



MEETING NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the

BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at **7:00** p.m.

This will be a **Virtual Meeting** as allowed by Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker's Executive Order dated March 12, 2020 suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30 sec.20.

Information to join the meeting is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2490902351>

Meeting ID: 249 090 2351

Call in information: 312.626.6799, 646.558.8656, 301.715.8592, 346.248.7799, 669.900.9128

Meeting Material: All written materials for the meeting are posted on BRPC's website: www.berkshireplanning.org. Click on the Calendar of Events for the meeting and available materials will be listed.

Agenda

I. Opening (7:00-7:05)

A. *Call to Order*

B. *Roll Call*

C. *Approval of Minutes of the September 24, 2020 meeting*

II. Comments from the Public (7:05-7:10)

Members of the public may offer comments regarding topics, which are on the agenda, or other matters which they wish to bring to the Commission's attention. Comments are limited to no more than three minutes and are to be directed to the Commission.

III. Delegate and Alternate Issues (7:10-7:15)

Delegates and Alternates may bring up any issue not on the agenda.

IV. Executive Committee Action (7:15-7:20)

Executive Committee actions taken on the Commission's behalf at its October 1, 2020 and November 5, 2020 meetings are presented for discussion.

V. 2020 Annual Update on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (7:20-7:40)

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) requires BRPC to submit an updated performance report annually, which the Commission needs to

approve, on its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to keep it certified. Senior Planner Laura Brennan will update the Commission. A draft copy is attached.

VI. Pittsfield Grey To Green Project (7:40 - 8:05)

Senior Planner Allison Egan will describe a new project called Grey to Green. This project will work in several neighborhoods in Pittsfield to engage the community and prioritize green planning in a social and racial justice context.

VII. Transportation and Climate Initiative (8:05 – 8:20)

The Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI) is an initiative of 12 Northeast and mid-Atlantic States, with the District of Columbia, focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector through a regional cap and trade program. The BRPC Regional Issues Committee will meet on Wednesday November 18, 2020 to recommend comments on this initiative for the Commission's consideration. Comments, if the Regional Issues Committee deems they are ready, will be sent next Thursday.

VIII. East-West Rail Draft Report (8:20 – 8:45)

MassDOT has released its draft report on the East-West Passenger rail study with a request for comments. We will have comments for the Commission's consideration.

IX. Approval of Community Assessments for FY 2021 (8:45 – 8:50)

The Finance Committee has proposed there be no increase in community assessments for FY 2022. By law, BRPC must notify municipalities of their assessments no later than February each year so that they may be included in city/town budgets. Normally the Commission deals with it at the January meeting but since most municipalities initiate their budget processes in December we want to provide this information to municipalities as soon as possible, especially this year.

X. Executive Director's Report (8:50 – 8:55)

XI. Adjournment (8:55)

Other interested citizens and officials are invited to attend.

All times listed are estimates of when specific agenda items may be discussed.

City and Town Clerks: Please post this notice