

**OLD COLONY  
PLANNING COUNCIL  
ANNUAL REPORT  
1990-91**

Area Agency on Aging  
Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Economic Development District



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am pleased to present this report of the activities of the Old Colony Planning Council for 1990-91. The report is purposely short and concise but designed to give the reader a good sense of what the Council has been able to accomplish during the past year. We have adopted this format to make the publication as economical and cost effective as possible.

In reading the following pages, you will gain a good understanding of the breadth and comprehensive nature of the programs of the Old Colony Planning Council. Hopefully, you will also see the Council as an organization that has great potential for doing more to serve the individual and collective needs of our member communities in the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Council for their encouragement and support during my tenure as President and to express my sincere appreciation to the dedication, commitment and contribution of the Council staff.

*Robert W. Smith*

Robert W. Smith, President

INSTALLATION OF OCPC OFFICERS FOR 1991-1992



Installed as OCPC Officers were from L-R, John G. Mather, Treas., James A. Kassos, Sec., and John F. Lenox, Pres. by Robert W. Smith



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

The Council's Economic Development activity is supported by funding from the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce and is based upon an annual work program designed to improve economic conditions in the region. This past year, the Council focused on continued support to local industrial development commissions in an effort to provide more and better paying jobs. The Council's program also included:

- o Updating the "Community Information and Data Report" and providing social/economic data to firms and agencies interested in the region;
- o Preparing the annual Overall Economic Development Program Report in cooperation with the Overall Economic Development Program Committee and related work on water supply and other infrastructure needs;
- o Working with the Mayor's Water Supply Advisory Committee including drafting an increasing block rate fee structure to encourage conservation; and,
- o Exploring interim/contingency water supply arrangements for the Silver Lake System with surrounding communities.

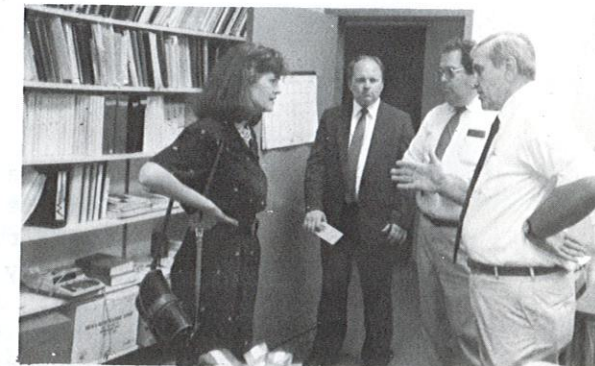
Comprehensive Planning, land use studies and environmental protection represent another important area of activity for the Council and included for the past year:



Sec. Susan Tierney, Environmental Affairs and Mayor Carl D. Piraro of Brockton cut the ribbon to open the Woodland Ave. Water Treatment Plant.



OEDP Committee Chair, Joseph P. Joseph and Vice Chair, Joseph Landolfi review Industrial Revenue Bond Applications.



Sec. Susan Tierney, EOE discusses Brockton water options with OCPC Exec. Director, Dan Crane, OCPC Treasurer, Jack Mather and State Rep. John F. Cruz.

- o Drafting or reviewing water supply protection bylaws in Plympton, Halifax, Kingston and Pembroke, and reviewing other rezoning proposals in Plymouth, Brockton and Abington;
- o Completing the inventory of the region's underground storage tanks and large septic systems and reviewing the Avon Industrial Park drainage system to identify areas for potential EPA-funded improvements to protect the reactivated Avon Reservoir downstream;
- o Developing and beginning a comprehensive planning and growth management program in conjunction with the Easton Planning and Zoning Board and the Avon Planning Board;
- o Working with the Town of Abington on the three member community North Weymouth Naval Air Station reuse study committee;
- o Participating in state and local review processes for projects such as the energy-producing incinerator proposed for East Bridgewater, the Route 24 Industrial Center proposed in West Bridgewater, and enlarged Stoughton Technology Park, an affordable housing development in Kingston and other projects in Plymouth, Hanson, Avon and elsewhere;
- o Preparing state/federal program applications such as an Avon Council on Aging request for a 16-passenger mini-bus; and,
- o Updating the annual survey of Fair Market Rents in the Brockton area. This survey found that rents have begun to drop, thereby increasing the effectiveness of state/federal rental assistance though the advertised supply remains quite limited.



## ELDER SERVICES

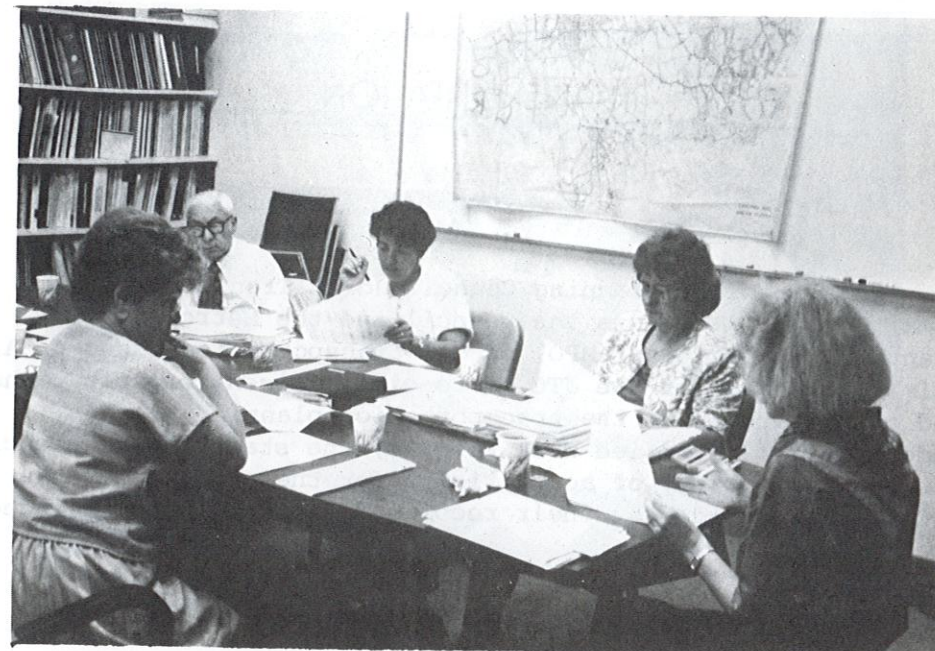
Federal funding available through Title III of the Older Americans Act has enabled the Old Colony Planning Council Area Agency on Aging to continue responding to some of the more critical needs of the rapidly growing elder population in southeastern Massachusetts. As the population increases and ages, the demand for in-home services, in particular, has intensified. With the support of the local councils on aging and elder service providers, it has been possible to maximize the use of the limited amount of Title III funding for the benefit of the most needy elders at home and in the community. During Fiscal Year 1991, an estimated 12,000 elders received assistance through the various Title III services.

