduate and graduate engineering, planning and related programs from colleges and universities throughout Rhode Island

-----December 2004 Issue 12-----

Welcome to the December edition of the Statewide Planning e-Newsletter. Topics in this issue include **Technical Committee Meeting**, **State Planning Council Meeting**, **Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting**, **FY 06-07 TIP**, **Local affordable housing plans**, **DEM's Office of Water Resources** has announced the availability of four grants, **2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series**, **Community Planning and Landscape Architecture Lectures 2004-2005**, **Training in Geographic Information Systems: Introduction to ArcGIS 1**, **Housing** and Community Development course offering, **The Rivers Council's Clean Water Act workshop**.

STATEWIDE PLANNING

Technical Committee Meeting: December 3 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tech/agenda.htm>

State Planning Council Meeting: December 9 at 9:00 a.m., Conference room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/spc/agenda.htm>

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting: No December meeting scheduled.

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tac/agenda.htm>

FY 06-07 TIP Upcoming Regional Workshops on Thursday December 2 at the Marriott Hotel, 25 Americas Cup Avenue, Newport, RI from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00p.m. and Wednesday December 8 at the Holiday Inn, 3009 Tower Hill Rd, South Kingstown from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. They are combined TIP and Enhancement workshops. Although a 4-hour time slot has been reserved, the first two workshops have run for about 3 hours. Therefore, if you are attending only the Enhancement portion of the workshop, plan to arrive at 2:15 pm. For more information on how to submit a project proposal, please see Statewide Planning website at <http://www.planning.ri.gov>

Local affordable housing plans. The 29 communities with less than 10 percent "affordable" housing stock have until December 31st to submit a plan to meet the goal within a reasonable period under the revisions to the Rhode Island's low- and moderate-income housing law and comprehensive planning act, as revised earlier this year. See the [Statewide Planning](#) home page for Affordable housing planning tools and information.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

DEM's Office of Water Resources has announced the availability of four grants:

- 1) Nonpoint source management
- 2) Wetland protection and restoration
- 3) Bay watershed action; and
- 4) Marine pumpout facility

More information on the above-mentioned grants may be obtained on DEM's website:

www.state.ri.us/dem/programs/benviron/water/finance/non/index.htm.

The deadline for submitting grant applications is December 10, 2004.

RHODE ISLAND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series on Rhode Island's Fauna, Flora, Geology, and Ecosystems...All lectures are held at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments served at 7:00 p.m. and RINHS publications will be available for sale.

Early Successional Habitats--Thickets, Shrublands, and Old Fields: Management and Their Role in Wildlife Diversity. February 3, 2005, Brian Tefft, Principal Wildlife Biologist, RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute, URI Kingston Campus

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For more information call the RINHS office at (401) 874-5800, or email info@rinhs.org, or see <http://www.uri.edu/ce/rinhs/index.htm>

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Community Planning and Landscape Architecture Lectures 2004-2005. Lectures begin at 7:00 p.m. and are held in the Weaver Auditorium on the Kingston Campus of URI. This series is co-sponsored by the College of the Environment and Life Sciences. All lectures are free and open to the public. General questions about the series may be directed to 874-2249 or to William A. Green, ASLA Associate Professor, wagre@uri.edu

Design Build Practice-- The Best Of Both Worlds? December 2, Michael Coutu, ASLA, President, Sudbury Design Group, Sudbury, MA. This award-winning firm has been integrating design and implementation services in New England for more than 25 years.

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RIVERS COUNCIL AND WATERSHED COUNCILS

The Rivers Council's Clean Water Act workshop has been rescheduled to December 2, 2004 from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Please note the change from the previous date (Nov. 4) to this new date! The workshop will be held at the Warwick Waste Treatment Facility.

This workshop is the next in the series of Rivers Council hosted discussions of fishable and swimmable waters in Rhode Island. The Fishable/Swimmable goal comes from the Clean Water Act, which also provides tools to achieve the goal. This workshop will provide attendees with an overview of this powerful act, with specific information on the water quality standards program and the discharge permitting program. Our speakers will point out how citizen participation is (and always has been) a critical feature of the Clean Water Act and will discuss how watershed councils can become stronger partners in the work towards fishable and swimmable RI Rivers.

