



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

The Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) plans for the future of our region — for efficient transportation networks, wise land use and housing choices, expansion of economic opportunity, protection of natural and historic resources, and development of excellent physical and cultural amenities.

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Cover image: Drone photo of the Fall River Commerce Park, Kevin Ham

It is the policy of the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) to uphold and assure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Executive Order 13166, Executive Order 12898, and related federal and state statutes and regulations. SRPEDD also upholds the Massachusetts Public Accommodation Law, M.G.L. c 272 §§92a, 98, 98a, and the Governor's Executive Order 526, section 4. For a complete policy statement, please visit <http://www.srpedd.org/title-vi-compliance>.



Report to the Region

Chair's Report

Deborah Melino-Wender, Commission Chair

The Southcoast region continues to move forward with creative planning initiatives, and addressing area priorities. Thanks to Executive Director Jeff Walker and a talented and dedicated staff, SRPEDD has been able to make significant headway in securing critical grants that will enhance economic opportunities and growth, benefitting all our communities.

I am honored to have served as Commission Chairman for the past two years, during a time of renewed interest, engagement and debate by the Commission. This activity is critical to our region's continued success. I know that this takes time and energy and we are grateful for what each Commissioner has contributed.

As we move forward into a new year, I encourage other leaders, stakeholders and residents to join us and share of their extensive insights and expertise. Working together, we can continue to advance the region and quality of life for all across Southeast MA.

Welcome from the Executive Director

Jeffrey Walker, AICP, Executive Director

From a \$600,000 award from the EDA in September 2018 on behalf of the SE Mass Marine Sciences and Technology Corridor, extending across the region, the Cape, and down to Woods Hole; and designation by the Commonwealth this past month of \$1.05B for Phase 1 of Southcoast Rail, poised to restore long-awaited commuter rail service to Taunton, Fall River and New Bedford by 2023; to recent demolition of the former Brayton Point Power Station in Somerset, and plans to develop a new \$650M renewable energy center on the site, there has truly been some exciting things going on.

Such announcements, be they about economic development grants received or progress being made with our transportation network, or with preserving our natural environment, not only affirm our commitment to this incredible place we call home, but inspire us even more in our collaborations with area leaders and residents to help Southeast communities thrive.

For more on these and other initiatives in which SRPEDD has been engaging, please check out the following pages.

Am happy to report, as Chairman Melino-Wender noted, that the agency, region, and SRPEDD municipalities of late have indeed been making great strides.

Join us!



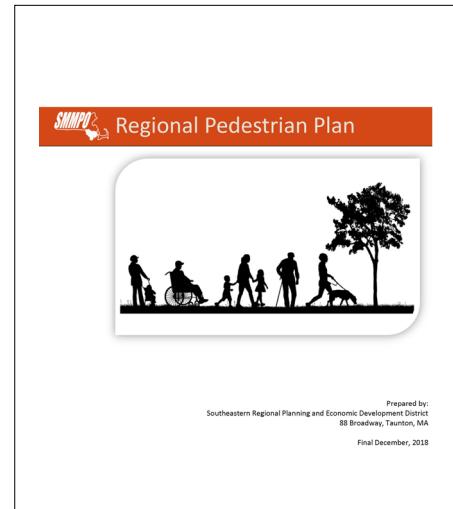
Transportation Planning

Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning

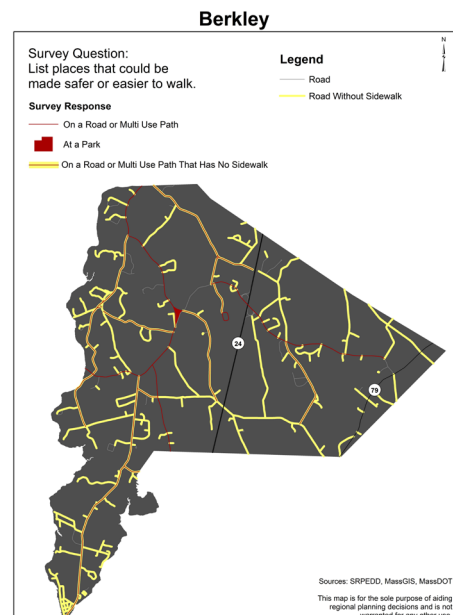
SRPEDD launched the region's first standalone Regional Pedestrian Plan in 2018. The plan contains an examination of the region's current pedestrian transportation infrastructure, pedestrian safety statistics and analysis, guidance for communities, and prioritized recommendations. The plan also involved a widely distributed public survey effort which gathered 450 responses. Approximately, 93% of SRPEDD communities completed a municipal survey.

In 2018, the Taunton River Trail continued to advance at a rapid pace. The dynamic Taunton Pathways Committee has revamped routing and proposed a phased development plan. Meanwhile, the Town of Dighton formed a committee to examine routing through their community and work continues on the design of the trail through Sweets Knoll State Park. That project was recently awarded a \$250,000 Federal Land Access Program (FLAP) grant for the design.

The South Coast Bikeway Alliance also continued efforts to develop a feasibility study for routing between Fall River and New Bedford and held several successful public outreach events. Design proceeded on the Mansfield/Norton Rail Trail Extension, the Marion Pathway Phase 1, and the Wareham Minot Avenue/Narrows Road Separate Use Path project. Construction on the Mattapoisett Pathway Phase 1B is also underway.



Cover for the Regional Pedestrian Plan



Survey results for the Regional Bicycle Plan

Traffic Count Program

During the 2018 counting season SRPEDD collected traffic count data at 139 locations throughout the region. Staff determined the average number of vehicles per day, the 85th percentile and average speed of vehicles, and the different classes of vehicles (motorcycles, passenger cars, buses, and light and heavy trucks) at each location to inform a number of safety and congestion studies.