Services funded by the Old Colony Planning Council Area Agency on Aging during Fiscal Year 1991 included:

- o Senior center and outreach programs
- o Home health and respite services
- o In-home mental health services
- o Services for deaf, blind and physically handicapped elders
- o Transportation services
- o Legal services
- o Emergency services
- o Congregate and home delivered meals
- o Services to families and caregivers



Seniors eating heartily at the Carver Nutrition Site.



Area Agency on Aging Chair, Barbara Farnsworth and members of the Projects Review Committee weigh applications for Title III-B funding.

In addition to funding and monitoring Title III services throughout the region, the Area Agency has been involved in the following activities:

- o Conducting regional provider needs assessment
- o Providing technical assistance to councils on aging and other community agencies in the areas of grant applications, program development, etc.
- o Conducting nutrition, health and other community education events

The Area Agency on Aging also continues to serve as the regionally designated Nursing Home Ombudsman Program. Through regular weekly visitation, trained, certified ombudsmen have assisted residents in fifty-five nursing and rest homes in resolving the full spectrum of issues and concerns. In their role as advocates, ombudsmen have made significant inroads in improving the quality of care for residents.



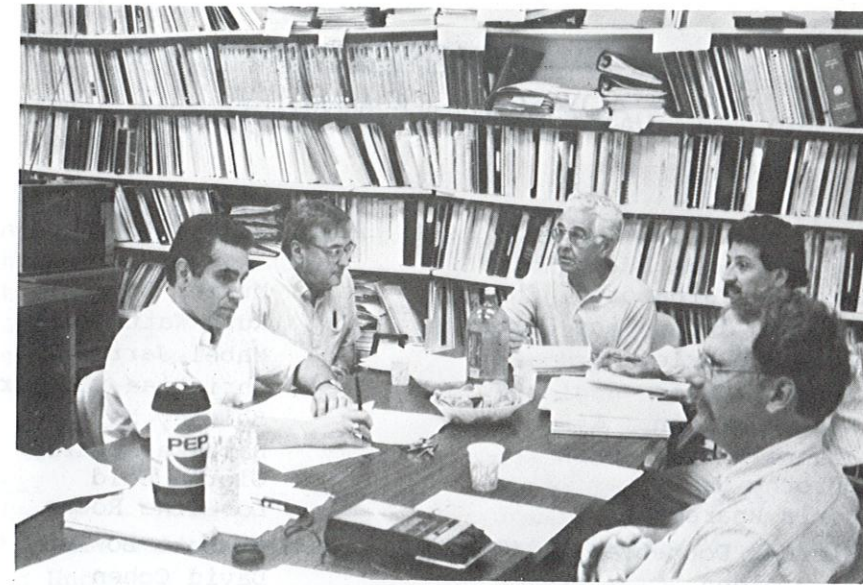
## TRANSPORTATION

The Old Colony Planning Council Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) advises the Council and the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on all transportation issues. A primary function of the JTC is to give citizens organizations and others access to the transportation planning process. Under the FY 91 Unified Work Program, the staff of the Council conducted a variety of activities under the auspices of the JTC and were guided by their recommendations. These included:

- o Monitoring Brockton Area Transit (BAT) system ridership
- o Compiling and distributing 1990 U.S. Census Data
- o Analyzing potential fare increases
- o Updating OCPC Title VI Civil Rights requirements
- o Assisting in BAT's Title VI Study to assure Civil Rights compliance
- o Monitoring and coordinating service for the elderly and handicapped
- o Updating the region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which lists all projects scheduled for improvement
- o Continuing to update the Regional Comprehensive Transportation Plan



Belmont St. (Rt. 123) Brockton is one of several traffic bottlenecks in the Old Colony Region.



Joint Transportation Committee mulls status of highway construction projects.

- o Assisting OCPC member communities in developing and maintaining a Pavement Management System
- o Developing and conducting Road Inventory Updates for OCPC member communities
- o Studying transportation/traffic needs/growth management along key highway corridors
- o Conducting speed and vehicle classification studies for OCPC member communities
- o Participating in and supporting the provision of commuter rail service to the Old Colony region
- o Monitoring regional air quality levels
- o Collecting traffic counts and related statistics for transportation modeling and doing traffic improvement studies
- o Monitoring and reviewing the siting process for a Second Major Airport
- o Reviewing various Environmental Notification Forms and Environmental Impact Reports in OCPC region
- o Reviewing progress of Route 44 reconstruction
- o Conducting local roadway access management studies
- o Reviewing BAT's proposal to acquire new fixed route buses



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