

Rhode Island Department of Administration Division of Statewide Planning

July 2017

2017 Annual STIP Application Process Begins

The RI State Planning Council is pleased to announce the application period for the 2017 Update of the State's Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). **Application packages must be submitted by no later than the close of business on August 11, 2017.** This important opportunity represents the starting point in determining how the State will invest its Federal Highway and Transit Administration funding. The Update will cover Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 18-27: nearly \$5 billion worth of investments will be programmed to specific projects through this application process. Resources are available online at [State Transportation Improvement Program Update](#).

Statewide Planning - Bringing GIS to Rhode Island Residents

For those without an ArcGIS license, the Statewide Planning's GIS team has created a [Map App](#) to use as a quick planning resource. So next time you are waiting for a RIPTA bus and want to explore the closest bike route to your destination, aerial images, or where to catch a ferry to Block Island, check out this app. (Please note that, in order for all the layers to draw, Internet Explorer is needed).



Drought Advisory Lifted for RI



The RI Water Resources Board has changed the State Drought Classification it is now "normal," thanks to a foot-and-a-half of rain in April and May. Drought Classifications range from minimal to bad this way: "normal," "advisory," "watch," "warning," and "emergency." Dry conditions worsened last summer with lack of rainfall, and the official first level "Drought Advisory" was issued. For more information, please see the [Water Resources Board website](#).

Statewide Planning Organizes Warren Economic Development Walking Tour



To educate planners on ways to develop and revitalize their towns, Statewide Planning has organized a walking tour to the American Tourister mixed-use development in Warren, RI on **Friday, September 8, 2017** from 2 - 4 PM. We'll talk to the project's developer about the challenges and opportunities of redeveloping a large mill building. To register, please contact Benny.Bergantino@doa.ri.gov.

Photo: www.discoverwarren.com

Newport Comprehensive Plan Approved

The State Planning Council (SPC) recognized the City of Newport at its June meeting and awarded a Certificate of Recognition for State approval of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Newport's plan touches on the preservation of its many historic structures and rich history, particularly in relation to the City's location and its vulnerability to sea level rise. For more information, see the [Newport Comprehensive Plan](#).



Left to Right: DOA Director Michael DiBiase, Newport Planner Christine O'Grady, and Newport Zoning Official Guy Weston.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

State Planning Council

No July meeting

Next meeting:

August 10, 2017 at 9 a.m.

Technical Committee

No July meeting

Next meeting:

August 4, 2017 at 9 a.m.

Transportation Advisory Committee

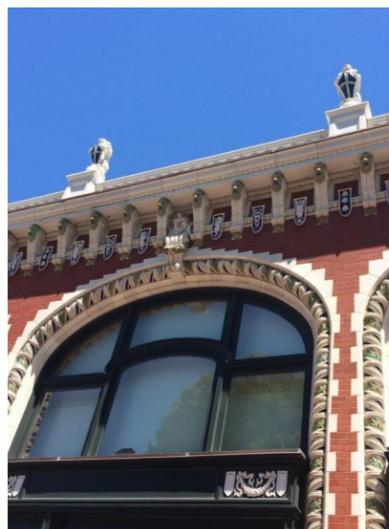
July 27, 2017, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

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 Grant Deadlines

- The National Park Service is awarding grants to support the survey, inventory, and designation of historic properties that are associated with communities currently underrepresented in the National Register of Historic Places and among National Historic Landmarks. Proposals due: July 31, 2017. View the proposals on-line at [Grants](#)
- Partners for Places General Grants Program is a successful matching grant program that improves U.S. and Canadian communities by building partnerships between local government sustainability leaders and place-based foundations. National funders invest in local projects developed through these partnerships to promote a healthy environment, a strong economy, and well-being for all residents. Proposals due: July 31, 2017. <http://www.fundersnetwork.org/partnersforplaces/>

Division of Planning Employee Spotlight



Benjamin Jacobs, Principal Research Technician, has worked for the state for four years. A graduate of the Bluestein Planning School at Rutgers, the State University of NJ, he has worked with county and state governments since 2008. His most recent project is a "Zero Emission Vehicle Municipal Handbook". Benjamin's main task is managing the maintenance of the RI Statewide Model (RISM), a tool that allows planners to forecast changes in travel behavior. He is described by his co-workers as "astute", "detail-oriented", and "professional". Outside of work, Benjamin is an avid amateur historian and has a podcast on European History.

Contact him at Benjamin.Jacobs@doa.ri.gov.

PHOTO TRIVIA ANSWER: The Audrain Auto Museum, Newport

<http://audrainautomuseum.org/>

Photo: R. Groch