



## PUBLIC HEARING REPORT | DECEMBER 2015

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES AND STANDARDS OF THE STATE PLANNING COUNCIL



#### **SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION**

##### *Purpose of the Proposed Amendment*

The State Planning Council has under consideration an amendment to Rule 4 – Part 2 of the Rules and Standards of the State Planning Council, entitled, “Comprehensive Plan Review Standards.” In accordance with the General Laws, subsections 45-22.2-10(b), the Division of Planning is to develop standards to assist municipalities in the incorporation of state goals and policies into comprehensive plans, and to assist the Division in the review of comprehensive plans. Draft Rule 4 – Part 2 satisfies this requirement.

The standards are accompanied by the RI Comprehensive Planning Guidance Handbook Series, comprised of sixteen (16) separate handbooks that are intended to assist communities in preparing plans that will fulfill each standard. Each handbook provides helpful guidance on fulfilling the standards, including data sources, as well as general information on including the required topics within a comprehensive plan.

##### *Public Hearings and Comment Period*

Pursuant to the provisions of section 29-3.1-4.1(b)(3) and 29-3.1-4(b)(7)(ii) of the General Laws of Rhode Island, and in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act Chapter 42-35 of the General Laws, the State Planning Council gave notice of its intent to amend its Rules and Standards and gave notice of its intent to hold a public hearing to afford interested parties the opportunity to provide public comment. Notice of the two public hearings and opportunity to comment on the draft plan were provided in English and Spanish through advertisement in the Providence Journal on November 9, 2015, posting on the Secretary of State website, posting on the Statewide Planning Program’s website, a direct mailing to the over 380 planning and transportation contacts in the Statewide Planning Program’s database, and inclusion in the Statewide Planning Program’s December newsletter, which was sent to interested parties on December 1, 2015. Both the English and Spanish hearing notices posted in the Providence Journal have been included within Appendix A.

All persons were invited to present their views on the proposed amendments in person at the public hearings, through a representative, or by filing a written statement with the Secretary of the State Planning Council

by December 13, 2015. Written statements could be mailed or e-mailed to Jared Rhodes, Chief of the RI Statewide Planning Program, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908, or submitted at a hearing.

On December 7, 2015, the Division of Planning, on behalf of the State Planning Council, held two public hearings, one at 11:00 A.M. and one at 6:00 P.M., to accept comments on the proposed amendments. Both hearings were held at the Department of Administration, William E. Powers Building, Conference Room A, Providence, RI 02908. In total, nine (9) people attended the two hearings and three (3) people gave spoken comments. Over the course of the public comment period, one (1) organization submitted written comments.

The hearing locations were accessible to individuals with disabilities. Any individual with physical or sensory impairments requiring assistance for a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the hearings, or any individual requiring the services of a spoken language interpreter, was instructed by the hearing notice as to how to request accommodation.

### *Organization of the Report*

The remainder of this report has been organized into four sections. Section 2 describes the general format of the two public hearings, including a summary of the opening remarks. The proceedings of the 11:00 A.M. hearing are contained within Section 3 of this report, including responses to the comments received. The proceedings of the 6:00 P.M. hearing are contained within Section 4 of this report, including responses to the comments received. A summary of the written comments received, and responses to the comments, are included within Section 5 of this report.

## **SECTION 2. FORMAT OF THE PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Both hearings began with introductory remarks by Dan Majcher, an attorney with the RI Department of Administration's Division of Legal Services.

Mr. Majcher began by asking those in attendance to sign in, if they wished to do so, and introduced the staff of the Division of Planning present at the hearing. Mr. Majcher then reviewed the contents of the hearing notice, including the purpose of the amendments as posted in the notice, and informed attendees of the availability of the Comprehensive Planning Guidance Handbook Series and provided the website from which the handbooks can be accessed.

