



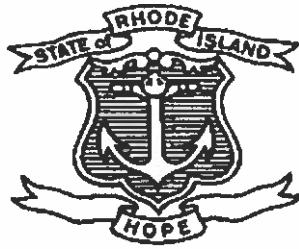
**Special Legislative Commission to Study the
Ability of the Rhode Island Educational System to
Offer Degree or Certificate Programs Within the
State to Provide a Supply and a Pipeline of
Planners, Planning Technicians, and Planning
Staff**

Final Report

Submitted April 1, 2025

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Commission Members

- Chair Mark Carruolo, North Smithfield Planning Director
- Vice-Chair Thomas Deller, Johnston Municipal Planner
- Charon Rose, Director of Workforce Strategy and Operations, Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
- Jane Buxton, Landscape Architecture Program Director, University of Rhode Island
- Jenifer Giroux, Vice-President, Rhode Island College
- Matthew S. Ulricksen, Professor, Community College of Rhode Island
- Meredith Brady, Associate Director, Rhode Island Division of Statewide Planning
- Joshua Berry, AICP, Chief of Municipal Planning and Programming, Rhode Island Department of Housing
- Roberta Groch, President, American Planning Association – Rhode Island Division
- Charles J. Donovan Jr., Senior Policy Advisor, Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns
- Henry S. Young, EdD, Assistant Provost, New England Institute of Technology
- Joseph Garlick, Executive Director, NeighborWorks Blackstone River Valley
- Brenda Clement, Executive Director, HousingWorks RI

Dear Speaker Shekarchi:

I am pleased to provide you with the findings and recommendations of the Special Legislative Commission to Study the Ability of the Rhode Island Educational System to Offer Degree or Certificate Programs Within the State to Provide a Supply and a Pipeline of Planners, Planning Technicians, and Planning Staff (the "*Commission*").

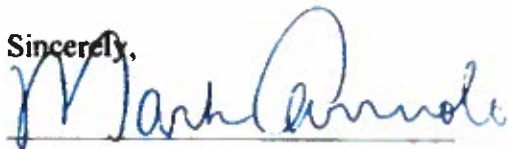
This thirteen (13) member Commission included representatives of all Rhode Island public institutions of higher education, the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, a Career Technical Education "CTE" School, the Division of Statewide Planning, the Rhode Island Department of Housing, the Rhode Island Division of the American Planning Association, the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, a Municipal Planner from a City or Town with a population of 25,000 people or more, a Municipal Planner from a City or Town with a population of fewer than 25,000 people, and two (2) members of the public.

The Commission was convened to study and make recommendation on the ability of the Rhode Island educational system to provide a supply and a pipeline of planners, planning technicians and planning staff. Accordingly, the Commission heard and discussed various topics including: the purpose and scope of community planning in Rhode Island from the American Planning Association, Rhode Island Division, the current landscape of planning departments in municipalities across the state from the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, the current and potential capabilities of secondary and post-secondary education institutions to have certificate and degree programs in planning from New England Institute of Technology, the Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, and the University of Rhode Island, how to instill in elementary and secondary students the importance of planning and foster interest in potential careers in the subject from Charette High School, and the experiences and observations of a current community planner who has experience in urban, suburban, and rural areas of Rhode Island.

This final report is a culmination of seven (7) hearings that began in September 2024 and ended in March 2025. It contains information presented by various witnesses who testified before the Commission, as well as presentations made, which the Commission has studied.

I would like to express my gratitude to all members of the Commission for their willingness to take part in these discussions, and we appreciate the investment of the time and talent that they graciously provided.

