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## Catalytic Projects

Catalytic projects are intended to jump start actions in support of this plan’s goals, including revitalizing urban centers, promoting transit oriented development, restoring the vitality of the Connecticut River and its waterfront and providing bicycle-pedestrian alternatives for commuting within the region.

The implementation of this plan will be undertaken in many ways, including:

- Local technical assistance provided to member communities by PVPC
- Collaborative or supportive projects undertaken by municipalities, regional collaborations, state and federal agencies, and other stakeholder groups;
- Catalytic projects in key locations.

This section describes three catalytic projects that have been completed as part of the HUD-funded Sustainable Communities grant for the Knowledge Corridor region, including:

- Holyoke – design of a new rail platform, and preparation of plans to revitalize Depot Square;
- Springfield – plans and architectural design for revitalization of the historic Court Square building;
- Chicopee – design of the Connecticut Riverwalk and Bikeway, a greenway, bicycle and pedestrian path along the Connecticut River.

Note: This is the executive summary of our plan. To obtain or view a copy of the full plan, visit [pvpc.org](http://pvpc.org).

**cat·a·lyst** /'katl-ist/  
 an agent that provokes or speeds significant change or action

Merriam Webster Dictionary

*“My community is sustainable when everyone’s quality of life is healthy, safe, secure, and equal.”*

Beatrice Dewberry  
 Springfield, MA





*Rendering of new train station for Depot Square, Holyoke*

## Holyoke: Depot Square Redevelopment and Revitalization

The 'Depot Square' Redevelopment project area consists of Depot Square bordered by Appleton Street to Lyman and Race Street, to Main and Bowers Street. Within the project area there are 14 parcels of vacant land and 8 vacant buildings. The project area is adjacent to many new and important developments. It is adjacent to the \$9 million Canalwalk project of which \$5 million has been secured through a federal earmark. It is adjacent to the new Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center, where MIT, Boston University, Harvard, UMASS, Northeastern University, Cisco and EMC have partnered to build a world-class research facility. Each of the colleges are investing \$10 million and the State will be investing \$25 million. Although the 'Depot Square' holds a superior location in the downtown it is fraught with abandonment and blight which has resulted in a lack of development interest from the private sector. The Silvio Conte building is the anchor of this 'Depot Square' and it is a blighted, bank-owned vacant building.

The City is working on many initiatives surrounding this area that work to leverage this project. These activities include the Urban Renewal Plan that is being completed for the entire Center City; the Innovation District Task Force Market Study that is being complete and will examine how to leverage the GHPPC for the City and Region; the Canalwalk that is being completed and will create a 2.1 mile pedestrian path along the historic canals and which is a part of the Connecticut River Greenway; and the Transportation Connections Project that is working to create pedestrian improvements to connect the Holyoke Transportation Center with the future passenger rail. All of these projects are working together to create a synergy of redevelopment activities in public investment that will support private redevelopment investment projects to create a more sustainable Holyoke.



**This redevelopment project will achieve the following goals:**

- To foster the redevelopment and revitalization of the Depot Square area in Holyoke.
- To complete groundwork upon which efforts to create a livable community with housing, civic spaces, open space, commercial services, and jobs located within close walking proximity;
- To connect two major downtown Holyoke projects—the new multi-modal transportation center and the future passenger rail station—through the infusion of private investment into the long Depot Square separating these two areas.

**Major Outcomes/Products:**

- Development of Requests for Proposals and selection of project consultants.
- Design and engineering plans for a rail station platform and canopy.
- Redevelopment scenarios and conceptual drawings of H.H. Richardson train station by UMASS Architectural and Design students.
- Depot Square historic architecture survey by consultant.

*Depot Square public engagement event.*





## Springfield: Court Square

The proposed Court Square Center project contemplates the renovation and substantial rehabilitation of the roughly 120,000 square foot historic Court Square building. The Court Square project in Springfield, MA is a rare opportunity to have a significant and lasting impact on Court Square, one of the most historic and significant civic spaces in Western Massachusetts. The impact of the successful redevelopment of Court Square will be felt throughout downtown Springfield and the region and set the stage for further redevelopment of historic buildings and new construction. The Springfield Redevelopment Authority currently owns the project property and is working with city development partners National Development Council on finalizing a project program. The project is envisioned as a mixed use concept, focused entirely on the redevelopment of the historic 13-31 Elm Street property. The property has been vacant for approximately 20 years and is on Springfield's main green in the heart of downtown, is only blocks from the Knowledge Corridor high speed rail station, and is in the Court Square District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**This redevelopment project will achieve the following goals:**

- The redevelopment and preservation of historic and significant buildings at the heart of Springfield's urban center, Court Square
- The creation of mixed use, office, educational, and residential on upper stories and active ground floor commercial uses units to provide more activity and 24 hour/7 days a week vitality to the area
- Take advantage of and enhance pedestrian and transportation connections as the property is in the heart of downtown and adjacent to the public Court Square Park
- In keeping with Springfield's reputation as a "Green City", incorporate planning for energy efficiency and sustainability in the redevelopment of the site, including, when feasible the use of such items as renewable energy sources, rooftop gardens/outdoor space, and district heating and cooling systems.
- Seek to reduce reliance on the automobile by creating a development where opportunities to live within walking or cycling distance to employment, educational opportunities and high speed rail.
- Re-establish Court Square Park as an vital community space, making public spaces, walkways, and brick public areas more interesting and inviting.

The Court Square Center project will be financed through a combination of Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds, Tax-Exempt Bonds, New Markets Tax Credits, Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits, HUD Section 108 Loan Guarantee Debt, as well as through a grant contribution from the City of Springfield. The THUD grant will be used to fund additional preliminary design activities including engineering, environmental testing, and geotechnical engineering. THUD grant monies will enable the design team to move to 20 percent architectural drawings, which is a necessary precondition for receiving commitments of Federal Historic Tax Credit equity, New Markets Tax Credit equity, and other financing commitments to the project.

**Major Outcomes/Products:**

- Complete civil engineering drawings.
- Complete architectural drawings.
- Complete environmental investigation and testing.
- Undertake analysis of historical rehabilitation needs.
- Undertake geotechnical evaluation.
- Complete cost verification.



Photo: Chris Curtis

## Chicopee: Connecticut Riverwalk

The Connecticut Riverwalk project in Chicopee will add a 3-mile link to a regional bike and pedestrian path along the Connecticut Riverfront. The Riverwalk will provide opportunities for residents to get healthy exercise (i.e. biking, walking, rollerblading), to commute to destinations (jobs, shopping) without using cars, and to enjoy access to a beautiful section of the Connecticut River. The path will include a paved biking path and an unpaved walking path, all to be located on city-owned flood control land. The Riverwalk will connect the region's three urban core communities: downtown Chicopee, Springfield and Holyoke and other suburbs. The overall Connecticut Riverwalk will run over 20 miles, and 5.4 miles of the Riverwalk have already been constructed.

**This redevelopment project will achieve the following goals:**

- To create a riverfront walking and bicycle path along the Connecticut River in Chicopee, which will provide residents with an alternative transportation option to commute to downtown Chicopee, and a venue for recreation and exercise.
- Provide opportunities recreation and exercise for urban residents, particularly in under-served low-income riverfront neighborhoods;
- Reducing auto traffic and emissions by offering opportunities to walk and bike to work;
- Stimulating riverfront revitalization and attracting restaurants, shops, housing and recreational enterprises;
- Serving as the foundation for a Connecticut River greenbelt linking new riverfront parks and recreational facilities and natural areas.

