



# BRPC

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

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## MEETING NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
of the  
BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
Thursday, May 2, 2024 at **4:00 p.m.**

This will be a virtual meeting as allowed by Ch. 2 of the Acts of 2023 extending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30 sec.20 until March 31, 2025.

To participate virtually join the Zoom meeting at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3926128831?omn=83986209786>

Meeting id: 392 612 8831, Phone: 646.558.8656, 646 931 3860, 312.626.6799, 301 715 8592

**Meeting materials are on BRPC's website: [www.berkshireplanning.org](http://www.berkshireplanning.org).** Click the calendar of events, then the meeting name, and follow the link to materials.

### AGENDA

(all times approximate)

- I. Call to Order & Open Meeting Law Statement (4:00)
- II. Roll Call of Executive Committee Members Attending the Meeting
- III. Vote to Approve Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of April 4, 2024\* (4:05)
- IV. Financial Reports (4:10)
  - A. Vote to Approve the March 29, 2024 to April 25, 2024, Expenditures Report\*
  - B. Report on the Accounts Receivable/ Assessments – April 2024
  - C. Report on the Line of Credit
- V. Comments from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Delegates and Alternate Delegates (4:15)
- VI. Items Requiring Action\* (4:20)
  - A. Vote to Approve Amending BRPC's Vacation Accrual Policy \*
  - B. Vote to Approve the Submission of a Grant Application to the Massachusetts Community One Stop for Growth Program for the Sustainable Berkshires Update \*
  - C. Vote to Approve the Submission of a Grant Application to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Section 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Competitive Grant Program\*
  - D. Vote to Approve the Submission of Comments to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) office on the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) on the New England Power (NEP) E131 Asset Condition Refurbishment Project – (EEA#16663)\*
  - E. Vote to Approve the Submission of Comments to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) office on the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) on the New

***City and Town Clerks: Please post this notice pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A, §§ 18-25.***

#### Please Note:

For information regarding postponements or cancellations on the day of a scheduled meeting, please call Berkshire Regional Planning Commission at (413) 442-1521, x5

England Power NSTAR Electric Company/Eversource WT-02 Transmission Right-of-way Reliability Program (TRRP) – Final EIR (EEA File No. 16567)\*

- F. Vote to Approve Subaward Monitoring Policy\*
- G. Vote to Approve Amendments to BRPC’s Professional Development Program\*
- VII. Committee Reports and Discussion (4:50)
  - A. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee
  - B. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
  - C. Regional Issues Committee
  - D. Finance Committee
  - E. Environmental Review Committee
- VIII. Executive Director’s Report (4:55)
  - A. Report on New Contracts / Agreements
  - B. Berkshires Tomorrow Inc. (BTI) Update
  - C. Staff Updates
  - D. Rural Policy Advisory Commission (RPAC) Update
  - E. Passenger Rail
  - F. Rural Road Funding Available
  - G. 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday Dinner
  - H. Beyond Mobility Plan Public Comment Period
  - I. Berkshire County Digital Equity Summit
  - J. Unlocking Housing Production Listening Session
- IX. Old Business (5:00)
  - A. Discussion about State Retirement Legislation
- X. New Business (5:05)
  - A. Discussion about the May Commission Meeting
  - B. Discussion about the Annual Meeting
  - C. Review and Discussion of the FY 25 BRPC Budget
- XI. Adjournment (5:10)

Attachments:

- Unapproved Minutes of the April 4, 2024, BRPC Executive Committee Meeting
- March 29, 2024 to April 25, 2024 Expenditures Report
- Accounts Receivable Report – April 2024
- Line of Credit Report
- Executive Director’s Memorandum
- BRPC Vacation Leave Accrual Amendment
- Draft – Subaward Monitoring Policy
- Unapproved Minutes of the April 10, 2024 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Meeting
- Unapproved Minutes of the April 23, 2024 Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting
- Intern Resume – Aleesha Siddiqui
- Intern Resume – Peter Luke Pelowski
- Rural Policy Advisory Commission Comments on the Affordable Homes Act
- Rural Policy Advisory Commission Comments on the Mass Leads Act
- Compass Rail summary
- Berkshire Flyer Announcement
- BRPC 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday Announcement
- February and March 2024 Technical Assistance Memo

\* Items Requiring Action



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DRAFT Executive Committee Minutes

Thursday, April 4, 2024

Virtual meeting as allowed by Ch. 2 of the Acts of 2023 extending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30 sec.20 until March 31, 2025.

**I. Call to Order & Open Meeting Law Statement**

Chair Malcolm Fick called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. as a virtual meeting as allowed by Ch. 2 of the Acts of 2023 extending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30 sec.20 until March 31, 2025. He stated that BRPC was recording the meeting, and anyone else who wanted to record it needed to inform him.

**II. Roll Call:**

Read by Office Administrator Kate Hill Tapia:  
Malcolm Fick, Chair, Gt Barrington Alternate  
John Duval, Vice-Chair, Adams Alternate, 4:25  
Buck Donovan, Treasurer, Lee Delegate  
Sheila Irvin, Clerk, Pittsfield Delegate  
Doug McNally, Commission Development Committee, Chair, Windsor Delegate  
Roger Bolton, Environmental Review Committee Chair, Williamstown Alternate  
Christine Rasmussen, Regional Issues Committee Chair, Stockbridge Alternate  
Kyle Hanlon, At-large, North Adams Delegate, 4:08  
Sam Haupt, At-Large, Peru Delegate

Staff Present: Thomas Matuszko, Executive Director; Marianne Sniezek, Office Manager; Kate Hill Tapia, Office Administrator; Laura Brennan, Assistant Director, and Economic Development Program Manager; Cornelius Hoss, Community Program Manager

Others: Mary McGurn, Stephen Dravis, Ben Bederson, Virginia Riehl

**III. Approval of March 7, 2024 Minutes**

Doug McNally moved to approve the March 7, 2024 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Buck Donovan and approved by a roll call vote from Malcolm Fick, Buck Donovan, Doug McNally, Roger Bolton, Christine Rasmussen, Kyle Hanlon, and Sam Haupt. Sheila Irvin abstained.

**IV. Financial Reports**

**A. March 1 -28, 2024 Expenditures Report**

Doug McNally moved to accept the report, and Roger Bolton seconded the motion. It was approved by a roll call vote from Malcolm Fick, Sheila

Irvin, Buck Donovan, Doug McNally, Roger Bolton, Christine Rasmussen, and Sam Haupt.

**B. Accounts Receivable / Assessments Report March 2024**

MassCEC check is coming soon. Tom reported that the accounts receivable is in good shape.

**C. Line of Credit Report**

It has not been used.

**V. Suggestions from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Delegates and Alternates about Items or Topics for Future Meetings**

Malcolm stated concerns with the wording of this topic and the lack of opportunity for Commission members to discuss issues without violating Open Meeting Laws. Tom said he would consult BRPC's attorney again. The topic could be changed to allow Delegates and Alternates to share experiences and information without deliberation.

**VI. Items Requiring Action**

**A. Vote to Submit Comments and Recommended Amendments on HB 3551, An Act facilitating site plan review**

The Executive Committee was requested to authorize the submission of comments and recommended amendments to HB 3551, An Act facilitating site plan review.

An Act facilitating site plan review (H.3551) is scheduled for a third reading in the House of Representatives. The intent of the bill is to codify site plan review by adding a new Section 7A to MGL Chapter 40A. All municipalities (except Boston) would be required to bring bylaws or ordinances into compliance with this new Section 7A. CJ Hoss was present to explain that while there are some merits to the proposed bill, the Massachusetts Municipal Lawyers Association (MMLA) has flagged a few issues and recommended changes. Even without the recommended changes, he said the bill is worth supporting. To date, the MMLA's recommended changes have been adopted.

CJ's impression of the Massachusetts Municipal Lawyers Association is the letters' overall cleanup of the land use bill reduces conflicts in the law, and there are positive things that fix gray areas. BRPC agrees. Tom reported two key takeaways: not only can planning boards use this, but other boards can use it. Also, the bill eliminates duplication in the new legislation.

Roger Bolton motioned to authorize the submission of comments strongly supporting the Massachusetts Municipal Lawyers Association's (MMLA) recommended amendments to HB 3551, An Act facilitating site plan review. Doug McNally seconded it. A roll vote was approved by Malcolm Fick, John Duval, Buck Donovan, Doug McNally, Roger Bolton, Christine Rasmussen, Kyle Hanlon, and Sam Haupt.

**B. Vote to Approve the Salary Merit Increase Range and Personnel Pay Plan for FY 25**

BRPC employees do not have automatic pay increases such as step increases or a cost of living increase. According to BRPC's contract with MassDOT, straight Cost of Living increases are not allowed. Therefore, all pay increases are based on performance as documented in written performance evaluations. BRPC tries to ensure that employees do not lose ground financially one year to the next. This year, the Northeast Urban Cost of Living increased by 2.5% from February 2023 to February 2024. According to our previous practice, this increase of 2.5% sets the base on which merit increases are added. The following merit increases were proposed for FY 2025 based on performance ratings:

Exceptional - 3%  
Exceeds Expectations - 2%  
Meets Expectations - 1%  
Needs Improvement - 0%  
Unsatisfactory - 0%

Roger Bolton motioned to approve the proposed FY 2025 base pay increase of 2.5% and the above merit pay percentage increases. Sheila Irvin seconded it. A roll vote was approved by Malcolm Fick, John Duval, Sheila Irvin, Buck Donovan, Doug McNally, Roger Bolton, Christine Rasmussen, Kyle Hanlon, and Sam Haupt.

**C. Vote to Approve the Submission of a Grant Application to MassCEC's EMPower Innovation and Capacity Building Program**

The Executive Committee was requested to authorize the Executive Director to submit a grant application to MassCEC EmPower Innovation and Capacity Building Program and to sign any resulting contracts and agreements.

The Environmental and Energy Program is applying for a \$50,000 grant to improve their project management process, allow for better community assessments, and the Program's ability to seek resources to meet the demands of electrification and climate resilience. There is no match requirement. Primary staff contact is [Sherdyl Fernandez-Aubert](#).

Doug McNally motioned to authorize the Executive Director to submit a grant application to the MassCEC EmPower Innovation and Capacity Building Program for \$50,000 and to sign any resulting contracts and agreements. Kyle Hanlon seconded it. A roll vote was approved by Malcolm Fick, John Duval, Sheila Irvin, Buck Donovan, Doug McNally, Roger Bolton, Christine Rasmussen, Kyle Hanlon, and Sam Haupt.

**D. Vote to Approve Submission of a Grant Application to MassCEC's EMPower Implementation Grant Program**

The Executive Committee was requested to authorize the Executive

Director to submit a grant application to the MassCEC EmPower Implementation Grant Program and to sign any resulting contracts and agreements.

The Environmental and Energy Program is applying for a \$300,000 grant to fund the development and deployment of an energy coaching program in partnership with Central Berkshire Habitat for humanity. The partnership aims to serve Pittsfield residents in environmental justice neighborhoods and market-rate energy consumers to navigate Energy Efficiency incentives at the State and Federal level. This is a continuation of the Gray to Green Project. There is no match requirement. Staff contact is [Sherdyl Fernandez-Aubert](#).

Roger Bolton motioned to authorize the Executive Director to submit a grant application to the MassCEC EmPower Implementation Grant Program for \$300,000 and to sign any resulting contracts and agreements. Sheila Irvin seconded it. A roll call vote was approved by Malcolm Fick, John Duval, Sheila Irvin, Buck Donovan, Doug McNally, Roger Bolton, Christine Rasmussen, Kyle Hanlon, and Sam Haupt.

## **VII. Committee Reports and Discussion**

### **A. Berkshire Brownfields Committee**

The Brownfields Committee met on March 8, approved additional assessments on previously approved sites, and considered approving sites at Rising Pond, Great Barrington, Niagara Mill, Lenox, among others. A summary of projects is in the works. Draft minutes have not yet been prepared. It was reported that the committee approved a loan for the Eagle Mill in Lee. Assessment projects were also discussed.

### **B. Commission Development Committee**

The Commission Development Committee met on March 14, 2024 and confirmed pursuing a 5th Thursday networking and education event on micro transit on May 30th. Inactive municipalities were discussed and committee members agreed to contact those they know. Laura will share contact information. Draft minutes are in the packet.

### **C. Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

The TAC met on March 19, 2024. The main topic was the 2025 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program, a review of three potential scenarios, and a vote for #2. The stormwater issue on East St., Pittsfield is resolved so that project will go forward. There was a presentation on the Safe Streets and Roads initiative, and pending MADOT projects were discussed. Draft minutes are in the packet. TAC has more local representatives vs. the MPO which has more state officials. The next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2024. Sam reported that the stormwater issue for the East Street project in Pittsfield has been resolved and is going out to bid.

