

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

2012 Performance Report

BERKSHIRE REGION COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Submitted to the Economic Development Administration on November 30, 2012

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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) is the designated regional planning agency for the thirty (30) towns and two (2) cities in Berkshire County, Massachusetts. In 2011, BRPC staff under the direction and guidance of an advisory committee (CEDs Committee) developed a comprehensive economic development strategy for the Berkshire Region (2011 Berkshire CEDs). The 2011 Berkshire CEDs serves as a guide for establishing regional economic goals and objectives, developing and implementing a plan of action, and identifying investment priorities and funding sources.

In February 2012, the Economic Development Administration (EDA) conditionally approved the 2011 Berkshire CEDs. The information omitted from the 2011 Berkshire CEDs is being submitted to EDA in a companion document titled *"2011 Berkshire CEDs Supplemental Information"*. BRPC anticipates that the submittal of this additional information will result in EDA issuing a full approval of the 2011 Berkshire CEDs.

The 2011 Berkshire CEDs analyzes regional demographics, infrastructure, economic sectors, and economic development efforts. It also identifies economic development goals and objectives, local economic development projects, projects deemed vital to the region and performance measures by which to gauge implementation of the 2011 Berkshire CEDs.

This Performance Report discusses the current economic conditions in the region, provides updates on the 2011 Berkshire CEDs goals and objectives and provides a status report on the priority projects identified in the 2011 Berkshire CEDs.

SECTION 2. EXISTING REGIONAL CONDITIONS & REGIONAL TRENDS

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission staff, on behalf of the CEDS Committee, reviewed the data and statistics contained in Chapter 2 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS to ensure that data reflects the most recent data available. Information on the median household income for Berkshire County households is now available for the year 2009. The 2011 CEDS used median household income data from 1999. This section also includes updated employment statistics, economic sector information, a summary of the areas in Berkshire County that meet EDA's distress criteria and a listing of recent economic reports for Berkshire County.

A. MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN BERKSHIRE COUNTY

Table 2.1 Median Household Income (1999-2009).

Town	Median household income in 1999	Median Household Income in 2009	Percent Change
Adams	\$32,161	\$38,340	19.2%
Alford	\$49,632	\$82,500	66.2%
Becket	\$46,806	\$42,031	-10.2%
Cheshire	\$41,981	\$57,419	36.8%
Clarksburg	\$43,362	\$52,054	20.0%
Dalton	\$47,891	\$57,222	19.5%
Egremont	\$50,000	\$51,856	3.7%
Florida	\$43,000	\$53,333	24.0%
Great Barrington	\$45,490	\$52,843	16.2%
Hancock	\$45,347	\$74,205	63.6%
Hinsdale	\$42,500	\$60,766	43.0%
Lanesborough	\$46,496	\$66,458	42.9%
Lee	\$41,556	\$50,599	21.8%
Lenox	\$45,581	\$60,604	33.0%
Monterey	\$49,750	\$41,625	-16.3%
Mount Washington	\$53,125	\$65,833	23.9%
New Ashford	\$51,250	\$69,583	35.8%
New Marlborough	\$46,875	\$57,917	23.6%
North Adams	\$27,601	\$35,401	28.3%
Otis	\$51,488	\$63,750	23.8%
Peru	\$44,531	\$66,250	48.8%
Pittsfield	\$35,655	\$43,188	21.1%
Richmond	\$60,917	\$87,682	43.9%
Sandisfield	\$45,972	\$62,411	35.8%
Savoy	\$41,477	\$55,500	33.8%
Sheffield	\$45,082	\$47,145	4.6%
Stockbridge	\$48,571	\$55,096	13.4%
Tyringham	\$60,250	\$93,750	55.6%
Washington	\$54,583	\$68,906	26.2%
West Stockbridge	\$51,000	\$68,750	34.8%
Williamstown	\$51,875	\$63,045	21.5%
Windsor	\$51,389	\$74,750	45.5%
Berkshire County	\$39,047	\$48,907	25.3%
Massachusetts	\$50,756	\$64,509	27.1%
US	\$41,994	\$51,914	23.6%

Source: 2000 US Census, 2006-2010 ACS

OBSERVATIONS AND TRENDS

The median household income for Berkshire County households increased by 25% from 1999-2009; however, the rate of inflation for the same time period was 29%.

The median income for Berkshire County households remains below the state and national levels.

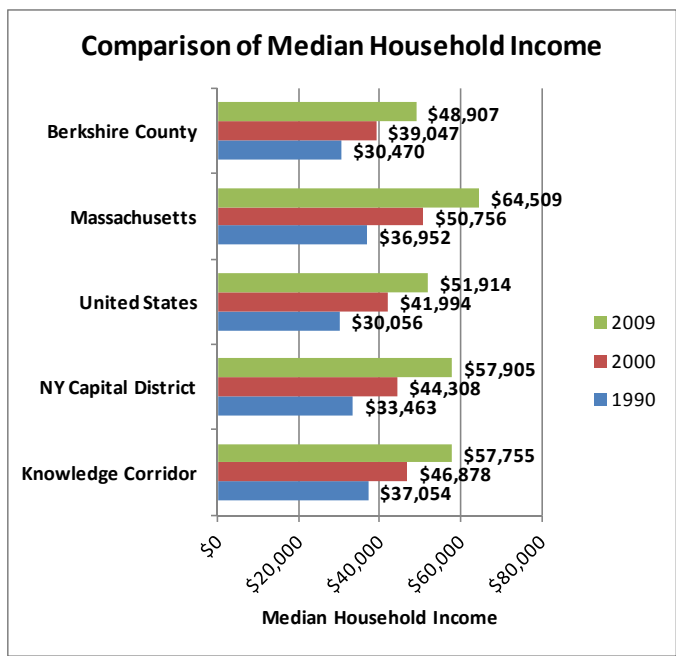
Table 2.2 Median Household Income of Surrounding Regions (1990-2009).

Area	1990	2000	2009
Knowledge Corridor*	\$37,054	\$46,878	\$57,755
NY Capital District*	\$33,463	\$44,308	\$57,905
United States	\$30,056	\$41,994	\$51,914
Massachusetts	\$36,952	\$50,756	\$64,509
Berkshire County	\$30,470	\$39,047	\$48,907

Source: US Census, American Community Survey, 2006-2010

* The Knowledge Corridor consists of nearby Hampshire (MA), Hampden (MA) and Hartford (CT) Counties. The NY Capital District consists of nearby Albany (NY), Rensselaer (NY), Saratoga (NY) and Schenectady (NY) Counties.

Figure 2.1 Median Household Income of Surrounding Regions (1990-2009).



Source: US Census, American Community Survey, 2006-2010

OBSERVATIONS AND TRENDS

The median income for Berkshire County households remains below the median household incomes for the two surrounding regions (Knowledge Corridor and NY Capital District) discussed in the 2011 Berkshire CEDS.

Households in the Knowledge Corridor (\$10,877) and the NY Capital District (\$13,597) experienced greater increases in median household income compared to households in Berkshire County (\$9,860) between 2000 and 2009.

B. EMPLOYMENT IN BERKSHIRE COUNTY

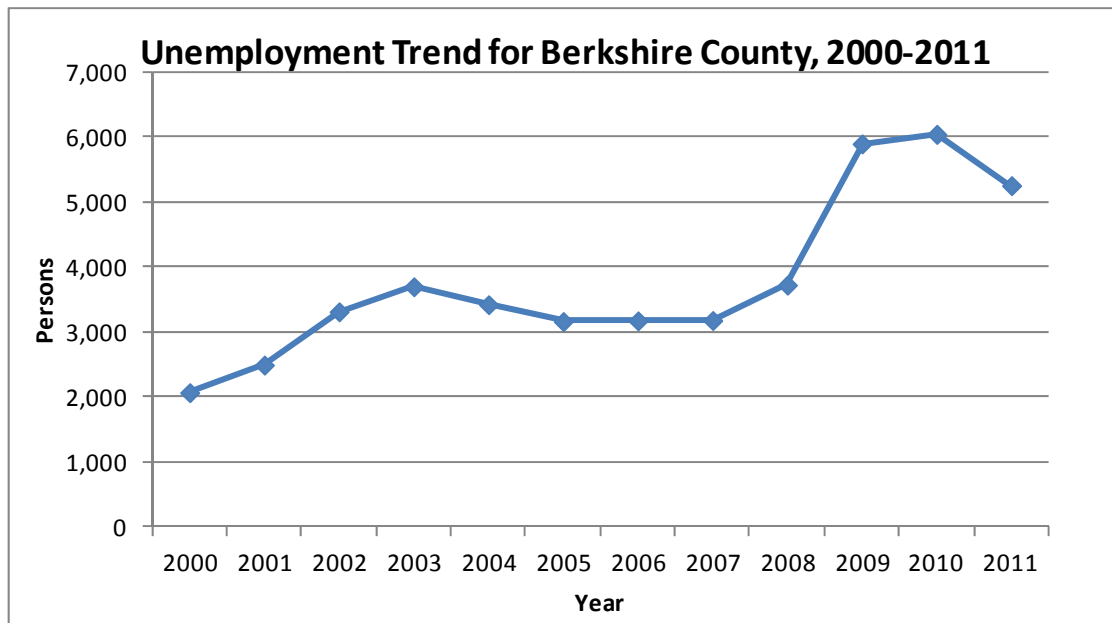
Table 2.3 Employment Statistics (2000-2011).

Year	Month	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Area Rate	Massachusetts Rate	US Rate
2000	Annual	70,160	68,092	2,068	2.9	2.7	3.9
2001	Annual	71,082	68,590	2,492	3.5	3.7	4.7
2002	Annual	72,706	69,395	3,311	4.6	5.3	5.8
2003	Annual	72,654	68,958	3,696	5.1	5.8	6.0
2004	Annual	72,125	68,705	3,420	4.7	5.2	5.5
2005	Annual	72,646	69,485	3,161	4.4	4.8	5.1
2006	Annual	73,492	70,320	3,172	4.3	4.7	4.6
2007	Annual	73,012	69,835	3,177	4.4	4.4	4.6
2008	Annual	73,102	69,380	3,722	5.1	5.3	5.8
2009	Annual	73,188	67,296	5,892	8.1	8.4	9.3
2010	Annual	73,531	67,492	6,039	8.2		9.6
2011	Annual	72,397	67,146	5,251	7.3		8.9

