



2023 Local Technical Assistance Request Form

Town: _____

Date: _____

Your Name: _____

Board/Department: _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Review form with Town/City committees, boards, and departments, and **compile one consolidated request form.**
2. Check the column or box for each project your Town/City is interested in. List contact info for each project.
3. Rank your top 3 priorities at the end of the form.
4. **Email completed form to Amanda Doster at adoster@frcog.org by January 27, 2023.** Email/call Amanda with questions: 413-774-3167 x120

NOTE: If all Franklin County towns respond by 1/27/2023, we aim to have projects selected by early February. We will send out notification to you once that is complete. Thank you for your time – we look forward to working with you!

✓ YES	CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE / ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT	Contact for Project: name & email or phone #
	Community Food Assessments. Examine a town’s food system, including analysis of food supply and demand, economic development through food processing or distribution, increased food production of farmland, increased food access for residents, and other elements.	
	Managing Flood Risks Regionally. Implement the recommendations in the Framework for Resilience: Responding to Climate Change in the Deerfield River Watershed. Work with neighboring watershed towns to prioritize and implement appropriate river corridor management strategies, flood resiliency, and infrastructure improvements.	
	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project /Turners Falls Dam FERC relicensing and MassDEP 401 Certification of Water Quality process. Provide technical assistance, advocacy, testimony, and analysis, and participate as a convener and stakeholder on behalf of impacted towns.	
	Pollinator Habitat Corridor. Create a town pollinator plan that expands the regional Franklin County pollinator habitat corridor plan. The town plan includes identification and mapping of existing and potential pollinator habitat, review of land use regulations, landscape management recommendations, and planting plans for a variety of landscapes and built environments to support pollinator life cycle needs. <i>Note: Work in the following towns is completed or underway: Ashfield, Bernardston, Buckland, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Greenfield, Heath, Montague, Orange, Shelburne, Shutesbury, Wendell.</i>	

✓ YES	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING	Contact for Project: name & email or phone #
	<p>Brownfields Redevelopment Support. Provide site specific technical assistance to assess, clean-up, and/or redevelop a brownfield site, with property owner support.</p>	
	<p>Business and Industry/Sector Assistance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provide and support access to small business assistance resources. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide industry specific support to expand, promote and/or preserve important economic sectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Recreation <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ 	
	<p>Community Economic Development (please specify):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct survey to understand what residents, businesses, and visitors want for economic activity in their downtown or community. <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a parcel-level analysis of village center or downtown uses and businesses, and identify properties with potential for redevelopment. <input type="checkbox"/> Develop a mixed use, economic development and/or housing action plan for a village center or downtown. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide technical assistance to create new or expand planned industrial park land. <input type="checkbox"/> Update Industrial Park Master Plan, including review of current bylaws and regulations governing the park, and assessing developable land remaining. <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare guidance and identification of resources for site specific property development or redevelopment for economic development uses. <input type="checkbox"/> Develop and implement a pop-up park or public art project, including how to create and implement a project that fosters economic and main street activity. <i>For projects seeking funds from MassDevelopment Commonwealth Places, work can include assistance in developing a funding campaign.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Provide technical assistance to advance project identified in a Rapid Recovery Plan. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ 	

	Regional Housing Plan. Conduct an inventory of existing and needed housing by type and cost to determine future housing needs by subregion in Franklin County.	
	<i>See Zoning section below for housing-related zoning assistance.</i>	
✓ YES	MUNICIPAL AND REGIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING	Contact for Project: name & email or phone #
	Abandoned and Distressed Property Inventory and Action. Inventory abandoned and distressed properties in town and work with town stakeholders to prioritize them for action through receivership or other methods.	
	COVID After Action Report Implementation. Work with first responders and Emergency Management Directors to improve regional emergency response and coordination re: the recommendations of the Covid After Action reports.	
	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training for Municipal Officials and Staff.	
	Foster Municipal Engagement and Involvement. Consider how towns can increase citizen engagement and prepare for retirements of long-term public servants in key municipal positions – appointed, elected and volunteer – through development of a Citizen’s Academy, succession planning, participation in career fairs and expos, etc.	
	Local Official Continuing Education Workshops. Continue to offer workshops to Select Board, Planning Board, Board of Health, Finance Committee members and other public officials (fiscal planning, open meeting law, school finance, new state policies and initiatives, etc.). <i>Please share your ideas for workshop topics: _____</i>	
	Regional Municipal Wage & Classification Study. Expand sections of the Franklin County Wage and Classification Study to include data on salaries and benefits of municipalities outside of but near Franklin County to provide information on competing salaries.	
	Rural Policy Plan Implementation. Pursue and advocate for projects, programs and policies that benefit Franklin County, such as advocating for changes to Chapter 90 and PILOT formulas; create an Office of Rural Policy; develop a Municipal Building funding source. Create an addendum to the Rural Policy Plan that addresses the implications of 2020 Census population numbers; long-term effect of COVID on rural economies; and recognizes important policy work completed.	

