

ANNUAL REPORT



1972-1973

Old Colony Planning Council



DANIEL M. CRANE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

232 MAIN STREET
BROCKTON, MASS. 02401
617-883-1833

July 2, 1973

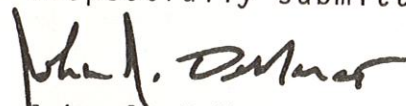
TO: The Mayor of the City of Brockton
The Selectmen of the Towns of
Abington, Avon, Bridgewater, East
Bridgewater, Easton, Hanson, Pembroke,
West Bridgewater and Whitman

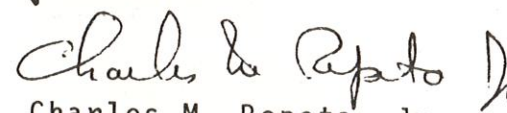
Gentlemen:

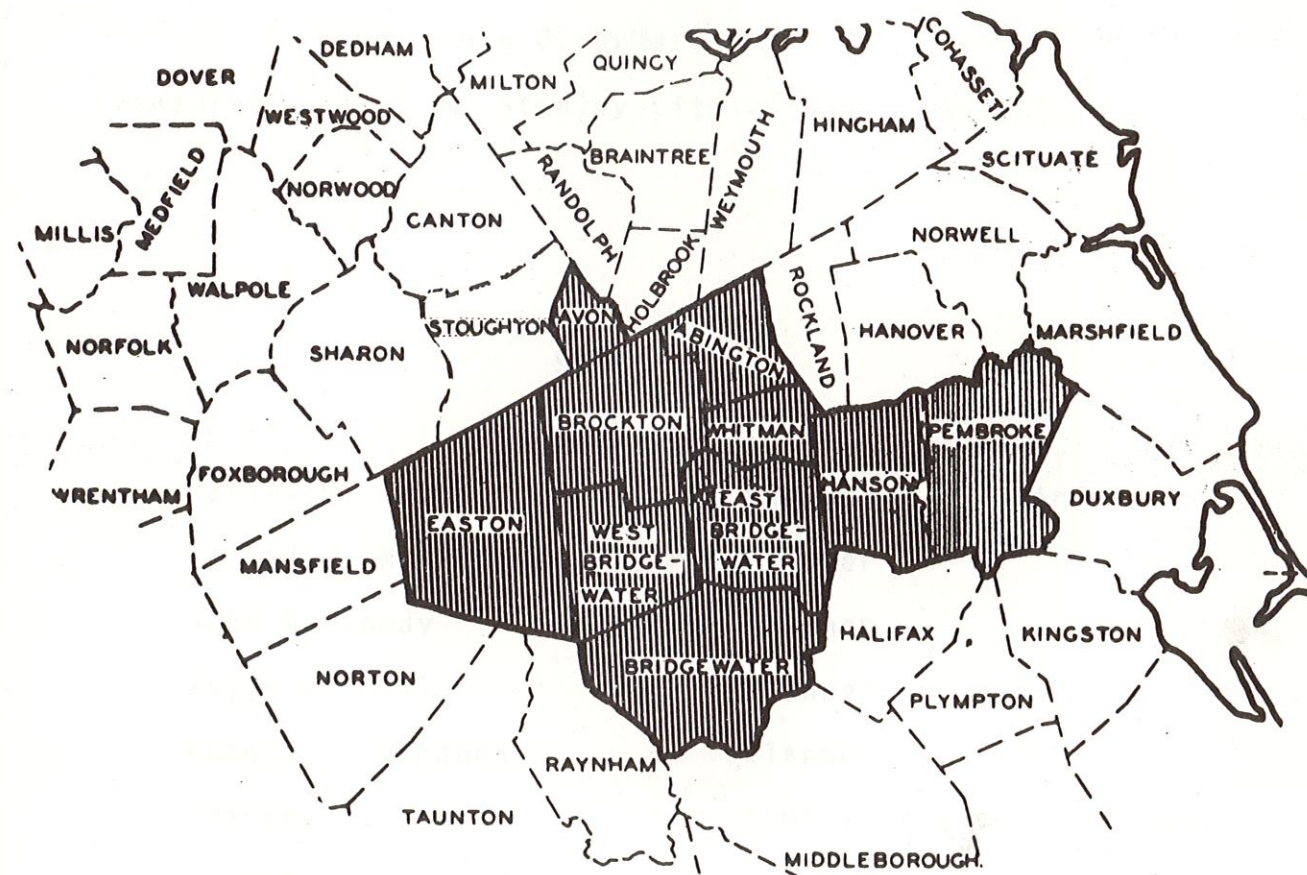
We are submitting herewith the Annual Report of the Old Colony Planning Council for 1972-1973 in accordance with Section 2, Chapter 332 of the Acts of 1967 of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Annual Report contains a review of the Council's activities over the past year; an overview of the organization and administration of the Council; and, a report of the Council's fiscal position.

