

**Regional Center Partnership of Somerset County
Approved
Wednesday, November 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was convened by means of video conference.

Name/Organization

Voting Members

Jason Dameo, Vice-Chair, RCP
Matt Moench, Mayor, Bridgewater
Michael Pappas, Bridgewater Administrator
Andrew Fresco, Bridgewater
Zachary Bray, Mayor, Raritan Borough
Michael Patente, Raritan Borough Council
Dennis Sullivan, Mayor, Somerville
Rick St. Pierre, Somerville
Walter Lane, Somerset County (SC) Office of Planning, Policy and Economic Development
Geoffrey Soriano, SC Park Commission
Chris Edwards, SC Business Partnership

Non-voting County Support Staff

James Ruggieri, SC Office of Planning, Policy and Economic Development

Non-Voting Guests

Phil Decker, Somerville Resident
Rich Reitman, The Reitman Group

The meeting commenced at 5:00 PM.

Business Items

Call to Order

RCP Vice-Chair Jason Dameo called the meeting to order.

Attendance Roll Call

Principal Planner James Ruggieri read through the roll call and noted for the record the voting members that were in attendance.

Chair's Remarks

Vice-Chair Jason Dameo welcomed everyone to the meeting, noting that Chair Troy Fischer is away.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes

Vice-Chair Dameo asked if there were any corrections to the meeting minutes; there being none, Vice-Chair Dameo asked for a motion to approve the September 9, 2021 meeting minutes. Somerville Local

private/institutional sector representative Rick St. Pierre moved and Somerset County Office of Planning, Policy and Economic Development Director Walter Lane seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken resulting in the following voting record:

Ayes: 9
Nays: 0
Abstentions: Michael Patente

The motion to approve the minutes was approved.

Treasurer's Report for September-October 2021

Mr. Ruggieri noted that the Treasurer's Report was included with everyone's meeting packet. Mr. Ruggieri reported that, after Somerset County Purchasing Division confirmed the Request for Proposals (RFP) to perform the annual audit and tax-related services was technically complete, the RFP was released on October 20 with proposals due by December 8. The intent is to have proposals scored and a recommendation to award a contract at the January meeting. Mr. Ruggieri offered to answer any questions. There being no questions or comments, Vice-Chair Dameo asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for September-October 2021. Somerville Mayor Dennis Sullivan moved and Mr. Lane seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken resulting in the following voting record:

Ayes: Jason Dameo, Michael Pappas, Andrew Fresco, Zachary Bray, Michael Patente, Dennis Sullivan, Rick St. Pierre, Walter Lane, Geoff Soriano and Chris Edwards.
Nays: none
Abstentions: none

The motion was approved.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments concerning the Action items on the agenda.

Action Items

Executive Committee Recommendation for the 4 At-Large Private/Institutional Sector Representatives for 2022-2023 Term

Reporting on behalf of the Executive Committee, Mayor Sullivan explained that, of the 21 voting members of the Regional Center Partnership (RCP), four (4) are At-Large Private/Institutional Sector representatives whose term ends this January. The current At-Large Private/Institutional Sector representatives are

- Vicky Allen of RWJ/Barnabas Health;
- Jason Dameo of Dameo Trucking
- Troy Fischer of Bridgewater Commons; and
- Anthony Tufaro of Johnson & Johnson.

The Nominating Committee confirmed that Vicky Allen, Jason Dameo, Troy Fischer, and Anthony Tufaro are willing to serve for the upcoming 2-year term which runs January 2022 thru January 2024. The Executive Committee is pleased to recommend Vicky Allen, Jason Dameo, Troy Fischer and Anthony Tufaro.

Mayor Sullivan moved to accept the Executive Committee report and Somerset County Park Commission Secretary/Director Geoffrey Soriano seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken resulting in the following voting record:

Ayes: 10
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 0

The motion was approved.

