



Public Health Staff at 40 Under Forty Event



Lee Master Plan Public Forum

Annual Report

FY 2024

September 2024



Pittsfield Cultural Plan Convening at The Colonial Theater



Clarksburg Student Design Showcase for Climate Resilience

Annual Report

FY 2024



Comments from the Executive Director

In FY24, BRPC solidly moved through the post-COVID world. Most meetings were held either virtually or in a hybrid manner, although there were a few in-person meetings. Staff fully adjusted to a telework schedule, whereby many staff only came into the office the required two days per week but packed those days with staff or team meetings. Many staff, especially the Administrative team and several Program Managers, are in the office more than the required two days a week.

We continue to have many strong program areas, which I believe we have maintained and, in most cases, expanded or strengthened. We were able to bring in several new staff with unique skills and fresh perspectives, which has strengthened the agency. Most program areas grew during the year. We had some staff turnover, but mostly staff levels remained steady, with several new staff hired in previous years steadily maturing professionally into their positions. Our long-time Community Development and Housing Program Manager, Patricia Mullins, retired at the end of the year. We thank her for her service. The BRPC staff have performed very well and are a group of dedicated, committed professionals.

The Community Development and Housing Program continued to work toward retaining existing housing stock and improving conditions through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) housing rehabilitation program. This much needed and much appreciated program continues to be a challenge to administer. Contributing factors include the overly burdensome bureaucratic requirements, a shortage of contractors willing to do the work, and the increasing costs of building. In FY24 we mostly completed a grant for the Town of Dalton and initiated work on a new grant for Sheffield. The Town of Becket was also awarded a CDBG grant which will begin in FY25. The Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation (CEDAC) funded the Home Modification Loan Program, which was a new program in FY23 to provide grant funds to construct accessibility measures for disabled property owners and continued to provide loans to property owners to make accessibility improvements. Americans with Disability Act Self-Evaluation and Transition Plans were developed for the Towns of Alford, Lee, and Monterey.

The Community Planning Program was strengthened significantly with the hiring of a Senior Planner who will focus on housing planning and assume leadership of the CDBG Program. Housing continued to be a priority, and we conducted several housing-related planning projects and continued to implement the Housing Vision for the Berkshires, working with 1Berkshire and Hearthway (formerly Berkshire Housing). We continued to work in Sheffield to implement land use regulations to assist the town in creating new housing opportunities, initiated the development of a housing production plan for Egremont, and began efforts to develop strategic housing plans for the Towns of Monterey and New Marlborough. The Community Planning Program also continued working on comprehensive planning activities, with Master Plans being developed for Monterey, Lee, West Stockbridge, and Lanesborough and Open Space and Recreation Plans for North Adams, Williamstown, Cheshire, Monterey, and Lee. Technical Assistance on zoning was provided to Washington, Peru, and Adams.

Data and data analysis has always been a strong program. Berkshire Benchmarks continued to be a valuable asset for Berkshire County, with new data being added, including decennial census results and a State of the County update released.

BRPC's Economic Development Program continued to assist businesses, nonprofits, and municipalities through training, educational material, and one-on-one support. It supported activities related to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and Economic Development District, actively pursuing the implementation of CEDS projects and goals. The Economic Development Program was also instrumental in promoting the Berkshire Funding Focus which assisted municipalities, schools, businesses, and non-profits to secure COVID-related recovery funds. The Economic Development Program also supported the fourth annual "ArtWeek Berkshires" festival and initiated a first-of-its-kind cultural plan for Pittsfield. Digital Equity Planning was another important focus. The committed efforts of the Senior Economic Development Planner have positioned the Berkshires to be a statewide leader in digital equity planning.

The Environmental and Energy Planning Program was another strong program area in FY24. The Berkshire Brownfield Program within the Environmental and Energy Program continued its strong record of assessments and clean-up, working with Great Barrington to remediate Reid Cleaners and North Adamson related to Greylock Mill. The Revolving Loan Fund was awarded another \$3.5 million and made large loans to Greylock Works and Eagle Mill redevelopment efforts. Addressing the threats from climate change is another important focus area. The team worked with Lee, Hancock, and Washington on Hazard Mitigation and Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) plans, Pittsfield on stormwater enhancements in the Westside Neighborhood, Monterey on culvert replacement, and Clarksburg on relocating infrastructure from the floodplain. Energy is another important focus, and the team worked with Adams, Great Barrington, Lanesborough, Lee, North Adams, and Williamstown to promote Mass Save, assisted numerous municipalities comply with Green Communities requirements, and provided Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Great Barrington, Lanesborough, North Adams, Peru, West Stockbridge, and Williamstown with clean energy planning and program management services. Finally, stormwater management was another focus area working in numerous communities.

The Public Health Program continued to grow with the addition of several more staff, including several inspectors/trainers. It is now, and has been for several years, the largest program at BRPC. There are several elements within the Public Health Program, including the Berkshire Public Health Alliance, which provides inspectional and Public Health nursing services to several towns. The statewide effort to implement performance standards and create regionwide districts was firmly in place in western Mass, with BPRC providing technical assistance to the Berkshire – Hampden Training Hub. Training hubs serve to standardize the training and qualifications of public health agents and inspectors across the state. The Berkshire Overdose Addiction Prevention Collaborative (also managed by BRPC) continued to be a strong program and expanded efforts to reduce cannabis, alcohol and nicotine use among youth, expand harm reduction programs, initiate Mobile Integrated health services, work close with EMS agencies, and expand the use and acceptance of Narcan to reduce fatal overdoses. The Public Health Program staffs the Berkshire Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition and this year expanded efforts to address heat emergencies. A Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) which is a long-term, systematic effort to address public health problems based on the results of community health assessment activities and the community health improvement process, was spearheaded by the Public Health Program as well.

We also supported several regional service initiatives in FY24, including the online burn-permitting program, upgrading the online building and Board of Health permitting, and coordinating the Berkshire Regional Group Purchasing Program.

The Transportation team focused on supporting the Metropolitan Planning Organization, promoted the development of bicycle facilities in Berkshire County, conducted a corridor and bottleneck analysis along US-7 and MA-9 in downtown Pittsfield, conducted pavement evaluations for Lanesborough and Savoy, and initiated a process to develop a comprehensive safety action plan for Berkshire County.

The agency is in a strong fiscal condition. Our budget increased over FY23 by some \$850,000 to \$6.95 million. We ended the year with a solid surplus. We have continued to put funds into the Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Trust. The work of the various program area teams could not have been accomplished without the strong support of the Administrative staff, who successfully managed 170 different contracts in FY24, including an increasing number of complicated and complex projects and initiatives.

BRPC had a very busy and successful year in FY24, providing much-needed and appreciated services to most municipalities in Berkshire County in one way or another. Our success is truly a team effort. Our Delegates and Alternates provide input on the overall needs of the county. The BRPC Executive Committee supports the agency's administrative activities and has been supportive of my recommendations as Executive Director. Our communities show their trust in us by their willingness to work with us. Our dedicated planning staff provides high-quality services, supported by a strong administrative staff. I am very fortunate and grateful to have such a strong team working towards the betterment of the residents and environment of Berkshire County.