**Major Activities:**

- Prepare Request for Proposals for project engineering consultant.
- Review project proposals and select project engineering consultant.
- Prepare and submit for review 25% engineering and design plans.
- Hold a design public hearing.
- Complete environmental analysis and permitting.
- Complete right of way plans.
- Complete bridge design plans.
- Prepare and submit 75% and 100% engineering and design plans.
- Prepare and submit for review a final PS&E (Plans, Specs & Estimate) submittal .

**Products/Outcomes:**

- Completed engineering and design plans for Connecticut Riverwalk in Chicopee



Bikers enjoy the Connecticut Riverwalk in Springfield

Photo: Chris Curtis





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# Checklist of Sustainability Strategies

What can your community or organization do to help implement this plan, and promote sustainability, smart growth and resiliency in the Pioneer Valley? How do we turn this plan into an effective set of actions? Everyone has a role to play in this process: community officials, legislators, state and federal agencies, non-profits, businesses and individuals.

This section provides a summary checklist of all recommended strategies from the 8 chapters of this action plan. The checklist is organized by chapter, with strategies listed in checklist format targeted for each of the following groups:

- Municipalities
- Legislative Agenda
- State and Federal Agencies
- Regional Strategies

Most strategies will require multiple partners to be effectively implemented. We encourage you to review the strategies, and to contact PVPC for more information about how you can become involved.

Note: This is the executive summary of our plan. To obtain or view a copy of the full plan, visit [pvpc.org](http://pvpc.org).

*"My community is sustainable when public transportation is affordable and accessible to everyday people"*

*Molly Bialecki  
Easthampton, MA*



## Climate Action Checklist

### Climate Action Checklist for Municipalities

<input type="checkbox"/>	Prepare municipal water supply systems for severe droughts, including repairing leaks, and installing water efficient fixtures	PARTNERS: Municipal water departments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Protect and upgrade aging water and wastewater infrastructure from flood damages, and provide emergency backup equipment.	PARTNERS: Municipal water and sewer departments, DPWs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support municipal purchase of fuel efficient vehicle fleets and LED traffic and street lights.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, DPWs, PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduce and track greenhouse gas emissions to meet regional targets.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt new TOD zoning districts along high-speed rail lines and bus routes and near existing centers.	PARTNERS: PVPC, Planning Boards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Generate more clean energy, greener power to reduce the carbon intensity of our electricity supply, by investing in solar, wind, and hydro projects.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, ESCOs, PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt solar and wind zoning bylaws to streamline permitting for renewable energy sources and promote passive solar access.	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop "Solarize" Neighborhood Programs to assist homeowners in purchasing photovoltaic solar systems, by reducing costs through bulk purchasing, tax incentives and rebates.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Retrofit municipal buildings for energy efficiency. A municipality can partner, using an Energy Service Company (ESCO) where appropriate.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, ESCOs, PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Formalize Emergency Intermunicipal Water Connection agreements with neighboring communities, in advance of emergencies.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, PVPC

Storm-proof infrastructure, including energy generation, electrical transmission and distribution, drinking and wastewater facilities, roads and highways, dams and flood dikes.	PARTNERS: Municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assist vulnerable populations with response to severe weather events. Seek funding for a network of severe weather notification procedures and new cooling shelters.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Investigate costs and feasibility of re-locating powerlines underground.	PARTNERS: Utilities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Establish a public warning system for extreme weather events, to send emergency alerts to residents by email, text message or telephone.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Undertake conformance reviews of existing municipal zoning and provide a technical assistance program to help communities adopt zoning for GHG reduction.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourage all of the region's municipalities to seek designation under the state Green Communities Act.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install methane recovery systems to reduce the release of methane into the atmosphere from landfills.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Climate Action Legislative Agenda

Support changes in the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program to address climate vulnerabilities, and promote green infrastructure.	PARTNERS: State Legislature, DEP, Municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adopt state legislation to enable local programs for clean energy financing (or PACE - Property Assessed Clean Energy) programs to set up a revolving loan fund that can pay for energy efficiency retrofits or renewable energy systems.	PARTNERS: Legislators, Municipalities, PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create a regional Livability program using transportation funding streams that support projects, such as pedestrian, streetscape, mixed-use infill, transit-oriented development and transit improvement projects.	PARTNERS: Legislators, PVPC, MassDOT, MPO	<input type="checkbox"/>



### Climate Action Checklist for State and Federal Agencies

<input type="checkbox"/>	Inspect and remove poor condition dams.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, state Office of Dam Safety
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt sustainable project review criteria for all transportation projects.	PARTNERS: MDOT, PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide regional funding to support development of Transit Oriented Development districts (TODs).	PARTNERS: MDOT, PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pro-actively replace underperforming culverts and bridges with larger structures designed to accommodate floods and promote wildlife passage.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, MDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Update FEMA flood insurance maps, and improve community flood zoning regulations.	PARTNERS: FEMA, municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide regional funding to support development of Transit Oriented Development districts (TODs).	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Include climate adaptation strategies, inventories of vulnerable infrastructure and updated flood mapping in all Hazard Mitigation Plans. Seek funding for improved preparedness, including funding for dam inspection, maintenance and removal.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, MEMA, FEMA

### Climate Action Checklist of Regional Action

<input type="checkbox"/>	Seek approval from all 43 Pioneer Valley communities for municipal policy statements and an intergovernmental compact on climate change, committing communities to specific actions to help regional GHG reduction targets.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, PVPC
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## Food Security Checklist

### Food Security Checklist for Municipalities

<p>If you don't already have one, consider forming a food policy council to institutionalize consideration of food security and related issues in your community.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Municipalities, Local Food Policy Councils (Holyoke and Springfield are resources), GrowFood Northampton, MA Food Policy Council</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Continue to educate consumers about proper nutrition and food safety through community outreach, education and advocacy focusing on healthy, local and culturally appropriate foods.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Hunger relief and food advocacy community organizations, local food policy councils, municipalities, Mass in Motion, MA DPH, CDC, PVPC</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Address food access issues by creating "feedability guides" that connect consumers with healthy food retail locations.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Local food policy councils, municipalities, Hunger relief and community-based food advocacy organizations, Mass in Motion, CDC, PVPC</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Support, expand, and replicate initiatives that increase the number of neighborhood retail outlets selling healthy food, such as the healthy bodega/corner store initiative of Mass in Motion in Holyoke and Springfield.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Local food policy councils, MA DPH, Corner stores/Bodegas, CDC, PVPC, community-based food advocacy organizations</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Work to bring full-line grocery stores with a full-line of fresh produce and meats and seafood to neighborhoods that do not have one.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Community-based organizations, local food policy councils, municipalities, economic development organizations, area grocery stores</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## CHECKLIST