#### **D. Municipal Planning Organization (MPO)**

The MPO met on March 26. The main topic was the development of the 2025 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program or TIP and project evaluation scores. There was an update on the Safe Streets and Roads safety initiative. The chronic lack of funding was discussed and the need to tie Chapter 90 funding to inflation. Draft unapproved minutes are in this meeting's materials. The next meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2024. The TAC and MPO discuss the same issues; however, the processes and attendees differ. The MPO endorses the TAC actions. Tom reported that Jonathan Bulter from 1Berkshire is on a new commission to fund transportation. There is a need for more money and reduced costs. One example would be a standard culvert design. Sam reported that the rural allocation of funds from Chapter 90 is money for the population under 10,000. The cost of repairing local roads has increased.

#### **Finance Committee**

Marianne reported that the Finance Committee would meet to recommend the FY25 budget.

### **VIII. Executive Director's Report**

#### **A. Report on New Contracts/Agreements**

New Grants and Contracts received/initiated from 03/01/24 – 03/28/2024

- Peru – Procurement Services - \$1,875
- Berkshire Gas and National Grid - Mass Save Community First Partnership - Adams & North Adams - \$25,000
- Berkshire Gas, National Grid and Eversource - Mass Save Community First Partnership - Great Barrington & Lee - \$25,000
- Hancock – Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness - \$2,000
- Pittsfield – Open Space & Recreation Planning - \$5,311
- New England Rural Health Association – Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative - \$75,000

Grants and Contracts not received.

We are not aware of any grants that have not been received.

#### **B. Berkshires Tomorrow Inc. (BTI) Update**

The BTI board approved the 4th Amendment to the BTI bylaws to change the election of officers to biannually from annually.

#### **C. Staff Updates**

- Recent Hires
  - Summer Intern – Liana Rice (Arts & Culture)
  - Public Health Nurse Educator – Sophie Carnes Jannen

Open Positions:

- o Public Health Community Social Worker

#### **D. Rural Policy Advisory Commission (RPAC) Update**

The Rural Policy Advisory Commission met on March 8, 2024. The main agenda items were an update on legislative items, including the state budget, housing bond bill, economic development bond bill and presentations about microtransit from FRTA Access, GATRO GO, and the Quaboag Connector.

#### **E. Passenger Rail**

- West-East Rail – No known activity over the last month
- Berkshire Flyer - No known activity over the last month.
- Northern Tier Passenger Rail – The consultant team held a working group meeting on March 21, 2023 and a public meeting on March 28, 2024 to present the latest developments in this study. According to the consultants, this study is entering the final stage with a draft final report coming in the next few months.

#### **F. MassDOT Transportation Innovation Conference 2024**

[The MassDOT Transportation Innovation Conference](#) will be held on April 30 & May 1, 2024 at the DCU Center, Worcester, MA. The conference provides a forum for transportation practitioners and researchers to share knowledge on innovative technologies, projects, and processes to enhance efficiency and address important transportation issues. UMTC/Baystate Roads – UMTC ([umasstransportationcenter.org](https://umasstransportationcenter.org))

#### **G. MMA Western and Rural Mass Conference**

Please save Saturday morning April 27, 2024 (not April 6) for the MMA Western and Rural Mass Conference at the Hotel Northampton, Northampton. This has become an annual event for local officials to network and learn current information about important matters impacting their communities. Select Board Association Western and Rural Massachusetts Conference - Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA).

#### **H. 5th Thursday, May 30, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.: Microtransit**

BRPC's 5th Thursday will return on May 30th from 4-6 pm at Mazzeo's Ristorante in Pittsfield. The topic will be Micro transit. Tickets are available at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/brpc-5th-thursdaymicrotransit-tickets-872639707857>

#### **I. Consent to Reduce the 120-day Notification Requirement for Two APR Applications**

Tom reported he approved two requests to reduce the 120-day notification requirements for APRs (Agricultural Preservation Restrictions) in Sheffield on the Pine Island Farm Partnership (444.35 acres) and Rebecca Myers Thomas (56.99 acres) applications.



## **J. Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting Recommendations**

The Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting (Commission) was established by Executive Order 620 to recommend legislative, regulatory, and administrative reforms to reduce permitting timelines, ensure communities are meaningfully engaged and are able to provide input in the siting and permitting of clean energy infrastructure, and to share the benefits of the clean energy transition equitably. Previously, BRPC submitted comments on the Commission's draft proposal, which was to significantly alter permitting of "clean energy infrastructure." The Commission's report was released on March 29, 2024 (a copy is attached.)

CJ reported on page 9 that the thresholds are not agreeable. CJ pointed out the size and the local review for Berkshire County. Sheila commented that there is not enough representation from towns and cities. Local municipalities need to be represented. Christine raised concerns about the 90-minute hearings. CJ reported that this is information only and is unsure of the next steps.

## **K. Beyond Mobility Report**

Massachusetts' 2050 Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan, Beyond Mobility, is a strategic plan that documents the most pressing transportation issues for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to address both now and in the future. The plan and executive summary are available for review and public comment at: [Beyond Mobility | Mass.gov](#). The comment period ends May 5th, 2024.

## **IX. Old Business**

None

## **X. New Business**

### **A. Discussion About a More Focused Approach Related to Proposed Legislation**

Discussion was held about how BRPC should focus on proposed legislation. Should there be more emphasis from the Executive Committee or Regional Issues Committee? Another option presented was to form another committee. Should the Berkshire County Selectmens Association and BRPC have a joint committee of legislation? Other groups, such as Berkshire United Way or Social Services, could also be included, including non-commission members.

### **B. May 16 Commission Meeting**

Topics – Environmental Review Committee review of transmission lines

- New England Power
- Eversource – Readsboro, VT to Adams
- Presentation by the West-East Rail Director

## **XI. Adjournment**

Kyle Hanlon motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:16 p.m., seconded by

Roger Bolton, and unanimously approved by a roll call vote: Malcolm Fick, John Duval, Sheila Irvin, Buck Donovan, Doug McNally, Roger Bolton, Christine Rasmussen, Kyle Hanlon, and Sam Haupt.

**Attachments:**

- Unapproved Minutes of the March 7, 2024, BRPC Executive Committee Meeting
- March 1, 2024 to March 28, 2024 Expenditures Report
- Accounts Receivable Report – March 2024
- Line of Credit Report
- Executive Director's Memorandum
- Proposed FY 25 Personnel Pay Plan
- Unapproved Minutes of the March 14, 2024 Commission Development Committee Meeting
- Unapproved Minutes of the March 19, 2024 Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting
- Unapproved Minutes of the March 26, 2024 Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting
- Resume – Liana Rice
- Resume – Sophie Carnes Jannen
- Proposed APR maps - Sheffield

**BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Check Register

For the Period From Mar 29, 2024 to Apr 25, 2024

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Date.

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount	Department	Department Description	Expense
17939	3/31/24	SIOGA CLUB OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY INC	200.00	754 DOJ/BPOP	Department of Justice - Berkshire Post Overdose Program	Subcontractor
17940	3/31/24	KELLIE MEISL	1,440.00	754 DOJ/BPOP	Department of Justice - Berkshire Post Overdose Program	Subcontractor
17941	3/31/24	SHAMIA SHEPHERD	1,000.00	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	Subcontractor
17942	4/1/24	BERKSHIRES TOMORROW INC	4,680.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Software Lease
17943	4/1/24	MIIA HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST	2,542.38	040 ADMIN	Admin	Dental Insurance
17944	4/1/24	MIIA HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST	65,467.32	040 ADMIN	Admin	Health Insurance
17945	4/1/24	MUTUAL OF OMAHA	3,230.01	040 ADMIN	Admin	Life; STD; LTD
17946	4/1/24	THE COOPER CENTER, LLC	8,895.18	040 ADMIN	Admin	Rent
17947	4/2/24	AAIM EA TRAINING & CONSULTING LLC	374.60	040 ADMIN	Admin	Background Check - Roberts, B & Carnes-Jannen, S
17948	4/2/24	MARIE BRADY	352.47	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	Expense Form
17949	4/2/24	LAURA BRENNAN	70.32	---	Varied Projects	Expense Form
17950	4/2/24	MATTHEW BRYAN	1,645.04	---	Varied Projects	Expense Form
17951	4/2/24	MONASIA CEASAR	130.58	650 DPH/SS	Public Health Excellence for Shared Services	Expense Form
17952	4/2/24	ALISON DIXON	80.67	592 DEP/319REGC	Department of Environmental Protection - 319 Regional Coordinator	Expense Form
17953	4/2/24	EDWARD FAHEY	220.85	283 BPHA/INSP	Berkshire Public Health Alliance - Regional Pub	Expense Form
17954	4/2/24	FLYING CLOUD INSTITUTE	10,000.00	664 CLK/MVPA	Clarksburg - Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness	Subcontractor
17955	4/2/24	HARRINGTON HEEP LLP	3,217.50	---	Varied Projects	Legal Services
17956	4/2/24	DANIEL HASSETT	337.70	650 DPH/SS	Public Health Excellence for Shared Services	Expense Form
17957	4/2/24	CORNELIUS HOSS	37.52	545 EOHLCDLTA24	District Local Technical Assistance 2024	Expense Form
17958	4/2/24	SETH JENKINS	132.66	---	Varied Projects	Expense Form
17959	4/2/24	DAVID KELLEY	1,150.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Cleaning Services
17960	4/2/24	LAURA KITROSS	65.66	---	Varied Projects	Expense Form
17961	4/2/24	JOCELYN LATVALLA	93.80	725.02 MassTech/DE-SBC	Massachusetts Technology Collaborative Municipal Digital Equity Planning Services - Southern Berkshire County	Expense Form

**BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Check Register

For the Period From Mar 29, 2024 to Apr 25, 2024

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Date.

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount	Department	Department Description	Expense
17962	4/2/24	NIKKI LEWIS	219.76	---	Varied Projects	Expense Form
17963	4/2/24	MASS STATE BOARD OF RETIREMENT	12,536.06	---	---	Retirement
17964	4/2/24	ANDREW MCKEEVER	74.91	---	Varied Projects	Expense Form
17965	4/2/24	MAEGAN MOYNAHAN	1,500.00	664 CLK/MVPA	Clarksburg - Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness	Subcontractor
17966	4/2/24	ANN MARIE MUTZ	1,000.00	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	Subcontractor
17967	4/2/24	ANDREW OTTOSON	200.40	---	Varied Projects	Expense Form
17968	4/2/24	CITY OF PITTSFIELD	425.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Parking
17969	4/2/24	JOHN ROUGHLEY	140.75	631 DAL/CDBG	Dalton - Community Development Block Grant	Expense Form
17970	4/2/24	REBECCA ROUGHLEY	140.75	560 COMVEN/GPUR	Communities/Vendors - Group Purchasing	Expense Form
17971	4/2/24	LYDIA SHULMAN	201.23	---	Varied Projects	Expense Form
17972	4/2/24	NANCY SLATTERY	196.61	650 DPH/SS	Public Health Excellence for Shared Services	Expense Form
17973	4/2/24	TD CARD SERVICES	8,099.07	---	---	March 2024 Credit Card Payment
17974	4/2/24	TPX COMMUNICATIONS	1,364.05	040 ADMIN	Admin	Telephone
17975	4/5/24	ROUX ASSOCIATES INC	28,066.30	702 EPA/ASSESS	Environmental Protection Agency Assessment	Subcontractor
17976	4/10/24	BCBOHA	331.39	350 BCBOHA/SUP	Berkshire County Boards of Health Association - Support Services	Spring Dinner Event Ticket Reimbursement
17977	4/10/24	VALERIE BIRD	267.33	650 DPH/SS	Public Health Excellence for Shared Services	Expense Form
17978	4/10/24	BLUE 20/20	214.38	040 ADMIN	Admin	Vision Insurance
17979	4/10/24	LESLIE DRAGER	50.00	284 BPHA/PHN	Berkshire Public Health Alliance - Regional Public Health Nursing Program	Expense Form
17980	4/10/24	FULL CIRCLE TECHNOLOGIES INC	33,000.00	722 EOAF/OP23	Executive Office for Administration & Finance - Online Permitting Upgrade	Subcontractor
17981	4/10/24	THOMAS MATUSZKO	226.20	040 ADMIN	Admin	Expense Form
17982	4/10/24	MICHAEL SCUTIERI	120.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Office Labor
17983	4/10/24	SOURCEPASS	201.25	040 ADMIN	Admin	Computer Software
17984	4/10/24	JAZU STINE	30.15	---	Varied Projects	Expense Form
17985	4/10/24	ELIZABETH STRICKLER	720.00	---	Varied Projects	Subcontractor
17986	4/10/24	COLIN SYKES	261.05	650 DPH/SS	Public Health Excellence for Shared Services	Expense Form

**BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Check Register

For the Period From Mar 29, 2024 to Apr 25, 2024

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Date.