SRPEDD also conducted Turning Movement Counts (TMCs) at 31 signalized intersections and 21 unsignalized intersections. Please see MassDOT's Transportation Management System (<http://mhd.ms2soft.com>) and SRPEDD's traffic count program (www.srpedd.org/traffic-count) for more information.

Corridor Studies

In February, SRPEDD hosted public meetings in Attleboro and North Attleborough to present Route 1 Corridor Study preliminary findings and recommendations for improving area capacity and safety problems. SRPEDD also provided short-term and long-term transportation improvement concepts including multi-use paths, bus pull-outs, re-alignment at the Route 120 intersection, two-way continuous left turn lanes, and connection of back roads along Route 1. SRPEDD is in the process of finalizing the draft report planned to be released in 2019. The study was a collaborative effort of the communities of Attleboro and North Attleborough, GATRA, and MassDOT, as well as the general public.



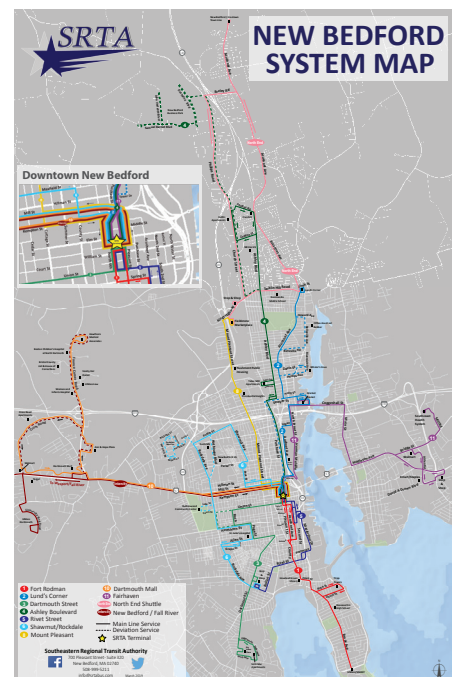
Route 1 Public Meeting

Transit Updates

In June 2018, SRPEDD conducted a survey on Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA) buses that collected demographic data and usage information from SRTA riders. Various planning documents, such as SRTA's Title VI program and their demographic profile, use this data. SRPEDD has also updated SRTA's system maps, creating a more stylized visual depiction of the routes and making them easier to understand for riders.

SRPEDD assisted in a fare study and conducted a Fare Equity Analysis for the Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA) in 2018. This was completed to assess whether GATRA fares were in line with other regional transit authorities across the region, as well as whether the fare was consistent with the demographic makeup of their ridership. As a result, in February 2019, GATRA increased its fares for the first time in over fifteen years.

In December 2018, SRPEDD updated the region's Coordinated Human Services Transportation (CHST) Plan. The plan is required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and identifies the transportation needs of older adults, persons with a disability, and low-income individuals. SRPEDD updates the plan every 4 years and uses it to set regional planning and coordination priorities. The plan is also used to validate the transportation needs in applications submitted to MassDOT's Community Transit Grant Program. The plan identifies the need to connect the GATRA/SRTA service areas, specifically providing service between Taunton and Fall River. Additional needs identified include providing service between Fall River and Providence, increasing intercity connections across southeastern Massachusetts, identifying more on-demand transportation options to provide first mile/last mile connections to other modes of transportation, and providing low-income transportation to medical appointments and employment.



SRTA map of the New Bedford bus routes

State and Federal Transportation Funding

SRPEDD staff routinely works with member communities and MassDOT to guide potential transportation projects through the system of scoring and project readiness assessment to get them onto the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) list for federal and state funding and for implementation.

Much of TIP planning is like keeping a household budget. There is only so much money to go around. The TIP is the official document that lists all transportation projects in the region for five years by federal funding category, including roads, bridges, transit, and bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. It is prepared annually and must be fiscally constrained. This means that it cannot exceed the annual assigned budget, but we also do not want to leave available money unspent. It is a complicated and delicate balance. The cost and readiness of projects change often so there are regular amendments and adjustments to the TIP.

Hard decisions must often be made on how to stretch allotted regional funds as far as possible. The SRPEDD region of 27 communities was awarded \$19,818,854 in FFY2018 and \$20,601,967 in FFY2019. While \$20 million might seem like a lot of money, only two projects could be funded in FFY2018 and three projects in FFY2019. Recent projects in the TIP have averaged \$4 - \$7 million. We would like to see more small projects, such as signal upgrades and/or intersection improvements (under \$3 million). Smaller projects will mean more projects completed and give the region more flexibility.

The table below displays all projects that were advertised in FFY2018 (October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018), with \$19,818,854 in regional funds and \$30,711,714 in statewide funds.

City/Town	2018-2019 TIP Projects	Funding Source	Obligation
Dartmouth	Chase Road & Old Westport Road Intersection Improvements	Regional	\$1,109,305
Dartmouth / New Bedford	Interstate Maintenance & Related Work on I-195	Statewide	\$12,828,888
Fall River	Route 79 / Davol Street Corridor Improvements, Design	Statewide	\$ 2,763,952
Fall River	Viveiros Elementary School (SRTS) Improvements	Statewide	\$1,491,941
Mattapoisett	Multi-Use Path (Penn Central Right-of-Way), from Mattapoisett Neck Road to Depot Street, Year 1 of 3	Statewide	\$568,532
New Bedford	Ashley & Lincoln Elementary Schools (SRTS) Improvements	Statewide	\$1,651,525
Norton / Taunton	Median Cable Barrier Installation on I-495	Statewide	\$1,069,970
Seekonk / Rehoboth	Interstate Maintenance & Related Work on I-195	Statewide	\$10,336,906
Wareham	Route 6 & 28 Reconstruction, from 500 Feet East of Tyler Avenue to Red Brook Road (1.65 Miles)	Regional	\$19,134,126
		Total	\$50,955,145

Public Outreach Survey for the Regional Transportation Plan

Part of the public outreach effort for the Regional Transportation Plan consisted of a comprehensive survey that SRPEDD translated into three languages and distributed widely. We received 741 responses to our survey, with the most respondents from Rehoboth at 133. The remainder of responding communities spanned from 74 respondents in Middleborough to 1 respondent in Carver.

