



## THOMAS JEFFERSON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION ANNOUNCES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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The Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) is pleased to announce the appointment of **Stephen W. Williams** as its Executive Director, effective May 11, 2009. Mr. Williams is a professional planner with over 25 years of experience working for local and regional planning agencies. For the past five years, he has been the executive director of the Nashua (New Hampshire) Regional Planning Commission (NRPC), after having served two years there as assistant director and Metropolitan Planning Organization coordinator. He also served as assistant director and transportation planner for the East Central Intergovernmental Association in Iowa, and held numerous positions with the Association of Monterey Bay (California) Area Governments.

Mr. Williams brings specific expertise in transportation planning to the work of the TJPDC. In recent years, the NRPC has prepared and adopted a regional transit plan, a regional bicycle and pedestrian plan, a regional intelligent transportation system plan and a regional transportation safety plan. The NRPC also has approved several watershed management plans and developed an integrated planning program to encourage member localities to apply smart growth techniques through integrated planning for land use, transportation and the environment.

Under Mr. Williams' leadership, the NRPC was recognized as a leading regional planning commission in New Hampshire. He received gubernatorial appointments to the state's Climate Change Task Force and the Freedom's Way Heritage Commission. He also was vice-chairman of the New Hampshire Rail Transit Authority.

TJPDC Chairman Connie Brennan, a member of the Nelson County Board of Supervisors, said the Commission is excited about Mr. Williams' arrival to the region, "We believe Steve can jump right in to build on the good work already underway at the Planning District. The region's localities stand to benefit from the knowledge and expertise he brings with him."

Chair of the Selection Committee, Sally Thomas, a member of the Albemarle Board of Supervisors, said, "The search for just the right Director has come to a delightful conclusion. We think that Mr. Williams brings an extensive background in many areas in which the Planning District provides services to localities in the region."

Mr. Williams commented, "I'm looking forward to working with our local government officials and TJPDC staff to continue the important planning projects underway and to look for new opportunities to assist our localities as they plan for the future."

Mr. Williams holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Montana State University and completed masters' degree coursework at California Polytechnic State University.

The TJPDC was established in 1972 to promote the efficient development of the physical, social, and economic policies across the region by assisting its member local governments to plan for the future.

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