Sincerely,



Mark Carruolo, North Smithfield Planning Director
Chair

Commission Findings:

The Commission studied the ability of the Rhode Island educational system to provide a supply and a pipeline of planners, planning technicians and planning staff and, based on such study, testimony and material presented to it, and discussions by and amongst its members, the Commission finds as follows:

1. The Rhode Island Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA-RI) defines urban planning (also known as town planning, city planning, community planning, regional planning, rural planning, etc.) as a technical and political process that is focused on the development and design of the built environment.
 - Urban planning is a tool for managing growth, navigating change, and providing necessary land use information for community decision making.
 - Urban planning helps define goals and identifies a roadmap that helps local leaders make informed decisions about local needs and capabilities.
 - Urban planning is an interdisciplinary profession with direct connections to the fields of architecture, engineering, government, public health, geography, and others.
 - Urban planners are professionals who advise municipal decision-makers to make informed choices about comprehensive plans, zoning ordinances, land use policy, and other urban planning related issues.
2. According to APA-RI, under Rhode Island state law urban planners are guided by several statutes such as the Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Act, Zoning Enabling Act, and Land Development and Subdivision Review Enabling Act.
 - Each Rhode Island community is required by statute to develop a comprehensive plan, as well as a future land use map, every ten (10) years.
3. According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of urban planners is projected to grow four percent (4%) from 2023 to 2033 which is considered about as fast as the average for all occupations.
 - Nationally, about 3,600 openings for urban planners are projected each year, on average, over the next decade.
 - Many openings are expected to be attributed to existing planners retiring or transferring into a different occupation.
 - As of 2022 urban planners in Rhode Island earned an average annual wage of \$81,000.
4. APA-RI estimates that between municipal, state, and private firms there are approximately two-hundred (200) urban planner positions statewide in Rhode Island.
 - Thirteen (13) municipalities, have one planner position or fewer.
 - Three (3) municipalities currently have part-time consulting planners.
 - Seven (7) municipalities have two planner positions.
 - In total, twenty-three (23) municipalities, approximately sixty percent (60%), have two (2) planning positions or fewer.

Commission Findings (continued)

5. According to the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns (RILCT), municipalities are facing difficulty meeting urban planning needs and in response have conducted two surveys showing that municipalities are encountering this difficulty.
 - Municipalities are facing increasing demands for long-term strategic planning concerning affordability, sustainability, and resiliency.
 - Small and rural towns are especially challenged in the recruitment and retainment of qualified staff within tight fiscal constraints.
6. In the first survey of twenty-four (24) municipalities, over 60% of respondents had two (2) or fewer permanent dedicated urban planning employees, whereas in comparison less than 20% had five (5) such employees or greater.
 - Twenty-five percent (25%) of respondents stated that they had funded but unfilled planning positions.
 - Over thirty-three percent (33%) of respondents stated that funding was the chief obstacle to having additional urban planning staff, another twenty-five percent (25%) stated an inability to find qualified applicants was the chief obstacle.
 - Over twenty percent (20%) sought additional urban planning positions in the prior three (3) years but had those requests denied. In contrast, no respondent saw any urban planning positions eliminated in the prior three (3) years.
 - Over thirty-three percent (33%) of respondents were certain they will be looking to hire urban planning positions in the next three (3) years. About half of respondents were not certain.
 - Over eighty percent (80%) believed that a bachelors or associates degree was adequate for entry level urban planning positions.
 - Over forty percent (40%) of respondents stated that they did not utilize interns but would be interested in doing so, and another forty percent (40%) stated that they were already doing so.
7. In the second survey of thirty-two (32) municipalities over fifty percent (50%) of respondents stated that the top three (3) challenges to recruiting and retaining employees were;
 - (1) employee compensation as compared to the private sector,
 - (2) inability to find qualified applicants, and
 - (3) applicants pursuing more competitive opportunities in other cities and states.
 - Hiring for the planning department was the third hardest position to hire for behind public safety and the finance departments.
 - About fifty percent (50%) of the responding municipalities have not conducted and completed an audit of job roles, position descriptions, and/or salaries in the last decade.