Nominating Committee Report: Office Nominations and Appointment of Private/Institutional Sector Representative to Executive Committee for 2022-2023 Term

Reporting on behalf of the Nominating Committee, Mayor Sullivan explained that the RCP Bylaws prescribe a two-year term of service for the officers as well as the At-Large Private-Institutional Sector representative to the Executive Committee. The current term ends this January. The Nominating Committee has confirmed the following slate for the four officers and the At-Large Private/Institutional Sector representative to the Executive Committee for the January 2022 thru January 2024 term:

- Chair: Troy Fischer
- Vice-Chair: Jason Dameo
- Treasurer: Vicky Allen
- Secretary: James Ruggieri; and
- Vicky Allen as the At-Large Private/Institutional Sector representative to the Executive Committee.

Mayor Sullivan moved to accept the nomination report and Mr. Soriano seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken resulting in the following voting record:

Ayes: 10
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 0

The motion was approved.

Bridgewater Creative Placemaking Challenge Grant Proposal

Examples of artistically designed outdoor “heart” sculptures were shared on the screen while Mr. Ruggieri described Bridgewater Township’s Creative Placemaking Challenge Grant proposal. Mr. Ruggieri shared that the Township formally submitted their Creative Placemaking Challenge Grant application for up to \$15,000 for the “Hearts of Bridgewater” public art project. As described in the Township’s grant application, in light of how COVID-19 has impacted our communities, the aim of this project is to fill the Regional Center and the entire Township with 11 artistically designed heart-shaped sculptures to display “the art of love-expressions from a diverse community showing heart for each other, showing hearts of support, showing heart as an expression, and showing off our hearts to the world.” The intent is that the heart-shaped sculptures will not only help bring communities together but also bring tourism to these locations and support stimulation of the local economy within the Regional Center. Three debut hearts will be placed in three major commercial complexes within the Regional Center -Bridgewater Commons Mall, Somerset Shopping Center, and Bridgewater Promenade. In the

next phase of the project the plan is to install heart sculptures in designated neighborhoods throughout the Township with some located within the Regional Center and some outside the Regional Center. The Township feels that, since the intent of this program is to unite the community, it is important for the project's success that all Township neighborhoods -including those inside the Regional Center and outside the Regional Center-be part of this project to help foster greater connections between the Township's many residential neighborhoods as well as connecting these communities with the Regional Center. The Township will retain an artist to create ten medium-sized heart sculptures and a second artist will create one large-sized heart for display at a central location within the Township. Staff has been working with the Township's grant manager to clarify some technical aspects of the grant application.

Mr. Ruggieri noted that typically Challenge Grants awarded to Bridgewater focus on a project within the Regional Center boundaries, e.g., pedestrian pathways, sewer infrastructure studies, etc; however, there are instances in the Challenge Grant program in which exceptions have been made where it is more logical to encompass the entire township, e.g., the 2013 Plan Endorsement Planning Assistance Grants and Bridgewater's Bicycle and Pedestrian Travel Plan. The Executive Committee has considered the grant application and recommends approval. Mr. Ruggieri concluded by noting that, if there are no questions, staff recommends the Hearts of Bridgewater Creative Placemaking Challenge Grant application for up to \$15,000 be approved.

Some discussion followed. For the benefit of the newer members at the meeting, Mr. St. Pierre noted that the RCP Creative Placemaking Challenge Grants were awarded to Raritan and Somerville in 2019 to pursue their respective public art projects and that the RCP approved Bridgewater's request for an extension to allow the Township additional time to develop their creative placemaking proposal. Bridgewater Administrator Michael Pappas thanked everyone for the support of the Hearts of Bridgewater grant proposal, noting that the Township is very excited about this project and that there is already community interest to see the project succeed. At the conclusion of the discussion, Mr. Lane moved to approve Bridgewater Township's Creative Placemaking Challenge Grant application for up to \$15,000 for the Hearts of Bridgewater project and Mr. St. Pierre seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken resulting in the following voting record:

Ayes: Jason Dameo, Michael Pappas, Andrew Fresco, Zachary Bray, Michael Patente, Dennis Sullivan, Rick St. Pierre, Walter Lane, Geoff Soriano and Chris Edwards.

