

# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** WCCOG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
**FROM:** Judy East  
**DATE:** July 23, 2010  
**RE:** Project and activity update

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## COG news/ new contracts:

- Municipal Dues: FY10 dues almost all in; only outstanding dues are from Whiting and Whitneyville
- Negotiated reduction in administrative overhead from 25% to 20% with SCEC; this provides more funds for functioning of WCCOG office in Calais, time for training and member services thus billing rates will not change; note that this in no way indicates or suggests that WCCOG is dissatisfied with services provided by SCEC and all concerned agreed that the rate is a fair contribution to SCEC for time required to provide bookkeeping services.
- Code Enforcement Officer Training and Certification provided several training opportunity information notices to all towns
- Responded to numerous technical assistance inquiries for local ordinances and grant funding sources
- Signed final contract to receive \$42,385.00 from USDA Rural Development for the Solid Waste Management grant to expand recycling programs and a collection (household hazardous, electronic and pharmaceutical wastes); issued press release; funds will flow in federal FY2011 (i.e. after October, 2010)
- New web site format working very well and being updated regularly – [www.wccog.net](http://www.wccog.net)
- Small Community Grant Program field inspections in **Pembroke** and **Perry**
- Preparing County budget request (submission end of July)
- Assisted **Machiasport** in obtaining \$120,000.00 Small Harbor Improvement Project (SHIP) Grant as part of local and federal funding to dredge Bucks Harbor.
- Assisted **Beals** in obtaining \$44,000.00 SHIP grant to upgrade the commercial boat landing

## Municipal Contracts:

**Beddington** – SZ ordinance public hearing held, adoption pending  
**Machiasport Comprehensive Plan Update** – public hearing held; adoption pending  
**Perry and Pembroke joint Comprehensive Plan Update** – both Plans consistent with Growth Management Act; local public hearings scheduled, adoptions pending  
**Cooper Comprehensive Plan** – completed; posted to web and getting final review by committee; submitting to SPO end of July  
**Cutler Shoreland Zoning** – public hearing held; adoption pending  
**Lubec Comprehensive Plan Update** – Submitted to SPO  
**Indian Township** – Near completion; final wage review and close out pending  
**Jonesport Comp Plan update** – Completed revision to Land Use, Land Cover and Proposed Land Use maps, district descriptions and submitted to SPO; found consistent; adopted locally  
**Coastal Construction GC Inc.** – completed CDBG Phase II and Environmental Review for CDBG Business Development grant; contract coming to town for payment from DECD

NEW - **Cherryfield** – CDBG Phase II, Env Rev, Admin for sidewalks (Community Enterprise grant)

CDBG Technical Assistance:

**Washington County** – Cobscook Community Learning Center; Public Services grant (not funded)

**Lubec** –Public Facilities grant to construct recreation area; some assistance with Phase II

**Cherryfield** – Community Enterprise grant– assistance with initial Phase II activities

**Addison** - Community Enterprise grant– assistance with initial Phase II activities; submitted bid to provide CDBG administration services (decision pending)

**Eastport** –assistance with Special Project letter request for Eastport Memorial Nursing Home to upgrade computer and security systems (pending)

**Grand Lake Stream** – assisted with public hearing and grant preparation for Community Planning Grant (not funded)

**Milbridge** - assisted with public hearing and grant preparation for Community Planning Grant (funded)

Various business development grant technical assistance through staff support to SCEC in

**Deblois, Columbia, Cutler, Jonesport, Machias, Whitneyville, Baileyville**

Regional Contracts/Activities:

***Land Use and Regional Planning***

- Shoreland Zoning updates – this continues as a multi-headed and moving target. There is a spreadsheet summarizing each towns’ status relative to the map prepared by our GIS model, the town’s editing process and DEP review. Call Judy ([jceast@wccog.net](mailto:jceast@wccog.net)) if you want to see a copy. All maps and their revisions are posted at:  
[http://www.megischamps.org/virtual\\_upload/SZ\\_PDF/](http://www.megischamps.org/virtual_upload/SZ_PDF/)
- Prepared SPO contract for FY11 for technical assistance support to towns – contract reduced to 6 months with half of last year’s funding; will need to seek your support to request that the legislature not cut off these funds in the next budget cycle.
- Washington County: One Community – Continue to serve on Management Team of Washington County: One Community and on Infrastructure Committee of Washington County: One Community; Attended 2 mtgs of St. Croix Valley Healthy Communities Coalition and 2 meetings of Washington County: One Community Board including Community Themes Assessment as part of MAPP process attended 3 Board meetings;
- Serve on the Board of the Downeast Institute of Applied Marine Research; building education center
- Providing assistance to UT Supervisor on research of fees, management, municipal coordination, costs, job descriptions for regional Shellfish Management in Cobscook Bay

***Economic Development***

- Received FY11 contract from DECD; funding increased from \$33,000/yr to \$45,000/yr for technical assistance on CDBG applications
- Continuing to distribute “Discover Downeast&Acadia” map for agencies/kiosks/businesses/outlets in Washington and Hancock counties
- USEPA Brownfields Assessment grant:
  - Held 1 meeting of Regional Advisory Committee; proceeding with Phase II site assessments (Eastport, Machias, Calais, Pembroke);

- Reviewed 1 additional property with ranking tool; initial identification of another 20 properties
- Obtained Certification Maintenance credits from AICP for 6 sessions at Maine Brownfields Conference

***Washington County Emergency Management.***

Completed contract and provided final report to County EMA Director Mike Hinerman of all activities in completed grant (13 page document, available on request)

***Transportation***

- Continuing to work with MDOT Byways staff Fred Michaud and other regional groups on concept, feasibility and outreach needs for a National Scenic Byway along Route 1 Downeast; Inventory work in preparation for drafting scenic byway corridor plan; met with:
  - County Commissioners
  - Select Boards of towns of Cutler, Calais, Eastport and initial contact/scheduling with several others
  - Sunrise Trail Coalition
  - Vacationland Resources Committee
- Worked with Machias Savings Bank and hosted a Commute Another Way to Work Day on May 20<sup>th</sup>
- Started work on bike-ped coordination plans to connect village centers and businesses to the Sunrise Trail; meetings scheduled with several towns and with Sunrise Trail Coalition
- Assisted East Machias with Safe Routes to School Grants
- Assisted Machiasport, Addison, Beals, Jonesboro with Small Harbor Improvement Projects grant applications (Machiasport and Beals funded; others not)

***New Funding Opportunities***

- HUD/DOT/EPA Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant