

RIC Messenger

Boone, Clay, Kanawha, Putnam Counties

A publication of the B-C-K-P Regional Intergovernmental Council

Summer 2021



Chairman Fletcher's Message

I hope everyone is having a great summer! I am looking forward to my tenure as RIC Chairman and I would like to thank my fellow RIC members for this opportunity to serve as their leader. I also want to thank Chairman Snodgrass for his service to the RIC board. I trust all of you are now getting back to a sort of normal with the pandemic that we have been going through over the past 16 months or so and we are all looking forward to seeing what our new normal may be now and in the future..

I would like to take this opportunity to provide an update on RICs projects and accomplishments over the past few months.

The RIC community development staff has assisted municipalities throughout the region to identify projects for congressionally directed spending through Senator Capito's office and Senator Manchin's office. In Clay County, the community development staff submitted two grant applications totaling \$10,000,000 for the Clay County Big Otter/Nebo/Walker Road Waterline Extension and the Town of Clay Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project through the HUD -Disaster Recovery Economic Development Grant Program. In addition, the Putnam County Commission Jim Ridge Phase II Waterline project received a \$1,500,000 HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

In transportation news, the electronic version of the digital Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Map is complete and available for use on the RIC website at www.wvregion3.org. The RIC transportation staff submitted two Transportation Alternatives (TA) grant applications for the town of Marmet. Also, the transportation staff held the fourth steering committee meeting for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update in April where the draft prioritization criteria and results were presented. The transportation staff is currently in the process of developing the financially constrained project listings and the full draft MTP plan will be ready for review soon.

I look forward to seeing you at our quarterly board meeting on September 9, 2021 as we work together to promote local communities, regional solutions and statewide impacts.

David Fletcher
Chairman

New RIC Officers

The following RIC officers were elected to serve from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022:

Chairman	Mayor David Fletcher, Town of Belle
1st Vice-Chairman	Vacant
2nd Vice-Chairman	S.K. Miller, Private Sector Representative
3rd Vice-Chairman	Kris Mitchell, Boone County Citizen Representative
Secretary	Commissioner Connie Kinder, Clay County Commission
Treasurer	Coston Davis, Minority Group Representative

Newly Elected Official

- Mayor David Fontalbert, Town of Marmet
David Fontalbert began serving the Town of Marmet as mayor on July 1, 2021.

New Board Members

- Mayor Paul Bradshaw, City of Chesapeake
- Charles Mays, Private Sector Representative
- Mayor David Fontalbert, Town of Marmet

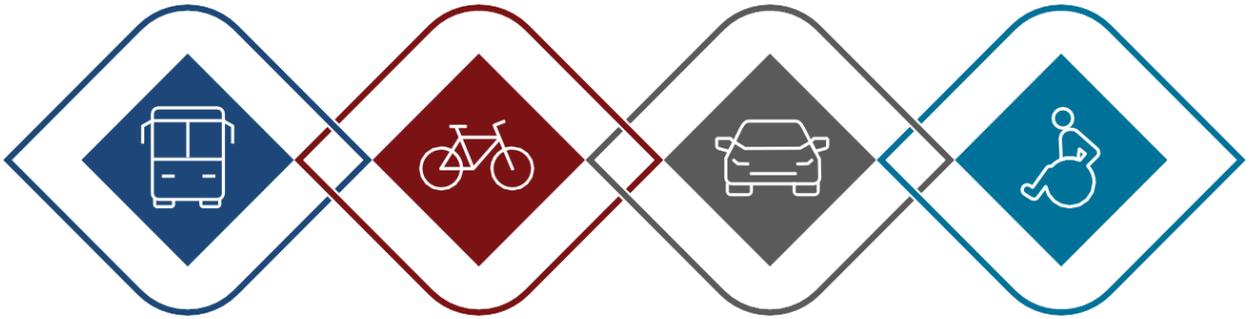
2021 RIC Meeting Dates

September 9, 2021

December 9, 2021

*Meetings will be held in person at 12:00 Noon at the
West Virginia Regional Technology Park*

As we plan to return to in-person Board Meetings in September, we will continue to offer a dial-in option.



REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The project team for the Regional Intergovernmental Council Metropolitan Transportation Plan (RIC MTP) is pleased to announce that plan progress is continuing as expected, with the draft plan anticipated to be made available for public review this summer. Members of the public will be able to view the draft plan via our website (www.wvregion3.org). A presentation on the full plan will be given at the September 2021 RIC Policy Board Meeting, where it will also be presented for board approval.