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount	Department	Department Description	Expense
17987	4/10/24	VALLEY GREEN SHREDDING, LLC	42.50	040 ADMIN	Admin	Recycling
17988	4/11/24	BRITNEY DANIALS	224.46	---	Varied Projects	Expense Form
17989	4/11/24	COURTENY MOREHOUSE	116.04	---	Varied Projects	Expense Form
17990	4/11/24	TACOS DIABLO LLC	1,560.00	730 BGNGEVS/MassSave	Berkshire Gas / National Grid / Eversource - Mass Save Community First Partnership - Great Barrington & Lee	Catering Services
17991	4/18/24	BOSTON SEA FOODS	1,190.00	664 CLK/MVPA	Clarksburg - Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness	Catering Services
17992	4/18/24	CENTRAL BERKSHIRE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	35,056.00	610 HRIA/G2G	Health Resources in Action - Grey to Green	Subcontractor
17993	4/18/24	KAMARA FLASCHER	656.00	754 DOJ/BPOP	Department of Justice - Berkshire Post Overdose Program	Subcontractor
17994	4/18/24	KRIPALU CENTER	855.00	752 BWD/MVP	Briggsville Water District - Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness	Event Space
17995	4/18/24	MCKESSON MEDICAL - SURGICAL	1,740.68	734 NCOA/VAC	National Council on Aging - Vaccine Initiative	Vaccine Supplies
17996	4/18/24	RAINBOW DISTRIBUTING COMPANY INC	109.92	040 ADMIN	Admin	Water
17997	4/18/24	SHAMIA SHEPHERD	500.00	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	Subcontractor
17998	4/18/24	SOURCEPASS	672.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Computer Software
17999	4/18/24	TD CARD SERVICES	15,033.88	---	---	<i>April 2024 Partial Credit Card Payment</i>
18000	4/18/24	THE COOPER CENTER, LLC	2,450.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Utilities
18001	4/18/24	VALLEY GREEN SHREDDING, LLC	42.50	040 ADMIN	Admin	Recycling
18002	4/18/24	THE BRIEN CENTER	6,428.57	754 DOJ/BPOP	Department of Justice - Berkshire Post Overdose Program	Subcontractor
18003	4/18/24	THE BRIEN CENTER	9,241.43	758 UBALT/COCLI	University of Baltimore - COCLI - Berkshire Post Overdose Program	Subcontractor
18004	4/19/24	KATE HILL TAPIA	297.57	010 GEN	General	Reimbursement - MIIA Grant - Healthy Snacks
18005	4/24/24	BBE OFFICE INTERIORS	150.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Office Labor
18006	4/24/24	BERKSHIRE BOUNTY INC	5,754.05	715 USDA/RFSP	USDA - Regional Food System Partnerships Program	Subrecipient
18007	4/24/24	BERKSHIRE PRIDE INC	500.00	709 MMP/BFF24	Massachusetts Marketing Partnership / MA Office of Travel & Tourism - Berkshire Funding Focus	Subcontractor

**BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Check Register

For the Period From Mar 29, 2024 to Apr 25, 2024

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Date.

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount	Department	Department Description	Expense
18008	4/24/24	BETA GROUP INC	18,115.70	733.00 USDOT/CSAP	USDOT - Comprehensive Safety Action Plan	Subcontractor
18008	4/24/24	BETA GROUP INC	3,623.14	733.01 MassDOT/SS4A	MassDOT - Safe Streets and Roads for All Action Plan	Subcontractor
18009	4/24/24	FAIRVIEW HOSPITAL	5,000.00	734 NCOA/VAC	National Council on Aging - Vaccine Initiative	Subcontractor
18010	4/24/24	MACFARLANE OFFICE PRODUCTS, INC.	619.19	040 ADMIN	Admin	Printing
18011	4/24/24	MASS STATE BOARD OF RETIREMENT	13,224.88	---	---	Retirement
18012	4/24/24	MAZZEO'S RISTORANTE	200.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	5th Thursday Event Deposit
18013	4/24/24	RAIS	9,681.00	---	---	Insurance Policy Renewal
18014	4/24/24	1BERKSHIRE	2,500.00	709 MMP/BFF24	Massachusetts Marketing Partnership / MA Office of Travel & Tourism - Berkshire Funding Focus	Communications
1013	4/18/24	COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS	205.00	710 CEDAC/HMLP	CEDAC - Home Modification Loan Program	Lien Payment

**Total** 330,740.41

**March 2024 Credit Card Payment Support:**

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount	Department	Department Description	Expense
CCARD	3/1/24	BJS WHOLESALE CLUB	57.73	010 GEN	General	MIIA Grant - Healthy Snacks
CCARD	3/1/24	EVENTBRITE	24.99	735 MassCEC/EmPower	MA Clean Energy Technology Center - EmPower Implementation	Southern Berkshire Energy Forum
CCARD	3/1/24	AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION	337.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Membership - Jenkins, S
CCARD	3/1/24	MARKETPLACE CAFE	99.98	526 BCSO/OPIOID	Berkshire County Sheriff's Office - OPIOID	Meals - SBAS Training
CCARD	3/1/24	BJS WHOLESALE CLUB	115.45	746 AgeSpan/AAGE	Age Span - Accelerating Age- and Dementia-Friendly Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Work	Snacks - Focus Group
CCARD	3/2/24	AMAZON.COM	0.36	040 ADMIN	Admin	Backup to Archive
CCARD	3/2/24	GODADDY.COM	69.51	526 BCSO/OPIOID	Berkshire County Sheriff's Office - OPIOID	BOAPC Domain Renewal
CCARD	3/3/24	GODADDY.COM	23.17	040 ADMIN	Admin	BRPC Domain Renewal
CCARD	3/5/24	SURVEY MONKEY	2,160.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Computer Software
CCARD	3/6/24	SURVEY MONKEY	-360.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Credit - Computer Software
CCARD	3/6/24	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	7.21	526 BCSO/OPIOID	Berkshire County Sheriff's Office - OPIOID	Naloxone Kit Postage

**BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Check Register

For the Period From Mar 29, 2024 to Apr 25, 2024

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Date.

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount	Department	Department Description	Expense
CCARD	3/7/24	LA FOGATA	260.00	755 BTI/HNE/PHCOMO	Health New England - PH Community Outreach	Meals - BIPOC Voices in Recovery
CCARD	3/8/24	ADCARE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE	40.00	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	Training - Brady, M
CCARD	3/9/24	CODE42	9.99	040 ADMIN	Admin	Computer Software
CCARD	3/9/24	ON SPORTSWEAR	105.95	---	---	<i>Fraudulent Charge</i>
CCARD	3/10/24	STRAIGHT TALK WIRELESS	37.73	040 ADMIN	Admin	Telephone
CCARD	3/11/24	MY VERSATILE SECRETARY	67.95	735 MassCEC/EmPower	MA Clean Energy Technology Center - EmPower Implementation	Energy Efficiency Forum
CCARD	3/12/24	HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY	829.00	650 DPH/SS	Public Health Excellence for Shared Services	Laptop
CCARD	3/12/24	ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	1,639.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Software Subscription & Additional Licenses
CCARD	3/12/24	SHEAR COLOR PRINTING INC	670.00	737 COMM/ARTBERK24	Communities/Organizations - Cultural Districts - ArtWeek Berkshires 2024	Art Week Communications
CCARD	3/12/24	AMAZON.COM	101.94	040 ADMIN	Admin	Supplies
CCARD	3/13/24	GOTPRINT.COM	86.22	040 ADMIN	Admin	Business Cards - Roberts, B & Griffis, R
CCARD	3/17/24	ADCARE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE	25.00	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	Training - Brady, M
CCARD	3/17/24	ON SPORTSWEAR	170.39	---	---	<i>Fraudulent Charge</i>
CCARD1	3/18/24	ON SPORTSWEAR	193.94	---	---	<i>Fraudulent Charge</i>
CCARD	3/19/24	PRICE CHOPPER	63.16	725.02 MassTech/DE-SBC	Massachusetts Technology Collaborative Municipal Digital Equity Planning Services - Southern Berkshire County	Meals - Focus Group
CCARD	3/19/24	PRICE CHOPPER	54.44	725.02 MassTech/DE-SBC	Massachusetts Technology Collaborative Municipal Digital Equity Planning Services - Southern Berkshire County	Meals - Focus Group
CCARD	3/20/24	BJS WHOLESALE CLUB	33.98	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	Snacks - YAB Event
CCARD	3/20/24	MENTIMETER.COM	119.88	040 ADMIN	Admin	Computer Software
CCARD	3/20/24	MENTIMETER.COM	0.04	040 ADMIN	Admin	Foreign Transaction Fee
CCARD	3/25/24	BJS WHOLESALE CLUB	159.08	010 GEN	General	MIIA Grant - Healthy Snacks
CCARD	3/25/24	CONSTANT CONTACT, INC	81.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Newsletter Subscription

**BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Check Register

For the Period From Mar 29, 2024 to Apr 25, 2024

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Date.

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount	Department	Department Description	Expense
CCARD	3/25/24	ON SPORTSWEAR	-105.95	---	---	<i>Credit - Fraudulent Charge</i>
CCARD	3/25/24	ON SPORTSWEAR	-149.99	---	---	<i>Credit - Fraudulent Charge</i>
CCARD	3/25/24	ON SPORTSWEAR	-170.39	---	---	<i>Credit - Fraudulent Charge</i>
CCARD	3/25/24	ON SPORTSWEAR	-193.94	---	---	<i>Credit - Fraudulent Charge</i>
CCARD	3/25/24	BJS WHOLESALE CLUB	22.99	746 AgeSpan/AAGE	Age Span - Accelerating Age- and Dementia-Friendly Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Work	Snacks - AgeSpan Focus Group
CCARD	3/25/24	DOTTIES COFFEE LOUNGE	51.45	746 AgeSpan/AAGE	Age Span - Accelerating Age- and Dementia-Friendly Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Work	Snacks - AgeSpan Focus Group
CCARD	3/25/24	AMAZON.COM	20.25	040 ADMIN	Admin	Supplies
CCARD	3/25/24	ADCARE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE	40.00	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	Training - Lewis, N
CCARD	3/26/24	PERFECTGIFT.COM	985.66	---	Varied Projects	Gift Cards
CCARD	3/26/24	AMAZON.COM	86.08	040 ADMIN	Admin	Supplies
CCARD	3/26/24	ON SPORTSWEAR	-0.47	---	---	<i>Credit - Fraudulent Charge</i>
CCARD	3/27/24	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	28.41	754 DOJ/BPOP	Department of Justice - Berkshire Post Overdose Program	Naloxone Kit Postage
CCARD	3/27/24	BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	75.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	40 Under 40 Ticket - Matuszko, T
CCARD	3/27/24	BERKSHIRE UNITED WAY, INC	60.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Centennial Ticket - Matuszko, T
CCARD	3/28/24	SIX DEPOT CAFE	65.88	725.01 MassTech/DE-DAL	Massachusetts Technology Collaborative Municipal Digital Equity Planning Services - Dalton	Meals - Focus Group

**Total** 8,099.07

**April 2024 Partial Credit Card Payment Support:**

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount	Department	Department Description	Expense
CCARD	3/28/24	APA	380.13	040 ADMIN	Admin	Membership - Roberts, B
CCARD	4/1/24	STAPLES	890.55	678 NERHA/RVE	New England Rural Health Association - Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative	Berkshire Pride Items Purchased from RVE Funds
CCARD	4/1/24	AMAZON.COM	70.81	040 ADMIN	Admin	Supplies
CCARD	4/1/24	BJS	196.25	010 GEN	General	MIIA Grant - Healthy Snacks



**BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Check Register

For the Period From Mar 29, 2024 to Apr 25, 2024

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Date.

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount	Department	Department Description	Expense
CCARD	4/1/24	WALMART.COM	598.00	678 NERHA/RVE	New England Rural Health Association - Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative	Berkshire Pride Items Purchased from RVE Funds
CCARD	4/1/24	WALMART.COM	598.00	678 NERHA/RVE	New England Rural Health Association - Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative	Berkshire Pride Items Purchased from RVE Funds
CCARD	4/1/24	ADOBE ACROBAT	46.79	040 ADMIN	Admin	Software License
CCARD	4/1/24	AMAZON.COM	650.98	678 NERHA/RVE	New England Rural Health Association - Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative	Berkshire Pride Items Purchased from RVE Funds
CCARD	4/2/24	GOTPRINT.COM	47.23	040 ADMIN	Admin	Business Cards - Carnes-Jannen, S
CCARD	4/3/24	USPS	4.21	754 DOJ/BPOP	Department of Justice - Berkshire Post Overdose Program	Naloxone Kit Postage
CCARD	4/3/24	AMAZON.COM	0.38	040 ADMIN	Admin	Supplies
CCARD	4/3/24	TARGET	759.98	678 NERHA/RVE	New England Rural Health Association - Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative	Berkshire Pride Items Purchased from RVE Funds
CCARD	4/5/24	WALMART.COM	39.57	678 NERHA/RVE	New England Rural Health Association - Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative	Berkshire Pride Items Purchased from RVE Funds
CCARD	4/5/24	PERFECTGIFT.COM	1,054.67	725.02 MassTech/DE-SBC	Massachusetts Technology Collaborative Municipal Digital Equity Planning Services - Southern Berkshire County	Gift Cards
CCARD	4/7/24	AMAZON.COM	43.73	040 ADMIN	Admin	Supplies
CCARD	4/8/24	HEWLETT	2,058.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Computer Monitors
CCARD	4/9/24	BJS	30.44	010 GEN	General	MIIA Grant - Healthy Snacks
CCARD	4/9/24	CODE42	9.99	040 ADMIN	Admin	Computer Software
CCARD	4/10/24	AMAZON.COM	113.69	763 LEE/ADA	Lee - Americans with Disabilities Act Improvement Plan	Supplies
CCARD	4/10/24	WALMART.COM	-32.58	678 NERHA/RVE	New England Rural Health Association - Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative	Berkshire Pride Items Purchased from RVE Funds
CCARD	4/10/24	MAPHN	100.00	650 DPH/SS	Public Health Excellence for Shared Services	Membership - Carnes-Jannen, S
CCARD	4/10/24	STRAIGHT TALK	37.70	040 ADMIN	Admin	Telephone
CCARD	4/11/24	HOT HARRYS	197.90	725.02 MassTech/DE-SBC	Massachusetts Technology Collaborative Municipal Digital Equity Planning Services - Southern Berkshire County	Meals - Focus Group
CCARD	4/12/24	ZOOM VIDEO COMM INC.	40.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	Software Subscription
CCARD	4/14/24	BENNINGTON RESCUE	75.00	650 DPH/SS	Public Health Excellence for Shared Services	CPR Certification Renewal - Carnes-Jannen, S

**BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Check Register

For the Period From Mar 29, 2024 to Apr 25, 2024

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Date.

