



News Release

For Immediate Release

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R1 Releases First Annual Report



ROCKFORD, IL — Region 1 Planning Council has released its first public Annual Report. The **2021 Annual Report** showcases significant accomplishments R1’s team has made to impact economic development, community revitalization, infrastructure planning, sustainability, and strengthen multi-jurisdictional collaborations for the benefit of this region.

“It was a year of innovation for us. We had significant wins and established additional partnerships.” stated Michael Dunn Jr., Executive Director. “This report demonstrates that we have delivered regional impact on behalf of our public and private sector partners. This report is a great reflection on our mission and the accomplishments of our staff and our partners. We are committed to continue advocating for the best practices that will provide this region greater success from planning, funding, and data.”

The report highlights key activities that benefitted the region such as:

- The formation of the NorthCOG Council of Governments: a partnership between several regional municipalities that will provide cooperative planning, coordination, and technical assistance on issues of mutual concern that cross jurisdictional lines.

- The Economic Impact of Arts Industry in Northern Illinois Study; a partnership with the Rockford Area Economic Arts Council.
- The creation of the Resiliency Initiative to foster resilient social, economic, and natural systems in all areas of regional planning.
- A current financial statement for the fiscal year.

BACKGROUND: The **2021 Annual Report** is available on the R1 website and can be found [here](#).

Coming soon, a video version of the annual report will also live on the R1 website and on the “R1Planning” YouTube page.

ABOUT R1: Region 1 Planning Council (R1) is a special-purpose, regional government agency. Regional councils are public organizations comprised of local elected officials that promote collaboration among local governments, working across the jurisdictional silos of states, counties, and municipalities.

For more information, visit www.r1planning.org

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