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

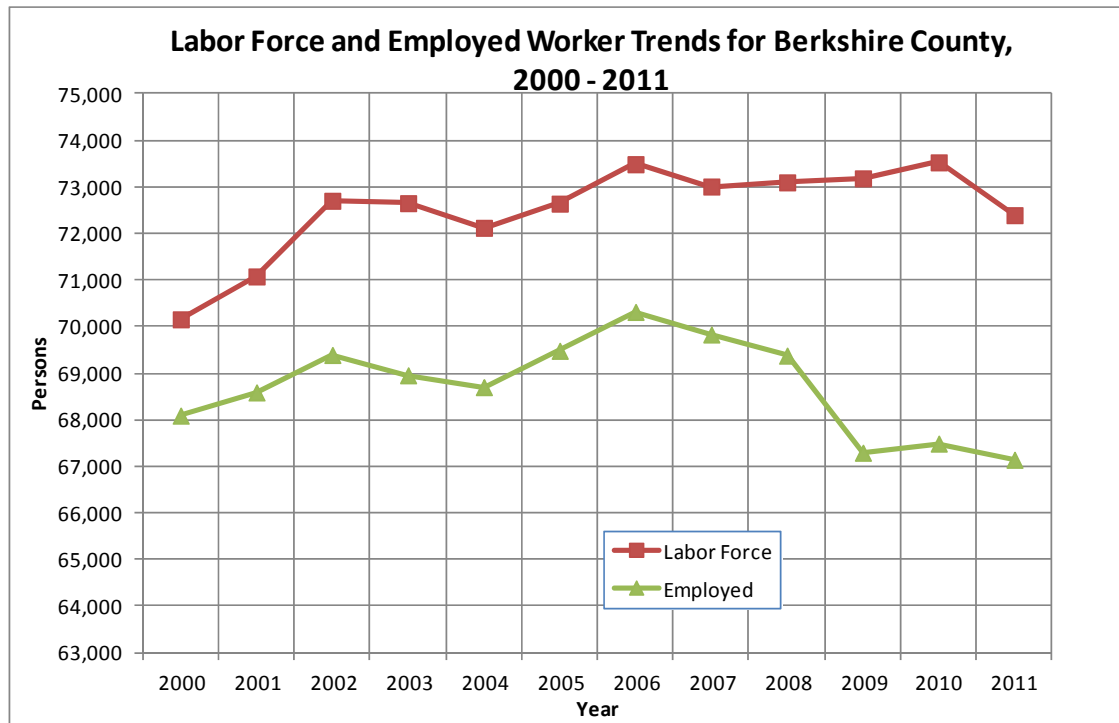
*State unemployment rates not available for 2010 and 2011.

Figure 2.2 Unemployment Trends (2000-2011).



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 2.3 Labor Force and Employed Worker Trends (2000-2011).



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

OBSERVATIONS AND TRENDS

The unemployment rate for Berkshire County remained below the national average in 2011.

Since 2010, the unemployment rate in Berkshire County decreased by nearly one (1) point. During this same time period the number of people in the labor force decreased by approximately 1,000.

Since 2008, the number of people employed in Berkshire County has remained fairly constant around 67,000.

C. OTHER TRENDS IN BERKSHIRE COUNTY

Table 2.4 Number of Establishments (2009-2011).

Description	2009	2011	# Change	% Change
	Number of Establishments			
Total, All Industries	4,816	4,921	105	2.2%
11 - Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	29	27	-2	-6.9%
21 - Mining	8	9	1	12.5%
23 - Construction	596	591	-5	-0.8%
31-33 - Manufacturing	171	170	-1	-0.6%
DUR - Durable Goods Manufacturing	99	97	-2	-2.0%
NONDUR - Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	72	73	1	1.4%
22 - Utilities	14	13	-1	-7.1%
42 - Wholesale Trade	128	129	1	0.8%
44-45 - Retail Trade	692	685	-7	-1.0%
48-49 - Transportation and Warehousing	98	101	3	3.1%
51 - Information	89	84	-5	-5.6%
52 - Finance and Insurance	166	161	-5	-3.0%
53 - Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	140	136	-4	-2.9%
54 - Professional and Technical Services	354	363	9	2.5%
55 - Management of Companies and Enterprises	15	16	1	6.7%
56 - Administrative and Waste Services	250	249	-1	-0.4%
61 - Educational Services	92	93	1	1.1%
62 - Health Care and Social Assistance	398	411	13	3.3%
71 - Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	109	120	11	10.1%
72 - Accommodation and Food Services	489	514	25	5.1%
81 - Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	821	898	77	9.4%
92 - Public Administration	157	151	-6	-3.8%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

OBSERVATIONS AND TRENDS

Sectors with the greatest increase in the number of establishments from 2009 to 2011:

- Health Care and Social Assistance
- Arts, Entertainment and Recreation
- Accommodation and Food Services
- Other Services

Sectors with the greatest decrease in the number of establishments from 2009 to 2011:

- Construction
- Retail Trade
- Information
- Finance and Insurance
- Real Estate, Rental and Leasing

Table 2.5 Average Monthly Employment by Sector (2009-2011).

Description	2009	2011	# Change	% Change
	Average Monthly Employment			
Total, All Industries	60,540	60,364	-176	-0.3%
11 - Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	177	175	-2	-1.1%
21 - Mining	108	135	27	25.0%
23 - Construction	2,956	2,733	-223	-7.5%
31-33 - Manufacturing	4,910	4,627	-283	-5.8%
DUR - Durable Goods Manufacturing	1,798	1,852	54	3.0%
NONDUR - Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	3,112	2,775	-337	-10.8%
22 - Utilities	313	294	-19	-6.1%
42 - Wholesale Trade	902	1,031	129	14.3%
44-45 - Retail Trade	8,469	8,710	241	2.8%
48-49 - Transportation and Warehousing	1,119	1,037	-82	-7.3%
51 - Information	1,014	996	-18	-1.8%
52 - Finance and Insurance	2,042	2,021	-21	-1.0%
53 - Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	624	501	-123	-19.7%
54 - Professional and Technical Services	2,575	2,571	-4	-0.2%
55 - Management of Companies and Enterprises	222	227	5	2.3%
56 - Administrative and Waste Services	2,082	2,092	10	0.5%
61 - Educational Services	7,352	7,287	-65	-0.9%
62 - Health Care and Social Assistance	11,453	11,489	-4	0.3%
71 - Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,870	2,000	130	7.0%
72 - Accommodation and Food Services	6,844	6,744	-100	-1.5%
81 - Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	3,068	3,174	106	3.5%
92 - Public Administration	2,440	2,521	81	3.3%
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics				

OBSERVATIONS AND TRENDS

The number of establishments in the region has increased, while the average monthly employment has decreased. This indicates that on average establishments in the region are employing less people since the beginning of the recent recession (2008).

Sectors with the greatest increase in average monthly employment from 2009 to 2011:

- Mining
- Durable Goods Manufacturing
- Wholesale Trade
- Retail Trade
- Arts, Entertainment and Recreation
- Other Services
- Public Administration

Sectors with the greatest decrease in average monthly employment from 2009 to 2011:

- Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing
- Construction
- Transportation and Warehousing
- Real Estate, Rental and Leasing

- Educational Services
- Accommodations and Food Services

Table 2.6 Average Weekly Wages by Sector (2009-2011).

Description	2009	2011	# Change	% Change
	Average Weekly Wages			
Total, All Industries	\$743.00	\$766.00	\$23.00	3.1%
11 - Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	\$432.00	\$447.00	\$15.00	3.5%
21 - Mining	\$1,073.00	\$1,184.00	\$111.00	10.3%
23 - Construction	\$900.00	\$916.00	\$16.00	1.8%
31-33 - Manufacturing	\$1,173.00	\$1,284.00	\$111.00	9.5%
DUR - Durable Goods Manufacturing	\$1,062.00	\$1,022.00	-\$40.00	-3.8%
NONDUR - Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing	\$1,238.00	\$1,459.00	\$221.00	17.9%
22 - Utilities	\$1,466.00	\$1,614.00	\$148.00	10.1%
42 - Wholesale Trade	\$849.00	\$936.00	\$87.00	10.2%
44-45 - Retail Trade	\$489.00	\$478.00	-\$11.00	-2.2%
48-49 - Transportation and Warehousing	\$681.00	\$725.00	\$44.00	6.5%
51 - Information	\$792.00	\$859.00	\$67.00	8.5%
52 - Finance and Insurance	\$1,074.00	\$1,271.00	\$197.00	18.3%
53 - Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	\$609.00	\$626.00	\$17.00	2.8%
54 - Professional and Technical Services	\$1,223.00	\$1,283.00	\$65.00	4.9%
55 - Management of Companies and Enterprises	\$1,515.00	\$1,169.00	-\$346.00	-22.8%
56 - Administrative and Waste Services	\$687.00	\$701.00	\$14.00	2.0%
61 - Educational Services	\$797.00	\$821.00	\$24.00	3.0%
62 - Health Care and Social Assistance	\$833.00	\$844.00	\$11.00	1.3%
71 - Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	\$453.00	\$457.00	\$4.00	0.9%
72 - Accommodation and Food Services	\$333.00	\$337.00	\$4.00	1.2%
81 - Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	\$476.00	\$459.00	-\$17.00	-3.6%
92 - Public Administration	\$815.00	\$831.00	\$16.00	2.0%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

OBSERVATIONS AND TRENDS

The average weekly wage for all sectors in Berkshire County increased by 3% from 2009 to 2011; however, according to the Massachusetts Office of Labor and Workforce Development the average weekly wage for all sectors in Massachusetts increased by 6% from 2009 to 2011.

The management of companies and enterprises sector experienced a 22.8% decrease in average weekly wages between 2009 and 2011. In 2009, this sector had the highest average weekly wage and in 2011 had fallen to seventh.

Sectors with the greatest increase in average weekly wages from 2009 to 2011:

- Mining
- Manufacturing
- Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing
- Utilities
- Wholesale Trade
- Transportation and Warehousing

- Information
- Finance and Insurance
- Professional and Technical Services

Sectors with the greatest decrease in average weekly wages from 2009 to 2011:

- Durable Goods Manufacturing
- Management of Companies and Enterprises

D. ECONOMIC DISTRESS CRITERIA FINDINGS FOR THE 2012 PERFORMANCE REPORT

Unemployment (13 CFR 301.3(a)(i))

No municipality in Berkshire County has an unemployment rate that is for the most recent 24 month period for which data is available, at least one (1) percentage point greater than the national average unemployment rate. Please see Appendix “A” for more information.

Per Capita Income (13 CFR 301.3(a)(ii))

Seven (7) census tracts in Berkshire County have a per capita income that is, for the most recent period for which data is available, eighty (80) percent or less of the national average per capita income. Please see Appendix “B” for more information.

E. RECENTLY RELEASED ECONOMIC REPORTS ON THE BERKSHIRE REGION

1. Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, *Labor Market Trends in the Berkshire Region*, September 2012, available at http://www.commcorp.org/resources/documents/Berkshire_09.2012.pdf.

SECTION 3. GOALS & OBJECTIVES PERFORMANCE REPORT

Chapter 4 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS sets forth six goals and objectives for the region. This section highlights the activities being taken to help the region meet these goals and objectives.

1. To implement unified regional economic development initiatives.
2. To advance the region's economic progress through the use of current and pertinent data.
3. To increase the economic competitiveness of the region in the global economy.
4. To stabilize and strengthen the region's workforce.
5. To advance high-quality infrastructure and community improvements to support development, redevelopment and revitalization of the built environment.
6. To facilitate the region's assessment, remediation and redevelopment of buildings and sites.

GOAL # 1: TO IMPLEMENT UNIFIED REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES.

