

Draft Meeting Summary
RI Economic Monitoring Collaborative
January 10, 2007
3:00 to 5:00 pm
RI Economic Policy Council

Attendees: Austin Becker, Kip Bergstrom, Michael Doherty, John Gates, Kevin Hively, Elizabeth Kordowski, Beth Laney, Michael Marchetti, Ariana McBride, Tom Rich, Curt Spalding, Tiffany Smythe, and Chip Young.

1. Scorecard Draft

Kevin Hively reviewed the scorecard drafting process to date and discussed the metrics selected for the four scorecard quadrants – economic measures, activity measures, conflict measures and capacity measures. He discussed the construction and sources of the data and identified measures for which he is still collecting the data.

Key Questions/Points

- Michael Marchetti questioned why no economic multipliers were being used for the industries. Mr. Hively responded with his concerns about using multipliers for RI industries, noting that they often overestimate the economic activity. He added that the need to do a value chain analysis for some of the industries to better understand the ways in which they are creating greater value (vs. applying a national multiplier).
- There is a desire to measure the different types of cargoes.
- Mr. Becker questioned the measurement of registered boats to cargo transits and pushed for a different way to approach this measure to better capture boating activity on the water.
- Mr. Marchetti questioned whether the boat count included commercial vessels and noted that DEM may have a source for this information. He also noted the seasonality of boating activity, which could impact this measure.
- Mr. Bergstrom questioned whether we could get a better sense for second homes than the data source that Mr. Hively proposed. Mr. Hively responded that it would be difficult to do so. Collaborative members discussed potential reasons why RI's second home market appeared to be less than other New England areas.
- The Collaborative discussed the value of showing the land use/zoning map overlaid with the water sheet zoning and water quality maps.
- Mr. Becker noted that the US Coast Pilot would be a good source of information on the state's industrial piers. He also noted that CRMC has a list of designated rights of way (public access) and is talking about developing another list that looks at customary rights of way.
- Mr. Spalding noted a recent report on valuing recreational amenities, which he agreed to pass onto Mr. Hively.

At the next meeting (Feb. 7), Mr. Hively will present his final findings and provide his report and related appendices to the Collaborative. He will be presenting this work to the Coordination Team on Jan. 31.

Mr. Bergstrom updated the Collaborative on the collection of the public expenditures data. The CT Ad Hoc Group is helping with its collection and will meet on Jan. 16 to discuss this work.

3. Other Business

The Collaborative discussed the possibility of scheduling a presentation by two URI researchers, Robert Thompson and Tracey Dalton, who are studying land and water use on the Bay, which could complement the current monitoring work. This presentation will be scheduled for the Collaborative meeting on Feb. 7.