

Title: Citizen Planner Training Collaborative

Project Leader: Michael DiPasquale

Project Overview

The Citizen Planner Training Collaborative (CPTC) provides local planning and zoning officials with up-to-date learning tools to make effective decisions regarding their communities' current and future land use. The collaborative offers a wide range of activities that address the needs of Massachusetts' older, post-industrial, or "Gateway/Legacy" cities. Work includes, outreach, teaching and research. Participants include residents, stakeholders and UMass students and instructors.

Main activities include:

Activities related to the revitalization of the City of Springfield and other post-industrial cities.

Work is centered at the UMass Extension sponsored "Design Center in Springfield". The Design Center is located in the Tower Square building in downtown Springfield. Activities that take place at the Design Center include, community design workshops, student classes, and seminars and trainings for residents and stakeholders.

Activity Summary – 2015

- Award of \$36,000 Hatch Grant funds to study revitalization of Legacy Cities and UMass Design Center in Springfield. Additional \$4,000 awarded from UMass Extension for summer 2015.(1)
- Community participation workshops in downtown Springfield. (3)
- DIRECT UMass Design Ctr Outreach to Springfield and Pioneer Valley Cities and Towns (2)
- Serve on Board of Pioneer Valley Land Use Committee (1)
- Outreach to "Develop Springfield" with LARP Graduate student Robert Hummel (1)
- Outreach and committee work with Morgan Drenlaney, Springfield Cultural District (1)
- Consultant services/outreach to Tracy Woods, Art is Life Gallery (1)
- Consultant services/outreach to Samalid Hogan, Springfield Innovation Center (1)
- Consultant services/outreach to Laura Masulis, Massachusetts Innovation Grant (1)
- Outreach/coordination of events at UMass Center in Springfield, with Will D'Avila (1)
- Participate in development of Springfield "Innovation Center" (1)
- Research on "How to design a Green Roof" for Gateway City Arts building in Holyoke (1)
- Board member of Citizen Planner Training Collaborative (1)
- Serve as member of Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee in Northampton(1)
- Study future move of Design Center to UMass Center in Springfield at Tower Square (1)
- Teach Fall Course: Introduction to Urban Design (1)

Total Educational Contacts

	Youth Contacts	Adult Contacts
Direct	111	485
Indirect Contacts (Print, Web, etc...)		

Narrative Summary and Impact

The Project consists of a wide range of activities that address the needs of Massachusetts' older, post-industrial, or "Gateway/Legacy" cities. Work includes, outreach, teaching and research. Participants include residents, stakeholders and UMass students and instructors.

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Major accomplishments:

- Hatch grant awarded to Michael DiPasquale, Spring 2014 (\$12,000/yr for three years = \$36,000)
- Creation of Design Center "Mission Statement"
- Grant from "Congress of New Urbanism" for community vision workshop to redesign "Apremont Triangle", and existing park/public space in the Mattoon Street District.
- Design and program work at Springfield "Innovation Center", Bridge Street, Springfield

Collaborating Organizations

- **Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development**

