



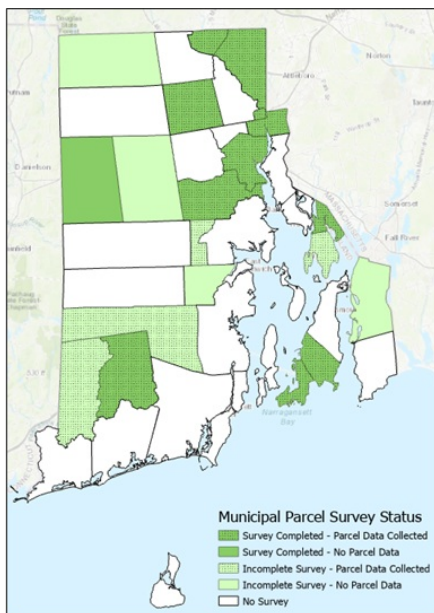
October 2024

October is National Community Planning Month

"Planners work to improve the well-being of all people living in our communities by taking a comprehensive perspective. This approach leads to safer, resilient, more equitable, and more prosperous communities."

-American Planning Association

RI Statewide Parcel Initiative



The RIGIS Data Management Working Group (DMWG) is a subgroup within the RI Geographic Information Systems (RIGIS) Executive Committee, which serves as an advisory committee to the RI State Planning Council. The DMWG was established to support the RIGIS Strategic Management Plan, focusing on collaboration, data acquisition, and the development of new datasets to meet Rhode Island's needs. Currently, the DMWG's primary focus is the Statewide Parcel Initiative.

Phase 1 of the Statewide Parcel Initiative involves gaining a better understanding of municipal parcel polygon data. We are not aiming to change how municipalities manage their data, but rather to understand their parcel data better to maintain a comprehensive Statewide Parcel dataset.

To move closer to our goal, we created a Municipal Parcel Survey was distributed to all thirty-nine municipalities via email, targeting GIS contacts listed on the Municipal Resource Map, as well as planners and assessors. We would greatly appreciate your assistance to complete it! The survey also provides an option for municipalities to share their parcel data.

[Read more](#)

SNEAPA 2024- November 6 & 7

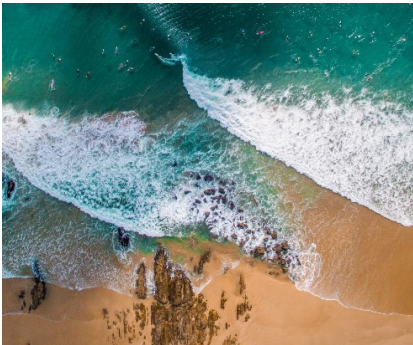
Join five hundred local planners and others at the Southern New England Conference of the American Planning Association ("SNEAPA") to share experiences, collaborate, network, and attend high quality, hands-on and interactive sessions and mobile workshops.



This year's conference is being held at the Mass Mutual Center in Springfield, Massachusetts. The keynote speaker is Charles "Chuck" Marohn, Founder and President of Strong Towns, an organization that supports development that allows America's cities, towns and neighborhoods to be financially strong and resilient.

Hotel rooms are available at the nearby Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place Hotel. Thursday evening's reception will be held at the historic Armory at MGM Springfield. Registration is now open at sneapa.org and the cost varies from \$250-\$390. Student rates are also available.

New Online Ocean Policy and Science Graduate Certificate Program



URI's Graduate School of Oceanography has launched an Online Ocean Policy and Science Graduate Certificate to provide a comprehensive exploration of critical issues at the intersection of marine science, policy, and conservation. Designed for working professionals with non-STEM backgrounds seeking to deepen their understanding of ocean governance, marine resource management, and coastal sustainability, this program provides specialized knowledge and practical skills to address complex

challenges in the field.

Through a flexible online format, students can access top-tier education from experts in the field while balancing their studies with other commitments. Whether currently practicing or aspiring to a career in environmental policy, marine research, or conservation advocacy, graduates emerge equipped to make meaningful contributions to the preservation and sustainable use of our ocean resources. All course material is asynchronous (viewed at any time) and designed so it won't interfere with the workday.

The program is composed of four integrated courses: 1. The Phenomenal Ocean, 2. Introduction to Ocean Governance, 3. Understanding Ocean and Climate Models, and 4. Ocean Resilience.

Please visit web.uri.edu or contact Professor Martha McConnell, Program Director, for more information.