It is hoped that this report will lead to increased knowledge of the Old Colony Planning Council by area residents.

Respectfully submitted,

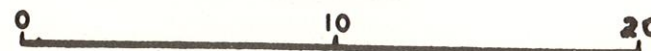

John J. DeMarco
President


Charles M. Repeta, Jr.
Secretary



SERVING
ABINGTON AVON BRIDGEWATER BROCKTON
EAST BRIDGEWATER EASTON HANSON PEMBROKE WEST BRIDGEWATER WHITMAN

SCALE IN MILES



OFFICERS

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|------------------|
| President | John J. DeMarco | Avon |
| | Donald Q. Joyce* | Pembroke |
| Secretary | Charles M. Repeta, Jr. | East Bridgewater |
| | John J. DeMarco* | Avon |
| Treasurer | A. Stanley Littlefield | Abington |

STAFF

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Daniel M. Crane | Executive Director |
| Alfred J. McNiff, Jr.** | Planner |
| John M. Gowdy | Planner |
| Wayne W. Hill | Planner |
| Robert F. McMahon | Planner |
| Frances M. Votta | Administrative Assistant |
| Jacqueline A. Munson | Clerk/Typist |
| Margaret M. Abruzzese | Clerk/Typist |

* Term expired May, 1973

** No longer with Council

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL

| <u>COMMUNITY</u> | <u>DELEGATE</u> | <u>ALTERNATE</u> |
|------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| ABINGTON | A. Stanley Littlefield | Rodney D. Henrikson |
| AVON | John J. DeMarco | Robert W. Pursley |
| BRIDGEWATER | Anthony P. Anacki | Charles A. Dyke |
| BROCKTON | Timothy Holt | Vacancy |
| EAST BRIDGEWATER | Charles M. Repeta, Jr. | Norman I. Straffin |
| EASTON | Richard H. Chase | Vacancy |
| HANSON | Robert H. Kenyon | Thomas F. Horan |
| PEMBROKE | Donald Q. Joyce | Peter C. Conley |
| WEST BRIDGEWATER | Merton H. Ouderkirk | Ronald P. Snell |
| WHITMAN | John F. Connolly | Lee F. Welch |

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OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL

INTRODUCTION

The Old Colony Planning Council was formed in 1967 by local officials who recognized that only by local governments working together could areawide concerns be dealt with in an effective manner. Chapter 332 of the Acts of 1967 established the Council and authorized it to prepare plans to "improve the physical, social and economic conditions of the district." The Council during the past six years has provided alternative solutions to local governments in dealing with areawide problems and during the past year the Council has concentrated on implementing these plans.

A major effort during the past year was directed at seeking to establish the Old Colony Water Pollution Control District. In late 1971, the Council had completed a three year program to develop a plan for sewage treatment that considered a municipally oriented and regional system. The regional approach was deemed to be the most practical alternative in terms of efficiency and economy.

In the 1973 session of the General Court, the Council initiated through local legislators and with their sponsorship, a bill to establish the Old Colony Water Pollution Control District. The bill received favorable consideration by the General Court and permitted the local communities to consider

the proposal at their respective town meetings. As of this writing, the Article has received approval in three of the eight communities eligible for membership, while no community has refused acceptance.

Efforts were also expended during the year to gain federal certification for open space planning and make constituent municipalities eligible for federal grant monies. An Open Space Plan was approved by the Council and application for certification made to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Council has also applied for recertification for overall comprehensive planning and water and sewer planning and programming.

The Council also established itself as the responsible regional agency in the Comprehensive, Continuing and Cooperative Transportation Planning Process. A Memorandum of Understanding and a contract were signed by the Secretary of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction, the Department of Public Works and the Council to carry out the program. A Joint Transportation Committee composed of representatives of each of the constituent municipalities of the Old Colony Planning Council provides the direction for the program.

The Council is very grateful to the many local officials, private and public groups and organizations that have assisted in its planning activities during the year.

ORGANIZATION OF THE OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL

PURPOSE

The Old Colony Planning Council was established under Chapter 332 of the Acts of 1967. Its Area Planning Jurisdiction includes the City of Brockton and the Towns of Abington, Avon, Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, Easton, Hanson, Pembroke, West Bridgewater and Whitman. Under the Act establishing the Council, the Council is required to conduct such research and studies necessary to prepare comprehensive plans for the physical, social and economic improvement of the district. The Council is, therefore, the overall comprehensive planning agency for the district with a broad mandate to be concerned with the optimum use of the land area, the efficient provision of utilities and the orderly growth and development of the area.

