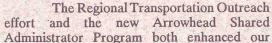
ARROWHEAD REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Annual Report

1989/1990



Greater Commission involvement and the establishment of regional outreach programs in 1990 contributed to a strengthening of ARDC's role as the region's multi-discipline planning organization. Our "Year of the Commission" activities have been geared toward taking advantage of the diverse interests and expertise of our Commission members. The practice of soliciting input from Commission members on current and prospective programs will be refined and continued in 1991.



network throughout the region and provide the agency with valuable input from community leaders about the most urgent needs we face in Northeastern Minnesota. Through these programs, ARDC has become a more effective advocate for a broader segment of the region.

ARDC also continued to provide leadership in facilitating locally driven natural resource planning initiatives, such as the North Shore Management and Big Fork River Plans, and is on the cutting edge of addressing the problem of access to health care as the Health Ensurance Coalition moves into its implementation phase.

There are many reasons for ARDC's solid performance and continued innovation in 1990. Greater Commission input, an active Board and a reorganized, leaner staff. We can also point to specific support from the Northeastern Minnesota Legislative delegation which has provided vitally important support for several key initiatives at crucial times this past year.

Looking ahead to 1991, we will continue as a primary senior advocacy organization through the Area Agency on Aging activities and look forward to making Senior Options North '91 an even bigger success. New initiatives will be explored in the natural resources arena and our transportation planning activities will again encompass the entire region including every mode of transportation.

The Commission itself is undergoing re-evaluation and renewal as the By-Laws Committee examines our current structure and considers how best to shape the agency to meet the challenges of the decade ahead. We have much to be proud of and much more to look forward to as ARDC works to meet the region's development needs.

Sincerely,

Lolleen Mardone

Colleen Nardone

PROGRAM REPORTS

NORTH SHORE MANAGEMENT BOARD

In 1989/90, ARDC continued to serve as staff for the North Shore Management Board. The North Shore Management Plan takes the place of statewide DNR shoreland regulations and is tailored to the unique characteristics of the North Shore.

The Board has also completed a North Shore Recreational Harbors study, funded by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources which identifies the number, locations, and types of harbors which should be located along the North Shore.

The Grand Portage Reservation was added as a new member of the Board in the fall of 1989, completing coverage of the Lake Superior shoreline.

BIG FORK RIVER BOARD

The Big Fork River Board was established in 1989 to develop a management plan for the Big Fork River. Following a similar process as the North Shore Management Board, the Big Fork River Board has appointed a Citizens Advisory Committee to assist with Plan development and to provide a broad base of local interests. The Big Fork River Board will use extensive public involvement to build a local plan for the Big Fork River and to ensure that public interests are fully represented. Funding for the plan has been obtained through Itasca and Koochiching Counties, the Cities of Bigfork and Big Falls, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and private sources.

SENIOR OPTIONS NORTH

Seniors looking for entertainment, education, and excitement gathered again at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center for the third annual Senior Options North expo. Approximately 5,500 seniors and their families attended the two-day event on May 17 & 18. Through the generous support of many local and regional sponsors, more than 20 seminars, performances by regional entertainers, an ice cream social, and 103 booth exhibits were enjoyed by this year's audience. Former Wisconsin Senator William Proxmire gave some insights on life in the Capitol. Success Over Sixty awards were given to nine outstanding seniors prior to a delightful address by advice columnist Abigail Van Buren (better known as "Dear Abby").

ARROWHEAD SHARED ADMINISTRATOR PROGRAM

The Arrowhead Shared Administrator Program was established in June 1990 to provide specialized administrative services on a shared basis to cities throughout the Arrowhead Region. The program was initiated with the hiring of Mr. Harry Gherardi, a Hibbing native who worked for 30 years as the clerk and then administrator for the City of Hibbing.

The program should be attractive to smaller cities who can use the Shared Administrator to augment, not replace, existing city administrative staff at a lower cost than would otherwise be available.

The Arrowhead Shared Administrator Program has received a positive response from small cities in the region thus far.

HEALTH ENSURANCE COALITION, INC.

The Health Ensurance project received funding in 1990 from a State of Minnesota legislative appropriation and area foundation grants, and was designated a state demonstration project with reporting obligation to the Minnesota Health Care Access Commission. The Coalition will begin enrolling uninsured workers this fall in a low-cost, limited-benefit health insurance plan available through employers in Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Crow Wing, Lake, Pine, Koochiching, Itasca, and St. Louis Counties. The cost of providing the plan will be shared by employee, employer, and Coalition funds for the estimated 2,500 people who will be served during the two-year grant period.