Contact Meg Kerr at megkerr@cox.net, or at 714-2313 for registration information, agenda, or directions.

WOMEN'S TRANSPORTATION SEMINAR

WTS Dinner, Tuesday January 18, 2005 at the Gatehouse Restaurant, Four Richmond Square, Providence, RI. Registration at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Featured speaker: Ms. Laurie Cullen, Senior Vice President for Planning and Environment, T. F. Green Airport. WTS members \$40, non-members \$45, students \$15. RSVP by January 13 to Christine Ann Palmer, Christinep@crossmaneng.com fax (401) 738-8157. Call Pam Sherrill at (401) 334-4100 or Mona Manachi at (401) 222-2468 x4290 for information.

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-----November 2004 Issue 11-----

Welcome to the November edition of the Statewide Planning e-Newsletter. Topics in this issue include **Technical** Committee Meeting, **State** Planning Council Meeting, **Transportation** Advisory Committee Meeting, **The** Transportation Improvement Program process, **Two** new Technical Papers, **Inclusionary** Zoning Handbook, **Proposed Regulations**, **DEM's** Office of Water Resources has announced the availability of four grants, **2004-2005** Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series, **Community** Planning and Landscape Architecture Lectures 2004-2005, **Introduction** to ArcGIS 1, **The Rivers Council's** Clean Water Act workshop, **Environmental** Education Grants.

STATEWIDE PLANNING

Technical Committee Meeting: November 5 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI
<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tech/agenda.htm>

State Planning Council Meeting: Cancelled

The next meeting is scheduled for December 9. <http://www.planning.ri.gov/spc/agenda.htm>

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting: November 18 at 6:30 p.m. Providence Foundation, 30 Exchange St, Providence, RI. <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tac/agenda.htm>

The Transportation Improvement Program process for FY 2006-2007 is getting underway. Currently four workshops are scheduled: November 10, November 16, December 2 and December 8, and these will be combined with RIDOT's Enhancement workshops. A TIP package, including a project solicitation letter, public workshop announcement, and application forms has been sent to the cities and towns. Please be advised that the November 10 workshop is at the Blackstone Valley Visitor Center - not Bryant College. We apologize for any confusion. If

you have any questions please call Katherine Trapani, Supervising Planner at 222.6479. For up to date information and application material please link to the TIP section of the Statewide Planning web site

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tip/TIPprojects.pdf>

Two new Technical Papers are available on the Statewide Planning web home page at <http://www.planning.ri.gov>.

Technical Paper 154, *Rhode Island Population Projects by Age, Sex and Race 2000 – 2030*, presents projections for the state, counties, cities and towns for future dates.

Technical Paper 156, *EDA Public Works in Rhode Island, 1996 – 2000*, presents the results of nine EDA-funded projects listed in the Rhode Island OEDP or CEDS.

Copies of either Technical Paper may also be made available as an electronic file.

Inclusionary Zoning Handbook is available on the Statewide Planning web home page at

<http://www.planning.ri.gov>. This handbook was developed to provide Rhode Island communities with a set of guidelines for the drafting of inclusionary zoning provisions in order to promote affordable housing in the State. It is intended to assist municipalities in developing actions for compliance with the Comprehensive Housing Production and Rehabilitation Act of 2004 (R.I. Gen. Law 42-128.8.1).

Proposed Regulations Governing the Awarding and Administration of Funds for Housing and Development by State Departments, Agencies, Boards and Commissions are on the Statewide Planning web home page at <http://www.planning.ri.gov>.

A hearing is scheduled for November 30 at 2:00 p.m. Training Room B on the Ground floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

DEM's Office of Water Resources has announced the availability of four grants:

- 1) Nonpoint source management
- 2) Wetland protection and restoration
- 3) Bay watershed action; and
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More information on the above-mentioned grants may be obtained on DEM's website:

www.state.ri.us/dem/programs/benviron/water/finance/non/index.htm.

The deadline for submitting grant applications is December 10, 2004.