Representative Activities:

- ✓ The Berkshire Chamber of Commerce, Berkshire Visitors Bureau, Berkshire Economic Development Corporation and the Berkshire Creative Economy Council have collaborated and continue to collaborate to form a unified coalition of regional economic development agencies under the name 1Berkshire to facilitate economic development in Berkshire County.
- ✓ 1Berkshire continued its Regional Marketing Program to coordinate the marketing of Berkshire County to people and businesses inside and outside of Berkshire County.
- ✓ 1Berkshire continued its Regional Attention/Attraction Program focused on recruiting and retaining regional-scale businesses in Berkshire County.
- ✓ The Commonwealth of Massachusetts certified 1Berkshire as the designated regional economic development organization for Berkshire County.
- ✓ The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission continued work on the *Sustainable Berkshires Regional Plan* that will guide public and private initiatives and investments in the county for the next twenty to thirty years.
- ✓ The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission partnered with 1Berkshire to host two small business forums for the *Sustainable Berkshires Regional Plan*.
- ✓ The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission hosted two economic development forums for the *Sustainable Berkshires Regional Plan*.
- ✓ The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission through the *Keep Berkshires Farming Initiative* is working with a number of municipalities and individuals to improve access to local and healthy food while supporting farm viability and providing assistance to new or existing agricultural related businesses.

GOAL # 2: TO ADVANCE THE REGION'S ECONOMIC PROGRESS THROUGH THE USE OF CURRENT AND PERTINENT DATA.

Representative Activities:

- ✓ The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission continued to operate a data clearinghouse and indicators website (Berkshire Benchmarks) focused on improving the quality, volume and access to information and statistics for the Berkshire region.
- ✓ The Berkshire County Regional Employment Board continued its bi-annual publication of its Workforce Blueprint that examines the critical and emerging industries and identifies the necessary skills that the workforce must possess to support the identified industries.
- ✓ The City of North Adams and the Town of Great Barrington began collecting and analyzing data for their new Comprehensive Plans that will guide land use and development decisions made in those municipalities for at least the next ten years.
- ✓ 1Berkshire provides local data to the Council for Community and Economic Research (CCER) that helps populate the national cost of living index published by the CCER.

GOAL # 3: TO INCREASE THE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS OF THE REGION IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY.

Representative Activities:

- ✓ 1Berkshire maintained a site and building locator website to assist interested parties in identifying buildings and sites in Berkshire County that are available for lease or purchase. The website received over 5,000 unique visitors last year and lists nearly 150 properties.
- ✓ 1Berkshire launched the Nonprofit Business Network to provide networking and educational opportunities for nonprofit business professionals in Berkshire County; facilitate collaboration on projects; and to unite the nonprofit sector in matters requiring advocacy from a larger entity.
- ✓ 1Berkshire provided eight business incubator spaces to assist sole proprietors or micro-business proprietors with the transition from their home to an incubator into a commercial space.

GOAL # 4: TO STABILIZE AND STRENGTHEN THE REGION'S WORKFORCE.

Representative Activities:

Upgrading Skills of the Current Workforce:

- ✓ The Berkshire County Regional Employment Board continues to promote the Commonwealth's Workforce Training Fund grants and Hiring Incentive grants. These grants are awarded to regional industries to implement worker training programs. Approximately six (6) companies receive training dollars annually, training 300+ people and generating \$1 million in training resources.

- ✓ The Berkshire County Regional Employment Board continued its Industry Sector Initiative that promotes the development of strategies to address critical workforce needs and shortages in the Berkshire region. In the past five (5) years, the BCREB helped to generate \$920,000; leveraged \$1.1 million and trained 348 people in Green Technology/Photovoltaic Training and Healthcare which assisted 27 companies with their workforce needs.
- ✓ The Berkshire County Regional Employment Board was designated to High Performing Workforce Board status in 2010 due to their workforce, education and training programs.

Developing the Skills of Unemployed/Underemployed Residents:

- ✓ The Berkshire County Regional Employment Board, BerkshireWorks, Berkshire Community College and McCann Technical School continued its Industry Sector Initiative that promotes the development of strategies to address critical workforce needs and shortages in the Berkshire region. Strategies were developed to assist the STEM, Advanced Manufacturing and Healthcare industries.
- ✓ BerkshireWorks Career Center provided services to 4,000 people and 500 companies during fiscal year 2012.

Pipeline Development:

- ✓ The Berkshire County Regional Employment Board, in partnership with a number of local high schools and colleges, continues to offer its Connecting Activities Internship Program that connects high-school students and post-secondary students with industry training programs and internships to help students develop work-readiness and industry specific job skills. 500 youth annually in internships, 1500 youth in career awareness; 1000 youth in STEM programming; and 50-100 youth in subsidized work experience
- ✓ The Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, in partnership with a number of public school districts and colleges, continued to participate in the Berkshire Compact. The Compact is a county-wide initiative focused on promoting a diverse range of educational opportunities in the region. The premise of the Compact is that everyone regardless of their circumstances should have the opportunity to aspire to higher education.
- ✓ The Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts continued operation of the Berkshire Hills Internship Program (B-HIP) that provides unique and hands-on training to the youth of Berkshire County in the field of arts management (2011 Berkshire CEDS Priority Project, see p. 35 for a complete update).

Post-Secondary/Vocational Training Opportunities:

- ✓ Berkshire Community College and McCann Technical School developed seven (7) green facilities and photovoltaic training programs which trained 57 people.
- ✓ Berkshire Community College and McCann Technical School developed and trained 288 people in the healthcare industry.

- ✓ The Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts continued operation of the Berkshire STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) Pipeline to build connections among higher education, primary and secondary education, business and non-profit agencies to improve science, technology, engineering and math education for students.
- ✓ Pittsfield Adult Learning Center implements post-secondary training in electricity and metal fabrication.

Basic Skills/Work Readiness Efforts:

- ✓ The Berkshire County Regional Employment Board and Berkshire Chamber of Commerce worked to enhance the work-readiness programs in the high schools.
- ✓ Berkshire Community College is implementing a Work Keys training program

GOAL # 5: TO ADVANCE HIGH-QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT, REDEVELOPMENT, AND REVITALIZATION OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT.

Representative Activities:

- ✓ The MassBroadband 123 regional fiber-optic network is currently under construction to over 1,200 key community anchor institutions like schools, libraries and public safety facilities across 123 communities. The build-out of the “middle-mile” fiber-optic network is scheduled for completion by the end of June 2013. (2011 Berkshire CEDS Priority Project, see p. 20 for a complete update)
- ✓ The WiredWest Communications Cooperative Corporation was formed in August, 2011 to provide a legal structure for municipalities to work together to finance, build and operate a telecommunications network. The WiredWest Cooperative currently has 40 member towns. WiredWest recently completed an in-depth marketing study. (2011 Berkshire CEDS Priority Project, see p. 20 for a complete update)
- ✓ The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission completed a study that identified a series of steps that a municipality can take to allow its residents to purchase electricity at competitive rates by aggregating demand. Nine communities agreed to participate in a municipal electric aggregation program for the purpose of procuring competitive supplies of electricity on behalf of their residents.
- ✓ The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission received a grant of \$240,000 from the United States Department of Transportation to complete a feasibility study for potential passenger rail station locations in southern Berkshire County. (2011 Berkshire CEDS Priority Project, see p. 23 for a complete update)
- ✓ The City of Pittsfield completed Phase I of its Airport Safety Improvement project and has begun work on Phase II of the project. The entire project, which included realigning and extending the asphalt runway to meet FAA runway safety area standards, is scheduled for completion by December 2012. (2011 Berkshire CEDS Priority Project, see p. 22 for a complete update)

- ✓ The Pittsfield Economic Revitalization Corporation provided \$49,000 in grants to three local companies to assist them in accessing technical services, such as legal, engineering, architectural, financial or other business planning services.
- ✓ The Pittsfield Economic Revitalization Corporation received \$150,000 to award to local small businesses to assist them with implementing broadband technology.
- ✓ The City of North Adams completed improvements to the Harriman Airport, including the construction of an airport beacon, renovations to the Civil Air Patrol building and the reconstruction of the main taxiway.
- ✓ The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission assisted twelve (12) communities with developing zoning amendments to local bylaws to provide greater certainty in the permitting process and to allow a wider range of non-residential uses in appropriate areas of the communities.
- ✓ The City of Pittsfield completed a \$2.6 million streetscape project on North Street that updated the infrastructure and pedestrian amenities on one of the City's main commercial streets.
- ✓ Williams College is constructing a new \$80 million library and media center. The estimated date of completion for the project is August 2014.
- ✓ The Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute continued its campus expansion program, which includes the construction of a new 44,400 square foot Visitor, Exhibition and Conference Center; renovation of the existing museum building; and a new landscape design. The project is expected to be completed in summer 2014.
- ✓ The Route 7/Pittsfield South Street Reconstruction Project was started with an estimated cost of \$6 million and estimated date of completion in June 2014.
- ✓ The Town of Adams began construction on a \$2 million public infrastructure project at Greylock Glen with an estimated date of completion by spring 2013. (2011 Berkshire CEDS Priority Project, see p. 24 for a complete update)
- ✓ Williamstown completed construction on its new \$3.9 million Youth Center in order to provide space for youth programs and activities.

GOAL # 6: TO FACILITATE THE REGION'S ASSESSMENT, REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT OF BUILDINGS AND SITES

Representative Activities:

- ✓ The Berkshire Brownfields Program invested \$150,000 over the last year on seven (7) brownfield sites in the Berkshire Region.
- ✓ The Berkshire Brownfields Program provided a \$375,000 subgrant from its Brownfields Revolving Loan fund (RLF) to assist The Southern Berkshire Community Development Corporation with the cleanup of

the New England Log Homes sites in Great Barrington, MA. (2011 Berkshire CEDS Priority Project, see p. 28 for a complete update)

- ✓ The Dalton Redevelopment Authority remediated the petroleum contamination from the site of a former gas station and trucking yard that clears the path for redevelopment at the site.
- ✓ The Southern Berkshire Community Development Corporation commenced re-development of the New England Log Homes site by demolishing the existing structures.
- ✓ Rees-Larkin Development completed the remediation and rehabilitation of the A.H. Rice Silk Mill. This adaptive re-use project will provide 45 units of rental workforce housing.
- ✓ A \$3.7 million private investment resulted in the revitalization of the 133 year old Baird & Benton Block in Lee, MA. This project earned a 2012 historic preservation award from the Massachusetts Historical Commission.
- ✓ The Berkshire Brownfields Program applied for and received an additional \$250,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency to re-capitalize its revolving loan fund.
- ✓ MountainOne Financial Services opened its new corporate headquarters in the William Stanley Business Park in Pittsfield, MA in June, 2012. William Stanley Business Park is located at the site of the former General Electric plant (2011 Berkshire CEDS Priority Project, see p. 26 for a complete update)
- ✓ The Berkshire Housing Development Corporation is undertaking a \$2.7 million renovation of the Consolati Building to provide commercial and residential opportunities in downtown Lee.

SECTION 4. PRIORITY PROJECTS STATUS REPORT

This section contains updates for the projects listed on the Project Priority List in the 2011 Berkshire CEDS. A project summary and update is included for each project on the Project Priority List.

