

**CMRPC LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE**  
**CHARGE – February 2014**

The Legislative Affairs Committee of the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) shall comprise those members appointed by the Chairman. The Chair of the Legislative Committee shall be by vote of the members of the subcommittee. At least one-half of the Committee's members shall be Commission delegates or alternates. To the greatest degree feasible, the Committee shall include at least one representative from each subregional Commission, and the Committee will, through its members, communicate with the subregional delegates and seek their input to its deliberations. The Committee will meet on a monthly basis, unless the Chair shall cancel or postpone a meeting.

The charge of the Committee is to review and analyze bills filed in the Massachusetts Legislature or the Congress of the United States, other matters which might reasonably be expected to result in legislation, budget items, or resolutions, to determine if they are in the best interest of the Central Massachusetts region, using adopted regional plans as a guide. In fulfilling its responsibilities, the Legislative Affairs Subcommittee shall confer with other Regional Planning Agencies and work to reach an accord with them on matters of mutual interest. It shall also confer on a regular basis with the Legislative Affairs staff supported in part through MARPA and employed by MAPC, to identify and consider pending legislation relevant to the Commission and member communities and funding opportunities.

From time to time, the Committee may invite guests or sponsor events such as legislative breakfasts to gain a deeper understanding of the issues and to educate other members of the Commission.

The Committee may, at any time, recommend to the Executive Committee that CMRPC should take a position in regard to any matter under the Committee's study, by a majority vote of those Committee members present and voting. If more urgent action is required than the schedule of the Executive Committee may allow, the recommendation can proceed to the Officers, who shall act on the Executive Committee's behalf. The Executive Committee, or the Officers in an emergency, can authorize a position to be taken on behalf of CMRPC, with due consideration of any position recommended by the Legislative Affairs Committee.

The Legislative Committee may, from time to time, study matters related to the implementation of legislation, such as regulations or program guidelines, and may recommend positions to the Executive Committee, or Officers in an emergency, if it determines that such action is necessary to further the goals of the regional plan or if it believes that such a position is materially related to the full and fair implementation of a position that CMRPC has taken on a prior piece of legislation.

The Legislative Affairs Committee shall be provided with administrative support as designated by the Executive Director in the form of the development of an agenda, distribution of meeting materials, the taking and distribution of meeting minutes or and pending legislation that forms the information and data allowing the Committee to function.