Next, Mr. Majcher informed attendees of the opportunity to provide written comments through December 13, 2015, and provided the mailing address to which the comments could be sent. Mr. Majcher also informed attendees of the rulemaking considerations identified in Section 1 of this report. Mr. Majcher explained the format of the hearing, with acceptance of written comment first, followed by opportunity for oral statements. Mr. Majcher then notified attendees of the Administrative Procedures Act requirement that, "Upon adoption of a rule, the agency, if requested to do so by an interested person, either prior to adoption or within thirty (30) days thereafter, shall issue a concise statement of the principal reasons for and against its adoption, incorporating therein its reasons for overruling the considerations urged against its adoption."

Both hearings then proceeded through the acceptance of written comments, of which there were none, and the acceptance of oral statements. When all interested parties had been given and exercised the opportunity to comment, Mr. Majcher again reminded attendees of the opportunity to submit written comment by December 13, 2015 and stated that if the final rules are adopted, the rules will be filed with the RI Secretary of State and would take effect 20 days after filing. Mr. Majcher then thanked those in attendance for their interest and closed the public hearing.

### **SECTION 3. PROCEEDINGS OF THE 11:00 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING AND RESPONSE TO ORAL STATEMENTS**

The hearing was called to order at 11:04 A.M. on Monday, December 7, 2015. One person, Mr. Joe Robichaeu, who identified himself as a member of the Portsmouth Town Council, provided an oral statement. Also in attendance, as indicated through the sign-in sheet, were Jim McGuire, Mark Zaccaria, Drena Robicheau, David M. Agostino, Esq., and Marilyn Shellman. The hearing was closed at 11:17 A.M.

*Comments by Mr. Joe Robichaeu*

Mr. Robichaeu made comments concerning the cost of implementing the standards, asking, “Who is going to pay for all of this? I mean who is going to send the town of Portsmouth the money necessary to implement these changes?” Mr. Robichaeu stated that the standards are an unfunded mandate and that municipalities should not feel obligated to implement the standards without the money to do so. Mr. Robichaeu went on to discuss an executive order by the Governor that would allow municipalities to explore other sources of revenue, and he inquired as to how the executive order affected the regulations. Finally, Mr. Robichaeu stated that the proposed amendment, “reeks of central planning.”

*Response:* The comments regarding the lack of funding for the creation of comprehensive plans are noted, as are those regarding central planning. The intent of the proposed amendments is to comply with the Rhode Island General Laws, specifically subsections 45-22.2-10(b) and 45-22.2-10(c).

In February of 2015, Governor Raimondo executed Executive Order 15-06, Strengthening Municipalities for Future Success, which empowered the Office of the Lieutenant Governor to assist municipalities in, among other things, exploring other sources of revenue. As of the writing of this report, the Division is unaware of anything that has been developed as a result of this Executive Order that relates to comprehensive planning.

*Revisions Suggested:* None proposed.

### **SECTION 4. PROCEEDINGS OF THE 6:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING AND RESPONSE TO ORAL STATEMENTS**

The hearing was called to order at 6:03 P.M. on Monday, December 7, 2015. Comment was given by Ms. Dianne Izzo, who identified herself as a lawyer with the firm of Gorham and Gorham who act as Town Solicitors for the towns of Coventry and Scituate, and Ms. Bobbi Moneghan, who identified herself as the assistant planner for the Town of North Smithfield. Also in attendance was Ms. Paulette Hamilton. The hearing was closed at 6:21 P.M.

*Comments by Ms. Dianne Izzo, Esq.*

Ms. Izzo asked questions about the amount of work needed to comply with the standards and asked whether any informational sessions will be given to assist the municipalities in upgrading their plans. Ms. Izzo was also concerned about the potential cost of complying with the mapping standards in particular.

Ms. Izzo also inquired about the purpose of the standards in general, and gave the example of the mapping requirements. As an example, Ms. Izzo asked whether the purpose of the mapping requirements was to make the maps consistent among all towns.

In closing, Ms. Izzo expressed interest in how the statewide goals are determined, asking whether the goals were determined in conjunction with Governor Raimondo’s office or previously by the Statewide Planning Program.

