



July/August 2024

2024 Legislative Wrap-up

Here is a short summary of some of the bills passed by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor that will affect municipal planners:



H 7062 SUB A/S 2998 SUB A – Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs):

- Amends the section of the Zoning Enabling Act that governs accessory dwelling units.
- Identical to the bill that passed the House last year but failed in the Senate.
- Takes effect immediately.

H 7382 SUB A/S 2635 SUB A - Amends Zoning Enabling Act:

- Changes the definition of household to allow one person per bedroom, up to five unrelated persons living together.
- Takes effect immediately.

H 7948 SUB A/ S 2999 – Amends Inclusionary Zoning Act:

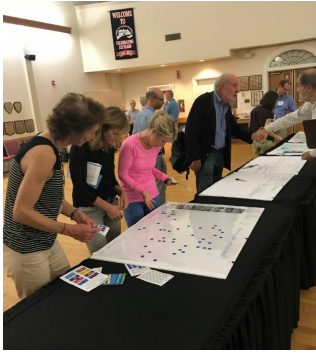
- Amends the inclusionary zoning section of the Zoning Enabling Act to remove the disincentives adopted last year.
- This includes reducing the required percentage of affordable units from 25% to 15%.
- Takes effect on January 1, 2025.

H 7949 SUB A/S 3001 SUB A - Amends Subdivision Review Act:

- Provides technical amendments to the Act.
- Clarifies procedures for determining reduced dimensional standards for lots substandard in area.
- Clarifies use of development plan review (optional) and who has decision making authority (the “permitting authority”).
- Mandates unified development review when both planning and zoning relief is required.
- Takes effect immediately.

**Read
More**

Upcoming Transportation Plan Workshops



Share your experiences about travelling around Rhode Island and help us shape our state's twenty-five year transportation plan!

The Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning is working on a limited update of our state's long-range transportation plan (LRTP). An LRTP is a federally-required plan that sets the vision for a multi-modal transportation system – our roads, bridges, public transit, bike paths, sidewalks, ports, and more - over the next twenty-five years.

All locations are ADA accessible and snacks will be provided. For translation services and additional ADA accommodations, please e-mail [Benny Bergantino](mailto:Benny.Bergantino@RI.gov), Principal Planner.

Moving Forward RI 2050 **Workshops:**

July 9: 5PM – 7PM

Pawtucket Public Library- Campbell Auditorium
13 Summer Street
Pawtucket

July 16: 5:30PM – 7:30PM

West Warwick Public Library- Nash Room
1034 Main Street
West Warwick

July 22: 12PM – 1PM

Virtual via Zoom
[Register here](#)

July 22: 5:30PM – 6:30PM

Virtual via Zoom
[Register here](#)

Take the RI Housing Needs Survey

The Rhode Island Department of Housing and RIHousing have created a housing survey to learn about Rhode Islanders' housing needs.

The survey is available in English and Spanish and takes approximately fifteen minutes to complete. Survey responses are anonymous and will help with state housing planning.

The goal is to hear from as many Rhode Islanders as possible, so please forward it to your contacts!

The survey will remain open through July 15, 2024.

Survey

Encuesta



CNU Seeks Projects in RI



The annual [Congress for the New Urbanism](#) is being hosted in Providence on June 11-14, 2025. Each year, 1600+ attendees convene to hear from speakers, participate in workshops, collaborate on projects, and learn new strategies

from leaders in dozens of fields. In the run-up to the Congress, CNU will be organizing a handful of “Legacy Projects” – charrettes in communities in and around Rhode Island that pair nationally recognized designers, planners, policy and data analysts, etc. with a local host organization (or organizations) to produce a plan that can catalyze short-term progress and long-lasting impact. To give a sense of the caliber of potential consultants, last year's project teams included [Opticos](#),

CNU's major initiatives are Reforming Detrimental Regulations, Responding to the Rapidly Changing Climate, Freeway Fighters, and Equalizing Access to Affordable Urbanism. The organizers are especially interested in projects that can have a measurable impact on their communities, so here are a few things that would make for a successful project: a reasonable and well-defined scope (not a zoning code re-write in three days!), active host organization(s) that is/are capable of championing the project after the charrette is over, identified/identifiable stakeholders, and a clear path to implementation.