1990: THE YEAR OF THE COMMISSION

The Year of the Commission focused the Agency's attention on the Commission itself, in order to reinforce the role of the Commission in determining future regional issues and needs. Commission members met in sessions to identify and prioritize regional issues and concerns and to help identify the future direction of ARDC. The strength of the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission lies in the diversity of regional leaders which comprise the Commission.

ARDC can continue to provide strong leadership in addressing human service, natural resource, and economic development concerns by continuing to tap the tremendous resource the Commission members provide.

DULUTH-SUPERIOR METROPOLITAN INTERSTATE COMMITTEE

The Metropolitan Interstate Committee (MIC), a joint committee of ARDC and the Northwest Regional Planning Commission in Wisconsin, serves as the official metropolitan planning organization for the Duluth-Superior urbanized area.

During 1990 the MIC completed a major study of parking conditions in downtown Duluth which recommended improvements to city officials and a Transportation System Management Plan for the Duluth-Superior Area. A study of the area's truck route system began which will recommend approaches to provide a safer, more accessible system for truck movements. Also initiated was a study of traffic conditions in the Miller Hill commercial district of Duluth and Hermantown. The MIC conducted a telephone survey on transit service and other transportation issues.

The Committee continued its annual priority ranking of transportation projects, culminating in the 1990-91 Transportation Improvement Program, approving \$45 million for federal transportation funding in the Duluth-Superior area.

The MIC's harbor planning effort has concentrated on facilitation of an agreement between the state and local jurisdictions on a process for approval of port development efforts. The MIC began assembling a computerized data base of harbor sediment data from previous studies which will be useful for future planning.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

In an effort to identify local transportation priority issues in the Arrowhead Region, ARDC staff met with county and township officials. Meetings were organized for public testimony to the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) Roadway Safety Forum and the Transportation Study board.

ARDC's Regional Transportation Advisory Committee reviewed MnDOT's highway and airport improvement programs. As a member of the statewide review committee for MnDOT's 16(b)(2) Transit Vehicle Grant Program, ARDC assisted several area applicants in successful grant applications.

EDA PLANNING PROGRAM WORK ACTIVITIES

ARDC is the State and Federally designated Economic Development District for the Arrowhead Region. ARDC provides the primary staff support to implement the Economic Development Administration (EDA) development district work program. ARDC received a grant in the amount of \$70,000 from the EDA to carry out the planning work program.

ARROWHEAD AREA AGENCY ON AGING

In 1990, the Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging allocated over \$1 million in Older Americans Act and state nutrition funds to regional programs. In addition, the Area Agency initiated many innovative programs and activities to provide services to the 63,216 older persons in the Arrowhead Region.

The continuing focus on the housing needs of older persons in the region resulted in a workshop on rural housing options. Entitled "Home Sweet Home: Innovative Rural Housing for Seniors," the workshop brought together housing service providers and consumers in late 1989 to examine models for development. The agency also developed a directory of regional senior housing facilities and distributed it throughout the region, as a guide for seniors and professionals.

The Area Agency played a key role in working with the Northeastern Minnesota Initiative Fund to establish the Aging Trust Fund. The Area Agency Advisory Committee provided the Initiative Fund information, advice and support in developing the strategy for funding the Aging Trust Fund.

The Area Agency was also one of three presenting organizations for Senior Options North in 1990. The Area Agency's Training and Education Subcommittee also assisted in the development of twenty-one workshops on topics including housing, informal caregiving, long term care insurance, legal issues, financial management and health and wellness.

The Area Agency has also begun developing a project focusing on Senior Leadership Development, and currently is pursuing outside funding to support this new initiative.

PUBLICATIONS

Revised 1990 Overall Economic Development Program Update for the Arrowhead Region A review of development activities of the past year, a look at regional problems and issues, and the determination of strategies and actions to improve the region's economy.

Transportation System Management Plan for the Duluth-Superior Area. This represents the short-range transportation plan for the urbanized area. The plan recommends low cost strategies for improving the efficiency and safety of the existing transportation system.

Downtown Duluth Parking Study. A study of parking conditions in downtown Duluth with recommended strategies for improving utilization of existing parking supply.

MIC Transit Reports:

Duluth-Superior Transit Development Program Annual Status Report;

Port Town Trolley 6th and 7th Year Review; 1989 Duluth-Superior Telephone Survey; Duluth Historic Trolley Update.

Regional Transportation Outreach Program. A summary of key local transportation priority issues in the Arrowhead Region which were identified through meetings with county and township officials.

