

July/August 2019

Freight Committee's Landfill Field Trip



On June 12, the State Planning Council's Freight Advisory Committee held its quarterly meeting at the offices of the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC) in Johnston. The committee (and guests) heard from staff of the RIRRC about how China's recent recycling import policy changes have impacted world recycling markets and its effect on the State of Rhode Island's recycling export effort. China has now declared their intention to ban all recyclable imports by 2020, essentially pulling their country out of the market for recycled materials entirely. Rhode Island has adjusted its customer base for recycled materials, the Committee

learned, to make up for the loss of the Chinese market; the State has also made improvements to the materials recycling facility to increase the overall quality and decrease the contamination rate of recycled materials for export.

The group also toured the Central Landfill and other RIRRC facilities to learn more about daily operations and how RIRRC works with municipalities and the public to improve the waste stream and promote reducing waste, reusing materials, and recycling as much as possible.

To participate in a future trip, please contact Josh O'Neill, Supervising Planner: joshua.oneill@doa.ri.gov.



FFY 2018-2027 STIP- Major Amendment #19

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) has proposed changes to the FFY 2018-2027 State Transportation



Improvement Program (STIP). The proposed "Major Amendment #19" affects most STIP program areas and proposes funding adjustments in order to align the STIP with asset management priorities, as well as reflect currently available funding sources. A thirty-day comment period is tentatively scheduled to begin on July 23, 2019 and end on August 22, 2019: during this time, the public will be able to view the proposed major amendment materials, which will be posted on the RI Division of Statewide Planning [website](#).

An opportunity for public testimony before the State Planning Council's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) has tentatively been scheduled for August 15, 2019 at 4PM, at the RI Department of Administration- 1 Capitol Hill, Room 2A, in Providence. Please stay tuned for the public hearing notification on July 23 and the link to our website for the Major Amendment materials.

Changes to Broad Street are Coming

The State of Rhode Island's Department of Transportation has allocated \$16.5 million to improve (and help revitalize) Broad Street in Pawtucket, Central Falls, and Cumberland. The project includes: resurfacing the entire length of road through Central Falls and Cumberland; streetscape improvements, including sidewalks, crosswalks, trees and plantings, traffic lights, and more; drainage improvements, including repairs to existing features as well as some new ones, including "green infrastructure" that will use plants to filter stormwater naturally. Project construction will begin in Spring 2020.



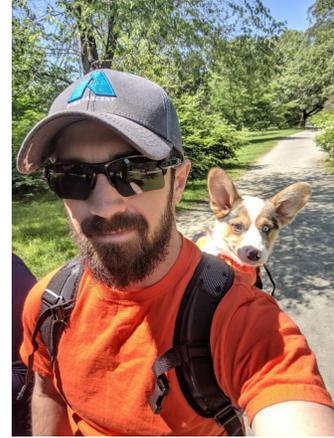
The three communities, along with the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council and fourteen stakeholder organizations, are part of the Broad Street Regeneration Initiative (BSRI), whose motto is: "Celebrating three miles of diversity, dedication and pride." BSRI also organizes activities throughout the year that aim to build community and help businesses, such as Small Business Saturday and Clean-up/Meet-up events.

For more information and project updates, please see the Broad Street website, www.mybroadstreetri.com, or contact Laura Burkett, the Broad Street Coordinator, at Laura@mybroadstreet.com.

Our Newest Staff Member

Mason Perrone started as a Principal Planner in the transportation group in June 2019. He is working on the State Rail Guide Plan, Congestion Management Process, and the Transportation Alternatives Program, among other things. He previously served as a municipal planner in Cumberland, Providence, and Coventry, CT. Mason holds a B.A. in Urban and Community Studies with a minor in Landscape

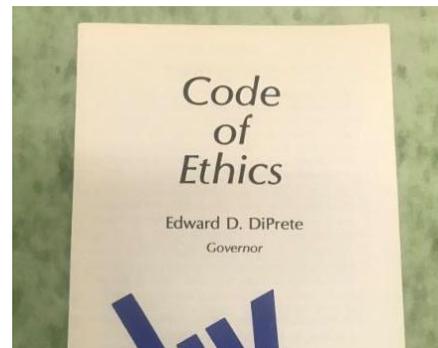
Architecture from the University of Connecticut and earned his M.S. in Geography/Sustainability from Central Connecticut State University. Within the field of planning, he is most interested in active and public transportation, small space design, green architecture, and GIS. He's an avid sports fan and spends most of his free time outdoors - at the beach, cycling, golfing, walking his dog, and snowboarding in the winter months. Although not a native Rhode Islander, he is quickly becoming fond of all that the State has to offer! Contact Mason at Mason.Perrone@doa.ri.gov.



