

Members & Staff Resolve to:

1. Develop, refine, and launch a "Green Region" action strategy as an important new component of the Plan for Progress to position the Pioneer Valley to become New England's premier leader in advancing clean energy and technology options, growing green industries and jobs, and realizing sustainable economic development and growth at a regional scale. Based on input received from 40 interviews with business and civic leaders, develop and implement a set of actions that enhance the implementation of and accountability for the performance of the Plan for Progress on an ongoing basis.
 2. Collaborate with the U.S. Census Bureau, the Donahue Institute at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and PVPC cities and towns to complete critical preparatory work that will realize a more complete and accurate count of the Pioneer Valley's population and other important demographic attributes in the federal government's Census 2010.
 3. Undertake an extensive overhaul and updating of the region's Congestion Management Process (CMP) consistent with the goals and objectives of the Pioneer Valley's currently adopted Regional Transportation Plan in order to relieve traffic congestion hot spots and related mobility concerns (e.g., air pollution, energy consumption) by compiling and broadly sharing reliable, timely information about existing in-region roadway congestion, travel time delays, and traffic incidents.
 4. Initiate in concert with state officials a public information/education campaign designed to help Pioneer Valley elected officials, professional staff, planning boards, civic leaders, and citizens at large understand a new package of zoning reforms developed over the past two years by the Governor's Zoning Reform Task Force. Simultaneously, work to generate support for an anticipated zoning reform legislative initiative, the Land Use Partnership Act, which is to be filed with the state Legislature in early 2009.
 5. Secure required state commitments and funding to launch the District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) program working in concert with the Patrick administration and an interagency team led by the Department of Housing and Community Development. Using DLTA resources, provide a combination of planning and service-delivery technical assistance to PVPC communities that will generate quality planning products and outcomes and recommend more efficient, cost-saving ways to provide regional shared services.
 6. Pursue in concert with the Commission's Valley Development Council and numerous other partners an array of regionally significant housing initiatives, including a pilot project aimed at ending homelessness, a series of Chapter 40R workforce housing plans and projects, an in-region smart growth design competition, and an initial assessment of how to organize, prepare, and fund a comprehensive regional housing plan.
 7. Publish and release a series of PVPC Data Digests that highlight and explain important information about regionally significant conditions or trends that positively or negatively affect the Pioneer Valley's people, economy, environment, infrastructure, housing, development patterns, and educational resources/attainment. Explore connecting the release of these Data Digests to policy briefings that can promote public discourse and heighten media coverage.
 8. Partner with consultant HDR and many other public and private sector organizations (e.g., PVTA, Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation and Public Works, Massachusetts Congressional Delegation, Amtrak, Connecticut and Vermont Departments of Transportation, CSX and Pan Am Rail) to continue or complete a series of important rail passenger and/or rail freight projects including the Knowledge Corridor Passenger Rail Study, the Union Station Redevelopment Plan, the environmental assessment for the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield Commuter Rail Project, and the CSX Rail Freight Yard Access Project.
 9. Complete development and implementation of a series of recommended PVPC-focused marketing and communication initiatives including, but not limited to, the conversion of PVPC's Regional Reporter newsletter to an e-mail format, additional refinements to PVPC's website including a new "video page," ongoing publication of a series of PVPC ads in Commonwealth Magazine, and the wholesale redesign of PVPC's existing brochure.
 10. Work with the Congressional delegation, the new administration in Washington, and both the Massachusetts Legislature and governor to shape and advance federal and/or state legislative initiatives that support and benefit the Pioneer Valley's communities and its people. Key areas of emphasis in 2009 will include climate change, energy, economic development, infrastructure investment, broadband services, transportation, census preparations, and regional shared services, among others.
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