

STATEWIDE PLANNING e-NEWS

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We're Here to Help

One of the central missions of the [Statewide Planning Program](#) is to enable cities and towns to create great communities.

The staff of the Statewide Planning Program is here to help, with everything from document review to data gathering, fact checking to facilitation. Our staff has expertise in a variety of topics, including GIS and mapping, public participation, data analysis, redevelopment planning and urban design.

If you think your community could benefit from the assistance of the Statewide Planning Program, contact Jared Rhodes at 222-5772 or Jared.Rhodes@doa.ri.gov.

The Statewide Planning Program Completes New State Rail Plan

Rail in Rhode Island has advanced significantly over the past few years with the opening of commuter rail stations at Wickford Junction and the Warwick Interlink.

And now Rhode Island has a new [State Rail Plan](#). The State Planning Council approved the plan at its March 13, 2014 meeting.

The Rail Plan, prepared by Statewide Planning Staff in collaboration with RIDOT and the State Rail Plan Advisory Committee, establishes a blueprint for the future direction of RI's passenger and freight rail investments. It replaces the previous 1993 Rhode Island Freight Rail Plan, and it was developed to meet or exceed federal requirements for state rail plans.

The Rail Plan describes RI's existing passenger and freight rail system and its connections to the region, and it includes a comprehensive inventory of active and inactive rail facilities in the State. The Plan also details existing proposals for expanded passenger service in the State, including South County Commuter Rail, the Providence Streetcar, and service to Pawtucket/Central Falls.

The Rail Plan identifies issues and challenges for both passenger and freight rail, and it presents a detailed Implementation Program, with a vision, goals, objectives, policies, and implementation actions in six areas: safety and security, infrastructure condition, system reliability, congestion reduction, economic vitality, and environmental sustainability. These are tied to phased, prioritized Investment Program that includes short and long-range projects, each with a cost estimate and potential funding source.



Statewide Planning's Committee Meetings



State Planning Council

May 8th 2014, 9:00 a.m.

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI
Conference Room A

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/council/planningcouncil/>

Technical Committee

May 2nd, 2014, 9:00 a.m.

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI
Conference Room A

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/council/technical/>

Transportation Advisory Committee

May 22nd, 2014, 6:30 p.m. a.m.

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI
Conference Room A

<http://www.planning.ri.gov/council/transportation>

State of Rhode Island

Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission

Call for nominations for the 6th Rhody Awards for Historic Preservation.

The Rhody Awards honor great preservation achievements, people who have made a difference in their community, and projects that inspire others to protect special places in Rhode Island. More information and nomination forms are available on the Commission's website at <http://www.preservation.ri.gov/conference/awards/awards.php>

Please submit a nomination by May 23, 2014, and save the date for the Preservation Celebration where we will present the Rhody Awards: September 28, 2014.



You're Invited! RhodeMap RI Regional Open Houses in May

You're invited to attend six interactive RhodeMap RI open house events between May 5th and 14th to contribute to ideas for growing Rhode Island's economy and providing for healthy homes, neighborhoods and communities.

The open houses will be staffed and sponsored by the Rhode Island Department of Administration's Division of Planning as part of the RhodeMap RI initiative.

"Through interactive media, participants at the May RhodeMap RI open houses will be able to learn about and provide feedback on proposed goals, policies and strategies for building a better future for Rhode Island," added Kevin Flynn, Associate Director for Planning.

The upcoming RhodeMap RI open house events are the culmination of an extensive outreach and research effort. Since August 2013, hundreds of Rhode Island citizens have participated and shared their ideas through 23 regional workshops, over 30 focus groups and meetings, as well as online. RhodeMap RI has connected with a wide array of groups and individuals, particularly reaching out to those who are traditionally under-represented in statewide planning initiatives.

Dates and locations are listed on the flyer at the back of this newsletter and more information can be found through www.rhodemapri.org/events.

Registration for the upcoming May events is not required. Members of the public are encouraged to drop in at any time during these "open house" style events. For those interested in hearing from Division of Planning staff, three ten-minute presentations will provide a brief overview and summary of RhodeMap RI at the top of each hour (5:00 PM, 6:00 PM, and 7:00 PM for evening events, and 9:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 11:00 AM for the morning event.)

For those unable to attend or who want to spend more time with the information, survey tools are available on RhodeMap RI's website (www.rhodemapri.org) from May 5 to 23, 2014.

We hope to see you there!



The U.S. Geological Survey in cooperation with the Rhode Island Water Resources Board is please to announce that the report "Equations for estimating selected streamflow statistics in Rhode Island" is now available online at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2014/5010/>.

The USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2014:5010 provides multiple and simple linear regression equations to estimate the 99-, 98-, 95-, 90-, 85-, 80-, 75-, 70-, 60-, 50-, 40-, 30-, 25-, 20-, 15-, 10-, 5-, 2-, and 1-percent flow durations and the 7Q2 (7-day, 2-year) and 7Q10 (7-day, 10-year) low-flow-frequency statistics. An additional 49 selected statistics, for which regression equations were not developed, also were estimated for the long- and short-term streamgages and partial-record stations for flow durations between the 99.99 and 0.01 percent and for the mean annual, mean monthly, and median monthly streamflows. A total of 70 selected streamflow statistics were estimated for 41 long-term streamgages, 21 short-term streamgages, and 135 partial-record stations in and near Rhode Island.