Nays: none

Abstentions: none

The motion was approved.

Planning Assistance Grants for Plan Endorsement Renewal

As a follow up to September's meeting, Mr. Ruggieri explained that Somerset County Regional Center's formal designation as a state-recognized "regional center" will expire in October 2023 if no action is taken to renew the Regional Center's Plan Endorsement (PE). Renewing PE is not required unless we want the benefits of having PE which means getting higher consideration when applying for state discretionary funding. Mr. Ruggieri summarized the next steps in the PE Renewal process based on a new PE Renewal rule proposed by the Office of Planning Advocacy (OPA) as described in a letter from OPA Executive Director Donna Rendeiro sent to Mr. Lane and the three mayors in October. Mr. Ruggieri noted that our robust track record for doing good regional planning over the years should make us eligible for expedited PE Renewal under the proposed rule. Staff will set up a meeting with OPA, the three mayors and the respective municipal planners in December prior to the next big step which is determine the Regional Center towns' eligibility for expedited PE Renewal under the proposed new rule. The eligibility determination is based on the Plan Implementation Committee's assessment of how much of our current Plan Implementation Agreement (PIA) requirements have been fulfilled since 2013 when

we first achieved PE. Once deemed eligible, Bridgewater, Raritan and Somerville will submit a formal letter to the Executive Director of OPA petitioning the State Planning Commission for PE Renewal.

Mr. Ruggieri noted that in 2013 RCP offered Planning Assistance grants of up to \$26,000 per town to help Bridgewater, Raritan and Somerville achieve PE. The Executive Committee recommends the same type of planning assistance be offered for PE Renewal and recommends encumbering a not to exceed amount of \$105,000 out of current budget under Plan Implementation to offer up to \$35,000 per town in planning assistance grants to help Bridgewater, Raritan and Somerville achieve PE Renewal. There is ample funding in the current budget for this. While we may not need the entire amount, we want to ensure sufficient funding is allocated to achieve PE Renewal. Mr. Ruggieri concluded by noting that, if there are no questions, staff recommends allocating a not to exceed amount of \$105,000 out of the current budget to be utilized as planning assistance grants to help the RC towns achieve PE Renewal.

Mr. Lane reiterated that OPA is holding Somerset County Regional Center up high as the model for pursuing PE under the new rule. OPA is very pleased with our track record of doing good planning and wants to show the world that if you do good planning, then you can move forward with PE Renewal under the new rule rather than starting all over again as required under the current PE rules. The State Planning Commission had discussed and supports the proposed rule; still, the proposed rule must proceed through the formal rulemaking process before being adopted which is anticipated to be by the second quarter of 2022.

There being no discussion, Vice-Chair Dameo asked for a motion to approve allocating from the 2021 Budget up to \$105,000 under Plan Implementation to be able to offer up to \$35,000 per town in Planning Assistance Grants to achieve Plan Endorsement Renewal. Raritan Councilman Michael Patente moved and Bridgewater Mayor Matt Moench seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken resulting in the following voting record:

Ayes: Jason Dameo, Matt Moench, Michael Pappas, Andrew Fresco, Zachary Bray, Michael Patente, Dennis Sullivan, Rick St. Pierre, Walter Lane, Geoff Soriano and Chris Edwards.

Nays: none

Abstentions: none

The motion was approved.

Presentation

Draft Preliminary 2022 Budget and Work Plan

A spreadsheet showing preliminary budget figures for 2022 was shared on the screen while Mr. Ruggieri presented the draft Preliminary Budget for 2022. Mr. Ruggieri explained how staff determined the current unencumbered funding balance of \$18,526. The proposed budget assumes the amount of County support will remain at \$65,792.25 and the amount of support from Bridgewater, Raritan and Somerville will remain at \$10,890 per town for a total of \$98,462.25. Add to this amount the rollover amount of \$18,526 results in a total budget amount of \$116,988.03.

