



November 2023

Quonset Freight Field Trip

State, local, and private-sector freight partners participated in a Statewide Planning event on October 19 at [Edesia](#), a company located in the Quonset Business Park, to learn about the impact freight movements have on the community and the importance freight companies have on the local and state economy.

Edesia is a non-profit social enterprise founded in 2010 that produces specialized foods targeting different stages of malnutrition. Their main product ("Plumpy'Nut") does not need water or refrigeration and can be administered at home. It is nutritionally-dense and can rehabilitate a malnourished child under the age of five in just eight weeks. The factory produces 1.3 million pounds of product that reaches 69,000 children worldwide every week. Since 2010, the company has sent their product to sixty-five countries and has helped twenty-two million people.

Edesia staff took the group on a tour of the factory and explained the many quality control measures they take, as well as the logistical freight issues they have while shipping their products from Quonset to Africa and other continents. Tour members were also able to sample Plumpy'Nut at the conclusion of the tour, and found it to be very tasty!

The goals of the municipal freight field trips are to give municipal staff, [Freight](#)



to help develop a greater capacity to address freight issues through short-range and long-range planning.

These trips and tours provide an opportunity for planners to connect directly with some of the state's largest freight generating companies and facilities.

If you would like to learn more about our

Advisory Committee members, and agency partners an increased understanding of freight and goods movement within their community, and

freight field trips or have an idea for one in your community, please contact Joshua O'Neill, AICP, Supervising Planner, at Joshua.Oneill@doa.ri.gov or visit the Statewide Planning [freight webpage](#).

Planners' Roundtable: December 1



There will be a roundtable discussion for municipal planners on:

Friday, December 1 from 2:30PM-4PM at the Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Lane.

Join other Rhode Island planners for a discussion about the ordinance and regulation changes needed as a result of bills passed by the General Assembly in 2023. Hear how other planners are handling these issues and bring your questions and suggestions.

There is no need to RSVP: just show up! A planners' happy hour at a local watering hole will follow.

This event is co-sponsored by the [RI Division of Statewide Planning](#) and the [Rhode Island Chapter of the American Planning Association](#).

Technical Assistance Winner Announced

In late August, the Division of Statewide Planning launched our 2023 Municipal Technical Assistance Program solicitation, seeking applications from municipalities interested in support for planning projects that enhance active transportation opportunities, increase mobility choice, and promote walkability and bike-ability of neighborhoods.



After reviewing applications from six municipalities, we are pleased to announce that the City of East Providence has been chosen for assistance for their application to create a “Citywide Comprehensive Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.” East Providence has identified a connected citywide bicycle and pedestrian network as a priority in the transportation element of their current draft Comprehensive Plan update. A connected bicycle and pedestrian network is also a priority for the city in coordination with other ongoing planning efforts to connect the East Bay Bike Path, the Ten Mile River Greenway Bike Path, and the planned separated bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure for the Henderson Bridge redesign.

Most residents in East Providence rely on single-occupancy vehicles for their primary means of transportation, in part due to a lack of detailed comprehensive planning of safe, on-street, dedicated bicycle facilities and well-connected, high-quality ADA-compliant sidewalks for pedestrians. Statewide Planning’s assistance will provide a consultant for a planning process to bring together residents, businesses, non-profits,

and government to dig deep and discuss the ways that East Providence's transportation network can be re-imagined for the future. We look forward to working with the city to make active modes of transportation safer, more convenient, and more readily accessible!

Statewide Planning Meetings

All meetings are open to the public.

State Planning Council

November 9- 9AM

Room 2A, 1 Capitol Hill- Providence

Water Resources Board

November 17 - 9AM

Room 300- 235 Promenade St.
Providence

Transportation Advisory Committee

November 23 - 5:30PM

Room 300- 235 Promenade
Providence

Technical Committee/ Planners' Roundtable Discussion

December 1- 2:30PM

Warwick Public Library
600 Sandy Lane

PHOTO TRIVIA

Where in Rhode Island can you find this statue?
See the answer below!



Events

November 1 Planning for Economic Development. Learn about economic trends and forecasts; best management practices to stay ahead of trends; and strategic planning with short-term and long-term goals. Time: 1PM. Free. 1 CM.

November 2-3 Historic New England Summit. Conference presents conversations on how challenges and opportunities are transforming historic preservation, architecture, and urban planning. Location: The Vets, 1 Avenue of the Arts, Providence, and online. Fee: \$45-\$160.

November 2 Mitigating Air Pollution Exposures from Transportation. Hear about the relationship between transportation, air pollution, and health effects, and communities' work to develop mitigation strategies. Time: 1PM-2:30PM. Free. 1.5 CM.

