

Rhode Island Department of Administration
Division of Statewide Planning
May/June 2018

Transit Plan Kickoff

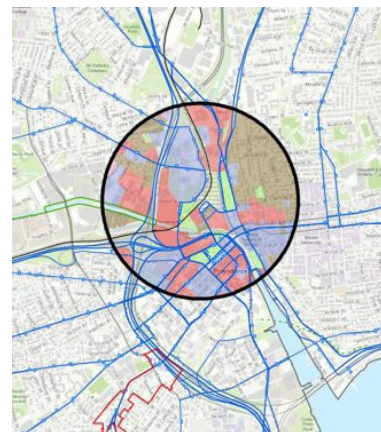


The Division of Statewide Planning, RIPTA and RIDOT held a kickoff meeting on May 9 to launch the State's first Transit Plan. The plan is an ambitious effort to guide future policy for public transportation

mods (bus, rail, and ferry) in Rhode Island. The State has secured the services of renowned transit planning firm Nelson/Nygaard to draft the plan, which is expected to take approximately eighteen months to complete. The Plan will involve extensive outreach efforts aimed at both traditional stakeholder groups and the broader transit-using public. The end result of the effort will form a cohesive vision for the future of transportation in Rhode Island, alongside the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Bicycle Mobility Plan, two plans that are already underway.

TOD Planning Continues

The Rhode Island Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Working Group had its second meeting on April 19. The group- made up of municipal planners, State agencies, and transit providers- is tasked with assisting the Division of Planning with the creation of tools to make transit oriented development simpler and more attractive to developers in Rhode Island. The group is assisting the Division with: the creation of an interactive, web-based map; model ordinances for urban and suburban contexts; and potentially creating a Statewide program to designate "official" TODs. In addition to the working group, the



Division of Planning is arranging for a field trip to Canton, MA to explore real-world transit oriented development around the town's "T" station. The Division is also working with Grow Smart RI on the creation of a Transit Oriented Development land use training aimed at local planners and planning/zoning boards. For more information, please contact Principal Planner Drew Pflaumer at Drew.Pflaumer@doa.ri.gov.

Hopkinton Comp Plan Approved

The State Planning Council (which serves as the State's metropolitan planning organization, or "MPO") recognized the Town of Hopkinton at its May meeting and awarded a Certificate of Recognition for the State approval of the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Hopkinton's planner James Lamphere worked closely with Statewide Planning staff during the drafting and review of the plan. The Plan serves to guide development and conservation locally, while addressing Statewide goals and policies. Click [here](#) to read Hopkinton's Plan.



(L. to R.): David Westcott, Mason & Associates; James Lamphere, Town Planner; Linda St. Amor, former Planning Assistant; Sean Henry, Planning Assistant; Kevin Nelson, DOA Supervising Planner; Michael DiBiase, DOA Director.

We want your news!

Do you have an article about a planning project or item of interest from your town that you would like to include in our newsletter? Please [contact us](#) and you might see it here.

Planning Employee Spotlight



Benny Bergantino is a Senior Planner who has been with the RI Division of Planning since 2004. Benny earned both a M.A. in Community Planning and a B.A. in Psychology/Sociology from URI. While pursuing his education, he worked full-time at Citizens Bank and interned for both the Cranston Planning Department and the RI Economic Policy Council. Benny's various duties include planning and project consistency review, municipal technical assistance, and monitoring Title VI/DBE compliance. Outside of the office, Benny serves as a member of the Warwick Planning Board. Among his free-time activities, he enjoys spending time with his family (especially dancing with his four-month old daughter Abigail Jane) and competing in fantasy sports leagues. Contact Benny at Benny.Bergantino@doa.ri.gov.

Transportation Advisory Committee

May 24 at 5:30PM

Conference Room 2A
DOA, One Capitol Hill
Providence

Technical Committee

June 1 at 9AM

Conference Room 2A
DOA, One Capitol Hill
Providence

State Planning Council

June 14 at 9AM

Conference Room 2A
DOA, One Capitol Hill
Providence

PHOTO TRIVIA:

Do you know where in RI this building is located?