*Response:* It is the intent of the Division of Planning to hold informational sessions with the municipalities to assist in meeting the standards, once the proposed amendments are adopted. In October, the Division surveyed municipal planning staffs to determine what types of training and workshops would be most helpful. Additionally, staff of the Division is available to provide technical assistance to any and all municipalities as needed.

To assist municipalities with the mapping standards, the guidance handbook series that accompanies the proposed amendments contains hyperlinks to all of the required mapping datasets. Additionally, the Division has compiled base maps for each municipality onto which the data can be inserted. The Division is also working on crafting layer files that symbolize the data in user-friendly and standards-consistent ways, which could simply be placed onto the map to create the required maps.

The fundamental purpose of the standards is to bring predictability to the local drafting and State review processes. The Division of Planning is required by law to review local comprehensive plans for several criteria. To date, review against the criteria has not been guided by adopted standards. The memorializing of the standards to be used is intended to assist the municipalities in meeting the standards and to assist the State in reviewing plans.

The mapping requirements have two specific purposes. First, most of the mapping requirements are intended to provide clarity to the requirements outlined in RIGL subsection 45-22.2-6(2), which outlines a topical list of the maps to be included within comprehensive plans. The requirements for mapped data delineate the data sets that are intended to satisfy the legal requirements. Secondly, there are some requirements for mapping that seek to provide clarity in the maps themselves. These requirements are related to formatting and the map legend, among other things, and are necessary so that plan readers are able to understand the contents of each map.

The state goals with which comprehensive plans have to be consistent and the embodiment of are a combination of those found within the Rhode Island General Laws and the State Guide Plan. The General Assembly, through enactment of the Rhode Island General Laws, has set forth numerous goals for the physical development of the state. Additionally, the Executive Branch of state government has the ability to set goals for the state through adoption of the State Guide Plan by the State Planning Council. The State Guide Plan is a set of planning documents, compiled through a public participatory process, relating to a variety of topics, including transportation, land use, energy, water supply, housing, economic development, natural resources, etc. Once an element of the State Guide Plan is adopted by the State Planning Council, it remains in effect until appealed by the State Planning Council. Links to all of the current State Guide Plan elements can be found at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/planning/>. Additionally, the guidance handbook series that accompanies the proposed amendments includes relevant citations from both the Rhode Island General Laws and the State Guide Plans related to each topical area.

*Revisions Suggested:* None proposed.

*Comments by Ms. Bobbi Moneghan*

Ms. Moneghan wondered if municipalities that had previously entered into an agreement with the Division of Planning to have plans reviewed using the interim set of comprehensive plan review standards would be subject to the new standards once adopted. Ms. Moneghan also asked whether the deadline for updating comprehensive plans to meet the new requirements of the Act could be extended.

*Response:* In 2013, the Division of Planning sent a notice to all municipalities alerting them to the effort underway to create new comprehensive plan review standards. Realizing the many municipalities were likely already undertaking a revision or update to their comprehensive plans, the Division offered all municipalities the opportunity to enter into a letter of agreement that would allow the municipalities'

comprehensive plans to only have to meet an interim standard to receive State approval. The letter of agreement specified that the municipality's comprehensive plan would be reviewed for State approval using the interim standard if it was locally adopted within twelve (12) months subsequent to the adoption of the new comprehensive plan review standards.

The Division of Planning's intent is to honor all letters of agreement related to the review of comprehensive plans using the interim comprehensive plan review standards. Sixteen (16) municipalities signed letters of agreement, three (3) of which have already received State approval.

Pursuant to RIGL subsection 45-22.2-2(a), all comprehensive plans are to be brought into conformance with the new requirements of the RI Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act by June 1, 2016. As this deadline is statutorily mandated, it cannot be amended other than by the General Assembly.

*Revisions Suggested:* None proposed.

## **SECTION 5. SUMMARY OF AND RESPONSE TO WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED**

One person, Maria Mack, Chair of the Town of South Kingstown Planning Board ("the Board"), submitted written comments on the proposed amendment on behalf of the Board. The Board's comments discussed both the proposed amendment and the contents of the guidance handbook series that accompanies the comprehensive planning standards. All of the comments received are discussed below.