Check #	Date	Payee	Amount	Department	Department Description	Expense
CCARD	4/15/24	USPS	4.87	754 DOJ/BPOP	Department of Justice - Berkshire Post Overdose Program	Naloxone Kit Postage
CCARD	4/15/24	BJS	106.48	010 GEN	General	MIIA Grant - Healthy Snacks
CCARD	4/15/24	UMASS AMHERST	35.00	040 ADMIN	Admin	ADA Training - Roberts, B
CCARD	4/16/24	AMAZON.COM	779.99	650 DPH/SS	Public Health Excellence for Shared Services	Supplies
CCARD	4/16/24	BERKSHIRE THEATRE	40.60	652 DPH/SORPEC	Department of Public Health - Bureau of Substance Addiction - SOR-PEC	SORPEC Event
CCARD	4/16/24	BERKSHIRE THEATRE	180.40	652 DPH/SORPEC	Department of Public Health - Bureau of Substance Addiction - SOR-PEC	SORPEC Event
CCARD	4/16/24	UIT REACH LAB	150.00	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	Conference - Brady, M
CCARD	4/16/24	UIT REACH LAB	150.00	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	Conference - Lewis, N
CCARD	4/16/24	CHARTERUP	281.75	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	YAB Travel
CCARD	4/16/24	CHARTERUP	2,535.76	646 DPH/MASSCALL3	Department of Public Health MASS CALL 3B - Substance Misuse Prevention Grant Program	YAB Travel
CCARD	4/17/24	GOTPRINT.COM	47.23	040 ADMIN	Admin	Business Cards - Fernandez-Aubert, S
CCARD	4/17/24	SALESFORCE INC	1,260.00	743 BTI/BB	BTI - Berkshire Benchmarks	Software License
CCARD	4/17/24	AMAZON.COM	1,450.38	678 NERHA/RVE	New England Rural Health Association - Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative	Berkshire Pride Items Purchased from RVE Funds

**Total** 15,033.88

**BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Aged Receivables

As of Apr 30, 2024

Filter Criteria includes: 1) Includes Drop Shipments. Report order is by ID. Report is pri

Customer ID	Customer	Over 90 days	Amount Due	Notes
283 BPHA/INSP/GTB	TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON		1,040.00	
284 BPHA/PHN/CLK	TOWN OF CLARKSBURG	<b>767.62</b>	767.62	Alecia H followed up
284 BPHA/PHN/DAL	TOWN OF DALTON		1,555.36	
284 BPHA/PHN/FLA	TOWN OF FLORIDA	<b>577.50</b>	577.50	Alecia H followed up
284 BPHA/PHN/HAN	TOWN OF HANCOCK		551.25	
284 BPHA/PHN/RIV	RIVER RUN APARTMENTS		200.00	
284 BPHA/PHN/SAV	TOWN OF SAVOY		577.50	
284 BPHA/PHN/WMS	TOWN OF WILLIAMSTOWN		1,711.71	
326/BURN/HIN	HINSDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT	<b>115.00</b>	115.00	Payment being processed
326/BURN/OTS	TOWN OF OTIS	<b>115.00</b>	115.00	Payment processed
326/BURN/SHF	TOWN OF SHEFFIELD	<b>115.00</b>	115.00	Alecia H followed up
350/BCBOHA	BERKSHIRE COUNTY BOARDS OF HEALTH ASSOC	<b>2,059.20</b>	2,333.89	Payment being processed
446 GTB/EP	TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON		8,112.50	
466 LAN/SW	TOWN OF LANESBOROUGH		207.39	
49/OUTS/ADM	ADAMS: OUTSOURCE PLNR(GIS)-OUTS/ADM		739.97	
514 ADM/EP	TOWN OF ADAMS		3,025.00	
524 DAL/SW	TOWN OF DALTON		291.22	
561 LEN/EDP	TOWN OF LENOX		7,550.00	
592 DEP/319REGC	DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	<b>1,202.08</b>	31,780.85	Melissa P to follow up
640 NEATC/CRI/HCV	COMMUNITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE	<b>7,025.77</b>	7,025.77	Payment being processed
647 GTB/CLNUP	TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON	<b>305.04</b>	603.60	Payment in process
664 CLK/MVP	TOWN OF CLARKSBURG		24,654.45	
669 CHS/SW	TOWN OF CHESHIRE		87.77	
672 DHCD/HOUSE	DHCD	<b>7,426.46</b>	7,426.46	Tom to follow up
679 BG/MASSSAVE/CFP	BERKSHIRE GAS		14,583.34	
679 EV/MASSSAVE/CFP	EVERSOURCE		8,333.34	
684 MON/DEP319	TOWN OF MONTEREY		2,711.58	
685 HVA/BCCCP	HOUSATONIC VALLEY ASSOCIATION		32,622.31	
688 WSH/MVP	TOWN OF WASHINGTON		6,481.70	
696 LEE/MPOSRP	TOWN OF LEE		15,178.34	
711 CLK/GW	TOWN OF CLARKSBURG		437.52	
712 MAPC/WRHSAC/EEMC	WESTERN REGION HOMELAND SECURITY	<b>2,524.88</b>	6,356.71	Payment on its way
713 MON/MVPA	TOWN OF MONTEREY		7,489.66	
714 LEE/HMMVP	TOWN OF LEE		3,569.43	

**BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Aged Receivables

As of Apr 30, 2024

Filter Criteria includes: 1) Includes Drop Shipments. Report order is by ID. Report is pri

Customer ID	Customer	Over 90 days	Amount Due	Notes
718 LEE/SRPP	TOWN OF LEE		2,436.86	
721 HAN/OPIOIDS	TOWN OF HANCOCK		3,482.17	
724 HAN/MVP	TOWN OF HANCOCK		3,437.46	
728 MAPC/MCSP	METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL		7,734.36	
731 SND/GC	TOWN OF SANDSFIELD	<b>122.28</b>	2,121.22	Sherdyl followed up
732 EPA/AIRQ	732 EPA/AIRQ		8,409.45	
733.00 USDOT	USDOT EQUITY CONCERNS			
735 MASSCEC/EMPOWER	MA CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CENTER	<b>45,000.00</b>	45,000.00	Payment has been approved, expected any day
742 MON/OSRP	TOWN OF MONTEREY	<b>6,954.83</b>	11,188.31	CJ to follow up with new Town Administration
748 MASSTECH/DE-FG	748 MASSTECH/DE-FG		9,189.29	
750 LAN/MP	TOWN OF LANESBOROUGH		5,228.36	
753 PTS/MVPA	CITY OF PITTSFIELD	<b>4,452.28</b>	10,477.54	Courteny M to follow up
756 EOHLC/SS	COMMONWEALTH OF MASS		3,767.95	
757 NMB/OSRP	TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH	<b>324.74</b>	4,601.81	Invoice not submitted to Town until Q3
758 UBALT/COCLI/BPOP	UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE		24,562.35	
772 PHIWM/BCFG	PARTNERS FOR A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY		1,000.00	
COOK INSURANCE	CHARLES COOK		190.52	
EASTERN MINERALS INC	EASTERN MINERALS, INC.		14,137.95	
GSK	GLAXOSMITHKLINE PHARMACEUTICALS		4,224.39	
TOWN OF G BARRINGTON	TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON		375.00	

Report Total

**79,087.68**    360,493.73

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Accounts

Current Balance  
**\$0.00**

Available Credit  
Amount Due  
Payment Due Date

**\$500,000.00**  
**\$0.00**  
**May 5, 2024**



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All available activity has been retrieved. More may be available via date-range search.

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Committee, Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

FROM: Thomas Matuszko, Executive Director DATE: April 26, 2024

SUBJ: Agenda Items – May 2, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting

### VI. Items Requiring Action

#### A. Vote to Approve Amending BRPC's Vacation Accrual Policy\*

BRPC's vacation time policy deals with vacation leave accruals and limits. While the policy has a 140 hour accrual limit, it also states, "An additional accrual of up to a maximum of 175 hours (5 weeks) may be authorized by the Executive Director in exceptional circumstances." However, the policy does not state what happens when someone reaches the 175 hour amount. The proposed amendments would state that once the 175 hour amount is reached an employee would stop accruing vacation leave.

With COVID, thinking that it would be hard for employees to use vacation time, the 175 hour limit was relaxed. The situation now is that we have several employees who are over the 175 limit. Some are significantly over so much so that it would be very difficult for those employees to use them without serious impact to BRPC. Employees currently over the 175 hour limit would not lose that overage amount, just stop accruing any new time until they lowered that amount to 175, with the plan to ultimately get down to 140 or below.

If approved this policy would go into effect as of July 1, 2024.

#### B. Vote to Approve the Submission of a Grant Application to the Massachusetts Community One Stop for Growth Program for the Sustainable Berkshires Update\*

The Executive Committee is requested to authorize the Executive Director to submit a grant application and to sign any resulting contracts and agreements to the Massachusetts Community One Stop for Growth Program for the Sustainable Berkshires Update. This project will evaluate goals and actions laid out in the Sustainable Berkshires regional comprehensive plan in 2014, develop updates that address changes in the region over the past decade, and develop a more manageable action plan for the future. The amount requested is \$200,000. Community Planning Program Manager CJ Hoss, [choss@berkshireplanning.org](mailto:choss@berkshireplanning.org) is project lead.

**C. Vote to Approve the Submission of a Grant Application to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Section 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Competitive Grant Program\***

Executive Committee approval is requested to authorize the Executive Director to submit a grant application to the MA Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Section 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution (NPS) Competitive Grant Program for an Environmental Justice NPS Coordinator. Through this new initiative, MassDEP seeks proposals from Regional Planning Agencies and local community-based organizations to engage with and form partnerships to benefit Environmental Justice (EJ) communities.

If funded under this initiative, BRPC will serve as an Environmental Justice NPS Coordinator (EJ Coordinator) and will conduct NPS-focused capacity-building work and meaningfully engender environmental stewardship in disadvantaged communities. This work will include engaging local communities through robust outreach and education, training, capacity building, development of watershed-based plans, supporting or undertaking the development and submittal of high-quality proposals for future §319 Implementation projects and other grants that can serve as a source of non-federal match.

This is anticipated to be a 3 year project. While the s.319 Program has historically required a 40% non-federal match, there is no match requirement for the current funding round. Staff contacts for this project are Environmental & Energy Program Manager Melissa Provencher, [mprovencher@berkshireplanning.org](mailto:mprovencher@berkshireplanning.org) and Principal Environmental Planner Courteny Morehouse, [cmorehouse@berkshireplanning.org](mailto:cmorehouse@berkshireplanning.org).

**D. Vote to Approve the Submission of Comments to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) office on the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) on the New England Power (NEP) E131 Asset Condition Refurbishment Project – (EEA#16663)\***

The Executive Committee is requested to approve the submission of comments to MEPA on the FEIR on the New England Power E131 Asset Condition Refurbishment Project. The FEIR for this project was filed with MEPA. The Environmental Review Committee is meeting on Tuesday April 20, 2024 to discuss and recommend comments for the Executive Committee's consideration. Those comments will be sent to Executive Committee members after the Environmental Review Committee has met.

**E. Vote to Approve the Submission of Comments to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) office on the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) on the New England Power NSTAR Electric Company/Eversource WT-02 Transmission Right-of-way Reliability Program (TRRP) – Final EIR (EEA File No. 16567)**

The Executive Committee is requested to approve the submission of

comments to MEPA on the FEIR on the New England Power NSTAR Electric Company/Eversource WT-02 Transmission Right-of-way Reliability Program (TRRP). The FEIR for this project was filed with MEPA. The Environmental Review Committee is meeting on Tuesday April 20, 2024 to discuss and recommend comments for the Executive Committee's consideration. Those comments will be sent to Executive Committee members after the Environmental Review Committee has met.

