

21st Century Task Force Progress Update



Since January 2007, each issue of the Cape Cod Commission REPORTER has included an update on progress made toward implementation of recommendations presented to the Barnstable County Commissioners by the 21st Century Task Force on the Cape Cod Commission. Suggestions are welcome at any time. Readers may use a link on the Web site www.capecodcommission.org/taskforce/ to offer comments electronically or may send them in writing to: Cape Cod Commission, ATTN: Task Force Comments, P.O. Box 226, Barnstable, MA 02630

Implementation Chart

The chart below provides a snapshot of the remaining major activities related to the implementation of Task Force recommendations. Cape Cod Commission Executive Director Paul Niedzwiecki will review these activities with the Barnstable County Commissioners and the Assembly of Delegates in January 2008.

KEY TO CHART

ST	Staff
PC	Planning Committee
REG	Regulatory Committee
EX	Executive Committee
CCC	Cape Cod Commission
AOD	Assembly of Delegates
O	Outreach
PH	Public hearing

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MAJOR ACTIVITIES	STATUS	PROPOSED SCHEDULE								
		DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE		
REGIONAL LAND USE MAP Complete draft maps with towns Integrate maps with threshold changes and mitigation options Test concepts against past DRI projects Create draft regional map Incorporate regional land use map into draft Regional Policy Plan	In progress In progress In progress	ST ST	ST ST ST		PC	PH	PH		CCC	AOD
DRI THRESHOLD CHANGES Develop the base/bonus concept for commercial development Integrate proposed thresholds with regional land use map Discuss revisions to other thresholds Draft proposed regulations	Complete In progress In progress In progress	ST ST ST	REG ST	REG REG		O	REG		CCC	AOD
LIMITED DRI REVIEW Create scoping questions Prepare draft regulations	Complete Complete	O O	REG	CCC	AOD					
MITIGATION OPTIONS Develop draft schedule of mitigation options Discuss application of mitigation options to mapped areas Incorporate schedule into draft Regional Policy Plan	Complete In progress	O O	REG ST	PC	PH	PH		CCC	AOD	
REGIONAL POLICY PLAN UPDATE Reorganize Regional Policy Plan; separate planning and regulatory Incorporate land-use map, thresholds, and mitigation concepts Complete revisions to other sections Advance Regional Policy Plan through county ordinance process	Complete Pending In progress Pending	ST	ST ST	ST PC	PC PC		PH	CCC	AOD	
JOINT REVIEW AND CHANGES TO REGULATORY PROCEDURES Draft joint review policy Solicit town input Draft Memoranda of Understanding with interested towns Revise CCC subcommittee procedures	Complete Complete In progress In progress	ST ST	REG	CCC						
COMMUNICATIONS Develop a public relations policy Revise the CCC members communications policy Develop a long-range/strategic communications plan Develop communications action plans for program areas/priorities	Complete In progress Draft done		ST ST	ST ST	EX EX		ST	EX		
AFFORDABLE HOUSING Issue Request for Proposals for a "best practices" guidebook Select a consultant to develop the guidebook Review the draft publication Finalize the publication Conduct a "best practices" workshop	Complete Complete		ST	ST	ST		ST			

DRI Stakeholders Meeting

Several of the Task Force-related regulatory changes under development by the Cape Cod Commission were to be discussed with a stakeholders group on December 13, 2007. The group, hosted by the Commission's standing Regulatory Committee, includes developers, attorneys and consultants, and municipal officials. The Commission formed the stakeholders group to gather feedback from development practitioners about ideas for changing certain regional regulatory requirements and procedures.

The December 13 meeting, the third stakeholders meeting this year, was to air revised proposals for Limited Development of Regional Impact (DRI) Review and optional DRI mitigation to be tied to certain categories of the regional land-use map under development.

Both proposals are working their way through internal review before submittal to the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates for public hearings and consideration as county ordinances (Limited DRI Review in the Cape Cod Commission's Enabling Regulations, and DRI mitigation options into the Regional Policy Plan).



Proposed Procedures Aim to Strengthen CCC Review of Energy-related Facilities

On November 29, 2007, the Cape Cod Commission voted to forward adjudicatory procedures to the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates for consideration as part of the Commission's Enabling Regulations. If approved as an amendment to the county ordinance, the procedures will apply specifically to all Development of Regional Impact (DRI) applications that concern proposed energy projects subject to the jurisdiction of the state Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB). The Commission will then implement an expanded procedure that will produce a DRI record that can be used at the EFSB.

The proposed procedures describe who may participate in the hearing process and how and when those interested in testifying must apply to do so. The procedures also detail how the Cape Cod Commission will conduct the hearings. For example, parties may introduce evidence, make written and oral arguments, submit exhibits and testimony under oath, cross-examine witnesses, object to evidence offered by other parties, and file motions for action or relief. The Cape Cod Commission will make a stenographic transcript of the public hearing sessions. Following a public hearing, the subcommittee that conducted the hearing (or its designee) will provide the full Commission and all parties with its recommended decision.

USGS Observation Well Data

These groundwater-level measurements are taken monthly by the Cape Cod Commission's Water Resources Office from nine U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) index wells. The data are also online at: www.capecodcommission.org/wells.htm

November 2007

Location	Well Number	Level*	Record High*	Record Low*	Departure from Average**	
					Monthly	Overall
Barnstable	A1W 230	24.8	20.5	26.6	-0.3	-1.2
Barnstable	A1W 247	24.6	20.5	28.6	0.5	-0.1
Brewster	BMW 21	9.7	6.9	13.6	1.0	0.4
Chatham	CGW 138	25.3	20.9	26.6	-0.7	-1.4
Mashpee	MIW 29	9.7	5.6	10.0	-0.6	-1.3
Sandwich	SDW 252	47.5	45.8	48.2	0.0	-0.3
Sandwich	SDW 253	49.2	45.8	55.1	1.5	0.8
Truro	TSW 89	12.3	10.2	13.0	0.0	-0.3
Wellfleet	WNW 17	11.8	7.3	12.8	-0.7	-1.3

*Feet below land surface. **Feet above mean sea level. †New monthly high. ‡New record high.