Of the total budget for 2022, approximately \$86,988 is allocated for Regional Center Strategic Plan Implementation which is approximately \$30,586 less than budgeted for this line item in 2021. Plan Implementation funding in 2022 could be utilized to support an initiative or project identified as a priority of the Regional Center Strategic Plan; e.g., a resiliency-related initiative, or support for an initiative to help advance the results of the Somerset County Walk Bike Hike Study and/or the recommendations from the Somerset County Road Safety Study.

For Public and Business Education, the budget allocates up to \$25,000 for principal marketing activities which is same amount allocated in 2021 for this line item. This would include funding for professional marketing services to perform the regular marketing-related activities (Annual Achievements Report, press releases, website maintenance, newsletters, etc). The Public and Business Education portion of the budget also contemplates up to \$6,000 to support other public outreach efforts. For the Non-profit Legal/Accounting budget line item, \$5,000 is allocated which is the same amount allocated in 2021 for this line item.

Mr. Ruggieri noted that the Executive Committee finds the preliminary budget for 2022 acceptable. The preliminary budget will be sent to everyone for review before the next meeting. These are interim figures which will need to be adjusted for final presentation in January to reflect savings account interest earned for November and December and any one-time expenses in the interim.

Information Items

Preliminary Meeting Dates

Mr. Ruggieri presented the preliminary meeting dates for 2022 which were shared on the screen. For 2022, meetings will continue to be held at 5:00 PM on the third Wednesday of every other month with the exception of November which will be the 2nd Thursday of November to avoid the annual League of Municipalities convention. Staff confirmed there are no major holiday conflicts. Staff reserved the Engineering Conference Room for these dates should we at some point resume in-person meetings; otherwise we will continue meeting virtually. The Executive Committee has accepted the preliminary list of meeting dates. The list of dates will be forwarded to everyone; formal action to adopt the meeting dates will be taken at January's meeting.

Marketing Update

Marketing Consultant Rich Reitman reported that since the last meeting he has reviewed local media each day for newsletter content; completed, distributed and posted the September newsletter; completed, distributed and posted the Annual Achievements Report press release; provided weekly Analytics reports to staff every Friday; posted Facebook and Twitter postings of newsletter stories every Wednesday under the banner of Amazing Things; distributed and posted the Somerset County Roadway Safety Study meeting notice to Facebook and the website; removed the "Open for Business" link from the website homepage and added maps to the landing page; changed photos on the website; posted the audit RFP to the website; developed an advertisement for the Somerset County Business Partnership's Annual Meeting program; and completed and distributed the November newsletter.

Municipal and Other Reports:

Bridgewater Mayor Moench reported that as part of the Township's five-year \$40 million investment to improve Township roads the Township retained a contractor to evaluate and score municipal road conditions (the Universal Road Assessment) and created a color-coded interactive Road Quality Map posted on the Township's website under "Our BW Roads" which shows the road condition rankings. The Township's contractor who does the normal road improvements was diverted to address road damage caused by Hurricane Ida. Vossellar Avenue has been reopened following emergency work on the retaining wall. The Township is promoting Shop Small Business Saturday to encourage shopping at local businesses. The Township's 2nd annual Menorah lighting event and Christmas tree lighting event will be held in December. The Township had a great Halloween event held at the Bridgewater Commons Mall; Mayor Moench expressed appreciation to the Bridgewater Commons mall owners for allowing the event to be held at the mall parking lot.

Raritan Mayor Zachary Bray reported the Sustainable Economic Development Plan for downtown Raritan funded by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) is on the Raritan Planning Board's agenda for adoption on November 17. The Borough is moving forward with a redevelopment plan for the Raritan Crossing shopping center on Route 206 which experienced a lot of damage from Hurricane Ida.