If you have a project in mind or you're interested in learning more, please reach out to [Chris Martin](#) at the City of Providence and [Joel VanderWeele](#) from Union Studio.

Upcoming Statewide Planning Meetings

[Water Resources Board](#)

July 19 - 9AM

Amgen, 40 Technology Way, W. Greenwich

August 21 - 9AM

DOA- Room 2A, 1 Capitol Hill, Providence

[State Planning Council](#)

August 8 - 9AM

DOA- Room 2A, 1 Capitol Hill, Providence

[Transportation Advisory Committee](#)

August 22 - 5:30PM

Rm 300, 235 Promenade St. Providence

All meetings are open to the public.

Do you know where in Rhode Island you can find this building?



See the answer at the bottom of the newsletter!

Events

Events may be held in person, virtually, or in a hybrid format.

July 2 [New Insights into How Micromobility Services Affect Vehicle Miles Traveled](#). Learn how to integrate research findings into a tool for cities to use to estimate potential VMT reduction from micromobility services. Time: 12PM. Free.

July 9 [The MBTA's Fiscal Cliff and the Future of Public Transit](#). How did we get here and what does this mean for the future of public transit in Greater Boston? Time: 10AM-11:30AM. Free.

July 9 [Tools to Understand Physical Risk and Transition Risk in a Changing Climate](#). Explore how organizations can use climate risk scenario analysis to consider challenges and opportunities posed by the risks of a changing climate. Time: 12PM-1:30PM. Fee: \$25.

July 10 [Municipal Coastal Resiliency: Two Perspectives, One Goal](#). Hear from Boston and Mystic, Connecticut and how these two places think about coastal resiliency planning, setting priorities, RFP development, and stakeholder engagement. Time: 11:30AM-1PM. Fee: \$30-\$105.

July 11 [How to Measure Your Downtown's Impact.](#) Learn how to measure and increase your downtown's Return on Emotion ROE®, providing you with a new tool to increase the importance of people and community in your work. Time: 1PM. Free.

July 12 [GIS Automation for Planners: Model Builder.](#) This session is tailored for planners looking to integrate GIS automation into their work, offering practical insights for effective application to common planning tasks. Time: 1PM-2:30PM. Free 1.5 CM.

July 12 [Using Historic Maps in Studies of Structural Racism and Population Health.](#) Webinar will discuss the application of maps in population health research and new efforts to characterize historic environmental hazards using Sanborn Fire Insurance maps. Time: 12PM. Free. 1 CM.

July 16 [Impacts, Lessons, and Insights from Recent Roadway Structure Failures.](#) Presenters will share a methodology and process for evaluating statewide crash data, analysis of truck travel pattern shifts, and flood impacts on vital roadway infrastructure. Time: 10:30AM-12PM. Fee: \$100.

July 16-17 [Climate Crossroads Summit](#) will bring together experts from a broad range of different fields to discuss current and emerging solutions at the scale and scope needed to address climate change. Location: Time: 9AM-4:30PM. Free.

July 17 [Pop-Up Traffic Calming and Placemaking for Small Urban and Rural Communities.](#) Session will engage participants from small towns around the challenges and discuss processes for moving forward community engagement and traffic calming programs. Time: 3PM. Fee: \$85.

July 18 [Grants for Trails: Finding, Applying, and Managing.](#) Introduction to grant funding for trails: how to find, apply for, and manage grants. Time: 1PM. Free.

July 19 [From NIMBY to Not Impossible, Maybe, Better Yet](#) Learn useful techniques for anticipating NIMBY arguments, improving systems to avoid triggers, and recognition of fear of loss of quality of life. Time: 1PM-2:30PM. Free. 1.5 CM.

July 25 [Indigenous Placemaking Along Trails.](#) Learn how indigenous operators have used trails to showcase traditional cultural experiences, ancient canoe routes, traditional culinary experiences, indigenous storytelling, along with many more. Time: 1PM-2:15PM. Free.

