

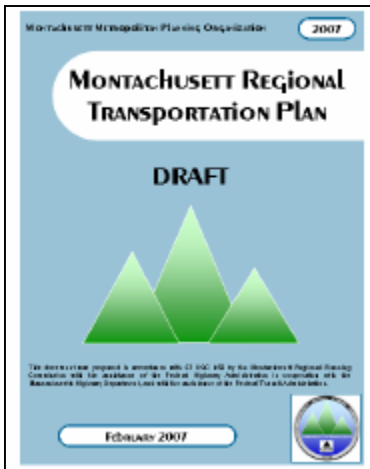


TRANSPORTATION TODAY

A PUBLICATION OF THE
MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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Issue 10

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN OUT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT



The Draft 2007 Montachusett Regional Transportation Plan is now available for public review and comment for 30 days. The comment period runs from Monday February 26, 2007 until the close of business on Tuesday March 27, 2007.

Copies can be obtained at the offices of the MRPC located at the MART Garage & Maintenance Facility, R1427 Water Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420 between the hours of 8:30 AM—4:30 PM Monday thru Friday. Copies can be mailed on request by contacting Brad Harris or George Kahale at 978-345-7376 ext. 2268 or 2232, respectively. Copies are also available for download online at the Montachusett RTP website, www.montachusett-transportationplan.org, in adobe acrobat format.

We ask that any interested party review the draft document and make any comments that they deem appropriate. Written or verbal comments will be accepted up until the close of business on Tuesday March 27, 2007 and should be addressed: RTP Comments, MRPC, R1427 Water Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420. Comments can also be sent via email to: bharris@mrpc.org (Subject: RTP Comments)

Comments may also be made on the DRAT RTP at the public meeting on the Montachusett RTP scheduled for Wednesday March 21, 2007 at 6:30 PM in the Murphy Room at Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner and at the full Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 27, 2007 at 5:30 PM at the MRPC Offices. In addition, other presentations of the RTP will be held during the comment period. Please refer to the RTP website for directions and further details.

Comments received will be reviewed and incorporated into a final draft 2007 Montachusett RTP that will be forwarded for endorsement to the MPO at a meeting tentatively scheduled for March 28, 2007.

If there are questions on the draft document, please contact Brad Harris or George Kahale. Information will also be available at the MRPC website located at www.mrpc.org and the RTP website at www.montachusett-transportationplan.org.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN PUBLIC PRESENTATION

On the evening of **Wednesday, March 21, 2007**, The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission will be presenting the DRAFT Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) to the public. This presentation will discuss what the plan is, what types of information is included in the plan, why the plan is important and how to get involved.

The presentation will be held at **6:30 pm** in the Murphy Room at the **Mount Wachusett Community College** Gardner Campus located at 444 Green Street. For directions please visit the MWCC website at www.mwcc.edu/.



Future transportation advocate gets an early start!



GIS DEPARTMENT NEWS

The MRPC GIS staff have been working with multiple communities on GIS related projects. The town of Templeton requested a zoning map under their Smart Growth Grant. The town of Ayer requested a street map as well as a an annual update of their GIS parcel layer. Winchendon utilized GIS assistance in developing their official Zoning map, and Leominster requested a map to assist in their Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application. GIS staff will also work on an update of the Hubbardston Official Street Map.

CPTC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Citizen Planner Training Collaborative (CPTC) will hold its sixth annual conference Saturday, March 17 at the Hogan Conference Center at Holy Cross College in Worcester. Laila Michaud, MRPC Executive Director and Shelly Hatch, MRPC Director of Community Development are among the slated moderators. For more information and registration details, visit www.umass.edu/Masseptc.



NATURAL HAZARD PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

The MRPC is currently in the beginning stages of the Natural Hazard Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan for its 23 communities (including Devens). An Introductory Session Breakfast was held on December 13th in order to give attendees an overview of the plan.

The Regional Plan will integrate plans that will be developed for each of the individual communities. This plan will qualify communities to receive planning and implementation funds from a variety of state and federal sources as well as earning discounts for National Flood Insurance Protection for community residents.

The MRPC is now in the process of setting up and holding community-based Hazard & Vulnerability Sessions. The purpose of the session is to assess and map the natural hazards that affect individual communities as well as the region as a whole. For more information on the MRPC Natural Hazard Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan please contact Bob Biagi at 978-345-7376 x2383 or bbiagi@mrpc.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

MPO Meetings

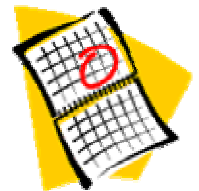
March 28th
 1:00 pm
 MART Conference Room

MJTC Meetings

3rd Wednesday of every month
 (No meeting Scheduled for March)
 7:00 pm
 MART Conference Room

MRPC Meetings

March 27th
April 24th
May 29th
June 26th
 7:00 pm
 MART Conference Room



 **Call MRPC to confirm meeting!**