The plans of the Council are advisory only and dependent upon the local communities to implement.

MEMBERSHIP

The Council consists of one representative and one alternate from each city and town who are appointed to three year terms. In the City of Brockton the delegate is appointed by the Mayor. In each of the member towns, the delegate is appointed by a concurrent vote of the planning board and the board of selectmen.

In addition to the delegate, each community similarly appoints an alternate who is authorized "to vote in behalf of the city or town when he is acting as official representative.

This body constitutes the formal Council as expressed in the Regional Planning Law, Chapter 332 of the General Laws. The Council formulates policy and programs which are carried out by the staff employed by the Council.

In order to finance the Council's activities, each municipality is assessed on a per capita basis, in proportion to the latest national census. The assessed amounts are paid to the State Treasurer as provided by Section 5 of the Regional Planning Law. The Council then draws upon this fund to finance its operations.

The membership of the Council is not limited by law. It is open to any city or town which by a vote of its respective city council or town meeting requests inclusion and is subsequently favorably received by a majority of the Council. The only restrictions on Council membership is that the prospective Council community is ".....within an urbanized area adjoining the district and has common or related problems".

The Council was originally composed of the city of Brockton and the surrounding towns of Abington, Avon, Bridge-

INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION

It is not possible for any agency to be isolated and still maintain a record of achievement. Cooperation is a necessary function of any planning unit. Since the purpose of regional planning is to bring together community goals, it is only natural that the planning agency must work with and coordinate, in a relative sense, the actions and programs of existing governmental and civic organizations.

Among the affiliates of the Old Colony Planning Council are:

1. Office of State Planning and Management (OSPM) Massachusetts Department of Administration and Finance - this office is the 204 Review and OMB A-95 clearinghouse for the State.
2. Massachusetts Department of Community Affairs - Administrative procedures have been developed whereby the Old Colony Planning Council and DCA exchange knowledge for assistance from communities in the region.
3. Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources - there has been an on-going relationship with this department through the year 1972-1973.
4. Massachusetts Department of Commerce and Development - Contact is maintained with the State EDA coordinator in this office.
5. Federal Environmental Protection Agency - The EPA has assisted the Council in the review of its water and sewer study and in the review of the Old Colony Water Pollution Control District legislation.
6. U. S. Army Corps of Engineers - There has been a continuous exchange of information and mutual review of water supply planning reports (Old Colony Planning Council Water and Sewer Study).

7. U. S. Department of Agriculture - There is a close working relationship with the service's regional office in Middleboro.
8. Massachusetts Department of Public Works - the department has organized a joint transportation coordinating committee which is made up of representatives of communities in the Council's planning district.
9. U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development - The department provides financial and technical assistance to the Council through the Boston Area Office of Community Planning and Management.

10. OTHER GROUPS

In addition to Federal and State agencies, close contact is kept with the following groups:

- a. Self-Help, Inc. - the agency has worked closely with this group which is the area OEO agency.
- b. Region VII Comprehensive Health Planning, Inc. - The Council has provided whatever assistance has been requested by this agency since its organization in 1969.
- c. Brockton Regional Chamber of Commerce - the Council maintains a close relationship with the Chamber, members of which are serving on the Economic Advisory Committee of the Old Colony Planning Council Economic Base Study.
- d. Massachusetts Division of Employment Security - The Council has developed a close working relationship with DES and received valuable assistance from that agency during the preparation of Phase 2 of the Economic Base Study.
- e. City of Brockton Planning Department - During the past year, the Council has worked closely with the City of Brockton Planning Department on several major projects.

ACTIVITIES OF THE OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL

The 1972-1973 Annual Work Program of the Old Colony Planning Council included several areas of major emphasis as part of the Council's Overall Program Design (OPD). The Overall Program Design is a statement of the Old Colony Planning Council's work objectives for a three year period and a requirement of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development which participates financially in the program. The Annual Work Program is a more detailed description of the work the Council plans to carry out during the year.

In 1972-1973, the Council continued its study of the region's economic base to gain a more in-depth knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of the area economy. The second phase of the Economic Base Study concentrated on identifying specific growth industries that would be suited to the Brockton area because of the particular advantages such a location might have to an industry group. Council staff efforts were supplemented through work by the firm of Metcalf & Eddy, Inc. which is responsible for preparing the final report for publication. Much data has been generated from the study which will be beneficial to area industrial development activities.