Commission Findings (continued)

8. According to APA-RI, two (2) institutes of higher education in Rhode Island currently offer an undergraduate program in Urban Planning Studies:
 - Brown University offers a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies with a Concentration in Urban Studies; and,
 - The University of Rhode Island (URI) offers a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture.
9. According to URI, Rhode Island does not currently have any Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) accredited graduate urban planning programs.
 - URI formerly offered an accredited Masters in Community Planning from 1963 to 2006.
 - Since 2015, URI has offered a Graduate Certificate in Community Planning consisting of five (5) courses (representing 15-16 credits).
 - URI has graduated forty-eight (48) students from Graduate Certificate in Community Planning between 2016 and 2024.
 - Regionally, neither Connecticut, Vermont, nor New Hampshire have a PAB accredited graduate urban planning program.
10. According to APA-RI, the nearest PAB accredited programs for Urban Planning are located in Massachusetts and include:
 - Boston University (Master of City Planning);
 - Harvard University (Master in Urban Planning);
 - Northeastern University (Master of Science in Urban Planning and Policy);
 - The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Master in City Planning);
 - Tufts University (Master of Arts in Environmental Policy and Planning and Master of Science in Environmental Policy and Planning);
 - The University of Massachusetts at Amherst (Master of Regional Planning); and,
 - The University of Massachusetts at Boston (Urban Planning and Community Development).
11. According to APA-RI, Urban Planners are required to obtain professional credentials after graduation from an education program through the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).
 - Graduates from a PAB accredited graduate program must work in the field for two (2) years and take an examination that is offered periodically [three (3) years for graduates of a non-PAB accredited graduate program].
 - Urban Planners must complete thirty-two (32) Certification Maintenance credits every two (2) years to keep credentials active.
 - APA-RI helps identify in-person and online events to fulfill these requirements.

Commission Findings (continued)

12. Thomas Kravitz, an urban planner with experience in rural, suburban and urban communities and currently employed as the City of Warwick Planning Director made the following observations.
- Absence of a local pipeline of urban planning professional, in a small state such as Rhode Island, can result in:
 - Municipalities struggling to find qualified applicants for open positions;
 - Difficulty maintaining employee satisfaction with workload, time commitment, salaries and cost of living concerns, etc.; and,
 - Having higher learning curves for out-of-state urban planning professionals relocating to work in Rhode Island.
 - The two largest pools of likely applicants for urban planning academic programs are entry level post-secondary students and mid-career employees seeking to upskill.
 - To appeal to the entry level post-secondary students some considerations such as remote work, and flexible schedules should be considered.
 - Fellowship and internship opportunities should be available for high school as well as college students to raise awareness of urban planning as a viable career opportunity.
 - Previous aggressive advertisement campaigns have produced few candidates, therefore municipalities should consider non-traditional advertisement approaches, for example through social media.
 - For mid-career retraining, an online or asynchronous educational model is critical to allow working adults, including those with familial responsibilities, to be able to successfully complete such programs.
 - Regardless of which pool or what education program professionals participate in, experience is critical.
 - Stress in the profession arising from bureaucratic challenges, significant workloads including administrative responsibilities, and non-traditional working hours can result in professional burn out.
 - The recent phenomenon of greater public abuse on contentious land use issues also contributes to professional burn out.
 - Managing these stressors comes with experience, primarily from hands on experience, which is more likely to be found among mid-career retraining professionals or through internships and similar opportunities.

Commission Findings (continued)

