



Northern Middlesex Council of Governments

News

NMCOG Awarded Water Quality Protection Grant

The Healey-Driscoll Administration awarded a \$70,500 grant to the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG) from the Water Quality Protection Grant Program in late December. This funding will support Phase 1 of the Northern Middlesex Comprehensive Watershed Study, a critical initiative aimed at improving stormwater management and water quality across the region.

Through this project, NMCOG and the Northern Middlesex Stormwater Collaborative (NMSC) will develop a GIS-based inventory of stormwater assets for the region. The data will enhance collaboration among municipalities, streamline compliance with MS4 requirements, and address Environmental Justice priorities.

This effort is the first step in a multi-phase study designed to address stormwater challenges in the Merrimack River and the surrounding watersheds. NMCOG extends its gratitude to its member communities and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for their support in driving this essential initiative forward.

[Read the Water Quality Protection Grant Program press release.](#)

NMCOG Seeks Consultant for Water Quality Protection Program

Are you a consultant with expertise in GIS and stormwater asset mapping? NMCOG and the NMSC are seeking a consultant to assist us in developing the GIS-based inventory of stormwater assets for the region as described above.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) is posted on COMMBUYS under bid number [BD-25-2238-NMCOG-NMCOG-111280](#) and also [on the NMCOG website](#).

Proposal Timeline:

RFP released: Monday, January 13, 2025
Questions due: Wednesday, January 22, 2025, by 4:00pm
Addenda Issued (if necessary) Monday, January 27, 2025, by 4:00pm
Proposals due: Thursday, February 3, 2025, by 4:00pm
Anticipated Award Date: February 7, 2025

Questions regarding this RFP should be directed to Meghan Tenhoff, Sustainability Planner II at mtenhoff@nmcog.org. Responses will be accepted electronically through 4:00pm on February 3, 2025 according to the instructions in the RFP.

Events and Opportunities

Chelmsford Releases Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan

NMCOG supported the Town of Chelmsford and the

Town's Open Space Committee in developing their Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP), which was released last month for public comment. This important document outlines Chelmsford's vision and action plan for parks, trails, and green spaces over the next seven years, including strategies to enhance climate resilience, ensure equitable access to parks and recreational opportunities, and to expand and protect natural resources.

[View the draft OSRP.](#)



Learn More about NMCOG and our Communities: Attend a Board or Council Meeting!

NMMPO Meeting

The Northern Middlesex Metropolitan Planning Organization (NMMPO) meets the fourth Wednesday of each month via Zoom and in person at NMCOG's offices. This month, the NMMPO will review the agency's draft Public Participation Plan, updates to the Transportation Evaluation Criteria, the NMMPO Memorandum of Understanding with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) and the Lowell Regional Transit Authority (LRTA), and more.

Date: Wednesday, January 22

Time: 2:00pm

Location online via Zoom or in person at 672 Suffolk Street Lowell, MA 02154

[View meeting details](#)

NMCOG Council Meeting

The NMCOG Council meets the third Wednesday of each month via Zoom and in person at NMCOG's offices. The February agenda will be posted to the NMCOG website a week before the meeting.

Date: Wednesday, February 19

Time: 7:00pm

Location: online via Zoom or in person at 672 Suffolk Street, Lowell, MA 02154

[View meeting details](#)

Massachusetts Historic Commission (MHC) Accepting Applications for Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF)

Municipalities and nonprofit organizations are invited to apply for funding for planning and preservation activities. The MHC's MPPF is a state-funded 50% reimbursable matching grant program established in 1984 to support the preservation of properties, landscapes, and sites (cultural resources) listed in the State Register of Historic Places. Application are due Friday, March 14. [Learn more and apply.](#)

Employment at NMCOG

NMCOG is Hiring! Regional Energy Manager and Regional Housing Coordinator

NMCOG is seeking a full-time Regional Energy Manager to advance existing and developing new sustainability plans to address key issues that vary in the Towns of Dunstable, Littleton, Pepperell, and Townsend, including renewable energy planning, building energy infrastructure,

and climate resiliency.

The Regional Housing Coordinator will participate in technical planning support work with NMCOG's nine communities to advance local and regional housing initiatives and programs. Their focus will be on assisting member municipalities develop, maintain, and administer affordable housing in compliance with M.G.L. Ch. 40B and associated regulations.

[Learn more and apply.](#)

Close of NMCOG's Weights and Measures Program

After many years, NMCOG has made the difficult decision to discontinue operation of the Regional Weights and Measures Program for Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Littleton, Lowell, Pepperell, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough, and Westford. Please contact the following offices in each respective community if you need assistance with an inspection or reinspection. For further assistance, please contact the MA Division of Standards at (617) 727-3480).

Northern Middlesex Council of Governments | 672 Suffolk Street Suite 100 | Lowell, MA 01854 US

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