

# STATEWIDE PLANNING e-NEWS

Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program • One Capitol Hill • Providence, RI 02908 • 401.222.7901 • fax 401.222.2083 • [www.planning.ri.gov](http://www.planning.ri.gov)

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

### FFY 2017-2025 Draft State Transportation Improvement Program and Amendment #7 to the FFY 2013-2016 State Transportation Improvement Program

The RI State Planning Council will conduct **2 public hearings**. These hearings will be held to accept comments on the FFY 2017-2025 Draft State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Amendment #7 to the FFY 2013-2016 STIP.

#### Opportunity for Public Comment - FFY 2017 – 2025 Draft STIP

The State Planning Council is developing the STIP for federal fiscal years 2017-2025. The STIP is a nine-year program which includes Bridge Capital, Bridge Maintenance, Debt Service, Contingency-Inflation, Drainage Capital, Drainage Maintenance, Headquarters Operations, Maintenance Capital, Maintenance Operations, Pavement Capital, Pavement Maintenance, Planning – Program Development, Toll Operations, Traffic Safety Capital, Traffic Safety Maintenance, Transit Capital (RIPTA & RIDOT), Transit Operations (RIPTA & RIDOT), Other Transit Initiatives (RIPTA), Route 6/10, and Transportation Alternatives projects that are eligible to receive federal funding. The TIP must be updated at a minimum of every (4) years in accordance with federal requirements and the State Planning Council's Rules of Procedure and the first four years of the STIP (FFY 2017-FFY 2020) must be fiscally constrained. This STIP update included a full solicitation of new projects from Rhode Island state agencies, municipalities, organizations, and individuals. These projects were reviewed by subcommittees of the State Planning Council's Transportation Advisory Committee, RIDOT, and RIPTA staff. Recommendations were incorporated into the full draft FFY 2017-2025 STIP document. A complete description of the STIP development process is outlined in the draft STIP document. The public comment period for this document begins on April 25, 2016, includes the two (2) public hearings outlined below, and closes on June 26, 2016. All comments on the draft FFY 2017-2025 STIP must be received by June 26, 2016.

The draft FFY 2017-2025 STIP is available for review online at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/statewideplanning/transportation/tip.php>

#### Opportunity for Public Comment - Amendment #7 to the FFY 2013 – 2016 STIP

Amendment # 7 is being proposed to the FFY 2013-2016 STIP for the State of RI as adopted by the State Planning Council on July 12, 2012. The amendment has been requested by the RIDOT and the RIPTA. This proposed TIP amendment realigns the FFY 2016 projects of the STIP with additional available state and federal funding sources and with RIDOT's Ten Year Strategic Plan (FFY 2016 to FFY 2025). In addition, this amendment includes new transit and highway projects not included in the FFY 2013-2016 STIP. This amendment will affect all programs of the STIP. The public comment period for this amendment begins on April 25, 2016, includes the 2 public hearings outlined below, and closes at the conclusion of the second public hearing on May 26, 2016. All comments on Amendment #7 to the FFY 2013-2016 STIP must be received by the close of the hearing on May 26, 2016.

The proposed amendment is available for review online at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/statewideplanning/transportation/tip.php>

Informational presentations and formal public hearings for both FFY 2017 – 2025 Draft STIP and Amendment #7 to the FFY 2013 – 2016 STIP will be held: **Thursday, May 26, 2016 at 2:30 p.m. and at 6:30 p.m.**, DOA, Conference Room A, 2 Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

Each public hearing will include the same informational presentation. All persons may present their views on the draft FFY 2017-2025 STIP or Amendment #7 to the FFY 2013-2016 STIP documents in person, through a representative, or by filing a written statement with the Secretary of the State Planning Council. Written statements may be submitted at the hearings noted above or mailed to Jared L. Rhodes, Secretary (Acting), Rhode Island State Planning Council, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908.

This meeting place is accessible to individuals with disabilities. Any individual requiring a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should contact Thomas Mannock, Ph.D at 401-222-6377 (voice) or #711 (R.I. Relay) 5 business days in advance of the meeting. Any individual requiring the services of an interpreter to participate in this meeting should contact Michael Moan at 222-1236 (voice) at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Any individual requiring the services of a spoken language interpreter to participate in this meeting should contact Michael Moan at (401) 222-1236 (voice) at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Public transit schedule information for the public hearings is available from RIPTA at (401)781-9400 or [www.ripta.com](http://www.ripta.com).