Sign-up to Join the RIC Email List

If you would like to receive information about upcoming events and opportunities, sign up to join our email list at <http://eepurl.com/dH-hyj> or use the QR Code below:



RIC's ADA Transition Plan Assistance Program

Made possible by the guidance of Dr. Ron Eck of West Virginia University's West Virginia Local Technical Assistance Program (WVLTAP), the Regional Intergovernmental Council (RIC) is reaching out to its constituents seeking new participants for its American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan Assistance Program. This member-only program is designed to provide all the tools possible that your municipal government needs in order to ensure compliance with the latest surface transportation infrastructure accessibility guidance. With these tools, your town will be on its way to ensuring your public spaces meet the needs of all community members regardless of ability. Through this collaborative partnership we can offer your town the following services free of charge:

- Virtual classroom training:
 - Equip your staff with the knowledge from WVLTAP to be aware of existing surface transportation accessibility and safety deficiencies.
- On-site self-evaluations:
 - Enlist RIC staff to audit your transportation infrastructure of any existing surface transportation accessibility or safety deficiencies.
- ADA Transition Plan drafting:
 - Enlist RIC staff to assist in drafting your first ADA Transition Plan from outline to resolution.
- ADA Transition Plan auditing:
 - Enlist RIC staff to conduct an internal review of your existing ADA Transition Plan for quality, compliance, and adherence.

By continuing this program RIC's goal is to create regional conformity by upholding each of our partner's ADA transition plans to a high standard. No matter where your municipality is in the ADA Transition Plan process, contacting RIC staff to assist you can be your first step to ensure your town is eligible to receive federal grant assistance and working to reduce the risk of liability.

If you are interested in one or any combination of these services offered through this program, please contact Sam Richardson at srichardson@wvregion3.org.

Please note the upcoming webinars from the FHWA Office of Civil Rights (HCR) as a part of a peer exchange webinar series focused on ADA transition plan implementation for Local Public Agencies (LPAs).

- LPA EXPERIENCES IN TRANSITION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION July 14, 2021 • 2:00–3:30 PM EDT
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwucOmopjMoGtPpCV3gPGltLLhjbT9Bwn6n>
- DISABILITY ADVISORY GROUPS' INVOLVEMENT IN LPA TRANSITION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION July 21, 2021 • 2:00–3:30 PM EDT
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYpcuCtqTsoGtFouqGv4YaFRqX2If1tF1HD>

To receive a direct link and invitation to these upcoming webinars please contact Sam Richardson at srichardson@wvregion3.org.

Two Transportation Alternative (TA) Grant Applications on Behalf of Marmet, WV

The Town of Marmet once again took advantage of the Regional Intergovernmental Council's Transportation Alternative (TA) Grant Application Assistance Program in submitting for two funding opportunities to be addressed as part of the Town's ADA Transition Plan. One funding opportunity is to renovate the existing sidewalks in the Town of Marmet and remedy all safety issues and ADA-compliance deficiencies. The second application is for a new pedestrian footpath sidewalk from the Marmet Center, a nursing home near Marmet, that will connect the center to town.

Your municipality can also take advantage of the RIC TA Grant Assistance Program. This program is designed to ensure your future TA grant application has the best chance of being selected by the West Virginia Division of Highways by completing all the tasks that will earn your application the highest possible score. If your municipal area has sidewalks that need safety or ADA-related renovations, then our agency may be able to assist you with acquiring funding. Consider if your municipal area has pedestrian footpath gaps that need addressed that could potentially connect residents with shopping destinations or essential government services. If so, then this program may be right for you. The best time to start working on next year's grant application is now! To learn more, please contact Sam Richardson via email at srichardson@wvregion3.org or by phone at (304) 744-4258

New Digital TIP Map released for Kanawha and Putnam Counties

The Regional Intergovernmental Council has released the live Digital TIP Map for Kanawha and Putnam Counties. This map is a general representation of project locations in the region from the Transportation Improvement Program, the list of federally obligated projects from recent and upcoming years. The map will be updated following each quarterly Policy Board meeting and approval of new TIP amendments and adjustments.

Once opening the map by following the links on RIC's website (www.wvregion3.org), scroll with your mouse to zoom in to specific project locations to view the project name. Click on the segmented layer in order to view additional details about the project such as the dollar amounts and the type of work being done.



If you have any questions or need additional tips on how to use the map on your computer, please do not hesitate to contact Sam Richardson at srichardson@wvregion3.org

RIC Says Goodbye to Kara Greathouse

Kara Greathouse accepted a position as Director of Planning, Grants and Compliance with the Kanawha Valley Regional Transportation Authority (KVRTA) in March. RIC is very grateful for Kara's fourteen years of service and will miss her considerably but wishes her the best in her new position at KVRTA.



