



Rockingham Planning Commission

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REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009 July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009 ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION

Land Use Planning

TARGETED BLOCK GRANT

(Funding Source: NHOEP; LOCAL DUES)

1. Geographic Information System Support

a) General support of GIS to include the following:

- ESRI accredited ArcView, ArcGIS, Geodatabase or other GIS training and/or attendance of staff at NEARC or other annual GIS conference for non-transportation staff;
- maintenance contracts or software upgrades for ArcInfo 9.x and ArcView 9.x software (one-half share);
- attendance at RPA GIS Users meetings and GIS Day (UNH);

b) GIS Local Technical Assistance and Support:

General day-to-day support in responding to requests for assistance on local mapping projects, training assistance in the integration of GPS data in local maps, in updating and duplicating pre-existing GIS maps created for earlier projects, dissemination of current (2005) digital orthophotography, assistance in procurement of GIS services, and basic training of local officials in the use of GIS.

c) Mapping Support for the Regional Master Plan

The Regional Master Plan is presently being developed and will work on individual chapters will continue into FY-09. This task will support the preparation of maps and associated analysis to be included in the regional master plan.

2. Training & Education for Land Use Boards

a) Planning Board Training: Continue planning board training series to consist of two training workshops or seminars focusing on one or more of the following: planning board procedures, responsibilities, land use regulations, innovative zoning, enforcement, planning law, regional impact review, or general development review techniques. One of the sessions will be specifically designed to provide training tailored to new planning board members.

b) NHARPC Planner Training Initiative: The RPC will participate in the continued development and staffing of an NHARPC initiative to provide an organized training venue targeted at two audiences: less experience professional planning staff and planning board administrators and clerks. Separate curriculum has been develop for each audience.

3. Matching Grant Planning Assistance Program for Non-Coastal Communities

There are 14 communities in the non-coastal area of the RPC that are members of the agency. Similar to how the coastal communities have Coastal Program funds available to them, these funds would be made available to the non-coastal communities for a 50/50 matching program for planning projects. Specific projects will be solicited from the communities and judged based on the project description, demonstrated need, and availability of local match. Proposals from the seven RPC communities that are eligible for neither Coast Program funds or I-93 CTAP discretionary grant funds will be given priority. Non-dues paying- members will be ineligible for these matching grant funds. A total of \$12,000 of matching funds will be available. Maximum matching amounts per project is \$3000.

4. Development/Updating of Regional Master Plan Chapters

Continue ongoing development and updating of the RPC Regional Master Plan, per content requirements of RSA 36:47 and content recommendation of RSA 674:2. Chapters to be developed or updated in 2008-2009 include Housing, Conservation/Natural Resources, Water Resources, Hisotric Resourcse and revision to the Future Land Use Chapter Chapters.

5. Developments of Regional Impact

Provide RPC DRI committee support; develop comment letters and recommendations to affected local land use boards, attend local land use board meeting concerning developments of regional impact, . Develop and adopt rules of procedure for the DRI Committee.

6. Community Energy Committee Assistance

Assist newly formed Community Energy Committee to carry out their activities, as needed and as staffing resources are available. This work may include general committee organizational assistance, conducting local energy inventories, and adapting model wind turbine or local energy ordinances to meet specific community needs.

NH COASTAL PROGRAM

(Funding Source: NH CZP; Local Dues, Communities)

1. Planning Assistance for Coastal Communities

The RPC will receive grant funds to provide technical planning assistance matching grants to communities who wish to undertake local planning projects or activities that will benefit and/ or help protect coastal resources. For FY 09 these projects include:

- Exeter: Provide planning assistance to the Exeter Planning Board in preparing amendments to the town Zoning Ordinance and producing aerial photography maps in support of the zoning amendments.
- Greenland: Provide general technical planning assistance to the Greenland Planning Board including attending monthly Board meetings, review of development applications, preparation of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, assisting the Board in implementing land use and natural resource related Master Plan recommendations, and attending the RPC's Projects of Regional Impact Committee meetings as needed.
- Hampton: Assist the Hampton Town Planner and Planning Board in preparing a draft Natural Resources chapter for the Master Plan and produce a GIS layers

depicting town-wide natural resources.