#### **F. Vote to Approve Subaward Monitoring Policy**

Recently we have been required to comply with monitoring requirements when we receive direct federal funds and pass them through to subrecipients. These monitoring requirements are based on a risk assessment we need to conduct about the subrecipient's ability to comply with federal spending and reporting requirements using financial information provided by the subrecipient prior to being under contract. The level of required monitoring of the subrecipient is then based on the level of perceived risk that the subrecipient will or will not be able to comply. Part of our requirement is that we need a policy (attached.)

#### **G. Vote to Approve Amendments to BRPC's Professional Development Program**

In 2007 BRPC initiated a Pilot Professional Development Program for staff who had been employed at BRPC at least 5 years. This Program is intended to provide the opportunity for staff to maintain, enhance or expand their professional skill set and knowledge and to obtain related professional certifications or degrees which demonstrate achievement and maintenance of professional status. Over the years it has been used infrequently but our current staff has shown the desire to advance their professional ability and some staff, such as the inspectors, are required to achieve certain training requirements. I am proposing that it be opened up to more staff, but with the condition that if they leave BRPC within two years of completing the program that some repayment be required. I am still finalizing the details and will provide a copy next week.

### **VII. Committee Reports and Discussion**

#### **A. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee**

The CEDS Committee met on April 10, 2024. The main agenda topics were a report from Cody Chamberlain, an Economic Recovery Corps member working with 1Berkshire, and a discussion of Goals and Objectives and Priority Projects to be included in the Annual CEDS Progress Report, which this year is due by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Draft unapproved minutes are included in the meeting material.

#### **B. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)**

The MPO met on April 23, 2024. The main items discussed were the development of the 2025 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program, presentation on Massachusetts transportation plan, Beyond Mobility and an initial review of the proposed Federal Fiscal Year Unified Planning Work



Program. Draft, unapproved minutes are included in the meeting material.

### **C. Regional Issues Committee**

The Regional Issues Committee met on April 28, 2024. The main topics on the agenda were follow up items related to site plan review legislation and the Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting and discussion about housing priorities in relation to the upcoming listening sessions for a statewide Housing Plan and possible Legislative Affairs Committee. Meeting minutes are not yet available.

### **D. Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee will meet on April 30 to review and approve the fiscal year 2025 budget to present at the May 16 Commission meeting.

### **E. Environmental Review Committee**

The Environmental Review Committee will meet on April 30 to review and approve comments on the two FEIRs that were filed related to transmission lines.

## **VIII. Executive Director's Report**

### **A. Report on New Contracts/Agreements**

New Grants and Contracts received/initiated from 03/29/2024 to 04/25/2024.

- Lee – Complete Streets - \$29,564
- Savoy – Roads & Culverts Assessment - \$17,300
- Franklin Regional Council of Governments – Medical Reserve Corps - \$44,112
- Public Health Institute of Western MA – Berkshire County Focus Group - \$1,000
- Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities – District Local Technical Assistance - \$214,214
- Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities – Augmentation Allocations - \$142,809

Grants and Contracts not received.

We did not receive the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost saving Transportation (PROTECT) program.

### **B. Berkshires Tomorrow Inc. (B.T.I.) Update**

The BTI board approved Berkshires Tomorrow, Inc. to accept a grant from Mill Town Foundation in the amount of \$25,000 to support the Berkshire Benchmarks initiative \$15,000 and the Berkshire Funding Focus program \$10,000.

### **C. Staff Update**

- Recent Hires:
  - Aleesha Siddiqui – Digital Equity Intern
  - Luke Pelowski – Outdoor Recreation Intern

- Open Positions:
  - Public Health Community Social Worker
  - Public Health Planner (Epidemiologist)(Offer made)
- Terminations:
  - June Axt – Public Health Nurse – part-time (Has not worked in 2 years)

#### **D. Rural Policy Advisory Commission (RPAC) Update**

The Rural Policy Advisory Commission did not meet in April 2024. Comments were submitted on the Affordable Homes Act (Housing Bond Bill) and to the Chairs of the Legislative Rural Caucus on the Mass Leads Act (Economic Development Bond Bill). Comments are included.

#### **E. Passenger Rail**

- West-East Rail – I recently attended a meeting sponsored by Congressman Neal to review MassDOT’s effort related to passenger rail. This effort is called Compass Rail and includes efforts to establish / enhance passenger rail service both north and south and west and east service through Springfield. The so-called inland route would establish two round trips between Springfield and Boston. Funding has been obtained for needed track improvements with design work to begin this summer and construction to begin in 2027. Service to Pittsfield has been included in the proposed Boston and Albany service. MassDOT has received funding through the federal Corridor ID Program to begin to develop a service plan for the Boston and Albany service. Along with that service plan, work is already funded to improve the track capacity in Pittsfield. MassDOT intends to have the Compass Rail plan fully operational by 2045.
- Berkshire Flyer – Amtrak recently announced the third season of the Berkshire Flyer service, which provides weekend passenger rail service between New York City and Pittsfield. It will run from June 21, 2024 through Monday September 2, 2024. An additional train will run from New York City to Pittsfield on Sunday morning. (See attached press release)
- Northern Tier Passenger Rail – No known activity over the past month

#### **F. Rural Road Funding Available**

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation has announced that \$25 million in supplemental funding included in a fiscal 2024 transportation bond bill is available to municipalities for road and bridge repair and construction. By statute, the Rural Roadway Funding Program will be distributed to all communities through a formula that favors rural communities, with apportionments based 20% on road miles, 20% on population, and 60% on whether a community is considered rural. For this program, rural communities are defined as having a population of less than 10,000 and a population density of fewer than 500 people per square mile. On April 9, MassDOT said apportionments have been added to each city and town’s Chapter 90 account.

## **G. 5th Thursday Dinner**

BRPC's 5th Thursday will return on May 30th from 4-6 pm at Mazzeo's Ristorante in Pittsfield. The topic will be Microtransit. Tickets are available at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/brpc-5th-thursday-microtransit-tickets-872639707857> .

## **H. Beyond Mobility Plan Public Comment Period**

Beyond Mobility, is the name of MassDOT's long range transportation plan, [Beyond Mobility \(arcgis.com\)](https://www.arcgis.com). Six key priority areas, safety, destination connectivity, travel experience, reliability, supporting clean transportation, and resiliency are identified in the Plan along with over 100 action items. MassDOT is soliciting public comments which can be submitted at [Beyond Mobility Comment Form \(qualtrics.com\)](#) through May 31, 2024.

## **I. Berkshire County Digital Equity Summit**

The Alliance for Digital Equity, a coalition representing four counties and 62 organizations in Western MA, is sponsoring a convening on advancing digital equity in the Berkshires on Friday, May 10, from 9:30 am to 3 pm at The Common Room of Zion Lutheran Church in Pittsfield. Registration required at [Berkshire County Digital Equity Summit Tickets, Fri, May 10, 2024 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#).

Participants will learn about digital equity services, planning, and resources being offered, such as digital skills, laptop devices and hotspots, and other collaborative opportunities

## **J. Unlocking Housing Production Listening Session**

As part of the development of a five year strategic statewide housing plan, a listening session will be held at Berkshire Community College, Wednesday, May 15, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Registration is required, (Register [HERE](#).) This plan would include strategies for increasing housing production, preserving and upgrading existing housing stock, supporting individuals and families struggling with homelessness, and using housing to create economic mobility for all.

## **IX. Old Business**

### **A. Discussion about State Retirement Legislation**

As has been reported over the years, the state retirement system, which many Regional Planning Agencies (RPAs) are a part of, did not invoice those RPA's for the employer share. An audit of the state retirement system identified this error and the state retirement system has been trying to collect the employer share from those RPAs, in many instances hundreds of thousands of dollars in supposed arrears. BRPC had special legislation which exempted us from the employer share. However, the retirement system is now trying to make BRPC pay the employer share. For years, both sides have proposed legislation, in the case of the RPA's to formerly state that we are exempt from the employer share. The RPA bills this year, H. 2426 and S. 1682 (An Act Relative to Regional Planning Agencies) have advanced further through the legislative process this year than in previous years. H. 2426 was reported favorably by the Public Service Committee and was ordered to third

reading. S. 1682 was reported favorably out of the Committee on Public Service and referred to the committee on Senate Ways and Means.

## **X. New Business**

### **A. Discussion about the May Commission Meeting**

The next Full Commission meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2024.

Potential topics:

- Compass Rail presentation: While we have been using the Commonwealth's recently released Economic Development Plan as a framework for topics at future meetings I have reached out to the West – East Rail Director who is available to provide an update on the Commonwealth's plan for passenger rail services, so-called Compass Rail, especially related to west-east service.
- CEDS Annual Update
- Transportation Document Approval (TIP & UPWP)
- FY 25 BRPC Budget Approval

### **B. Discussion about the Annual Meeting**

I would like to initiate discussion of and planning for the next BRPC Annual Meeting to determine if we want to have an in-person meeting, and if we do, when do we want it.

### **C. Review and Discussion of the Proposed FY 25 BRPC Budget**

The Executive Committee will have the opportunity to review and discuss the proposed FY 25 BRPC Budget prior to requested approval of the Full Commission on May 16, 2024.

Vacation Leave (Accrued):

Vacation leave is accrued as followed based on length of employment at BRPC:

Months of Service	Accrued Hours per pay period	Hours per year	Days per year
0-11	3.8	91	13
12-23	4.1	98	14
24-35	4.4	106	15
36-47	4.7	113	16
48-59	5	120	17
60-71	5.3	127	18
72-83	5.6	134	19
84-95	5.9	142	20

For the first full year, vacation leave accrued is 13 days. An additional day of vacation time per year is added for each year of service up to a maximum of 20 days/year. Maximum vacation leave accrual is 140 hours (4 weeks). An additional accrual of up to a maximum of 175 hours (5 weeks) may be authorized by the Executive Director in exceptional circumstances. Employees requesting authorization to exceed the 140 hour maximum must describe when their leave balance will be brought down to below 140 hours. Once the maximum accrual of 175 hours is reached no more vacation leave shall be accrued until the balance is reduced to below 175 hours. Part-time employees shall stop accruing vacation leave once their individualized pro-rated maximum total is reached. Upon termination, employees will be reimbursed for unused vacation leave.

## **Subaward Monitoring Policy**

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) shall adhere to all applicable subaward monitoring and audit requirements governing the use of federal funds in accordance with [Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200](#), specifically Subpart D and in compliance with grant specific requirements. A subaward is an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to conduct part of a federal award received by the pass-through entity. All sub-recipients of Federal funds through BRPC are subject to the same Federal statues, regulations, and award terms and conditions as BRPC. Awards issued by BRPC will consider the subrecipient's ability to meet the objectives in the sub-award agreement. BRPC will maintain a continuously updated written subaward evaluation and monitoring procedure, including such items as subrecipient classification (subaward v. contract), subrecipient risk assessment and monitoring protocols, and procedures for executing and adjusting subrecipient conditions as part of its financial procedures



## **CEDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom*  
April 10, 2024

### Committee Members Present

George Abriz, BCC  
Roger Bolton, BRPC  
Michael Coakley, City of Pittsfield  
Linda Clairmont, BCC  
Malcolm Fick, BRPC Chair (ex-officio non-voting member)  
Keith Girouard, Massachusetts Small Business Development Network  
Lesley Herzberg, Berkshire County Historical Society  
Kyle Hanlon, BRPC, CEDS Chair  
Ben Lamb, 1Berkshire  
Bryana Malloy, MassHire Berkshires  
Tom Matuszko, BRPC Executive Director  
Mike Nuvalle, City of North Adams  
Laurie Mick, PERC (Pittsfield Economic Development Corporation)  
Shannon Smith, Berkshire Agricultural Ventures  
Ben Sosne, Berkshire Innovation Center

### Committee Alternates Present

Justine Dodds, City of Pittsfield  
Maureen McLaughlin, BCC  
Kevin Pink, 1Berkshire

### Committee Members Absent

A.J. Enchill, Berkshire Black Economic Council  
Ian Rasch, Alander Construction  
Chris Rembold, Town of Great Barrington

### BRPC Staff Present

Laura Brennan, Assistant Director & Economic Development Program Manager  
Wylie Goodman, Senior Economic Development Planner

### Guests Present

Cody Chamberlain, 1Berkshire ERC Fellow  
Alex LaValley, 1Berkshire  
Lillian Zavatsky, Brien Center

## **I. Call to Order**

Kyle H. called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. Laura B. conducted a roll call vote to confirm attendance.

## **II. Approval of Minutes from January 31, 2023**

George A. made a motion to approve the minutes. Ben L. seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Abstentions:

Linda Clairmont.

