

Chapter 8 - Regional Strategic Investment Plans

As has been previously noted, the regional councils developed maps depicting *Corridors of Regional Economic Significance to Transportation* (CRESTs). The development of the CRESTs included a listing of economic, land use, and transportation objectives for each corridor. Inter-regional and trans-regional CRESTs were considered carefully in order to provide for a coordinated evaluation of transportation systems statewide, such that a corridor deemed important to one region would not be deemed of lesser importance by another region's evaluation.

The invaluable contributions made by the regional councils to *Connecting Maine* are contained in the following pages. The summaries are presented for each of the eleven regional councils and consist of the following information:

- Strategic Investment Map, indicating the types and general locations of the strategic investments identified by the regional councils;
- Region map, indicating the general layout of the *Corridors of Regional Economic Significance to Transportation* (CRESTs) identified by the regional councils;
- Corridor Maps for each CREST, including a listing of economic, land use and transportation objectives; and
- Descriptions of each strategic investment identified.

The map on the following page provides a statewide perspective of the CRESTs, and is followed by the regional council materials described above for each of Maine's six economic development districts:

- Northern Maine Development Commission;
- Eastern Maine Development Corporation;
- Midcoast Economic Development District;
- Kennebec Valley Council of Governments;
- Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments; and
- Southern Maine Economic Development District.

This information will provide an important beginning point for municipalities, metropolitan planning organizations, regional councils, Maine Turnpike Authority, MaineDOT, and other agencies such as the State Planning Office, as multi-modal corridor management plans are developed for each CREST. Regional councils will utilize this work to conduct integrated land use and transportation planning that can compliment existing and emerging economic development opportunities and maintain and improve the quality of life for Maine residents. Note that due to the time that has elapsed between development of the regional strategic investment plans and publication of the final version of *Connecting Maine*, some of the recommendations may have already been implemented.

General Movement Patterns



Legend

Maine Highways

- Princ art Interstate
- Princ art Other Frwy. or Expwy.
- Other princ arterial
- Minor arterial
- Major/urb collector

Airports

Maine State Airport System

- Commercial Service
- General Aviation

Maine Rail System

- Statewide Vectors