The Economic Advisory Committee of the Council which includes members of all local industrial development com-

missions has actively participated in all aspects of the study. In addition, this group serves as the Overall Economic Development Program Committee for the area. The Committee with Council staff assistance prepared the initial OEDP for the Brockton area and submitted this to the Economic Development Administration. An approved OEDP is a prerequisite for funding assistance by the Economic Development Administration.

In 1972-1973, water and sewer planning was an important part of the Council's program. The Council joined with the other regional planning agencies in the Commonwealth in 1972 to apply to the Environmental Protection Agency for a pilot program in Water Quality Management Planning. Provision was made in the Council application for funds to carry out a thorough ground water availability survey and a study of storm water drainage and its effects upon water quality. To date, the pilot program has not been funded by EPA, but there are indications that some financial assistance may be forthcoming to assist the Council in this important area of planning.

The Council also made progress during the year in advancing the establishment of an Old Colony Water Pollution Control District in the region. The problem of sewage disposal has been of critical importance to area communities and this was a high priority program for the Council. A Sewer

Legislation Committee was formed by the Council for the purpose of developing acceptable legislation for introduction to the General Court in the 1973 legislative session. The Committee prepared a bill and this was sponsored by area legislators. The Brockton area legislators were also instrumental in gaining favorable action on the measure in time for the proposal to be considered at the respective Annual Town Meetings.

As of this writing, three of the eight communities eligible for participation in the Old Colony Water Pollution Control District have voted acceptance. The remaining five communities have deferred action on the proposal, but no community has turned down formation of the District.

The Council has also made significant progress toward the accomplishment of goals and objectives stated under the program area, Technical Assistance and Formal Reviews. Data gathered by the staff measured the impact of various types of housing developments on local public service costs. A background paper entitled, "Rapid Growth: A General Discussion of Problems and Solutions for the Old Colony Planning Council" should be of value to local officials in their review of local developmental proposals.

The Old Colony Planning Council utilized recent U. S. Census data in preparing another background paper, "Population Projections 1970 to 2000". The paper analyzes population

trends in each of the region's communities and uses several methods of projecting the future population levels for the region. Copies of the paper were distributed to local officials for use in determining the future adequacy of community facilities.

The problem of solid waste also came under closer scrutiny by the Council during the year. Efforts by the staff to develop a long-term solution to the solid waste disposal problem resulted in the publication of an initial report on solid waste. The Council report discusses current local solid waste disposal practices; current solid waste disposal technology and, explores alternative solutions. The contents of the report are expected to be used by local officials in considering acceptable long-term solutions. The Council will supplement the activities carried out in 1972-1973 with additional staff work on the solid waste disposal problem and, after consulting with municipal officials to develop a regional plan for solid waste disposal.

The Council also completed all the requirements for Open Space Planning Certification and has submitted an application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Open Space Plan which was published and adopted by the Council in August, 1972 provided the basis for the application for certification which would enable area commu-

nities to be eligible for federal open space grant monies.

In the past year, the Council has worked with the Department of Community Affairs in identifying housing needs in the OCPC area. The Council's previous efforts in housing included the preparation of a Regional Housing Market Analysis, 1970-1990 and a Summary Report on Housing completed last year. Recent census data will enable the Council staff to more precisely evaluate low and moderate income housing needs in the area and to establish "target allocations" for each community. The Council will continue to work with the Department of Community Affairs in the coming year as part of its housing element to determine the need to develop new communities with balanced housing for all income levels.

The Council also prepared and distributed a report on Community Services and Facilities during the year. The report is an inventory of all local community and area-wide facilities and services in the OCPC region. Data collected will be useful to the Council in evaluating the needs for additional community facilities and services in the future and incorporating these findings in the future land use plan for the region.

Toward the latter part of the program year, the Council initiated transportation planning activities in conjunction with the Department of Public Works and the Executive Office

LIST OF OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL REPORTS, STUDIES,
PLANS AND DOCUMENTS PREPARED IN 1972 - 1973

| | Completion Date |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. Application for Open Space Certification | September 1972 |
| 2. Population Projections 1970 - 2000 | December 1972 |
| 3. An Act Establishing the Old Colony Water Pollution Control District | December 1972 |
| 4. Unified Transportation Work Program | February 1973 |
| 5. Overall Economic Development Program | February 1973 |
| 6. A Survey of the Impact of Population and Housing Developments on Local Public Service Costs | June 1973 |
| 7. Rapid Growth: A Discussion of Problems and Solutions for the OCPC Area | April 1973 |
| 8. Solid Waste Report | To Be Completed |
| 9. Community Services and Facilities | April 1973 |
| 10. Regional Economic Base Study - Phase 2 | To Be Completed |
| 11. The Case for Reconsideration of the Decision to Delete Certain Communities from the Brockton, Mass. SMSA | June 1973 |
| 12. Application for Recertification - Compre- hensive Planning; Water and Sewer; and Open Space | March 1973 |

STAFF AND OFFICES

The Old Colony Planning Council staff is presently comprised of an Executive Director, an administrative assistant, three professional planners and two clerk/typists. The work of the staff is supervised by the Executive Director with assistance from the administrative assistant.