Councilman Patente shared that the Christmas Market will be held on December 11. Councilman Patente invited everyone to attend especially since the Christmas Market is being partly funded by a RCP Resiliency and

Economic Recovery Challenge Grant. Councilman Patente complemented Mr. Reitman on the appearance and layout of the November newsletter. Councilman Patente also noted this is his last RCP meeting and expressed appreciation for all the great work being done by the RCP and for the opportunity to work with everyone.

Somerville Mayor Sullivan reported the water pipe replacement work continues throughout Borough streets resulting in a number of detours. Despite the age of some of the pipes, the real problem is the amount of infiltration that enters the pipe seams. The Planning Board approved Somerville Town Center's two proposed overhead pedestrian bridges which will provide residents in the existing and proposed Somerville Town Center apartments direct access to the new parking deck which will remove a lot of pedestrian traffic at the Davenport and West Main Street intersection. The Somerset Station transit-oriented development project is very active with about a third of the townhouse units already sold. The Borough is in the process of hiring a new public information officer.

Mr. St. Pierre noted that Somerville along with Raritan is also having Small Business Saturday on November 27. In Somerville Division Street has been resurfaced. Somerville kicks off the holiday season on December 3 with the arrival of Santa and on December 4 with the Fireman's Parade.

Somerset County Park Commission

Mr. Soriano reported that the Park Commission is rebuilding the Park Commission Headquarters at North Branch Park and the Visitors Center at Duke Island Park which sustained damage caused by Hurricane Ida. The repair work at Park Commission Headquarters is about a quarter million dollars; otherwise, both parks are open to the public. The Park Commission is grateful the golf courses have been very busy since the revenue they generate sustains the work of the Park Commission.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments regarding any items not on the agenda.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

Regional Center Partnership of Somerset County

**Treasurer's Report for
September 1 thru October 31, 2021**

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| Business Checking | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 9/1/21 thru 10/31/21 | | |
| Starting Bal. as of 9/1/2021: | | <u>\$45,793.36</u> |
| less expenses: | | |
| <u>Date</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
| 9/8/21 | The Reitman Group | \$1,583.33 |
| 10/4/21 | The Reitman Group | \$1,583.33 |
| 10/21/21 | J Ruggieri reimbursement for NJ Div of Consumer Affairs annual report filing fee | \$55.00 |
| 10/28/21 | The Reitman Group | \$1,583.33 |
| 10/28/21 | NewJersey Press Media Solutions | \$31.82 |

| Money Market Account | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 9/1/21 thru 10/31/21 | | |
| Starting Bal. as of 9/1/2021: | | <u>\$151,350.32</u> |
| <u>Date</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
| 9/7/21 | Somerset County | \$65,792.25 |
| 9/30/21 | interest | \$7.82 |
| 10/31/21 | interest | \$7.38 |
| ending bal as of 10/31/21: | | \$217,157.77 |

subtotal of expenses: **\$4,836.81**

Deposits 9/1/21 thru 10/31/21

subtotal of deposits **\$0.00**

**Ending Balance (checking)
after expenses and deposits: \$40,956.55**

Sum of checking and money market
accounts: **\$258,114.32**

Less total Committed But Not Expend: \$133,709.35

Uncommitted Funds **\$124,404.97**

Regional Center Partnership of Somerset County

**Treasurer's Report for
September 1 thru October 31, 2021**

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Table Showing Amounts Committed but Not Expended