<input type="checkbox"/>	Assess how local zoning and other regulations may help or hinder residents' access to healthy food, (Regulatory analysis examples available for the cities of Holyoke and Springfield from PVPC-email <a href="mailto:cratte@pvpc.org">cratte@pvpc.org</a> ) and develop and implement solutions to address identified problems.	PARTNERS: PVPC, municipalities, local planning officials, MA DPH
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support, and implement as appropriate, retail and other policies and practices that promote healthy food, such as in-store display requirements and requiring provision of healthy food at public meetings.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, local planning officials, PVPC, local food policy councils and community-based food advocacy organizations, area grocery stores
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support, incentivize, and facilitate purchase of local food for institutions such as schools, senior centers etc.	PARTNERS: School boards and school districts, MA farm to school initiative, CISA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work to de-stigmatize poverty in general and the use of hunger assistance benefits specifically, by educating the public about inequity and social justice and the public health benefits of a healthy population, especially growing children.	PARTNERS: Hunger relief organizations, CISA, Economic justice organizations, PVPC, MA DPH, CDC, public officials
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support local policies and regulations that address food insecurity and promote local agriculture such as "right to farm" bylaws, local agriculture commissions and municipal laws to regulate location of restaurants with respect to schools.	PARTNERS: PVPC, municipalities, MA DAR
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support urban agriculture including livestock ordinances, GIS mapping of available parcels, and foster partnerships among property owners, businesses, residents and community based organizations to develop and expand community gardens and commercial urban agriculture initiatives.	PARTNERS: Municipalities, PVPC, MA DAR, New Entry Sustainable Farmers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support on-site vegetable gardens at schools, day care facilities, adult care facilities, jails, prisons, and other similar entities.	PARTNERS: School districts, Care facility operators
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support development of on-farm clean, safe, sustainable energy sources and systems and help improve the efficiency of existing systems.	PARTNERS: MA Farm Energy program, MA CEC, PVPC, municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop new and expand existing large-scale food waste composting initiatives; support and establish waste source separation programs and hauling routes. Strengthen the composting market with greater incentives i.e. landfill tipping fees) to divert organic waste and work to develop consumer demand for finished compost products.	PARTNERS: DEP, CET, PVPC, municipalities, Farmers, food businesses and institutional meal providers, restaurants



Expand residential scale composting. Encourage sales of in-home and outdoor bins and distribute easy to understand information about how to compost at home.	PARTNERS: DEP, municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facilitate implementation of Scaling Up Local Food ( <a href="http://www.buylocalfood.org/resources-for-farmers/ag-infrastructure">www.buylocalfood.org/resources-for-farmers/ag-infrastructure</a> ) developed by Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA) in 2012.	PARTNERS: CISA, MA DAR, MA Workforce Alliance, PVGrows, Common Capital	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide technical assistance and business development support to local farms and food businesses including compliance with food safety requirements.	PARTNERS: CISA, financial institutions, Common Capital, Slow Money, PVGrows, EDA	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Food Security Legislative Agenda

Fully fund Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.	PARTNERS: local, state and federally elected officials; local, state and federal agency staff, advocates	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create and adopt legislation to incentivize and facilitate purchase of local food for institutional uses, such as in schools, rehabilitation centers for the elderly and sick and in hospitals and senior centers.	PARTNERS: local, state and federally elected officials; local, state and federal agency staff, advocates	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amend local, state and federal regulations as necessary to promote food security, i.e. facilitate community gardens, urban agriculture, right to farm, farmland protection, etc.	PARTNERS: local, state and federally elected officials; local, state and federal agency staff, advocates	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintain and expand as necessary such successful initiatives as the Massachusetts Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR), Community Preservation Act (CPA), and Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) to protect and maintain agricultural land.	PARTNERS: local, state and federally elected officials; local, state and federal agency staff, advocates	<input type="checkbox"/>
Continue to fund the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center and the Massachusetts Farm Energy initiative to facilitate generation of clean, safe, sustainable energy on farms.	PARTNERS: local, state and federally elected officials; local, state and federal agency staff, advocates	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assure that food safety regulations do not disproportionately negatively affect local farms.	PARTNERS: local, state and federally elected officials; local, state and federal agency staff, advocates	<input type="checkbox"/>

# CHECKLIST

## Food Security Checklist for State and Federal Agencies

<input type="checkbox"/>	Facilitate wider acceptance of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, Women Infant and Children (WIC) coupons and other state and federal assistance benefits at farmer's markets and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farms to assist more people in accessing healthy food and to assist farmers to sell their produce to a larger market.	Lead Group(s): relief-hunger organizations, state agencies, farmers markets
<input type="checkbox"/>	Collaborate with organizations across New England and within the Pioneer Valley to work toward the goal of producing 50% of the food consumed in the region.	Lead Group(s): CISA, PVPC, Food producers and distributors, MA Food policy council
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create an on-line electronic platform for food-related data to enable food organizations to share existing data and describe future needs. This service could also provide training and education about food data collection and use as well as technical assistance for farm business operators, food distributors and retailers.	Lead Group(s): CISA, Food Bank of W MA, PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintain and expand as necessary such successful initiatives as the Massachusetts Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR), Community Preservation Act (CPA), and Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) to protect and maintain agricultural land.	Lead Group(s): Land owners, MA DAR, PVPC, municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support development of on-farm clean, safe, sustainable energy sources and systems and help improve the efficiency of existing systems.	Lead Group(s): MA Farm Energy program, MA CEC, PVPC, municipalities

## Food Security Checklist Regional Strategies

<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue and expand ongoing communication and collaboration among and between relief-hunger organizations, such as the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts with Buy Local Food and Farmer Support agencies, such as Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA).	Lead Group(s): Food Bank of W MA, CISA, PVGrows, PVPC, Local food policy councils
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide free or reduced fare bus passes to low income riders for trips to garden plots, farmer's markets and other community food sources.	Lead Group(s): Hunger relief organizations, PVPC, Community Foundations, Leadership Pioneer Valley
<input type="checkbox"/>	Expand the number of low income Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) models to increase access to fresh food in low income areas by improving access for seniors, increasing the use of SNAP for CSA membership payment and similar efforts.	Lead Group(s): Hunger relief organizations, CISA

<p>Work to assure that all people eligible for SNAP, WIC and other similar benefit programs are enrolled in the programs.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Hunger relief organizations, social service agencies, MA DTA,</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Work to de-stigmatize poverty in general and the use of hunger assistance benefits specifically, by educating the public about inequity and social justice and the public health benefits of a healthy population, especially growing children.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Hunger relief organizations, CISA, Economic justice organizations, PVPC, MA DPH, CDC, public officials</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Collaborate with organizations across New England and within the Pioneer Valley to work toward the goal of producing 50% of the food consumed in the region.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: CISA, PVPC, Food producers and distributors, MA Food policy council</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Create an on-line electronic platform for food-related data to enable food organizations to share existing data and describe future needs. This service could also provide training and education about food data collection and use as well as technical assistance for farm business operators, food distributors and retailers.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: CISA, Food Bank of W MA, PVPC</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Maintain and expand as necessary such successful initiatives as the Massachusetts Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR), Community Preservation Act (CPA), and Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) to protect and maintain agricultural land.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Land owners, MA DAR, PVPC, municipalities</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Connect land owners with farmers to facilitate agricultural production. Actively participate in the Hampden county pilot project collaboration with the New Entry Sustainable Farming Project and its partners.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: New Entry Sustainable Farmers, MA DAR, PVPC, municipalities, Farmers, Landowners</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Support on-site vegetable gardens at schools, day care facilities, adult care, rehab, and other similar entities.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: School districts, Care facility operators</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Support development of on-farm clean, safe, sustainable energy sources and systems and help improve the efficiency of existing systems.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: MA Farm Energy program, MA CEC, PVPC, municipalities, USDA</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Facilitate and expand year-round food production capacity in the region, including hydroponic greenhouses.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Farmers, MA DAR, CISA, USDA</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Provide flexible capital for innovative local farm and food businesses, particularly those to improve food system infrastructure.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Common Capital, Slow Money, Financial Institutions, PVGrows, EDA, USDA</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## CHECKLIST