- 13.** The Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) currently has several educational offerings with elements that tie into urban planning and believes it can create academic programs to align CCRI with municipal needs.
- CCRI noted that it can develop an Associate of Science in Community Planning and Development.
 - In addition, CCRI also stated that it can also offer a Civic Analytics Certificate for government and non-profit sector professionals.
 - CCRI supports developing a partnership through the form of a joint academic agreement (JAA) with Rhode Island College (RIC) and URI for the planning profession.
 - CCRI also supports collaboration with APA-RI and RILCT to design and implement internship, education and training programs to promote experiential learning.
- 14.** RIC currently offers an undergraduate certificate program which connects to urban planning in Geographic Information Systems:
- This program consists of four (4) courses; Mapping Our Changing World, Geographic Information Systems I, Geographic Information Systems II, and Internship in Geography.
 - RIC also offers eighteen (18) additional courses in areas such as public administration, environmental sciences and law, political science, and urban economics.
 - RIC stated that it should contribute to supporting the URI mission to reestablish its Master's of Planning through cooperation and coordination, including via a JAA.
 - RIC noted that it can develop in the long-term a minor and major in Community Planning & Sustainable Development if additional resources can be secured to develop curriculum and employ faculty.
- 15.** URI has imminent plans to expand their offerings of urban planning educational opportunities.
- Beginning in Fall 2025, URI Online is offering a four (4) class (12 credit) 7-week online classes for a Graduate Certificate in Community Planning.
 - Between 2025 and 2027, URI will develop a Non-Accredited Master of Planning Degree online using the foundation of the online certificate and building out the curriculum to create a program equivalent to two (2) years full-time.
 - URI is targeting 2027 as the year when twenty-five (25) students will have graduated from the program and can then apply for preliminary PAB accreditation.
 - URI stated that they can build upon existing programs to scale up in a realistic timeline with the right financial resources to hire additional faculty and build out the curriculum.

Commission Findings (continued)

- 16.** New England Institute of Technology (NEIT) is a Private, Non-Profit University, certified with the New England Commission of Higher Education, that offers hands-on experiential learning and accelerated degree completion tracks.
- NEIT student can obtain a certificate in twelve (12) months and can obtain an Associates or Bachelor's degree in eighteen (18) months.
 - NEIT offers many academic degree programs including;
 - Architectural & Building Engineering Technology, AS & BS
 - Construction Management, BS & MS
 - Civil Engineering Technology, AS & BS
 - Building Construction Technology, AS
 - NEIT stated that it can develop a course of study and standard curriculum in conformance with the APA-RI standards for planning technicians.
 - NEIT currently networks with municipalities in Massachusetts to facilitate internships for students in local urban planning department and believes that it can do the same for municipalities in Rhode Island.
 - NEIT noted it can participate in JAAs between Rhode Island higher educational institutions and encourage students to pursue advanced urban planning educational programs.
- 17.** Charette High School is a charter school established in 2018 in Providence which emphasizes urban planning and historic preservation.
- The curriculum was developed with input from urban planners, community members, and other professionals to create a four (4) year course of study that focuses in urban planning and includes a capstone course.
 - Charette High School has never placed students in internships with any municipal planning department, which they attribute to logistical challenges (i.e. transportation), however, they are interested in supporting such partnerships.

Commission Recommendations:

Based on its study of the ability of the Rhode Island educational system to provide a supply and a pipeline of planners, planning technicians and planning staff along with various related issues, testimony and material presented to it, and discussions by and amongst its members, the Commission suggests the following recommendations:

1. The General Assembly may consider enacting legislation that would:
 - a. Request the Council on Post-Secondary Education to facilitate the creation of a working group of representatives of secondary and post-secondary education institutions including, but not limited to; the Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College, the University of Rhode Island, and New England Institute of Technology.
 - b. Request this workgroup develop a Joint Academic Agreement between the participating educational institutions to create an appropriate course of study for urban planning and ensure content compatibility and course credit transferability between institutions.
 - c. Request this workgroup also collaborate to design education and training programs for planning, zoning, affordable housing, economic development, environmental conservation, and historic preservation.
 - d. Request this workgroup delineate the appropriate academic offerings for the different levels of degrees available, which shall include certificate, associates, bachelors, and master's degrees, and identify the appropriate institution or institutions to offer such degrees as well as correlate the degree level appropriate to entry, mid-level, and advanced urban planning positions with consideration for allowing urban planning candidates to capitalize on current scholarship opportunities (i.e. The Rhode Island Promise Scholarship).
 - e. Establish a potential grant program with a combination of private and public funding, if available, or potentially amend an existing grant program (e.g. P-Tech), to support partnerships among education institutions and municipal planning departments including internship opportunities.
 - f. Organize potential incentives to foster collaboration on issues of planning between municipalities based on regional and historic partners.

