

TO: Finance Committee
FROM: Leslie Forbes
RE: Support for Article #82, An Act to Promote and Improve Regional Planning for Nantucket.
DATE: 26 January 2023

I ask that the Finance Committee give a Positive Recommendation to Article #82, An Act to Promote and Improve Regional Planning for Nantucket.

I have attended NPEDC meetings, I have followed last year's discussions to make changes to the NPEDC, and I have read the current Act. I believe we need a Planning Commission that is focused on a more forward process, one that anticipates changes and issues rather than mostly trying to improve what we have. I would like the NPEDC to lead discussion about the future, rather than work to improve current problems.

The article is well-researched and crafted. It is built from the mission of the State's regulations for Regional Planning Agencies, but understands the special circumstances of Nantucket-one county, only one town. It builds in more citizen input with 5 members directly elected by voters (currently there are none.) With the addition of a Land Bank and an Historical Commission member, it broadens the input from the other Town departments that are important to Regional Planning. And it sets term limits, building in the ability to adapt to changes in physical, social, environmental, cultural, and economic resources of Nantucket County. With this structure, the NPEDC will be less tied to the day to day operational issues of Planning, and be able to focus on longer term planning.

I ask that the Finance Committee give a positive motion on Article #82 so we can move toward a more active long term planning process.

Respectfully,

Leslie Forbes

From: [Anne Dewez](#)
To: [Mariya Basheva](#)
Cc: [Hillary Hedges Rayport](#)
Subject: Article 82 FinComm motion
Date: Thursday, January 26, 2023 12:49:47 PM

Dear Marija,

Could you please distribute letter below to the members of the Finance Committee?

Thank you, Anne Dewez

Dear Chair Kronau and Other Members of the Finance Committee,

I would like to urge strongly that you give Article 82 "An Act to Support Regional Planning for Nantucket" a positive recommendation.

Nantucket is no longer the small, unsophisticated place it was when the NP & EDC was created in 1982. We are facing major challenges and our long range planning capacity needs to be up to these challenges. We need an RPA that is broadly-based, answerable to the voters and totally focussed on its mission. We can no longer afford a largely self-selected group that does not reflect the various constituencies that desperately need a vibrant long range planning authority and is not subject to normal rules of good governance, such as term limits and accountability.

Ms Rayport's Article is an excellent revision to and updating of our RPA. A positive motion from the Finance Committee will allow these crucial matters to be appropriately and constructively debated at Town Meeting, unlike last year. The Town and County of Nantucket deserve no less.

Respectfully, Anne Dewez

Anne F M Dewez | 4 rue Bosio, MC 98000 Monaco | EU Mob: +33 (0)6 07 93 34 12 | Email: afmdewez@gmail.com

Article 83: An Act to Support Regional Planning for Nantucket

Submitted to ATM 2023 by Hillary Hedges Rayport, et al

**Information for the Finance
Committee**

January 31, 2023



Table of contents

- **The what and why of Article 83..... *page 3***
- **Regional Planning.....*page 14***
- **Appendix*page 21***
 - **Petitioners**
 - **Sources**
 - **Community letters of support**

what are the objectives of article 83?

To support and facilitate long-range planning and achieve strategic investment for Nantucket.

This will be achieved by:

1. Differentiating Nantucket's long range Regional Planning Agency (RPA) from our short term land-use function.
2. Increasing inter-departmental collaboration.
3. Maximizing Federal and State grant writing and administration within the RPA, benefitting the Town and County of Nantucket.

what article 83 does: clarifies name and mission

Article 83 modernizes the name and mission of our RPA

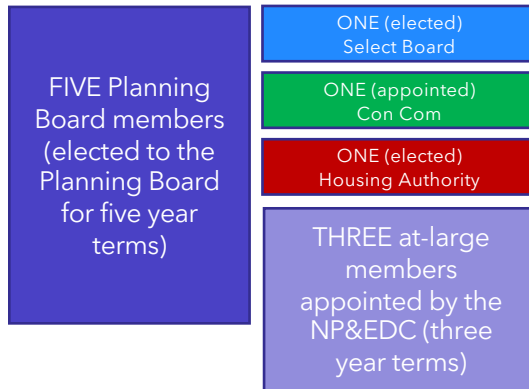
	Current	Proposed
Name	The Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission	The Nantucket Planning Commission
Mission	"To plan for the orderly and coordinated development and protection of the physical, social and economic resources of the Islands of Nantucket County"	"To plan for the orderly and coordinated development and protection of the physical, social, environmental, cultural, and economic resources of the Islands of Nantucket County, including the long-range preservation of ground and surface water, coastal resources, ocean quality, open space and other natural resources; the provision of adequate capital facilities, including transportation; the development of an adequate supply of fair affordable housing; and the preservation of historical, cultural, and recreational values"