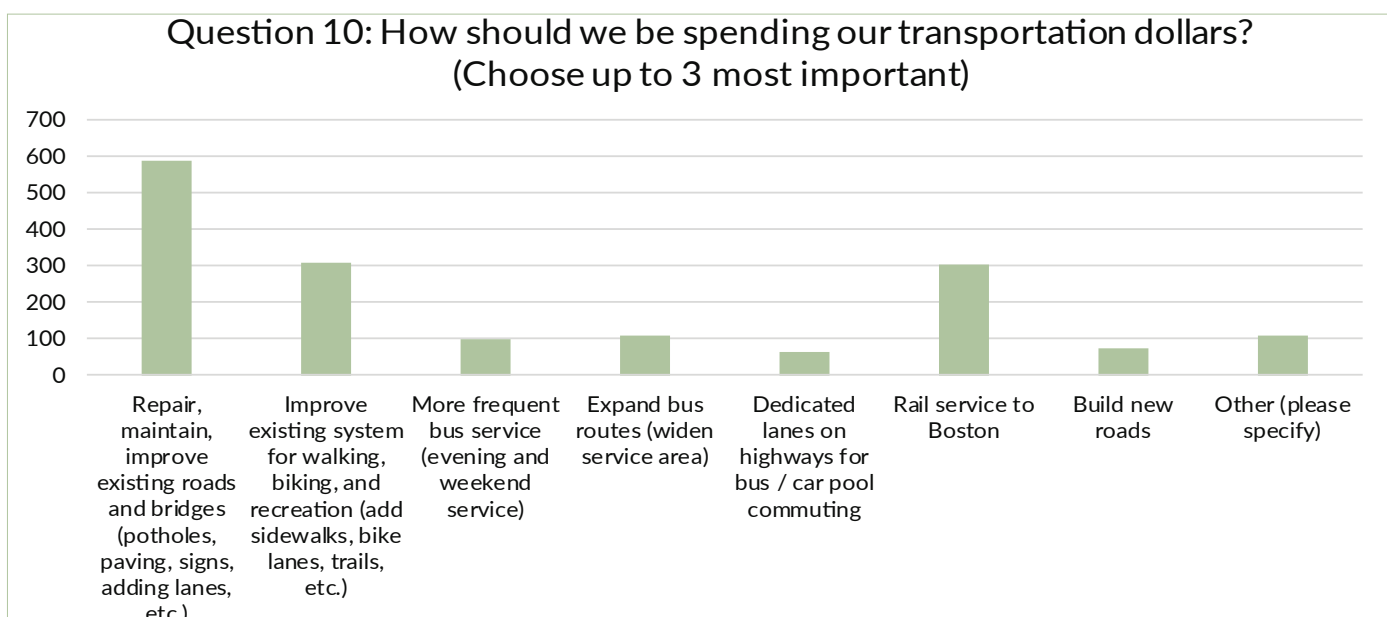
Sixty-one percent of respondents have less than a 30-minute commute to work, with 26% experiencing a commute of between 30-60 minutes and 13% having a commute more than an hour. Eighty-four percent of respondents most often drive alone, but 16% use another form of transportation. Of the respondents whose commute or travel originates from within our region, 83% of those destinations remain within the region, with 17% outside of the region.

When asked what would make them consider leaving their car at home to use another form of transportation, more than half of the respondents said they would consider another form of transportation if there was one available near their home or workplace, or if it was easier or more convenient.

Concerning the need for South Coast Rail (SCR) service, 62% responded that they would use it. Of those, 24% responded that they would use it for commuting, 76% for other (shopping, medical and recreation, etc.). Over 18% of the potential users reported they would use it for both commuting and other.