*Comment:* The Board noted that it is important that municipalities retain the ability to make core decisions based on local needs and aspirations, maintaining home rule to the greatest degree possible. The letter stated that a "decentralized approach is necessary," and that the guidelines must promote and permit local flexibility and creativity.

*Response:* The Division of Planning believes that the standards as drafted allow for local flexibility and creativity, while still furthering the goals of the State as required by law. The standards have been crafted to provide multiple options for their fulfillment and to be considerate of the context of each individual municipality. Additionally, realizing that it may be necessary to exempt communities from standards that do not apply, the Introduction to the proposed Rule 4 – Part 2 states, "some standards may not be applicable under certain circumstances; the Chief has sole authority to determine when a standard does not apply."

*Revisions Suggested:* None proposed.

*Comment:* The Board stated that the criteria and requirements hold communities to a very high standard and noted that State agencies should be held to similarly high standards when crafting the State Guide Plan. The letter noted that the depth and rigor required will be "highly daunting" to communities, especially those with less staff and resources, and she noted the impending June 1, 2016 deadline.

*Response:* The comment related to the State Guide Plan is noted. The Division of Planning has attempted to make compliance with the standards as easy as possible. Guidance has been given on each standard within the guidance handbook series. The Division has developed data fact sheets for each community, which provide all of the required data points that do not require locally generated information. Additionally, the Division has notified communities of the impending deadline in writing on six (6) separate occasions, over the past four (4) years, beginning in September 2011, but is otherwise unable to amend the General Assembly established compliance deadline.

*Revisions Suggested:* None proposed.

*Comment:* The Board commented that the guidance, provided in the handbooks, is not equally weighted amongst the required topical areas. The letter also stated that there are several areas that lack adequate substance, strength and breadth, including the guidance on historic and cultural resources, climate change, and agriculture.

*Response:* The proposed amendment is accompanied by sixteen (16) separate guidance handbooks, which are intended to assist communities in meeting the requirements set forth in the proposed amendment. Within the guidance handbook series, each proposed comprehensive plan standard is explained in greater depth. The guidance handbooks also provide recommended data sources, suggested methodologies and sample goals, policies and implementation actions.

The amount of guidance given on any specific topic is relative to the complexity of the proposed standards and the requirements of the RI Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act. Where the proposed standards are consistent with past review practice, or where the standards seem easy to understand, less guidance has been given. Each handbook was crafted through multiple discussions with topical experts, over 60 in all, who assisted in determining the appropriate amount of guidance for their respective subject areas. In general, when crafting the handbook series, an attempt was made to provide enough guidance so that municipalities would be able to satisfy the requirement, while limiting unnecessary narrative and text.

The Division disagrees that historic and cultural resources, climate change and agriculture have not been tended to in adequate substance, strength and breadth. For historic and cultural resources, the Act requires that plans “be based” on an inventory of resources. Given this, the requirements relate to identifying properties and districts that are listed on the local, state or National Register, and assessing the issues facing those resources that the community deems significant. Also of note, communities are always welcome to include more information than is required.

The handbooks related to climate change and agriculture are two of the most thorough. Guidance Handbook #7 – Planning for Agriculture, includes a section entitled, “Tips for Starting the Conversation,” which outlines several reasons for addressing agriculture within the plan. This handbook also includes a great deal of information on how to assess and discuss the opportunities that exist within the community relative to further supporting agriculture. Handbook #12 – Planning for Natural Hazards and Climate Change, is the longest of the handbooks, including a full methodology for conducting a preliminary community vulnerability assessment, information on the changing climate from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the RI Coastal Resources Management Council, and many sample implementation actions.

*Revisions Suggested:* None proposed.

*Comment:* The Board noted that the wording in the “Introduction” does not represent the depth and rigor of the requirements as outlined in the guidance handbooks.