- **Article 83 DOES NOT add any regulatory authority to the Commission. The Commission's powers remain advisory.**

what article 83 does: composition

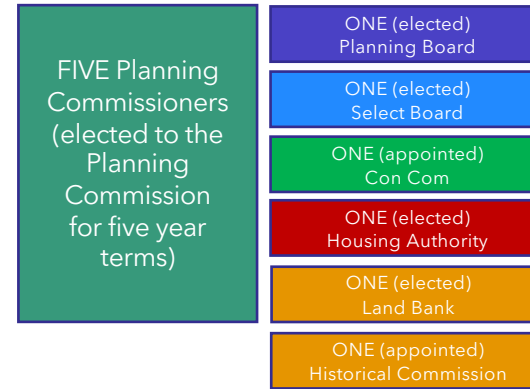
Article 83 reconfigures the makeup of our RPA to allow for more diverse input from the the community and dedicated focus on long term planning issues

Current RPA



- 11 Commissioners
- Planning board is "core"
- Self-appointing (three members)
- No term limits

Proposed RPA



- 11 Commissioners
- Five directly elected commissioners are "core"
- Annual reporting requirement
- Equal representation of six other boards
- Includes Land Bank and Historical Commission
- 10-year term limit

Short Term Land Use vs. Long Range Planning

Beginning in 2012, Nantucket organized land use and planning into one department. Customer service improved.

Long Term Issues

- **Community vision and goals**
- **Harbor health**
- **Island wide traffic and transit**
- **Climate Resiliency**



Short Term Tasks

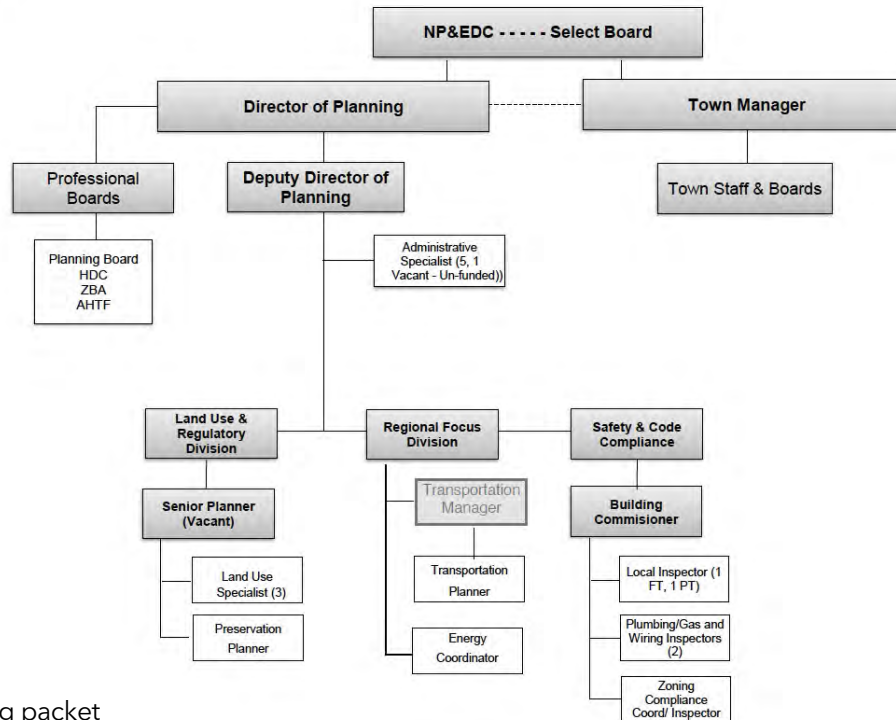
- **HDC Applications**
- **Subdivisions**
- **Special Permits**
- **Variances**
- **Inspections**

Short term issues are urgent and necessarily take up most time, attention, and resources. The new structure is designed to allow Nantucket's RPA to focus exclusively on supporting long range planning, across all Town departments.