From the Associate Director

We're Moving! (Or Wow, I Didn't Know We Had That!)

In the middle of summer, things seem to either be moving very slow or very fast. Temperatures are rising, family may be visiting (or you may be heading off to see family), and traffic in the southern part of the state has come to a standstill. There were thousands of people at our beaches this weekend, boosting the local economy and learning what makes the Ocean State a great place to live, work, and visit. Despite the dreary CNBC ranking of Rhode Island as last in the nation for doing business (you know the saying: there are lies, damn lies, and statistics...), we all know that there are so many reasons to love the smallest state, not least of which are the things we all care about and the reasons so many leave, only to return later in life. It's the people, the places, the memories we build. It's those we knew as children, and the two degrees of separation from everyone else in the state. It's Del's Lemonade, Narragansett Beer, coffee syrup, and the big blue bug. It's getting the inside joke about the ethics brochure, pictured above.



I've been making memories this year: tomorrow will be my one year Plan-a-versary, and I'm thankful for every day with my terrific team. I haven't accomplished everything I wanted to in the last 364 days, but I have made changes, and we've got one more big change upcoming: as part of the State's efficiency and space utilization planning initiative, the RI Division of Statewide Planning is moving from its long-time location in the Powers Building at 1 Capitol Hill to The Foundry, located at 295 Promenade Street in Providence. Right now, the move is targeted for the end of August or very early September: stay tuned for more details, coming soon!

Upcoming Meetings

Transportation Advisory Committee

July 18 at 5:30PM (see above)

DOA Conference Room 2A
One Capitol Hill, Providence

PHOTO TRIVIA:

Do you know where in RI this building
is located?

See the answer at the bottom of the newsletter.

State Planning Council

July 23 at 10:30AM

DOA Conference Room 2A
One Capitol Hill, Providence

Technical Committee

August 2 at 9AM

DOA Conference Room 2A
One Capitol Hill, Providence

All meetings are open to the public!



Upcoming Events

July 17 SCORP Public Hearing The RI State Planning Council/Metropolitan Planning Organization is reviewing an update to *Ocean State Outdoors*, the RI Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (“SCORP”), State Guide Plan Element 152. *Ocean State Outdoors* represents the tenth edition of Rhode Island’s plan for outdoor recreation, containing state goals and policies, along with implementation actions. Time: 4:30P. A [copy of the Update](#) is also available for review during business hours (8:30AM to 4:00 PM) at the Division of Statewide Planning, One Capitol Hill (DOA), 3rd Floor, Providence (401/222-7901).

- Location: RI Department of Environmental Management- Room 300, 235 Promenade Street, Providence.

July 18 Public Outreach for RIDOT Road-Stream Crossing Assessment Manual and Woonasquatucket River Watershed Pilot Study. The project provides a technical manual containing methods for assessing flood risk vulnerability associated with culvert structures in Rhode Island. Time: 10A-12P. For more information, please contact Nicole Lineberry at nicole.leporacci@dot.ri.gov.

- Location: RIDEM- Room 300, 295 Promenade, Providence.

July 19 APA-RI's Summer Social at the PawSox Join fellow planners and their families at McCoy Stadium for food, fun, and to see the PawSox play the Charlotte Knights! Adult tickets are \$25; tickets for kids ages 6-12 are \$15; kids 5 and under are free. Time: the BBQ starts at 5:30P; the game starts at 7:05P. To purchase tickets and RSVP, please see the APA-RI [website](#).

July 23 RI League of Cities and Towns Legislative Wrap Up 2019 Time: 1P-3P. The focus will be on what bills were passed, what the implications will be for cities and towns and what to expect next year. All are welcome but [registration](#) is required.

- Location: Barrington Public Library, 2nd floor (Collis Family Galleries and Auditorium).

July 23 APA RI Legislative Wrap Up 2019 Time: 3P-5P. Debrief on how the committee worked this year, what worked well, what can be better and the focus for next year. To be followed by happy hour at The Revival, 50 Miller St. in Warren at 5P!

- Location: Barrington Public Library, 2nd floor (Collis Family Galleries and Auditorium).

July 23 Public Outreach for RIDOT Stream Crossing Assessment Manual and Woonasquatucket River Watershed Pilot Study. See above for more information. Time:

10A-12P.