A. PROJECT PRIORITY LIST FROM THE 2011 BERKSHIRE CEDS

Projects Representing the Greatest Needs Regionally

- Regional Telecommunications Network
- Pittsfield Municipal Airport Safety Improvements
- Regional Highway Access Improvements, including a north-south Limited Access Highway serving central and northern Berkshire County
- Alternative Energy and Energy Infrastructure Improvements
- Regional Passenger Rail Improvements

Projects that Enhance the Region: Physical Development Category

North Sub-Region

- Development of the Greylock Glen Outdoor Recreation & Environmental Education Center
- Former Commonwealth Sprague Site
- Route 8 Corridor Redevelopment

Central Sub-Region

- Life Science Center @ William Stanley Business Park
- William Stanley Business Park
- Crane Stationery Mill Redevelopment
- Hubbard Avenue Development Area
- Sport Complex
- Civic Center/Hotel

South Sub-Region

- New England Log Homes
- River School Redevelopment
- Redevelopment of Great Barrington Fairgrounds
- Monument Mills Area Reuse Planning
- Redevelopment of Historic Great Barrington Firehouse
- Housatonic School Redevelopment

Projects that Enhance the Region: Physical and Technology Infrastructure Category

- West Street Water Line Upgrade
- DownStreet Art Project
- McKay Street Pedestrian Improvements and Parking Garage Restoration

Projects that Enhance the Region: Programs and Initiative Category

- Adaptive Reuse of Mills
- City of Pittsfield Municipal Airport Industrial Park Feasibility Study
- Regionalization of the City of Pittsfield's Municipal Airport
- Berkshire Farm-to-School Feasibility Study

- Regional Economic Development District
- Housatonic Railroad Station Planning Feasibility Study
- Downtown Parking Strategy
- Berkshire Creative Initiatives

Projects that Enhance the Region: Education and Workforce Development Category

- Berkshire Hills Internship Program
- Berkshire Creative Initiatives

B. UPDATES BY PROJECT

Projects Representing the Greatest Needs Regionally

Project Name: Regional Telecommunications Network
<p>Project Description: Many communities in the Berkshires have no access or partial access to high speed broadband level internet service. This project includes two initiatives, each with the same goal of constructing a high speed fiber-optic network to provide broadband levels of internet service to residents and businesses in Western Massachusetts. (For additional information, see p. 79 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).</p>
<p>Project Update(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle-Mile: The MassBroadband 123 regional fiber-optic network is currently under construction. The anticipated date of completion is June 2013. The Massachusetts Broadband Institute has procured Axia NGN to operate the network. Axia NGN has registered twenty-four (24) service providers to provide communication services over the network. Please see http://www.massbroadband.org/ for more information. • Last-Mile: Forty (40) municipalities in Western Massachusetts have formed the WiredWest Communications Cooperative Corporation in August 2011 to provide a legal structure to finance, build and operate a fiber-optic telecommunications network. Work completed to date by WiredWest includes, GIS mapping of utility poles, roadways and structures, identification of possible hub locations, completion of an in-depth marketing survey, issuance of a request for information for engineering services, issuance of an RFP for high-level network design. The final business plan and projected financial statements will be completed by November 2012. Please see http://wiredwest.net/ for more information.

Project Name: Regional Highway Access Improvements, including a north-south Limited Access Highway serving central and northern Berkshire County

Project Summary: The Regional Highway Access Improvements project is a grouping of highway improvement proposals that would install a wide array of highway improvements throughout the County. (For additional information, see p. 82 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

- **Limited Access Highway.** This project will improve access, relieve traffic congestion and implement safety upgrades through the construction of a new vehicular corridor from the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90) to municipalities in central and north Berkshire County.
- **South Street (Rte. 7/20) Improvements.** This project entails the replacement of deteriorated pavement, enhancements to side street access points and improvements to unsafe locations through signal upgrades in the City of Pittsfield.
- **Route 8/Friend Street Intersection Improvements.** This project will correct safety deficiencies and enhance traffic flow in the Town of Adams. 25% design completed.
- **Berkshire Medical Center (BMC) Area/North Street Improvements.** This project will address several intersections and roadway deficiencies in order to improve safety conditions on the east side of the Berkshire Medical Center complex in the City of Pittsfield and improve the regional north-south traffic flow on Route 7.
- **Route 7/20 Corridor Access Management Improvements.** This project will reduce turning conflicts and improve safety conditions in concert with changes to zoning bylaws in the City of Pittsfield and the Town of Lenox.
- **East Street Reconstruction.** This project will add capacity and replace deficient sections of roadway between downtown Pittsfield and Merrill Road to improve regional traffic flow and facilitate the redevelopment of the Williams Stanley Business Park.
- **First Street Improvements.** This project will increase the capacity and turning movements on Route 7, the main north-south truck route through the City of Pittsfield. This project also includes upgrades to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act retrofits, pavement reconstruction, and signal modernization.
- **Route 20 Traffic Improvements (Lee/Lenox) or pursuit of a new I-90 Interchange.** This project seeks to alleviate heavy truck traffic, improve walkability, promote economic development, and ease congestion in the Town of Lee's downtown and improve regional access to I-90 (Massachusetts Turnpike).
- **Westside Connector.** This project establishes a new connector road between West Housatonic Street (US 20) and West Street in Pittsfield with the aim of reducing traffic congestion at critical downtown intersections along Routes 7/20.
- **Route 8 Alternating Passing Lane (Cheshire/Lanesborough).** This project will add capacity, improve safety, and alleviate congestion to coincide with anticipated increases in north-south travel between the central and northern Berkshires.

Project Update(s):

- **Limited Access Highway:** No significant progress to report. A corridor management analysis is programmed into the current Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and should commence after October 1, 2012.
- **South Street (Rte. 7/20) Improvements:** Construction on this project is currently in progress. Completion is anticipated in the summer of 2013.
- **Route 8/Friend Street Intersection Improvements:** Project is at 25% design. Construction is expected to

start in 2013 or 2014.

- **Berkshire Medical Center (BMC) Area/ North Street Improvements:** This project is included in the 2015 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). No design. (MassDOT Project ID 606233).
- **Route 7/20 Corridor Access Management Improvements:** Both Pittsfield and Lenox have draft “final” zoning bylaws of a corridor management overlay district to help manage and reduce the number of access points onto Route 7/20.
- **East Street Reconstruction:** This project is at 25% design. No construction date.
- **First Street Improvements:** First Street is currently being resurfaced. Intersection and signalization improvements are included in the 2015 TIP (MassDOT Project ID 606233).
- **Route 20 Traffic Improvements (Lee/Lenox) or pursuit of a new I-90 Interchange:** No significant progress to report.
- **Westside Connector:** No significant progress to report.
- **Route 8 Alternating Passing Lane (Cheshire/Lanesborough):** No significant progress to report.

Project Name: Pittsfield Municipal Airport Safety Improvements

Project Summary: The Pittsfield Municipal Airport does not comply with current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) design requirements for runway safety areas. This two-phase project will correct those deficiencies and bring the airport in to compliance with applicable FAA regulations. (For additional information, see p. 81 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: Phase one which started in October 2010 was substantially complete as of August 2012 with small tasks remaining; Closeout and completion of Phase 1 is expected presently (fall of 2012). Phase two of the project began late October 2011 and as of August 2012 is approximately 50% complete. Major milestones of the project include the replication of wetlands impacted by construction, tree obstruction removal to comply with FAA air navigation clear zones, substantial completion of FAA runway safety areas, completion of runway asphalt that included a 1400 foot shift to the east (not yet open for aircraft operations), grading for the new South Mountain Road realignment around the airport, and substantial completion of the new Wild Acres facilities. Substantial completion of the overall project is estimated to be December 2012 barring any adverse weather or unforeseen circumstances.

Project Name: Alternative Energy and Energy Infrastructure Improvements

Project Summary: The Alternative Energy and Energy Infrastructure Improvements project is a consolidated project grouping of various energy proposals from throughout the county. (For additional information, see p. 84 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update:

- **Solarize Pittsfield and Lenox:** The City of Pittsfield and the Town of Lenox partnered with the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center and the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources to offer residents a program that encourages the adoption of small scale solar photovoltaic systems through a coordinated education, marketing and outreach effort combined with a tiered pricing structure that provides increased savings as more residents and business participate.
- **Energy Efficiency Improvements:** Nine municipalities in Berkshire County made significant energy conservation improvements to municipal buildings through Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants provided by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources.

Project Name: Regional Passenger Rail Improvements

Project Summary: The Regional Passenger Rail Improvements project, a project grouping of the East to West and Pittsfield to Connecticut passenger rail projects, will promote public and private investment and upgrades to the region's rail network to facilitate expanded passenger rail service. (For additional information, see p. 86 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission applied for and was awarded a \$240,000 grant from the United States Department of Transportation to conduct a feasibility study to identify potential passenger rail station locations in Berkshire County along a rail line owned by the Housatonic Railroad.

Projects that Enhance the Region: Physical Development Category (by sub-region)

North Sub-Region

Project Name: Development of the Greylock Glen Outdoor Recreation & Environmental Education Center

Project Summary: The Town of Adams is the designated developer for the Greylock Glen Outdoor Recreation & Environmental Education Center. It is envisioned as a four-season outdoor recreation and environmental education destination. This project is expected to include high quality lodging and conference facilities, a campground (tent sites and cabins), a performing arts amphitheater, an environmental education center, Nordic ski center, and a multi-use trail system. (For additional information, see p. 87 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: The Site Master Plan as a whole, which includes all 1,063 acres, has been completed and a MEPA Certificate was issued to the plan on May 2010. Over the past year, 100% of the design plans have been completed for necessary infrastructure improvements to serve the Glen development. The Town was awarded \$2M from the 2011 Supplemental Budget for first phase of improvements. This work was bid in spring 2012 and construction started on May 7th, 2012. In September the town applied for 2012 MassWorks funding (\$1.9M) to complete the second (final) phase of infrastructure improvements. Overall Project permitting is essentially complete: Wetlands delineation completed – ORAD issued by Adams Conservation Commission (Oct. 2011); Special Permit (PURD) issued for the Project by the Adams Planning Board (August 2012); NOI for Invasive Species Management Plan filed by DCR and is currently under Conservation Commission consideration.

Proposed Phase I: Campground and Multi-use Trail System: Marketing study for the Campground completed; Town now developing RFP for Campground developer/operator, initiating preliminary design work for Campground, and preparing draft leases to be executed with the Commonwealth and private developer partners. Expect to issue Campground RFP later in fall 2012.

Needed improvements at Route 8/Friend Street intersection are now at 25% design; design public hearing anticipated late in 2012. Construction for intersection improvements could begin as early as fall 2013. In September 2011, the Town issued a Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) for the lodge & conference center but received little response from hotel developers. It is now expected to be the final component of the entire project.