- Hampton Falls: Provide general technical planning assistance to the Hampton Falls Planning Board including attending monthly Board meetings, review of development applications, preparation of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, updating the town's tax maps with annual assessor's information, and attending the RPC's Projects of Regional Impact Committee meetings as needed.
- North Hampton: Provide general technical planning assistance to the North Hampton Planning Board including attending monthly Board meetings, review of development applications, preparation of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, assisting the Board in implementing land use and natural resource related Master Plan recommendations, and attending the RPC's Projects of Regional Impact Committee meetings.

2. Groundwater Sustainability Study (USGS/NHDES)

(Funding: Local Dues)

Continue staff participation and support as requested in the implementation of the major groundwater sustainability study being carried out by the USGS and NHDES with funding from the NH Coastal Program and coastal communities. Final publication of the report will occur this year; RPC will assist with dissemination at public meeting and with individual communities.

3. Groundwater Study Committee (NHDES/NH Coastal Program)

(Funding: NH Coastal Program; Local Dues)

Continue staff participation on the NH Groundwater Study Commission (SB 155)

4. Regional Wastewater Management Study (SB-70) (NHDES/NH Coastal Program)

(Funding: NH Coastal Program; Local Dues)

Continue staff participation any remaining activity relating to the Great Bays Estuaries Committee or EAST and dissemination the Metcalf and Eddy final report, "Alternatives Report – NH Seacoast Region Wastewater Management Study (November 2007)"

5. Conservation Commission Circuit Rider Program (NHDES/NH Coastal Program)

(Funding: NH Coastal Program; Local Dues; Local In-kind services)

Provide staff support to conservation commissions in two coastal program communities for such activities as: attending monthly meetings, providing general organizational assistance, and providing direct technical assistance relating to water resource protection initiatives, drafting proposed land use regulations and master plan chapter sections, promoting sustainable development practices and engaging in public outreach programs.

6. Tidal Energy Commission (NHDES/NH Coastal Program)

(Funding: NH Coastal Program; Local Dues; Local in-kind services)

RPC staff will continue to provide limited staff support and involvement in the State Tidal Energy Commission, including active monitoring of NHTidal and UEK preliminary permit and site investigations for installation of tidal electric generators in the Piscataqua River.

7. Coastal Adaptation Planning (NHDES/NH Coastal Program)

(Funding: NH Coastal Program; Local Dues; Local in-kind services)

Rockingham Planning Commission will provide technical assistance to the pilot community of Seabrook to develop "adaptation" strategies and methods to identify and protect areas of increased risk from coastal flooding due to climate change. RPC will assist the selected community in mapping areas vulnerable to flooding and will develop tools to limit or regulate future development or redevelopment in these areas.

Environmental Planning/Natural Resources/Water Resources

REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING PROGRAM (REPP)

(Funding: NH Department of Environmental Services; Local Dues)

Task 1 – Innovative Land Use Controls for Sustainable Development:

RSA 674:21 authorizes local planning boards to adopt a wide range of innovative land use controls, many of which can be used to implement sustainable development principles and practices. In the past little guidance existed for New Hampshire communities on specific approaches and techniques for implementing these ordinances and regulations. In particular, models of such regulations have been absent. Over the previous two years the nine RPC's have developed a guidebook covering the most important of these techniques. Models for twenty three of the techniques have been developed for the guide grouped into three broad categories: multi-density zoning; environmental characteristics zoning, and site level design.

The focus now is on providing direct assistance to communities in implementing one or more of the models contained in the Guide. Solicitations will continue to be made and support will be provided for up to 6 communities per year.

Task 2 – Sprawl Indicators:

Continue to participate in the activities of the RPC/DES Sprawl Indicators Workgroup coordinated by NHDES as needed.

Task 3 – Source Water Protection Training

Participate in the annual Source Water Protection Training session for planners sponsored by DES. Topics for the training will include: basic groundwater information, regulations, water quality, emerging issues, and favorable gravel well analysis. Update Favorable Gravel Well Analysis for the RPC region.