August 1 [Welcome to Snowtown!](#) Walk through this long-lost, 19th-century Providence neighborhood that stood at the head of the Providence Cove and hear about Snowtown and Providence's other lost neighborhoods. Time: 5PM. Fee: \$15-\$20.

August 8 [Urban Planning and its Relationship to Land.](#) UC Berkeley webinar series aims to foster meaningful conversations among urban planners hungry for more and to engage with new audiences. Time: 2PM. Free.

August 14 [Resilience Hubs: Essential Infrastructure for Resilient Communities.](#) Learn more about how resilience hubs work and initiatives in Detroit and Hawaii are co-designing resilience hubs in collaboration with community. Time: 2PM-3PM. Free.

August 16 [The Lost Subways of North America.](#) Author Jake Berman discusses and visualizes past, present, and unbuilt urban transit, and the land use policies that enable mass transit to work. Time: 12PM. Free. 1 CM.

August 21 [Bike Comfort: Expanding Understanding Through Data and Empathy.](#) Planners from Cambridge and San Francisco will describe how they are taking a deeper look at what bike comfort means and how this influences their decision-making. Time: 3PM-4PM. Free. 1 CM.

September 12 [APA-RI Summer Social at Narragansett Beach](#) Save the date! The annual APA-RI

Summer Social is back at the North Beach Club in Narragansett for food, drinks, networking, and fun on the ocean. Time: 5PM-8PM. Fee: \$15 members, \$20 non-members.

Grants & Deadlines

July 2 [Regional Conservation Partnership Program](#) helps farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners adopt/expand conservation strategies to enhance natural resources and tackle the climate crisis.

July 11 [NEA Grants for Arts](#) provides comprehensive and expansive funding opportunities for communities supports opportunities for public engagement with the arts and arts education.

July 17 [Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program \(ATIIP\)](#) grant deadline extension for planning/design grants or construction grants.

July 25 [FY24 Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program](#) provides funds to close known capability gaps in Housing and Logistics and Supply Chain Management, encouraging innovative regional solutions to issues related to catastrophic incidents.

July 26 [Municipal Resilience Program \(MEP\) Action Grants](#) from the RI Infrastructure Bank for municipalities that have received designation as a Resilient Rhody MRP municipality to implement priority adaptation actions identified through the MRP planning process.

July 26 [RIDEM Climate Resilience Fund](#) to implement climate resilience projects for climate-driven challenges facing Rhode Island communities, both inland and coastal.

August 14 [National Endowment for the Arts](#) deadline for Media Projects grants and Public Humanities Projects grants.

August 15 [EPA Brownfields Job Training Grants](#) support the creation of good-paying jobs with the free and fair choice to join a union and the incorporation of strong labor standards and workforce programs.

August 15 [NEA Our Town](#) placemaking program funds projects that integrate arts, culture, and design activities into efforts that strengthen communities over the long term.

August 15 [SNEAPA 2024 session proposal](#) deadline. SNEAPA is Southern New England's largest conference for planners and will take place on November 7-8 in Springfield, Massachusetts.

August 20 [History of Equal Rights Grant Program](#) preserves sites related to the struggle of all Americans to achieve the ideal of equal rights.

August 29 [Safe Streets and Roads for All](#) deadline to support planning and demonstration projects and strategies to prevent death and injury on roads and streets involving all roadway users.

August 29 [Underrepresented Community Grants](#) fund surveys and nominations of historic properties associated with communities underrepresented in the National Register.

Articles of Interest

[Banks are finally realizing what climate change will do to housing](#)

[Neighborhood complaints in Lincoln result in short-term rental ordinance](#)

[New law aims to crack down on RI's solar industry](#)

[Congestion charging in NYC: a dream that died](#)

[Other countries have social safety nets. The US has debt.](#)

[MBTA delays Fall River/New Bedford rail service until 2025](#)

RI Statewide Planning Staff

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

Photo Triva Answer

SOUTH KINGSTOWN (Kingston)

Old Washington County Jail (1858)

Photo: Wayfinding.com

RI Division of Statewide Planning | The Foundry 235 Promenade Street, Suite 230 |
Providence, RI 02908 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!