Planning and Land Use (PLUS)



Town & County of Nantucket PLUS Department Organization Chart FY2022



Source: NP&EDC meeting packet

Investing in the future

With the help of state and federal grants



State grants awarded to Massachusetts cities, towns and RPAs

FY2022

Coastal habitat and water quality (CZM).....	\$290,000
Parks, playground construction and drinking water protection (DCS).....	\$19,000,000
Stormwater management and Clean water act (DEP).....	\$1,250,000
Community One Stop (a single source for housing choice, planning, streets, etc).....	\$88,600,000
MassDOT Community Grant programs.....	\$77,490,000
TOTAL.....	\$186,672,197

**Not intended to be a comprehensive list of all grants*

Massive expansion of federal grants

- Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.....\$571.4 Billion
 - Bridges, roads, ferries, transit, broadband access, climate change adaptation, carbon reduction, clean water, pollution remediation.
- Inflation Reduction Act.....\$440.4 Billion
 - To transition to clean energy, prepare for extreme weather, reduce pollution, upgrade infrastructure.
- State Transportation Improvement Plan.....\$14.9 Billion
 - Improving safety and efficiency of intersections, roads, increasing access for pedestrians and bikes. Nantucket has direct access to this through our RPA (which functions as one of the state's Metropolitan Planning Organizations).

Nantucket can't afford to miss out.

Key questions

- What is Nantucket's community-wide vision?
- How can we ensure inclusive public participation?
- How can we get more grants, to help realize our community goals?
- **How can we all work together to solve our most difficult problems?**

The Inquirer and Mirror



Maria Gilfo - Publisher, Managing Editor
Thomas H.C. Gilfo - General Manager
Marianne Gilfo - Assistant General Manager
Suzanne Delaney - Editor
Edward J. Bala - Plant Manager
Margo H. Haines - Advertising Manager
Geraldine Lenneman - Advertising Sales
Lori Polchinski - Advertising Department
Jacqueline Stewart - Circulation Office Manager
Robert Vanketich - Commercial Job Printing

—Reporting Staff—
Nancy Burns, Steve Sheppard, Marianne Gilfo

Nantucket Printer - Marianne Gilfo, Editor; Geraldine Lenneman, Advertising Sales;
Holly Walker, Advertising Production.
Nantucket Real Estate Guide - Marianne Gilfo, Editor; Geraldine Lenneman, Advertising Sales; Robert Vanketich, Advertising Production.

A public statement by the NPEDC to the people of Nantucket

Nantucket Island has been around for some fifteen to twenty thousand years. For a good part of that time, perhaps half or more, native Americans roamed its surface, living in relative harmony with the natural setting without altering the place very much. Before we new folks began arriving in the seventeenth century, there was no need for planning or growth management. (Perhaps if the Indians had had a growth cap, none of us would be here.) But lucky for the original settlers and for those of us who followed them from year to year, there was no Indian word for "building cap".

We, the new colonists of this seemingly inconsequential spit of land, have occupied it for only about one percent of its existence. And yet the changes to the natural environment over the past 300 years, precipitated by our desire to grow, change, build houses and shops, and eventually come to see

Planning Commission —

(Continued from Page One)
people who frequent or live here. (Ironically, also pointed out that it is the aim of the Commission to make its plan one of the people's, and by utilizing the expertise of those who live and visit here, the Commission would benefit doubly — from technical assistance as well as an increased degree of community involvement.)

Roger Ernst, who was in the audience, spoke from his background of nearly 30 years with the State Department as a Deputy Director of U.S. Economic Assistance to

island skyrocket, people are beginning to take the time to visit search these properties in order to buy out the interests of the various parties involved. Once this is accomplished, development is likely to ensue.

Islanders are facing the threat of seeing land that has always been available to them for recreation closed off due to private development. This land includes the beaches — most of which are private.

A land acquisition fund, aimed at securing different types of land for the community ranging from waterfront acreage to land suitable for

estate transfer tax could be the answer. In states such as Pennsylvania, that type of tax is used. (Klein informed the Commission. He commented that with the numbers involved in land dealing locally, a one percent fee attached to last year's transactions would have netted the town over \$10,000 in revenue. And, Klein warned, that realistically, the town would have to look more and more towards funding its own projects in the future as state and federal funds become scarce.)

