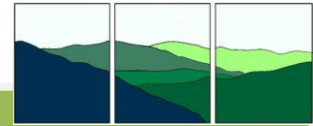


January 2012

## NWCT Regional Planning Collaborative Newsletter

Plan Locally. Act Regionally.



### IN THIS UPDATE:

- **Take the CLEAR survey by this Thursday.** Help select planning workshop topics of interest to you.
- **Show us you care.** FY2013 Collaborative membership requests are in the mail.
- **\$80,000 in STEAP funding awarded** for Collaborative's welcome and wayfinding signage project
- **Got funding?** 2012 Small Cities funding round begins

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit [our website](#) for details:

#### January 26th

Deadline for taking **survey on workshop topics**, [Click here to take survey](#)

#### January 27th @ 8:30am

**Historic Tax Credit Funding Workshop**, Bloomfield, CT

#### February 23rd @ 8:30am

**Small Cities funding Application Workshop**

#### February 29th @ 7:00PM

**HousingUs Annual Meeting**  
TriArts Playhouse,  
Sharon, CT

### SURVEY TO PICK WORKSHOP TOPICS

[Please take by January 26th!](#)

This spring the Northwestern Connecticut Council of Governments and the Litchfield Hills Council of Elected Officials are co-sponsoring a series of workshops for land use commission members and other interested folks.

We hope that you will take a few minutes of your time to complete a quick survey to **help us select which workshops would be of most interest**. To take the survey, please [click here](#).

Please complete the survey by January 26th. We will let you know the dates and topics of the workshops in mid-February. The workshops will be held March-May in the regional area.

Thank you for your consideration!

*Susan Westa*, AICP

Community and Natural Resource Planning Program  
Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR)

## \$80,000 in STEAP funding awarded for Collaborative's signage project

We are grateful to have been awarded \$80,000 in STEAP funding for design and construction of welcome & wayfinding signs in our towns.

We continue to seek funding for our comprehensive package of economic development initiatives including regionally coordinated marketing and promotion of local businesses and focused marketing of vacant commercial space in our village centers.

Members of the Collaborative staff and Oversight Committee along with State Senator Andrew Roraback and State Representative Roberta Willis will be meeting with Secretary of Office of Policy and Management Benjamin Barnes in early February. The Collaborative will be requesting additional funding from the State for this first of its kind program in Connecticut to strengthen the economic viability of seven communities in the northwest region of the state.

## A Chance to Show Your Support

FY 2013 Collaborative membership

Its that time of year again. Your chance to show us you care. We are asking each of our member towns to continue to be a contributing member with a \$2,000 contribution for FY 2013. Request letters are in the mail.

Over just the last year our member towns have received the benefit of an additional \$141,000 in funding for affordable housing and economic development initiatives.

During the last six years we have built significant momentum behind local affordable housing initiatives, land use planning resource and information sharing, and village center vitality efforts. With contributing member town support at this juncture we can continue this momentum.

*"The Collaborative proves that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Working together our towns can accomplish that which they can never accomplish alone."* - State Senator Andrew Roraback

## Got funding?

### Small Cities funding Application Workshop- February 23rd

The 2012 funding round for Small Cities (CDBG) funding will begin with the application workshop on February 23rd. Any town interested in this funding opportunity should send a representative to the workshop.

We believe this may present an opportunity for our towns to **fund projects that create jobs and affordable housing** opportunities as these are eligible activities under the grant. We are happy to help facilitate this in any way we can, contact us.

## **OUR SUPPORTERS**

Our work would not be possible without the critical financial support from the following:

**Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation**

**CL&P- Yankee Gas Services**

**Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut**

**Connecticut Main Street Center**

**CT Office of Policy & Management**

**National Iron Bank**

**Salisbury Bank & Trust**

**Torrington Savings Bank**

**Union Savings Bank**

**Webster Bank**

**Our member towns**

**Thank you!**

*Enjoy the snow!*

*Jocelyn Ayer & Chris Wood*

Collaborative Planners

NWCT Regional Planning Collaborative