Thomas Matuszko
Executive Director

In Memory

BRPC honors and remembers former Egremont resident and Select Board member George McGurn, who passed away unexpectedly on April 5, 2024. He was Selectman from May 2017 until his passing, being Chair from May 2017 through July 2020. According to Egremont Select Board Chair Lucinda Fenn-Vermeulen, "George was known not only for his unwavering commitment to our town, our town's development, and genuine concern for its residents, but also for his wit in meetings and elsewhere. He infused even complex discussions with laughter, reminding us of the joy in public service." Prior to his service to Egremont, George was an internationally recognized Professor of Management and an innovative entrepreneur in transitional economies.

Programs of BRPC

Community Development and Housing

BRPC supports strategies, programs, and projects that strengthen our region through housing planning, housing rehabilitation and development, infrastructure improvements, and promoting efficient use of municipal resources.

Community Planning

BRPC assists in the development of master and comprehensive plans, zoning bylaws, open space and recreation plans, and other land use projects, including review of site-specific development projects.

Data and Information Services

BRPC's Data and Information Services Program serves as a data, analysis, and mapping resource for our municipalities, the community, and other BRPC programs. The program can create customized maps and modeling using various neighborhood, municipal, and county-level digital resources. The program often conducts in-depth analyses showing current data trends and projections for the future and publishes the Berkshire Benchmarks data library and indicators.

Emergency Preparedness Planning

BRPC guides emergency preparedness through multi-agency coordination for improved regional resiliency in two areas: public health, including public health emergency preparedness, and the natural environment, including hazard mitigation plans and municipal vulnerability assessments.

Economic Development

BRPC coordinates with federal, state, regional, and local partners to pursue economic development strategies, programs, and projects that encourage investment in our region. This includes overseeing the federally designated Economic Development District of Berkshire County.

Environmental and Energy Planning

BRPC supports strategies, programs, and projects that strengthen and protect the natural and built environment through local and regional initiatives, including Brownfields assessments and cleanups, stormwater management, climate adaptation and resiliency, clean and efficient energy, and Green Communities.

Public Health

BRPC delivers public health services and planning by coordinating regional partnerships such as the Berkshire Public Health Alliance, Berkshire County Boards of Health Association (BCBOHA), Age Friendly Berkshires, the Berkshire Overdose and Addiction Prevention Collaborative (BOAPC), the County Health Initiative (CHI) and many other programs.

Regional Initiatives and Services

BRPC participates in regional initiatives related to public education, outdoor recreation, and broadband access and operates a regional Group Purchasing Program.

Transportation Planning

BRPC's Transportation Planning Program is designated as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization per federal transportation law. It is responsible for the planning and programming all modes of transportation, including highways, public transit, rail, freight, bicycles, and pedestrians. This program also provides technical assistance to our communities on transportation matters.

Administration

BRPC's Administration staff provides financial management, support to Programs and Initiatives, and support to the Commission's policy body.

General Services and Operations

BRPC's Local Assessments from our Communities allowed BPRC to provide services to our communities not covered by funding sources from Federal, State, Local, Organizations, or Nonprofits. Educational Training, Environmental Reviews, Grant Writing, Maps, and Local Technical Assistance are provided.

Berkshires Tomorrow, Inc.

Our nonprofit received funding for the Berkshire Remote Learning Initiative, Vaccine Clinics, Berkshire County Substance Recovery Support, Cybersecurity Arts Building Community Initiative, Berkshire Fund Focus, and efforts related to implementing the Berkshire County Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Summary of Project Activities for FY 2024

Community Development and Housing

→ Americans with Disabilities Act

Through a combination of funding sources, ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plans were completed by BRPC for the Towns of Alford, Lee, and Monterey. These projects were completed through the Massachusetts Office of Disability's planning grant program. This enabled the towns to identify and document accessibility barriers in their respective municipal facilities and to shape plans for barrier removal implementation projects.

→ Community Development Block Grant

The BRPC Community Development staff drafted and submitted a \$999,810 FY24 CDBG grant application on behalf of the Towns of Becket and Dalton. The grant application was successful, and the project will commence in FY25.

The Program continued work on previous FY awards to rehabilitate homes in Dalton, Becket, Stockbridge, and Sheffield at an approximate cost of \$966,000 in CDBG funding.

The CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program provides new roofs, windows, electrical and plumbing upgrades, heating, and septic systems, as well as de-leading on properties built before 1978. The average individual CDBG Housing Rehab project costs approximately \$54,222 per unit, with projects ranging from as little as \$18,300.00 to a high of \$103,900.



CDBG Housing Rehabilitation - before



CDBG Housing Rehabilitation - after

→ CEDAC Home Modification Loan Program (HMLP)

Beginning in FY 23, BRPC has served as the CEDAC Home Modification Loan (HMLP) Program Provider for Berkshire County. This state-funded program can fund the construction of additions and adaptations to help family members with physical and cognitive limitations live more independently at home. The HMLP helps Massachusetts households finance home accessibility improvements – making it possible for individuals with disabilities and older adults to remain in their own homes and communities.

Community Planning

→ Comprehensive (Master) Planning

The Community Planning Program provided comprehensive planning services to several municipalities. These services included adopting a Master Plan in the Town of Lee and working through Master Plans for the Town of West Stockbridge and the Town of Lanesborough (both anticipated to be adopted in FY25). In addition, staff assisted communities with identifying funding opportunities to complete comprehensive planning efforts, with potential groundwork completed to begin two new master plans in FY25.



Lee Master Plan Public Forum

→ District Local Technical Assistance

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission staff provided technical assistance to member municipalities through the District Local Technical Assistance program (or "DLTA"). In FY24, this assistance focused on planning for housing, developing zoning amendments, and facilitating the completion of various municipal planning projects. Projects and activities resulted in a measurable change in the municipalities, whether in law, regulation, program management, or practice. It allowed BRPC to work on critical regional initiatives such as support to the Berkshire Education Resources K-12 (formerly the Berkshire Education Task Force), support to the Rest of River Municipal Committee for the cleanup of the Housatonic River, and a range of economic development activities.

→ District Local Technical Assistance - Augmentation

In addition to the typical DLTA activities, additional "augmentation" funding from the state allowed RPAs to provide opportunities for staff to assist communities in identifying funding opportunities for projects and preparing grant applications. This funding program has allowed staff to assist with projects in multiple programs, including Community Planning, Community Development, Economic Development, and Environmental and Energy.

→ Housing Planning

Berkshire Regional Planning continued efforts in Sheffield to provide localized education on the ongoing housing crisis and implement land use regulations that will assist the Town in creating new housing opportunities. The agency began a Housing Production Plan for the Town of

Egremont. In addition, efforts to develop strategic housing plans for the Towns of Monterey and New Marlborough also kicked off in FY24.