Commission Recommendations (continued)

2. The Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, in association with municipal planning departments and the American Planning Association, Rhode Island Division, should coordinate with elementary, secondary, and post-secondary institutions to raise awareness of urban planning careers and programs including:
 - a. Develop a strategic plan that aligns educational offerings with current and expected workforce gaps;
 - b. Advertise existing certificate and degree programs in planning through social media as well as traditional media;
 - c. Establish new, and support existing, internships, fellowships, job shadowing, and other experiential learning opportunities; and,
 - d. Explore models by which municipalities may support existing staff pursuing mid-career upskilling.
3. The Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns and the American Planning Association, Rhode Island Division, in association with municipal urban planning departments, should coordinate with Rhode Island higher education institutions to build out academic offerings appropriate to current and projected municipal urban planning needs.
4. Elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education institutions should look to Rhode Island's professional urban planning community to identify potential professors, adjunct professors, and guest speakers in such academic offerings who can perform direct outreach to the community and communicate the importance of urban planning career pathways.
5. Higher education institutions shall pursue any and all private, public, and federal financial resources to support and sustain these initiatives including: building on existing capacities and programs; and, utilizing existing resources.
6. If funding becomes available, consideration should be given to providing funding for the purpose of incentivizing public institutions of higher education to initiate or restructure academic programs to support urban planning career pathways.

Appendix A – Resolutions

2024—H-7977 Sub A

(See attached)

2024 -- H 7977 SUBSTITUTE A

LC005506/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE ABILITY OF THE
RHODE ISLAND EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM TO OFFER DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE
PROGRAMS WITHIN THE STATE TO PROVIDE A SUPPLY AND A PIPELINE OF
PLANNERS, PLANNING TECHNICIANS, AND PLANNING STAFF

Introduced By: Representatives Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Cruz, Morales, Speakman,
Spears, Craven, Azzinaro, Solomon, and Kazarian

Date Introduced: March 05, 2024

Referred To: House Municipal Government & Housing

1 WHEREAS, There are challenges to development in Rhode Island including the
2 significant amount of time to obtain local permits, environmental challenges and restrictive and
3 outdated local zoning and planning regulations and comprehensive plans; and

4 WHEREAS, At this time, it is imperative to undertake a broad based review of the ability
5 to improve upon in-state educational opportunities, programs and certifications; now therefore be
6 it

7 RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created
8 consisting of thirteen (13) members: one of whom shall be the Commissioner of the Rhode Island
9 Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of
10 the University of Rhode Island, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of Rhode Island
11 College, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of the Community College of Rhode
12 Island, or designee; one of whom shall be the Associate Director of the State of Rhode Island
13 Division of Statewide Planning, or designee; one of whom shall be the secretary of the Rhode
14 Island department of housing, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of the American
15 Planning Association-Rhode Island Division, or designee; two (2) of whom shall be municipal
16 planners, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House, one of whom shall be from a city or town
17 with a population of less than twenty-five thousand, and one of whom shall be from a city or
18 town with a population of twenty-five thousand or greater; one of whom shall be the Executive

1 Director of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, or designee; one of whom shall be a
2 teacher from a career technical education "CTE" school, to be appointed by the Speaker of the
3 House; and two (2) of whom shall be members of the public, one of whom shall possess
4 significant professional housing experience, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House.

5 The purpose of said commission shall be to undertake a comprehensive study and a broad
6 review of the ability of the Rhode Island educational system to offer degrees of certificate
7 programs within the State to provide a supply and a pipeline of planners, planning technicians and
8 planning staff, and provide recommendations based upon this study and review, that will enable
9 the State to ensure and promote the aforementioned educational opportunities.

