

Newsletter from FRCOG

January 2011



FRCOG 2012 Budget

On January 27th the FRCOG Council is expected to endorse the FRCOG's 2012 budget. Budget highlights are:

- The increase to health insurance this year is only 3%! Like most Franklin County towns, the FRCOG receives health insurance from the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust so this small increase is good news for us all.
- The budget does not include any merit raises or step increases for FRCOG employees. The budget does reflect a 1.6% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). This is the December 2010 Northeast Region Consumer Price Index (CPI).
- The Personnel and Finance Committees have recommended that employer-paid long-term disability be provided to all FRCOG employees. This is an important benefit for employees and helps the FRCOG, as employer, with difficult management and HIPAA-related issues. The total estimated cost to the organization is \$5,323.
- Currently, the FRCOG move to the Franklin Regional Transit Center is expected to occur in December 2011, or half-way through Fiscal Year 2012. The budget includes six months of estimated facility costs.
- Most other aspects of the budget are level-funded. Analysis of projected revenues indicates that we can cover budget increases without increasing the Regional Services Assessment. **The Regional Services Assessment is level-funded for 2012 and is 9.3% lower than it was in 2001!**
- As expected given the current economy, the recent actuarial analysis of the Franklin Regional Retirement System (FRRS) shows that investment performance is less than projected. The unfunded liability portion of the FRRS assessment is used to determine the FRCOG Statutory Assessment, which was slated to increase by 13.5%. **The Finance Committee will recommend that the Council approve the use of \$25,371 of the FRCOG's Undesignated Fund Balance to level fund the Statutory Assessment.**

The budget will be sent to all member towns once it is endorsed. Any changes that the Council makes at its 1/27 meeting will be highlighted.

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FRCOG

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Regional Dispatch Feasibility Study

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) and the State 911 Department awarded \$150,000 to the Franklin Regional Council of Governments to conduct a feasibility study to objectively examine the current provision of 911 call answering and dispatch services, and to determine the credibility of the creation and sustainability of a Regional Emergency Communications Center in Franklin County.

The FRCOG issued a request for proposals for a consultant to conduct the feasibility study. A multi-discipline Evaluation Committee is being formed to choose the consultant and to work directly with the consultant to ensure the study's completion per the scope of work.

Public meetings will be held in late summer to review the draft feasibility study. The study will also include a recommended course of action and will be completed in September, 2011.

For more information contact Homeland Security Program Manager, Susan Brown, at 413-774-3167 x 117 or sbrown@frcog.org.

Tri-State Fire Mutual Aid Incident Management Team

The Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council (WRHSAC) has been providing training support to the Tri State Fire Mutual Aid Level III Incident Management Team (IMAT) development. The Tri State IMAT will be a regional resource to provide high-level, on-scene management for emergency incidents including fire, flood, weather emergencies, or any natural or human-caused incident. The Team will also have the capacity to assist with the management of large, regionally planned special events, such as parades or other large celebrations.

To date, WRSHAC has provided funding for the IMAT officers to attend Incident Command System (ICS) position specific training at the New York Wildfire and Incident Academy on Long Island, and the Colorado Wildland and Incident Management Academy in Colorado Springs.

Clandestine Laboratory Training

WRHSAC provided funding for the Northampton Police Department-sponsored Clandestine Laboratory Training. The recent discovery of a meth lab in downtown Northampton emphasized to Northampton and other regional first responders the need for training in response to the discovery of clandestine laboratory operations. The training was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and attended by more than 100 first responders, including fire, police, EMS and Board of Health personal from all four western counties.

Our Core Values

*Service
Advocacy
Community
Quality
Professionalism*

FRCOG Council Representatives for FY 2011

Ashfield:	Dave Deherdt
Bernardston:	Stanley Garland
Buckland:	Stefan Racz
Charlemont:	Winston Healy
Colrain:	Mark Thibodeau
Conway:	Tom Spiro
Deerfield:	John Paciorek
Erving:	Thomas Sharp
Gill:	John Ward
Greenfield:	William Martin
Hawley:	Philip Keenan
Heath:	Thomas Lively
Leverett:	Gordon Fretwell
Leyden:	Michele Giarusso (VC)
Monroe:	Carla Davis-Little
Montague:	Patricia Allen (C)
New Salem:	Vacant
Northfield:	Kathleen Wright
Orange:	Rick Kwiatkowski
Rowe:	John Williams
Shelburne:	John Payne
Shutesbury:	F. Ellen McKay
Sunderland:	Tom Fydenkevez
Warwick:	Dawn Magi
Wendell:	Daniel Keller
Whately:	Lynn Sibley
FRPB Rep:	Sam Lovejoy (S)
Reg. Elected:	Ann Banash
Reg. Elected:	Bill Perlman

C = Chair, VC = Vice Chair, S = Secretary

Homeland Security

The following training is funded by Homeland Security and is open to first responder personnel:

Company Officer Considerations – Strategies and Tactics: Sponsored by the Franklin County Fire Chiefs Association, this training is for Fire Department Officers and Officers-in training. The course presents ideas, skills and knowledge in the development of fire ground strategies and tactical implementation. The course design considers the volunteer and on-call structure of many regional fire departments. The course will be held in Shelburne on January 28 & 29, 2011.

ICS 300 & 400: MEMA is conducting ICS 300 & 400 level courses. For more information go to www.mass.gov.mema and follow the links to MEMA's training calendar.

The Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council continues to provide funds for backfill/overtime or volunteer reimbursement for hourly and volunteer first responders to maintain NIMS compliance. Funding is available for newly promoted, re-assigned staff, newly hired and previously vacant positions. For more information and appropriate forms, email Homeland Security Program Manager, Susan Brown, at sbrown@frcog.org.

Legislative Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program

In December, several Franklin County towns utilized the COG's new online database for hazard mitigation projects that may qualify for FEMA grant assistance. We now have a list of 17 projects, prioritized by their benefits and impacts on community infrastructure. Our engineering consultant, Milone & MacBroom, is now working on preliminary engineering designs and a benefit-cost analysis for the top two to three projects on the list. Once it is determined that the benefit-cost analysis meets FEMA's requirements (primarily that the benefits outweigh the costs), Milone & MacBroom will work with FRCOG staff and the community to apply for a hazard mitigation grant to take those preliminary engineering designs through to implementation.

Grant Funding Available to Plan Shared Public Health Services

The FRCOG and Franklin County towns are working together to submit an application to the MA Dept. of Public Health for a health district planning grant. Grantees will be eligible for five year implementation grant for the shared health department. Every Select Board and Board of Health received a notification of the grant, which will fund six months of planning support. For more information, please contact Director of Community Services, Phoebe Walker, at 413-774-3167 ext. 119 or health@frcog.org.

FRCOG Programs

- Administration & Regional Services
- Community Coalition for Teens
- Cooperative Purchasing Program
- Economic Development & Planning
- Emergency Preparedness
- Franklin County Cooperative Inspections Program
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Land Use Planning & Zoning
- Natural Resources Planning
- Regional Health
- Town Accounting Program
- Transportation Planning

Franklin County Record Data Sharing

This project provides linking for data records management of first responder agencies in Franklin County and will allow for data linking with other first responder agencies in Western MA and with the State. The central server has been purchased and installed, and a software solution is now being installed and integrated. The system should be live by late summer 2011. This project is being coordinated by the Greenfield Police Department and funded in part by WRHSAC. The Franklin County Emergency Communications System Oversight Committee will oversee operation of the new system and is now drafting agreements with local users, amending the FCECS Bylaws to incorporate the new system, and developing a sustainable budget.

Western Mass READY

Rapid Emergency Action Depends on You – READY - is the theme of the WRHSAC public outreach campaign to increase awareness of the importance of being personally prepared for emergencies. The campaign includes outreach via billboards, website (westernmassREADY.org), movie slide at regional cinemas, brochures, bookmarks and other materials.