This work also includes the additional buildout of BRPC's Planning Toolkit. Staff increased the catalog of toolkit items to include various housing-related activities.

→ **Mobile Farmer's Market**

BRPC is acting as the grant manager and fiduciary for a large, three-year USDA grant that will allow organizations such as Berkshire Grown, Berkshire Bounty, Southern Berkshire Rural Health Network, and CHP to provide a mobile farmer's market to populations that are either unable to get to a farmer's market or who lack the resources to purchase fresh produce and other local food. A sliding scale makes the market affordable for all, and its mobility makes it accessible to those who cannot travel far.



Berkshire Mobile Farmers Market in Adams

→ **Open Space Planning**

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission continued work on Open Space and Recreation Plans for the City of North Adams, Town of Williamstown, Town of Cheshire, Town of Monterey, and Town of Lee, with all the plans anticipated to receive final approval from the state in FY25. In addition, staff assisted communities with identifying funding opportunities to initiate open space and recreation plans, with groundwork completed to begin multiple new projects in FY25.

→ **Zoning**

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission assisted municipalities with a range of zoning-related projects. This work includes a recodification project in the Town of Washington and updates to Peru's zoning bylaws carried into FY25. Additional work related to housing provisions in the Town of Adams also advanced into FY25.

Data and Information Services

→ **Data Services**

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission worked on updating Berkshire Benchmarks, including an update to the State of the County Report. BRPC staff also provided data assistance to our municipalities, local organizations, and the public.

→ **Mapping Services**

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission provides maps to our communities and the public as requested through our Local Technical Assistance or on a fee basis. Also, BRPC staff provided planning services for creating and promoting mountain biking trails in Western Massachusetts.

→ **IT Services**

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission provided technical assistance to our municipalities in reviewing their IT cyber security posture and working to provide the planning tools needed to ensure their system's security.

Economic Development

→ Arts & Culture Economic Development

BRPC supported the fourth annual "ArtWeek Berkshires" festival, a collaborative effort of all five MCC-designated cultural districts in the county along with 1Berkshire, the region's MOTT-designated tourism council. BRPC staff coordinated the planning meetings and marketing plan for ArtWeek Berkshires.

In FY24, BRPC began assisting the City of Pittsfield with a cultural plan, the first of its kind in the county.

BRPC staff are working closely with Pittsfield's Office of Cultural Development, as well as members of a steering committee. The plan involves extensive public outreach and will serve as a model for other communities in the region.



ArtWeek Berkshires 2024 participant

→ Berkshire Funding Focus

BRPC continued to host a regional initiative entitled Berkshire Funding Focus (BFF), which supports schools, small businesses, municipalities, and non-profits seeking government grant funding. BFF's website, berkshirefundingfocus.org, contains curated grant opportunities and extensive resources to help connect grant seekers with opportunities and training.

→ Digital Equity Planning

BRPC was selected by the Mass Broadband Institute as a pre-qualified consultant to develop Digital Equity Plans and Charettes for Berkshire County municipalities. Several communities are participating in this program, including Pittsfield (completed in FY24) Dalton, Clarksburg, New Marlborough, Monterey, and two sub-regional collaborations of multiple towns. BRPC worked with the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) to support their outreach regarding the statewide Digital Equity Plan, coordinating focus groups and asset mapping for the region, and is integral to the Western MA Digital Equity Alliance. In FY24, BRPC also hosted an American Connection Corp Fellow who augmented services provided through BRPC's contracts with MBI.

→ Economic Development Planning Services

BRPC provided Economic Development planning services to assist the Towns of Adams, Great Barrington, Lanesborough, and Lenox in advancing economic development activities. BRPC also completed an initial phase of economic conditions assessment for the Town of Cheshire.

→ Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

BRPC completed the 2024 Progress Report for Berkshire County's 2023-2027 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

→ Economic Development District – Partnership Planning

In FY24, BRPC engaged in its first year of EDA-funded Partnership Planning. This project allowed staff to actively pursue the implementation of CEDS Goals and Priority Projects.

Environmental and Energy Planning

→ Brownfields Environmental Assessments

BRPC has appropriated nearly all available funds from the EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant totaling \$500,000. The Brownfields Committee meets as needed and approves sites across the county. Sites assessed in FY24 are located within Pittsfield, North Adams, Lenox, and Great Barrington. BRPC has contracted with a licensed site professional to conduct assessments under this program at no cost to municipalities, site owners, developers, and prospective purchasers. BRPC is also working with the Town of Adams to provide grant management for the \$500,000 EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant awarded to the town.

→ Brownfields Environmental Cleanup

BRPC serves as grant manager for an EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant awarded to the Town of Great Barrington to remediate the Ried Cleaners site, which underwent a soil removal action conducted by EPA Emergency Response. Cleanup activities are anticipated to begin in 2025 upon completion of additional assessments being undertaken by EPA. BRPC worked with the City of North Adams to secure \$1.9 million for remediation at the former tannery dump (aka Hide Hill) and with Greylock FLUME Inc. to secure \$1.8 million for remediation at the former Greylock Mill. BRPC will serve as grant manager for both projects beginning in FY25.

→ Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund

BRPC maintains a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) to provide flexible loans (and sub-grants) to municipalities and other entities to help pay for contamination removal. This program promotes the reuse and redevelopment of contaminated, vacant, or underutilized properties. Loans have been awarded to Greylock WORKS for remediation activities at Greylock Mill in North Adams and the Eagle Mill in Lee. BRPC received \$3.5M to recapitalize the revolving loan fund in FY24. BRPC participated in the panel presentation of Greylock WORKS as the MA State Showcase at the New England Brownfields Summit in Portland Maine. BRPC also presented in the RLF session "Things You Don't Know You Don't Know That You Need to Know in RLF Programs."

→ Climate Adaptation and Resiliency

BRPC continues to assist our county with the impacts of climate change. In FY24, our team worked with Lee, Hancock, and Washington on Hazard Mitigation and Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) planning. We kicked off a project that addresses persistent flooding, recreation, community connection, and emergency access for school children in Clarksburg. We worked with community partners and the City of Pittsfield to envision stormwater enhancements, clean water, and walkable pathways from the EJ community of Westside Neighborhood to resources along West Street. BRPC wrapped up a two-year project in Monterey with full engineering and permitting to replace the culvert next to Monterey's Town Hall on Route 23 with one that would accommodate future large storms, protecting infrastructure and emergency access. We worked with towns like Clarksburg to help address infrastructure built in the



Clarksburg Climate Adaptation Planning – Four Corners

floodplain by exploring bank stabilization and land purchases that will allow the Town to move critical facilities out of harm's way. We assisted towns in accessing over \$2 Million in state funding for climate adaptation through FEMA and MVP grants and have been active in the statewide Community Climate Advisory Committee.