| <u>Budget Year</u> | <u>Project Initiation Year</u> | <u>Munic or RC</u> | <u>Committed Account Name</u> | <u>Current Balance</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--|------------------------|
| 2017 | | BW | (reserved for Bridgewater Creative Placemakg Grant) | \$15,000.00 |
| 2017 | 2018 | RT | Raritan Ped Safety Chall Grant StreetSmart Campaign | \$5,375.00 |
| 2017 | 2018 | RT | Raritan Ped Safety Chall Grant Traffic Striping Imp | \$4,250.00 |
| 2018 | 2019 | RC | Allocation for Website Upgrade | \$4,001.00 |
| 2018 | | RC | Strategic Marketing Plan & Implementation Activities | \$30,000.00 |
| 2020 | 2021 | BW | Resiliency & Economic Recovery Challenge Grant | \$20,000.00 |
| 2020 | 2020 | RT | Resiliency & Economic Recovery Challenge Grant | \$20,000.00 |
| 2020 | 2021 | SV | Resiliency & Economic Recovery Challenge Grant | \$20,000.00 |
| 2021 | 2021 | RC | Principal Marketing Services (contract Year 2) | \$11,083.35 |
| 2021 | | RC | Audit and tax-related services for year 2021 | \$4,000.00 |
| TOTAL: | | | | \$133,709.35 |

Regional Center Partnership of Somerset County

**Treasurer's Report for
September 1 thru October 31, 2021**

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Anticipated Revenue for 2021
(excluding interest payments from Money Mkt acct)

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Total Anticipated Revenue | \$0.00 |
|---------------------------|--------|

Regional Center Partnership of Somerset County
Treasurer's Report for
September 1 thru October 31, 2021
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Raritan River Rain Barrel Rebate Program
9/1/21 thru 10/31/21

Starting Bal. as of 9/1/2021:

\$3,427.35

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>Amount of</u> <u>Deductions</u> | |
|--|----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 9/9/21 | rebate payment | \$50.00 | |
| 9/9/21 | rebate payment | \$100.00 | |
| 9/9/21 | rebate payment | \$50.00 | |
| 10/4/21 | rebate payment | \$50.00 | |
| subtotal of deductions: | | \$250.00 | |
| <u>ending balance after deductions</u> | | | <u>\$3,177.35</u> |
| Deposit (if any) | | | |
| subtotal of any Deposits | | \$0.00 | |
| <u>ending Balance after any Deposits:</u> | | | <u>\$3,177.35</u> |

REGIONAL CENTER PARTNERSHIP OF SOMERSET COUNTY

Business Meeting of November 10, 2021

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94940563953?pwd=eC9rbU5Pa3I2YlZhZU5XVnNCT0tCdz09>

Meeting ID: 949 4056 3953

Passcode: 349851

Phone 1 929 205 6099 Passcode: 349851

AGENDA

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Chair's Remarks:
4. Adoption of Meeting Minutes: September 9, 2021
5. Adoption of Treasurer's Report for September-October 2021

ACTION ITEMS

"Public comments will be entertained at this time regarding any action item. All comments shall be directed to the Chair and limited to three (3) minutes per speaker."

6. Executive Committee Recommendation for the 4 At-Large Private/Institutional Sector Representatives for 2022-2023 Term
7. Nomination Committee Report: Office Nominations and Appointment of Private/Institutional Sector Representative to Executive Committee for 2022-2023 Term
8. Bridgewater Creative Placemaking Challenge Grant Proposal
9. Planning Assistance Grants for Plan Endorsement Renewal

PRESENTATION

10. Draft Preliminary 2022 Budget and Work Plan

INFORMATION ITEMS

11. Preliminary Meeting Dates
12. Marketing Update
13. Plan Endorsement Renewal
14. Municipal and Other Reports

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Public comments will be entertained at this time regarding any items not on the agenda. All comments shall be directed to the Chair and limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 5:00PM

**REGIONAL CENTER PARTNERSHIP OF SOMERSET COUNTY, INC.
2022 BUDGET & WORK PROGRAM**

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

WORK PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

The major objective of the Regional Center Partnership (RCP) in 2022 is to build upon past successes and to continue making the Regional Center of Somerset County a premier location in the state favorable for business investment and to live, work, shop, play and learn. The means to achieve this objective is shaped by the recommendations from the adopted Regional Center Strategic Plan. RCP will continue to work with Somerset County towards advancing the goals and objectives of the Regional Center as a Priority Growth Investment Area through the Supporting Priority Investment in Somerset County Phase III, the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), and as an important Regional Center endorsed by the State Planning Commission.