"There's such a strong economic impetus here, and it's making decisions that

A public statement by the NPEDC to the people of Nantucket

[July 8, 1982 Inquirer & Mirror]

"We are all here together, whether we like it or not, and have inherited the stewardship of this spit of land, for better or for worse.

We are all, in some way, the causes of the problem, whether we be shop owners, real estate agents, contractors, school teachers, planners, retirees... whatever. "We have met the enemy and he is us."

Unless Nantucket, as a community, puts aside the politics of the last two decades, and begins to reach a consensus about the direction in which the community should be headed and the specific action that is required to do it, it may foreclose the opportunity to control its own destiny. It will be run over by the blind economic inertia that we have seen only the beginning of."

A photograph of a house with a red door and white picket fence, with an orange traffic cone in the foreground. The scene is set on a brick-paved walkway leading to a house with a red door and white trim. A white picket fence runs across the middle ground. In the foreground, an orange traffic cone sits on a paved surface. The cone has the word "THANKS" written vertically on it. The background is filled with lush green foliage.

Thank You.

Questions? Comments?
hrayport@mac.com

Regional Planning

In the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Regional Planning

- Massachusetts adopted Regional Planning as a path to achieve state goals for smart growth and development over time.
- RPAs are a resource and a funding mechanism for cities and towns. They encourage coordinated smart growth by pulling state and federal grant money and technical assistance into their member towns.
- Cape Cod Commission and Martha's Vineyard Commission petitioned the state for regulatory powers to maintain alignment between towns. This is not necessary on Nantucket as there is only one town.

The Regional Planning Law

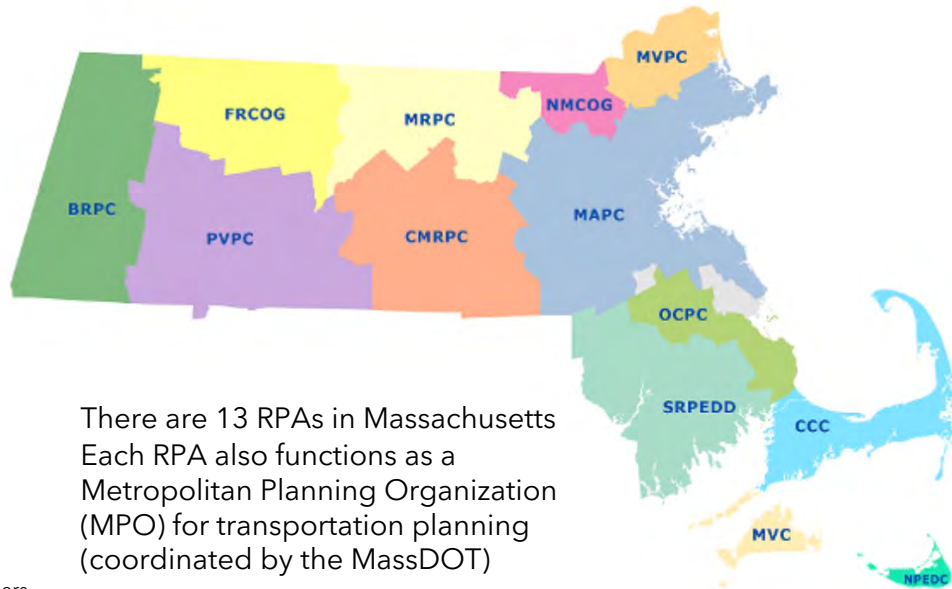
- Enabling legislation for regional planning is MGL Chapter 40B: “The Regional Planning Law”
- All RPAs have their own local enabling legislation, which must be consistent with state law.
- Ch. 40B § 2. “The purpose of this chapter is to permit a city or town to plan jointly with cities or towns to promote with the greatest efficiency and economy the co-ordinated and orderly development of the areas within their jurisdiction and the general welfare and prosperity of their citizens.”
- Ch. 40B § 5: “A planning commission established hereunder shall make careful studies of the resources, problems, possibilities and needs of its district and...shall prepare a comprehensive plan of development ... and in such plans shall make such recommendations for the physical, social, governmental or economic improvement of the district as in their opinion will be in the best interest of the inhabitants of the district ... Such district planning commission shall also assist the planning boards ...within the area of its jurisdiction in applying any district plans and recommendations so adopted to the local board's area of jurisdiction... Such plans and recommendations shall be advisory only.”
- Not all towns are included in an RPA. Towns may choose to join or not.
- Source: <https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleVII/Chapter40B>