<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop new and expand existing large-scale food waste composting initiatives; support and establish waste source separation programs and hauling routes. Strengthen the composting market with greater incentives i.e. landfill tipping fees to divert organic waste and work to develop consumer demand for finished compost products.	PARTNERS: DEP, CET, PVPC, municipalities, Farmers, food businesses and institutional meal providers, restaurants
<input type="checkbox"/>	Help develop and expand the capacity of farmers to sell produce directly to institutional meal providers, such as colleges, universities, schools, hospitals, day-care, senior meals programs and nursing homes.	PARTNERS: MA Farm to School, CISA, MA DAR, AFT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Facilitate implementation of Scaling Up Local Food ( <a href="http://www.buylocalfood.org/resources-for-farmers/ag-infrastructure">www.buylocalfood.org/resources-for-farmers/ag-infrastructure</a> ) developed by Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA) in 2012.	PARTNERS: CISA, MA DAR, MA Workforce Alliance, PVGrows, Common Capital
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide technical assistance and business development support to local farms and food businesses including compliance with food safety requirements.	PARTNERS: CISA, financial institutions, Common Capital, Slow Money, PVGrows, EDA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work to fill gaps in all sectors of the local food system with local jobs, especially in food production and waste/compost sectors. Provide education and training to increase the skills and capacities of food system workers through formal programs, such as the Greenfield Community College Farm and Food Systems degree (insert link <a href="http://web.gcc.mass.edu/farmandfoodsystems/">http://web.gcc.mass.edu/farmandfoodsystems/</a> ).	PARTNERS: Community college academic and training programs, REBs, MA Workforce Alliance, CISA

## Housing Checklist

### Housing Checklist for Municipalities

Appoint a local housing committee to study community needs, recommend appropriate actions, advocate for action.	PARTNERS: Board of Selectmen / City Council	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop a local housing plan, drawing on findings of the Regional Housing Plan, to lay out specific approaches for meeting local and regional needs and/or as a guide for spending Community Preservation Act housing funds.	PARTNERS: Housing Committee, Planning Board, Housing Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>
Form a Shared Housing Office (SHO) with one or more of your neighboring municipalities to strengthen capacity to plan for, implement, and manage programs and strategies to increase and preserve income-restricted affordable housing.	PARTNERS: Board of Selectmen / City Council and Housing Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Form a Municipal Affordable Housing Trust (MAHT) to streamline future housing programs and development activities.	PARTNERS: Board of Selectmen / City Council and Housing Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consider adoption of the Community Preservation Act as a local funding mechanism for the acquisition, creation, preservation and support of income-restricted affordable housing.	PARTNERS: Local CPA adoption committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourage zoning that allows for multifamily housing, two-family housing, and/or accessory dwelling units to increase the supply of housing affordable to a wider range of households.	PARTNERS: Planning Board / Zoning Board of Appeals, Housing Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use M.G.L. Chapter 40B, M.G.L. Chapter 40R, and the state's Compact Neighborhoods Program to create new income-restricted affordable housing.	PARTNERS: Planning Board / Zoning Board of Appeals, Housing Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mandate or encourage developers of market-rate projects to set aside a modest percentage of units for low- and moderate income households through a locally adopted land use regulation, which is often called "inclusionary zoning."	PARTNERS: Planning Board / Zoning Board of Appeals, Housing Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leverage major public and private investments to create income-restricted affordable and market-rate housing opportunities.	PARTNERS: Board of Selectmen / City Council, Planning Board	<input type="checkbox"/>

## CHECKLIST

<input type="checkbox"/>	Evaluate the effectiveness of the Massachusetts' Housing Development Incentive Program (HDIP) and make programmatic recommendations to DHCD as needed.	PARTNERS: City Councils, planning and development staff
<input type="checkbox"/>	Participate in annual, semi-annual, or quarterly meetings during which developers, builders, real estate professionals and municipal officials discuss residential development challenges and opportunities.	PARTNERS: Boards or Selectmen / City Council, Planning Board, municipal planning, development, financial and legal staff
<input type="checkbox"/>	Encourage local employers to invest in workforce housing solutions such as providing on-site homebuyer education classes, down payment assistance, loan guarantees, and in some cases, rental assistance or new housing development.	PARTNERS: Boards or Selectmen / City Council, Housing Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Address vacant, abandoned or foreclosed properties by initiating a Municipal Receivership Program or by establishing procedures to take action on tax delinquent properties.	PARTNERS: Boards or Selectmen / City Council, municipal financial and legal staff
<input type="checkbox"/>	Advocate for housing rehabilitation and modification loan program funding to be distributed at the regional level for all non-entitlement communities.	PARTNERS: Boards or Selectmen / City Council, Housing Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintain quality housing by adopting a rental license and inspection system program such as one currently being implemented in Amherst.	PARTNERS: Boards or Selectmen / City Council
<input type="checkbox"/>	Advocate for updates to lead paint abatement program requirements.	PARTNERS: Boards or Selectmen / City Council, Housing Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintain an updated list of possible public parcels that could be used for income-restricted affordable housing and consider issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for one or more of these parcels.	PARTNERS: Housing Committee, Boards or Selectmen / City Council, Planning Board
<input type="checkbox"/>	Preserve the supply of income restricted housing by maintaining an awareness of housing developments with soon-to-be expiring affordability restrictions. Delegate monitoring responsibility to a municipal staff member, an outside agency, or to a shared municipal housing office.	PARTNERS: Housing Committee, Boards or Selectmen / City Council
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work to end homelessness in the region by participating in the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness.	PARTNERS: Housing Committee, Boards or Selectmen / City Council

<p>Encourage your local housing authority to examine the potential for combined operations for programs, maintenance, and staffing with other local housing authorities in the region.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Housing Committee, Boards or Selectmen / City Council</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Participate in a regional fair housing coalition of key stakeholders to help shape a regional conversation on housing choice and equal opportunity.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Housing Committee, Boards or Selectmen / City Council, Planning Board</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Plan regionally for senior housing by participating in sub-regional meetings to discuss senior housing needs and locations for future housing.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Housing Committee, Boards or Selectmen / City Council, Council on Aging, Planning Board</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Encourage the creation of elderly and/or special needs housing by providing density bonuses or other zoning incentives to developers that include units with universal design, accessible, and/or adaptable features.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Housing Committee, Council on Aging, Planning Board</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Institute a requirement, by local ordinance, that all new multi-family developments are to provide a minimum percentage of accessible rental units.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Housing Committee, Council on Aging, Planning Board</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Monitor housing developments to ensure that they are compliant with state and federal accessibility requirements. Conduct collaborative reviews of the various accessibility and building codes to achieve a coordinated, comprehensive understanding existing accessibility requirements.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Building Department, Housing Committee, Boards or Selectmen / City Council, Planning Board, Council on Aging</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Housing Legislative Agenda