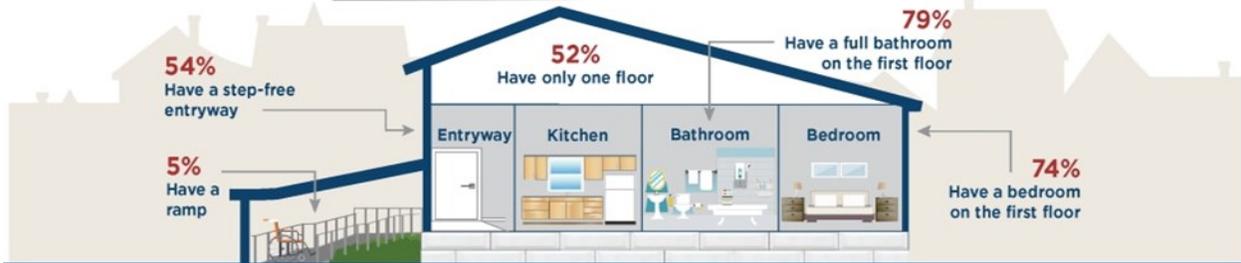
Thank You Chairman Snodgrass

RIC would like to thank Chairman Snodgrass for his service and dedication to the RIC Board during his tenure as Chairman.



HOME ACCESSIBILITY

How accessible are our homes?¹

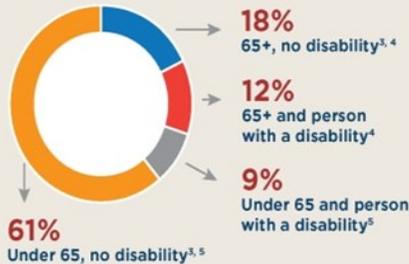


Who needs accessible homes the most?

48 million households (39%) have at least one person age 65+, person(s) with a disability, or both.

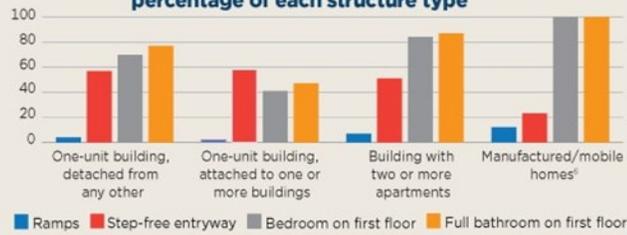


Household composition by age group and disability status²

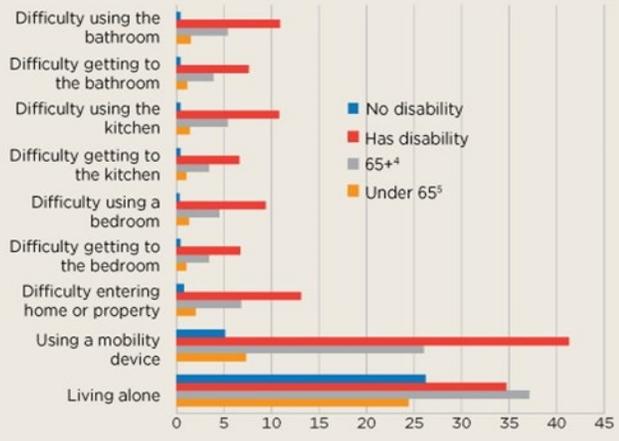


About 1 in 8 households have a household member who uses a mobility device for a long-term condition.

Occupied housing units with accessibility features as a percentage of each structure type



Households with selected characteristics as a percentage of each age group and disability status²



¹ Includes occupied homes only.

² Disabilities include hearing, vision, mental, physical, self-care, and go-outside-home disabilities.

³ Includes disability status not reported.

⁴ 65+ represents households with at least one member 65 years old or over.

⁵ Under 65 represents households with all members under 65 years old.

⁶ One hundred percent of manufactured/mobile homes have bedrooms and bathrooms on the first floor because a small number of manufactured/mobile homes with more than one floor were edited to have only one floor.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2019 American Housing Survey.

*Regional Intergovernmental Council
315 D Street
South Charleston, WV 25303*



Upcoming RIC Meeting

September 9, 2021 - 12:00 Noon

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*Chairman: David Fletcher
Executive Director: Colt Sandoro*

Newsletter prepared by Joanna Keller

The preparation of this newsletter is financially aided by grants from the Economic Development Administration, the U. S. Department of Transportation and the Appalachian Regional Commission.

Local Communities / Regional Solutions / Statewide Impacts