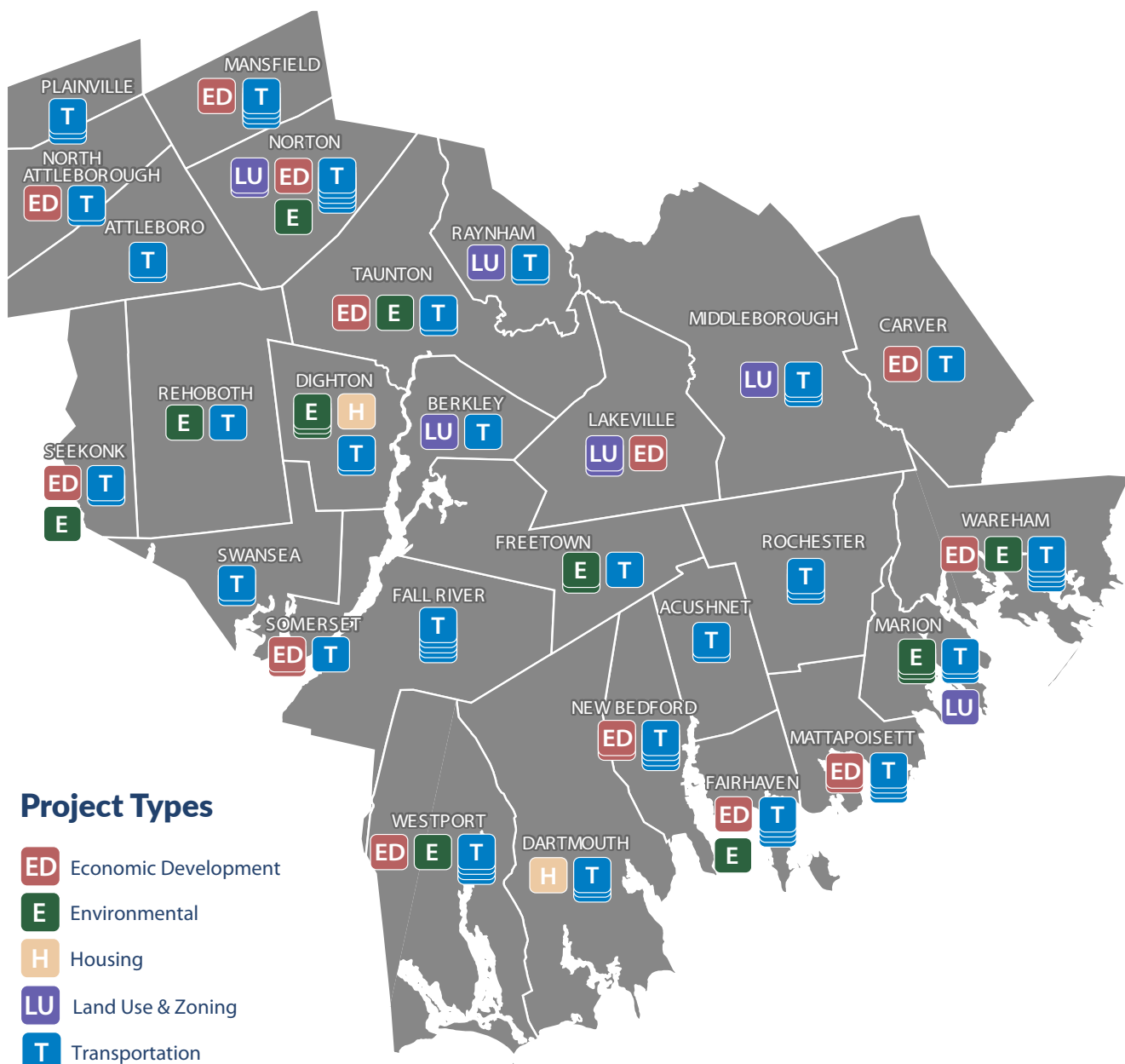
According to the survey, the top three responses to the roads and/or intersections that are avoided because there is too much traffic are Route 24, the Middleborough Rotary, and Faunce Corner Road in Dartmouth. Two of these, the Middleborough Rotary and Route 24, were also mentioned in the question concerning which roads and/or intersections to avoid because they are dangerous. Many comments concerned the need for both SCR, and additional or expanded bus service in the region.

Finally, on the question of how to spend our transportation dollars, the first three choices were: to repair and maintain existing roads and bridges; to improve the existing system for walking, biking, and recreation (add sidewalks, bike lanes, trails, etc.); and to provide and rail service to Boston.



Technical Assistance Overview

The map below and facing table summarize the technical assistance projects that SRPEDD completed for member communities during the past year. Please note that the table does not include traffic and turning movement counts. Project funding came from multiple sources, including District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA from the Massachusetts Legislature), Municipal Assistance, (MA from SRPEDD assessments), the US Economic Development Administration (EDA), MassDOT funding, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), local contracts, and various foundations.



Berkley	■ Master Plan Process (DLTA)
Carver	■ Provided Technical Assistance to Carver Redevelopment Authority (EDA)
Dartmouth	■ Housing Production Plan (DLTA) ■ Regional Bike Path Plan (MassDOT)
Dighton	■ Green Communities Designation (DOER) ■ Stormwater management education to the Planning Board and Conservation Commission (Municipal Assistance) ■ Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) (DLTA and Community Compact Cabinet) ■ Housing Production Plan (MA) ■ Site Distance Evaluation on Old Somerset Ave. at Tremont St. (MassDOT)
Fairhaven	■ Vacant Property Survey (Local Contract) ■ Green Community Designation (DOER) ■ Route 6 Corridor Study (MassDOT)
Fall River	■ Safety Study on Middle St. at Broadway (MassDOT) ■ Regional Bike Path Planning (MassDOT)
Freetown	■ OSRP (Local Contract) ■ Discussed a variety of programs and grant opportunities (SNEP)
Lakeville	■ Assisted Town Administrator and BOS with the Lakeville Hospital Site (MA) ■ Master Plan Process (DLTA) ■ Revisions to and expansion of the town's Chapter 40R map (MA)
Mansfield	■ Business guide (DLTA) ■ Conducted a Downtown and Industrial Park Truck Analysis (MassDOT) ■ Bicycle planning (MassDOT)
Marion	■ Green Community Designation (DOER) ■ OSRP (DLTA) ■ Helped facilitate Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program (MVP) workshop and plan (EOEEA) ■ Assisted with implementing the 2017 Marion Master Plan (Local Contract) ■ Route 6 Corridor Study (MassDOT)
Mattapoisett	■ Assisted with administration and project management services for the Industrial Drive project (Local Contract) ■ Route 6 Corridor Study (MassDOT)
Middle-borough	■ Assisted with Community Compact Cabinet "40R" Best Practice (DLTA) ■ Ongoing assistance with the BOS and Rotary Improvement Advisory Committee (MassDOT)