New Employee Spotlight

Asher Eskind is a new Principal Planner with the RI Division of



Statewide Planning on the Transportation team. His tasks include engaging with stakeholders and the public for the upcoming *Long Range Transportation Plan*, as well as creating an inventory of the state's pedestrian infrastructure. In his primary role with RIDSP, he will serve as the freight coordinator, responsible for overseeing planning efforts related to goods movement via trucking, ports, rail, and air transportation across the state.

A North Carolina native, Asher recently received his Master's degree from the City and Regional Planning program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he concentrated in transportation planning. He held a planning internship with San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency working on policy and programming for e-scooters and taxis in his second year of graduate school.

Asher's planning interests range from accessibility within active transportation and transit to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and urban design. He is an avid cyclist, transit rider, and skier, and has recently taken up paddleboarding, knitting, 1800s Victorian house-spotting, and many other activities Rhode Island has to offer. Reach out to Asher at asher.eskind@doa.ri.gov to give him recommendations.

Planners on the Move

More comings and goings in local planning departments:

- **Beth Ashman Collin, AICP**, is the Deputy Planning Director in Cranston.
- **Lara Auclair** is the Grant Writer in the Woonsocket Planning Department.
- **Teresa Crean, AICP**, the former Director of Planning, Building, and Resilience in Barrington, is now the Director of Sustainability and Resiliency for the City of Newport.
- **Herbert Durfee III**, former Warren Town Planner, is the new Barrington Director of Planning, Building, and Resilience.
- **Joshua Magnone** is the new Principal Deputy Director in Central Falls.



To Register: email that you wish to attend to either

Nancy.hess@doa.ri.gov

or

Paul.Gonsalves@doa.ri.gov

Please include in your email:

- Your name
- Your municipality, and

The municipal board / commission appointment you hold

2024



Rhode Island Local Officials Training Summit (RILOTS)

This is an invitation to a **FREE in person** training summit for local officials from any Rhode Island municipal Historic, Planning, and or Zoning Board/Commission

When: Saturday November 9, 2024

Time: 8:30 AM to Noon

A hot breakfast and mid-morning snack will be provided

Where: Crowne Plaza, Warwick, RI

Preregistration is required by email

Attendance will fulfill mandatory land use training requirements for historic, planning, or zoning board/commission members.

Please respond on or before Friday November 1, 2024

Statewide Planning Meetings

All meetings are open to the public.

State Planning Council

October 10 - 9AM

Room 2A, 1 Capitol Hill- Providence

Water Resources Board

October 23 - 9AM

Room 300, 235 Promenade Street Providence

Transportation Advisory Committee

October 24 - 5:30PM

Room 300, 235 Promenade Street Providence

Technical Committee/Planners' Roundtable

December 6 - 2:30PM

140 Sockanosset Cross Rd., Cranston

PHOTO TRIVIA

Where in Rhode Island can you 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.

October 1 [From Being that New Person to Managing the New People](#). This workshop will provide concrete skills and strategies to apply to your work as you transition from the early- to the mid-level stage of your career. Time: 11:30AM-1:30PM. Fee: \$30.

October 2 [Gender-Inclusive Transportation Safety](#). Discussion of the unique safety challenges faced by different genders in various modes of transportation, examining factors and discussing potential avenues for improvement. Time 12PM-1:30PM. Free.

October 2 [Harnessing Local Data for Upward Mobility](#). Harnessing data is crucial for local leaders, advocates, researchers, and anyone committed to advancing upward mobility and racial equity in their communities. Time: 3PM-4:45PM. Free.

October 3 [Walking- From Nation to Neighborhood: Exploring National and State Perspectives](#). Learn about broader public policy impacts that decision making has on individual and community-wide health, quality of life, equity and connectivity. Time: 10AM. Free.

October 8 [Connectivity Solutions for Vulnerable Road Users: Let's Have Safer Roads](#). Webinar on how the City of Chattanooga is deploying leading technologies to create safer, more efficient urban environments for all residents. Time: 2PM. Free.

October 8 [Funding Opportunities To Address PFAS & Emerging Contaminants](#) Join RI Infrastructure Bank and the RI Department of Health on low-to-no-cost funding opportunities to address PFAS impacting public water systems. Time: 11AM. Free.

October 9 [Leveraging the National Climate Assessment \(NCA\) to Empower Communities](#). Learn best practices and opportunities for community engagement at various stages of the NCA development as well as the dissemination process. Time: 9AM-6PM. Free.

October 10 [Crafting Safe Spaces for Every Step with Every Trip.](#) At some point in our everyday lives, we are *all* pedestrians. This webinar will explore MDOT second generation policy for Complete Streets and Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS). Time: 10AM. Free.