During the year, the Council has also engaged the part-time assistance of a student from Stonehill College who has been continued for the summer months as a planning intern. In addition, a student from a special voluntary Bridgewater State College work/study program worked at the Council on several projects. The Council wishes to thank Bridgewater State College for its assistance.

The Council maintains its offices at 232 Main Street in the center of Brockton which is the economic, social and cultural center of the region.

Its monthly meetings are held in each of the member communities, the sites rotating on a regular basis to insure at least one meeting per calendar year in each of the region's member communities.

The Council also wishes to extend once more its thanks to the Directors of the Plymouth-Home National Bank for the periodic use of their meeting room.

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

The Old Colony Planning Council derived its operating income in 1972-1973 from several sources as can be seen from the budget included as part of this report. Local assessments based upon 20¢ per capita from the ten member communities amounted to \$35,510.80.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded the Council a planning grant in the amount of \$45,000.00 for the fiscal year. The Comprehensive Planning Assistance Grant was an increase of \$10,000 over the grant awarded the previous year.

Other sources of funding included the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through the Department of Community Affairs, \$1,709.00; Town of Avon, \$4,000.00; and, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through the Department of Public Works for Transportation Planning, \$10,417.00.

The Council has continued to improve its financial management and control with monthly statements that provide an up-to-date report of the Council financial condition. These reports are prepared by the administrative assistant for the Council Treasurer. The Council's financial records and accounts are also audited by the Department of the State Auditor and the federal government.

Quarterly reports and the Annual Financial Report are prepared with the assistance of a Certified Public Accountant.

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL
 OPERATING BUDGET
 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1973

Income:

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------|
| Old Colony Planning Council Member Assessments | | \$35,511.00 |
| Department of Housing & Urban Development | | 45,000.00 |
| Department of Community Affairs | | 1,709.00 |
| Town of Avon | | 4,000.00 |
| Department of Public Works | | <u>10,417.00</u> |
| TOTAL INCOME | | \$96,637.00 ===== |

Expenditures:

| | | |
|---|--|-------------|
| <u>Staff Salaries & Fringe Benefits</u> | | \$61,673.00 |
|---|--|-------------|

Office Expenses:

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Rent | \$5,962.00 | |
| Telephone | 3,000.00 | |
| Office Supplies | 2,285.00 | |
| Postage | 900.00 | |
| Printing | 3,500.00 | |
| Maps | 2,500.00 | |
| Equipment Rental | 3,000.00 | |
| Equipment Maintenance | 200.00 | |
| Equipment Purchase | <u>1,795.00</u> | 23,142.00 |

Miscellaneous:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Books, Subscriptions & Dues | 824.00 | |
| Insurance Coverage | 450.00 | |
| Travel and Conference Expenses | 3,292.00 | |
| Accounting and Legal | <u>1,098.00</u> | 5,664.00 |

Contingencies

623.00

Technical Consultants

5,000.00

Project Inspection Fee

535.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES

\$96,637.00
=====

OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBER COMMUNITY ASSESSMENTS

Based on the final 1970 Census Population Figures (exclusive of State or Federal institutional patients) and on the basis of 20¢ per capita.

| <u>Community</u> | <u>Date of Membership</u> | <u>1971 Population</u> | <u>Assessment</u> |
|------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| ABINGTON | 1967 | 12,334 | \$ 2,466.80 |
| AVON | 1967 | 5,295 | 1,059.00 |
| BRIDGEWATER | 1967 | 11,829 | 2,365.80 |
| BROCKTON | 1967 | 89,040 | 17,808.00 |
| EAST BRIDGEWATER | 1967 | 8,347 | 1,669.40 |
| EASTON | 1967 | 12,157 | 2,431.40 |
| HANSON | 1967 | 7,148 | 1,429.60 |
| PEMBROKE | 1969 | 11,193 | 2,238.60 |
| WEST BRIDGEWATER | * 1967 | 7,152 | 1,430.40 |
| WHITMAN | 1967 | 13,059 | 2,611.80 |
| TOTAL | | <u>177,554</u> | <u>\$35,510.80</u> |