Arrowhead Regional Report. Published five times a year, this newsletter keeps Board and Commission members informed on regional issues and ARDC activities.

1987-1990 Area Plan on Aging: 1990 Amendments. ARDC's action plan for meeting the needs of older persons in the region. Includes a demographic profile of the population aged 60 and over in the area. The Plan lays out specific objectives designed to support the activities and services which assist local older persons.

Senior Options North: Discover Your Options! This program book was produced as a guide to the many choices that awaited those attending the Senior Options North exposition in May of 1990. The book also contains information on the products and services available to older people and their families.

Building Our Future. This document outlines the three year plan developed in Aitkin County for their Long Term Care system. This planning effort earned CARE (the community task force established by ARDC) a National Administration on Aging Innovation Award.

Senior Housing in the Arrowhead: The Choice is Yours. This Directory provides information on senior housing facilities available in the seven-county area.

Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging Brochure. The Arrowhead Area Agency has a brochure which describes the many roles and responsibilities of the Area Agency on Aging and its Advisory Committee on Aging.

1990-91 Transportation Improvement Program for the Duluth-Superior Area. A program of priority transportation projects in the urbanized area and a status report on recommendations from the area's Transportation Plan.

North Shore Management Plan, A Shoreland Management Plan for Lake Superior's North Shore. A comprehensive Shoreland Management Plan which was developed by local governments and residents along the Shore and takes the place of Statewide Shoreland Standards for the North Shore.

North Shore Harbors Plan. A comprehensive plan for North Shore recreational boating

harbors, including recommendations for the addition of safe harbor/protected boat access locations, expansion of existing facilities and potential marina sites.

1990 Annual Work Program. A summary of the projects, programs and planning efforts to be completed in 1987 in response to the Regional Development Act.

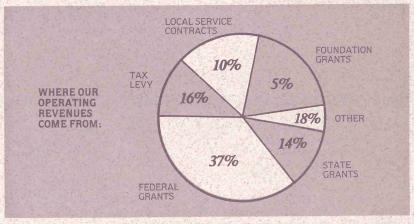
A Guide to Educational Opportunities for Older Adults in the Arrowhead Region
This pamphlet provides information on educational facilities which offer regular curriculum classes to adults 62 years old and older at reduced fees.

Printed on Recycled Paper.

OPERATIONAL BUDGET

The latest audit of ARDC's finances and contract performance by the State Auditor was completed July 1990 for fiscal year 1989. Copies of that audit and all prior audits are available for review at the ARDC offices. No negative findings were produced by the audit.

REVENUE	1989 ACTUAL	1990 BUDGET
Tax Levy	\$ 253,575	\$223,743
State Appropriation	45,669	45,656
Grants & Contracts:	200 510	200 001
Minnesota Board on Aging	220,518	208,891
Economic Development Admin. MN Dept. of Transportation	207,254 31,836	237,541 27,000
Federal Highway Admin.	105,392	100,966
Urban Mass Transportation	48,126	59,154
Northwest Area Foundation		33,750
MN Dept. of Natural Resources	95,693	119,000
Northeastern Minnesota Initiative Fund	27,762	
Blandin Foundation	50,000	30,000
Iron Range Resources & Rehab.	43,500	49,250
Local Technical Assistance	33,480	74,500
Other Grants & Contracts	237,785	237,321
Interest Income	7,112	4,000
Northspan Cost Share	130,785	131,278
Other Income (Rent \$44,011)	47,390	51,816
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,585,877	\$1,633,866
EXPENDITURES		
Salaries & Fringe Benefits	\$ 732,732	\$ 736,526
Office Space	185,860	195,612
Consultants & Contractual	213,177	193,387
Communications	47,293	46,500
Staff Travel	22,187	25,219
Committee & Board Travel	37,447	26,271
Supplies	22,508	16,000
Interest	9,258	8,000
Depreciation Equipment	46,913 4,000	41,476 2,000
Printing	31,523	34,210
Loans Disbursed	174,000	196,000
Other Expenses	52,238	112,665
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TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,579,136	\$1,633,866
REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 6,741</u>	



Clearinghouse Review

As of September 10, 1987, the State of Minnesota discontinued its involvement in the Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs. As a result of this action by the State, ARDC has significantly limited its involvement in the review of loan applications until such time as we determine that those reviews serve an important regional purpose. However, we will continue to review plans which are prepared for, or which have impact upon, the region.

Arrowhead Regional Development Commission 330 Canal Park Drive Duluth, Minnesota 55802

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