New Bedford	■ EDA project proposal for Payne/Elco site infrastructure (EDA) ■ EDA project proposal for the Armory Innovation District, the Waterfront Redevelopment, and a proposed business park on Hathaway Rd. (EDA) ■ Signal warrant analysis on Acushnet Ave. at Peckham Rd. (MassDOT)
North Attleborough	■ Assisted the PB on a parking and signage bylaw (MA)
Norton	■ Assisted PB and BOS with \$1.8M EDA application to support Condyne Business Park (MA, Local Contract, EDA) ■ MVP workshop and plan (EOEEA) ■ Village Center Plan (DLTA, MassDOT) ■ Complete Streets Needs Assessment & Prioritization Plan (MassDOT) ■ Bicycle Committee (MassDOT) ■ Signal warrant analysis on Route 123 at Worcester St. (MassDOT)
Plainville	■ Complete Streets Program (MassDOT) ■ Sight Distance Evaluation for Hawkins Woods (MassDOT)
Raynham	■ Provided assistance with follow-up to the 2012 Route 138 Corridor Study (MA)
Rehoboth	■ Phase II of the OSRP update (DLTA)
Rochester	■ Signal Warrant Analysis at Walnut Plain Rd. and Mary's Pond Rd. (MassDOT)
Seekonk	■ Economic Development Plan (DLTA) ■ Green Community Designation (DOER)
Somerset	■ Project management under various EDA projects (Local Contract) ■ Developed EDA applications and secured \$332,000 on behalf of the Somerset Water and Sewer Commission
Taunton	■ Potential EDA funding for the Life Sciences Center (EDA) ■ Taunton River Trail (MassDOT)
Wareham	■ Drone survey of Tremont Nail Factory, the Wankinco River, and Wareham Village (DLTA, Local Contract) ■ Green Community Designation (DOER) ■ Route 6 Corridor Study (MassDOT) ■ Signal Warrant Analysis on Onset Ave. at Leonard Lopes Park (MassDOT)
Westport	■ Economic development & wastewater analysis for Route 6 (DLTA) ■ MVP workshop and plan (EOEEA) ■ Route 177 Safety Evaluation (MassDOT)

Environmental Planning

The Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program

The Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant program (MVP) provides support for cities and towns in Massachusetts to plan for resiliency and implement key climate change adaptation actions for resiliency. The state awards communities with funding to complete vulnerability assessments and develop action oriented resiliency plans. The program helps communities to:

- Define extreme weather and natural and climate related hazards,
- Understand how their community may be impacted by climate change with a Massachusetts-specific climate change clearinghouse at www.resilientma.org,
- Identify existing and future vulnerabilities and strengths,
- Develop and prioritize actions for the community,
- Identify opportunities to take actions that reduce risk and build resilience, and
- Implement key actions identified through the planning process, emphasizing nature-based solutions, where appropriate and feasible.

Since May of 2018, SRPEDD has completed MVP work with the Towns of Westport, Marion, Norton, Mansfield, Easton (in cooperation with OCPC), Lakeville, Rochester, and Freetown. SRPEDD works with a team of other state certified trainers from Mass Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, and Manomet. Communities who complete the MVP program become certified and are eligible for MVP Action Grant funding and other opportunities.



Westport Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) workshop

Southeastern New England Program (SNEP)

As part of the Resilient Taunton Watershed Network (RTWN), SRPEDD has received a two-year, \$100,000 Southeast New England Program (SNEP) Watershed Grant to help local communities improve resilience to environmental stressors, such as climate change. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funds the SNEP grant through a collaboration with Restore America's Estuaries (RAE).

Under this grant, the RTWN project partners (SRPEDD, Mass Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, and Manomet) help local communities make progress toward improved resilience in several ways, including reviewing local bylaws and regulations to encourage climate-smart, nature-based solutions. This work will also lead to on-the ground stormwater management and water quality projects (such as dam removals, culvert upgrades, and building bio-retention areas).

Taunton River Trail

The Taunton River Trail Committee is currently working toward developing the Taunton River Trail, a shared-use path from Taunton to Somerset that will be a combination of on-road and off-road bicycle, pedestrian, and water-based facilities. SRPEDD is working with Trail and Pathway Committees in Dighton and Taunton, as well as with the Somerset Planning Department, in order to bring this nearly three-decades old vision to reality.

To this end, SRPEDD recently worked with partners on Taunton's Pathways Committee to secure financial assistance from the state's Gateway Cities Parks Program to fund a portion of the connected network of trails in the City. The completion of design, permitting, and construction of this project will bring this vision to reality. The project will include engineering and landscape design services beginning with a connection to the recently constructed Weir Village Riverfront. Related work is also taking place in Dighton (at Sweets Knoll State Park and on Pleasant Street) and in Somerset (on Riverside Avenue).



Pathways of the Taunton River Sign

Taunton River Stewardship Council

Through National Park Service funding on behalf of the Wild & Scenic Taunton River, SRPEDD provides technical assistance to the Taunton River Stewardship Council (TRSC). The TRSC is composed of delegates from the ten (10) communities abutting the Taunton River, representatives from non-profits, tribal organizations, state agencies, and the federal government. Last year, TRSC continued its successful mini-grants program providing funding for projects, including, but not limited to:

- Assistance, appraisal funding, and collaboration with local and state partners and Native Peoples to acquire and preserve the historic Council Oak field (8 acres) in Dighton;
- Assistance and appraisal funding to Middleboro to acquire and preserve the nationally archaeologically significant Ja Mar farm;
- Assistance to Taunton and Dighton to create local Agricultural Commissions and Right-to-Farm Bylaws;
- Opening of the new River Education Center at Sweets Knoll State Park;
- Facilitating the "State of the Taunton" workshop at Battleship Cove in Fall River;
- Co-sponsored, with the Town of Somerset, boat tours for over 1,000 people as part of the Spirit of Somerset Days celebration on September 15th.

Comprehensive Planning

SRPEDD's Drone Provides New Perspectives

In early summer of 2018, SRPEDD launched a drone program to better serve communities using small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUASs - also known as “drones”). The goal is to use drones to gather site photos, generate 3D data, and to provide “bird’s-eye” insights into the region. SRPEDD has an FAA-certified remote pilot on staff who works with community stakeholders to meet overall program goals and to add value to specific projects.

