



January 8, 2019

Re: Regional Voice Policy Issues Paper: *Roadmap to Prosperity*

Dear Municipal Leaders,

Enclosed you'll find the Greater Portland Council of Governments' 2018-19 *Roadmap to Prosperity*, a public policy framework developed by you – our members. The *Roadmap* outlines how the region can work together with the new administration and the Legislature to expand economic prosperity and social well-being for everyone in our region.

In 2017, GPCOG adopted its new Strategic Plan that prioritized the creation of a regional voice for our members and ensuring that this voice was heard by decision makers. Our *Roadmap to Prosperity* is a product of that work and the foundation for adding our members' voices to the policy-making process.

We began by engaging our 25 member communities through a survey of our elected officials. Armed with their rich array of ideas we organized a Regional Voice Committee and invited all our members to participate.

The Regional Voice Committee identified areas of focus, and with our Executive Committee's insightful contributions we completed a roadmap that creates regional solutions that reduce taxes, builds infrastructure for the future, and provides security and prosperity for everyone.

As the Mills Administration and the 129th Legislature begin their work at the State House, we are pleased to share the collective ideas, aspirations and challenges facing the municipalities in our region, from Sebago Lake to Casco Bay.

From roads and bridges to broadband, and from expanded housing choices to better economic and environmental resiliency, our members are ready to work with lawmakers and the new Governor to sustain what we love about our communities, and to ensure that they grow in ways that support innovation, efficiency and a better future for us all.

At GPCOG, we look forward to working together with you toward a stronger region and a stronger state in the years ahead. If you would like more information, please contact Chris Hall, GPCOG's Director of Regional Initiatives at chall@gpcog.org.

Best regards,

Jerre Bryant
President
Greater Portland Council of Governments

Beth Edmonds
Chair
GPCOG Regional Voice Committee