



community development partnership

*Promoting a vibrant and diverse community on Lower Cape Cod*

## PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Eastham

**What: Rural Policy Advisory Commission to Host Listening Session**

**Date:** November 21, 2018

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Community Development Partnership

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### Community Development Partnership announces

The CDP and the Cape Cod Commission invite Lower Cape business and community leaders as well as municipal officials to participate in a listening session for the Massachusetts Rural Policy Advisory Commission (RPAC) to be held at the Eastham Public Library, 190 Samoset Road, Eastham, MA, on Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 6pm.

The listening session is part of a series of similar events being held throughout the Commonwealth to inform the Commission's development of a Rural Policy Plan for Massachusetts. The goal of the listening sessions is to gather input from community leaders regarding the suggested focus areas to be included in the development of the Massachusetts Rural Policy Plan.

The session is open to the general public; local elected and appointed officials and business and community leaders are encouraged to attend and participate. Registration is encouraged through the CDP's website at:

"Brewster, Chatham, Eastham, Orleans, Provincetown, Truro and Wellfleet are considered rural towns in the Commonwealth," said Jay Coburn, CEO of the Community Development Partnership and Vice Chair of the Massachusetts Rural Policy Advisory Commission. "My fellow Commissioner's and I look forward to hearing about the unique concerns of residents of the Lower Cape as we begin to craft a comprehensive policy plan for rural Massachusetts."

The fifteen member Commission was created in 2016 thanks to the leadership of Rep. Sarah K. Peake (D-Provincetown) and former State Senator Dan Wolf. The Commission serves as a research body to advise the Legislature and the Governor on issues critical to the welfare and vitality of Massachusetts' 170 rural municipalities, home to 13% of the state's population.

The Commission invites residents of rural towns to provide input via an online survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RPAC2018>.

For more information about the Massachusetts Rural Policy Advisory Commission, visit their website: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/rural-policy-advisory-commission-rpac>

## **ABOUT THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP**

The Community Development Partnership supports an array of programs that strengthen our Lower Cape community, providing greater opportunities for all who live here to thrive.

Our work starts with creating affordable homes—so essential to a healthy economy, but a real challenge in communities like ours where seasonal and vacation dynamics drive the market beyond the reach of many who live and work locally all year round.

We also work to launch entrepreneurs and strengthen local businesses. We believe a vibrant future depends on sustaining traditional industries and inspiring new ones—especially when they're based on renewable natural resources such as fishing and farming.

In all that we do, we aim to protect the natural environment around us through efforts that preserve the character and sustain the future of the Lower Cape.

To find out more information about this organization, go to [www.capecdp.org](http://www.capecdp.org).

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