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The Future of New England's Forests: Climate Change, Land-use History, Acid Rain, and Mining. November 4, Steven Hamburg, Littleton Associate Professor of Environmental Studies and Associate Professor of Biology and Research Director of the Global Environment Program at the Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University. Location: 115 MacMillan Hall (tentative) Brown University, Providence, RI

Early Successional Habitats--Thickets, Shrublands, and Old Fields: Management and Their Role in Wildlife Diversity. February 3, 2005, Brian Tefft, Principal Wildlife Biologist, RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute, URI Kingston Campus

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

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Chasing the Computer Revolution. November 18, Lolly Tai, PhD, FASLA, Chair, Temple University Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture. Ms Tai is an award winning landscape architect who has focused her attention on technology and practice, design and communication.

Design Build Practice-- The Best Of Both Worlds? December 2, Michael Coutu, ASLA, President, Sudbury Design Group, Sudbury, MA. This award-winning firm has been integrating design and implementation services in New England for more than 25 years.

Introduction to ArcGIS 1 This hands-on computer course provides an introduction to the capabilities and functionality of ESRI's ArcView GIS software. Taught by authorized ESRI instructors, we teach the fundamentals of working with GIS data, discuss the hardware and software issues for working with ArcView, and use the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) database.

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This workshop is the next in the series of Rivers Council hosted discussions of fishable and swimmable waters in Rhode Island. The Fishable/Swimmable goal comes from the Clean Water Act, which also provides tools to achieve the goal. This workshop will provide attendees with an overview of this powerful act, with specific information on the water quality standards program and the discharge permitting program. Our speakers will point out how citizen participation is (and always has been) a critical feature of the Clean Water Act and will discuss how watershed councils can become stronger partners in the work towards fishable and swimmable RI Rivers.

Contact Meg Kerr at megkerr@cox.net, or at 714-2313 for registration information, agenda, or directions.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Environmental Education Grants. EPA's Office of Environmental Education grant program supports environmental education projects that enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to make informed decisions that affect environmental quality. The deadline for applying for a 2005 grant is November 15, 2004. Please visit <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grantsols.html> for more information.

EPA awards grants each year based on funding appropriated by Congress. Annual funding for the program ranges between \$2 and \$3 million. More than 75 percent of the grants awarded by this program receive less than \$15,000.

Applicants must represent one of the following types of organizations to be eligible for an environmental education grant: local education agency; state education or environmental agency; college or university; not-for-profit organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; noncommercial educational broadcasting entity; tribal education agency (which includes schools and community colleges controlled by an Indian tribe, band, or nation). Contact John Ungvarsky, USEPA, Region 9, 415-972-3963 for further information.

-----October 2004 Issue 10-----

Welcome to the October edition of the Statewide Planning e-Newsletter. Topics in this issue include **Technical Committee Meeting**, **State Planning Council Meeting**, **Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting**, **The Transportation Improvement Program process and schedule for 2006-2007**, **2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series**, **2004 New England Planning Expo**, **NEARC 2004 Annual Conference**, **ITS-RI Annual Meeting**, **R.I. Coastal and Estuary Habitat Restoration Program and Trust Fund**, **National Land Trust Rally**, **Guided bus tour of the Route 403/construction site**, **Environmental Education Grants**, **Editors Note**

STATEWIDE PLANNING

Technical Committee Meeting October 8 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tech/agenda.htm>

State Planning Council Meeting October 14 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the second floor William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/spc/agenda.htm>

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting October 28 at 6:30 p.m. East Greenwich town Hall, 125 Main St., East Greenwich, RI. <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tac/agenda.htm>

The Transportation Improvement Program process and schedule for FY 2006-2007 is getting underway. Transportation and chief municipal officials should be on the lookout for a TIP package in mid to late October. Currently four workshops are being scheduled: Nov. 10, Nov. 16, Dec 2 and Dec 8 and these will be combined with the Enhancement workshops. There will be one major mailing for the TIP process including a project solicitation letter, public workshop announcement and public hearing announcement. If you have any questions please call Katherine Tarpani, Supervising Planner at 222.6479. For up to date information and application material please link to the TIP section of the Statewide Planning web site www.planning.ri.gov

RHODE ISLAND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series on Rhode Island's Fauna, Flora, Geology, and Ecosystems...All lectures are held at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments served at 7:00 p.m. and RINHS publications will be available for sale.