**Statewide Planning’s Committee Meetings**

**State Planning Council, Thursday, May 12, 2016, 9:00 a.m.,** One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, Conference Room A

**Technical Committee, Friday, May 6, 2016, 9:00 a.m.,** One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, Conference Room A

**Transportation Advisory Committee, Thursday, May 26, 2016, 6:30 p.m.** One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, Conference Room A

**RIGIS Executive Committee, Thursday, June 16, 2016, 1:00-3:00 p.m.** USDA-NRCS, Main Conference Room 60 Quaker Lane, Warwick, RI 02886

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

The Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) is currently developing a Bus Stop Design Guide for use by RIPTA, the Rhode Island Department of Transportation, and local communities to incorporate transit infrastructure into the roadway network in accordance with Complete Streets legislation. RIPTA welcomes public input on bus stop design and is specifically looking for municipal operations and maintenance considerations associated with bus pull-overs, shelters, and street furniture. Three public meetings are scheduled for comment on draft bus stop typologies:



- Thursday, June 9, 2016, 5:30 to 7:30 PM at the Newport Gateway Center, 23 America's Cup Ave, Newport, RI 02840
- Wednesday, June 15, 2016, 3 to 7 PM, Providence Foundation, 30 Exchange Terrace Conference Room, Providence, RI 02903
- Monday, June 20, 2016, 6 to 8 PM, 1 Depot Square, Woonsocket, RI 02865

For more information, see [www.ripta.com](http://www.ripta.com) or contact Greg Nordin, RIPTA Principal Planner – Special Projects at [gnordin@ripta.com](mailto:gnordin@ripta.com).

Check the latest Rhode Island QuickFacts from the Census Bureau, updated with 2014 employment data.



[QuickFacts Website](#)

QuickFacts is an easy to use application that shows tables, maps, and charts of frequently requested statistics from more than ten Census Bureau censuses, surveys, and programs. Profiles are available for the nation, all 50 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, and all counties. Cities and towns with a population of 5,000 or more are also included.



## Cool, crisp, clear...safe to drink?

Learn how to protect your private well water.

### **Free workshop for private well owners**

Protect yourself, your family, your property and your investment.

#### **Learn:**

- The importance of regular testing
  - How to protect your well water from pollution
  - Proper well maintenance
- 
- Tuesday, May 17, 2016, 6–7 pm, Block Island Free Library
  - Tuesday, June 12, 2016, 6-7 pm. Cross Mills Public Library, Charlestown, RI

To register, call URI at 401-874-4918. Space is limited; pre-registration is required.

For more information on private well protection, see: [www.riweltesting.org](http://www.riweltesting.org)

These workshops are conducted by the University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension Water Quality Program and the RI Department of Health. Funding provided by the RI Department of Health Capacity Development Program.

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## URI's Geospatial Training Program

### Using ArcGIS.com

**June 2, 2016**, 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM, Cost \$100.00, For more information and to register:  
[http://www.edc.uri.edu/training/Arcgis\\_online](http://www.edc.uri.edu/training/Arcgis_online)



### Web Maps and Geographic Data

This is a half-day training program that will introduce you to ESRI's FREE online mapping application available at ArcGIS.com and give you the tools to access the volumes of data being served from RIGIS which are easily accessible in this interface.

- Explore ready to use map services from RIGIS and others (hundreds of maps!)
- Query existing data
- Build your own maps using readily available data from RIGIS and other sources
- Create your own data (import: .csv, .txt, addresses, .gpx, heads-up digitizing)
- Share your maps via e-mail, Facebook, Twitter or embed the code into your own website

ArcGIS Viewer is an online service developed by ESRI® that allows users to upload, download, and create data. Users may choose to make their map data public or limit access by using groups.

### Introduction to GIS

**May 23 –25, 2016**, 8:30 AM - 4 PM, Cost: \$750.00, For more information and to register:  
<http://www.edc.uri.edu/training/intro-to-GIS>

This three-day hands-on computer course provides an introduction to the capabilities of GIS. Using ESRI's ArcGIS 10.2®, software, we teach the fundamentals of working with GIS data, how to query a GIS database, edit spatial and attribute data and how to present data using maps, reports, and graphs. We also work extensively with the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) database.

All participants receive hands-on software instruction, training materials with step-by-step exercises and training data. Upon successful completion of the course, participants receive a URI Certificate of Course Completion. Classes are taught at URI's Kingston campus.