10 Forthwith upon the passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet
11 at the call of the Speaker of the House and organize and shall select a chairperson.

12 Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original appointment.

13 The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

14 All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information,
15 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or
16 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

17 The Speaker of the House is hereby authorized and directed to provide suitable quarters
18 for said commission; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the
20 House of Representatives on or before April 1, 2025, and said commission shall expire on June
21 30, 2025.

=====
LC005506/SUB A
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE ABILITY OF THE
RHODE ISLAND EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM TO OFFER DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE
PROGRAMS WITHIN THE STATE TO PROVIDE A SUPPLY AND A PIPELINE OF
PLANNERS, PLANNING TECHNICIANS, AND PLANNING STAFF

1 This resolution would create a thirteen (13) member special legislative study commission
2 whose purpose it would be to study the ability of the Rhode Island educational system to offer
3 degree or certificate programs within the State to provide a supply and a pipeline of planners,
4 planning technicians, and planning staff, and who would report back to the House no later than
5 April 1, 2025, and whose life would expire on June 30, 2025.

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LC005506/SUB A
=====

Appendix B - Meeting Agendas

- **September 24, 2024**
 - Agenda (See attached)
- **October 22, 2024**
 - Agenda (See attached)
- **November 20, 2024**
 - Agenda (See attached)
- **December 17, 2024**
 - Agenda (See attached)
- **January 22, 2025**
 - Agenda (See attached)
- **March 3, 2025**
 - Agenda (See attached)
- **March 26, 2025**
 - Agenda (See attached)

Special Legislative Commission to Study the Ability of the Rhode Island Educational System to Offer Degree or Certificate Programs Within the State to Provide a Supply and a Pipeline of Planners, Planning Technicians, and Planning Staff

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Tuesday September 24, 2024

TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Room 135

AGENDA:

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair
- III. Introduction of Members
- IV. Discussion of Resolution
- V. Next meeting date
- VI. Adjournment

No Public Testimony will be accepted at this meeting.

COMMISSION INFORMATION

For information on commissions, [CLICK HERE](#).

If you have any questions please contact Derrik Trombley, dtrombley@rilegislature.gov, 401-222-1258.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The General Assembly strives to make the legislative process accessible to all. Anyone needing an accommodation to attend or testify at a commission meeting, contact Stacy Custer at scuster@rilegislature.gov or 401-222-7904 at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

TELEVISION AND LIVESTREAMING

The meeting may be televised by Capitol Television on Cox Communications, channels 15 and 61 for high definition; i3 Broadband (formerly Full Channel) on 15; and Verizon, on channel 34.

Livestreaming is available at <https://capitoltvri.cablecast.tv>.

Special Legislative Commission to Study the Ability of the Rhode Island Educational System to Offer Degree or Certificate Programs Within the State to Provide a Supply and a Pipeline of Planners, Planning Technicians, and Planning Staff

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Tuesday October 22, 2024

TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Room 135

AGENDA:

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Presentations
 - a. Charles Donovan Jr., Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns
 - b. Ashley Sweet, American Planning Association – Rhode Island Division
- III. Next meeting date
- IV. Adjournment

Public Testimony will not be accepted at this meeting.

COMMISSION INFORMATION

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Special Legislative Commission to Study the Ability of the Rhode Island Educational System to Offer Degree or Certificate Programs Within the State to Provide a Supply and a Pipeline of Planners, Planning Technicians, and Planning Staff

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Wednesday November 20, 2024

TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Room 135

AGENDA:

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Presentations
 - a. Professor Jane Buxton, University of Rhode Island
 - b. Professor Matthew S. Ulricksen, Community College of Rhode Island
- III. Next meeting date
- IV. Adjournment

Public Testimony will not be accepted at this meeting.