*Response:* As there is no guidance handbook or section of the proposed amendment called, “Introduction,” the Division wonders if the “Introduction” to which the Board refers is the “Comprehensive Planning Standards Manual,” which lays out all of the standards found in the proposed amendment. If this is correct, it is important to note that the guidance handbook series does not require anything additional of comprehensive plans than what is found within the standards manual. The guidance handbook series is guidance only, providing narrative, data sources and methodologies that the Division felt would be helpful to municipalities in achieving the standards.

*Revisions Suggested:* None proposed.

*Comment:* The Board noted concerns that the density requirements of Standard 13.5f may not fit well for smaller communities and would require large scale rezoning, which could undermine local support for comprehensive planning. The letter stated that establishing a range of recommended densities may be a better approach.

*Response:* Standard 13.5f provides municipalities with the option of adopting a Future Land Use Map that is consistent with the densities provided within Land Use 2025 or providing narrative as to why the densities prescribed by Land Use 2025 are not warranted. The density requirements within Standard 13.5f have been given as ranges, as follows:

- Areas shown as “Sewered Urban Development” within Land Use 2025 are to be given a minimum residential density of 5 dwelling units, with no set maximum;
- Areas shown as “Urban Development” in Land Use 2025 must have a minimum residential density of 1 dwelling unit per acre, with no set maximum; and
- Areas shown as “Conservation/Limited,” “Reserve,” “Non-urban Developed,” “Prime Farmland,” or “Major Parks and Open Space” in Land Use 2025 must have a residential density between 0 and 1 dwelling units per acre.

*Revisions Suggested:* None proposed.

*Comment:* The Board commented that the data analysis and requirements related to housing are redundant to reviews conducted by Housing Works RI and other entities. The Board also noted that the housing section seems to require communities to document their failure in meeting the State established 10% low- and moderate-income housing goal, and that many factors outside of a community’s command influence housing production. Additionally, the letter goes on to state that “requiring communities to embrace densities that may be unpalatable locally will not solve this issue.”

*Response:* To the Division’s knowledge, no other entity requires reporting of the required housing-related data points. Additionally, as previously noted, the Division is in the process of developing data fact sheets for each municipality that will provide the current figures for the majority of the required data points.

Standards 5.5b.vii and 5.5b.viii require municipalities to discuss “the general success rate of each previous strategy for providing low- and moderate-income housing units” and to discuss “the factors that affected the success rate of each previously proposed low- and moderate-income housing strategy,” respectively. Since 2004, comprehensive plans have been required by State law to include strategies for the provision of low- and moderate-income housing. These standards require communities to assess the strategies they previously proposed and provide rationale for their success or failure. When adopting the strategy in a previous iteration of the comprehensive plan, the community had a reasonable expectation that the strategy would be successful. These standards ask the community to describe what factors affected the success rate, and provides the opportunity for the community to document the realities of low- and moderate-income housing production, including the factors that are outside of municipal control. The assessment of the success of previously proposed strategies is intended to assist the community in determining which strategies should be carried forward into the updated comprehensive plan, which strategies should be left behind, and whether any new strategies are warranted.

As noted in the response to the previous comment, the standards do not require municipalities to adopt unpalatable densities, as communities have the opportunity to explain why they feel that the densities given in Land Use 2025 are not appropriate.

*Revisions Suggested:* None proposed.

*Comment:* The Board had several comments related to how climate change is addressed by the standards and

within the guidance handbooks. First, the Board commented that the guidance does not relate climate change as a common thread throughout the topical areas. Second, the Board states that comprehensive plans should be based on analysis of incremental or event specific impacts on vulnerable areas and infrastructure, and as such should be required to “identify potential approaches for resiliency, preservation and the resource needs to address these impacts.” The Board also warns that planning for climate change should not focus only on sea level rise and flooding, and that communities should be required to consider other impacts, such as storm water and flooding, drought and extreme temperature fluctuations. Finally, the Board states that it would be helpful to articulate the clear nexus between climate change, public health and safety.