October 16 [Adaptive Landscapes and Designing with Sediment.](#) URI Landscape Architecture speaker series featuring Gena Wirth of SCAPE Landscape Architecture. Time: 7PM. Location: URI's Beapre Center, 140 Flagg Rd., Kingston. Free.

October 16 - 18 [Climate Beacon 2024.](#) Event where corporate, municipal, and community leaders come together to chart paths to more sustainable futures. Location: Boston Society of Architects, 290 Congress St, Suite 200, Boston. Fee: \$0 - \$200.

October 16 [Lessons Learned \(So Far\) From the RI Land Use Calendar](#) Join APA-RI to review the decisions that have been issued this year by Superior Court and unanswered questions now that the dust has settled from two years of housing legislation. Time: 12PM. Fee: Free for APA-RI members, \$5 for others. 1 CM Law.

October 17 [Statewide Planning's 60th Birthday Open House](#) Help us celebrate! Time: 1PM-4:30PM. Location: 235 Promenade Street, Suite 230, Providence. Free.

October 17 [Transformational Technologies and Mobility Inclusion.](#) Setting the stage for inclusive transportation as an integral component of the evolving transformative transportation ecosystem. Time: 12PM-1:30PM. Free. 1.5 CM.

October 21 [Resilient Route 114 Public Workshop.](#) Join us to provide input on the Resilient Route 114 Plan. Time: 6PM-8PM. Location: Warren Town Hall, Council Chambers, 514 Main St. Free.

October 23 [How Understanding Urban Renewal Prepares Us for This Moment](#) Webinar will revisit the importance of understanding the impacts of neighborhood disruption and the displacement of communities of color that has occurred since the federal urban renewal projects. Time: 1PM. Free.

October 24 [Step Forward: Advancing Pedestrian Access and Safety.](#) Identifying barriers to safe and comfortable walking and rolling represents the first step in ensuring sidewalks meet everyone's needs. Time: 10AM. Free.

October 25 [Housing and Disasters.](#) Speakers will discuss housing resilience and access in the context of compounding disasters and how to rethink our disaster framework to adapt to this new reality. Time: 12:30PM-1:45PM. Free.

October 28 [From Columbus to Indigenous: Why the Movement for Change.](#) Join RI's Tomaquag Museum for their monthly series on Indigenous history and culture, with a new topic every month. Time: 12PM-1PM. Free.

October 28 - 30 [2024 NNECAPA Conference.](#)The Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association holds their annual conference for over 300 planners and related professionals. Location: Stoweflake Mountain Resort, Vermont. Fee: \$110-\$400.

October 29 [Soil and Groundwater Management 101.](#) Learn more about how soil and groundwater are managed, from both a regulatory and soil receiving perspective. Time: 12PM-1:30PM. Fee: \$30-\$105.

October 29 [Resilient Route 114 Public Workshop](#). Join us to provide input on the Resilient Route 114 Plan. Time: 6:30PM-8:30PM. Location: Barrington Public Library 281 County Road. Free.

October 30 [Generative Artificial Intelligence: Overview of the Applications and Concerns](#). Webinar on the concerns AI creates, including examples of AI applications, how the technology can be deployed, and ethical concerns. Time: 11:30AM-2PM. Fee: \$50-\$200.

October 31 [Fish Passage Funding](#). Dive into the NOAA and FWS Fish Passage funding opportunities and hear from groups who have successfully applied for and received funding from the two sources. Time: 1PM. Free.

October 31 [How Walkability Creates More Equitable and Vibrant Places for All](#) Hear how walkability and related issues are coming together to contribute to more equitable and vibrant communities throughout Maryland. Time: 10AM. Free.

Grants & Deadlines

October 10 [NACWA 2025 U.S. Small Grants Program](#) is a competitive, matching grants program that supports public-private partnerships carrying out projects in the United States that further the goals of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act.

October 15 [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.

Articles of Interest

[Newport is facing a housing shortage: these solutions could be the answer](#)

[Judge rules on Narragansett ordinance limiting college rental housing. What he said.](#)

[The YIMBY push for more multi-family hits a 'nope' from homeowners](#)

[Whimsical RI 'fish barn' sparked controversy, now demolished](#)

[Amid housing shortage, Providence residents weigh development and preservation](#)

Contact Us

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

Photo Trivia Answer

SMITHFIELD
Georgiaville Mill (1853)
(aka Homestead Mill Apartments)
Photo: Apartments.com

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US

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