✓ YES	SHARED SERVICES	Contact for Project: name & email or phone #
	<p>Municipal Service Sharing Feasibility, Matchmaking, or Other Technical Assistance (please specify):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Commission Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Public Works <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities management of municipal buildings and grounds <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Management Assistance, including ARPA <input type="checkbox"/> Human Resource management <input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology, Digital Equity and Cybersecurity: design regional shared services to maximize technology resources across communities and make the region competitive for digital equity and cybersecurity state and federal funding. <input type="checkbox"/> Library Programming/Administration <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Financial Services <input type="checkbox"/> Public safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ambulance services and EMTs <input type="checkbox"/> Fire services sharing <input type="checkbox"/> Police <input type="checkbox"/> Risk Manager/ OSHA Compliance & Safety Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Town Planner <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ 	
	<p>New Collective Purchasing ideas (please specify):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Expansion of fuel bids to include additional fuels <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ 	
	<p>Older Adult Services (please specify):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Age and Dementia-friendly community planning (application to the AARP Network; development of an assessment and an action plan for the Town; assistance with implementing an existing plan) <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Center Expansion, Regional Sharing <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ 	
	<p>Water & Sewer (please specify):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Regional sludge pressing and composting opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Regional public water supply opportunities and feasibility 	

	<input type="checkbox"/> Sewage treatment and /or water operators <input type="checkbox"/> Support, advocacy and technical assistance to move water and sewer projects forward <input type="checkbox"/> Work with DEP to support more operator training programs for western MA <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
✓ YES	TRANSPORTATION	Contact for Project: name & email or phone #
	Northern Tier Rail Study expert assistance. Hire a consultant to assist region in assuring that the methodologies, analysis and assumptions used by MassDOT and its consultants conducting the Northern Tier Rail Project are reflective of the region’s needs and opportunities.	
	Signs and Lines Assessment. Assess signs and pavement markings for clarity, visibility and reflectivity. Assess for obstructions to visibility like overgrown vegetation at intersections and near roads.	
	Roadway Speed Study. Assess roadway speeds and prepare speed zoning study to provide guidance for new or revised regulatory speed limits on local roadways.	
	EV Charging Station Implementation Assistance. Assist towns through the process of siting, applying for incentives, and purchasing and installing public EV charging stations.	
✓ YES	ZONING, POLICIES, AND PLANS*	Contact for Project: name & email or phone #
	Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Update. Work with the town to update their existing OSRP, a document to inventory and assess the condition of open space, natural resources, parks, and other recreation facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> New update <input type="checkbox"/> Update continued from previous year <input type="checkbox"/> OSRP Expiration Date: _____	
	Master Plans <input type="checkbox"/> Develop or update a Master Plan chapter (e.g. Housing, Economic Development, etc.)	
	Recreational Marijuana Assistance (<i>please specify</i>): <input type="checkbox"/> Development of local Board of Health regulations <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning for retail sales and/or cultivation <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	

	<p>Wellhead Protection Plans to Protect Public Drinking Water Supplies. Develop a Wellhead Protection Plan, which can help towns manage and protect their water supply sources.</p>	
	<p>Zoning Bylaws and/or City Ordinance Development (<i>please specify</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Clean energy (e.g. large scale solar facility bylaws and/or updates to solar bylaws to protect pollinator habitat) <input type="checkbox"/> Climate Resilient Stormwater Management Standards for new development and redevelopment projects. <input type="checkbox"/> Housing –related: Affordable housing / Diversifying housing options / Accessory Dwelling Units / Short-Term Rental <input type="checkbox"/> Large-scale commercial / industrial development <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed use districts / Village districts <input type="checkbox"/> New development standards for tree retention <input type="checkbox"/> Updates to Open Space Residential Development / Natural Resource Protection Zoning to align with current best practices to protect natural resources <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational marijuana (retail, cultivation, processing) <input type="checkbox"/> River Corridor Management for towns with a mapped River Corridor (Ashfield, Conway, Colrain, Heath, Greenfield, Leyden) <input type="checkbox"/> Short term residential rentals (such as VRBO and Airbnb) <input type="checkbox"/> Update Existing Floodplain Bylaws/Ordinances with the new state model Floodplain Bylaw for the FEMA regulated 100-year floodplain <input type="checkbox"/> Climate Resilient Stormwater Management updates to Subdivision Rules and Regulations to incorporate Low Impact Development (LID) and to align with current stormwater and neighborhood roadway design best practices <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ 	

* Note: Anticipated staffing changes at the FRCOG in the coming year will limit the zoning work the FRCOG takes on in 2023.

RANK	Of all of the projects you selected, what are your municipality's <u>top three</u> priorities? While we can't guarantee that these projects will be selected, we will make every effort.
Your Municipality's Top 3 Choices: 1. 2. 3.	

	CULVERT ASSESSMENTS: WAITING LIST <u>ONLY</u> If your town is interested in being put on a waiting list for a culvert inventory and assessment, please check the box to the left and provide your contact information.	Contact for Project: name & email or phone #
	<p>Culvert Assessments. Assess roadway culverts to identify the crossings that are at risk due to more frequent and intense storm events caused by climate change. Information will help towns prioritize infrastructure upgrades in addition to providing an inventory of physical infrastructure.</p> <p>Due to high demand, the following towns are in queue for culvert assessments. Gill (Spring 23) Wendell (Spring/Summer 2023)</p>	