→ **Energy**

BRPC worked with municipalities to increase knowledge of clean energy technologies and programs and expand access to clean energy technology for the Commonwealth's low-income residents. BRPC assisted the towns of Adams, Great Barrington, Lanesborough, Lee, North Adams, and Williamstown to provide support and information to residents in accessing the Mass Save program. Providing technical assistance and education on the programmatic offerings and how to access them. BRPC assists communities seeking or having received designation as a Green Community. BRPC also provided support to communities already designated as Green Communities, including providing grant management, technical assistance for competitive grant applications, and reporting. BRPC also provided Berkshire County municipalities with clean energy planning and program management, including Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Great Barrington, Lanesborough, North Adams, Peru, and West Stockbridge, and Williamstown. BRPC provided tools and resources to municipalities interested in exploring electric vehicle (EV) charging as well as technical assistance to those interested in preparing municipal fleets for EV adoption and supporting the adoption of publicly accessible charging.

→ **Stormwater**

BRPC helped three towns stay compliant with the National Pollution Detection and Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System (MS4) General Permit. In short, this has helped urbanized areas around Pittsfield upgrade their stormwater system practices and reduce nonpoint source pollutants. Through the Clean Water Act s. 319 Regional Coordinator Program, BRPC has completed three watershed plans for the East, West, and Southwest Branch of the Housatonic covering all of Pittsfield and large areas of Lanesborough, Dalton, and Richmond so that they may access Clean Water Act grant funds. In conjunction, we collaborated with MassDEP and the University of New Hampshire Stormwater Center to identify sites for nitrogen reduction for healthier watersheds. BRPC has worked with towns and cities to develop better stormwater systems, worked with those to access funding for stormwater upgrades, and implemented projects. In Monterey, BRPC helped manage a grant that installed stormwater improvements along Hupi Road to reduce sediment into Lake Garfield, assessed over twenty-one private properties for stormwater enhancements, and installed native vegetative buffers on four properties and one public park. In Pittsfield, BRPC worked with the City to engineer stormwater improvements to a popular pedestrian route on Jubilee Hill in the Environmental Justice Community of Westside Neighborhood.

→ **Habitat Restoration & Wildlife Connectivity**

BRPC remained a core partner of two regional partnerships working on wildlife connectivity – MA Division of Ecological Restoration's Berkshire Clean, Cold, and Connected Partnership and the Berkshire Wildlife Linkage Regional Partnership. This work generally falls into three categories: bank stabilization (river erosion), dam removal, and culvert replacement to meet Massachusetts' Stream Crossing Standards. In FY24, BRPC worked with Clarksburg to address bank erosion along the North Branch Hoosic River in a section that was threatening people's homes. We worked with rural communities including Hancock and New Marlborough, among others, to apply for grant funding to increase culvert size, enable fish and wildlife passing, and

reduce the increased risk of flooding, and we participated in the planning of two dam removals both in poor condition and a threat to downstream communities.

General Services and Operations

→ Local Assistance

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission provided local assistance through the funds received from Community assessments. BRPC prepared advisory comments for the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs and local permitting boards/commissions on projects subject to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) review. Technical assistance was provided to local municipalities, nonprofit organizations, and institutions to prepare, write, and administer grant applications to a wide range of public or private funding sources. Additional technical assistance was provided to the region's municipalities on a host of planning topics, ranging from zoning procedural issues, review of development projects, requests for demographic and land use information, bridge, culvert, and road information, and requests for GIS maps.

Public Health

→ Shared Public Health Services & Berkshire Public Health Alliance

The Berkshire Public Health Alliance was formed in 2011 to allow, but not require, local Boards of Health to share public health services such as inspections/environmental health and public health nursing and allow the Alliance to apply for grants to benefit member municipalities. The Alliance consists of 25 Member Municipalities who have signed an Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) with each other and with BRPC as fiscal host. Two public health nurses and several inspectors serve Member Municipalities that contract with the Alliance for comprehensive or occasional inspectional/environmental services and public health nursing services.

A recent Public Health Excellence Grant (PHE) from the state Department of Public Health has allowed the Alliance to offer additional services, such as housing inspection assistance and enhanced inspectional and public health nursing services. BRPC is also a PHE Training Hub, providing hands-on, on-site training to inspectors throughout Berkshire and Hampden Counties. Several federal grants related to food safety allow the Alliance to offer training and assistance in food protection. Finally, a vaccine promotion grant from the National Councils on Aging (NCOA) in FY 24 allowed the Alliance to expand vaccination efforts for flu and COVID-19, including offering vaccines in homes (including group homes) and businesses for those that need it and additional promotion and education about vaccines.

→ Public Health Food Protection Services

Two Federal FDA Grants allowed Berkshire Regional Planning Commission staff and Berkshire Public Health Alliance inspectors to continue improving food safety and inspectors' training. BRPC has also implemented online permitting in several additional communities this year and provided upgrades to the online permitting system to all participating municipalities. In addition, the Department of Public Health asked BRPC to provide interim intensive Food Inspector training while their chosen vendor was building capacity.

→ Public Health Inspectional Services

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission serves as the fiduciary agent to the Berkshire Public Health Alliance which includes a comprehensive, regional Public Health Inspectional Program. The Alliance also received a Public Health Excellence (PHE) grant from the state DPH at the end of FY 2021, encouraging municipalities to share public health services and build toward a more comprehensive set of shared public health services. This allowed the Alliance to hire a coordinator and two additional inspectors, including a housing specialist. The municipalities that contracted for comprehensive public health inspection services in fiscal year 2024 were Becket, Egremont, Lanesborough, Middlefield, Peru, Richmond, Washington, and Windsor. Occasional, as-needed services were provided to Savoy, Great Barrington, Dalton, and Williamstown. In FY 25 Savoy will be added to the comprehensive program.

→ Field Training Hub

BRPC was selected as one of ten PHE Training Hubs across the state. Training Hubs will provide hands-on, onsite training to local health inspectors in Berkshire and Hampden County. In FY24 trainers were trained by DPH and will begin offering hands-on training in FY25. In FY24 training hub trainers also provided extensive mentoring to newer inspectors across the two counties, as well as four, multi-day Food Inspection training to inspectors across the state at DPH's request.

→ Public Health Nursing Services

BRPC was the fiduciary agent to the Berkshire Public Health Alliance including the regional Public Health Nursing Program. The municipalities served in FY24 were Adams, Becket, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Dalton, Egremont, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough, New Ashford, North Adams, Peru, Richmond, Savoy, Washington, West Stockbridge, Williamstown, and Windsor. At the end of FY24, Nancy Slattery, RN, retired, although she will continue to provide wellness clinics at public housing, CoAs, and other locations and help with vaccination clinics and backup services. Sophie Carnes Jannen, NP, was hired as a full-time Public Health Nurse in April and is concentrating on health education in addition to traditional PH Nursing activities. Leslie Drager, RN, continues to provide services to the Alliance. The Public Health Nurses investigate infectious disease reports seven days per week, provide wellness activities such as blood pressure clinics, Matter of Balance fall prevention classes, and education on topics varying from hoarding to extreme heat to community and municipal groups, provide case management services for any TB cases in these municipalities, and answer questions from businesses, schools, Boards of Health and the public. They also provide thousands of COVID and flu vaccines each fall, in dozens of public clinics. See getvaccinatedberkshires.org for more information on vaccine clinics or to register for your vaccine.