<p>Provide targeted state funding to regional planning agencies (RPA's) for housing planning activities to enhance their ability to provide technical assistance to their member communities. DHCD's District Local Technical Assistance Fund (DLTA) program is one current example.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: State legislators, DHCD, EOHEd</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Adopt new state legislation that would require area lenders to ensure their first-time buyers of rental property take a landlord workshop.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: State legislators</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Enact state legislation that requires lenders to ensure their first-time home buyers take a homeownership or financial literacy course.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: State legislators</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Adopt state Bill H. 311: "An Act to Promote Transformative Development in Gateway Cities" to adjust and expand existing economic development programs such as the Massachusetts' Housing Development Incentive Program (HDIP) in order to achieve transformative redevelopment in our Gateway Cities.</p>	<p>PARTNERS: State legislators</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## CHECKLIST

<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide funding for new public housing units outside of the central cities.	PARTNERS: State legislators, Congress, DHCD, HUD, LHA commissioners
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish funding programs that support homeownership or rental opportunities for middle-income households in targeted distressed areas as opposed to funding projects that primarily benefit low-to-moderate income households, a practice which serves as one more barrier to attracting an economically diverse population to urban neighborhoods.	PARTNERS: State legislators, DHCD, HUD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish a funding set-aside for small-scale income-restricted affordable housing projects to assist our rural and small towns with creating income-restricted affordable housing units.	PARTNERS: State legislators, Congress, DHCD, HUD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide and raise funds for rapid rehousing and prevention activities, and direct these funds toward agencies that are part of a coordinated housing crisis response network that uses the funds in accordance with community-developed standards.	PARTNERS: State legislators, DHCD, Municipal, Foundation & Faith- Based Communities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support the creation and maintenance of a regional housing database, which will improve information sharing about available income-restricted affordable housing units.	PARTNERS: State legislators, DHCD, PVPC, Western Mass Network to End Homelessness
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide funding support for the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness.	PARTNERS: DHCD, Municipal, Foundation & Faith- Based Communities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue funding of the HUD 202 program (supportive housing for the elderly program), which is currently slated for elimination.	PARTNERS: Congress

### Housing Checklist for State and Federal Agencies

<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide targeted funding to regional planning agencies (RPA's) for housing planning activities to enhance their ability to provide technical assistance to their member communities. DHCD's District Local Technical Assistance Fund (DLTA) program is one current example.	PARTNERS: State legislators, DHCD, EOHEd, DOR
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hold regional workshops and trainings on affordable and fair housing topics	PARTNERS: DHCD, PVPC, Mass. Fair Housing Center
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish a stronger state fair housing strategy to respond to patterns, practices and policies that have had a broad, long-term impact statewide.	PARTNERS: DHCD, MCAD, RHC, MFHC, HAPHousing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide ongoing training for municipalities, elected officials and key stakeholders on common/egregious fair housing violations, such as landlords refusing to rent to housing choice voucher holders or families with children.	PARTNERS: MCAD, DHCD, HAPHousing, MFHC, HUD



Increase funding for the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination to enforce fair housing violations.	PARTNERS: HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop a process for monitoring and feedback mechanisms for Analysis of Impediments, (A.I.'s) by the state and federal government.	PARTNERS: HUD, DHCD, MCAD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide technical assistance on and create incentives for developing regionalized Analysis of Impediments, (A.I.'s).	PARTNERS: HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Establish funding programs that support homeownership or rental opportunities for middle-income households in targeted distressed areas as opposed to funding projects that primarily benefit low-to-moderate income households, a practice which serves as one more barrier to attracting an economically diverse population to urban neighborhoods.	PARTNERS: DHCD, HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consider making available funding programs such as the model established by HUD's Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) to address the cost of owning tax delinquent properties and/or attracting middle income residents to distressed areas.	PARTNERS: AGO, HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Continue state and federal financial resources to address issues surrounding abandoned properties.	PARTNERS: DHCD, AGO, HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create a dedicated source of funds for demolition of extremely deteriorated and blighted properties to assist central cities in meeting demolition needs.	PARTNERS: DHCD, HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coordinated technical assistance-- in the form of memos, policy briefs, workshops, and direct assistance-- on legalities and other issues associated with managing tax delinquent properties and other municipally owned buildings that are not in public use, for establishing a municipal receivership program, and for building demolition and blight removal.	PARTNERS: DHCD, DPH, DOR, AGO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Distribute funding for housing rehabilitation and modification loan programs at the regional level for all non-entitlement communities.	PARTNERS: DHCD, HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide adequate funding for the state Get the Lead Out program to insure that it reaches everyone who is eligible under the program's regulations.	PARTNERS: MassHousing, DHCD, DPH	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide outreach and education on USEPA's Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) ruling and enforce violations (DPS).	PARTNERS: DPS, MCAD, HAPHousing, MFHC, Trade Associations	<input type="checkbox"/>
Review present lead paint safety standards and procedures in light of current research and neighboring states' experience implementing deleading regulations.	PARTNERS: DPH, State Legislators	<input type="checkbox"/>
Augment locally-funded code enforcement in areas that warrant additional enforcement.	PARTNERS: DPS, DHCD, DPH, AGO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coordinated technical assistance on legalities and other issues associated with municipal code enforcement.	PARTNERS: DHCD, DPH, DOR, AGO, DOR	<input type="checkbox"/>

## CHECKLIST

<input type="checkbox"/>	Continued financial resources to local non-profits such as Massachusetts Fair Housing Council (MFHC) and HAPHousing to administer foreclosure prevention programs.	PARTNERS: DHCD, OCABR (Division of Banks), HUD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue homebuyer counseling programs and programs that assist in relocating residents who have experienced foreclosure.	PARTNERS: HUD, DHCD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure city/town halls and area social service providers have the most up-to-date list of available resources for people who have experienced foreclosure.	PARTNERS: DHCD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue support for programs that assist first time homebuyers with mortgage assistance and below market mortgage products.	PARTNERS: MassHousing, MHP, DHCD, HUD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Funding for new public housing units outside of the central cities.	PARTNERS: DHCD, HUD, LHA commissioners
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continued funding for capital improvements and maintenance for public housing units that are aging, deteriorating and/or empty, but inhabitable units.	PARTNERS: DHCD, HUD, LHA commissioners
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fund mobility counseling programs for housing choice voucher holders that could be run by our local Local Housing Authority (LHA), Mass Fair Housing Center, and HAPHousing.	PARTNERS: DHCD, HUD, LHA commissioners
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish smaller Fair Market Rent Areas (FMR's) that more accurately reflect the local market conditions of the Pioneer Valley region.	PARTNERS: HUD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide technical assistance and financial resources to facilitate the use of surplus Housing Authority property.	PARTNERS: DHCD, HUD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review effectiveness of targeted tenant support services to identify gaps and opportunities.	PARTNERS: DHCD, HUD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue efforts to enhance the delivery of local housing authority programs and services.	PARTNERS: DHCD, LHA commissioners
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish a set-aside for small-scale affordable housing projects to assist our rural and small towns with creating income-restricted affordable housing units.	PARTNERS: DHCD, HUD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue public funding for agencies like Citizen Planner Training Collaborative (CPTC) and Mass Housing Partnership (MHP) who currently offer technical assistance for municipalities on Chapter 40B and on developing income-restricted affordable housing on public lands.	PARTNERS: DHCD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide technical assistance to build capacity at the local level to monitor and enforce income-restricted resale restrictions on affordable homeownership units, including creation and maintenance of a "ready buyers list".	PARTNERS: DHCD

