



Members & Staff Resolve to:

1. Launch the first phase of our region's ValleyBike Share project in collaboration with Northampton, Amherst, Holyoke, South Hadley, Springfield and the University of Massachusetts Amherst using a \$1.2 million federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality grant award which the PVPC helped to secure.
  2. With committed support from the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, the Irene E. and George A. Davis Foundation and the MassMutual Foundation, develop a comprehensive, user-friendly online regional data dashboard that promotes greater understanding and access to a broad array of regional data sets.
  3. Contribute to the completion, release and promotion of the final version of the new *Pioneer Valley Workforce Blueprint*, a region wide initiative that's designed to respond to pressing workforce-related needs and outlines recommended action strategies to pursue under the joint leadership of the Hampden County and Franklin/Hampshire Regional Employment Boards.
  4. Start, in concert with the Commission's 43 member communities and other area partners, initial, in-region preparations for the 2020 United States Census, which will be our nation's twenty fourth, as required by law in Title 13 of the United States Code. Promote outreach efforts that help get out and achieve a complete, accurate 2020 census count for our region.
  5. Continue to press for the 2018 introduction of expanded passenger rail service, on a pilot basis, along the Knowledge Corridor to better serve the Cities of Holyoke, Northampton and Greenfield working in concert with MassDOT, Amtrak and the Western Massachusetts Legislative Delegation. Correspondingly, provide assistance and support to ConnDOT's planned launch of their new *Hartford Line* commuter rail service which is targeted for start-up in May of 2018.
  6. Assist PVPC communities to develop and implement model zoning provisions that our cities and towns can employ to responsibly regulate the Commonwealth's scheduled 2018 introduction of recreational marijuana once our state's new, five member Cannabis Control Commission has developed and issued state regulations that will govern this new area of commerce.
  7. Work with Commonwealth's Department of Housing and Community Development to help PVPC communities understand the components of Governor Baker's just-announced "Housing Choice Initiative", a combination of proposed legislation coupled with a new grant program which, working together, are designed to produce more new housing units by providing incentives, tools and enhanced zoning flexibility at the municipal level.
  8. Pursue new and ongoing collaborations with the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs and its Department of Energy Resources that will accelerate the Commonwealth's transition to clean, renewable energy sources while simultaneously reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as mandated in state law, by key target years 2020 and 2050.
  9. Monitor and lend assistance and support to the important and insightful work of the Massachusetts Rural Policy Advisory Commission as it strives to bring focused attention and action that can proactively respond to an expanding and intensifying array of socioeconomic challenges that are today confronting hundreds of rural communities across the Commonwealth.
  10. Work with the Congressional delegation in Washington, as well as the Massachusetts Legislature and Governor, to shape and advance legislative initiatives at the federal and state level that can benefit the Pioneer Valley and its residents. At the federal level, for example, support federal funding for the 2020 U.S. Census, EPA brownfields program, continuation of the Economic Development Administration and Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), among others. At the state level, examples of key legislative priorities for 2018 include statewide zoning reforms, enabling of regional ballot initiatives, adequate transit operating assistance for the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA), increased Chapter 90 local roads funding and additional commitments of state bond funds to maintain progress on Connecticut River CSO clean-up projects.
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