Regional Planning Agencies

Regional Planning Agency	# of Municipalities
Berkshire Regional PC	32
Pioneer Valley PC	43
Central MA Regional PC	40
Metropolitan Area PC	101
Southeast Regional P&EDD+	27
Martha's Vineyard Commission *+	7
Nantucket Planning & EDC	1
Cape Cod Commission+	15
Old Colony PC	17
Merrimack Valley PC+	15
Northern Middlesex Council	9
Montachusett Regional PC	22
Franklin Regional Council of Governments*	26

* Includes directly elected members

+ Includes Minority, Tribal, or Governor appointed members



There are 13 RPAs in Massachusetts
Each RPA also functions as a
Metropolitan Planning Organization
(MPO) for transportation planning
(coordinated by the MassDOT)

Example: Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

About the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) is a regional planning agency created in 1959 with a goal of consistently planning, developing, and promoting not only the sustainable development of the Merrimack Valley through responsible and efficient use of regional resources, but to also rally and unify the communities to perpetuate the region's vision. A 16-member Board of Commissioners governs the MVPC, which serves 15 member communities, including the cities of Amesbury, Haverhill, Lawrence, Methuen and Newburyport, and the towns of Andover, Boxford, Georgetown, Groveland, Merrimac, Newbury, North Andover, Rowley, Salisbury, and West Newbury, along with one representative for the minority population in the Valley. For more information about MVPC please visit our website mvpc.org.

Our Mission

The Mission of the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission is to foster a cooperative effort among its communities in resolving common, regional problems, to allow its communities to plan jointly, and to promote with the greatest efficiency and economy the coordinated and orderly development of the region and the general welfare of its residents.

Example: Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

Finance Administration

Funding Areas in Fiscal Year 2021



Source: MVPC 2021 annual report

Distribution of Funds

MVPC's operating funds for FY2021 supported a broad range of planning and technical services in the five major functional areas shown in the adjacent chart.

94% of our budget comes from a variety of largely non-local sources, including state and federal grants as well as contracts with selected non-profit organizations and businesses that support MVPC's mission. Local assessments to our member communities make up the remaining 6%.

MVPC used these local funds as a match to leverage the 94% of outside funding brought into the region by the MVPC staff.

Independent Audit

The FY2021 independent single audit of MVPC's financial statements is in progress and scheduled to be completed by February 2022.

MERRIMACK VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION

Required Supplementary Information

Management's Discussion and Analysis – Unaudited

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget

In the fiscal year 2021, the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) saw another high revenue earning year with \$2.4 million in gross revenue. A variety of new and ongoing projects contributed to this achievement for MVPC increasing its funding capacity with which to serve its member communities and the Merrimack Valley region. These projects include new activity from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) awarded to assist MVPC communities with resiliency planning and business technical assistance and the State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) MS4 Municipal Grant funding to support the coordination of technical assistance to MVPC's regional stormwater collaborative to meet MS4 reporting requirements. The Commission also realized an increase in its operating fund balance this year due to diligent management of resources and slightly less in required contract matching obligations. The challenges surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic continued to require attention and coordination to keep the MVPC office functioning efficiently and safely, and the commission continued to assist municipalities plan for and provide recovery assistance for their residents and businesses of the Merrimack Valley.

MVPC is a state-created agency that contracts with local, regional, state, and federal governmental entities to undertake planning activities to promote cooperation, coordination, and the orderly development of our region. MVPC and the contracting agencies have long structured their contracts based on the hourly rate of employees undertaking the activities plus an overhead/indirect rate to run the agency. Overhead/indirect expenses are comprised of operating expenses along with employee benefits which include retirement-related benefits. MVPC makes every effort to keep administrative costs as low as possible. Our overhead rate for FY2021 is 141%.