Maintain and increase funding for the preservation of income-restricted housing.	PARTNERS: DHCD, HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use existing affordable housing resources to create permanent supportive housing through strategic partnerships that provide wrap-around supportive services to tenants in these units.	PARTNERS: Local housing authorities, DHCD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide and raise funds for rapid rehousing and prevention activities, and direct these funds toward agencies that are part of a coordinated housing crisis response network that uses the funds in accordance with community-developed standards.	PARTNERS: DHCD, Municipal, Foundation & Faith-Based Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Financially support the creation and maintenance of a regional housing database, which will improve information sharing about available income-restricted affordable housing units.	PARTNERS: DHCD, PVPC, Western Mass Network to End Homelessness	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide funding support for the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness	PARTNERS: DHCD, Municipal, Foundation & Faith-Based Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participate in sub-regional meetings to discuss senior housing needs and locations for future housing.	PARTNERS: Elected municipal officials, Councils on Aging, DHCD, EOEAA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fund research to identify new assisted living financing models for moderate and low-income seniors and consider funding a pilot project based on one or more of the new financing models.	PARTNERS: DHCD, EOEAA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide technical assistance in the form of trainings and information on accessibility laws and best practices to building departments, landlords and housing providers to ensure compliance with existing accessibility requirements.	PARTNERS: DPS, DHCD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide technical assistance and educational/outreach assistance on context-sensitive compact or higher density development, particularly examples for rural communities.	PARTNERS: DHCD, PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Direct discretionary state funding to municipalities with areas designated for higher residential density or more compact development.	PARTNERS: EOHED, DOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
Require communities to provide evidence of the need for local environmental regulations that exceed state regulatory standards.	PARTNERS: DEP, EOHED, EOEAA	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Environment Checklist

### Environment Checklist for Municipalities

<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt Stormwater Utilities	PARTNERS: Municipal DPWs, Planning Boards, CEOs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Implement local stormwater and erosion control standards	PARTNERS: Municipal DPWs, Planning Boards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Implement green infrastructure zoning incentives	PARTNERS: Municipal DPWs, Planning Boards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue and expand Compact for Pioneer Valley Conservation	PARTNERS: PVPC, Conservation Commissions, Open Space Committees
<input type="checkbox"/>	Implement Priority Protection Areas / Critical Lands Acquisition program	PARTNERS: PVPC, Agricultural Commissions, Open Space Committees
<input type="checkbox"/>	Improve access to parks and open space in Environmental Justice areas	PARTNERS: PVPC, Municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt the Community Preservation Act (CPA)	PARTNERS: Conservation Commissions, Open Space Committees, Planning Boards, Historic Commissions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use CPA funds to leverage state and federal funds for land conservation projects	PARTNERS: PVPC, Municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish local conservation funds	PARTNERS: Conservation Commissions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create and maintain active agricultural commissions	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Conservation Commissions, Open Space Committees

<p>Adopt Right to Farm bylaws</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Agricultural Commissions, Planning Boards, Conservation Commissions, Open Space Committees</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Adopt river protection standards and bylaws</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Conservation Commissions</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Create Transfer of Development Rights zoning (TDR)</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Agricultural Commissions, Conservation Commissions, Open Space Committees</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Adopt scenic upland protection zoning</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Commissions, Conservation Commissions, Open Space Committees</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Inventory, update, assess vulnerability and protect critical infrastructure</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Municipalities</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Storm-proof infrastructure</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Municipalities</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Create emergency inter-municipal water connections</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Municipalities</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Upgrade stream crossings, bridges and culverts</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Public Work Departments, Conservation Commissions</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Improve flood zoning</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Municipal Planning Boards</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Implement zoning for bike and pedestrian amenities to support an intermodal pedestrian and bicycle network</p>	<p>PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Public Works Departments, PVPC, MDOT</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>



# CHECKLIST

## Environment Legislative Agenda

<input type="checkbox"/>	Support Removal of Poor Condition Dams in Stressed Basins	PARTNERS: PVPC, MA DER, Municipalities
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## Environment Checklist for State and Federal Agencies

<input type="checkbox"/>	Update FEMA flood maps	PARTNERS: FEMA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Implement Northeast Regional Mercury Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	PARTNERS: MassDEP

## Environment Checklist of Regional Strategies

<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue to build Connecticut River website <a href="http://www.ConnecticutRiver.us">www.ConnecticutRiver.us</a>	PARTNERS: PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Implement Bi-state CT River Corridor Management Plan	PARTNERS: PVPC; CRCOG; FRCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue Connecticut River Bacteria Monitoring Program	PARTNERS: PVPC; Connecticut River Watershed Council
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue to address Combined Sewer Overflows	PARTNERS: PVPC; CRCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete supply and demand forecasts for public water supplies	PARTNERS: PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Implement bi-state approach to water supply protection in Westfield and Farmington River Watersheds	PARTNERS: PVPC; CRCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct subsistence fishing survey and fish consumption advisory outreach	PARTNERS: PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct bi-state trail linkages study	PARTNERS: PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Expand Greenway system of trails and parks	PARTNERS: PVPC

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Support design and implementation of Connecticut River Paddlers Trail

PARTNERS:  
VT River Conservancy,  
AMC, TPL

Support Pioneer Valley Regional Trails Coalition and Connecticut River Paddlers Trail

PARTNERS:  
PVPC

## Green Infrastructure Checklist

### Green Infrastructure Checklist for Municipalities

<input type="checkbox"/>	Hold regular municipal cross departmental roundtable discussions to encourage the integration of green infrastructure in all projects involving stormwater management	PARTNERS: Stormwater Managers and DPW Directors
<input type="checkbox"/>	Explore corporate sponsorship programs for green infrastructure	PARTNERS: Stormwater Managers and DPW Directors
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seek funds for pilot/demonstration projects that transform “gray” streets into “green” streets	PARTNERS: Stormwater Managers and DPW Directors
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work with PVPC to design and install interpretive signage at key existing green infrastructure facilities in the region	PARTNERS: PVPC, Municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work with PVPC to assess existing local policies and regulations that impact green infrastructure and make recommendations for improvements	PARTNERS: PVPC, Municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amend Subdivision Regulations and road building practices to better reduce total impervious area to promote narrower roads and to manage stormwater runoff from roads	PARTNERS: DPW and Emergency Response Directors with Planning Board
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create a detailed municipal Green Infrastructure Opportunities Map illustrating prime locations for green infrastructure projects	PARTNERS: DPW Director with Stormwater Manager and other Project Managers throughout the Municipality
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt municipal tree bylaws/ordinances or other regulations that minimize removal of large trees and encourage planting of new trees	PARTNERS: Tree Wardens with help from PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt municipal stormwater regulations that promote green infrastructure on smaller sites less than one acre and redevelopment sites	PARTNERS: DPW Director, Stormwater Manager, and Planning Board with help from PVPC