Project Name: Former Commonwealth Sprague Site

Project Summary: The former Commonwealth Sprague Site, on Brown Street in North Adams, is a site ripe for redevelopment. All structures on the property have been demolished, however, it is expected that certain infrastructure (utility) upgrades would be necessary to develop the site. The property is zoned for the development of industrial type uses. (For additional information, see p. 89 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: All of the former factory buildings (and other out-buildings) have been demolished, and the site has been leveled and cleared. The presence of contamination at the site is not known.

Project Name: Route 8 Corridor Redevelopment

Project Summary: The Route 8 Corridor Redevelopment project, a project grouping, is a multi-pronged redevelopment proposal to better use underutilized sites adjacent to Route 8. The project proposals in this grouping include:

- **Gravel Bank Redevelopment.** A 13.4 acre site slated for redevelopment as a commercial and/or industrial site. This site has been identified as a possible location for a new Super Wal-Mart; however, it has not been developed yet.
- **North Adams Plaza Redevelopment.** A 26.7 acre site slated for redevelopment as a commercial and/or industrial site. This site has been identified as a possible location for a new Lowes; however, it has not been developed to date.
- **Old Route 8 Corridor Improvements.** This project is a right-of-way improvement project. This project includes the upgrading of paving, the widening of the roadway (to meet modern standards) and utility improvements. If completed, this project has the potential to improve access to the Gravel Bank site and will allow development of underutilized properties surrounding the road corridor.

(For additional information, see p. 90 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update(s):

- **Gravel Bank Redevelopment:** Substantial progress has been made at this site. Wal-Mart started construction in spring 2012 on their new building located at this site. The opening of the store is slated for spring of 2013.
- **North Adams Plaza Redevelopment:** All buildings at the former N.A. Plaza have now been cleared. No new development has occurred at this site.
- **Old Route 8 Corridor Improvements:** No significant progress has been made at this site. Future plans include obtaining illustrative design plans and having the project be placed on a future TIP.

Central Sub-Region

Project Name: Life Science Center @ William Stanley Business Park

Project Summary: This project proposes to construct and create a “Life Science Center” for training of technicians in the areas of bio-tech and semi-conductors clean room technology and to house a company or companies in related fields. (For additional information, see p. 91 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: Representatives from the William Stanley Business Park are currently working with the Massachusetts Life Science Center to develop a business model and strategic plan to qualify for the release of funding from a \$6.5 million dollar earmark to construct a building at the site. The submission of this plan is set for the end of this calendar year.

Project Name: William Stanley Business Park

Project Summary: The William Stanley Business Park project proposes to redevelop 52-acres of the former General Electric Transformer Plant site, in Pittsfield, into a business/industrial park. Twenty six acres of the site have been prepared for redevelopment and are “shovel ready.” The remaining portion of the site is pending funding for the completion of engineering designs and the installation of infrastructure. To direct redevelopment efforts at the site the William Stanley Business Park of the Berkshire Master Plan was developed in 2003. (For additional information, see p. 92 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: The land (18+ acres) for the William Stanley Business Park was deeded from GE to PEDDA in February 2012. The Mountain One Financial Center opened in April 2012; the 7,000 sq. foot building employs 25 people.

Project Name: Crane Stationery Mill Redevelopment

Project Summary: The Crane Stationery Mill Redevelopment project is an adaptive reuse proposal to utilize a 100,000 sf. multi-story mill being vacated by Crane & Company. There have been a number of developers interested in converting the structure into commercial (incubator) and residential space. (For additional information, see p. 93 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Update: Crane & Co. has announced that it will be consolidating its stationery paper operations to its facility in North Adams. Crane & Co. will vacate the stationery mill on Flansburg Avenue in Dalton in the near future and list the building for sale/lease. The Town of Dalton has completed a redevelopment study of the building and has drafted a RFP that has been submitted to Crane & Co. for its consideration.

Project Name: Hubbard Avenue Development Area

Project Summary: The Hubbard Avenue Development Area project, a project grouping, is a development/redevelopment area that contains multiple project proposals that are interlinked. The project proposals in this grouping include:

- **Hubbard Avenue Improvements.** A roadway improvement project that, involves limited straightening, road widening, turn lane enhancements, replacement of a railroad bridge, and possible widening the bridge over the Housatonic River and related intersection.
- **Ashuelot Park Development.** This 56.15 acre site is identified as a development area in the Town of Dalton for an industrial park. The site contains an existing 275,000 sf. facility (209,000 sf. of manufacturing space and 66,000 sf. of office space) and the rest is undeveloped. A site plan laying out the build-out of the park and a Runoff Water Management Plan has been completed for the site.
- **Schnopps-Roberts Site.** This 38.6 acre site is another identified development area in the Town of Dalton. Conceptually, the site is envisioned to be a business/industrial subdivision. Two initial planning studies for the build-out of the site have been completed.

(For additional information, see p. 94 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update(s):

- **Hubbard Avenue Improvements:** No significant progress to report.
- **Ashuelot Park Development:** Crane & Co. will be vacating the existing building on-site as part of its stationary plant consolidation in North Adams. Future plans for the building and site are unknown at this time.
- **Schnopps-Roberts Site:** The Town of Dalton through its Development and Industrial Commission is actively involved with the stakeholders of the property. The parties are working towards entering into a memorandum of understanding to facilitate the development of a small industrial park on these two properties.

Project Name: Sports Complex

Project Summary: The Sports Complex project, which is in a conceptual stage of development, is a development proposal looking to construct an enclosed sporting complex containing an estimated 450,000ft of synthetic surfaced playing fields to accommodate year round sporting activities and events. (For additional information, see p. 96 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: No significant progress to report.

Project Name: Civic Center/Hotel

Project Summary: The Civic Center/Hotel project proposes to develop a multi-use regional convention and performance center, IMAX theater, hotel, community center and parking deck. The total project cost estimated for this project is \$34.5 million. (For additional information, see p. 97 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: This project has been summarized and is intended to be implemented in three phases.

1. New state of the art movie theaters, restaurants, and the inclusion of Berkshire Carousel are in the final stage of planning and design; construction on this phase of the project is expected to be completed 2013/2014.
2. The addition of an IMAX (or IMAX equivalent type theater) and other general enhancements to the overall shopping center and shopping experience. This phase of the project is currently in its planning and development stage.
3. Proposed expansion of the mall to include a Civic & Convention Center/ Hotel. This phase of the project is still in the early conception. Proponents of this phase are still evaluating and advancing ideas to further the implementation of the project.

South Sub-Region

Project Name: New England Log Homes (NELH)

Project Summary: This project is a redevelopment proposal of the abandoned and contaminated former NELH brownfield site in downtown Great Barrington. The redevelopment proposal includes the remediation of known contaminants, development of mixed-use commercial and housing space, and the creation of a public gathering space along the Housatonic River. The total project site encompasses 8 acres of land and is estimated to cost \$25 million. (For additional information, see p. 98 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: The demolition stage for this project has been completed. The redevelopment program has been defined as: 45 units of affordable rental housing; 30-40,000 sq. foot commercial space; and 40 units of assisted living. Final site planning and design of the remediation plan has commenced.

Project Name: River School Redevelopment

Project Summary: This project is a redevelopment proposal of the former Searles/Bryant School complex in Downtown Great Barrington. The redevelopment proposal includes 40 housing units (40% are below \$250,000 and 25% are statutorily affordable), 17,000 sf. of commercial space, and public space with an integrated river walk. (For additional information, see p. 99 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: The Bryant School redevelopment into the Iredale Mineral Cosmetics corporate headquarters is 50% complete. The anticipated date of completion for the project is spring 2013. The market-rate housing component is awaiting the return of the housing market. Affordable units are expected to be pre-developed in 2013. The development of additional commercial space is on hold.

Project Name: Redevelopment of Great Barrington Fairgrounds

Project Summary: This project includes the redevelopment of the 57-acre historic Great Barrington Fairground and racetrack for mixed-use commercial, agricultural incubator, housing and open space/recreation uses. (For additional information, see p. 100 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: The fairgrounds are under contract to be purchased presently (October 2012). Preliminary redevelopment plans are currently underway. The number of jobs is still estimated at 20, but subject to change as the project progresses. The current redevelopment plan calls for substantial agricultural and educational components; as well as a five acre solar farm, and potentially a location to house seasonal workers. Projected completion for this development is expected in 2016.

Project Name: Monument Mills Area Reuse Planning

Project Summary: The Monument Mills Area Reuse Planning initiative, a Town based effort, looks to work with various mill owners, interested developers and the community to develop a comprehensive redevelopment/reuse plan for underutilized mills throughout the village of Housatonic. Through this planning process, the Town would examine potential uses, infrastructure needs and deficiencies, permitting and financing options to facilitate the redevelopment of approximately 250,000 sf. of underdeveloped space. (For additional information, see p. 101 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: At this time the project remains in study and design. Private Property owners continue to study the feasibility and marketability of projects. The town has not been directly involved in this process. However, the town has convened its permitting staff, State DEP staff, and property owner representatives to discuss wetland, flood plain, and historic mill district redevelopment procedures and guidelines.

Project Name: Redevelopment of Historic Great Barrington Firehouse

Project Summary: This project is the adaptive re-use and historic renovation of the former Great Barrington Fire House into a vocational education and job-training center. The new facility will provide young people and members of the community with educational training, jobs and career counseling. It is directed at being a catalyst for employment growth in Berkshire County. Vocational programs will include wood working, construction trades, high-tech and the culinary arts. In addition, the new facility will house a restaurant with an enlarged kitchen to be utilized for culinary classes. The Great Barrington Historical Society and Museum will occupy approximately 2,500 sf. in the renovated building. (For additional information, see p. 102 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: An environmental assessment of the site has been completed. The site is under contract to be purchased presently (October 2012). Funding for this project has not changed and continues to be supported by multiple sources. The project is expected to be completed in 2014.

Project Name: Housatonic School Redevelopment

Project Summary: The Housatonic School Redevelopment project (or Housatonic Commons Project) is the adaptive re-use of the former Housatonic Elementary School into a mix-use complex with 11 affordable housing units and 6,000 sf. of commercial/non-profit space for organizations (i.e. BRIDGE, Town Satellite Offices/Daycare Facility, etc.). The project will provide affordable workforce housing options for residents of southern Berkshire County, which is one of the largest impediments to attracting and retaining employees and overall workforce in southern Berkshire County. (For additional information, see p. 103 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: Currently this project is still in the study and design phase. The town did not award the sale of the school and subsequently convened a School Re-Use Task Force to examine re-use options. The original project was deemed not viable and did not proceed. A task force of citizens has been established and met numerous times to produce a report to advise the Board of Selectman on next steps. The Board and Town Manager have revised the RFP to sell the building. That RFP will be issued with a new project selected through that process.

Projects that Enhance the Region: Physical and Technology Infrastructure Category

Project Name: West Street Water Line Upgrade

Project Summary: The purpose of this project is to enhance and enable the growth of future and proposed industries along the West Housatonic Street corridor and to increase the capacity of water flow to the southwest section of the City of Pittsfield. The City's Master Plan, updated in 2009, identified the West Housatonic corridor as a critical corridor for future industrial growth. The West Street Water Line project will include the replacement of 5,000 ft. of existing 10-inch water main pipe with a 16-inch pipe. The increased pipe size will improve capacity to the corridor and the southwest section of the City through connections along Fort Hill Road. (For additional information, see p. 104 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Update: As of August 2012 the project is at 100% design. Half of the funding has been authorized to be borrowed by the City Council. The other half of the funding is being sought out through grants, but has not been secured at this time.