→ Public Health Substance Misuse Prevention Projects

BRPC is the fiscal host of a MassCALL3B grant, through which SPARK (Supporting Positive Actions for Resilience & Knowledge) is funded. SPARK aims to reduce cannabis, alcohol, and nicotine use among high school-aged youth in Central Berkshire County. In FY24, we continued to learn from our two Youth Advisory Boards (YABs) at PHS and Taconic. Based on their input, we focused a lot this year on youth empowerment and advocating for change; this involved Rep. Farley-Bouvier visiting the PHS YAB



R.O.P.E. visit to Pittsfield Airport

to deliver her Advocacy 101 course, and we later took twenty students from PHS and Taconic YABs to Boston to visit the State House! Through SOR-PEC, our other substance misuse prevention grant, we continued to partner with BCC and R.O.P.E. to provide monthly sessions for young girls of color (ages 5-11). These sessions focus on building resilience and increasing representation through career modeling from women of color—for example, the girls got a tour of Pittsfield Airport from the Assistant Manager who is a woman of color!

➔ **Public Health Hepatitis C Program**

With funding from the New England Aids Education Training Center (NEATC), BRPC's Public Health Program has worked with clinical partners to engage more physicians/clinical partners in treating hepatitis C, connecting providers to Berkshire Harm Reduction and providing training and educational programs. In FY 24, several more primary care providers underwent training and agreed to treat hepatitis C patients and work with Berkshire Harm Reduction. Several in-person and remote educational opportunities were provided to medical providers across the county.

➔ **Berkshire Post-Overdose Program (B-POP)**

A Mass DPH Overdose to Action (OD2A) grant allowed the BRPC Public Health Program staff to work with local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agencies to begin planning around Mobile Integrated Health (MIH). Under MIH, EMS can partner with behavioral health specialists to provide referrals and resources to those at heightened risk of overdose and/or provide non-emergency field care. These grants also allowed public health staff to provide education and naloxone to Berkshire police departments and to set up data management and collection systems. The project will be continued through BRPC's recently awarded three-year Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) grant.

➔ **HEALing Communities Study**

BRPC served as the facilitator and fiscal host for the National Institute of Health-funded HEALing Communities Study in Pittsfield, seeking to reduce fatal overdoses through December 2023. The community-led coalition developed and implemented efforts to Normalize Naloxone, including the 40+ Naloxone Distribution Boxes in Central County, free naloxone via mail, distribution through multiple partners, and the Faces of Naloxone campaign. The study also focused on reducing stigma (a significant barrier to accessing care in rural areas) through multiple events, community outreach specialists, training, advertising campaigns, and the premiere of the documentary film *Blueprint for Recovery*. In addition, the partners launched two new Contingency Management Programs, which have high efficacy for treating Opioid Use Disorder and Stimulant Use Disorder. BRPC and its partners continue to sustain and expand these efforts, particularly as fentanyl (a synthetic opioid) increasingly becomes prevalent in stimulants and counterfeit pills.

➔ **Berkshire Overdose and Addiction Prevention Collaborative (BOAPC)**

BRPC coordinates the Berkshire Overdose and Addiction Prevention Collaborative (BOAPC), a countywide coalition dedicated to preventing overdoses and related harms from substance misuse. In addition to helping coordinate cross-sector collaborations, BOAPC continues efforts to increase risk awareness, reduce stigma, increase



Visit to Massachusetts Statehouse

field engagement with at-risk individuals and populations, expand services, reduce systemic barriers to care, and help all those impacted by substance misuse to thrive. BOAPC received a three-year Bureau of Justice Assistance COSSUP grant, and a one-year University of Baltimore COCLI grant to expand these efforts. In addition, the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office administers a legislative line item that supplements this work. The BOAPC.org website and Facebook page offer information and resources, including a mobile-friendly Find Naloxone map. In FY24, BOAPC completed a comprehensive Substance Use Disorder (SUD) landscape analysis, leading to a comprehensive strategic plan to address stimulant use, expand Low-Threshold and Recovery Housing, and increase social connections that promote mental health while reducing substance misuse. In coordination with BRPC's youth protection initiatives, BOAPC partners also seek to reduce the prevalent misuse of alcohol in Berkshire County and are consolidating data on the impacts of Recreational Cannabis Legalization. BOAPC continues to build interagency partnerships that address the full SUD Lifecycle of Prevention, Harm Reduction, Treatment and Recovery while "Smashing the Stigma."

➔ **Public Health Emergency Preparedness**

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission was the fiduciary agent and staff for the Berkshire County Boards of Health Association (BCBOHA), which also acts as the Berkshire Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Coalition. Federal emergency preparedness funding assists local Boards of Health in Berkshire County in preparing for and responding to emergencies and disasters. BRPC supports the Berkshire and Franklin Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), which provides thousands of volunteer hours annually. BRPC also attended regional meetings and coordinated with regional partners such as the Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (WRHSAC), the Public Health Western Advisory Group (WAG), the MRC Advisory Group (MAG), the Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition (HMCC) and the Local/State Advisory Committee (L/SAC). BRPC also makes sure regional plans, such as Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) Plans, Regional Shelter Plans, Family Reunification Plans, and many others, are created or updated. In FY 23, BRPC began an ongoing project around equity in emergencies, ensuring everyone has access to the services they need in a disaster or emergency. This was continued in FY 24, culminating in individual reports for each municipality in western MA to help first responders better prepare for emergency response. BRPC is also working on plans around heat emergencies as the weather becomes more extreme and the summers hotter.

➔ **Public Health Community Health Improvement Planning (CHIP)**

BRPC acted as the backbone agency for the County Health Initiative (CHI), which consists of decision-makers from Northern Berkshire Community Coalition, Berkshire Health Systems, the City of Pittsfield Health Department, Tri-Town Health Department, the Southern Berkshire Rural Health Network, and Volunteers in Medicine. The CHI worked on developing a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) for Berkshire County. FY 24 was year four of a now six-year project, including implementing the plan once completed.

➔ **Public Health Grey to Green**

The Pittsfield Grey to Green Project is a five-year effort to engage the community and prioritize green planning in a social and racial justice context to remove barriers to health. Partners included Habitat for Humanity and Working Cities, 18 Degrees, and the City of Pittsfield. In FY 23, Grey to Green engaged residents in walking audits to help gather information on community needs and wants. In addition, G2G was leveraged for several other projects, such as the Francis Avenue Parklet and the revitalization of the yard and playground at Wilson Park Housing.