MVPC is taking steps to add staff and build capacity to prepare for an equally aggressive agenda for FY2022. In addition to our many robust transportation and GIS programs, other notable efforts include the continued implementation of the EPA Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund to remediate contaminated sites, the Economic Development Administration (EDA) planning award for development, and implementation of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and continued implementation of the State District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) grant. MVPC continues to encourage and facilitate regional service solutions for our Merrimack Valley communities. FY2022 will bring new regional efforts with funding awarded by the State for the exploration and development of new stormwater and climate adaptation bylaw language. FY2022 will also see a new round of funding for the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Regional Energy Planning Assistance (REPA) program and green community-funded activities including net-zero energy planning. FY2022 will bring the completion of our EDA CARES Act grant establishing the MVStrong program to assist communities with resiliency planning and business technical assistance planning. MVPC will also wrap up a pilot program made possible with funding from the *Resiliency and Innovation Fund for Merrimack Valley Businesses* and the Essex County Community Foundation to provide a Targeted Economic Development Strategy (TEDS) for the communities of Andover, Lawrence, and North Andover who were affected in the 2019 gas explosions. MVPC is actively pursuing additional funding to continue these important resources to the Merrimack Valley business community. As more state and federal funding makes its way to MVPC and its municipalities for recovery and infrastructure spending MVPC will continue to assist its communities with the coordination of related community and economic development opportunities and the region's strategic and resiliency planning efforts.

We look forward to another productive year in FY2022 and good health and prosperity for the entire Merrimack Valley Region and its businesses and residents.

Appendix



petitioners: ATM 2022 and ATM 2023

November 2021

Hilary Raymont <u>FREDERICK MCCLURE</u> LESLIE W. FORBES <u>Anna Tuza</u> Meg Browers <u>EMILY MOLDEN</u> <u>LILY DILLON</u> MATT LIDDLE William Wilbet THOMAS M. MONTGOMERY Margaret Montgomery Richard Turatto WILLIAM R. KLEIN <u>BLUE BALLET KLEW</u> Matthew Peter Sutters Katherine Sutters <u>Margaretta S Andrews</u>	<u>CAROLINE ELLIS</u> Mary-Ahmir Maccire Doris C. Strong <u>Will DILLON</u> Bochen Balkind DANE KIG-COONBS Clement Durkes AROL MUEHNING PATRICK TATFEE ANNE TROUTMAN SHERRY LEFEVRE David Silver William A. Willauer SHEILA FEE Kristina Seneme	ANNE DENEZ CHARLES DAVI RONI ROBERTS Dianne Coscia ANDY ROBERTS Gregg Noylia DOROTHY B. BAKER SAM BAKER NEBOAH VAN DYKE Donald W. Van Dyke II Jean Stockman IAN GOUGH Lindsey Knapp Roberta Pawlarch MILTON ROWLAND	<u>Rick Atherton</u> <u>D. ANNE ATHERTON</u> CANDICE MILLER Edward M. Bernard Kevin Kuester John Ray Syum ROBERT A. Young <u>DAVID HOLLAND</u> Christine Ambler CATHERINE S. WARD Janet Mackay Campbell Sutton <u>Leslee Winsky</u> Sarah A Wright Andrew G. Lawell	Hilary H. Raymont VALORIE A. OLIVER <u>CHARITY I. BENZ</u> SARAH ELLIS CAROLINE ELLIS <u>DAVE PUMPHREY</u> Kathryn Sheehar Barbara Holsted Rick Atherton MALCOLM MACNAB CATHY WARD Georgia V. Patsman Charles H. K. Worth Emily H. Kilvent RICHARD RAYSMAN GREGG Noylia Pamela G. Gish KEVIN KUESTER JOAN GUSTAVES Sarah Tyler RAYMOND J. LEE	SAN JESSEN ABIGAIL CAMP DAVID D. Worth William Willauer ROY GUSTAVESON Margaret Montgomery <u>Lily Dillon</u> LUCINDA GRAYSON Elizabeth B. Klein William R. Klein Mary G West John C West Allison Mitchell <u>GILLIAN LEWIS</u> JULIA LINDNER ANNE DENEZ Chuck Davis Campbell Sutton
---	--	--	--	--	--