Project Name: DownStreet Art Project

Project Summary: The DownStreet Art program is a public art initiative designed to revitalize downtown North Adams, by harnessing existing arts organizations and events and transforming vacant and open spaces into arts destinations. The DownStreet Art program will be used to define the City of North Adams as a cultural haven. (For additional information, see p. 105 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: DownStreet Art organized and completed its fifth edition. This year over 80 artists participated and approximately 10,000 people attended the festival that ran from June 26, 2012 through October 25, 2012. DownStreet Art is becoming very successful in making the sale of art a source of income for local artists.

Project Name: McKay Street Pedestrian Improvements & Parking Garage Restoration

Project Summary: The purpose of this project is to restore and upgrade the 15+ year old McKay Street parking structure and improve key pedestrian routes from the parking facility to Pittsfield's Central Business District. (For additional information, see p. 106 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: The project is currently at 40% completion. At this time concrete, painting, and electrical work have started throughout the structure. The contractor started with hydro-demolition work on the structure's roof. Upon completion of this first phase the contractor then moved to internal work necessary on lower levels. Weather permitting work will continue on the project through the winter months. The project is set to be at 100% completion on or before June, 30th 2013.

Projects that Enhance the Region: Programs and Initiatives Category

Project Name: Adaptive Reuse of Mills

Project Summary: The Adaptive Reuse of Mills initiative is a regional proposal to address the vacant and underutilized mills throughout the county. (For additional information, see p. 107 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update(s):

- In Pittsfield, the adaptive reuse of the H.S. Rice Silk Mill has turned that property into 45 new units of rental workforce housing. This project was completed in the 2012 fiscal year. In the wake of renovation of this property at 55 Spring Street in Pittsfield the city received a \$306,191 dollar Community Development Action Grant (CDAG) from the State's Department of Housing & Community Development; this funding was used to install new utility hookups for water and sewer. The grant also enabled the city to construct new sidewalks and curbs on the four streets surrounding the property; Spring, Willow, Cherry, and Burbank Streets.

Project Name: City of Pittsfield Municipal Airport Industrial Park Feasibility Study

Project Summary: This project will commission a master planning process for the development of a 25-30 acre industrial area to the south of the Pittsfield Municipal Airport on Tamarack Road. The project will include site investigation, site plan development and the design of infrastructure comprised of an access road, sewer and water utilities. (For additional information, see p. 108 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: No significant progress to report.

Project Name: Regionalization of the City of Pittsfield's Municipal Airport

Project Summary: The City of Pittsfield would like to conduct a planning study to examine the possibility of regionalizing the City's municipal airport. The airport provides the only facility in the Berkshire County region that can accommodate general aviation and Class CII corporate jet aircraft. The project would help identify users of the facility, frequency and origin and destination information. This study will help determine the feasibility of pursuing regionalization of this facility. (For additional information, see p. 109 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: No significant progress to report.

Project Name: Berkshire Farm-to-School Feasibility Study

Project Summary: The Berkshire Farm-to-School feasibility study has three primary objectives, which include:

1. Assess Berkshire County's public schools' food budgets, food facilities, purchasing process, and most popular foods to analyze potential demand for food producers in the county to provide products.
2. Evaluate Berkshire County's farmers, farmland, and farm products to analyze the potential for Berkshire County farms to supply food to the region's schools.
3. Review Berkshire County's food processing industries and infrastructure to analyze the capacity to receive food "off the truck" from farms and process/package it to specifications of school food service.

(For additional information, see p. 110 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: No significant progress to report.

Project Name: Regional Economic Development District

Project Summary: This project proposes to establish an Economic Development District, compliant with the Economic Development Administration's requirements, covering all of Berkshire County. (For additional information, see p. 111 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: No significant progress to report. The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission plans to assess the feasibility of creating an Economic Development District in Berkshire County beginning in December 2012.

Project Name: Housatonic Railroad Station Planning Feasibility Study

Project Summary: This study would examine and identify potential locations for the development of a railroad station to accommodate the proposed Pittsfield to Connecticut passenger rail project. To evaluate each possible site the study would assess issues and impacts arising from access, parking, and future commercial services and development needs that would support passenger rail service. (For additional information, see p. 112 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission applied for and was awarded a \$240,000 grant from the United States Department of Transportation to conduct a feasibility study to identify potential passenger rail station locations in Berkshire County along a rail line owned by the Housatonic Railroad.

Project Name: Downtown Parking Strategy

Project Summary: This project looks to commission a Parking Strategy for downtown Great Barrington. Components of this study will include the development of conceptual plans, cost estimates, and strategies for increasing the parking supply to meet the needs of downtown businesses, while maximizing parking efficiency. The Town has already identified two key sites of interest adjacent to the Town Hall as possibilities to increase the parking supply. (For additional information, see p. 113 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update: This project is currently in the study and design phase. The town has convened a task force of business and community members to study downtown parking, inventory spaces, and evaluate options. If a full parking strategy or feasibility/ engineering of a certain sites are identified, grant funding maybe sought.

Project Name: Berkshire Creative Initiative

Project Summary: This Berkshire Creative Initiative proposal is a grouping of multiple initiatives that will enhance and grow the creative economy of Berkshire County. The proposals in this grouping included:

- **Berkshire Product Initiative:** The Berkshire Product Initiative looks to expand sales capacity of creative economy businesses, headquartered in the Berkshires, to design, manufacture and distribute original products. This will be achieved through the development of a unified Berkshire brand and outreach to a broader market.
- **Seed Fund Network:** The Seed Fund Network will provide start-up funds for new businesses or established businesses looking to expand into new markets. This program is proposed to have resources contributed from various sources to fund projects within \$20,000-\$150,000 dollar range. This funding will require a large education component. But it could potentially provide start-up funds for more than just creative businesses and be expanded to help fund any small business or start-up business around the county.
- **Creative Lives Here Initiative:** The Creative Lives Here Initiative will support the development of the “Creativity Lives Here” marketing package, which includes: (1) help other regions to identify, recognize and strengthen their creative economy; (2) promotion of the creative industry within Berkshire County; (3) the development of a brand unique to the Berkshires that highlights its creative and innovative economy; and (4) efforts to attract new creative businesses to the region.
- **Berkshire Creative Challenge:** The Berkshire Creative Challenge is a mechanism to connect Berkshire County manufacturers and businesses with local designers, engineers and creative workers to stimulate innovative research and development for existing and/or new product lines.
- **Berkshire Festival:** The Berkshire Festival is a two-week, open-access, county-wide celebration of cultural and lifestyle, uniting an anticipated 100 arts organizations, businesses and nonprofits through innovative partnerships and collaboration to highlight the wealth of Berkshire County attractions while infusing the region with a new wave of audiences and patrons.

(For additional information, see p. 113 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).

Project Update(s):

- **Berkshire Product Initiative:** No significant progress to report
- **Seed Fund Network:** No significant progress to report.
- **Creative lives Here Initiative:** No significant progress to report
- **Berkshire Creative Challenge:** No significant progress to report
- **Berkshire Festival:** Financial estimates have been received and a marketing plan has been developed

Projects that Enhance the Region: Education and Workforce Development Category

Project Name: Berkshire Hills Internship Program
Project Summary: The Berkshire Hills Internship Program (B-HIP) is administered by the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA). This program is a unique and important hands-on training program for the youth of Berkshire County that could be expanded. The program is an intensive arts management internship program that combines hands-on work experience with classes taught by arts administration faculty, “TalkBacks” with the area’s leading arts professionals, and the chance to fully participate in cultural events throughout Berkshire County. Through the B-HIP, students are able to experience educational and career advancement opportunities in one segment of the region’s economic clusters industries: Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Service. (For additional information, see p. 115 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).
Project Update: MCLA’s Berkshire Cultural Resource Center successfully organized and completed the 11th edition of the summer arts management course called Berkshire Hills Internship Program (BHIP). The program involved 14 students and recent graduates from the US and abroad.

Project Name: Berkshire Creative Initiative
Project Summary: This Berkshire Creative Initiative project proposal is a grouping of two initiatives that will enhance and grow the creative economy of Berkshire County. The project proposals in this grouping include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creative Industry Workforce Pathways: The Creative Industry Workforce Pathways is a collaborative effort between Berkshire Creative, the Berkshire County Regional Employment Board and the partners of the Berkshire Compact to develop a profile of the jobs and occupations within the county’s creative economy and strategize training and education programs to fill industries needs.• Creative Education Initiative: The Creative Education Initiative will organize regional education partners, members of the Berkshire Compact and a leadership team from the creative economy to develop a study to analyze the creative offerings within the k-12 schools throughout the county. The group will then identify ways to improve and expand these offerings. (For additional information, see p. 116 of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS).
Project Update(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creative Industry Workforce Pathways: No significant progress to report.• Creative Education Initiative: Project is in the early planning stages

SECTION 5. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The 2011 Berkshire CEDS includes performance measures to enable the CEDS Committee to track progress in the region and to assess the effectiveness of 2011 Berkshire CEDS. In this section, the performance measures are applied to track the progress made in the region over the last year.

1. How many jobs have been created and retained after implementation of projects from the Berkshire Project Priority List?

Priority Project Name	# of Jobs Created/Retained (Source)	Category
Gravel Bank Redevelopment (Super Wal-Mart)	180 (Walmart)	Retail Trade (180)
McKay Street Pedestrian Improvements and Parking Garage Restoration	35 (City of Pittsfield)	Construction (35)
Pittsfield Municipal Airport Safety Improvements	40 (City of Pittsfield)	Construction (40)
Adaptive Reuse of Mills (Rice Silk Mill)	67 (City of Pittsfield)	Construction (65)/Real Estate, Rental and Leasing (2)
William Stanley Business Park (MountainOne Financial Center)	25 (Pittsfield Economic Development Authority)	Finance and Insurance (25)
Total:	347	

2. How many of those jobs have been high quality in terms of wage levels, working conditions, etc.?

Job Category (# of jobs)	2011 Average Weekly Wage (Berkshire County)
23 - Construction (140)	\$ 916.00
44-45 - Retail Trade (180)	\$ 478.00
53 - Real Estate, Rental & Leasing (2)	\$ 626.00
52 – Finance and Insurance (25)	\$ 1,271.00
Total, All Industries	\$ 766.00

Source: Self Reported from Project Sponsors, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

The table above shows the categories of jobs that have been created or retained in the region after implementation of projects from the Berkshire Project Priority List along with the 2011 average weekly wages for each category in order to show how the wage levels for each category of jobs created/retained compare to the total wages for all industries in the region.

