



## SERVICES TO ORANGE IN 2023

### CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND LAND USE

- Prepared a scope of work and budget for Phase 1 of a Comprehensive Plan to assist with grant applications, in coordination with the Orange Comprehensive Planning Committee.
- Assisted the Community Development Director prepare a successful grant application to the MA Green Communities Program for a backup battery storage system at the Fisher Hill School.
- Completed the state-funded Orange Housing Plan.
- As part of a six-town Complete Neighborhoods “Greenfield Area” grant project, worked on a zoning analysis of Greenfield and other towns, to draft recommendations for increasing housing diversity.
- Facilitated monthly meetings with the MA Attorney General’s Neighborhood Renewal Program, allowing Orange Health Agent staff to facilitate rehab of abandoned housing to eventual occupancy.

### COMMUNITY HEALTH

- Conducted the annual student health survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to RC Mahar Regional School District administrators on results from 218 Mahar students, representing 90% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal requirements for the school and is valuable for grant writing and program planning.
- Provided resources and direct technical assistance to student groups for advancing racial justice in the school district and its schools.
- Supported Orange Mass in Motion (MIM) Age-friendly workgroup on age- and dementia-friendly municipal planning initiative. The workgroup used MIM funding to buy two refrigerators for Senior Meals.
- Provided grant funding and technical assistance to the Orange Health Department to support the creation of the North Quabbin Public Health Collaborative, serving Warwick, Wendell, New Salem, and Petersham with contact tracing, communicable disease management, and community health education.
- Supported town officials with information and technical assistance on spending opioid settlement funds.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Provided assistance to LaunchSpace regarding funding opportunities.
- Met with new Director of Economic Development to review planning services and provide information.
- Met with municipal staff to review US Brownfields programs.
- Provided assistance for the town’s request for local digital equity planning services from the MA Broadband Institute, and began working on the eight-town Franklin County Cooperative Digital Equity Plan.
- Provided technical assistance on historic preservation-related planning.

### SHARED MUNICIPAL SERVICES

- Organized and facilitated educational information meetings for members of town’s energy committees.
- Orange contracted with the FRCOG to receive collective bid pricing for highway products and services, including rental equipment, heating and vehicle fuel, elevator maintenance, town and school fire alarm services, and water treatment chemicals.

## TRAINING AND EDUCATION

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops, roundtables and training sessions that Orange public officials, staff, and residents attended, and the number in attendance.

### Emergency Preparedness

- Advanced Medical Life Support – 1
- Firefighter Fire Response – 1
- K-9 Life Support Certification – 5
- Response to Active Threat Trainer Certification – 2

### Municipal Officials' Continuing Education

- One-Stop Municipal Grants Information Session – 2

### Planning, Conservation, and Development

- Environmental Protection Grant Information Session – 3
- Short Term Residential Rentals – 1

### Public Health & Community Awareness

- Age and Dementia-Friendly Community Conversation – 2
- Beaver Trapping Permitting – 1
- Health Workforce Performance Standards – 3
- Overview of the Tanning Code – 1
- Plumbing and the Food Code –
- State Tobacco Updates – 1
- USDA Rural Development Grant Information Session – 2

## TRANSPORTATION

- Developed a scope of work to apply for CDBG funding to update the town's slum and blight Inventory.
- Facilitated in Northern Tier Rail study to examine the feasibility of passenger rail service connecting North Adams, Greenfield, and Boston.
- Continued to work with the MA Department of Transportation and the town to advance the Orange North Main Street Transportation Improvement Program project.
- Continued to facilitate and assist the Route 2 Task Force with related planning, design, and construction of safety improvements for the corridor.
- Conducted traffic counts on East River Street and South Main Street.
- Engaged in contract to install Franklin County Bikeway wayfinding signs in spring 2024.
- Completed summary report for electric vehicle station survey in the town of Orange.
- Facilitated the process to discontinue the county layout of Holtshire Road and transfer the road to the Orange's legal control.