Task 4 – Discretionary Environmental Planning Assistance

- A. Assistance with Local Land Protection Applications – Assist communities or other public or private entities in the preparation of project applications under the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program or similar program. This may include holding or participating in one or more regional application workshops in addition to working with individual applicants.
- B. Smart Growth Local Technical Assistance: Provide technical assistance to communities requesting implementation of smart growth land use regulations and development review procedures or other techniques, to address water quality or other environmental concerns. Such assistance shall be coordinated with the DES Smart Growth Planner.
- C. Coastal Conservation Plan Implementation: Provide technical assistance to coastal watershed communities as requested to assist them in implementing the *Coastal Conservation Overlay District* as recommended in the *Land Conservation Plan for Coastal Communities*.

(Funding: EPA 604B Program; Local Dues)

The RPC will continue to provide technical assistance to the Exeter River Local Advisory Committee (ERLAC) under the provisions of the New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Program. For over 5 years the RPC has provided organizational and technical planning assistance to ERLAC, which is responsible for developing and adopting a management plan for the river. Work task for Fiscal Year 2008, are proposed to include:

- Assist ERLAC, watershed conservation commissions, and other groups with the organization and implementation of the Annual Exeter River Alewife Festival; assist ERLAC with other public education and outreach projects.
- Continue to provide technical and administrative support for monthly ERLAC meetings.
- RPC staff will review land development proposals and draft letters to relevant parties; arrange for meetings with developers proposing projects in the watershed and invite Planning Board and Conservation Commissions to attend these meetings. RPC will submit response letters regarding development proposals, and minutes from meetings with developers, Planning Boards, and Conservation Commissions in both electronic and hard-copy to DES on or before the project completion date;
- Prepare grant requests to the NH Coastal Program, NH Estuaries Project, New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, State Conservation Committee and other organizations to secure funding for implementation of Management Plan recommendations.
- RPC staff will attend two public outreach workshops, one on vernal pools and one on wildlife habitat. RPC staff will develop and distribute workshop notices and press releases and arrange for speakers for these events. RPC will submit press releases for two public outreach workshops in both electronic and hard-copy to DES on or before the project completion date.

NHEP Management Committee

(Funding: Local Dues)

The RPC will continue to participate on the NH Estuaries Program Management Committee representing RPC communities and regional interests.

Exeter Subwatershed Management Plan

(Funding: NHDES/EPA-319; Town of Exeter; In-kind services match)

RPC staff will assist DES to conduct a vulnerability analysis, prioritization of risk among the eleven sub watersheds of the Exeter River, and establishment of ranking for restoration/protection actions. Four sub watershed plans will be developed based on this outcome and in consultation with ERLAC and appropriate watershed communities. RPC role focuses on coordinating public and town official outreach and engagement.

Exeter River Fluvial/Geomorphic Study

(Funding: NHDES; FEMA)

RPC staff will provide GIS mapping, community communication and coordination, and ordinance development assistance in connection to a Geomorphologic study of the Exeter River. Three regional meetings about the study and its findings will be held; maps will be produced and distributed to all watershed communities, and assistance will be provided to communities in the modification of local flood plain and site development regulations to account for study recommendations.

EPA Brownfields Site Assessment Program

(Funding: EPA; RPC Dues)

In the first year of the three year program, RPC staff assembled a regional Brownfields advisory Committee and worked through them to select a project consultant (Credere Associates, Portland, ME) conduct a region wide inventory of potential site and selected and prioritized five sites for further

investigation. In the second year (2008-2009) Phase 1 assessments of the 5 top candidate brownfields sites will be conducted after securing the interest and cooperation of the individual landowners. The 5 sites for Phase 1 assessments are located in Portsmouth, Hampton, Exeter, Fremont and Epping.