Establish reduced and more flexible off-street parking requirements to reflect actual parking demand. Amend municipal zoning and subdivision regulations that require excess pavement in driveways and parking lots	PARTNERS: DPW Director, Stormwater Manager, and Planning Board with help from PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Establish a structured decision making process for incorporating green infrastructure practices into all municipal projects	PARTNERS: DPW Director, Stormwater Manager, and Planning Board with help from PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Track the condition of stormwater infrastructure, possible locations for green infrastructure retrofits, and other valuable decision support information	PARTNERS: DPW Director and Stormwater Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adopt standards to guide maintenance and inspection activities. Develop adequate enforcement measures for green infrastructure maintenance	PARTNERS: PVPC, Municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Require green infrastructure installations to have a maintenance plan and budget. Require performance and maintenance bonds for new privately-owned green infrastructure	PARTNERS: PVPC, Municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Establish a regular inspection schedule for all green infrastructure	PARTNERS: PVPC, Municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintain a database of public and privately-owned green infrastructure	PARTNERS: PVPC, Municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure that municipal employees have adequate training regarding maintenance and inspection techniques	PARTNERS: PVPC, Municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Green Infrastructure Legislative Agenda

Promote Massachusetts Infrastructure Bank and Mass Works funding for projects that incorporate green infrastructure. Ensure that criteria developed for evaluating projects funded through this newly formed tool, give extra points for managing stormwater through green infrastructure	PARTNERS: PVPC, State agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support funding through Environmental Bond Bill for CSO abatement work that includes green infrastructure projects	PARTNERS: PVPC, State Legislators	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promote changes to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund so that projects that include green infrastructure are more actively supported	PARTNERS: PVPC, Mass DEP, State Legislators	<input type="checkbox"/>

## State and Federal Actions

<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide Supplemental Environmental Project funding for green infrastructure projects	PARTNERS: Mass DEP with EPA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that all funding of projects involving stormwater management prioritize use of green infrastructure strategies	PARTNERS: Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, U.S. Housing and Urban Development/ CDBG funding, EPA, MassDOT, FHWA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote citizen-built rain gardens and related projects	PARTNERS: EPA with PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct a series of workshops for municipal officials, design professionals, and others in the development community. Train municipal staff tasked with facilities management (parks, schools grounds, and athletic fields) about green site management practices to reduce stormwater pollutants	PARTNERS: Mass DEP, PVPC, EPA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide technical assistance to develop policies and regulations that promote green infrastructure	PARTNERS: EPA with PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bring together impervious cover reduction requirements in proposed MS4 stormwater permit with impervious cover reductions that better target improved water quality	PARTNERS: EPA with PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that transportation project funding gives preference to projects that incorporate green infrastructure	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Advance green infrastructure practices within MassWorks funded projects by developing criteria that give priority to such projects	PARTNERS: MassWorks
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify opportunities within state tax code to provide credits for green infrastructure	PARTNERS: Mass Department of Revenue, PVPC, Municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Overcome barriers to rainwater harvesting - Promote state plumbing code changes to include requirements specific to rainwater harvesting.	PARTNERS: MassDEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coordinate with MassDOT's Impaired Waters Program to reduce roadway runoff.	PARTNERS: MassDOT, PVPC, Municipalities



### Green Infrastructure Checklist of Regional Actions

Couple “complete street” with “green street” projects - Promote dialogue on how municipal stormwater managers can collaborate with their colleagues tasked with improving the street experience for pedestrians and bicyclists to produce projects that result in “complete green streets.”	PARTNERS: PVPC with interested municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Incorporate green infrastructure practices into highway, road and other publicly funded projects across the region	PARTNERS: PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop a green infrastructure educational and funding tool kit which identifies incentives for green infrastructure	PARTNERS: PVPC with interested municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Design and install interpretive signage at key existing green infrastructure facilities in the region	PARTNERS: PVPC with interested property owners	<input type="checkbox"/>
Establish annual green infrastructure awards program	PARTNERS: PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work with existing education programs to further develop programming about green infrastructure	PARTNERS: PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Establish a regional agreement to promote a common goals and regulations for green infrastructure	PARTNERS: PVPC with interested municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide guidance for downspout disconnect compliance programs	PARTNERS: PVPC, and interested partners in South Hadley, Holyoke, and Springfield	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Sustainable Transportation Checklist

### Transportation Checklist for Municipalities

<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote the implementation of bicycle lanes where practical.	PARTNERS: DPW
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote transit oriented development.	PARTNERS: Planning Boards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Encourage private connections to the regional bikeway network.	PARTNERS: Planning Boards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop incentives to encourage businesses to utilize a mix of freight transportation alternatives.	PARTNERS: Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Encourage and promote telecommuting and video conferencing.	PARTNERS: Major Employers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Properly mitigate the adverse impact of sprawl by promoting development through the use of permitting and zoning measures.	PARTNERS: Planning Boards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create incentives for downtown revitalization.	PARTNERS: Planning Boards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Divert highway runoff to stormwater Best Management Practices, such as rain gardens and dry swales.	PARTNERS: DPW
<input type="checkbox"/>	Expand use of permeable pavements on sidewalks, paths, car-parks, and minor roads.	PARTNERS: DPW
<input type="checkbox"/>	Encourage use of materials such as pervious concrete, porous asphalt, paving stone, brick, tile, and gravel where appropriate.	PARTNERS: DPW
<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilize narrower road widths for local roads where appropriate	PARTNERS: DPW
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop transportation facilities to support and promote smart growth in and around existing city and town centers.	PARTNERS: Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Invest in the repair and maintenance of existing transportation infrastructure.	PARTNERS: DPW
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigate the impacts of roadway salt and chemical usage during snow season.	PARTNERS: DPW

Utilize energy efficient lighting and solar panels in new facilities.	PARTNERS: Planning Boards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Enforce idling reduction programs in major activity centers.	PARTNERS: Local Police	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop ordinances and bylaws that encourage mixed use and high density forms of development where appropriate.	PARTNERS: Planning Boards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Construct roads without curbing where practical to enable sheet flow.	PARTNERS: DPW	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prohibit billboards along highways.	PARTNERS: Local Government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adopt Green Streets policies.	PARTNERS: DPW, MassDOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide accommodations for pedestrians, transit users, and bicyclists in roadway and bridge design and the maintenance of existing facilities.	PARTNERS: Planning Boards	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Transportation Legislative Agenda

Designate wild and scenic corridors along highways that abut rivers and streams of historic and natural significance.	PARTNERS:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourage local fleets to use clean fuel alternatives.	PARTNERS:	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Transportation State and Federal Agencies

Fund Bikeway/Walkway projects	PARTNERS: FHWA/MassDOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop a comprehensive Commuter Rail network.	PARTNERS: MassDOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
Identify and mitigate vertical clearance issues at underpasses.	PARTNERS: MassDOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
Include ITS equipment as part of transit and roadway improvement projects.	PARTNERS: MassDOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support ITS projects to foster deployment of ITS technology.	PARTNERS: MassDOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implement real-time passenger and travel information systems.	PARTNERS: MassDOT	<input type="checkbox"/>