In its first year, SRPEDD's drone: captured imagery along the Nemasket River that will help the town of Lakeville and river stewards better understand its condition; created 3D modeling data, marketing videos, and imagery for a Chapter 43D redevelopment site at the Tremont Nail Factory in Wareham; conducted a parking study of major commercial properties in Seekonk on the Saturday after Thanksgiving and on a business-as-usual Saturday to establish maximum parking needs and identify infill opportunities; and produced numerous images that help us better understand our region and our work.

Please visit www.srpedd.org/Drone-Program to explore various interactive maps, 3D models, photos, and videos. We look forward to hearing from you about how we can deploy the SRPEDD drone in service of your community!



A Drone Photo of Main Street, Wareham

Green Communities Program

In 2018, SRPEDD helped bring over \$800,000 into the region through the Green Communities Designation and Grant Program. The towns of Dighton, Fairhaven, Marion, Seekonk, and Wareham all received Green Community awards from the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) and, in doing so, received initial grants to make investments in energy improvements and renewable energy projects.

Those five communities are now part of the 240 Green Communities throughout the Commonwealth, bringing the total number of Green Communities in the SRPEDD region to 11. By participating in the program, cities and towns can apply for up to \$20 million dollars of annual DOER funding. Participants commit to a 20% municipal energy use energy reduction goal over five years, enacting energy performance standards for new construction, setting energy efficient vehicle policies, and streamlining permitting for clean energy projects.

To build on the success of the Green Communities Program, DOER recently introduced the Regional Energy Planning Assistance (REPA) Grant Program. REPA, which will replace the existing Municipal Energy Technical Assistance (META) Grant Program, will provide funding that will allow SRPEDD to assist both existing Green Communities and communities who want to achieve Green Community designation status.

Economic Development Technical Assistance

With funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), SRPEDD provided long-term strategic planning and project development support to Carver, Freetown, Mattapoisett, Middleborough, New Bedford, Norton, Seekonk, Somerset, Taunton, and Wareham. Projects ranged from corridor land use and economic development planning, downtown redevelopment initiatives, feasibility studies and municipal grant writing, to brownfield assessment and cleanup.

Through the Regional Economic Strategy Committee (RESC), SRPEDD prepares the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), "Growing the Economy of Southeastern Massachusetts," which maintains EDA funding eligibility for the district's cities and towns. The document identifies the list of priority projects eligible for EDA funding in the table below.

City/Town	EDA Priority Projects
Carver	Business Park at Montello Street / Route 58
Fall River / Freetown	South Coast Science and Technology Park
New Bedford	Waterfront Urban Renewal Area; Innovation District Planning; Business Park at Hathaway Road (proposed); and Payne-Elco site
Norton	Business Park at Leonard Street and I-495 / Route 123
Mattapoisett	Industrial Drive Improvements at I-195 / North Street
Middleborough	Southpointe Corporate Park
Somerset	Planning Initiatives: IWRMP, WW District, Master and ED plans, equipment and upgrades to Somerset's wastewater and water treatment facilities, proposed redevelopment of Brayton Point Commerce Center
Taunton	Myles Standish Business Campus and Life Sciences Center
Wareham	Industrial Parks Infrastructure Improvements and Decas School Feasibility Study
Regional	Marine Science and Technology Corridor Initiative

DLTA Diversifies and Expands its Impact

The District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) program concluded its tenth year in 2018. This essential state funding source allows SRPEDD to work with cities and towns, partner agencies, and state programs to advance an increasingly diverse array of projects. Additionally, thanks to more and more matching funds from local, state, and federal partners, DLTA has been able to extend its reach even further in recent years.

The Baker-Polito Administration is to be acknowledged for a greatly enhanced DLTA program. SRPEDD can now partner with communities to work on a wider variety of projects. The Administration provides guidance through programs such as Complete Streets, the Housing Choice Initiative, and the Community Compact Cabinet Program, which have all broadened the scope of eligible DLTA projects. In 2018 alone, SRPEDD used DLTA funds to advance or complete Master Plans, Business and Permitting Guides, Complete Streets Policies and Prioritization Plans, an Economic Development Plan, a Sewer Extension Study, a Village Center Plan, a Housing Production Plan, Chapter 40R Planning, Open Space and Recreation Plans, an updated Regional Data Center, and a drone survey of a Chapter 43D site.

In addition to increased project diversity, DLTA has also expanded its impact thanks to various matching funds. In 2018, partners matched approximately 47% of state DLTA dollars. In 2019, the estimated match will be double that! These additional resources allow projects to span multiple years and enable planners to provide deeper analysis, broader perspectives, and improved outcomes.

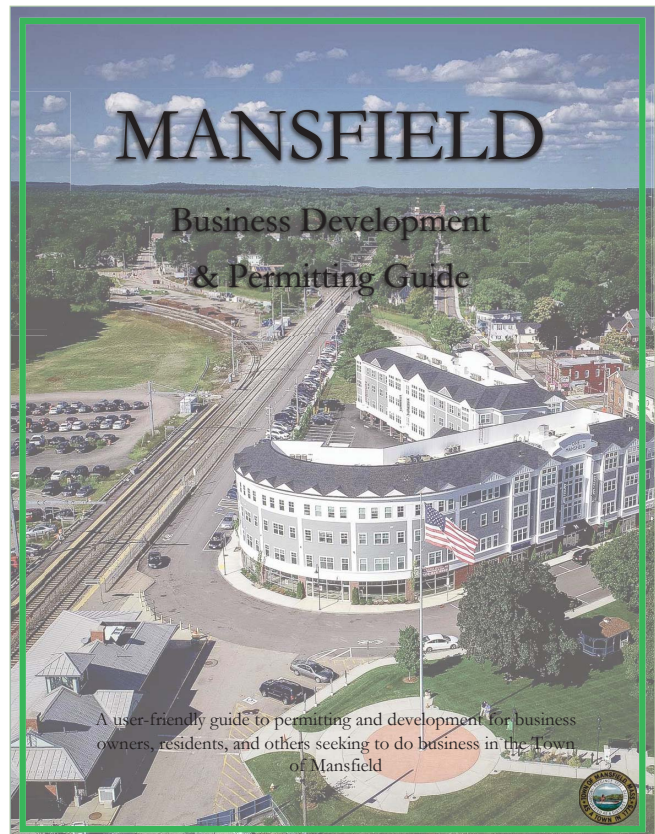
SRPEDD is grateful to all our partners who help make the DLTA program a success, and is looking forward to another diverse, impactful year in 2019. For more information, please see www.srpedd.org/DLTA.