The streamflow equations and at-site statistics will be added to the USGS Rhode Island StreamStats web site (http://water.usgs.gov/osw/streamstats/rhode_island.html) over the next few months. I will send a follow-up email when the equations are functioning in StreamStats.

Hard copies of the report will be available on about May 1, if you would like a hard copy please send me an email with your address and I will mail a hard copy to you.

Again many thanks to the RI Water Resources Board for providing funding to support this project.



Municipal Training Offered Conducting Effective Land Use Reviews

The Grow Smart Rhode Island Land-Use Training Collaborative is offering training for Planning Boards, Zoning Boards, and Town Councils. **Conducting Effective Land Use Reviews** is led by experienced Land Use Attorneys and Planners, this workshop will guide you through your legal responsibilities as a public official in Rhode Island and discuss in detail the legally required procedures and best practices that should be followed in conducting land use reviews. The workshop provides ample time for participant questions.

We will be offering the one-night training in Tiverton at the Tiverton Town Hall on Wednesday, May 28th from 5:30pm until 9:00pm (including a light dinner).

The total training fee is \$30.00; the fee covers training, training manual, and a light supper. The Rhode Island Interlocal Risk Management Trust provides registration fee assistance for Trust members for this training.

Advance registration by Wednesday, May 21st is required. Registration will be closed once capacity has been reached. For full information go to www.growsmartri.org or contact Jodi Castallo, Training Coordinator, jcastallo@growsmartri.org or 401-273-5711 ext. 6.

Need to update your job skills? We have the answer!

- **Tuesday: May 20, 2014 Grant Writing**, Everything you need to write a successful grant.
- **Wednesday: May 21, 2014 EXCEL Made Simple**, Learn how to design, format, save and print spreadsheets, use automatic formulas, manage lists of information and more.
- **Wednesday: May 28, 2014 Advanced EXCEL Formulas, Data Analysis, & Charting**. Learn Financial, Logical, Text, Lookup, and Statistical formulas; Summary options, Absolute Referencing, and much more.

Registration cost: \$99 each

Registration form on our webpage: http://www.uri.edu/prov/certificate_noncredit/noncredit/profdevelopment.html

All workshops meet at **URI Feinstein Providence Campus 80 Washington Street, Providence~ 9am-4pm in Room 329.**

All workshops use the Microsoft Office 2013 setting.

Handouts are filled with shortcuts, step-by-step guides/tips and include instructions for **Office 2013, 2010, 2007, and 2003.**

Free parking at the RI Convention Center Parking Garage.

Each participant will receive a Certificate of Completion for the workshop.

We can run any of our workshops on site at your organization. Contact me for more details.

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**THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND**



Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month: May 2014

In 1978, a joint congressional resolution established Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. The first 10 days of May were chosen to coincide with two important milestones in Asian/Pacific American history: the arrival in the United States of the first Japanese immigrants (May 7, 1843) and contributions of Chinese workers to the building of the transcontinental railroad, completed May 10, 1869. In 1992, Congress expanded the observance to a monthlong celebration. Per a 1997 U.S. Office of Management and Budget directive, the Asian or Pacific Islander racial category was separated into two categories: one being Asian and the other Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander. (US Census Bureau)

This month's Census Data Bulletin will profile Asian/Pacific Americans in Rhode Island. Look for it at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/geodeminfo/data/bulletin.php>



Building a Better Rhode Island

***RhodeMap RI
Regional Open Houses
May 5 — 14, 2014***

You're Invited! Stop by anytime.

RhodeMap RI is a forward looking effort to make Rhode Island a better place to live and work. The project is developing new state plans to build a better Rhode Island by strengthening our economy, creating vibrant neighborhoods, and planning for future growth.

Provide feedback on goals, policies and proposed strategies on how the State can...

Grow its economy.

Ensure safe and healthy homes.

Plan for future conservation and development.



Join us at any of the forums! Pick one closest to you.
All forums will be held 5 PM to 8 PM., unless otherwise noted.

Monday, May 5th

The Southside Cultural Center
393 Broad Street
Providence, RI

Thursday, May 8th

St. Lucy's Parish Center
909 West Main Road
Middletown, RI

Saturday, May 10th

Navigant Credit Union
693 Broad Street
Central Falls, RI
9 AM—12 PM

Monday, May 12th

Warwick Public Library
600 Sandy Lane
Warwick, RI

Tuesday, May 13th

Wickford Middle School
250 Tower Hill Road
North Kingstown, RI

Wednesday, May 14th

NeighborWorks Blackstone River
Valley C3 Center
between 179 and 193 Sayles St.
Woonsocket, RI

You do not need to register. Child care will be provided on site.
Spanish interpreters will be available. To request other languages, call 272-1717.
Deaf/Hearing impaired assistance is available. Please contact Krista Moravec at 401-272-1717 or kmoravec@horsleywitten.com at least two weeks in advance.

Twitter: [@rhodemapri](https://twitter.com/rhodemapri)
Facebook: facebook.com/RhodeMap

More information: www.rhodemapri.org