

South Shore Coalition 2016 Annual Report

Representing the Towns of Braintree, Cohasset, Duxbury, Hanover, Hingham, Holbrook, Hull, Marshfield, Norwell, Pembroke, Rockland, Scituate & Weymouth

The South Shore Coalition provides a venue and structure for representatives of 13 towns on the South Shore to discuss issues of mutual interest and develop strategies for regional collaboration. Each municipality may appoint two official representatives to the coalition: one appointed by the Planning Board and one appointed by the Board of Selectmen or Town Council. All meetings and events are open to the general public. The Coalition is staffed by Emily Torres-Cullinane, Community Engagement Manager. This year we had two new Co-Chairs, Peter Matchak, Town Planner from the Town of Hanover, and Nathan Peyton, Planning Board member from the Town of Hull.

Meetings & Events Overview

The January 21st meeting featured CTPS planning staff discussing updates to their programs and collecting ideas for projects for the TIP and UPWP.

On March 9, SSC held a Community Preservation Act Forum in Hull with 25 attendees. It was an opportunity for towns to get together, share best practices, discuss challenges and learn about new resources. Speakers included Shelly Goering from the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance, Peter Matchak, SSC Co-Chair and Hanover Town Planner, and Marilee Hunt, Bridgewater Town Clerk.

The 3rd Annual Legislative Breakfast was held on Friday, April 8 in Cohasset's brand new Senior Center. It was co-hosted by State Representative Garret Bradley. MAPC's Government Affairs Manager, Lizzi Weyant, presented MAPC's legislative priorities and Mayor Joe Sullivan of Braintree, who serves on the MassDOT Board, also spoke about transportation issues. About 50 people attended from a wide variety of municipal offices and boards. Environmental state agency staff and non-profits were there as well. Lastly, the new Co-Chairs presented the previous SSC Chair, Ann Burbine, with a certificate of appreciation and flowers for her 15+ years of leadership.

On May 26, we had a South Shore Planners Lunch at the Hingham Shipyard to discuss Spring Town Meetings, updates on the FEMA maps, and other recent subregional items.

MAPC staff, Eric Hove, Nick Downing and Emily Torres-Cullinane, met with State Senator John Keenan and his Chief of Staff on June 7 to provide an update on the South Shore Coalition's activities and projects as a follow up for the Legislative Breakfast. On June 13, Martin Pillsbury and Emily Torres-Cullinane met with the North and South River Watershed Association to discuss the new stormwater regulations and how they can work collaboratively toward a regional strategy.

On June 13, Martin Pillsbury and Emily Torres-Cullinane met with the North and South River Water Association as a follow up to the Council meeting to discuss ways the SSC and MAPC can collaborate with the organization in supporting communities with their stormwater management. The SSC met on June 23 for the last meeting before the summer break. They discussed MAPC's Community Electricity Aggregation Program, the Development Database (which is now MassBuilds), and the

Citizen Planners Training Collaborative Workshops for the Fall (Nov 2, Hanover hosted a session on Site Plan Review).

Over the summer the larger SSC group did not meet. However, Subregional Coordinator Emily Torres-Cullinane, and the co-chairs Peter Matchak from Hanover and Nathan Peyton from Hull, jointly attended the South Shore Chamber of Commerce event featuring MassDOT Secretary Stephanie Pollack. She presented the Baker Administration's transportation priorities and discussed how they fit with the Chamber's Infrastructure priorities for economic growth.

The SSC reconvened on September 15 for two meetings. The first was an informational luncheon session on MAPC's Community Electricity Aggregation program with Good Energy, the consultant providing the service, and members of town leadership. Immediately after, the SSC planners and general members met for a presentation and discussion on the MS4 Stormwater Permits with Sara Grady from the North and South River Watershed Association and Mass Bays Program. The group is interested in a regional project that would support their communities in complying with the MS4 Permit.

On October 13, MAPC's Government Affairs Manager, Lizzi Weyant, gave an overview of the past Legislative Session and led a discussion on ideas and priorities for the next session. The two SSC chairs attended at MAPC and everyone else participated by phone. People asked questions around Zoning Reform and were interested in the next steps.