*Response:* The Division has attempted to make clear the important relationship between planning for natural hazards and climate change and planning for all of the other required topics within a comprehensive plan. On page 8 of Guidance Handbook #12 – Planning for Natural Hazards and Climate Change, a paragraph is given on the importance of viewing natural hazard and climate change considerations as a lens through which all of the plan’s goals, policies and implementation actions should be viewed. Furthermore, where appropriate, the remaining guidance handbooks include sample policies and actions related to the specific topical areas being discussed, that would increase resiliency.

Standard 12.1 requires comprehensive plans identify the natural hazards and climate change trends that are likely to impact the municipality and the guidance on this standard provides a list of the types of natural hazards and climate change trends that ought to be considered, including flash, urban and stormwater-based flooding, drought, high heat days and extreme heat waves. The identification of natural hazards and climate change trends provides the basis for determining impacts, and, as every community is different, the Division felt it was best to let the municipality decide which natural hazards and climate change trends are the most likely to occur. Based on this identification, Standard 12.3 requires that comprehensive plans discuss the priority impacts that the municipality would face in the event of future natural hazards and long-term climate change. The guidance related to this requirement explains that priority impacts must be related to a specific resource, asset, piece of infrastructure or population and a sample methodology for determining impacts is provided, which includes a list of the resources, assets, infrastructure and populations that the community should consider. Finally, Standard 12.5 requires comprehensive plans include implementation actions that address the priority impacts identified. The Division feels comfortable that these requirements will assist communities in identifying potential approaches for resiliency.

The standards do not, however, require comprehensive plans to describe the resources available for addressing impacts, as the Board requests. Being a community-wide policy document, the comprehensive plan must focus on determining and addressing the community vulnerabilities that are likely to have the greatest impact. To include cost and resource estimates within a comprehensive plan, more detailed vulnerability assessments would need to be done on individual pieces of infrastructure. Given that many municipalities are only beginning to have discussions related to planning for natural hazards and climate change on a community-wide scale, the Division does not feel it is appropriate to require municipalities to identify available resources at this time. However, the Division is open to revisiting the standards in the future to determine when it may be reasonable to include this additional requirement. Also, while comprehensive plans are not required to include such detailed vulnerability assessments to receive State approval, they are welcome to do so if so inclined.

Upon rereading Guidance Handbook #12, a clear connection has not been made between planning for natural hazards and climate change and public health and safety. Division of Planning staff has revised this handbook to include that information.

*Revisions Suggested:* None proposed for the amendment; revisions to Handbook #12 have been integrated.

Comment: The Board comments that “a public health component should be inextricably woven throughout

the guidelines” so that interrelationship between planning and public health is clear.

*Response:* There are several, overarching “themes” to comprehensive planning that the Division wanted to highlight for communities, including public health. Instead of including the details of every theme within each guidance handbook, the Division felt it more appropriate to include the planning themes within Handbook #1 – The Comprehensive Plan 101. The theme “Public Health and Safety” is discussed at length beginning on page 8 of that handbook.

*Revisions Suggested:* None proposed.



**STATE PLANNING COUNCIL  
STATEWIDE PLANNING PROGRAM  
RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
NOTICE OF RULEMAKING**

Pursuant to the provisions of section 42-11-10 and Chapter 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws, the State Planning Council hereby gives notice of its intent to amend its *Rules and Standards of the State Planning Council* (R.I. D # 7537) last amended in January 2014.

The purpose of the amendments is to add Rule 4 – Part 2, “Comprehensive Plan Review Standards.” In accordance with the General Laws, subsections 45-22-2-10(a), the Division of Planning is to develop standards to assist municipalities in the incorporation of state goals and policies into comprehensive plans, and to assist the Division in the review of comprehensive plans. Draft Rule 4 – Part 2 satisfies the requirement. In the development of the amended rules, consideration was given to: 1) alternative approaches; 2) overlap or duplication with other rules; and 3) significant economic impacts on small businesses. No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based on available information.

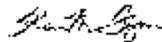
Copies of the proposed rules are filed with the Secretary of State’s Office. They are available for review at the Rhode Island Division of Planning, Third Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or online at [www.planning.ri.gov](http://www.planning.ri.gov).

