

REPORT TO THE TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (SRPEDD)

The Town of Mattapoisett is a member of the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District. SRPEDD (pronounced sir-ped) is the regional agency serving twenty-seven cities and towns in southeastern Massachusetts dealing with common issues facing our region, such as economic development, growth and land development, transportation, environment and general planning for the future. SRPEDD is governed by a Commission of local mayors, selectmen, planning board members and at large members. We are funded by federal and state grants and local assessments. For 2010, the Town of Mattapoisett paid \$1,012.47 to SRPEDD, based upon an assessment of 16.15 cents per capita.

Local citizens serving at SRPEDD included the following:

- < SRPEDD Commission: Randall Kunz and Robert Rogers
- < Joint Transportation Planning Group: Michael Botelho and Barry Denham

Randall served as Chairman to the Commission as well a member of the Executive Committee. He also served on the Finance Committee.

Some of SRPEDD's more significant accomplishments during 2010 were:

- SRPEDD's **Municipal Partnership** program launched new programs to help improve operating efficiencies of member cities and towns. The regional purchasing program teamed with the Town of Kingston for a group bid for office supplies, resulting in significant savings to participants. A Steering Committee consisting of local public safety officials and SRPEDD was awarded the largest grant in Massachusetts to conduct a feasibility study to benchmark current dispatch operations and make recommendations on enhancements to public safety that may include consolidation for some of the 19 communities covered by this study. The funding for these efforts was provided by the State's DLTA program.
- Completion and approval of the **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**, which sets regional priorities for federal transportation funds, and the **Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)**. The TIP established priorities for federal and state regional targets for highway projects, and transit funds for GATRA and SRTA over the next 3 years.
- **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Southeastern Massachusetts**, a regional economic development strategy, was completed and certified by the U.S. Economic Development Administration, making the region eligible for federal economic development grants from EDA.
- The **Taunton River** was designated by the US National Park Service as a Wild and Scenic River in 2009. The Taunton River Stewardship Council made up of representatives from the ten municipalities abutting the Taunton River, along with supporting agencies; continue to meet every other month at SRPEDD.

- **South Coast Rail** remained a major priority in 2009. SRPEDD continued to support the Southeastern Massachusetts Commuter Rail Task Force, which includes representation from SRPEDD municipalities and regional organizations. Plans for development around the train stations continued through 2010.
- SRPEDD continued as the designated fiduciary agent by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety for the **Southeast Regional Advisory Council for Homeland Security** serving 96 communities in 6 counties in southeastern Massachusetts. The Council has awarded \$25 million in federal homeland security funds since 2004.
- SRPEDD conducts a district-wide traffic counting program (including speed surveys and vehicle classification, and 47 intersection turning movement counts) and maintains a computer file of all available traffic count data throughout the region. SRPEDD undertook 125 traffic counts at various locations this past year.
- An extensive Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping program is maintained by SRPEDD. Every year new computerized “data layers” are added to the system.
- SRPEDD operates the Southeastern Massachusetts Data Center, providing information to businesses, cities and towns, and individuals.
- In cooperation with UMass Dartmouth, SRPEDD supports the Southeastern Massachusetts Council on Sustainability. The broad-based Council is addressing how the region prepares for the future.
- SRPEDD continues to provide planning and support to the two regional transit authorities, SRTA and GATRA, on various efforts including: consumer advisory committees, route evaluations, planning, monitoring services and federal reporting.
- SRPEDD maintains a comprehensive database of all 355 signalized intersections in the region. This includes geometry, traffic volume, crash rate, signal timing and operational characteristics.
- SRPEDD continued its affiliation with the South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation, which makes loans to small businesses for expansion.

In addition, technical assistance was provided to the Town of Mattapoisett in the following areas:

- SRPEDD worked with the town to develop a Housing Production Plan. (SCR)
- SRPEDD provided the Police Department with a new town map that has labeled streets. (MA)

SRPEDD was created to serve the cities and towns of southeastern Massachusetts. We are governed by elected and appointed officials from all the cities and towns. We look forward to serving you in the future.