3. What number and types of investments have been undertaken in the region?

"Representative" Investments	Type & Amount of Investment	
	Public	Private
Gravel Bank Redevelopment (Super Wal-Mart)		\$6.8 million
Regional Telecommunications (MassBroadband 123)	\$70.6 million	
Regional Telecommunications (WiredWest)	\$106,500	\$219,500
Development of Greylock Glen Outdoor Recreation & Education Center	\$2 million	
New England Log Homes	\$3 million	\$2 million
Rice Silk Mill	\$3.86 million	\$11.4 million
Pittsfield Municipal Airport Safety Improvements	\$16 million	
339 North Street – Site Remediation	\$240,000	
Pittsfield Streetscape Project	\$2.6 million	
Harriman & West Airport Improvements (2011-2012)	\$4.4 million	
Frank Howard Project		\$4.7 million
Onota Project		\$7 million
Green Office Park, Lenox		\$5 million
McKay Street Pedestrian Improvements and Parking Garage Restoration	\$7 million	
Lee Municipal Parking Area & Pedestrian Connector	\$1.2 million	
Baird & Benton Block Rehabilitation		\$3.7 million
Williams College Library & Media Arts Center		\$80 million
Clark Art Campus Expansion		\$145 million
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts Science Center	\$30 million	
Iredale Mineral Cosmetics Development		\$7.5 million
Hoosac Wind Farm Project		\$90 million
Consolati Building Redevelopment	\$557,000	\$3.05 million
Williamstown Youth Center	\$3.9 million	
Total of Representative Projects	\$146 million	\$366 million

4. What is the number of business and non-profit organization startups, mergers and closures since the implementation of the CEDS?

- ✓ This information is not regularly collected for Berkshire County; however, according to the Massachusetts Small Business Development Center Network's Berkshire Office there were eleven (11) business starts in 2011 and seventeen (17) business starts to date in 2012.
- ✓ The following information is based on business transactions as covered by the Berkshire Eagle newspaper.
 - Two significant bank mergers have occurred since the adoption of the 2011 Berkshire CEDS. Legacy Bank merged with Berkshire Bank. Adams Cooperative Bank merged with South Adams Savings Bank.
 - The Kolburne School, a private therapeutic school for children, closed in June 2012 resulting in the loss of 144 jobs.

5. What economic sectors are those businesses in?

The mergers occurred in the finance and insurance sector and the closure occurred in the educational services sector.

6. What collaborative or partnership efforts have been undertaken in the region?

- ✓ The formation of 1Berkshire (see p. 13 of this Report).
- ✓ Keep Berkshires Farming (see p. 13 of this Report).
- ✓ WiredWest (see p. 20 of this Report)
- ✓ Berkshire Community College (BCC) and Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA) entered into an articulation agreement that allows students earning an associate's degree in business from BCC to transfer seamlessly into MCLA.

7. What changes to the characteristic data for the region have occurred? The characteristic data sets to be evaluated, but not limited to, include: demographic; economic; environmental/geographic; governmental; social; transportation/infrastructure.

Please see Section 2 of this report.

8. How has the gathering of data and project information improved?

The process of gathering data updates has been improved by having the data points on Berkshire Benchmarks, which has a web based data clearinghouse of data related to the region. This allows BRPC to perform simple queries to access the data and see how things have changed.

Appendix “A”

24 Month Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Local Area Unemployment Statistics for Twenty-Four Months Prior to Submission of the 2012 Performance Report

Series ID	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11	Jan-12	Feb-12	Mar-12	Apr-12	May-12	Jun-12	Jul-12	Aug-12	Sep-12	24 months prior to submission of Performance Report
Adams	7.6	8.7	9.6	11.3	10.8	10.1	9.3	8.9	9.4	8.7	8.4	8.4	8.0	7.8	8.8	10.7	10.2	8.9	8.0	7.8	8.2	8.0	8.1	7.4	8.9
Alford	2.5	3.2	3.9	5.5	5.6	5.3	4.6	3.9	4.4	4.6	2.7	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.5	5.3	4.6	4.0	2.2	2.1	2.1	4.3	2.3	2.1	3.7
Becket	8.6	9.3	8.9	9.7	10.1	8.1	8.2	8.8	7.9	8.1	7.2	6.9	7.1	5.8	6.2	7.9	8.1	7.0	5.3	5.4	6.6	7.2	7.3	8.0	7.7
Cheshire	6.5	8.0	9.3	10.6	11.2	11.8	9.2	8.2	7.0	7.1	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.8	8.2	10.0	9.8	8.1	6.7	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.6	7.0	7.9
Clarksburg	9.0	9.3	9.3	9.8	9.5	10.5	8.4	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.6	6.3	6.1	6.5	6.3	7.8	8.0	6.2	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.4	6.1	7.6	7.5
Dalton	7.9	8.3	8.1	8.3	8.0	7.7	6.9	6.2	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.4	6.6	7.8	8.1	6.7	5.6	5.1	5.1	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.7
Egremont	4.8	5.2	6.6	7.0	6.6	6.0	5.0	4.1	4.8	4.2	4.3	3.3	2.9	3.3	3.2	4.1	4.1	3.8	2.8	2.5	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.0	4.3
Florida	7.3	9.6	11.3	11.9	11.3	11.3	9.6	7.9	8.0	8.6	5.8	5.3	5.5	5.1	5.8	6.9	7.4	7.1	5.1	7.4	6.1	6.0	5.7	6.4	7.6
Great Barrington	6.0	6.9	7.8	8.7	8.0	7.5	6.4	5.8	6.6	5.6	5.2	5.5	5.5	5.1	5.8	7.4	7.1	5.9	5.0	4.6	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.6	6.2
Hancock	6.1	4.9	5.8	5.1	4.4	4.6	5.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.2	3.7	3.3	3.5	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.1	7.7	7.5	7.7	5.9	4.8	5.0	5.1
Hinsdale	11.7	13.7	11.5	13.5	12.3	12.9	10.1	8.3	7.7	7.7	8.0	7.6	8.0	9.4	10.1	11.7	10.9	9.2	7.8	7.5	6.0	7.3	7.5	7.0	9.5
Lanesborough	6.9	7.5	7.2	8.1	8.4	8.6	8.0	7.0	6.5	5.7	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.8	7.2	8.2	8.5	6.1	6.0	6.0	5.0	5.9	5.5	6.6	6.7
Lee	6.6	6.7	6.1	6.8	7.0	6.8	5.8	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.3	5.0	4.8	4.9	5.6	6.9	7.4	5.9	5.0	4.7	4.2	4.1	3.6	4.5	5.5
Lenox	6.0	7.1	7.0	7.5	7.0	6.8	6.3	5.3	5.9	5.4	5.2	4.8	5.0	4.7	5.6	6.6	6.0	5.3	4.9	4.1	4.6	4.6	4.3	5.1	5.6
Monterey	3.4	3.0	3.3	5.5	4.2	4.6	4.1	3.4	3.1	3.7	3.3	4.5	3.9	3.4	3.7	5.3	4.9	3.7	3.7	2.1	2.1	2.7	2.6	3.3	3.6
Mount Washington	4.2	3.4	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.9	1.7	3.4	4.0	3.9	3.1	4.1	7.3	3.4	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	1.7	0.9	3.2	3.1	1.6	3.2	2.9
New Ashford	3.7	5.1	4.4	3.0	5.8	7.1	6.5	7.1	4.2	5.3	6.5	5.6	5.0	6.3	7.0	5.8	7.0	5.0	5.1	4.3	2.1	3.5	4.8	5.0	5.2
New Marlborough	4.8	4.8	6.2	7.4	7.3	6.3	4.1	3.6	4.3	4.5	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.9	4.8	7.2	7.8	6.4	4.5	3.9	3.5	4.2	3.9	4.0	5.1
North Adams	9.5	9.9	9.8	11.4	10.4	10.0	9.5	9.7	9.7	9.3	9.0	9.6	8.3	8.7	8.6	10.1	9.5	8.0	7.0	6.7	7.2	7.3	7.0	7.7	8.9
Otis	5.1	6.6	6.7	7.5	7.7	7.3	6.2	5.4	4.7	5.2	4.7	5.5	4.5	5.1	5.9	7.2	7.1	5.7	4.7	4.4	4.7	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.7
Peru	4.1	5.3	4.1	3.2	3.3	2.4	2.2	2.8	4.1	4.1	3.5	4.9	4.2	3.8	3.8	5.9	5.1	3.8	3.3	2.6	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.8	3.6
Pittsfield	7.9	8.3	8.2	9.3	8.9	8.6	8.0	8.0	8.3	7.5	7.1	7.9	7.2	7.1	7.2	8.5	8.2	7.3	6.9	6.7	6.9	7.0	6.7	7.2	7.7
Richmond	4.8	5.0	4.5	5.0	4.5	4.5	3.7	4.3	4.4	5.1	4.7	5.4	4.4	3.7	3.7	4.9	4.4	3.3	2.8	2.5	2.6	2.9	2.5	2.9	4.0
Sandisfield	8.9	7.8	7.4	9.3	8.9	8.8	7.8	6.3	7.4	5.9	5.7	4.5	6.0	4.7	4.9	7.5	7.3	7.0	5.5	4.7	5.0	4.7	3.2	4.0	6.4
Savoy	8.3	9.5	9.8	13.6	13.9	12.3	8.9	7.1	7.8	7.4	6.5	6.9	5.2	6.2	6.7	11.0	12.5	9.8	7.7	7.7	8.6	8.7	9.5	8.8	8.9
Sheffield	4.1	5.4	6.1	7.2	7.0	6.9	5.7	5.3	5.7	4.6	4.2	4.5	4.3	5.1	5.1	7.6	7.5	6.9	5.0	4.1	4.0	3.5	3.8	4.1	5.3
Stockbridge	4.2	5.8	5.8	6.4	6.2	6.0	5.4	6.1	5.2	5.7	4.6	4.0	3.8	3.8	4.5	4.6	4.5	3.7	3.8	3.5	4.1	4.1	3.7	4.3	4.7
Tyringham	5.0	1.7	2.1	4.1	5.3	4.6	5.0	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.4	2.9	2.5	1.3	2.1	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.4	2.1	2.0	2.8	1.2	1.6	2.9
Washington	9.7	6.8	5.9	6.5	6.8	7.1	5.3	6.8	5.0	6.5	6.2	6.3	5.7	5.8	6.7	7.1	6.1	5.8	4.7	3.6	3.5	5.0	5.0	4.2	5.9
West Stockbridge	4.5	5.4	6.9	8.1	7.0	7.3	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.1	6.0	7.2	6.3	5.1	5.0	6.9	6.7	5.1	4.6	4.7	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.7	5.7
Williamstown	6.1	7.2	6.6	7.2	6.0	5.5	5.6	5.6	6.7	6.3	5.0	5.4	4.9	4.6	5.0	6.0	5.2	3.9	4.5	4.5	5.3	5.4	4.6	5.1	5.5
Windsor	7.2	9.3	7.8	9.4	9.0	9.7	8.1	6.3	5.8	6.1	5.7	5.2	6.5	7.7	6.2	8.7	8.7	8.0	7.8	6.5	4.9	6.3	6.5	5.6	7.2
Berkshire County	7.3	7.9	7.9	8.9	8.5	8.3	7.5	7.2	7.3	6.8	6.4	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.7	8.1	7.9	6.7	6.1	5.8	6.0	6.1	5.9	6.3	7.1
US	9.5	9.8	9.4	9.1	9.0	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.0	8.9	8.7	8.5	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.1	7.8	8.7

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Note: No municipality meets the economic distress criteria based upon an unemployment rate that is at least one (1) percentage point greater than the national average using BLS data.