➔ **Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Grants**

Funding was originally provided for two years by the MA Department of Public Health to expand contact tracing efforts and hire an epidemiologist and at least one Community Health Worker (CHW). With contact tracing now mostly handled through Public Health Nursing contracts, BRPC has been able to use this funding to provide services to those most impacted by COVID. Instead of hiring a CHW, funding was provided in FY 24 to supplement CHW/community outreach programs at Volunteers in Medicine (VIM), Northern Berkshire Community Coalition (NBCC), and the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office. An epidemiologist was hired at the end of FY 24 and has so far worked on helping the Public Health Program understand vaccination rates, tickborne illnesses, foodborne illnesses, pre-mature death rates and asthma prevalence, among other projects.

→ **Public Health Rural Health Equity Funding**

BRPC has been awarded funding through the New England Rural Health Association to assist rural communities affected by COVID in central Berkshire County. The funding to date has supported afterschool programming by the Dalton CRA, food and fuel assistance through the Becket Federated Church, fresh milk provision through Berkshire Bounty, school programming, school nurse office and other supplies in Lanesborough, Richmond, and Central Berkshire school districts, technology purchases for Berkshire Pride, day camp scholarships at the Berkshire YMCA Camp, and staff retention subsidies to Childcare of the Berkshires, among other projects. In addition, NERHA provided root causes funding, which allowed BRPC to work on developing materials to prepare the public and specifically vulnerable individuals for increasingly hot weather and heat emergencies. BRPC also piloted an air-conditioner and fan giveaway program in several municipalities to allow them to provide air-cooling equipment to particularly vulnerable, low-income residents.

→ **Public Health Age-Friendly Berkshires**

BRPC was awarded a grant through AgeSpan to work with organizations that serve older adults on a project of interest. The project emphasizes equity and ensuring that all are served. BRPC worked with Elder Services, Construct, Rainbow Seniors, Berkshire Health Systems, Southern Berkshire Rural Health Network, Queer Men of the Berkshires, the Villages at Berkshire, and others to assess and identify the core issues impacting older adults in the county. The group quickly identified housing and social isolation as core issues and is hoping to pilot a home-share program in the next year.

→ **413 Cares**

BRPC was awarded a grant from the Public Health Institute of Western MA (PHIWM) to assist with building out and publicizing the 413 Cares website in Berkshire County. 413 Cares is a community platform that connects residents of Western Massachusetts to the services they need.

Regional Initiatives and Services

→ **Municipal Services (General Government)**

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission continued to manage the online burn-permitting program with fire departments from twenty-seven communities participating. BRPC staff also assisted with upgrading the online building and Board of Health permitting software.

The Berkshire Regional Group Purchasing Program (BRGPP) assisted member communities and school districts in procuring 14 individual road products, winter materials, and services, resulting

in twenty-four vendor contracts. BRGPP staff executes and manages these supplier contracts for the 28 BRGPP members, following state procurement requirements.

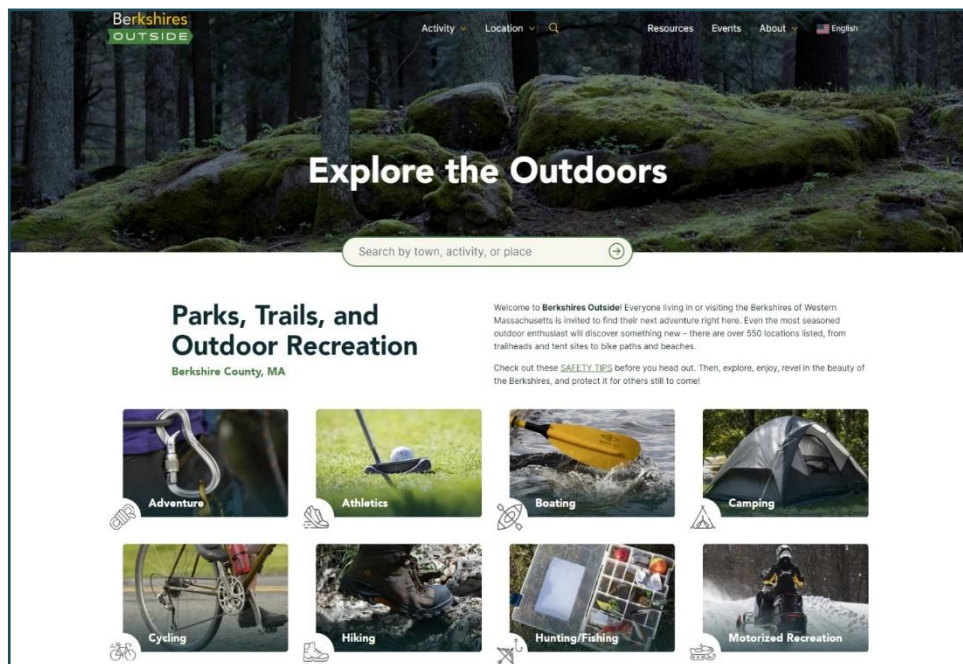
→ Municipal Services

Working with the Berkshire Municipal Managers Association and Select Boards, BRPC is working to coordinate an effort to develop a pipeline for municipal employees in Berkshire County. This work has included assisting the Town of Lee hire its first Town Planner and providing scholarships for administrative staff to attend the MMA-Suffolk Certificate in Local Government Leadership and Management.

→ Outdoor Recreation Planning and Implementation

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission launched an outdoor recreation website for the region, www.BerkshiresOutside.org, which currently features 575 assets throughout the county.

Transportation



www.berkshiresoutside.org

→ Berkshire Metropolitan Planning Organization

BRPC provided staff support to the Berkshire Metropolitan Planning Organization, which developed and endorsed the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Unified Planning Work Program. Over this past year, transportation staff continued with efforts to study freight and goods movements in the region, shepherding bicycle and pedestrian planning efforts in North Adams and Pittsfield, and conducting community pavement assessments. Staff conducted surveys and workshops to better understand the needs of the towns regarding the Transportation Improvement Program. Staff also updated Berkshire County's Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan and have been actively involved with the Tri-Town Connector micro-transit service in southern Berkshire County. Staff are working on conducting a

microtransit feasibility study to expand microtransit service in central and northern Berkshire County.

→ Bicycles and Pedestrians

BRPC served as the fiduciary agent for the Berkshire Bike Path Council in promoting the development of bicycle facilities in Berkshire County. Efforts continue on the planning and designing of bike path segments in Northern Berkshire County, between Adams, North Adams, and Williamstown. Planning staff participated in the development of a federal RAISE grant application for the bike path segment linking the three communities. Construction of the Ashuwillticook Trail extension from Crane Ave to Merrill Road in Pittsfield was substantially underway in summer 2024 and on schedule to open later in the year. As part of Baystate Bike Month, BRPC staff held several bicycle events during May to promote increased bicycle use in the region, including group rides and support for Bike Rodeo events in coordination with MassDOT and MassBike.