## CHECKLIST

<input type="checkbox"/>	Divert highway runoff to stormwater Best Management Practices, such as rain gardens and dry swales.	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Restore or maintain connected habitats that allow for movement of fish, water, and wildlife.	PARTNERS: DCR
<input type="checkbox"/>	Expand use of permeable pavements on sidewalks, paths, car-parks, and minor roads.	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Encourage use of materials such as pervious concrete, porous asphalt, paving stone, brick, tile, and gravel where appropriate.	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote energy efficient travel modes.	PARTNERS: MassRIDes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Implement the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.	PARTNERS: MEMA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Invest in the repair and maintenance of existing transportation infrastructure.	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work with major employers to develop incentives to decrease single occupant vehicle use.	PARTNERS: MassRIDes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitigate the impacts of roadway salt and chemical usage during snow season.	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support urban forestry initiatives.	PARTNERS: DCR
<input type="checkbox"/>	Construct roads without curbing where practical to enable sheet flow.	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Screen lighting on highways.	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace under-sized culverts and stream crossings	PARTNERS: FEMA/MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide accommodations for pedestrians, transit users, and bicyclists in roadway and bridge design and the maintenance of existing facilities.	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Implement communications and ITS technologies to improve public transit safety, and security.	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work with appropriate agencies to improve the transmittal of bike and pedestrian crashes to local police departments.	PARTNERS: MassDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote the Safe Routes to School program	PARTNERS: MassDOT

Develop appropriate educational resources to promote safety for drivers, bicyclists, transit users, and pedestrians.	Lead Group(s): MassDOT	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintain equity in providing transportation services and access throughout the region.	Lead Group(s): FHWA/FTA/MassDOT	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Regional Actions

Seek innovative methods to increase transit ridership, including express routes and flex vans.	Lead Group(s): PVTA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitor congested areas using the regional Congestion Management Process (CMP).	Lead Group(s): PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Identify locations for park and ride lots and supporting express transit service.	Lead Group(s): PVPC/PVTA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintain equity in providing transportation services and access throughout the region.	Lead Group(s): PVPC/PVTA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Continue to refine and improve the regional project prioritization system as necessary.	Lead Group(s): MPO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourage use of materials such as pervious concrete, porous asphalt, paving stone, brick, tile, and gravel where appropriate.	Lead Group(s): PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implement the Regional Clean Energy Plan.	Lead Group(s): PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Refer new projects to Valley Vision Toolbox resources.	Lead Group(s): PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Identify hazardous locations due to drought under major roadways.	Lead Group(s): PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Identify potential flooding locations along major highways and rerouting alternatives.	Lead Group(s): PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce combined sewer overflow (CSO) impacts	Lead Group(s): PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop appropriate educational resources to promote safety for drivers, bicyclists, transit users, and pedestrians.	Lead Group(s): PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seek to develop a TOD Investment Fund	Lead Group(s): PVPC	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Brownfields Checklist

### Brownfield Checklist for Municipalities

<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct Site Assessments as recommended in Brownfields Plan.	PARTNERS: Municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete Site Cleanups as recommended in the Brownfields Plan.	PARTNERS: Municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coordinate Site Redevelopment activities, as recommended in the Brownfields Plan.	PARTNERS: Municipalities

### Brownfield Checklist for State and Federal Agencies

<input type="checkbox"/>	Continued funding for petroleum and hazardous material site assessments and cleanup	PARTNERS: EPA, MassDevelopment
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### Brownfield Checklist for Regional Action

<input type="checkbox"/>	Petroleum and hazardous material site assessments under PVPC's EPA Brownfield Site Assessment Grant	PARTNERS: PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continued operation of PVPC's Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)	PARTNERS: PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue quarterly meetings of the Regional Brownfield Advisory Committee	PARTNERS: PVPC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Advance Transit Oriented Development (TOD) in urban centers to support redevelopment	PARTNERS: PVPC



## Land Use Checklist

### Land Use Checklist for Municipalities

Encourage Transit Oriented Developments (TODs)	PARTNERS: Planning Boards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promote compact mixed use village centers	PARTNERS: Planning Boards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop incentives for cluster development	PARTNERS: Planning Boards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support adaptive reuse and infill development	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Chief Elected Officials, Economic Development officials	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create Business Improvement Districts (BIDs)	PARTNERS: Downtown businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create Tax Incentive Programs (TIFs) and District Improvement Financing (DIFs)	PARTNERS: Municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Redevelop Brownfields	PARTNERS: Municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adopt accessory apartment zoning	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Housing Authorities, Housing Partnerships, Chief Elected Officials	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create inclusionary zoning	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Housing Authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adopt Smart Growth Zoning Districts (Chapter 40R)	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Housing Authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Preserve farmlands with Transfer of Development Rights zoning	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Agricultural Commissions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adopt river protection overlay districts	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Open Space Committees, CPA Committees, Conservation Commissions	<input type="checkbox"/>

## CHECKLIST

<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt the Community Preservation Act (CPA)	PARTNERS: Open Space Committees, CPA Committees, Conservation Commissions, Housing Committees, Historic Commissions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish scenic upland protection zoning	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Conservation Commissions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create Critical Lands Acquisition Programs and funds	PARTNERS: Open Space Committees, Conservation Commissions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create zoning for bike and pedestrian amenities	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Public Works Departments, PVPC, MDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt Low Impact Development (LID) standards	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Conservation Commissions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt stormwater and erosion control standards	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Conservation Commissions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create green infrastructure zoning incentives	PARTNERS: Planning Boards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish de-facto Urban Growth Boundaries	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Public Works Departments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create stormwater utilities	PARTNERS: Municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt Commercial Development Performance Standards	PARTNERS: Planning Boards, Public Works Departments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop comprehensive municipal zoning overhaul and update	PARTNERS: Planning Boards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt PVPC's Planning Board Assistance Program	PARTNERS: Planning Boards

Create zoning for climate change best practices	PARTNERS: Planning Boards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promote improved transportation-land use connections	PARTNERS: Municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Identify zoning barriers to equitable development	PARTNERS: Municipalities, businesses, public utilities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conduct Brownfields assessment and remediation	PARTNERS: PVPC, state agencies, municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Identify zoning barriers to equitable development	PARTNERS: Planning boards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourage zoning for infill development and job creation	PARTNERS: Planning boards, economic development agencies, community based organizations	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourage a mix of market-rate and affordable housing	PARTNERS: Local legislative bodies, elected officials, municipal housing agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Land Use Legislative Agenda

Support state Zoning Reform legislation	PARTNERS: State Legislature, Municipal Planning Boards	<input type="checkbox"/>
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# CHECKLIST

## Land Use Checklist for State and Federal Agencies

<input type="checkbox"/>	Support bikeway planning and design	Lead Group(s): Municipalities , PVPC, MDOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote sustainable transportation project criteria	Lead Group(s): PVPC, MDOT, MPO
<input type="checkbox"/>	Encourage Livability programs	Lead Group(s): PVPC, MDOT, MPO

## Land Use Checklist of Regional Actions

<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote regional solutions to growth problems	Lead Group(s): Chief Elected Officials
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create regional funding for TODs and TOD investment funds	Lead Group(s): Municipalities, PVPC, investment experts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Protect bi-state Watersheds for drinking water supplies	Lead Group(s): PVPC, Planning Boards, Water Departments, CROG
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support bi-state farmland preservation	Lead Group(s): PVPC, CROG, Municipalities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adopt TOD zoning for the new commuter rail corridor	Lead Group(s): Planning Boards, PVPC



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