One of the most successful events of the year was the "Downtown Revitalization" Forum on October 25 at the Rockland Senior Center with Emmy Hahn from DHCD, Holli Andres from Framingham Downtown Renaissance, Mary Savage-Dunham, Hingham Planning Director, and Sarah Kurpiel-Lee from MAPC. It was organized by Rockland, Duxbury and Hanover representatives.

SSC held its annual transportation meeting about MPO issues on November 17 in Hingham. Jennifer Rowe and Ali Kleyman from CTPS led an informative discussion on the MPO's UPWP and TIP, including potential projects in the subregion and progress on projects currently listed on the TIP.

The SSC co-sponsored the South Shore Climate Change and Sea-Level Rise Symposium held on December 1 in Norwell. It was organized by MAPC's Environmental Department, the North and South Rivers Watershed Association, Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management, and the Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Program. Additional sponsors included Massasoit Community College, Mass Audubon South Shore Sanctuaries, Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, South Shore Conservation Commission Network, and the Towns of Norwell, Scituate, Marshfield, and Braintree.

MAPC Planning Projects in the South Shore

- Braintree TOD Study: Pearl Street Corridor
- Braintree Climate Vulnerability Analysis
- Cohasset Master Plan: Phase One Visioning
- Duxbury Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Hanover Master Plan: Phase One Visioning
- Hanover Open Space Plan
- Hanover Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Marshfield META Green Communities
- Rockland Housing Production Plan

- Rockland 40R Zoning Plan
- Scituate & Duxbury Coastal Climate Resiliency Plan

SSC Core Members

- **Braintree** - SSC Representative: James Downey, Town Planner: Christine Stickney, Mayor: Joseph Sullivan, MAPC Council Representative: James Downey
- **Cohasset** - SSC Representative: Clark Brewer, Town Planner: n/a, Town Administrator: Chris Senior, MAPC Council Representative: Chris Senior
- **Duxbury** - SSC Representative: Valerie Massard, Town Planner: Valerie Massard, Town Manager: Rene Read, MAPC Council Representative: Valerie Massard
- **Hanover** - SSC Representative: Peter Matchak, Town Planner: Peter Matchak Town Administrator: Troy Clarkson MAPC Council Representative: Peter Matchak
- **Hingham** - SSC Representative: David Alschuler, Town Planner: Mary Savage-Dunham, Town Administrator, Ted C. Alexiades, MAPC Council Representative: David Alschuler
- **Holbrook** - SSC Representative: Matthew V. Moore, Town Planner: n/a , Town Administrator, Tim Gordon, MAPC Council Representative: Matthew V. Moore
- **Hull** - SSC Representative: Nathan Peyton, Town Planner: Chris Dilorio, Town Administrator: Philip E. Lemnio, MAPC Council Representative: Joan Meschino
- **Marshfield** - SSC Representative: Greg Guimond, Town Planner: Greg Guimond, Town Administrator: Rocco Longo, MAPC Council Representative: Greg Guimond
- **Norwell** - SSC Representative: *tba*, Town Planner: *tba*, Town Administrator: Peter Morin, MAPC Council Representative: *vacant*
- **Pembroke** - SSC Representative: Ed Thorne, Town Planner: n/a, Town Administrator: Ed Thorne, MAPC Council Representative: *vacant*
- **Rockland** - SSC Representative: Marcy Birmingham, Town Planner: n/a, Town Administrator: Allan Chiocca, MAPC Council Representative: Marcy Birmingham
- **Scituate** - SSC Representative: Ann Burbine, Town Planner: Laura Harbottle, Town Administrator: Patricia A. Vinchesi, MAPC Council Representative, Patricia A. Vinchesi
- **Weymouth** - SSC Representative: Owen MacDonald, Town Planner: Bob Longo, Mayor Hedlund, MAPC Council Representative: Bob Longo

Communications

The South Shore Coalition has a monthly newsletter that goes out on the first Thursday of the month. It includes information on South Shore meetings and event as well as grant opportunities, local projects and initiatives. “MAPC Matters” is a new addition providing additional grants, events and technical assistance opportunities as well as local news, legislative updates and MAPC resources. The newsletter currently has more than 300 recipients which include municipal staff, legislators, non-profits, state agencies, residents, land owners, business owners and academic and health institutions.

The SSC also has a website and Facebook page: <http://www.mapc.org/ssc>, <https://www.facebook.com/southshorecoalition/>.