Transportation Planning

(Funding Sources: FHWA; NHDOT; FTA; Local Dues)

The RPC is responsible for the organization and maintenance of the federally mandated metropolitan planning process and MPO (metropolitan planning organization) within the RPC region. This is the first year for this planning under the redesignated RPC-MPO in which the RPC region is co-terminous with the MPO. Significant work effort this year will be devoted to compiling and re-adopting key planning and procedural documents from the former Seacoast and Salem-Plaistow-Windham MPOs. The major transportation planning tasks carried out in the new RPC-MPO study areas are fully defined in the FY 2008-2009 Unified Planning Work Program adopted by the Commission in May 2007. Key work items includes are as follows

TASK 101 Data Collection and Analysis:

- Complete Upgrade of Seacoast Travel Demand Model. Staff and consultants (RSG, Norwich VT) substantially completed this effort begun in 2007-2008. The focus of this task this year is to test and calibrate the new model for use in the upcoming air quality attainment area (8 hour ozone standard) analysis for the TIP and Plan and also to use it to develop land use “scenario” modeling to support the Long Range Transportation Plan and Regional Master Plan. The purpose of the model upgrade is to increase the resolution of the existing model by expanding the number of Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) and the extent of the roadway network included in it. The model is crucial for the quantitative analysis of proposed projects, the identification and forecasting of capacity constraints, and for air quality conformity analyses. With greater geographic density the model can be more readily used in sub-area analyses and to model the travel demand impacts of alternative future land use development patterns.
- Coordinate development and maintenance of the travel demand model with the Strafford MPO. The model is used and maintained jointly with the Strafford MPO. With the advent of the MPO redesignation, new protocols and procedures will need to be developed to coordinate UPWP resources used to support the model and to ensure consistency in how it is maintained and updated.
- Analyze, summarize and distribute existing land use maps to communities. Detailed land use mapping has been completed in the I-93 Corridor as part of the CTAP program. This mapping utilizes the 2005 digital orthophotography (Sanborn Maps) acquired by NHDOT in 2006. To establish a consistent land use database for the MPO area, similar detailed mapping was carried out for the remaining 20 Towns in the study area over the past year (2007-2008). This year the data will be disseminated and used both in local planning and in analyzing and summarizing land use growth patterns in the region. Such data is critical for many of the planning activities required in other areas of the UPWP, including travel demand modeling.
- Continue extensive traffic data collection efforts to support NHDOT traffic data needs; assist communities with local technical studies and analysis. We will upgrade equipment and use outside assistance, as necessary, to effectively complete this program. The majority of the counting program will be carried out by outside vendors, but we will maintain in-house capacity and equipment to support special traffic studies as needed.

TASK 102: Policy and Plan Development Review:

- SAFETEA-LU Implementation. Complete the updating of all MPO planning documents to identify gaps between current practices and SAFETEA-LU requirements. The MPO will address critical gaps first to ensure compliance and prevent delays in the implementation of the transportation program. Where appropriate, minor compliance-oriented changes to MPO documents that do not represent policy changes will be updated as administrative amendments.
- Development of New Long Range Transportation Plan RPC staff will develop a fully SAFETEA-LU compliant Long Range Transportation Plan (2009-2035). The plan will include both short and long range element and a financial plan demonstrating financial constraint, and will address SAFETEA-LU specific element including environmental mitigation, operation and maintenance of the transportation system, and transit coordination.
- Implementation of MPO Memoranda of Understandings (MOUs). MPO redesignation and realignment was accomplished in 2007-2008. As such, all existing MPO documents for the Salem-Plaistow-Windham and Seacoast MPO were combined and/or substantially revised to address the realignment. This included interim revisions to the Long Range Transportation Plan and TIP, and a new Prospectus. In 2008-2009 this work will be completed with the reestablishment of MOUs between the MPO and cooperating agencies such that they are consistent with the MPO redesignation and are up to date in content.
- Fiscal Constraint and Financial Planning: In cooperation with NHDOT, COAST and the other New Hampshire MPOs (and RPAs as appropriate), develop procedures for estimating funding targets appropriate for the MPO TIP and Long Range Plan. The process for developing such estimates will include an analysis of historical data of revenues and project costs and will incorporate expected cost inflation into project cost estimates. Such estimates will become the basis for the financial plan incorporated into the TIP and Plan.
- Annual Listing of Projects: Update an Annual Listing of Obligated Projects as required by SAFETEA-LU. The listing will include pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and will identify any significant delays in the planned implementation of major projects. As is done presently, this listing will be incorporated into the MPO's TIP or in a separate addendum if the TIP is not amended at least annually.
- Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plans: Staff will work with COAST, Strafford MPO and Human Service Agency staff to complete development of a compliant Coordinated Human Services Transit Plan in the portion of the MPO served by COAST. This will primarily involve continued assistance to the Alliance for Community Transportation (ACT) effort underway for the past year. A coordinated plan for the Salem-Plaistow-Windham area of the MPO has already been completed and adopted, but will be updated and readopted as a component of the redesignated MPO's Transportation Plan.
- Transition to Air Quality Conformity Analysis under 8 Hour Standard: In cooperation with NHDES, NHDOT and the other MPOs, fully integrate the analysis of air quality conformity for the Southern New Hampshire non-attainment area as needed to comply with the 8 hour standard.
- Improve the Project Development and Scoping Process of the Long-Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program. Staff will refine project selection and evaluation procedures to reflect recommendations made in the State Long Range Transportation Plan. This will include the development of more detailed project descriptions, verification of community support and better-cost estimates.
- Develop Corridor Planning Approach within Long Range Transportation Planning: The State Long Range Transportation Plan is likely to recommend that the state adopt a "tier" based corridor planning approach. Implementation of this at the region/MPO level will require adapting existing

approaches. Staff will work with the NHDOT to identify Tier 1 and Tier 2/3 corridors in the region and develop appropriate approaches for each.

- Implement the MPO Public Involvement Plan to assist in identifying transportation needs and proposed solutions in the MPO region. In 2007-2008, the MPO developed a new Public Involvement Plan in accordance with SAFETEA-LU. This year MPO staff will work toward full implementation of the elements of this Plan.
- Participate in the statewide bicycle/pedestrian planning process through the statewide advisory committee. Improve bicycle safety through education and awareness efforts for both motorists and cyclists. Provide assistance to interested communities in the development of “Safe Routes to School” programs. Work with Seacoast Commuter Options to continue promoting and expanding Bike/Walk to Work Day.

TASK 103: Implementation:

- Project Monitoring and Tracking. In cooperation with the NHDOT, the MPO will increase its level of effort in the ongoing tracking of projects as they progress from the TIP to engineering, ROW and construction. This is an area of increased effort recommended by the FHWA and often requested by our communities. More thorough understanding of project status will enable MPO staff to anticipate TIP amendment requests and to explain the reason for changes and delays in project implementation. It will also assist in the preparation of the Annual Listing of Obligated Projects under Task 102.
- Startup Assistance – CART MPO staff will continue to provide staff support and startup assistance to the Cooperative Alliance for Regional Transit (CART) in the Salem Derry area. Activities this year will focus on achieving FTA Certification and working our long term funding allocations for FTA Section 5307 funds.
- Increased MPO involvement in transportation project implementation, design review and CSS. The NHDOT and regional planning commissions are collaborating in improved project scoping and early design review phases of project implementation. Where appropriate MPO staff will participate, provide comments, and assist in obtaining local input. Both Commissions may reserve resources to contract with engineering and design professionals to assist with these efforts as necessary. In addition the MPO will assist in implementing a standard Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) approach to project design by, in the appropriate circumstance, assisting with stakeholder identification, participating as a stakeholder in project scoping and design, or acting as facilitator of stakeholder groups.
- Improve general awareness and understanding of transportation, land use, air quality and energy issues on the part of local officials, legislators, and the public. The MPO staff will facilitate the presentation of information through the MPO meetings and public presentations. We will educate members of the community, including elected officials, regarding general transportation, air quality, quality of life and transportation policy issues that impact our region and Northern New England.
- Continue active involvement with the implementation of the I-93 Expansion project. This will include participation in the NH-MA Bi-State Transit Investment Alternatives Study for the corridor, the CTAP Program and “Salt-Ed” project for developing a Chloride TMDL in I-93 impacted watersheds.
- Provide Technical Assistance to COAST in general operations and planning for regional transit coordination in the Seacoast. Staff will continue to serve on the COAST board, assist with an update to the COAST municipal funding formula, collaborate with COAST and Strafford MPO staff on an analysis of the economic impact of COAST service, and work with COAST and US1 corridor communities to plan an expansion of COAST service south of Portsmouth. Staff will also work with