→ Corridor and Bottleneck Analysis

During FY24, planning staff conducted an analysis of traffic along busy areas of US-7 and MA-9 in downtown Pittsfield. A bottleneck analysis was conducted in the vicinity of Park Square in Pittsfield, where Routes 7 and 9 overlap and bring regional traffic through downtown. Additionally, BRPC is conducting a corridor analysis of the segment of US-7 on First Street in Pittsfield, from East Street to Burbank Street, in support of future TIP funding to reconstruct the street. The analysis includes an inventory of infrastructure conditions, traffic counts, a noise study, and a stop sign delay study.



May 2024 Bike Month – Kickoff Ride in Pittsfield

→ Pavement and Bridge Conditions

BRPC contracted with the towns of Lanesborough and Savoy to provide pavement evaluation services for their local roads.

Planning staff also completed an analysis of bridge conditions countywide to highlight structures that are most at risk of being closed to traffic. According to the data collected from the statewide bridge inventory, a dozen bridges are currently closed to traffic, and sixty-eight are posted for a reduced load. The latter represents the most likely bridges to have lanes closed or be completely closed to traffic in the coming years.

→ Traffic Safety

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission's Transportation Team was selected to receive funding in the nationally competitive Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program. This funding, provided by the US Department of Transportation, will be used to develop a comprehensive safety action plan for Berkshire County. Planning staff released an RFP in early 2024 to select a technical consultant partner for the project. At the conclusion of the process, BETA Group, Inc.

was selected to provide its services. BRPC and BETA have collaborated on the data collection and public outreach processes through the course of 2024, with three public meetings offered, newsletter articles highlighting project progress, and tabling at the North Adams wellness fair to promote the goal of reducing fatalities and serious injuries on our roads.

Through the development of the Action Plan, countywide crash data was collected and processed to create a High-Injury Network (HIN) and risk-based analysis for the county's streets and roads. These data were used to create a Vision Zero dashboard for Berkshire County. This online, public-facing dashboard highlights the intersections and roads that historically have seen the most injuries and fatalities, along with those most at risk for future incidents.



North Adams Wellness Fair – Promotion of SS4A Project

→ Passenger Rail

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission's staff continues their involvement in statewide passenger rail efforts, including the East/West Rail initiative and the Northern Tier Passenger rail study. BRPC staff is involved with overseeing the third year of the Berkshire Flyer pilot rail service. In 2024, the rail service was operational for eleven weekends between June 21 to September 2. Staff conducted rider surveys to understand the riders' needs and travel patterns and to assess the service's popularity.

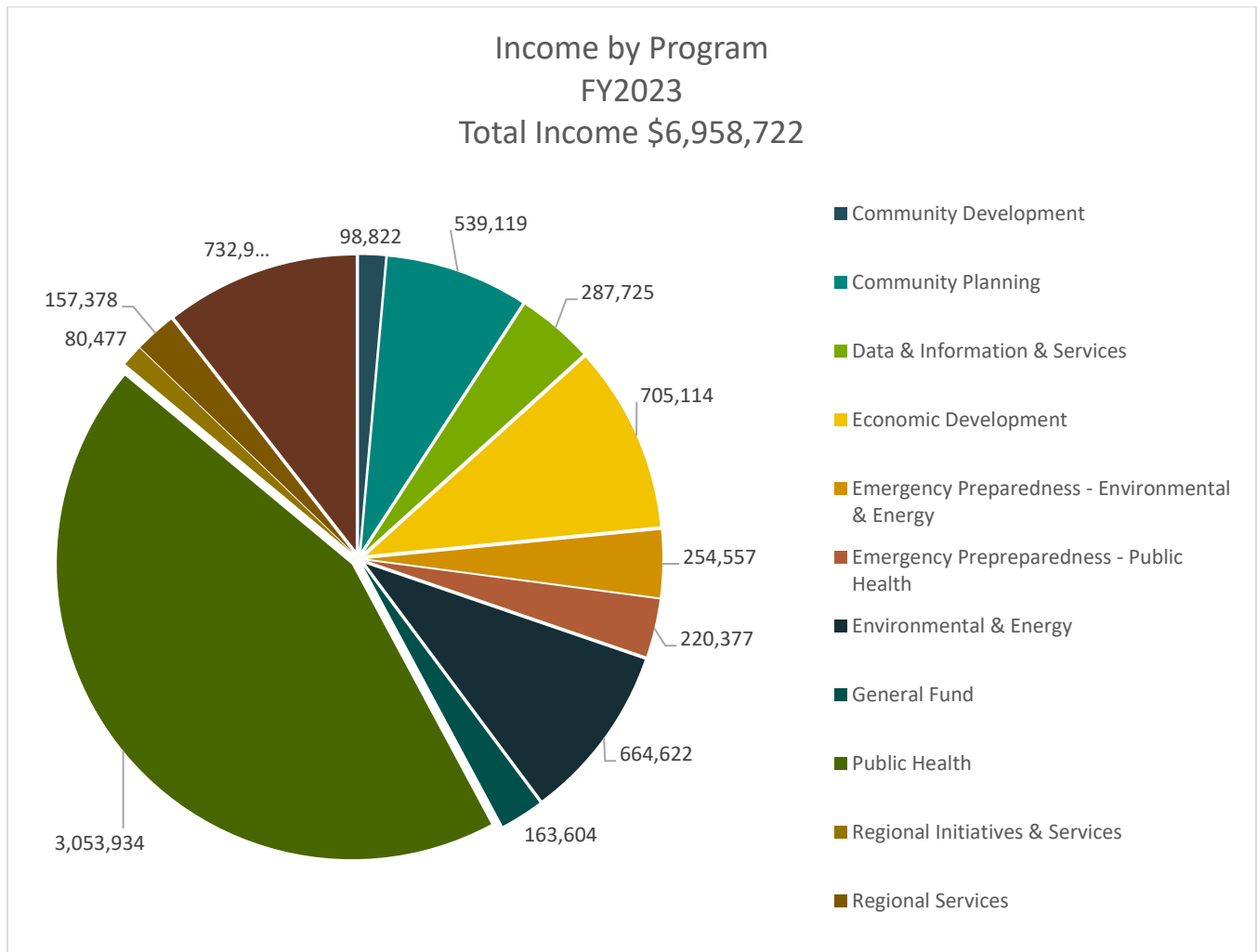
Finance and Administration

BRPC closed FY 2024 with an increase in revenue of \$857,962 over FY 2023. FY 2024 revenue of \$6.95 million came from funding sources, including Federal and State grants, local organizations, and nonprofit agreements. BRPC managed a total of 170 contracts in FY 2024.

BRPC's funds supported a broad range of services and technical expertise under each of our programs. Our programs allowed BRPC to provide leadership and assistance to the County's municipalities, organizations, and citizens in achieving countywide inter-relationships, prosperity, opportunities, quality of life, strength, and vibrancy.

→ Independent Audit

Our FY 2024 independent Audit has yet to be completed. Our unaudited statements show BRPC's expenditures to be within budget with a surplus in the general operation fund.