All interested parties are invited to submit written comments concerning the proposed Rules by December 13, 2015 to Jared Rhodes, Chief of the Statewide Planning Program, at:

R.I. Department of Administration  
Division of Planning  
William Powers Building  
One Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02908

In addition, the State Planning Council will conduct two public hearings on the proposed rules on Monday, December 7, 2015, in Conference Room A, Second Floor of the RI Department of Administration. The first will be held at 11:00 a.m., the second will be held at 6:00 p.m., both at the above address.

At these hearings, all persons may present their comments in person or by providing a written statement. These meeting places are accessible to individuals with disabilities. Any individual requiring a reasonable accommodation in order to participate as a member should contact Michael Moun at 222-1236 (voice) or #711 (Toll Free) at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting date. Any individual requiring the services of an interpreter to participate in a meeting should contact Michael Moun at 222-1236 (voice) at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting date.



Kevin M. Flynn, Secretary  
State Planning Council

November 4, 2015  
Date

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**CONSEJO DE PLANIFICACIÓN ESTATAL  
PROGRAMA DE PLANIFICACIÓN ESTATAL  
DEPARTAMENTO DE ADMINISTRACIÓN DE RHODE ISLAND  
NOTIFICACIÓN SOBRE REGLAMENTACIÓN**

Conforme a las disposiciones de la sección 42-11-10 y el Capítulo 42-35 de las Leyes Generales de Rhode Island, por la presente, el Consejo de Planificación Estatal anuncia su intención de modificar las *Reglas y Normas del Consejo de Planificación Estatal* (R.I. D # 7537), cuya última modificación fue en enero de 2014.

El propósito de las modificaciones es agregar la Norma 4 – Parte 2, Normas Integradas de Revisión del Plan. Según las Leyes Generales, subsección 45-22-2-10(a), la División de Planificación de la creación de normas para asistir a las municipalidades en la incorporación de metas y políticas en planes integrales, y asistir a la División en su revisión de planes integrales. El borrador de la Norma 4 – Parte 2 satisface este requisito. Durante la creación de las normas modificadas, se consideró lo siguiente: 1) estrategias alternativas; 2) la justificación o cuestionamiento con otras normas; y 3) los impactos económicos importantes en pequeñas industrias. No se identificó ninguna estrategia alternativa, duplicación o yuxtaposición con base en la información disponible.

Se han puesto copias de las normas propuestas en la Oficina del Departamento de Estado. Están disponibles para revisión en la División de Planificación de Rhode Island, tercer piso, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, de 8:30 a.m. a 4:00 p.m., de lunes a viernes, o en línea en [www.planning.ri.gov](http://www.planning.ri.gov).

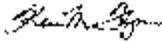
Se invita a todas las partes interesadas a presentar comentarios por escrito en relación a las Normas propuestas antes del 13 de diciembre de 2015, a Jared Rhodes, Jefe del Programa de Planificación Estatal:

R.I. Department of Administration  
Division of Planning  
William Powers Building  
One Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02908

Además, el Consejo de Planificación Estatal realizará dos audiencias públicas en relación a las normas propuestas, el lunes, 7 de diciembre de 2015, en el Salón de Conferencias A, segundo piso del Departamento de Administración de RI. La primera se realizará a las 11:00 a.m., la segunda se realizará a las 6:00 p.m., ambas en la dirección antes mencionada.

Durante estas audiencias, todas las personas podrán presentar sus comentarios en persona o al presentar una declaración escrita.

Individuos con discapacidades pueden acceder al lugar de las audiencias. Cualquier individuo que necesite adaptación de acceso razonable para poder participar en una reunión, deberá contactar a Thomas Manroos, Jr. al 222-0385 (voz) o #711 (Servicio de RI) al menos cinco (5) días hábiles antes de la reunión. Cualquier individuo que requiera los servicios de intérprete para participar en una reunión, debe contactar a Michael Moun al 222-1236 (voz) al menos cinco (5) días hábiles antes de la reunión.



Kevin M. Flynn, Secretario  
Consejo de Planificación Estatal

4 de noviembre de 2015  
Fecha