COAST as part of the Alliance for Community Transportation, a collaborative of municipalities and provider agencies working to establish a regional transit brokerage serving the Greater Seacoast.

- Monitor and promote new commuter/inter-city transit services along the Route 28/I-93 and Route 101 corridors. The MPO will assist where possible to support the startup of Boston commuter service from Windham and Salem in association with the widening of I-93. To the extent possible, the MPO will also assist in the implementation of passenger rail service to Plaistow and other enhancements to Downeaster Service. Note that implementation of rail service to Plaistow is on hold until NHDOT is able to negotiate an arrangement with Pan Am Railway (formerly Guilford Rail Systems) to allow station construction.
- Salem Area TMA: Assist Salem in implementation of the TMA component of the Salem Employment Trip Reduction Integration Project (SE-TRIP).

TASK 104: Local Technical Assistance:

- Work toward improved Integration of transportation and land use planning. Using recommendations and techniques included in such studies as the Route 16 Corridor Protection Study the Route 125 Corridor Feasibility Study, the Route 1 Corridor Study, CTAP, REPP Innovative Land Use Guide and other sources, MPO staff will assist communities in implementing land and zoning regulations which better integrate land use planning and transportation objectives. Staff will also work toward the incorporation of these principals in planning documents and in project design and in providing education and outreach directed to local land use boards
- Continue MPO involvement in the development and implementation of access management plans in the region Specific efforts will include: assistance to communities in the Route 125 and Route 1 corridors to implement land use and access management recommendations of the respective Corridor Studies; assisting the development and execution of Access Management MOUs with NHDOT District VI, and to monitor the development of project plans for implementing highway improvement in the corridors.
- Provide assistance in support of project development and funding identification. This task will include assistance to communities and agencies for the TIP project solicitation, Transportation Plan, CMAQ and Enhancement proposals, and assist applicants in other TEA-21 applications as desired, including the Transportation and Community System Preservation (TCSP) and Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedoms programs.
- Route 1 Corridor Study – MOU Implementation: The US 1 Corridor Study will be published and distributed to communities in the summer and fall of 2008. Follow-up efforts on implementation will be to work with each community to execute Access management Memoranda of Understanding with the Town and NHDOT.
- Provide resources to communities for technical studies. The Commission will budget for both staff assistance and matching grant assistance for specialized transportation studies which support smart growth principles and improved integration of land use practices with transportation planning.

TASK 105: Program Administration:

- Implement Indirect Cost Rate method of cost allocation. Submit indirect cost rate proposal identifying a provisional indirect cost rate to be use as the basis of monthly billing and cost allocation. Monitor indirect costs in relation to monthly allocation computations.
- Prepare Annual Performance Report. Compile and submit an Annual UPWP Performance Report at the end of each fiscal year (state) reporting on UPWP activities, including a summary of tasks not

accomplished, and reasons why.