November 2 Workforce Housing in the Long Term Services and Supports Sector. This AARP workshop will bring together practitioners from sectors across RI to discuss strategies to address the housing access crisis. Time: 10AM-11:30AM. Free.

November 7 Scenario Planning for Food Systems: Case Studies with Food Systems Foresight. Learn about using scenario planning to explore shocks and stressors food systems around the world are facing. Time: 10AM. Free. 1 CM SR.

November 7 [Speed Management Policies and Practices.](#) Learn strategies from the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center on how to set appropriate speed limits and design a transportation system that facilitates safe travel speeds. Time: 2:30PM. Free.

November 8 [Climbing Down From The Fiscal Cliff: Lessons From Transit Advocates.](#) Explore how transit advocates raised awareness and successfully persuaded legislators to take dramatic actions to address these urgent needs. Time: 1PM-1:45PM. Free.

November 9 [Developing Scenario-Based Plans](#) Decision-based scenario planning is an effective tool for understanding coastal development that is at risk, generating data to support policies and regulations aimed at reducing this risk. Time: 2:30PM. 1 CM SR.

November 9 [Role of Schools in Climate Change & Energy Transition.](#) Session will discuss developing a “best practices playbook” for sustainability and resilience planning of public institutions. Time: 1PM. Free. 1.5 CM.

November 9 [Scaling up! Landscapes of Productive Planting Exploration.](#) Lecture by Kate Kennen, ASLA, of Principal Offshoots. Time: 7PM. Location: URI Beupre Center for Chemical and Forensic Science, 140 Flagg Road (Room 105), Kingston. Free.

November 10 [Advancing Towards a Smarter and More Sustainable Transportation System.](#) Learn how connected/automated vehicles could impact parking economics in downtown urban cores and how micromobility could impact emissions and energy use. Time: 12:30PM. Free.

November 11 [Improving Efficiency & Building Trust in Government.](#) Automation can help government build trust by simplifying interactions. Hear from a city that uses automation to reduce complexity and costs, and improve staff productivity. Time: 2PM.

November 14-16 [Places of Economic Opportunity.](#) Project for Public Spaces training offers a deeper look into how some public markets and advocacy organizations create a better environment for market newcomers. Time: 10AM-12PM. Fee: \$250.

November 15 [Operationalizing Equity.](#) Hear two cities in conversation as they discuss how to move from an equity framework to on-the-ground implementation. Time: 3:30PM. Free. 1 CM Eq.

November 15 [Planners' Use of Social Media.](#) Social media is a useful tool for planners, but there are things that planners should know before starting a social media strategy, including public records laws and accessibility. Time: 12PM-1:15PM. Free. 1.25 CM.

November 15 [State Programs for Electric Vehicles and Bicycles.](#) WTS luncheon re: clean transportation programs from the RI Office of Energy Resources. Time: 11:30AM-1:30PM. Location: Marriot Downtown Providence, 1 Orms Street. Fee: \$25-\$40.

November 16 [Climate Conversations: Future of Fossil Fuels.](#) Conversation will include discussion of environmental remediation, maintaining the safety and reliability of existing fossil fuel infrastructure, and socioeconomic impacts. Time: 3PM-4:15PM. Free.

November 16 [Healthy and Vibrant Main Streets: Unlocking the Potential of RI's Commercial Districts.](#) Explore strategies for place-based economic development and revitalization with experts from New England and beyond. Time: 8:30AM-3:30PM. Location: The Barn at the Guild, 461 Main St., Pawtucket. Free, but lunch is \$25.

November 16 [Mall of the Future: Strategies for Activation and Placemaking.](#) Hear industry experts discuss how communities can take advantage of sites to address

economic development, equity, and inclusivity. Time: 1:30PM. Free. 1 CM.

November 17 [Climate Resilience in Housing: Collaborating for Success](#). Session will describe how to achieve climate resilience for an aging population and provide tips for more climate-resilient communities. Time: 1PM-2:30PM. Free. 1.5 CM.

November 17 [Offshore Wind in Our Backyard: Fourth Annual Rhode Island Offshore Wind Conference](#). What does it mean for Rhode Island to be growing offshore wind in our backyard? Time: 8:30AM-12PM. Location: Online and at District Hall, 225 Dyer St., Providence. Fee: \$30-\$140.

November 17 [Safe for Whom? Mobility Justice and Biking Where Black in the Context of Traffic Safety and Enforcement](#). Talk will explore mobility justice, examining the equity impacts in two US contexts. Time: 12PM-1PM. Free. 1 CM Eq.

November 20 [Approvals, Permits, and Compliance: Navigating the Regulatory Waters from Trail Plan Through Construction](#) Webinar about the processes, jurisdictions, timelines, and documentation needed to get a conceptual trail project through approval and implementation. Time: 1PM-2PM. Free.

