

## Rhode Island Department of Administration Division of Statewide Planning August 2017

### Statewide Planning to Host "Planning Director's Roundtable"

As a way to encourage discussion about planning issues in Rhode Island, Statewide Planning is holding a "roundtable" for planning directors to talk about various topics of interest to planners in the State. "This will be a place to collaboratively solve planning challenges and share experiences," says Associate Director Parag Agrawal. "I hope planning directors and town planners will share their ideas." Watch for your email invitation! It takes place on **Thursday, September 28, 2017** from 1:30-3PM. Watch for your email invitation! Please contact Roberta Groch, Assistant Chief: [Roberta.Groch@doa.ri.gov](mailto:Roberta.Groch@doa.ri.gov)

### New State Planning Council Subcommittees



The State Planning Council has formed two new citizen subcommittees. A freight subcommittee will assist with freight and economic development; a bicycle subcommittee will help the State to improve bicycle facilities and infrastructure throughout Rhode Island. Bicycle subcommittee member Robert Billington of the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council says "I could not be more pleased to be a part of the effort to improve and create bicycle facilities throughout Rhode Island." For more information, please contact Lindsey Langenburg, transportation Principal Planner: [lindsey.langenburg@doa.ri.gov](mailto:lindsey.langenburg@doa.ri.gov)

### Visit The New "Open Data" RIGIS Website

The newly-redesigned Rhode Island Geographic Information Systems (RIGIS) website has launched! More user-friendly and with more capability, the site provides dataset mapping that represent a wide



range of topics, including transportation, infrastructure, and the environment. You can also build your own visually-appealing map, save it and share it. Visit [www.rigis.org](http://www.rigis.org) and learn how to further take advantage of its data resources for your mapping needs.

---

---

## Long Range Transportation Plan and Bicycle Mobility Plan Website Launched

Statewide Planning launched its public outreach efforts this month with the updated "Rhode Island Moving Forward" website, a Twitter feed and a Facebook



page. State staff and lead project consultants, VHB, will hold a series of municipal roundtables in each RI county; in addition, twelve public workshops will be held throughout the state, beginning in September. "These will help the public and stakeholders to access the most up-to-date information on the Long Range Transportation Plan, the Bicycle Mobility Plan and the Transit Master Plan as they are being developed," says land use Principal Planner and project manager Caroline Wells, AICP. Please visit [www.PlanRI.com](http://www.PlanRI.com) for upcoming opportunities for public input, including public workshops, surveys and interactive tools.

---

## Pawtucket Comprehensive Plan Approved



Left to Right: DOA Dir. Michael DiBiase; SWP Planner Kevin Nelson; Pawtucket Acting Planning Dir. Susan Mara; Pawtucket Eco. Dev. Dir. Jeanne Boyle

At their August meeting, the State Planning Council recognized the City of Pawtucket for the approval of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The City is planning and implementing transit-oriented development, public access to the riverfront, brownfield redevelopment, cooperation with neighboring cities, and urban agriculture. Supervising Planner Kevin Nelson calls the plan "a clear, concise community vision for a major urban growth center." To view the Pawtucket Comprehensive Plan, please go to our website: [www.planning.ri.gov](http://www.planning.ri.gov).

---

## Division of Planning- Employee Spotlight

**Kevin Nelson, Supervising Planner** Kevin began his career with the Division in 1989. During his tenure, he has worked on the intergovernmental review program, strategic planning, natural resource and land use planning, and most recently in comprehensive planning: as he puts it, "solving problems and making Rhode Island a little bit nicer place to live." Kevin has

degrees from URI and RIC in economics, political science, and philosophy. Kevin's co-workers say he is "diligent, a good listener, kind, and helpful". Outside of work, Kevin loves nature and can frequently be found on the trails of Audubon, Nature Conservancy, and DEM refuges. Contact him at [Kevin.Nelson@doa.ri.gov](mailto:Kevin.Nelson@doa.ri.gov).



---

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### State Planning Council

**September 14, 2017 at 9AM**

Conference Room A

One Capitol Hill

Providence, RI 02908

### **Technical Committee**

**September 1, 2017 at 9AM**

Conference Room A

One Capitol Hill

Providence, RI 02908

### **Transportation Advisory Committee**

**August 27, 2017 at 6:30PM**

Conference Room A

One Capitol Hill

Providence, RI 02908

### PHOTO TRIVIA:

Do you know where in RI this building is located? See the answer at the bottom of the newsletter!



---

## Upcoming Conferences in RI

- **September 25-29:** National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) - Providence <https://www.nsgic.org/>
  - **October 1-3:** Northeast Economic Development Association (NEDA) - Providence [www.nedaonline.org](http://www.nedaonline.org)
  - **October 26-27:** Southern New England American Planning Association (SNEAPA) - Providence [www.sneapa.org](http://www.sneapa.org)
  - **November 5-8:** Northeast Arc Users Group (NEARC)- Newport, [www.northeastarc.org](http://www.northeastarc.org)
-

**Division of Planning contacts:**

Parag Agrawal, AICP- Associate Director  
401-222-6496

[Parag.Agrawal@doa.ri.gov](mailto:Parag.Agrawal@doa.ri.gov)

Jared L. Rhodes II, Chief  
401-222-5731

[Jared.Rhodes@doa.ri.gov](mailto:Jared.Rhodes@doa.ri.gov)

Paul DiGiuseppe, Assistant Chief  
401-222-1233

[Paul.DiGiuseppe@doa.ri.gov](mailto:Paul.DiGiuseppe@doa.ri.gov)

Roberta Groch, AICP- Assistant Chief  
401-222-4720

[Roberta.Groch@doa.ri.gov](mailto:Roberta.Groch@doa.ri.gov)

---

**PHOTO TRIVIA ANSWER:** [The Eleazor Arnold House](#), Lincoln, RI

Photo: R. Groch