OTHER TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS/PROJECTS

- Continue to represent RPA's and participate in the development of a new State Long Range Transportation Plan at Community Advisory Committee and 'In-reach' committee.
- Continue to participate in the development and implementation of the I-93 Community Technical Assistance Program (I-93 CTAP) including:
 - Administration & passthrough of Community discretionary Grants
 - Enhanced land use mapping
 - Buildout analysis
 - Community planning assessments
 - Open space planning assistance
 - Regional grantwriting assistance
 - Inclusionary housing program administration
 - Agricultural Resource protection initiative - administration
- Monitor and assist in the implementation of transportation projects and studies in the region. In FY 2009, these will include:
 - Windham-NH111-Wall Street Corridor Study: Coordinate and facilitate the execution of the Wall Street – NH111 Corridor Study; Hire and monitor chosen consultant to carry out the study.
 - Brentwood NH 125 Corridor Study: Develop final project scope, conduct consultant selection process, hire consultant and monitor progress in executing the corridor study of NH 125 in Brentwood.
 - Participation in technical advisory and review and comment on work products for the Bi-state Transit Alternative Study to evaluate long term transit options for the I-93 corridor;
 - COAST – Route Planning; System Analysis; Staff Assistance;
 - Completion of US Route 1 Corridor Study Update (SPR);
 - Provide assistance as needed to Greater Portsmouth TMA and Salem TMA implementation;
 - Bicycle Shoulder Improvement – various locations including Pioneer Road, NH 111 in North Hampton, Winnacunnet Road and Exeter Road in Hampton, and others;
 - Participation in Special Study Committee with DOT, FHWA, & FTA to review/revise TIP amendment process and procedures;
 - Completion of the Epping Road Corridor Study/Access Management Plan;
 - Completion of Regional Master Plan Component SPR Project, including scenario planning and analysis of alternative growth patterns in the region.
 - Continue work with MVPC on NH 125 Study implementation and other cross-border transportation issues; and

Economic Development Planning

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

(Funding: Rockingham Economic Development Corp., Local Dues)

Provide assistance to the REDC in updating of the 2008 Rockingham County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), in support of on-going regional economic development planning efforts. The RPC's responsibilities will include updating demographic and economic data and associated analyses, assisting with reviewing and updating goals, objectives and recommendations, including the priority project list, researching status of major regional economic development projects and providing support and input at Steering Committee and REDC Board meetings. The original CEDS was completed in 2000; a major rewrite was completed in 2005; annual updates are completed for intervening years.

Related to the CEDS, the RPC will also continue to participate in outgrowth initiatives of the Bi-State Economic Development Summit held in 2007. The NH-ME Bid state Economic Development summit resulted in regional initiatives involving transportation, energy and green technologies and others, all coordinated through the CEDS and MPO processes.

Other Regional Programs

Hazard Mitigation Planning

(Funding: NH Office of Emergency Management, RPC)

Continue development of Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans for communities in the region. In 2008-2009 a Hazard Mitigation Plan for South Hampton will be prepared, which will mark completion of Hazard Mitigation Plans in all 27 communities. Also in 2008-2009, the RPC will perform the 5 year updates for the HM Plans in Portsmouth, Rye and Fremont.

FEMA Flood Insurance Program Assistance

(Funding Source: RPC; FEMA; NHOSP; NHOEM)

Provide technical assistance to the NH Office of Energy and Planning in administering the FEMA Flood Insurance Program. This work includes making 'community assistance visits' (CAVs) and 'community awareness contacts' (CACs) with communities selected by FEMA, and participating in regional NFIP training sessions.

Developments of Regional Impact Review

(Funding: Local Dues)

Continue to staff the Developments of Regional Impact Review Committee which reviews and comments on proposed development in the region that may have regionwide impact. (RSA 35:54-58). Work on strengthening the regional impact review process and local awareness, and complete follow-up on Planning Advisory on Regional Impact Guidelines distributed in FY 07. Attend local planning board meetings as warranted to provide testimony on regional impact projects.

Hazardous Waste Collection: (Exeter, Stratham, Newfields, East Kingston, Epping)

(Funding: Local Dues)

Coordinate five-town cooperative hazardous waste and electronics collection each year, including grant application, volunteer and other logistics coordination. Epping was added to the program in 2007

Legislative Policy Development

(Funding: Local Dues)

Develop and distribute RPC legislative policy priorities for the 2009-2010 Legislative Session.

Information Distribution

(Funding Source: Local; NHDOT; FHWA; OSP)

Newsletters; Website updates; Zoning Amendment Calendar; Other Planning Advisory Memos;
Census Distribution; Law Lecture Series; Press Releases