### III. Economic Recovery Corps/1Berkshire – Cody Chamberlain, ERC Fellow

Cody Chamberlain has been in his position for approximately two months. His position will last for two and a half years. Funding for his role is derived from the CARES Act to support economic recovery. The federal government looked at areas of the country that were struggling economically prior to the pandemic and which are still struggling post-pandemic. The federal government selected 65 economic development fellows to work with those communities to develop projects proposed to have a positive economic impact. 1Berkshire proposed a focus on the entrepreneurship pipeline to help individuals hoping to go from starting up to running a sustainable business that would employ people. Cody C. will be working with 1Berkshire for the next 2.5 years on that pipeline project, including an internship to lower the barriers to entrepreneurship for young people, giving young people skills, working with organizations that serve underserved populations, and connecting with entrepreneurs already active in the county. He is currently working to understand the ecosystem. One partner organization is the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), which has encouraged him to learn about the CEDS and how to leverage it to apply for more federal resources using the CEDS as a guide. He grew up in Western Michigan and attended MIT's Urban Planning Program with a focus on education and economic development and preparing youth for entrepreneurship with a focus on fostering sustainable creative problem-solving. He has also worked on local programming and politics in Boston. Cody C. shared his email with attendees.

### IV. 2023-2027 Berkshire County CEDS – Year 1 PPR to EDA

#### i. Summary Background Data – overview

- Laura B. shared a PDF draft and reported that BRPC is more than 80% done with what we need to submit to EDA by June 30<sup>th</sup>. We can now align data with the latest American Community Survey data published in late 2022. Few trendlines for what we track have changed dramatically, but BRPC is evaluating items such as per capita income data and labor force participation rates. Two areas where Berkshire County has seen a faster rate of growth are median household income and per capita income; both have grown more than many neighboring communities. Laura also noted that while nearly the entire county qualified as economically distressed based on the unemployment rate (24-month data) when we submitted the CEDS, in 18 months, that has shifted dramatically, with only a few census tracts now qualifying under the per capita threshold. Roger B. asked about Hinsdale's higher unemployment rate, and Laura indicated that she will request more information from MassHire.

#### ii. Goals and Objectives – representative activity: Laura B. shared the goals again and noted which ones were new (i.e., not present in the previous CEDS), requiring reporting for the first time as new activities. Laura asked committee members to suggest additional representative activities to include in the upcoming report.

1. **Goal 1: Healthy People** – Shannon S. noted that more could be added under food access, including Berkshire Grown's Mobile Market, and will send information by email. Keith G. noted that there has been a surge of people opening wellness businesses and clinics in the region. Roger B. noted this was a positive sign that private businesses are seeing that there is a market for this. Kevin P. noted the expansion of supportive housing throughout the Berkshires, including affordable workforce housing (former Thornwood and Windflower Inns). Justine D. noted 41 new units at White Terrace in Pittsfield. Kyle H. noted BMC's campus and roadwork improvements. Ben L. added the extension of the rail trail and improved access to pedestrian mobility including an ADA-accessible route. Wylie G. suggested the \$2M philanthropic money recently



awarded to CATA for the Arts. Laura B. may reach out to members for more details.

2. **Goal 2: Resilient Communities** – New items mentioned in this section by attendees included: BCRHA Mediation and Consumer Advocacy (Laura B.), Pittsfield Housing Center (Wylie G.), the Pittsfield Cultural Plan currently under development (Lesley H.); and MBI funding for broadband (Wylie G.).
3. **Goal 3 – Future-Ready Workforce** - Items mentioned in this section by attendees included: The Manufacturing Academy at the BIC (Laura B.); Cody C’s position as the ERC Fellow (Ben L.); a new building nearing completion at McCann High School for expanded HVAC training (Kyle H.); Pathways Program (Wylie G.); Increased program access options for those interested in the building trades /apprenticeships (not specific to Berkshire County) but promotion has expanded to Berkshire County (Ben L.).
4. **Goal 4 – Strong Business Environment** – New or revised items mentioned in this section by attendees included: Redevelopment at Site 9 (Mike C.); Meat Processing and Specialty-Focused Roundtables at BAV (Ben L.; Shannon S.); Expanded Tech. Assistance Offerings Through 1Berkshire (Ben L.); The Façade Program (has been funded in the for two rounds with 70 businesses (Ben L.); TDI-Aligned Grants (e.g. Boost Grant) for North Street (Kevin P.); CDC and Northern Berkshire Chamber work (Laura B.).
5. **Goal 5 – Robust Infrastructure** – New or revised items mentioned in this section by attendees included: MassDOT projects which will be provided by BRPC Transportation staff (Laura B.); Tri-town Connector (micro-transit) (Laura B.); Advocacy around seasonal transportation offerings (Ben L.); broadband infrastructure (Ben L.); Hoosic River Flood Shoot (Tom M.); renewable energy projects (mostly private now) (Shannon S./Ben L.); renovations to electrical transmission infrastructure (Roger B.); Williams College building enlarged art museum (Roger B. / Laura B. suggested this might fit better under another category); Reconnecting Communities grant for City of North Adams and MassMOCA (Ben L.); re-opening of Triplex (Wylie G.); cybersecurity (Shannon S.).

iii. **Priority Projects – updates and new submissions**

There were 40-45 submissions – construction and programmatic - from across the region that were included in the 2023-27 CEDS. Each year we offer people the opportunity to remove, update, or add submissions. Three items were requested to be added this year.

- NbCC Community Resource Center – This was reviewed last time
- Blackshires Community Empowerment Foundation Success Impact Initiative – Questions about the cost of the project and measurable marks of progress were requested at the last meeting. Laura B. noted that she was delayed in getting questions to the group in time for this meeting. A vote can be held until the next meeting.
- MassMOCA – Creative Campus – Details were shared in the meeting notes provided to the group and reviewed again on the screen.

Keith G. had questions about the MassMOCA proposal to confirm the cost of \$40M and asked for more information to ensure it meets our criteria. Ben L. confirmed that work has been going on in the background at MassMOCA for a while and noted the cost of replacing windows as one example of where support was needed. He noted the Hoosic River running through the campus as a particular challenge. Roger B. agreed with Keith G. that it would be helpful to get specific examples of work that could be done to clarify the museum’s current phrasing. Keith G. requested criteria that the group could use to inform the group’s decision-

making. Ben L. stated that not all past proposals have requested or required that level of specificity. Laura B. noted that past proposals have had as their criteria that the proposed project would have an impact on the region economically and affect more than one town. Keith G. felt it would be helpful to have a checklist to ensure equity across projects. Kyle H. asked if EDA has its own criteria. Laura B. stated that they do not, and that this section is now optional, although EDA required it in the past. She reinforced that being on the list does not guarantee federal EDA funding.

- **New submission 1:** Northern Berkshire Community Coalition Resource Center – Roger B felt their submission was sufficiently detailed. Roger B made a motion to approve. Michael C. seconded. Ben L. abstained. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.
  - **New submission 2** Blackshires Community Empowerment Foundation – Success Impact Initiative. The group decided to hold a vote on this until the next meeting to await background information from Blackshires.
  - **New submission 3:** MASS MoCA Creative Campus – This will be postponed until May for a vote.
- iv. Adjournment – Roger B. made a motion to adjourn. Mike C. seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:06 pm following a roll call vote.
- v. Next Meeting – May 8, 2024, at 1 pm



# BRPC

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

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Pittsfield, MA 01201  
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berkshireplanning.org

## MINUTES OF THE Berkshire Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Tuesday, April 23, 2024

*Meeting Held Via Zoom Video Communications*

Meeting Materials: <https://berkshireplanning.org/event/berkshire-mpo-meeting-3/>

### MPO Representatives/Alternates Present:

Stephen Woelfel	MassDOT (Representing Secretary Monica Tibbits-Nutt)
Francisca Heming	MassDOT District 1 (Representing Highway Administrator Gulliver)
Malcolm Fick	BRPC
Shelia Irvin	BRTA
Ricardo Morales	City of Pittsfield
John Boyle	North Central Subregion Delegate
Christine Hoyt	North Subregion Delegate
Gordon Bailey	Southeast Subregion Delegate

### Others Present:

Tom Matuszko	BRPC
Clete Kus	BRPC
Anuja Koirala	BRPC
Nick Russo	BRPC
Chris Klem	MassDOT
Mark Moore	MassDOT
Peter Frieri	MassDOT
Tyler Shedd	City of Pittsfield
Kirstie Hostetter	Federal Transit Authority

### **I. Call to Order – Introductions**

Mr. Woelfel called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. Meeting attendees introduced themselves via a roll call conducted by Mr. Kus.

### **II. Opportunity for Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

### **III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 26, 2024**

**ACTION:** Mr. Woelfel introduced a motion, seconded by Mr. Fick, to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2024 MPO meeting.

#### Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Mr. Woelfel:	Yea
Ms. Heming:	Yea
Mr. Fick:	Yea
Ms. Irvin:	Yea
Mr. Morales:	Yea
Ms. Hoyt:	Yea
Mr. Boyle:	Yea

Mr. Bailey                      Yea

**IV. Discussion on the development of the 2025 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program and authorize a 21-day public comment period**

Ms. Koirala began by reviewing the actions taken at the previous meeting, and then moved to list all upcoming infrastructure projects that are being funded through STIP year-by-year. There were no questions regarding the projects, so Ms. Koirala moved to detail transportation projects for BRTA that are also funded through STIP. After reviewing the format and funding formulas of the project list, Ms. Hostetter asked if listed funding was already approved or only applied for. Ms. Koirala stated she did not have that information, and advised BRTA would be able to answer her request. Ms. Hostetter advised that FTA is recommending that funding illustrations show where funds have been received from, and unawarded grants and applications be listed elsewhere. In response, Mr. Woelfel suggested Ms. Hostetter personally meet with BRPC and BRTA staff to review these changes to their formulas, which Ms. Koirala agreed with, and both agreed to discuss more following the meeting.

**ACTION:** Mr. Morales introduced a motion, seconded by Mr. Woelfel, to approve authorize a 21-day public comment period for the 2025 – 2029 Transportation Improvement Program.

Mr. Kus conducted a roll call:

Mr. Woelfel:	Yea
Ms. Heming:	Yea
Mr. Fick:	Yea
Ms. Irvin:	Yea
Mr. Morales	Yea
Ms. Hoyt	Yea
Mr. Boyle	Yea
Mr. Bailey	Yea

**V. Receive a presentation on Massachusetts 2050 transportation plan, Beyond Mobility**

Mr. Krevat gave a presentation on Massachusetts 2050 Statewide Transportation Plan ‘Beyond Mobility.’ After reviewing the background of the plan, Mr. Krevat stated the comment period will conclude on May 31<sup>st</sup> and invited people to provide their comments. MassDOT’s 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary is November 1, 2024, and to commemorate it MassDOT will be focused on three policy and strategy efforts, in addition to ‘Beyond Mobility’ will also include a strategic business plan, and a transportation funding task force. Mr. Krevat stated while this comprehensive planning is being done by the state, new programs and initiatives will be implemented in coordination with municipalities and MPOs.

Mr. Krevat revealed that over 18 months of public outreach and thousands of public comments influenced the direction of the ‘Beyond Mobility’ plan – creating a set of priority areas, including: safety, reliability, supporting clean transportation, destination connectivity, resiliency, and travel experience. After reviewing each priority areas highlighted problem and prioritized action to remedy it, Mr. Krevat encouraged people to review the whole plan and share it for public comments which end on May 31.

**VI. Discussion on the 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Mr. Kus began by discussing the background, purpose, and requirements of an annual Unified Planning Work Program. After reviewing how BRPC utilizes each task area and the type of work being done, Mr. Kus detailed focus areas for the 2025 UPWP and their upcoming projects and grants awarded to do this work, including Complete Streets, Safe Streets and Roads For All, and the Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program.

Mr. Kus detailed the importance of promoting bicycle usage, including local support for the Adventure Trail from Williamstown to North Adams which is being funded through a RAISE Grant. After briefly detailing staff's involvement in bicycling events and efforts in the region, Mr. Kus stated BRPC was seeking funds from MassDOT to establish a microtransit system.

Mr. Kus listed upcoming special studies including a First Street Corridor study in Pittsfield and potential applications for hydrogen fuel for transit fleets, followed by proposed safety initiatives, such as Safe Streets for All, Safe Routes To School initiatives, and a Bicycle And Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. Mr. Kus briefly touched on current and upcoming projects for the remaining areas of Climate Change, Title VI, Freight Planning, and Expansion of Rail Service.

Mr. Boyle requested if the MPO could receive regular updates on the Berkshire Flyer, as it had been a few years, he stated, since it was last brought up, which Mr. Kus agreed to do. Mr. Bailey asked Mr. Kus if the Housatonic Rail Line actually ended in Sandisfield – or Sheffield. Mr. Kus corrected himself, stating it did terminate in Sheffield.

## VII. **Status reports from Member Agencies**

Mr. Moore gave a brief update on upcoming District One projects and their anticipated completion dates.

Ms. Irving announced that BRTA would be introducing their new hybrid buses this upcoming Monday to the public – and that they are wrapped in their vintage designs from the 70s, 80s, and 90s.