Installation of ITS Infrastructure, 2009



Photo Credits: Massachusetts Broadband Institute

Homeland Security Contact Information

The FRCOG, as fiduciary, provides coordination and implementation of the Homeland Security grant funds for the Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council. More information about the Western Region's activities and programs can be found at www.wrhsac.org or by contacting Homeland Security Program Manager, Susan Brown, at 413-774-3167 ext. 117 or sbrown@frcog.org.

Review of Broadband Maps

With the help of [WesternMA Connect](http://www.westernmaconnect.org) and regional planning agencies across the state, the [Massachusetts Broadband Institute](http://www.massbroadband.org) (MBI) is creating a statewide map of broadband availability that will become part of the National Broadband Map. As part of this process, the FRCOG is producing town-level DSL and cable broadband maps for local review. The estimated service areas depicted on these maps were determined by the MBI using telecom provider data, modeling of projected service areas, and responses to the on-going MBI Broadband Survey (<http://www.massbroadband.org/mapping/survey.html>). The FRCOG will distribute these maps to town-identified contacts over the next few weeks. For more information please contact Senior Economic Development Planner, Jessica Atwood, at 413-774-1194 ext. 101 or jatwood@frcog.org.

Cooperative Fire Alarm Testing Bid for Schools

FRCOG is actively working with the School Business Managers in Franklin County to aggregate needs and cooperatively contract for services. Recently, a bid for fire alarm testing services for 19 school buildings resulted in up to an 85% savings over current contract costs for some schools. Aggregating the schools' needs made this a very desirable opportunity for the testing companies, and the savings are significant. For more information, contact Chief Procurement Officer, Andrea Woods, at 413-774-3167 ext. 104 or bids@frcog.org.

Spring and Summer Highway Bids

Bidding for the Spring and Summer Highway Products and Services is getting underway. The street sweeping bid process has begun. Surveys will be sent next month to all the highway superintendents in Franklin County for all other products and services. If your town has not participated in the past, call and check on pricing to see if aggregating your needs with 22 other towns would be beneficial. All participating towns may utilize the FRCOG procurement officer to assist with other highway bids as needed throughout the year. Chapter 90 reporting and changes resulting from last year's Municipal Relief Bill have affected the public bidding process. Keeping abreast of those changes and administering and troubleshooting all contracts is an important service of the FRCOG. The fee schedule for towns to participate (based on population) is at the FRCOG Cooperative Purchasing webpage at http://www.frcog.org/services/coop_purchasing/index.php. For more information, contact Chief Procurement Officer, Andrea Woods, at 413-774-3167 ext. 104 or bids@frcog.org.

At Your Service

The FRCOG purchasing officer is available to all member towns to discuss purchase of services, products, and real property; disposition of property; public works projects and construction. We have recently helped towns with unique projects like bidding for a solar panel array with federal funding, acquiring and disposing of historic buildings, equipping towns with emergency kits, bidding out insurance, and leasing office space. Advice and resource materials are available free of charge; and fee for service work for completing a bid on your behalf is available as well. For more information, contact Chief Procurement Officer, Andrea Woods at 413-774-3167 ext. 104 or bids@frcog.org.

Historic Franklin County



Residence of Mrs. Francis Whipple,
30 East Main St.

Residence in Orange, built in 1854



New Salem Center, date unknown



Flood of 1938, Greenfield

Work Underway on a Corridor Management Plan for Route 122 Scenic Byway

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments is developing a Corridor Management Plan for the Route 122 Scenic Byway in Orange and New Salem. Through the development of a Corridor Management Plan and the accompanying public participation this project will seek to recognize, interpret, preserve, and promote the unique scenic, cultural, natural, and recreational resources of the Route 122 Scenic Byway. The study area includes Route 122 in Orange and New Salem and a ½ mile buffer on each side of the road from its intersection with Route 2A (the Mohawk Trail Scenic Byway) in downtown Orange south east through New Salem and north of the Quabbin Reservoir. The project area ends at the New Salem town border with Petersham.