The Future of New England's Forests: Climate Change, Land-use History, Acid Rain, and Mining. Speaker: Steven Hamburg, Littleton Associate Professor of Environmental Studies and Associate Professor of Biology and Research Director of the Global Environment Program at the Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University. Date: Thursday, November 4. Location: 115 MacMillan Hall (tentative) Brown University, Providence, RI

Early Successional Habitats--Thickets, Shrublands, and Old Fields: Management and Their Role in Wildlife Diversity. Speaker: Brian Tefft, Principal Wildlife Biologist, RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife. Date: Thursday, February 3, 2005. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute, URI Kingston Campus

Art, Aesthetics, and Environmental Activism Speaker: Alex Frost, Director, Science Editors Company. Date: Thursday, April 7, 2005. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute URI Kingston Campus

For more information call the RINHS office at (401) 874-5800, or email info@rinhs.org, or see <http://www.uri.edu/ce/rinhs/index.htm>

RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION

2004 New England Planning Expo, September 30 and October 1, Springfield Marriott, Springfield Massachusetts. Conference information and registration form is available on the web at

<http://www.riapa.org/conference/2004%20Planning%20Expo%20Flyer.pdf>.

The APA Rhode Island Chapter will formally announce awards to the following individuals and organizations at the annual RIAPA Chapter business meeting: *Sheila Brush, Gerald F. Quinn, RI Statewide Planning Program, City of East Providence, John I. Howell, Jr., URI Department of Community Planning & Landscape Architecture, and Rachel Lauter.* At the RIAPA Chapter mid-Winter dinner the award recipients will be presented with an engraved plaque recognizing their contributions to RIAPA and the State of Rhode Island. For full award information see the RI APA web site at <http://www.riapa.org/>

For more information, on the Expo please contact: Katie Stebbins: 413-787-6525; kgalluzzo@springfieldcityhall.com

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

NEARC 2004 Annual Conference, October 14 through 16, Providence Biltmore, Providence, Rhode Island, hosted by Statewide Planning. Conference registration must be received by October 8. If you should have questions or need additional information, please contact John O'Brien jobrien@planning.state.ri.us at the Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program at 401-222-5772 or Tim Brennan tbrennan@pvpc.org or Jean Ball jball@pvpc.org at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission at 413-781-6045.

INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SOCIETY OF RHODE ISLAND

ITS-RI Annual Meeting, October 21 at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick: The Intelligent Transportation Society of Rhode Island (ITS-RI) is hosting it's sixth annual meeting with the theme of "Keeping Rhode Island Safe and Secure". Speakers will include Senator Jack Reed, General Reginald Centracchio, Colonel Steven Pare of the RI State Police, Raymond LaBelle of E-911, Doug Brown of RIPTA, Bill Steincamp of RIAC and Howard Boksenbaum of RIDOA. For details and registration materials please see www.itsri.org. For more information contact John Colangelo jcolangelo@vhb.com and for vendor participation contact Michele Passarelli shellypass2002@aol.com

RI COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

R.I. Coastal and Estuary Habitat Restoration Program and Trust Fund pre-applications for consideration for funding under the state's Coastal and Estuary Habitat Restoration Program and Trust Fund (RIGL 46-23.1) are currently being received by the RI Coastal Resources Management Council.

Please see CRMC's website (www.crmc.ri.gov) for specific details in submitting an application to be considered for funding under the Trust Fund (\$250,000 for coastal and estuarine habitat restoration projects) and also for descriptions on projects that received funding in FY2003. Note that the pre-application deadline is October 15, 2004.

Please contact Megan Higgins at (401) 783-3370 or mhiggins@crmc.state.ri.us if you have any questions regarding this process.

LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

National Land Trust Rally October 28 - 31, Providence. The Rhode Island Land Trust Council encourages everyone interested in land use planning and conservation of open spaces, natural areas, and working farmland as well as everyone involved in managing non-profit organizations to attend this rally. There are workshops on all aspect of managing non-profit organizations and on all aspects of land protection.

This is an extraordinary opportunity to benefit from the nation's best workshops.

This premier four-day conference is the largest gathering of land conservation leaders in the country. Participate in more than 100 educational workshops and intensive daylong seminars on all aspects of land trust management and land protection.

