

CORRIDOR NEWS

I-93 CTAP Updates & Highlights

Winter/Spring 2007

Highlights:

- Upcoming CTAP Events
- Discretionary Funds Available for Local Governments

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Working Groups Forming

The CTAP Theme Working Groups of 2007 will play a significant role in planning the next four years of CTAP activity. The Theme Working Groups have the opportunity to concentrate their resources and energies to address specific activities that will enrich the corridor communities.

The Working Group themes were developed from the strategic planning sessions in 2006. At these sessions the CTAP Community identified 15 goals within four themes that now serve as the building blocks for the long-term goals of CTAP. The four themes are:

- Theme A
Community Infrastructure
- Theme B
Environmental Protection, Land-Use, and Open Space
- Theme C
Downtown/Village Centers and Community Vitality
- Theme D
Local Economy

Working Group membership is open to the community and new members are encouraged to participate in a theme of their interest.

The Working Groups each hold three meetings to discuss potential longer term strategies and actions and to define a framework for future CTAP programs. The Working Groups will also be responsible for identifying leveraging opportunities for CTAP.

The dates of Working Group meetings are available in the Upcoming CTAP Events box to the right of this column. Meeting locations and times vary. Please be sure to confirm the meetings for which you are interested.

Check the website for updates on the Theme Working Groups.

To join a Theme Working Group please contact Ansel Sanborn at the Department of Transportation at asanborn@dot.state.nh.us



Upcoming CTAP Events

Theme Working Group Meetings

Theme A:

- March 28, 2007
- April 18, 2007
- May 9, 2007

Theme B:

- March 21, 2007
- April 18, 2007
- May 2, 2007

Theme C:

- March 27, 2007
- April 10, 2007
- May 8, 2007

Theme D:

- March 20, 2007
- April 16, 2007
- May 30, 2007

CTAP Transit/Land Use Presentation

- Thursday, April 19, 2007

CTAP Community Meeting

- Thursday, May 31, 2007

CTAP Corridor Event

- Saturday, September 29, 2007

Meetings are subject to change. To confirm meeting dates, times, and locations please call: (603) 283-2121

15 K Available for All Corridor Communities



“The meetings feel very collaborative. I look around and sense a common spirit running through us and that’s exciting!”
-CTAP Participant

CTAP Local Discretionary Funds are now available to the 26 communities in the CTAP corridor. Up to \$15,000 will be provided to communities for projects that are compatible with CTAP’s goals, available online at RebuildingI93.com.

These discretionary accounts are created to meet the needs of CTAP communities and can be used for technical assistance in land use and transportation planning. The RPCs are available to discuss potential projects and advise on the application process if desired.

Communities are not limited to one project. Several projects may be funded for each community under this program provided that the total amount of funding

per community does not exceed \$15,000. There are two options for receiving services and/or funding under this program: a) communities may either manage an approved project themselves, submitting invoices to the RPC, or b) the RPC can manage the project, providing technical assistance to communities that is valued up to \$15,000.

The town of Danville is the first to submit their application for funding under this program. The goal of Danville’s proposal is to figure out the nuts and bolts of revitalizing the town’s Main Street. If approved, the Town will hire outside assistance to evaluate the current regulations governing land use on Main Street, build consensus within the community on what the

heart of the town should look like in the future, and change existing regulations to accomplish that vision.

Other nearby communities are moving forward on some interesting proposals, too, including a New Boston road corridor study, a feasibility study for impact fees as a tool for managing infrastructure development and future growth, and new zoning amendments based on information from the Natural Services Network.

Applications are available via the Regional Planning Commissions and can be downloaded from the website at:

RebuildingI93.com

Steering Committee Update

At the February 1st CTAP Community Meeting, several new Steering Committee members were elected. The vacancies were filled by David Danielson of Bedford, George Sioras of Derry, Steve Henninger of Concord, Michael Vlachich of the Department of Resource and Economic Development (DRED) and Dean Christon of the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. These new members’ terms will end in 2009.