A Byway Area Committee was formed and has been providing assistance and input during the development of the plan. The Committee includes representatives of town committees and boards, town historical commission members, state transportation officials and interested citizens. The Committee will continue to meet quarterly during the planning process which will be completed in June 2011.

Development of a Corridor Management Plan for the Byway is intended to help guide future Byway related activities and projects, and the Byway will be eligible to apply for project funding through the National Scenic Byway Program.. Work will include the completion of inventories of the historic, cultural, and natural resources; a scenic landscape inventory and assessment; an identification of heritage and recreational tourism related attractions and support services; and an evaluation of the land use regulations and resource protection measures that are in place. Also, an implementation strategy will be developed, which identifies and prioritizes potential projects and/or improvements for which funding may be sought.

To date, the Scenic Resources, Outdoor Recreational Resources, Tourism and Traveler Resources and the Economic Development chapters have been drafted. The Byway vision statement and goals have also been drafted. If you are interested in being part of this Byway Area Committee or reviewing draft plan chapters, please contact Senior Transportation Planner, Elizabeth Giannini, at 413-774-1194 ext. 104 or giannini@frcog.org.

Staff Updates

- We welcome a new addition to our Planning Department family. **Alyssa Larose** has a new daughter, Beatrice, born November 29, 2010 weighing in at 6 lbs. 14 oz. and 19.5 inches long.
- **Tracy Rogers** has been hired as the new Regional Preparedness Program Manager. She can be reached at 413-774-3167 ext. 118 or regionalprep@frcog.org.
- **Lindsey Britt** joins us as Homeland Security Program Assistant. She can be reached at 413-774-3167 ext. 106, or at lbritt@frcog.org.
- Public Health Emergency Planner **Glenn Johnson** has resigned from the FRCOG to take a position with Northampton Public Schools in substance abuse prevention. We'll miss Glenn, but wish him well in his new adventure.

Walking Maps

The Transportation Planning Staff has completed walking maps covering each town in Franklin County. The maps were produced in partnership with the *Walk Franklin County* program, which is a free program that allows you to measure and record your progress and receive rewards for reaching your walking goals. The maps are available as a complete set of 28 walking routes across all 26 towns. They are pocket-sized and laminated for easy transport and showcase many of the scenic walking options that exist in the region.

Walking maps can be obtained at the YMCA, Chamber of Commerce, and by contacting the planning staff at the FRCOG. Additionally, each library in the county will have several copies of the walking map sets for residents to check out.

For more information you can go to <http://www.walkfranklincounty.org/>, or contact Transportation/Land Use Planner, Megan Rhodes, at 413-774-1194 ext. 110 or mrhodes@frcog.org.



Regional Transportation Plan

The FRCOG is wrapping up its update to the Long Range Regional Transportation Plan for Franklin County (the Plan). The Plan is updated every 4 years and is a comprehensive document which provides the basis for future transportation planning in the region. The Plan reviews current transportation infrastructure in the region and makes recommendations for future projects. Many parts of the transportation network are reviewed and discussed in the plan, including roadways, passenger rail, freight transport, airports, bus services, sidewalks, and on-road and off-road bike routes. A draft version of the updated Plan will be released for public review in March. Drafts of individual chapters can be viewed now on the FRCOG website at http://frcog.org/services/transportation/trans_rtp.php. Comments or questions can be submitted to Transportation/Land Use Planner, Megan Rhodes, at 413-774-1194 ext. 110 or mrhodes@frcog.org.