November 28 [Climate Resilience for an Aging Nation](#). CNU webinar features Danielle Arigoni discussing her new book, *Climate Resilience for an Aging Nation*. Time: 12PM. Free. 1 CM SR.

November 30 [Crisis as Catalyst: Meeting the Moment with Transformational Investments](#). In the wake of a weather event, a pandemic, or something else, what conditions allowed these changes to take place? Time: 9AM-12:30PM. Location: Nutter McClennan & Fish, 155 Seaport Blvd., Boston, or online. Fee: \$15-\$45.

November 30 [Digital Transformation of Trail Management and Monitoring](#). Webinar about a system to revolutionize the management of trails that allows inputs from IOT devices, volunteer trail crews, and citizen science applications. Time: 1PM-2PM. Free.

Grants & Deadlines

November 3 [Carbon Reduction Strategy Plan](#) deadline for submitting comments to help RIDOT strategize how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the state's transportation sector.

November 6 [Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing \(PRO Housing\)](#) supports communities to remove barriers to affordable housing, such as outdated zoning, land use policies, or regulations or gaps in available resources for development (new deadline).

November 7 [Healthy Homes Production Grant Program](#) takes a comprehensive approach to addressing childhood diseases and injuries by focusing on low-income housing-related hazards in a coordinated fashion.

November 13 Various EPA Brownfield Grants' deadline:

- **[Assessment Coalition Grants](#)** fund one "lead" eligible entity to partner with two to four eligible entities that do not have the capacity to apply for and manage their own EPA cooperative agreement.
- **[Cleanup Grants](#)** provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at one or more brownfield sites.

- [Community-wide Assessment Grants](#) provide funding to inventory, characterize, assess, conduct a range of planning activities, develop site-specific cleanup plans, and conduct community engagement related to brownfield sites.
- [Multipurpose Grants](#) fund a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities, including planning and additional community engagement activities.

November 13 [Community Placemaking Grants from the Project for Public Spaces](#) enable nonprofits and government agencies to address inequality of access by working with local stakeholders to transform public spaces or co-create new ones.

November 14 [AmeriCorps State and National American Rescue Plan Planning Grants](#) provide support to develop a program that will engage AmeriCorps members in implementing evidence-based interventions to solve community problems.

November 15 [Dangerous by Design Technical Assistance Program](#) will equip local champions with knowledge of data and trends around traffic safety, how to incorporate data into local actions, and how to increase support of safer streets for all road users.

November 15 [Inspire! Grants for Small Museums](#) support project-based efforts to serve the public through exhibitions, educational programs, digital learning resources, and community outreach.

November 15 [Thriving Communities Grant letter of interest](#) deadline for disadvantaged/transportation-insecure communities adversely affected by environment issues or climate to comprehensively plan for quality community development projects.

November 17 [NOAA's Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants](#) support habitat restoration projects that restore marine, estuarine, or coastal ecosystems using approaches that enhance community/ecosystem resilience to climate hazards.

November 22 [Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program- Phase 2](#) provides USDA funding to meat and poultry processors for new facilities and for the renovation and expansion of existing facilities.

November 24 [Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grant - Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act 2023 Grant](#) funds provide technical assistance to repair essential community facilities in rural areas that were damaged by Presidentially-declared major disasters in calendar year 2022.

November 30 [Landscape Scale Restoration](#) from the USDA Forest Service provides funds for science-based restoration of priority rural forest landscapes.

November 30 [Local Agriculture and Seafood Act \(LASA\) Grants Program](#) provides grants that directly benefit and strengthen the local food system in Rhode Island.

December 1 [Rhode Island Council for the Humanities Major Grants](#) intent to apply deadline for grants (\$2,000+) in support of public projects and documentary film/media projects that will begin after April 1, 2024.

December 6 [RIDEM Outdoor Recreation grant program](#) provides matching funds to cities, towns, and recognized tribes for the acquisition, development and renovation of outdoor recreational lands and facilities.

Articles of Interest

[South Coast town aims for housing affordability through ADUs](#)

[When a structure is not a structure](#)

[More affordable housing may be coming RI's second smallest town](#)

[As Maine warms, scientists search for trees that will keep its forests growing](#)

[Over 39K people moved out of RI last year. Where did they go?](#)

Contact Us

Click [here](#) for staff contact information.

Photo Trivia Answer

NEW SHOREHAM

"Rebecca at the Well" (1896)

Photo: Classroomclipart.com

RI Division of Statewide Planning | 235 Promenade Street, Suite 230, Providence, RI 02908
www.planning.ri.gov

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