### Executive Office of Commerce (EOC)

### Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD)

## CDBG-DR Planning Grants Available Statewide

Approx. \$500,000 in CDBG Disaster Recovery funds is available for planning-only activities.

The applicant must document a reasonable nexus between the proposed planning activity and the impacts of **Hurricane Sandy** (Oct. 2012); **Hurricane Irene** (Aug. 2011); and/or **Winter Storm Nemo** (February 2013); and resulting unmet needs. Eligible applicants include all Rhode Island municipalities, state agencies, and non-profit organizations that provide essential governmental services to low and moderate income persons.

Application materials are available at <http://www.planning.ri.gov/community/development/disaster/>. CDBG-DR application forms must be used. One CDBG-DR public hearing is required. (Applicants may coordinate the required CDBG-DR application hearing with the regular CDBG application hearing(s).) While applications may be submitted at any time, for **maximum consideration submit applications to OHCD by May 13, 2016**. Contact Laura Sullivan at 401-222-6844 or [Laura.Sullivan@doa.ri.gov](mailto:Laura.Sullivan@doa.ri.gov) for more information.

Municipalities are also encouraged to submit applications for eligible Sandy/Irene/Nemo Disaster Recovery activities that meet the CDBG national objective of predominately benefiting low and moderate income persons.



## RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS

SAVE THE DATE - MAY 17, 2016

### RISEP SPRING LUNCHEON HIGH RESOLUTION SITE CHARACTERIZATION

Thank you to  
Western Oil, Inc  
for their sponsorship!



1-800-240-5540

RISEP thanks **Western Oil** for generously sponsoring our email announcements through June 2016.

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- Petroleum Transportation
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- Marine Transfers
- Vactor Services
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Website: [www.westernoil.com](http://www.westernoil.com)

Dear RISEP Members and Friends,

RISEP will hold a technical luncheon on Tuesday, May 17th

at the Rhode Island Foundation, 1 Union Station, in Providence. Matt Ednie from Zebra Technical Services will discuss high resolution site characterization methods and strategy.

Please plan to join us for this interesting program and a delicious catered lunch. Further details of the event, including registration, will follow. We welcome you to sponsor this program to support RISEP's scholarship fund.

Please contact Rick Carlone about sponsoring the event at the Gold, Silver, or Bronze level.

RISEP is a nonprofit corporation formed in 1989 to encourage and facilitate the development and support of the environmental services industry in Rhode Island.

More information about our organization is available at [www.risep.org](http://www.risep.org).

# Water Words that Work

## A workshop with communication expert Eric Eckl

Make a splash with your communications! Relearn the language that everyday citizens use and you will become more confident and successful as you set out to enlighten the uninformed and persuade the undecided to take action on behalf of our rivers, lakes, and oceans.

**Thursday, May 5, 2016 | 10:00 am-4:30 pm**  
Save The Bay, Providence, RI



**Part 1: The perils of preaching to the choir.** Learn how and why most environmental messages miss the mark. After completing this training, you will be able to spot the signs of "preaching to the choir" and recognize when you are sending messages that go over your target audience's head.

**Part 2. The Environmental Message Method, Steps 1-4.** Learn to transform professional-level conservation writing into messages that are suitable for everyday citizens. You will learn steps 1-4 of the "Environmental Message Method": Begin With Behavior, Foolproof Photos, Swap the Shoptalk, and the Words That Work.

**Part 3. The Environmental Message Method, Steps 5 and 6.** You will learn to incorporate storytelling techniques into your message, and how to measure the reading level of your materials and determine if it is a good fit for your audience.

Updated in 2015 to include:

- Results of an in-depth national assessment that provides even deeper insight into what triggers environmental stewardship from everyday citizens
- Startling new findings on photos and logos
- Message approaches that conservation communicators can "borrow" from Amazon, Netflix, and other online powerhouses
- Tips on grammar choices that makes your readers mad -- and how to avoid them

**Audiences:** scientists, public officials, natural resources professionals, environmental educators, and anyone else interested in communicating environmental messages more effectively! **6 AICP credits available.** [Check out some of the testimonials.](#)

**Cost:** Thanks to NOAA funding, we're able to offer this workshop for the very low price of **\$25!** A light breakfast and lunch are included. Seats are limited so **[please register](#)** today (<http://asri.doubleknot.com/event/water-words-that-work/1899817>). Registration deadline is April 27, 2016.

**Contact:** Jennifer West, [jennifer@nbnerr.org](mailto:jennifer@nbnerr.org), 401-222-4700, x 7413.