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Special Legislative Commission to Study the Ability of the Rhode Island Educational System to Offer Degree or Certificate Programs Within the State to Provide a Supply and a Pipeline of Planners, Planning Technicians, and Planning Staff

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Tuesday December 17, 2024

TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Room 135

AGENDA:

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Presentations
 - a. Professor Mark Motte, Rhode Island College
 - b. Professor Henry S. Young, New England Institute of Technology
 - c. Executive Director Kathy Vespia, Charette High School
- III. Next meeting date
- IV. Adjournment

Public Testimony will not be accepted at this meeting.

COMMISSION INFORMATION

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Special Legislative Commission to Study the Ability of the Rhode Island Educational System to Offer Degree or Certificate Programs Within the State to Provide a Supply and a Pipeline of Planners, Planning Technicians, and Planning Staff

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Wednesday January 22, 2025

TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Room 135

AGENDA:

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Presentations
 - a. Thomas E. Deller, Johnston Town Planner
 - b. Thomas Kravitz, City of Warwick Planning Director
- III. Public Testimony
- IV. Next meeting date
- V. Adjournment

Public Testimony will be accepted at this meeting.

COMMISSION INFORMATION

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PUBLIC TESTIMONY

In-person and written testimony will be accepted by the Commission.

Please email written testimony to Derrik Trombley at dtrombley@rilegislature.gov and indicate your name and organization (when applicable). It is recommended to send written testimony in PDF format. Written testimony will be: distributed to Commission members, posted to the General Assembly website, and may be accessible via internet search engines. Written testimony received twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the Commission meeting will be distributed to Commission members at that meeting.

Special Legislative Commission to Study the Ability of the Rhode Island Educational System to Offer Degree or Certificate Programs Within the State to Provide a Supply and a Pipeline of Planners, Planning Technicians, and Planning Staff

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Monday March 3, 2025

TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Room 135

AGENDA:

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Results of League of Cities and Town's Survey Presentation
- III. Discussion of Potential Findings and Recommendations
- IV. Next meeting date
- V. Adjournment

Public Testimony will not be accepted at this meeting.

COMMISSION INFORMATION

For information on commissions, [CLICK HERE](#).

If you have any questions please contact Derrik Trombley, dtrombley@rilegislature.gov, 401-222-1258.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The General Assembly strives to make the legislative process accessible to all. Anyone needing an accommodation to attend or testify at a commission meeting, contact Stacy Custer at scuster@rilegislature.gov or 401-222-7904 at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

TELEVISION AND LIVESTREAMING

The meeting may be televised by Capitol Television on Cox Communications, channels 15 and 61 for high definition; i3 Broadband (formerly Full Channel) on 15; and Verizon, on channel 34.

Livestreaming is available at <https://capitoltvri.cablecast.tv>.

Special Legislative Commission to Study the Ability of the Rhode Island Educational System to Offer Degree or Certificate Programs Within the State to Provide a Supply and a Pipeline of Planners, Planning Technicians, and Planning Staff

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Wednesday March 26, 2025

TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Room 135

AGENDA:

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Discussion and Review of Draft Commission Report
- III. Adjournment

Public Testimony will not be accepted at this meeting.

COMMISSION INFORMATION

For information on commissions, [CLICK HERE](#).

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Appendix C – Presentations, Written Testimony, and Material

(These documents have been posted in the “Planners Commission” section of the Commissions tab of the State of Rhode Island General Assembly website:

<https://www.rilegislature.gov>)

1. 03-03-25 Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns Planners Commission Survey 2025
2. 01-22-25 Kravitz Presentation
3. 12-17-24 Rhode Island College Presentation
4. 12-17-24 New England Institute of Technology PowerPoint Presentation
5. 12-17-24 Charette High School Presentation
6. 12-17-24 Charette High School Handout
7. 11-20-24 University of Rhode Island PowerPoint Presentation
8. 11-20-24 University of Rhode Island Handout
9. 11-20-24 Planners Education Commission Agenda
10. 11-20-24 Community College of Rhode Island PowerPoint Presentation
11. 10-22-24 Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns Presentation
12. 10-22-24 American Planning Association Rhode Island Division Presentation