Lakeville Master Plan Workshop



Berkley Master Plan Workshop



Mansfield Business Guide Cover

SRPEDD's Complete Streets Program

In 2018, SRPEDD helped a number of member communities (Dighton, Norton, and North Attleborough) position themselves for complete streets construction funding. In 2019, that work continues as SRPEDD will be working to bring Plainville, Middleborough, and Carver to the same point in the program.

Complete Streets are roadways that safely and comfortably accommodate all users, regardless of age and ability or mode of transportation. Users include, but are not limited to: motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, public transportation riders and providers, emergency response vehicles, freight operators, and school buses.



Complete Streets Project on Kilmer Ave. in Taunton

Officially launched in 2016, MassDOT's Complete Streets Funding Program provides technical assistance and construction funding to communities that demonstrate a commitment to include Complete Streets in policy and in practice. In short, a community may be eligible for up to \$35,000 to develop a list of Complete Streets projects and up to \$400,000 in construction funding per year to implement those projects.

SRPEDD is available to answer any questions you may have about Complete Streets and to provide necessary technical assistance to get your municipality started in the program. Please visit www.srpedd.org/Complete-Streets to learn more.

Representing Rural SRPEDD Communities in State Policy Development

SRPEDD recently filled an at-large seat on the Rural Policy Advisory Commission (RPAC), a research body within the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (EOHED) that promotes policies critical to the welfare of rural municipalities. Eleven SRPEDD member communities have a rural characterization, defined as those towns with a population density of fewer than 500 persons per square mile.

The RPAC is currently focused on preparing a state Rural Policy Plan (RPP). The RPP will examine ways in which infrastructure, housing, natural resource, land use, transportation, economic development, and local capacity issues manifest in rural places. It will highlight the unique challenges that rural communities face, where low population densities add another dimension to many of these thematic issues. It will also describe the benefits that rural lands bestow on the Commonwealth, as a whole, by providing undisturbed land for ecosystem preservation, climate change mitigation, public recreation, and areas of rich agricultural production that bolster local food security.

A project management consultant will organize the Plan's preparation, while a coalition of RPAs will draft its contents and convene stakeholder groups around each issue area. SRPEDD is the lead agency for the climate change & resiliency and the land use issue papers. We will also be the graphic designers for the plan. The RPP's release is scheduled for the convening of the legislature's Rural Caucus in August. SRPEDD will advocate for a plan that promotes policies and legislative priorities that strengthen the contributions of rural lands and take new approaches to addressing long-standing challenges in rural communities.

Homeland Security

SRPEDD continues its support and assistance to the Southeast Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council (SRAC) in their efforts to develop, review, and approve planning, training, exercising, and specialized equipment projects.

In the Fall of 2018, twenty-five law enforcement officers and twenty firefighters from across Southeast Massachusetts participated in an active shooter training at the St. Mary's Church Parish Center in Norton, MA. This Active Threat Integrated Response Course (ATIRC) training was provided by the National Center for Biomedical Research and Training (NCBRT) at Louisiana State University (LSU) and sponsored by the Southeastern Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (SRAC) and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).

This three-day course was designed to enhance integration between law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services in active shooter events. The course provides law enforcement officers medical skills for tactical emergency casualty care. ATIRC incorporates the rescue task force concept using the Active Shooter Incident Management Checklist.

LSU instructors provided instruction on how to respond to an active shooter situation through implementation of emergency casualty care tactics to increase the victims' survivability rates. Participants took part in several active shooter scenarios and used Simunition equipment to mimic real-life shooting events. To assist with the training on day three, fifteen cadets from Massachusetts Maritime Academy (MMA) volunteered their time to serve as role players in the drills and exercises.



Photos from the ATIRC training in the Fall of 2018

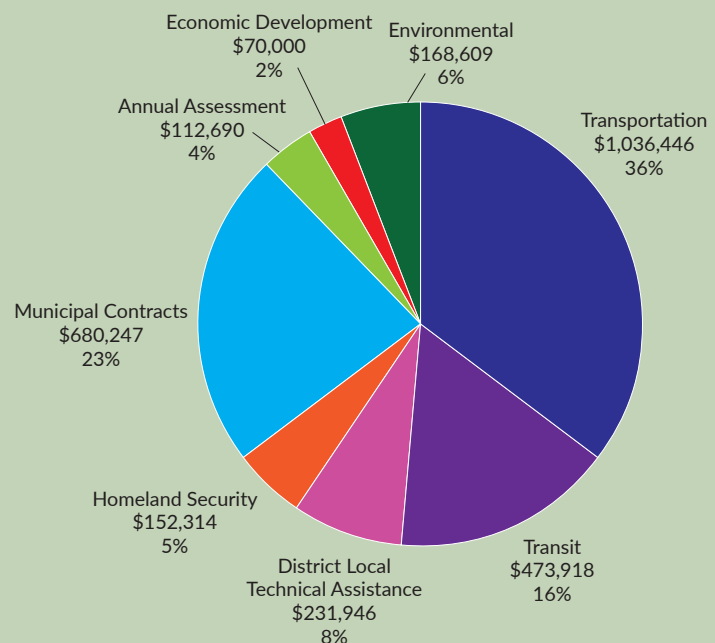
Treasurer's Report

It has been another busy and productive year at 88 Broadway in Taunton, as the organization has continued to expand on its capacity as a Regional Planning Agency, and ability to serve its 27 member municipalities (4 cities and 23 towns).