- Location: RIDEM- Room 300, 295 Promenade, Providence.

July 25 [Writing Sound Decisions workshop](#). Recommended for all planning and zoning board members, solicitors and planning staff. Time: 5:30P-9P. Registration fee assistance is available for many municipal staff and officials. Supported by the Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning. For more information, please contact Grown Smart RI: cjopperthouser@growsmartri.org.

- Location: Roger Williams University (Providence Campus), 1 Empire Street, Providence- Room 215.

July 26 [New England Climate Change Summit](#) The Environmental Business Council's New England Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Summit is designed to provide an opportunity to learn from and participate with a range of speakers from the New England states regarding the important issues of climate change in the region. Time: 8:30A-5P. There is a [registration fee](#) for this event.

- Location: Fidelity Investments- 900 Salem Street, Smithfield, RI.

September 26 [RI Infrastructure Summit](#). The RI Infrastructure Bank is proud to host the 3rd annual Rhode Island Infrastructure Summit. The Summit convenes hundreds of public and private sector professionals to collaborate on solutions for the State's infrastructure challenges, great and small. Free, but registration is required. Time: 8:30A-3:30P.

- Location: RI Convention Center- 1 Sabin Street, Providence.

October 17 & 18 [SNEAPA 2019](#) The Southern New England American Planning Association (SNEAPA) is an annual two-day planning conference hosted by the Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts chapters of APA. It draws nearly six hundred planners, landscape architects, architects, engineers, academics, students and others. Sponsorship and exhibitor information is [here](#).

- Location: MGM Springfield- Springfield, MA

Grant Opportunities

July 26 [People for Bikes](#) Community Grant Letter of Interest due. As part of their efforts to get more children and youth on bikes, this grant cycle is dedicated to supporting bike park and pump track projects only. If your project is for another type of bicycle infrastructure, such as a multi-use trail, bike path, mountain bike trail, protected bike lane or BMX facility, or for bike parking or storage, please wait and submit during the next grant round: the 2020 schedule of grant cycles will be posted in October 2019.

July 30 [HUD HOPE VI Main Street Grant Program](#) application deadline. The US department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) HOPE VI Main Street Program provides grants to small communities to assist in the renovation of an historic or traditional central business district or "Main Street" area by replacing unused, obsolete, commercial space in buildings with affordable housing units. The obsolete building space property may be publicly or privately owned. The local government whose jurisdiction includes the Main Street area is the only entity that is eligible to receive an award.

August 8 [NEA's "Our Town" grant](#) application deadline. "Our Town" is the National Endowment for the Art's creative placemaking grants program. These grants support projects that integrate arts, culture, and design activities into efforts that strengthen communities by advancing local economic, physical, and/or social outcomes. Matching grants range from \$25,000 to \$200,000, with a minimum cost share/match equal to the grant amount.

August 9 [Brownfields Remediation and Economic Development Fund](#) applications due. The RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) is seeking proposals for brownfield site redevelopment projects that will support the cleanup of contaminated property and contribute to the state's economic development, including through the creation of jobs in Rhode Island. Many acres of brownfields occupy desirable commercial/industrial space within the urban corridor. Remediation and redevelopment of these sites not only mitigates the threat to public health and the environment from exposure to uncontrolled contamination, but it also can create and attract jobs, revitalize streets and neighborhoods, and increase the local tax base.

August 14 [National Endowment for the Humanities' Public Humanities Projects](#) application deadline. The Public Humanities Projects program supports projects that bring the ideas and insights of the humanities to life for general audiences through in-person programming. Projects must engage humanities scholarship to analyze significant themes in disciplines such as history, literature, ethics, and art history. This program supports projects in three categories: Exhibitions (permanent, temporary, or traveling); interpretive programs at Historic Places; and Humanities Discussions related to the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding.

Planning Articles of Interest

[Middle class, the housing crisis is coming for you next](#)

[Providence releases complete streets draft master plan](#)

[Can cities protect public workers from shootings?](#)

[CRMC skeptical of opponents' concerns about kelp farm](#)

[For bike equity, look past infrastructure](#)

[Smithfield to pay \\$30K to settle pot lawsuit, will create new ordinance](#)

[Boston built a new waterfront just in time for the apocalypse](#)

Check out our website for plans, maps, publications, and more!

www.planning.ri.gov

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PHOTO TRIVIA ANSWER:

Gerald S. Burns Public Library Annex (1896)

Pawtucket

Photo: Wikipedia