

CTAP – Revisited and Re Introduced

Over the past eighteen months, the absence of large group meetings and subsequent decline of communications have together created the perception that CTAP is inactive. Nothing could be further from the truth! Ongoing CTAP efforts have been focused at the individual community level. This recent [website](#) update presents many of the excellent products developed to date for 14 of the 26 CTAP communities, while others are currently under development.

The early formulation of the Community Technical Assistance Program (CTAP) involved many representatives of the CTAP communities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and various agencies. The individuals involved met together as a single group and also in focused work groups with guidance from an elected Steering committee. As a result of the work of these groups, the Steering Committee implemented two phases of CTAP through the four regional planning commissions serving the CTAP communities: Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC), Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission (SNHPC), Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) and the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC).

Phase 1 was focused on an assessment of the CTAP communities, their towns today, and where their current planning and zoning regulations would likely take them in the future. Phase 1 was completed in December 2009.

An assessment of CTAP conducted during Phase 1 revealed that, although CTAP engaged a broad range of participants, it had not reached into the communities in the manner originally intended. Therefore, the decision was made to concentrate Phase 2 on individual communities in an attempt to better engage more people and groups within each community.

Phase 2 has focused on each individual community's future – defining their vision and detailing a "roadmap" of the steps needed to achieve it. The range of products posted herein demonstrates both the breadth of topics as well as the level of involvement of the communities. The completion date for Phase 2 was recently extended to February 2011 due to the volume of work and the extensive community involvement.

Please go to the newly created section of this [website](#) to view many of the documents prepared over the last two years: Economic Development Strategic Plans, Road Maps, Assessment Reports, Open Space Plans, Build-Out Reports, Economic & Community Asset Profiles and Land Use Maps. To date, documents have been finalized for more than half the CTAP communities and additional towns will be finalizing documents in the near future.

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) originally committed \$3.5M of state and federal transportation funds to the CTAP effort. Completion of the first two phases of CTAP will expend approximately \$2.1M, leaving approximately \$1.4M for the deployment and implementation of Phase 3, the final CTAP phase.

Preparation for Phase 3 - the final CTAP phase - has begun. Input received from the CTAP communities through their regional planning agencies has guided our early discussions into three areas:

1] The completion of programs begun in earlier phases - build out analyses, open space planning, and the innovative training program have more work to be performed or additional communities in need of support;

2] The continuation of community grant programs - both individual and collaborative programs have been well received and became a primary means of accomplishing phases of a community's roadmap; and

3] New programs - assessing the impacts of, and solutions to, growth from a multi-community perspective, and leveraging the expertise of NGOs and other agencies.

Early this fall, the Steering Committee will reconvene to discuss CTAP progress, communications issues, and the plan for Phase 3. Please continue to visit this [website](#) for updates. As we work to improve communication, we are particularly interested in issues, events, and progress in the communities and encourage you to share this information for presentation on the CTAP website.

Thanks for your continued interest and support of CTAP.

Ansel Sanborn
CTAP Program Manager
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