SRPEDD's annual budget of \$2,927,170, an increase of approximately 20% over last fiscal year, is made possible through a diverse mix of primarily state and federal sources, that has enabled the agency not only to advance its mission across multiple fronts, from Transportation and Transit Planning, District Local Assistance projects and Municipal contracts, to Economic Development, Environmental Planning and Homeland Security, but to hold down costs for members, with an annual assessment ranking among the lowest in the state.

Melanson Heath, the independent accounting firm that conducts the annual audit each fall, has confirmed that the organization's financial position is sound, and that its fiscal controls and policies are in order. The Trust Fund that was created to cover SRPEDD's share of retiree health insurance costs continues to be fully funded, and agency health care costs have been kept under control through participating in the state's GIC insurance program.

In sum, we remain committed to carefully managing expenses and being responsible stewards of monies entrusted for advancing the SRPEDD region. Finance Committee members and administrative staff meet once a month to review all financial transactions, monitor expenditures, and tend to the maintenance needs of the building in Taunton, which is owned by SRPEDD.



Members of the Finance Committee serving over the past year have been:

Joseph Callahan, Treasurer
 George Hovorka, Assistant Treasurer
 Joan Marchitto, Secretary
 D. Austin Horowitz
 Jim Whitin
 Alan Slavin, Vice Chair
 Deborah Melino-Wender, Chair

SRPEDD Commission

Community

Acushnet
Attleboro
Berkley
Carver
Dartmouth
Dighton
Fairhaven
Fall River
Freetown
Lakeville
Mansfield
Marion
Mattapoisett
Middleborough
New Bedford
North Attleborough
Norton
Plainville
Raynham
Rehoboth
Rochester
Seekonk
Somerset
Swansea
Taunton
Wareham
Westport

Mayor / Select Board Representative

Henry S. Young
Gary Ayrassian
Joseph Callahan — **Treasurer**
Stephen Cole
Deborah Melino-Wender — **Chair**
Peter Benvie
Robert Espindola
Cathy Ann Viveiros
David DeManche
Rita Garbitt
Daniel Austin Horowitz
Jonathan F. Henry — **Immediate Past Chair**
Robert A. Burgmann
Leilani Dalpe
Jamie Ponte
Joan Marchitto — **Secretary**
Ralph Stefanelli
Chris Yarworth
Carol Sullivan
Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr.
Suzanne Szyndlar
Steve D'Amico
Lloyd Mendes
George Hovorka — **Assistant Treasurer**
Kevin J. Shea
Alan Slavin — **Vice Chair**
Steven J. Ouellette

Planning Board Representative

Henry S. Young
Scott Jones
Steven Leary
Bruce Maki
Lorri-Ann Miller
Peter Benvie
Rene Fleurent, Jr.
William D. Roth, Jr.
Chris McKay
Barbara Mancovsky
Daniel Austin Horowitz
Eileen Marum
Janice Robbins
Cara Mia Diegoli
Tabitha Harkin
Marie K. Clarner
Steven Hornsby
Chris Yarworth
John Teixeira
William Costa
-
Phoebe Lee Dunn
Rich Fenstermaker
John P. Hansen, Jr.
Brian Carr
George Barrett
James Whitin

At large: Patrick Sullivan & Corinn Williams, New Bedford; Michael J. Ferreira, Taunton



Staff

Staff Member

Eric Arbeene, AICP
 Patrick Bradley
 Sara Brown
 Lilia Cabral-Bernard
 Todd Castro
 Ling Ling Chang, CPA
 Jennifer Chaves
 Sandy Conaty*
 Angela Constantino
 Jed Cornock, AICP
 Luis de Oliveira
 Lisa M. Estrela-Pedro
 Katie Goodrum, AICP**
 Kevin Ham
 Jacqueline Jones, AICP
 Grant J. King, AICP
 Stephanie Lenhardt**
 Guoqiang Li, PTP
 Charlie Mills
 Paul L. Mission
 William S. Napolitano
 Karen M. Porter
 Rebekah Rose
 Kyle Richard**
 Stacy S. Royer
 Donald R. Sullivan
 Jeffrey Walker, AICP
 Helen Zincavage, AICP, CFM

Position

Principal Comprehensive Planner & Chief Procurement Officer
 Transportation Planning Intern
 Comprehensive Planner
 Senior Transportation Planner / Title VI Coordinator
 Homeland Security Program Manager
 Chief Financial Officer / EEO Officer
 Principal Transportation Planner
 Deputy Director / Comprehensive Planning Manager
 Senior Transportation Planner / Mobility Manager
 Principal Comprehensive Planner & Contract Coordinator
 Transportation Planner
 Assistant Director of Transportation Planning
 Senior Comprehensive Planner
 Homeland Security / Planning Analyst & FAA Certified Drone Pilot
 Principal Transportation Planner
 Director of Comprehensive Planning and Housing
 Transportation Planning Technician
 Senior Transportation Planner
 Transportation Planner
 Transportation Planning Manager
 Environmental Program Director
 GIS Specialist / IT Manager
 Transportation Planning Intern
 Transportation Planning Technician
 Office Administrator
 Community & Economic Development Director
 Executive Director
 Senior Comprehensive Planner

*Retired

**No Longer at SRPEDD





**The Southeastern Regional Planning
and Economic Development District**

88 Broadway
Taunton, MA 02780

508-824-1367

www.srpedd.org

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