FY24 Commission Delegates and Alternates

Adams

Delegate—Michelle Picard
Alternate—John Duval

Alford

Delegate—Alexandra Glover
Alternate—Shirley Mueller

Becket

Delegate—Robert Ronzio
Alternate—Diana Mott

Cheshire

Delegate—Peter Traub

Clarksburg

Delegate—
Alternate—

Dalton

Delegate—Caleb Darby
Alternate—Daniel Esko

Egremont

Delegate— Mary McGurn
Alternate—Stephen Kyle

Florida

Delegate—Cynthia Bosley
Alternate—Joan Lewis

Great Barrington

Delegate—Pedro Pachano
Alternate—Malcolm Fick

Hancock

Delegate—Christie Drury

Hinsdale

Delegate—Keith Harrison
Alternate— Richard Roussin

Lanesborough

Delegate— Leanne Yinger

Lee

Delegate—Buck Donovan

Lenox

Delegate— Pamela Kueber

Monterey

Delegate—Laura Mensi

Mt Washington

Delegate—Keith Torrico

New Ashford

Delegate—Mark Phelps
Alternate—Kevin Flicker

New Marlborough

Delegate—Jonathan James
Alternate—Robert Hartt

North Adams

Delegate—Kyle Hanlon
Alternate—Lisa Blackmer

Otis

Delegate—Mark Anthony
Alternate—

Peru

Delegate—Samuel Haupt

Pittsfield

Delegate—Sheila Irvin
Alternate—Justine Dodds

Richmond

Delegate—Peter Lopez

Sandisfield

Delegate—Barbara Cormier
Alternate—Lisa Leavenworth

Savoy

Delegate—Sarah Satterthwaite
Alternate—Bill Drosehn

Sheffield

Delegate—Sari Hoy
Alternate—René Wood

Stockbridge

Delegate—Nancy Socha
Alternate—Christine Rasmussen

Tyringham

Delegate—Amanda Hamilton

Washington

Delegate—Don Gagnon
Alternate—Peter Matson

West Stockbridge

Delegate—Dana Bixby

Williamstown

Delegate—Cory Campbell
Alternate—Roger Bolton

Windsor

Delegate—Doug McNally

FY24 BRPC Committee Membership

Executive Committee

Staff: Thomas Matuszko, Executive Director

Malcolm Fick, Chair (Great Barrington)
 John Duval, Vice Chair (Adams)
 Buck Donovan, Treasurer and Finance
 Committee Chair (Lee)
 Sheila Irvin, Clerk and Brownfields
 Committee Chair (Pittsfield)
 Roger Bolton, Environmental Committee
 Chair (Williamstown)
 Douglas McNally, Commission
 Development Committee Chair
 (Windsor)

Christine Rasmussen, Regional Issues
 Committee Chair (Stockbridge)
 Kyle Hanlon, At-Large, Comprehensive
 Economic Development Strategy
 Chair (North Adams)
 Sam Haupt, At-Large, Metropolitan
 Planning Organization Alternate (Peru)

Commission Development Committee

Staff: Laura Brennan, Assistant Director

Douglas McNally, Chair (Windsor)
 Buck Donovan (Lee)
 Kyle Hanlon (North Adams)
 Sarah Hudson (Tyringham)

Pedro Pachano (Great Barrington)
 Malcolm Fick, BRPC Chair (Great
 Barrington) *(Ex-Officio)*

Environmental Review Committee

Staff: Melissa Provencher, Program Manager

Roger Bolton, Chair (Williamstown)
 Kyle Hanlon (North Adams)
 Edward Holub (Dalton) (Non-Commission
 member)
 Mark Smith (Lenox) (Non-Commission
 member)

Eleanor Tillinghast (Mt. Washington),
 (Non-Commission member)
 Malcolm Fick, BRPC Chair (Great
 Barrington) *(Ex-Officio)*

Finance Committee

Staff: Marianne Sniezek, Office Manager

Buck Donovan, Treasurer and Chair (Lee)
 John Duval (Adams)
 Kyle Hanlon (North Adams)
 Sam Haupt (Peru)

Sheila Irvin (Pittsfield)
 Malcolm Fick, BRPC Chair (Great
 Barrington) *(Ex-Officio)*

Regional Issues Committee

Staff: CJ Hoss, Program Manager

Christine Rasmussen, Chair (Stockbridge)
 Andrew Groff (Williamstown) (Non-
 Commission member)
 Kyle Hanlon (North Adams)
 Sheila Irvin (Pittsfield)

Kent Lew (Washington) (Non-Commission
 member)
 Eleanor Tillinghast (Mt. Washington) (Non-
 Commission member)
 Malcolm Fick, BRPC Chair (Great Barrington)
(Ex-Officio)

Berkshire Brownfields Committee

Staff: Melissa Provencher, Program Manager

Voting Members

Sheila Irvin, Chair (Pittsfield)
 Jim Byrne, EPA
 Eammon Coughlin (Adams)
 Nate Joyner (Pittsfield)
 Ben Lamb, 1Berkshire, Alternate Kevin Pink
 Tom Matuszko, BRPC
 Mike Nuvallie (North Adams)
 Chris Rembold (Great Barrington)

Janko Tomasic (Dalton)

Non-voting Members

Caprice Shaw, MA DEP
 Rich Griffin, Mass Development
 Malcolm Fick, BRPC Chair (Great Barrington)
(Ex-Officio)

Berkshire Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee

Staff: Laura Brennan, Assistant Director

Kyle Hanlon, Chair (North Adams)
 Chris Rembold, Vice Chair, Assistant Town Manager & Town Planner (Great Barrington)
 George Ambriz, Berkshire Community College
 Roger Bolton, Vice Chair, BRPC Alternate (Williamstown)
 Linda Clairmont, Berkshire Community College
 Michael Coakley, Business Development Manager (Pittsfield); Alternate Justine Dodds
 AJ Enchill, Berkshire Black Economic Council
 Keith Girouard, Mass. Small Business Development Center; Alternate Jayne Bellora

Lesley Herzberg, Berkshire Historical Society
 Ben Lamb, 1Berkshire; Alternate Kevin Pink
 Breanna Malloy, MassHire Berkshire Workforce Board; Alternate Heather Boulger
 Thomas Matuszko, BRPC
 Laurie Mick, PERC
 Mike Nuvallie (North Adams)
 Ian Rasch, Alander Construction
 Shannon Smith, Berkshire Agricultural Ventures; Alternate Rebecca Busansky
 Ben Sosne, Berkshire Innovation Center
 Malcolm Fick, BRPC Chair (Great Barrington)
(Ex-Officio)

Commission Representatives to Related Groups

Berkshire Metropolitan Planning Organization—Chair, Malcolm Fick (Great Barrington); Alternate 1: Sam Haupt (Peru)

Westfield River Wild and Scenic Advisory Committee—Douglas McNally (Windsor)

Woodlands Partnership Project Advisory Committee—Chris Cozzaglio (Windsor)