Transportation Projects Advertised for Construction in FFY 2010 (10/1/09-9/30/10)

Project	Adv. Date	Cost
Buckland – Reconstruction of State Street from Clement Street to Route 2	7-31-10	\$ 3,204,390
Buckland-Shelburne Bridge Betterment (Bridge B-28-032 = S-11-014) Route 2 over Route 112 and Deerfield River	7-31-10	\$ 8,096,590
Colrain – Preservation of Bridge C-18-005, Route 112 over North River	7-31-10	\$ 3,576,020
Colrain – Replace Bridge C-18-23, Route 112/Griswoldville Canal	8-7-10	\$ 1,016,022
Greenfield – Lighting Upgrade and Improvements at I-91/Route 2 Rotary	9-4-10	\$ 1,213,490
Orange – Route 2 Safety Improvements	1-23-10	\$ 19,868,037
Whately – replace bridge W-33-009, Haydenville Road over West Brook	12-12-09	\$ 1,733,911
TOTAL		\$38,708,460

Frontier Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) Drive-Thru Flu Clinic

On October 24, 2010, the public health emergency planning team for the towns of Deerfield, Conway, Sunderland and Whately conducted a drive-thru flu clinic. Traditional flu clinics involve large numbers of people gathering together in large indoor venues and waiting in line for vaccine. To decrease contagion and increase efficiency, the planning team organized a drive-thru clinic at the Route 116 industrial park to allow participants to stay in their cars during the whole process—from filling out paperwork to getting vaccinated. FRCOG received a grant from the Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council that supported the exercise, allowing FRCOG to provide technical support, coordinate the evaluation team, and write the After Action Report and Improvement Plan for the exercise. The event was a huge success — 638 people were vaccinated. The average time from registration to exit was just under 12 minutes. The event was covered positively in The Recorder, The Daily Hampshire Gazette, Channel 22 News and other media outlets. A 101-year-old participant in the clinic, obviously impressed, said, "It took them 101 years to figure out the best way to run a flu clinic." Congratulations to the Frontier Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) team for conducting a successful and cutting-edge clinic for your communities!

Recertification of the Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC)

Franklin County communities remain officially covered by a certified Hazardous Material Emergency Plan following the announcement in November, 2010, by the Massachusetts State Emergency Response Commission that the Franklin County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC) has met all requirements for full recertification. Under Federal Law (SARA Title III) each community in the nation is required to have a local emergency planning committee to track the presence of hazardous chemicals in the community, write and exercise a hazardous material response plan, and train first responders. The 26 communities of Franklin County have formed a Regional EPC through the FRCOG. The REPC works to meet the state and federal requirements for all member towns, as well as expand planning to include all hazards such as natural disasters (e.g. ice storms and floods), bioterrorism threats, radiological events, and public health incidents (e.g. the pandemic flu).

Communities that Care Coalition Laws and Norms Workgroup

Environmental Strategies are prevention efforts aimed at changing or influencing community conditions, standards, institutions, structures, systems and policies that affect behavior. The Communities that Care Coalition Laws and Norms Workgroup has been busy this fall supporting evidence-based strategies that address the environmental norms, enforcement, and laws relative to underage alcohol use. We know from annual student surveys that young people in Franklin County and the North Quabbin region perceive that the adults in their community approve of their alcohol use at a higher rate than young people do elsewhere. We are trying to change that perception and increase the percentage of teens who believe that the adults in their community do not approve of youth drinking alcohol, by supporting the following three strategies: Alcohol Compliance Checks, Server/Clerk Training and Alcohol Purchase Surveys.

Towns cooperate on alcohol compliance checks.

Regular compliance checks have been proven to reduce youth access to alcohol and the fatalities, sexual assault, injuries and accidents associated with underage drinking. Throughout the month of November and the first week in December 2010; alcohol compliance checks were conducted in 11 towns in Franklin County and the North Quabbin region, resulting in an 88 % compliance rate of the 105 establishments that were checked.