The 2022 budget has been prepared assuming that the funding levels will stay the same as in 2021. The amount of support given by the County would remain at \$65,792.25 and the amount of support from Bridgewater, Raritan and Somerville would remain at \$10,890.00 per town.

The 2022 budget allocates up to \$86,992.03 for Regional Center Strategic Plan Implementation initiatives representing \$30,582.05 less than what was budgeted in 2021 for Plan Implementation. Funding could be used to pursue a priority of the Regional Center Strategic Plan; e.g., improving resiliency as discussed in the Regional Center Strategic Plan, supporting an initiative to help advance the results from the Somerset County Walk Bike Hike Study, the recommendations of the Somerset County Preservation Plan and/or the Somerset County Roadway Safety Study. Funding for Challenge Grants would be dependent on the other planned work program activities.

No change is proposed for the amount allotted for Non-profit Legal/Accounting (\$5,000.00).

For Public and Business Education, the budget allocates up to \$25,000.00 for public and business education (marketing) activities which is the same amount that was allocated in 2021. This would include funding for professional marketing services to perform the regular marketing outreach activities (Annual Achievements Report, press releases, website maintenance, bi-monthly newsletters, and related marketing outreach). The Public & Business Education portion of the budget also contemplates funding to support public outreach efforts.

Additional funding to support priority projects or initiatives consistent with Regional Center goals could become available in the form of grants from non-traditional sources. The State Planning Commission's endorsement of the Somerset County Regional Center should be emphasized when applying for state and federal grants. RCP's standing as a 501(c)3 organization should also be maximized to help leverage additional funding.

2022 BUDGET

1. Regional Center Plan Implementation/Challenge Grant Initiatives \$86,992.03

Funding could be utilized to pursue a priority of the Regional Center Strategic Plan.

2. Non Profit Legal/Accounting Services \$5,000.00

For the various costs associated with the operation of a non-profit group.

3. Public and Business Education Program \$25,000.00

Funding would be used to perform the regular and annual marketing program activities (Annual Achievements Report, newsletters, press releases, website maintenance, etc.) and to support public outreach efforts.

Total Budget \$116,992.03

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Anticipated Revenue: | \$ 65,792.25 | Somerset County |
| | \$ 10,890.00 | Bridgewater |
| | \$ 10,890.00 | Raritan |
| | \$ 10,890.00 | Somerville |
| Subtotal: | \$ 98,462.25 | |

\$18,529.78 2021 Carry-Over Funds*

Total: \$116,992.03

*as of 11/10/2021; reflects action taken 11/10/2021 allocating \$105,000 from the current budget under Plan Implementation line item to be used to offer Planning Assistance Grants to achieve Plan Endorsement Renewal.



REGIONAL CENTER PARTNERSHIP 2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

Proposed for 1-19-2022

Meeting Dates

January 19 @ 5:00 PM

March 16 @ 5:00 PM

May 18 @ 5:00 PM

July 20 @ 5:00 PM

September 21 @ 5:00 PM

Thursday, November 10 @ 5:00 PM

January 18, 2023 @ 5:00 PM

All meetings will tentatively be held at the County Administration Building, 20 Grove Street, Engineering Conference Room, Second Floor, Somerville, NJ unless noted otherwise. Please note that all meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 PM., unless noted otherwise.

Meetings will be held bi-monthly. Additional meetings may be scheduled as warranted. When needed, these additional meetings will be scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month at 5:00 PM unless noted otherwise. Meeting reminders will be sent out in which any changes or special meetings will be identified.