November 2022

More Information

- Federal Grants
 - <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/06/fact-sheet-the-bipartisan-infrastructure-deal/>
 - <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/BUILDING-A-BETTER-AMERICA-V2.pdf#page=138>
- State Grants
 - State 5 year transportation program <https://www.mass.gov/doc/2023-2027-capital-investment-plan-final/download>
 - One Stop for Growth <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/fy22-community-one-stop-for-growth-awards>
 - State Capital Plan <https://budget.digital.mass.gov/capital/fy23/static/fy23capitalplanma-3f7b42a5ac939e68a2221c638f4e9017.pdf>
 - Division of Conservation Services <https://www.mass.gov/grant-programs-offered-by-the-division-of-conservation-services>
 - PARC grants <https://www.mass.gov/news/baker-polito-administration-awards-over-12-million-for-park-and-open-space-projects>
 - Housing Choice Grants <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/housing-choice-grant-program-awards>
 - Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Grants <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/coastal-habitat-and-water-quality-grants>
 - CZM grant announcement <https://www.mass.gov/news/baker-polito-administration-awards-more-than-2-million-in-grants-to-protect-coastal-water-quality-and-restore-habitat>

Finance Committee
Broad Street
Nantucket, MA 02554

January 27, 2023

Dear Chairperson Kronau,

I am writing in support of Article 82 which will appear at the upcoming Town Meeting. I support its intent and strongly believe that it will increase the effectiveness, transparency and accountability of the NPEDC to the citizens of the community.

As a former member of your committee, it was important to me that the Town consistently raise its professionalism in the delivery of services to the community. As part of its fiduciary duty the Finance Committee has an obligation to make inquiry of and provide voters with recommendations on articles that promote a higher level of performance and be of greatest benefit to the Town. Article 82 does that.

A cursory look around the state at other regional planning agencies all constituted under the same enabling legislation, reveals:

- Increased transparency over what we experience with the NPEDC
- Broader committee representation
- Seemingly increased access to state and federal grants to support transportation, infrastructure, environment, open space and recreation over the efforts of the NPDEC

In short, the NPEDC, as currently constituted and operating, is short changing the community and is in need of revitalization and revamping if it is going to be an effective organization for the island. That starts with article 82.

I ask you for your positive support for this article.

Sincerely,

David Worth
19 Long Pond Drive

**NANTUCKET HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

Town of Nantucket
2 Fairgrounds Road
Nantucket, Massachusetts 02554



COMMISSIONERS

*Angus MacLeod (Chair), Georgia Raysman (Vice-Chair), David Silver (Secretary)
Clement Durkes, Thomas M. Montgomery, Milton Rowland, Abby DeMolina*

January 24, 2023

To: The Nantucket Finance Committee

Re: Article 82 An Act to Promote and Improve Regional Planning for Nantucket

Dear Finance Committee:

The Nantucket Historical Commission met to consider aspects of Ms. Hillary Hedges Rayport's Citizen Article: an Act to Promote and Improve Regional Planning for Nantucket.

The Article proposes to give the Nantucket Historical Commission a right of appointment to Nantucket's Regional Planning Agency. The Commissioners are unanimously supportive of this change.

The Nantucket Historical Commission is the Town's Preservation Planning Commission. It's our responsibility to assess, document, and plan for the protection of Nantucket's historic resources and historic sense of place.

Projects which alter Nantucket's streetscape, many of which are guided through the NP&EDC, must account for preservation from the earliest planning stages. Giving the Historical Commission a voice and a vote on the Regional Planning Agency is the most effective way to steward the Nantucket National Historic Landmark and Nantucket's historic sense of place.

I hope this perspective is helpful to you in your deliberations about Ms. Rayport's article.

Sincerely,

Angus MacLeod
Chair
Nantucket Historical Commission

TO: Finance Committee
FROM: Leslie Forbes
RE: Support for Article #82, An Act to Promote and Improve Regional Planning for Nantucket.
DATE: 26 January 2023

I ask that the Finance Committee give a Positive Recommendation to Article #82, An Act to Promote and Improve Regional Planning for Nantucket.

I have attended NPEDC meetings, I have followed last year's discussions to make changes to the NPEDC, and I have read the current Act. I believe we need a Planning Commission that is focused on a more forward process, one that anticipates changes and issues rather than mostly trying to improve what we have. I would like the NPEDC to lead discussion about the future, rather than work to improve current problems.