The rally can help leaders from non-profit organizations to achieve their mission and goals. Conference tracts

include: biodiversity, connecting land and people, conservation finance, fundraising and outreach, public policy and partnerships, land use and conservation planning, numerous land protection issues, organizational management, wetlands, coasts and watersheds, working lands, research in land conservation, and preserving family lands. There is also a session for landowners who want to learn how to protect their property.

Information & Registration can be found on LTA's website www.lta.org.

WOMEN'S TRANSPORTATION SEMINAR

Guided bus tour of the Route 403/construction site of the Quonset Davisville Port and Commerce Park in North Kingstown on October 5. Meet at 8:00 AM at the RI Economic Development Corp. office at 30 Enterprise Drive, North Kingstown for coffee, pastries, and project introduction. The tour will be from 8:30 to 10:00 AM. Space on the bus is limited. The cost is \$15 for WTS members; \$20 for non-members. Please call Deb Poulos at Pare Engineering, (401) 334-4100 or dpoulos@parecorp.com to reserve your space. Please mail checks payable to WTS Boston to: Deb Poulos, Pare Engineering Corp., 8 Blackstone Valley Place, Lincoln RI 02865

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Environmental Education Grants. EPA's Office of Environmental Education grant program supports environmental education projects that enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to make informed decisions that affect environmental quality. The deadline for applying for a 2005 grant is November 15, 2004. Please visit <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grantsols.html> for more information.

EPA awards grants each year based on funding appropriated by Congress. Annual funding for the program ranges between \$2 and \$3 million. More than 75 percent of the grants awarded by this program receive less than \$15,000.

Applicants must represent one of the following types of organizations to be eligible for an environmental education grant: local education agency; state education or environmental agency; college or university; not-for-profit organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; noncommercial educational broadcasting entity; tribal education agency (which includes schools and community colleges controlled by an Indian tribe, band, or nation). Contact John Ungvarsky, USEPA, Region 9, 415-972-3963 for further information.

Editors Note Those of you with sharp eyes have noticed that there was no September, Issue 9 edition of this e-Newsletter. Neither you nor I slept through the month and missed the issue. The month and number format base has changed. The issues' month and number had been based on the month the issue came out; but it comes out at the end of the month and has forward-looking information. The month and number is now based on that forward month. In short, if you want to know what's happening in October, it will be in the October issue.

September 2004 Issue 9

A change in the base that generated the issue month and number resulted in the skipping of "September" and "Issue 9". No information has been skipped or lost. Information for a specific month can now be found in that month's issue and number.

August 2004 Issue 8

Welcome to the August edition of the Statewide Planning e-Newsletter. Topics in this issue include **Technical Committee Meeting**, **State Planning Council Meeting**, **Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting**, **Transportation 2025**, **Grant Writing Course**, **2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series**, **2004 New England Planning Expo**, **Regional Watershed Conference**, **NEARC 2004 Annual Conference**, **WTS Open Steering Committee Meeting**, **ITS-RI Annual Meeting**

STATEWIDE PLANNING

Technical Committee Meeting September 10 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tech/agenda.htm>

State Planning Council Meeting September 16 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the second floor William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/spc/agenda.htm>

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting September 23 at 6:30 p.m. AAA Southern New England, 110 Royal Little Drive, Providence, RI. <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tac/agenda.htm>

Transportation 2025 The State Planning Council approved Transportation 2025, Rhode Island's long range transportation plan, as well as the air quality conformity analysis. This approval comes after nearly a year of work by the Transportation Section staff and the Transportation Advisory Committee. The Plan, as approved by the Council, and including several revisions made as a result of the public review process, is posted at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/transportation/cover.pdf>. The Plan will be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. Following their approval, the document will undergo final formatting and publication.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Grant Writing Course for planners and other professionals. The University of Rhode Island Institute for Housing and Community Development will offer a course on grant writing for planners, nonprofit developers and service providers. Classes will be held at the URI Providence Campus on Wednesdays, 7:00-9:45 p.m., during fall semester beginning in September. The Institute is sponsored by the Rhode Island Office of Municipal Affairs and the URI Department of Community Planning. For a brochure or to register call 401-277-5200.