See the answer at the bottom of the newsletter.



Events

May 11 Deadline for [Session Proposals: 2018 SNEAPA Conference](#) Hartford. Share your expertise and experiences in planning and development with a session at the 2018 Southern New England American Planning Association (SNEAPA) Regional Planning Conference. The Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association (CCAPA) is hosting this annual event at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, CT on October 18-19, 2018. Send submissions to programs@SNEAPA.org.

Providence Preservation Society Lecture Series:

All lectures are free, but [registration](#) is required. Locations vary: check [web page](#) for more information.

- **May 18** "WPA Parks of Providence." 5:30PM. A lecture by landscape architects on the Works Progress Administration's involvement in the creation of Lippitt Memorial Park and Blackstone Park. Location: Lippitt Memorial Park Fountain, 1015 Hope Street, Providence.
- **May 21** "Paving the Park, Bridging the Future: The New Deal in Roger Williams Park." 6PM. A lecture on the Works Progress Administration's construction of the roads, bridges and sidewalks of Roger Williams Park. Location: Dalrymple Boathouse, Maple and Cladrastis Avenue, Roger Williams Park, Providence.
- **May 23** "No Wine, Many Women, One Song: Stories of the Wedding Cake House." 5:30PM. In celebration of its recent restoration by the Dirt Palace, this special lecture will explore stories from the history of the Kendrick-Prentice-Tirocchi House, aka the Wedding Cake House," located on Broadway in Providence.

June 5 RIAPA session: "Medical Marijuana: What RI Planners Should Know." 12PM-1:30PM. DOA Room 2A, 1 Capitol Hill, Providence. This workshop will include a discussion about Rhode Island Superior Court decisions addressing medical marijuana and a review of various local ordinances. Best practices for balancing regulation of this

unique use of land with individual rights under State law will also be discussed. 1.25 CM (pending). Attendance is free, but please register to events@rhodeislandapa.org.

June 13 "Revitalizing and Redesigning Cities in the 21st Century." Grow Smart RI and the Rhode Island Israel Collaborative presents one of Israel's most accomplished architects, Eliezer Armon, who has been deeply involved for many years in overcoming Israel's housing shortages and revitalizing/redesigning Israeli cities. 5:30PM-7:30PM. Location: TBD. Register [here](#).

June 25 RIAPA Law Session with Peter Ruggiero. 12PM at the Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick. 1.5 CM (pending). Free. For more information, please contact events@rhodeislandapa.org.

Grant Opportunities

May 11 Deadline for [NRCS/RI Conservation Conservation Innovation Grant](#). This program will stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies. Applications will be accepted from eligible entities for projects carried out in the state of Rhode Island. Projects may be between one and three years in duration. The maximum award amount for a single award in FY 2018 is \$75,000.

May 31 Deadline for [National Endowment for the Humanities' "Common Heritage" grant](#) program, which supports community digitization and outreach events to increase public awareness and stewardship of heritage collections held by the public. America's cultural heritage is preserved not only in libraries, museums, archives, and other community organizations, but also in all of our homes, family histories, and life stories. The Common Heritage program aims to capture this vitally important part of our country's heritage and preserve it for future generations.

Planning Articles of Interest

[The war over Airbnb regulations in Boston keeps escalating](#)

[Does good transit make a neighborhood affordable?](#)

[Rhode Island's forests generate plenty of green](#)

[The American housing reset](#)

[Kelo goes to Hollywood: New movie dramatizes Supreme Court decision](#)

[Los Angeles tests the power of "play streets"](#)

Check out our website for plans, maps, publications, and more!

www.planning.ri.gov

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PHOTO TRIVIA ANSWER: Whitehall House (1729), Middletown

Home of the **Whitehall House Museum**

Photo: Whitehall House website