Appendix “B”

**Most Recently Available Data on Per Capita Income and
Stats America Unemployment Data from the ACS (2006-2010)**

Economic Distress Criteria—Primary Elements

	Region	U.S.	Threshold Calculations
2010 Unemployment Rate (5 Year ACS)	7.5	7.9	-0.2
2010 Per Capita Money Income (5 Year ACS)	\$28,300	\$27,334	106.00%

Economic Distress Criteria—Geographic Components

	Unemp. Rate	Threshold	PCMI	Threshold	
	2010 ACS	Calculation	2010 ACS	Calculation	
Census Tract 9001, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	11.2	3.3	\$17,264	63.2%	Pittsfield
Census Tract 9002, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	8	0.1	\$15,211	55.6%	Pittsfield
Census Tract 9003, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	7.9	0	\$25,420	93.0%	Pittsfield
Census Tract 9004, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	10.8	2.9	\$24,437	89.4%	Pittsfield
Census Tract 9005, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	7.4	-0.5	\$38,458	140.7%	Pittsfield
Census Tract 9006, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	11.8	3.9	\$16,000	58.5%	Pittsfield
Census Tract 9007, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	6	-1.9	\$25,875	94.7%	Pittsfield
Census Tract 9008, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	4.3	-3.6	\$37,727	138.0%	Pittsfield
Census Tract 9009, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	6.5	-1.4	\$29,741	108.8%	Pittsfield
Census Tract 9011, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	4.7	-3.2	\$28,179	103.1%	Pittsfield
Census Tract 9111, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	3.6	-4.3	\$34,763	127.2%	Lanesborough
Census Tract 9121, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	8.7	0.8	\$27,483	100.5%	Dalton
Census Tract 9131, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	3.3	-4.6	\$32,288	118.1%	Lenox
Census Tract 9141, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	10.4	2.5	\$27,703	101.3%	Lee
Census Tract 9201.01, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	7.2	-0.7	\$31,837	116.5%	Williamstown
Census Tract 9201.02, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	3.7	-4.2	\$41,668	152.4%	Williamstown
Census Tract 9213, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	13.5	5.6	\$16,840	61.6%	North Adams
Census Tract 9214, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	15.8	7.9	\$20,045	73.3%	North Adams
Census Tract 9215, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	9.7	1.8	\$23,651	86.5%	North Adams
Census Tract 9221, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	10.2	2.3	\$23,716	86.8%	Adams
Census Tract 9222, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	10.8	2.9	\$21,128	77.3%	Adams
Census Tract 9223, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	13.7	5.8	\$23,314	85.3%	Adams
Census Tract 9231, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	5.9	-2	\$33,085	121.0%	Cheshire
Census Tract 9241, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	9.2	1.3	\$32,353	118.4%	Stockbridge
Census Tract 9251, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	4.5	-3.4	\$32,325	118.3%	Great Barrington
Census Tract 9261, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	0.6	-7.3	\$32,000	117.1%	Sheffield
Census Tract 9311, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	2.8	-5.1	\$23,986	87.8%	Clarksburg
Census Tract 9313, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	5.6	-2.3	\$25,428	93.0%	Florida / Savoy
Census Tract 9314, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	5.2	-2.7	\$29,466	107.8%	Peru / Windsor
Census Tract 9322, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	7.4	-0.5	\$32,291	118.1%	Becket / Washington
Census Tract 9323, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	5.3	-2.6	\$29,328	107.3%	Hinsdale
Census Tract 9332, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	12	4.1	\$37,008	135.4%	Monterey / Tyringham
Census Tract 9333, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	0.5	-7.4	\$30,541	111.7%	New Marlborough
Census Tract 9334, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	6.4	-1.5	\$45,018	164.7%	Otis / Sandisfield
Census Tract 9342, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	4.6	-3.3	\$35,476	129.8%	West Stockbridge
Census Tract 9343, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	3.3	-4.6	\$38,437	140.6%	Alford / Egremont / Mount Washington
Census Tract 9351, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	5.2	-2.7	\$42,595	155.8%	Hancock / New Ashford / Richmond
Census Tract 9352, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	10.5	2.6	\$27,432	100.4%	Pittsfield
Census Tract 9353, Berkshire County, Massachusetts	7.5	-0.4	\$21,631	79.1%	North Adams

Source: American Community Survey 2006-2010


Note: Using the most recent ACS (2010) data for per capita median income, a number of census tracts in Berkshire County meet EDA’s economic distress criteria based upon per capita income. The qualifying census tracts are highlighted in yellow.


The census tracts highlighted in gray meet the EDA’s distress criteria for unemployment using the 2010 American Community Survey (5-year data).

Appendix “C”

Economic Distress Criteria Maps

Economic Distress Criteria

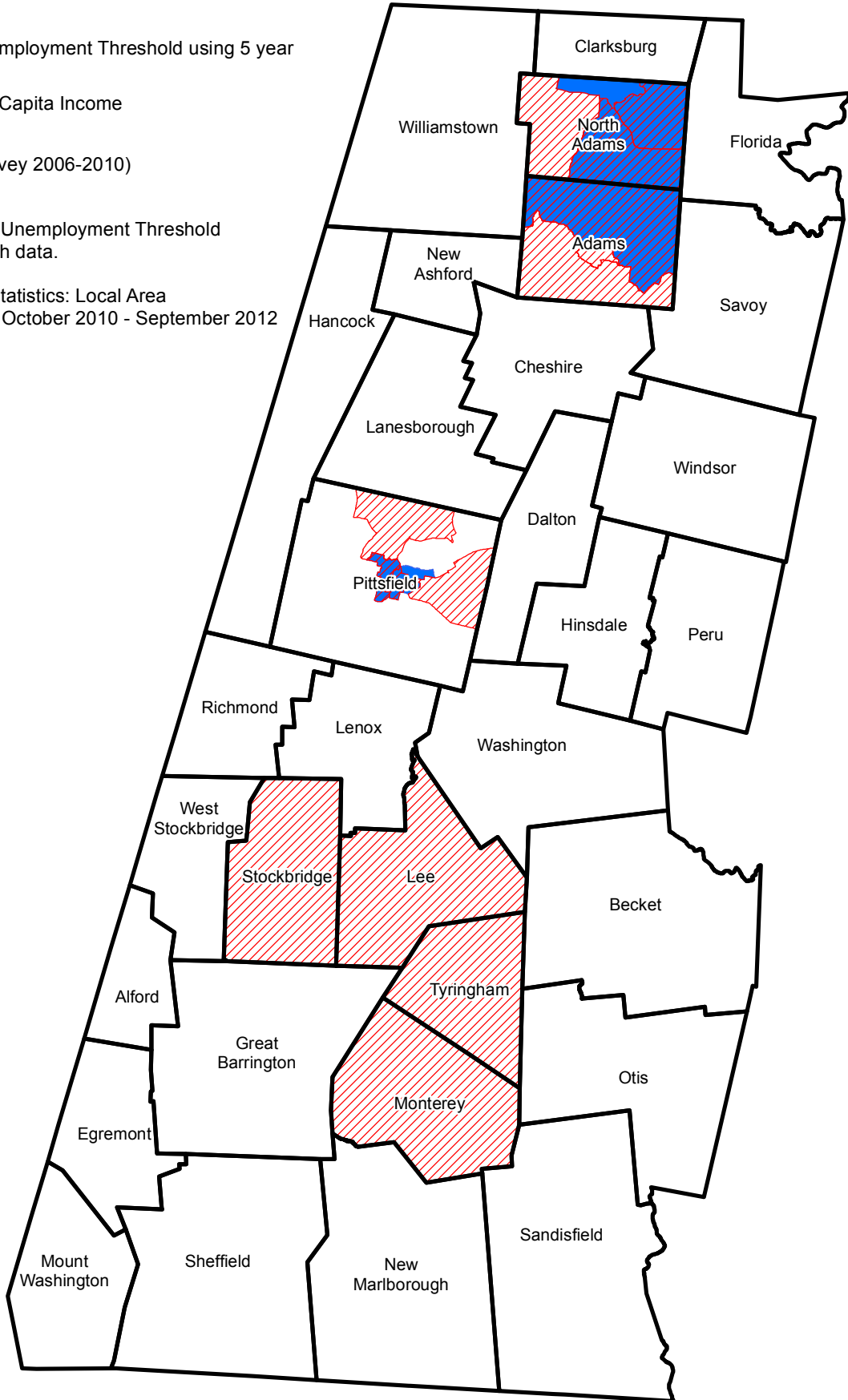
 Tracts Meeting Unemployment Threshold using 5 year ACS data

 Tracts Meeting Per Capita Income

Source: StatsAmerica
(American Community Survey 2006-2010)

No Communities meet the Unemployment Threshold using most recent 24 month data.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics: Local Area
Unemployment Statistics - October 2010 - September 2012



Appendix “D”

2011-2012 CEDS Committee Members

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee / Economic Subcommittee of the Sustainable Berkshires

Last Updated - 9.25.12

Name	Title / Representing	EDA Criteria Fulfilled	Public or Required Representation	Private Sector
Roger Bolton	Executive Committee Member Berkshire Regional Planning Commission	Regional Planning Agency	X	
Brenda Burdick	General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems	Business & Industry*		X
Heather Boulger	Executive Director Berkshire County Regional Employment Board	Workforce Development*	X	
Timothy Geller	Executive Director Community Development Corporation of South Berkshire	Economic Interest*		X
Keith Girouard	Senior Business Advisor Massachusetts Small Business Development Center	Economic Interest*		X
Gwendolyn Hampton-VanSant	Executive Director Multicultural Bridge	Community Leader* Minority Group*	X	
J. Michael Hoffman	Vice President, Commercial Loan TD Bank	Business & Industry* Economic Interest*		X
Michael Nuvalie	Community Development Director City of North Adams	Local Government*	X	
Kevin O'Donnell	Town Manager Town of Great Barrington	Local Government*	X	
Bonnie Gallant	Community Development Director (Acting) City of Pittsfield	Local Government*	X	
Michael Supranowicz	President and Chief Executive Office Berkshire Chamber of Commerce	Business & Industry* Economic Interest		X
Robert Wilson	Assistant Business Agent International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 7	Labor Group*	X	
Tom Bernard	Assistant to the President Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	Higher Education*	X	
Lauri Klefos	Lauri Klefos, President & CEO Berkshire Visitors Bureau	Business & Industry* Economic Interest		X
Ian Rasch	Director of Development Allegro Companies	Business & Industry*		X
Michele Butler (Shelton)	Private Individual	Private Individual*	X	
Ruth Blodgett	Berkshire Health Systems	Business & Industry*		X
Rob Hoogs	Foresight Land Services	Business & Industry*		X
Jodi Joseph	Berkshire Creative	Business & Industry* Economic Interest		X
		subtotal	9	10