RHODE ISLAND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

2004-2005 Mark D. Gould Memorial Lecture Series on Rhode Island's Fauna, Flora, Geology, and Ecosystems...All lectures are held at 7:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Refreshments served at 7:00 p.m. and RINHS publications will be available for sale.

Preserving New England's Heritage, Stone by Stone (with a special emphasis on the ecological importance of stone walls). Date: Thursday, September 23. Speaker: Robert Thorson, Professor of Geology & Geophysics, University of Connecticut. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute, URI Kingston Campus. *The Annual Meeting of the RI Natural History Survey will be held at 5:30 p.m., prior to the lecture.*

The Future of New England's Forests: Climate Change, Land-use History, Acid Rain, and Mining. Speaker: Steven Hamburg, Littleton Associate Professor of Environmental Studies and Associate Professor of Biology and Research Director of the Global Environment Program at the Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University. Date: Thursday, November 4. Location: 115 MacMillan Hall (tentative) Brown University, Providence, RI

Early Successional Habitats--Thickets, Shrublands, and Old Fields: Management and Their Role in Wildlife Diversity. Speaker: Brian Tefft, Principal Wildlife Biologist, RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife. Date: Thursday, February 3, 2005. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute, URI Kingston Campus

Art, Aesthetics, and Environmental Activism Speaker: Alex Frost, Director, Science Editors Company. Date: Thursday, April 7, 2005. Location: Weaver Auditorium, Coastal Institute URI Kingston Campus

For more information call the RINHS office at (401) 874-5800, or email info@rinhs.org, or see <http://www.uri.edu/ce/rinhs/index.htm>

RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION

2004 New England Planning Expo, September 30 and October 1, Springfield Marriott, Springfield Massachusetts. Registration: early bird postmarked by September 3, regular, and onsite. Conference information and registration form is available on the web at <http://www.riapa.org/conference/2004%20Planning%20Expo%20Flyer.pdf>. For more information, please contact: Katie Stebbins: 413-787-6525; kgalluzzo@springfieldcityhall.com

USDA/NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Regional Watershed Conference, September 17th, 2004 at University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA. This year's topics include: Watershed Restoration, Instream Habitat Management, Managing Agricultural Contamination, Bioremediation Of Contaminated Soils, Water Conservation And Consumptive Use, Climate Change Impacts On Watersheds, Trading In Pollutants, Water Treatment Issues, Managing Combined Sewer Overflows, Information Management For Coastal Systems, Landscape Ecological Issues, GIS In Water Resource Planning, Conservation Policy, People Participation, and Water Organization. The conference website at <http://madras.fnr.umass.edu/conference04/> lists sponsors, program outline, directions, registration, and contacts.

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

NEARC 2004 Annual Conference, October 14 through 16, Providence Biltmore, Providence, Rhode Island. Hotel reservations must be made by September 13 at 401-421-0700 or 800-294-7709. Conference registration must be received by October 8. If you should have questions or need additional information, please contact John O'Brien jobrien@planning.state.ri.us at the Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program at 401-222-5772 or Tim Brennan tbrennan@pvpc.org or Jean Ball jball@pvpc.org at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission at 413-781-6045.

WOMEN'S TRANSPORTATION SEMINAR

WTS Open Steering Committee Meeting, Tuesday, September 21, noon to 1:00 p.m., at the Transportation Management Center, Rhode Island Department of Transportation, Two Capitol Hill, Providence. Bring your own lunch. The mission of WTS is to advance women in transportation.

INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SOCIETY OF RHODE ISLAND

ITS-RI Annual Meeting, October 21 at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick: The Intelligent Transportation Society of Rhode Island (ITS-RI) is hosting it's sixth annual meeting with the theme of "Keeping Rhode Island Safe and Secure". Speakers will include Senator Jack Reed, General Reginald Centracchio, Colonel Steven Pare of the RI State Police, Raymond LaBelle of E-911, Doug Brown of RIPTA, Bill Steincamp of RIAC and Howard Boksenbaum

of RIDOA. For details and registration materials please see www.itsri.org For more information contact John Colangelo jcolangelo@vhb.com and for vendor participation contact Michele Passarelli shellypass2002@aol.com

-----**July 2004 Issue 7**-----

Welcome to the July edition of the Statewide Planning e-Newsletter. Topics in this issue include **Technical** Committee meeting, **State** Planning Council meeting, **Transportation** Advisory Committee meeting, **New** Housing Legislation, **Spring** 2002 Orthophotos, **Arc View** 8.3 training in Geographic Information Systems, **Grant** writing course.