Mr. Kus commented that BRPC is having a 'Fifth Thursday' event on May 30<sup>th</sup> to further discuss microtransit for the region, which will provide updates on the Tri-Town Connector and efforts being undertaken to improve accessibility. As well, MassDOT announced Berkshire Flyer service will be returning this year from June 21<sup>st</sup> to Labor Day. After restating that BRPC had applied for funding to launch a microtransit service, Mr. Kus touched on Safe Streets for All and that the hired consultant had recently submitted their evaluation of roadway collisions in their High Injury Network. Likely next month, the consultant will attend the meeting to provide a presentation on their work.

## VIII. **Other Business**

There was no other business.

## IX. **Next Meeting date – May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The next MPO meeting is scheduled to be held on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**ACTION:** Mr. Boyle motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Morales. Mr. Woelfel adjourned the meeting at 5:01 p.m.

### **Materials Distributed:**

- [Agenda](#)
- [BMPO March 26, 2024 Meeting Minutes Draft](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2025-2029 TIP](#)
- [BMPO FFY 2025-2029 Transit TIP](#)
- [Berkshire MPO DRAFT FFY 2025-2029 TIP Document](#)
- [BMPO FY 2025-2029 TIP Schedule](#)
- [2025 UPWP Focus Areas and Budget](#)
- [MassDOT District 1 TIP Projects Update](#)

# ALEESHA K. SIDDIQUI

History and Government Double Major at Colby College

📞 [REDACTED]

@ [REDACTED]

📍 [REDACTED]

## EXPERIENCE

### Research and Teaching Assistant

#### Colby College

📅 09/2022 - 12/2022 📍 Waterville, ME

- Research and teaching assistant for Professor Larissa J. Taylor
- Frequently assisted students in writing and organizing history papers and projects
- Conducted viewings for related course materials during the semester
- Answered student questions on exam preparation and paper writing

### Summer Administrative Intern

#### Office of the Attorney General

📅 06/2019 - 08/2019 📍 Hartford, CT

- Was the sole high school intern assigned to the head office of the Attorney General
- Cataloged over 1,000+ official press releases that are now housed in the internal server of the office
- Gained experience attending press conferences and analyzing interactions between the press and officials in a communications office
- Gained vast amount of knowledge on almost all areas of state law and practices, as well as considerable knowledge on communications as a whole in a major state government office

### Summer Legal Intern

#### Farmington Probate Court

📅 06/2018 - 08/2018 📍 Farmington, CT

- Gained experience regarding trials, rules, procedures and the practice of law
- Received first-hand experience spectating hearings and reading case files
- Learned how to read materials for cases, and how to find specific information on law databases
- Learned how to more interact with attorneys involved in a case

### Ned Lamont Gubernatorial Campaign Field Intern

#### Ned For CT

📅 06/2018 - 11/2018 📍 Meriden, CT

- Made extensive telephone calls directed at Farmington Valley residents encouraging them to vote for Ned Lamont in the 2018 gubernatorial election

## EDUCATION

### High School Diploma

#### Farmington High School

📅 08/2016 - 06/2020

### B.A. History, Government (Expected 2024)

#### Colby College

📅 08/2020 - Present

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Western Horseback Rider for Colby College Equestrian Team
- Taekwondo First Degree Black Belt
- Jazz Pianist

## VOLUNTEERING/CLUBS



### Waterville WMHB 89.7 Radio DJ

September 2023 - Present



### Pre-Law Board Vice President

October 2022 - Present



### Jazz Band Manager

September 2021 - Present



### Colby College Outing Club

- Club Member (September 2020 - Present)
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer (May 2022 - May 2023)

## ACHIEVEMENTS



### Colby College Ralph J. Bunche Scholar

September 2020 - Present



### Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society

May 2023 - Present



### Colby College Dean's List

- May 2022, January 2023 (Colby Dean's List resumed in 2022 after COVID hiatus)
- Current GPA: 3.86

## LANGUAGES

### English

Native



### Urdu

Native



### French

Advanced



## SKILLS

Google Drive

Mailchimp

Microsoft Word

Instagram

Microsoft Excel

STATA

# Luke J. Peplowski

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## EDUCATION

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### Hamilton College, Clinton, New York

May 2025

GPA: 3.33/4.0, Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies, Minor in Public Policy

Relevant Coursework: Creative Writing, Environmental Data (R Programming based), Public Policy, Climate Change, Economic Statistics, Political Theory, Environmental Justice, Biology, Geology (GIS experience)

## EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

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### Pittsfield Public Schools

May 2023 — Present

*Substitute Teacher*, Pittsfield, Massachusetts

- Elucidated basic problem-solving skills to middle and elementary school students, emphasized experiential learning and encouraging students.
- Managed and led classrooms where teachers were not actively present, instructed students on appropriate and respectful behavior.

### Mosquito Squad of Berkshire County

June 2022 — Aug. 2023

*Licensed Pesticide Applicator*, Berkshire County, Massachusetts

- Applied pesticides to privately owned properties in an educated and efficient manner, customer satisfaction a top priority.
- Recorded various factors for each application to ensure safety and compliance with legal obligations.
- Gained insight into real world pesticide use.

### Balderdash Cellars

June 2020 — Aug. 2022

*Server*, Richmond, Massachusetts

- Provided excellent customer experience to winery clientele through tending bar and serving food.
- Learned about the winery's offerings and provided insight about the wines to clientele.
- Performed extra duties in support of winery operation and improvements, such as preparation for opening, cleanup after close, working private events, and providing grounds services such as painting a new barn.

### T.J. Maxx

Dec. 2020 — March 2021

*Seasonal Associate*, Pittsfield, Massachusetts

- Focused on customer care, inventory management, and store coordination in various roles within the store.
- Gained understanding of operations in a larger corporation through company goals and maintenance of the store.

## CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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### Hamilton College Men's Soccer Team

Fall 2021 — Present

*Player*, Clinton, New York

- Earned All-NESCAC and NCAA DIII All-Region 1st team recognition following the 2023 season after being named to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> teams in 2022, respectively.
- Engaged in volunteer work within the local community in addition to participating in scholastic and athletic events on campus.

### Hamilton College HamReads Program

Winter 2023 — Present

*Teacher*, Clinton, New York

- Assisted local elementary school students in developing strong reading and social skills once a week.

### Hamilton One Love Club

Sep. 2023 — Present

*Member*, Clinton, New York

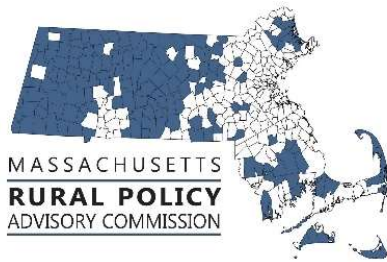
- Attended meetings discussing events that aimed to promote positive relationships and awareness around relationship abuse on campus.

### Hamilton College Club Ice Hockey

Winter 2021 — Present

*Player*, Clinton, New York

- Practiced twice weekly with the team in preparation for weekend games against other regional colleges.



April 2, 2024

Senator Edward Kennedy  
24 Beacon Street  
Room 109-E  
Boston, MA 02133

Representative Michael Finn  
24 Beacon Street  
Room 42  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Senator Kennedy and Representative Finn:

Your peers on the Legislative Rural Caucus, the Rural Policy Advisory Commission, the Western Massachusetts Housing Coalition (made up of 50 rural and urban organizations in western Massachusetts) have all recognized needed changes to the Affordable Homes Act to ensure the equitable distribution of funding and production of housing in all parts of Massachusetts, including rural municipalities. Rural municipalities, defined as municipalities with a population density of less than 500 people per square mile or that have a population of less than 7,000 people total 181 of the Commonwealth's municipalities – this is 52% of the communities in Massachusetts. We urge you to consider these changes as you consider the components of the Bond.

- Join 21 other states and create a rural set aside and/or preference in Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Qualified Allocation Plans in order to recognize the need for higher subsidy rates per unit because of higher costs/unit in rural areas, especially in economically distressed rural communities.
- In the Commonwealth Builder program, remove the 10-unit minimum and accept smaller projects from a wider range of communities, including economically distressed rural communities. This program is currently only open to Gateway Cities. Similarly, remove the 10-unit minimum in the homeownership tax credit for projects in small rural towns.
- Increase the maximum amount of funding allowed (subsidy cap) for each project or unit in softer rural markets in funding programs like the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Housing

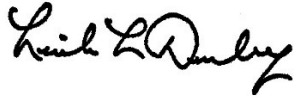


Stabilization and Investment Fund, Housing Innovations Fund, Facilities Consolidation Fund, Workforce Housing Initiative, and Community Based Housing.

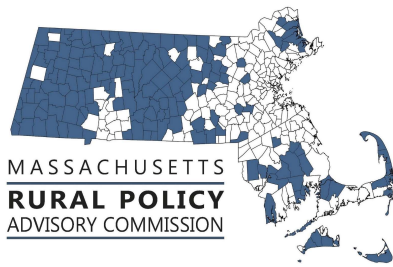
- Ensure a percentage of HousingWorks funding goes to rural infrastructure including water and sewer.
- Support the seasonal communities designation and the transfer fee, both of which will help inflated housing markets in rural areas of the Cape, Islands and Southern Berkshires build more affordable housing.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda L. Dunlavy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda Dunlavy, RPAC Chair



April 1, 2024

Dear Senators Comerford and Mark, Representatives Blais and Fernandes:

A group of Rural Policy Advisory Commission (RPAC) members and other rural stakeholders (listed below) have carefully reviewed the Mass Leads Act, the Governor's economic development bond bill, with an eye to ensuring and improving the bill's impact on the 181 rural and geographically isolated communities across the Commonwealth. We reach out to you as Co-chairs of the Legislative Rural Caucus to coordinate and collaborate on our collective advocacy efforts to support rural communities.

We know you understand the issues we seek to address with these recommendations and that you understand that ensuring equitable access to funding to all parts of the Commonwealth benefits the entire state.

We begin with four large asks:

1. Similar to the provision that stimulates economic investment in the maritime economic sector, create a similar focus and investment in the agricultural and food production economic sectors. Inclusion of this focus will improve the health and vitality of rural communities and businesses, help farmers prepare for the impacts of climate change, and help Massachusetts reach its food security goals. We request a \$100 million authorization, but recognize that a smaller initial capitalization would also be meaningful. We have added this request to the maritime sector line of the Bill.
2. As outlined in Team Massachusetts Leading Future Generations, the state's 10-year economic development strategy, that recommends the creation of "a workable rural economic designation like the Gateway Cities to direct resources, increase opportunities for private funding, and improve visibility for rural communities," we request a \$50 million authorization to create and implement such a program. We recommend that this be an increase in funding allocated to the Rural Development Program.
3. Rural areas struggle to build housing in areas without sewer and water, yet share in the critical need for housing. A separate allocation for rural wastewater and public water supplies of \$50 million to be administered by the MassWorks Infrastructure Program is critical to meet the infrastructure and housing needs for the entire Commonwealth. We recommend that this also be an increase in funding allocated to the Rural Development Program.

4. Sections 9-15 of the Bill make changes to the Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP) and emphasize the retention of 50+ employee businesses in or near Gateway Cities. The loss of a 50+ employee business in a Gateway City would be bad. The loss of a 50+ employee business in a rural municipality would be devastating (the loss of even a 25+ employee business in a rural community could be devastating). We believe this section should include the same protections and incentives to rural municipalities as given to Gateway Cities and perhaps should also reduce the employee size of businesses in rural communities. We don't exactly know how to make that change in the Bill but have noted below the sections that address the EDIP's expanded focus on Gateway Cities.

We also ask that you consider line edits that seek to insert a commitment to rural economic development while also reducing unnecessary development barriers. In most instances, these changes ensure that the state's commitment to geographic diversity includes all communities, even the Commonwealth's very smallest.

The proposed edits below include both the large and small changes we propose for your consideration.