The article is well-researched and crafted. It is built from the mission of the State's regulations for Regional Planning Agencies, but understands the special circumstances of Nantucket-one county, only one town. It builds in more citizen input with 5 members directly elected by voters (currently there are none.) With the addition of a Land Bank and an Historical Commission member, it broadens the input from the other Town departments that are important to Regional Planning. And it sets term limits, building in the ability to adapt to changes in physical, social, environmental, cultural, and economic resources of Nantucket County. With this structure, the NPEDC will be less tied to the day to day operational issues of Planning, and be able to focus on longer term planning.

I ask that the Finance Committee give a positive motion on Article #82 so we can move toward a more active long term planning process.

Respectfully,

Leslie Forbes

Subject: Article 82 FinComm motion

Date: Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 12:49:29 PM Eastern Standard Time

From: Anne Dewez

To: mbasheva@nantucket-ma.gov

CC: Hillary Hedges Rayport

Dear Marija,

Could you please distribute letter below to the members of the Finance Committee?

Thank you, Anne Dewez

Dear Chair Kronau and Other Members of the Finance Committee,

I would like to urge strongly that you give Article 82 "An Act to Support Regional Planning for Nantucket" a positive recommendation.

Nantucket is no longer the small, unsophisticated place it was when the NP & EDC was created in 1982. We are facing major challenges and our long range planning capacity needs to be up to these challenges. We need an RPA that is broadly-based, answerable to the voters and totally focussed on its mission. We can no longer afford a largely self-selected group that does not reflect the various constituencies that desperately need a vibrant long range planning authority and is not subject to normal rules of good governance, such as term limits and accountability.

Ms Rayport's Article is an excellent revision to and updating of our RPA. A positive motion from the Finance Committee will allow these crucial matters to be appropriately and constructively debated at Town Meeting, unlike last year. The Town and County of Nantucket deserve no less.

Respectfully, Anne Dewez

Anne F M Dewez | 4 rue Bosio, MC 98000 Monaco | EU Mob: +33 (0)6 07 93 34 12 | Email: afmdewez@gmail.com

Nantucket Finance Committee
January 25, 2023

Dear Committee,

I am writing to you in support of the proposed article to Promote and Improve Regional Planning for Nantucket. Since the early '80s, it has been noted by islanders that we need a comprehensive long-term plan for our little island. We are the stewards of this land for ourselves and our children, grandchildren and beyond. During my Forty something years of visiting and then living on this island, I have witnessed the consumption of farmland and other open spaces to build, build, build. It appears to me that we are growing at a pace that is unsupportable and unsustainable with our given natural resources, and infrastructure. I believe that we need to re-think how our planning for the future is being done, we need to restructure the "team" doing the planning and be more inclusive of our young people and other citizens who are not on a "board", but believe we need to protect our environment and natural resources, include citizens who have an interest in preserving our heritage. Having a Regional Planning commission adopted and placed would bring support from outside resources as well, financial and professional. WE need to protect and plan for the economic, environmental and cultural wellness of Nantucket, we owe it to our future.

It appears to me that this new structure for planning for Nantucket's future presents no cost to the town, but helps guide and plan for our future. I urge you to support this proposal of the Regional Planning Commission if you care about this island like so many of us do! it provides for a way forward for Nantucket to be sustainable.

Thank you,

Cathy Ward
4a Silver Street
Nantucket, Ma. 02554

To Nantucket Finance Committee ,

I have read through Hillary Hedges citizen's article "An Act to Promote and Improve Regional Planning for Nantucket " to amend the NP& EDC

Please support this article . It is a positive long-range plan for the future health of Nantucket .

Thank you ,

Christine Sanford

3 Mill Street

Nantucke , MA 02554

ccsanford48@gmail.com

508 221 7344

To: Finance Committee
Re: Support for Citizens Article 82
Date: 25 January 2023

To The Finance Committee:

We are Nantucket year round residents writing in support of the Citizens Article 82, "An Act to Promote and Improve Regional Planning for Nantucket".

We feel it will be beneficial to expand the NP&EDC in order to allow for more responsive approach and policy toward planning decisions affecting the island. Unchecked development is already negatively affecting our precious island's environmental, cultural and economic sustainability. We need additional perspective and expertise to protect our unique and precious environment.

Please consider giving this Article a positive motion.

Respectfully,

Anne Troutman
Aleks Istanbulu