STATEWIDE PLANNING

Technical Committee meeting August 6 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the Second floor of the William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/tech/agenda.htm>

State Planning Council meeting August 12 at 9:00 a.m. Conference Room C on the second floor William E. Powers Building, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/spc/agenda.htm>

Transportation Advisory Committee meeting August 26 at 6:30 p.m. Audubon Society of Rhode Island, 12 Sanderson Rd, Smithfield, RI. <http://www.planning.ri.gov/tac/agenda.htm>

New Housing Legislation reinforces Requirements for Affordable Housing Planning. In the closing days of the legislative session, the General Assembly completed a session-long effort to craft legislation establishing a new system for addressing the state's affordable housing needs. A summary of the new legislation is available on Grow Smart RI's website at <http://www.growsmartri.com/affordablehousing.html>, and the full legislation <http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Billtext/BillText04/SenateText04/S3148A.pdf> is available via the General Assembly website as a PDF file. While making a number of changes to the planning framework for housing, the legislation reinforced the requirement (enacted in February 2004) for preparation of local affordable housing plans by communities that do not have a ten percent threshold of subsidized low and moderate income housing units. Under the new legislation, affordable housing plans must be adopted as a component of the Housing Element of the Local Comprehensive Plan, and must be submitted to the Statewide Planning Program for state review and approval no later than December 31, 2004.

Statewide Planning has assigned a staff liaison to each affected community to answer or channel questions from their planning staff relative to their affordable housing plan effort. Statewide Planning and RI Housing have also agreed upon a review checklist for state review of local affordable housing plans. This information is being sent to communities via a Planning Guidance Memo, and Statewide Planning is working with other interests to develop training sessions for local officials and staff involved in the affordable housing planning process. Details on these sessions, tentatively set for late August, will be conveyed to local officials as soon as they are finalized.

Spring 2002 Orthophotos of Northeastern RI and the East Bay are now available on CDs in a MrSid format from the RIGIS.

The set of 3 CDs is available as a set (license fee \$100) or individually at \$50/CD. They are organized by area to cover separate towns on a single CD. There is a jpeg file in the 3 CD package containing the image index for the set. Viewing software and a tool for conversion back to a GeoTif format are included on the CDs. Additional tools for using these images are available from Lizardtech, the company that created the MrSid Compression software. The images can be used with most GIS software after downloading free extensions or patch programs over the Internet.

The imagery was obtained from the USGS and can be obtained from that federal agency in a native GEOTIF format for the cost of media and shipping. It can also be viewed on the National Map from that agency at

<http://geodata.gov>

The following is included for your technical information. RI2002NE Spring 2002 Digital Orthophotography; color - 1 foot pixel resolution; MrSid MG3 compression at 25:1

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

ArcView 8.3 training in Geographic Information Systems offered by URI. This hands-on computer course provides an introduction to the capabilities and functionality of ESRI's ArcView GIS software. Taught by authorized ESRI instructors, the course will teach the fundamentals of working with GIS data, discuss the hardware and software issues for working with ArcView, and use the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) database. All students receive hands-on software instruction in ArcMap, ArcCatalog, and ArcToolbox, a copy of ESRI's training materials with exercises and training data, and a copy of exercises developed using the RIGIS database. Upon successful completion of the course students receive a Certificate of Course Completion. Next course is scheduled for August 3, 4, & 5, 2004. Registration for the course is \$750.00 and pre-registration is required. To register, contact Alyson McCann at (401) 874-5398 or see on-line at www.edc.uri.edu/training/gis.

Grant writing course for planners, nonprofit developers and service providers will be offered by the University of Rhode Island Institute for Housing and Community Development on Wednesday evenings in Providence beginning

in September. For a brochure or more information please call 401-277-5200.