The newly revamped Steering Committee has more representatives from the communities themselves and fewer from NH state agencies.

At the next Steering Committee meeting in March, the Committee will be moving forward with the next order of business – reviewing the evaluation model that will be used to assess CTAP’s ongoing programs over the next several years.

After initial approval from the Steering Committee the CTAP evaluation process will seek input from CTAP communities to determine how successful the Year-One programs have been.

The Steering Committee will also explore new ways of leveraging CTAP’s resources and partnering with other communities interested in transportation and land use management.



Brainstorming at the February 1st CTAP Community meeting.

Community Assessments Beginning

In addition to discretionary accounts, there is another exciting Year-One program underway, the community assessments. RPCs and local governments will work together to assess each community's present growth planning strategies and to identify needed services to achieve regional goals. The assessments will assist in the selection of future CTAP programs.

Every corridor community will have the option of participating with the assessments. Assessments will be conducted either by an RPC or a hired consultant, but the communities themselves will decide

their level of participation in the process.

The assessments will be scaled to the size and type of community being evaluated. The assessments are intended to be participatory and conversational, and will consist of several facilitated sessions to provide information to communities and also to ask for their input.

The final document, the Community Planning Assessment Report, will take a comprehensive form, reviewing all of the regulations and plans a town or city has for growth and the findings from various facilitated work sessions, in addition to a

summary report. The assessments are also intended to help communities get the information they need to apply for and spend grant money earmarked for planning and growth practices, such as the local discretionary accounts (see article page 2).



CTAP Conference Hosted by OEP

The Office of Energy and Planning hosted the CTAP Planning Conference at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester, on Saturday, December 2, 2006. Over 100 people from local communities, regional planning commissions, and other organizations attended the day-long event. The conference provided training for land use board members of the CTAP community.

The conference was a great success. The event was a collaboration between several groups that are involved in helping

I-93 expansion communities plan for growth, including the NH DOT, The New Hampshire Local Government Center, Clough Harbour & Associates LLP, and Antioch New England Institute.

Participants were particularly pleased to be able to connect with each other and share experiences and resources. They were also generally impressed with the quality of the presentations. Some of their favorite training presentations covered housing, innovations

in land use and transportation planning, and important changes to the legal framework of land use. Said one participant, "the presentation on the roles and responsibilities of planning boards was so excellent, I only wish that I could have attended all the sessions!"

Please join us for the CTAP Community Meeting on May 31st to learn more about how you can help your community plan for growth.



Carol Murray, former NH DOT Commissioner, gives her opening remarks at the December 2nd conference.



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RebuildingI93.com

Project Manager's Notes

New Hampshire's Community Technical Assistance Program (CTAP) is off to a great start this year. I enjoyed seeing so many people come together to think about the future of our communities at the February 1st community meeting. We also have several exciting Year-One programs already underway, including discretionary funds (see article on page 2) and community assessments (see article on page 3). These programs are the result of a collaboration between the corridor communities, state agencies, and non-governmental organizations.

CTAP has made great headway in linking land use and transportation planning and there is no greater advocate of that connection than the departing Commissioner of Transportation, Carol Murray. She has articulated the necessity of offering technical planning assistance to New Hampshire's I-93 corridor communities and has been instrumental in getting CTAP off the ground. For her vision, her support, and her enthusiasm, we thank her, and we applaud her for making New Hampshire a better place now and in the future. Although we will miss her, CTAP is continuing on in the spirit

of all of the good work that Commissioner Murray has done.

Finally, on a more somber note, we acknowledge with sadness the death of another strong supporter of CTAP, Bob Ellis. As a representative from Salem, Bob was a strong presence at CTAP events and he will be sorely missed. We are confident that his energy and ideas will continue to motivate us in the years ahead.

-Ansel Sanborn, NHDOT
Project Manager

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I-93 Community Technical Assistance Program

CTAP



New Hampshire Communities Planning Together