- **Section 2 7002-1352 For a grant program to coastal communities,**
  - **Line 20** insert after plan, "And for a grant program to rural communities to be administered by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR); provided, that funding shall be used for community planning and investment activities that stimulate economic development and create jobs in the agricultural and food production economy sectors, and to construct, improve, repair, maintain and protect agricultural and food hub assets that are vital to achieving these goals; and provided further, that the planning, prioritization, selection and implementation of projects shall consider climate change impacts in furtherance of the goals of climate change mitigation and adaptation consistent with the integrated state hazard mitigation and climate change adaptation plan
  - **Line 21** increase funding from \$100,000,000 to \$200,000,000
- **Section 2 7002-8054 For the Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation, line 60** insert at the end of the section after geographic equity, "including businesses in economically distressed rural communities."
- **Section 2 7002-8056 For a competitive grant program administered by the office of travel and tourism,**
  - **Line 66** insert after facilities "and infrastructure"
  - **Line 67** insert after non-profit entities ", including signage, water access points, restroom facilities and other visitor enhancements"
  - **Line 68** insert after agricultural ", outdoor recreation"

- **Line 71** insert after office of travel and tourism “, which is lower for regions with limited hotel rooms”
  - **Line 76** insert after United States “in a manner that supports geographic equity”
- **Section 2 7002-8059 For the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation, line 95** insert after geographic equity “including rural.”
- **Section 2 7002-8066 For a capital grant program to be administered by the executive office of economic development, line 128** insert after transformational projects “as defined within the context of the geographic region of the state.”
- **Section 2 7002-8068 For the rural development program**
  - **Line 132** insert after Laws “of which \$50,000,000 is for the creation, development and implementation of the equivalent of the Gateway Cities program for rural communities to promote economic opportunity and prosperity and \$50 million is for wastewater and public water supply expansion in rural communities to enable housing and economic development.”
  - **Line 132** increase funding by \$100,000,000 to \$200,000,000.
- **Section 2 7002-8069 For a capital grant program to be administered by the executive office of economic development, line 146** insert after agency “and will ensure geographic equity, especially for manufacturers located in distressed communities.”
- **Section 2B 0526-2013, line 215 For a grant program to units of municipal government and to private, nonprofit organizations for the preservation of historic properties,** insert after Commission “and that ensures geographic equity including rural communities.”
- **Section 9 through Section 15, lines 281-322**
  - These are the sections that amend the EDIP program to emphasize retention of jobs in Gateway Cities, among other clarifying edits. We believe that rural communities should also be acknowledged in these sections but are not quite sure how to make those changes.
- **Section 33**
  - Line 543 insert after entities “Regional Planning Agencies”
  - Line 550 insert after communities “or Regional Planning Agencies”

Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us for further clarification. We hope that you will choose to support these recommendations and will work with the RPAC to advocate for the equitable distribution of funding and effort.

Thank you for your commitment to ensuring that this transformative legislation works for the entire Commonwealth.

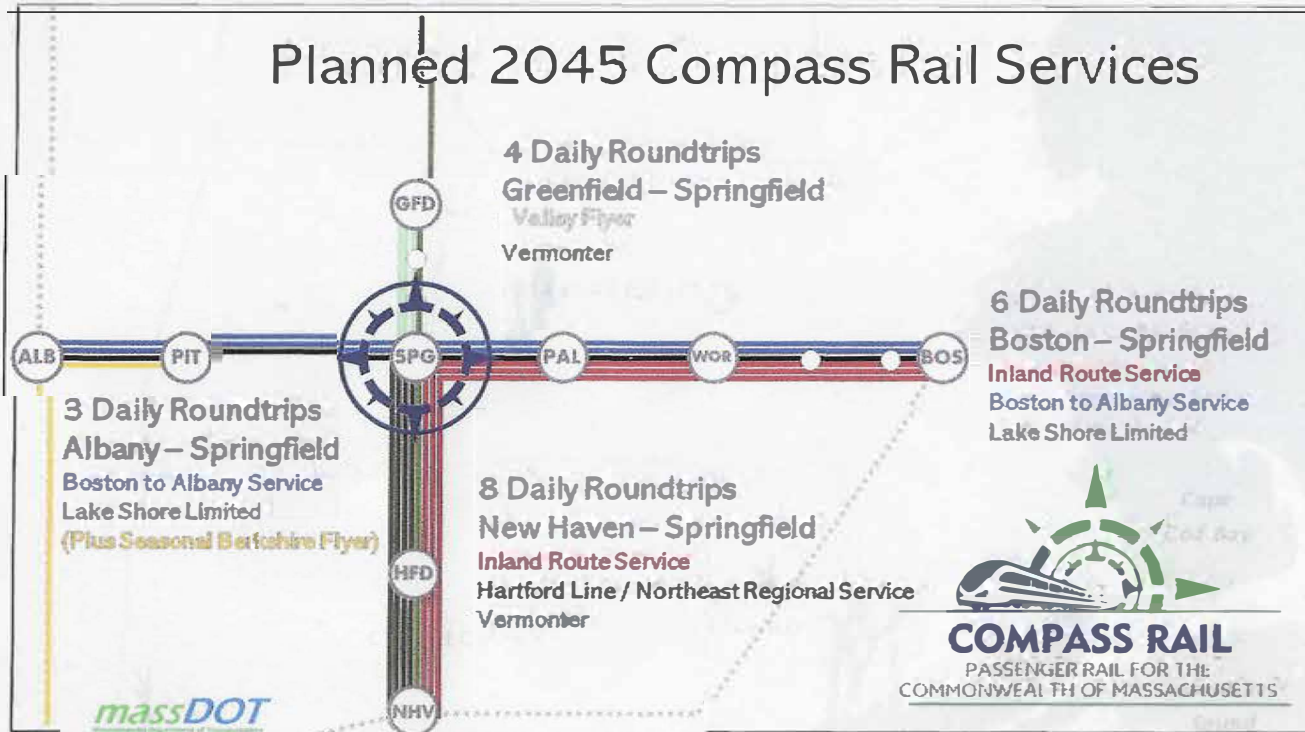
Sincerely,

Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director, Franklin Regional Council of Governments and RPAC Chair  
Jay Coburn, Executive Director, Community Development Partnership and RPAC Vice Chair  
Alexis Breiteneicher, Valley Community Development Corporation  
Laura Brennan, Deputy Director, Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and RPAC Member  
Jonathan Butler, President, 1Berkshire  
Jessye Deane, Executive Director, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce  
Yari DeJesus, Director of Economic Development, Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations  
Gina Govini, Franklin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority and Rural Development, Inc.  
John Waite, Franklin County Community Development Corporation

# 2045 Compass Rail Vision

Service Enhancement and Expansion

## Planned 2045 Compass Rail Services



# Tickets Now on Sale for Berkshire Flyer Seasonal Passenger Rail Service between New York City and Pittsfield, Massachusetts

*Passenger rail service runs on weekends from June 21 through September 2*

*Friday and Sunday service, including a Sunday morning train from NYC, from Amtrak, in conjunction with MassDOT and NYSDOT*

**PITTSFIELD** – Amtrak, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) and New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), is announcing tickets are now on sale for the *Berkshire Flyer*, the seasonal summer passenger rail service that operates between New York City from Moynihan Train Hall and Pittsfield, Massachusetts. The service, which began as a successful pilot in 2022, is scheduled to resume on Friday, June 21 through Monday, September 2 for Labor Day weekend. Trains depart New York City Friday nights and return at the end of the weekend, leaving Pittsfield Sunday afternoon. In addition, for the first time this year, the *Berkshire Flyer* service now includes a train from New York City to Pittsfield on Sunday mornings.

We're thrilled to announce this season's *Berkshire Flyer* service," said **Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbits-Nutt**. "The *Berkshire Flyer* makes visiting Western Massachusetts on weekends convenient, relaxing, and easy. We are pleased to continue our successful partnership with Amtrak, the New York State Department of Transportation and CSX."

**Massachusetts Rail and Transit Administrator Meredith Slesinger added**, "MassDOT continues to implement its Compass Rail program to enhance existing and launch new passenger service, and the Berkshire Flyer is one element of our larger vision. We are pleased to offer this service for a third season and continue to advance other elements of the program with Amtrak, CSX, and our federal and state partners."

"The *Berkshire Flyer* provides a comfortable and fun way for our guests to visit the Berkshire Mountains, all while enjoying unmatched scenery that you can only experience on America's Railroad," said **[Amtrak Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer Elliot Hamlisch](#)**. "Thanks to the support of our partners at MassDOT, NYSDOT and CSX, Amtrak travelers can enjoy their journey and the local culture all summer long."

**New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez said**, "NYSDOT is proud to support this wonderfully successful passenger rail service, which provides a relaxing and enjoyable experience for travelers of all ages. Whether it's a weekend getaway, or a longer vacation, the Berkshire Flyer experience offers a convenient and eco-friendly way for travelers and adventure seekers to explore the beauty and charm of the Berkshires and Upstate New York."

CSX is pleased to extend our commitment to pilot passenger service, the Berkshire Flyer, that will run between New York City and Pittsfield, MA on our network this summer," said **Senior Director of Passenger Operations at CSX, Andy Daly**. "CSX has a long history of working in partnership on projects that benefit both passenger and freight rail service, and since acquiring Pan Am, we have made significant investments in the infrastructure to provide a safer, more reliable freight rail network throughout New England."

“I have been a staunch supporter of the *Berkshire Flyer* from the beginning. As a catalyst for regional economic growth and sustainability, it underscores the importance of improved and expanded passenger rail service throughout the Commonwealth. I am thrilled that the service will soon be underway for the summer of 2024,” said **Congressman Richard Neal**. “FY23 marked a nearly 50% increase in ridership from FY22, a testament to the desirability of the service. We all know what the Berkshires has to offer in the arts, culture, history, and hospitality, and the *Berkshire Flyer* serves as an accessible, convenient mode of transportation that allows tourists to visit throughout the summer months. I am grateful to the folks at Amtrak, CSX, MassDOT, and NYSDOT for their continued efforts to support the operation of this service.”

The *Berkshire Flyer* departs from Moynihan Train Hall at 3:16 p.m. on Fridays and arrives at Joseph Scelsi Intermodal Transportation Center in Pittsfield at 7:27 p.m. The train will make all intermediate station stops as the scheduled Amtrak *Empire Service* train does in New York State on Fridays, which include Yonkers, Croton-Harmon, Poughkeepsie, Rhinecliff, Hudson, and Albany-Rensselaer Station. The Sunday return trip, making all the same station stops, will depart Pittsfield at 3:35 p.m. and arrive in New York at 7:55 p.m. The new Sunday *Berkshire Flyer* train from New York City to Pittsfield will depart Moynihan Train Hall at 10:50 a.m. and arrive in Pittsfield at 3:15 p.m.

The *Berkshire Flyer* is building upon two successful seasons where some of the Pittsfield-bound trains were sold out well in advance. Based on that experience, passengers planning a trip are encouraged to purchase tickets early by visiting [Amtrak.com](https://www.amtrak.com), the Amtrak app or by calling 1-800-USA-RAIL.

*Berkshire Flyer* customers can expect the same amenities onboard as they do on all other Amtrak trains including, free Wi-Fi, the freedom to always use phones and electronic devices (no “airplane mode”), the ability to travel with small pets, large spacious seats with plenty of leg room and no middle seat.,

For MassDOT information, please visit: <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-department-of-transportation>.

To learn more about NYSDOT, please visit: <https://www.dot.ny.gov/index>.

Learn more about Amtrak at Amtrak.com or on [X](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

Release Contacts

about

## About Amtrak®

For more than 50 years, Amtrak has connected America and modernized train travel. Offering a safe, environmentally efficient way to reach more than 500 destinations across 46 states and parts of Canada, Amtrak provides travelers with an experience that sets a new standard. Book travel, check train status, access your eTicket and more through the [Amtrak app](#). Learn more at [Amtrak.com](https://www.amtrak.com) and connect with us on [X](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# Berkshire Regional Planning Commission's 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday

networking & educational event returns!

## Presenters:

- Megan Rhodes, AICP  
Franklin Regional Council of Governments
- Tate Coleman  
Microtransit Program Director, TriTown  
Connector

Mazzeo's Ristorante  
1015 South Street, Pittsfield

\$15/person  
4 pm hors d'oeuvres reception & cash bar  
5 pm presentations & discussion



Register: <https://bit.ly/5thThurs2024>

If you are unable to register online with a credit card,  
contact Kate to receive an invoice: 413-442-1521 x10, or  
[officeassistant@berkshireplanning.org](mailto:officeassistant@berkshireplanning.org)



# BRPC

## 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday: Microtransit





# BRPC

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

MALCOLM FICK, Chair  
JOHN DUVAL, Vice-Chair  
SHEILA IRVIN, Clerk  
BUCK DONOVAN, Treasurer  
THOMAS MATUSZKO, A.I.C.P.  
Executive Director

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Delegates and Alternates,  
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

**FROM:** Thomas Matuszko, Executive Director

**DATE:** April 25, 2024

**RE: February and March 2024 Assistance Activities**

This report highlights technical assistance provided by BRPC staff for February and March 2024. This assistance was in response to requests identified in the Board/Organization column. If available and permitted by the funding agencies, responses were supported by local assessment or grant funds. This report aims to inform municipal officials about how local assessment funds are used and indicate the types of local and technical assistance BRPC can provide. If assistance may be useful to your community, please feel free to contact us for details.

Town/City/State	Municipal Technical Assistance	Board/Organization
Adams	CDBG lead paint	Community Development Director
Becket	Dark Skies bylaws research	Ordinance Review Group
Egremont	Demo delay bylaw	Historical Commission
Egremont	Washington Mt road TIP project coordination	Select Board
Great Barrington	Airport improvement funding	BRPC Delegate
Mount Washington	Map of invasive management plan	Conservation Commission
Pittsfield	Permitting process	City Planner
West Stockbridge	Housing planning	Affordable Housing Trust
Savoy	Bridges and data	Planning Board
Savoy	Research on Route 116 bridge, coordination	Town and MassDOT District Office