Communities that Care Coalition Laws and Norms Workgroup (Continued)

The checks were implemented by a unique collaboration between the Communities That Care Coalition, a youth substance abuse prevention coalition, and ten Franklin County towns signed onto the Franklin County Alcohol Beverages Compliance Initiative MOU. The Coalition worked to promote this MOU for Franklin County and North Quabbin Region towns willing to work together on the enforcement of underage drinking laws. Athol, Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Deerfield, Gill, Health, Montague, Northfield, Orange, Shelburne, Sunderland and Whately have all signed on to the MOU. Greenfield also conducted alcohol compliance checks during this time frame.

The Communities that Care Coalition has identified that Franklin County/North Quabbin young people are not getting a strong enough message that adults disapprove of underage drinking. Regular compliance checks have been proven to reduce youth access to alcohol. Reducing access to alcohol also reduces related injuries, accidents and sexual assaults. The Community Coalition for Teens, a program of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments and co-host of The Communities that Care Coalition, receives funding from the MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services to assist with the effort, and is able to reimburse police departments for overtime associated with the checks. The Coalition organizes several other efforts to reduce youth access to alcohol, including Alcohol Purchase Surveys and Project Sticker Shock.

“Police departments demonstrate a great amount of dedication and concern about the issue of underage drinking, as exemplified by the actions of these collaborating towns” says, Joyce Fulmer, a CCT staff member, and co-chair of the Communities That Care Laws and Norms Workgroup. “We are hoping that other towns will sign and use the MOU”.

Mass Pack trains 50 people!

The Communities that Care Coalition brought the MA Package Stores Association Beverage Alcohol Training (BAT), to the region on December 9th and 13th. In attendance were 50 clerks, owners, and managers of off-premise alcohol licensed establishments (package stores, gas stations, convenience stores, grocery stores) from Franklin County and the North Quabbin region. The attendees participated in the 3 hour training and were given the opportunity to take an exam to receive a 3-year certification denoting their successful completion of the program.

Frank Anzalotti, the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Package Stores Association, Inc, facilitated the training. He provided the participants with education on the acceptable forms of identification, how to recognize fake and altered IDs, how to handle intoxicated and problem customers, preventing 2nd party sales (when legal age persons purchase alcohol for underage people) and the various regulations that govern the sale of alcohol.

“I am simply amazed at the turnout of attendees. Everyone seemed to be very sincere in their work, and totally involved in the training”, said Frank Anzalotti, at the end of the second sitting. Providing clerk training is not only important but is essential in helping to reduce youth access to alcohol, and the fatalities, sexual assault, injuries and accidents associated with underage drinking. The urgency to eliminate illegal sales and keep alcohol out of the hands of underage persons is everyone’s responsibility. The owners, managers and clerks in Franklin County and the North Quabbin region care and want to make sure that the young people in the community hear that message loud and clear.

Communities that Care Coalition Laws and Norms Workgroup (Continued)

Alcohol Purchase Surveys are conducted in all off-premise alcohol licensed establishments.

The Communities that Care Coalition helps support the coordination and implementation of the Rewards and Reminders Alcohol Purchase Survey Program. The program, which is being carried out in all off-premise alcohol licensed establishments throughout Franklin County and the North Quabbin Region is soon to be expanded into bars and restaurants. A buyer who appears to be under age attempts to purchase alcohol without presenting any age identification, as a way to reinforce following best practice of asking for valid identification from anyone who appears under the age of 30. The more often that young people are asked for ID, the less likely sales to minors will occur, and the more the community gains a reputation for being serious about underage drinking and the associated problems that go along with it. Not only does this practice prevent a possible underage sale, but it sends a strong message to our young people that we take underage drinking seriously, we care, and we don't want to sell to those not old enough to purchase alcohol legally. Alcohol purchase surveys occur on a regular basis without an announced schedule

For more information about any of the three strategies or to learn more about the Communities that Care Laws and Norms Workgroup, contact Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator, Joyce Fulmer, at 413-774-1194 ext. 117 or jfulmer@frcog.org.

Interconnection & Innovation Project Consultants

The FRCOG has hired the consulting team of Communications Media Advisors and BNC Network Consulting to study the potential for a new Interconnection Facility and Innovation District in the greater Greenfield area. The proposed facility would leverage the *MassBroadband 123* network and existing private networks to establish a wholesale fiber co-location and data center facility. A related Innovation District could be established to foster greater technology-intensive business growth and investment. If successful, this model may be replicated in other areas of the Commonwealth to broaden and enhance the state's reputation as a premier location for innovation economy ventures. Funded by grants from the federal Economic Development Administration and the Massachusetts Broadband Institute, this study is expected to be completed by September 2011. For more information, please contact Senior Economic Development Planner, Jessica Atwood, at 413-774-1194 ext. 101 or jatwood@frcog.org.

North County Transit Study

The FRCOG and the Franklin Regional Transit Authority (FRTA) will be conducting a study in the northern region of Franklin County to research the possibility of beginning bus services in those communities. A survey will be distributed to all households in the towns of Bernardston, Northfield, and Gill to determine the demand for and interest in bus transit. Look for the survey in early February. For more information contact Transportation and Land Use Planner, Megan Rhodes, at 413-774-1194 ext. 110 or mrhodes@frcog.org.

FRCOG on Massachusetts Municipal Association Policy Committee

FRCOG-member towns are represented by Bob Dean on the MMA Policy Committee on Municipal and Regional Administration. The committee considers issues that relate to the organization, structure, efficiency, and productivity of local and regional government and the relationships between the two levels of government. Among the issues addressed by this committee over the past few years are procurement laws, comprehensive land use legislation, open meeting and ethics laws, and municipal relief legislation. Committee-sponsored legislation has been filed in the current session on Beacon Hill that would increase the threshold for mandated use of designer selection laws, allow for Select Boards to convey and accept easements in certain instances, and add general maintenance to the statewide public works incident mutual aid legislation enacted by the Governor in 2010. Contact Director of Regional Services, Bob Dean, at 413-774-3167 ext. 112 or bdean@frcog.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS!!!

JANUARY 2011

- 1/27/11 @ 5:30 p.m. FRCOG Council, GCTV Studios, 393 Main Street. lindad@frcog.org
- 1/27/11 @ 7:00 p.m. FRPB, 278 Main Street. psloan@frcog.org

FEBRUARY 2011

- 2/3/11 @ 2:00 p.m. RFP Feasibility Study for Regional Emergency Communication Center. bids@frcog.org
- 2/7/11 @ 4:30 p.m. MAPHCO Steering Committee, 278 Main Street. regionalprep@frcog.org
- 2/9/11 @ 1:30 p.m. Brownfields Steering Committee, 278 Main Street. jatwood@frcog.org
- 2/10/11 @ 5:00 p.m. FRCOG Executive Committee, Greenfield Courthouse. lindad@frcog.org
- 2/17/11 @ 2:00 p.m. FRCOG Price Quotes for Street Sweeping, Greenfield Courthouse. bids@frcog.org
- 2/17/11 @ 5:30 p.m. CEDS., 278 Main Street. jatwood@frcog.org

MARCH 2011

- 3/4/11 @ 4:30 p.m. MAPHCO Steering Committee, 278 Main Street. regionalprep@frcog.org
- 3/10/11 @ 5:00 p.m. FRCOG Executive Committee, Greenfield Courthouse. lindad@frcog.org
- 3/24/11 @ 7:00 p.m. FRPB Meeting, Planning Conference Room, 278 Main Street. psloan@frcog.org

APRIL 2011

- 4/7/11 @ 4:30 p.m. MAPHCO Steering Committee, 278 Main Street. regionalprep@frcog.org
- 4/14/11 @ 5:00 p.m. FRCOG Executive Committee, Greenfield Courthouse. lindad@frcog.org
- 4/28 @ 7:00 p.m. FRPB Meeting, Planning Conference Room, 278 Main Street. psloan@frcog.org

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Franklin Regional
Council of Governments



Come Visit Us!

Franklin Regional Council of Governments
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