



UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

2024 ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

CAPITAL DISTRICT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

One Park Place | Suite 102 | Albany, New York 12205-2676

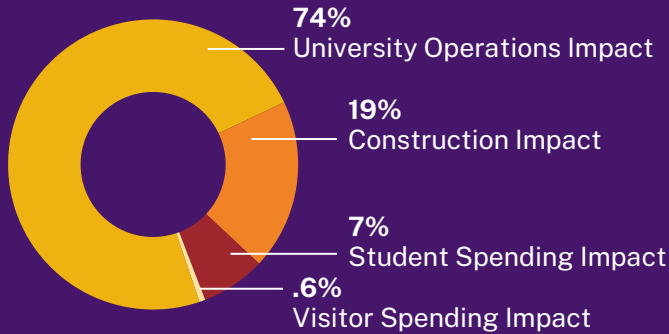
www.cdrpc.org

November 2024

ECONOMIC IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

of University at Albany on the Capital Region

Annual Economic Impact



University Operations Contributions
\$813.5M /year

- 6,705 Jobs**
- \$399M Labor Income**
- \$493M Value Added**

Construction Impact (Avg.)
\$211.7M /year

- 1,396 Jobs**
- \$101M Labor Income**
- \$137M Value Added**

Student Spending Impact
\$80+M /year

Visitor Spending Impact
\$7.3M /year

10-Year Capital Construction Spending

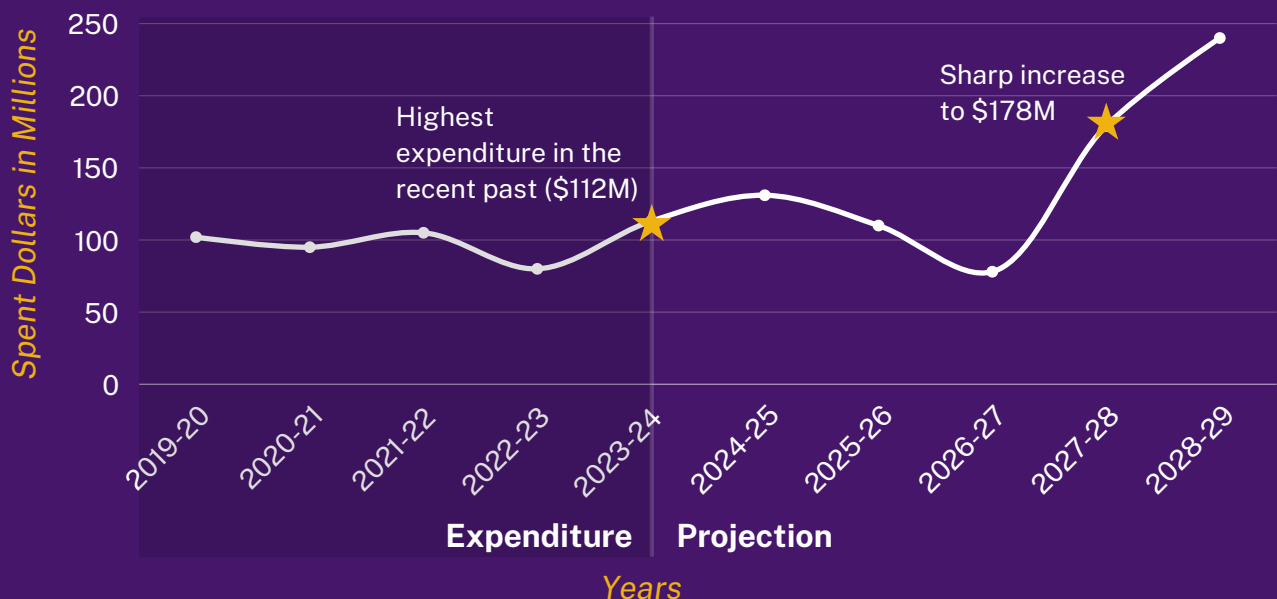


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	2
Regional Overview.....	3
University Operations Impact.....	4
Capital Construction Impact.....	5
Focus on Research and Development.....	6
Economic and Social Impact.....	7
Student Spending.....	7
Visitor Spending.....	8
Appendix: Methodology.....	9
Appendix: Definition of Key Terms.....	11
About Capital District Regional Planning Commission.....	13

INTRODUCTION

The University at Albany is one of the most diverse public research institutions in the nation and a national leader in educational equity and social mobility. As a Carnegie-classified R1 institution, its faculty and students are creating critical new knowledge in fields such as artificial intelligence, atmospheric and environmental sciences, business, education, public health, social sciences, criminal justice, emergency preparedness, engineering, informatics, public administration, and social welfare.

UAlbany's 20th president, Havidán Rodríguez, has championed the University's critical role in conducting research, scholarship, and partnerships that benefit the public good.

The University at Albany has three campuses:

- Uptown Campus, which includes the ETEC building
- Downtown Campus
- Health Sciences Campus

Schools and Colleges include:

- College of Arts and Sciences
- College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity
- College of Integrated Health Sciences, home to the School of Social Welfare
- College of Nanotechnology, Science, and Engineering (CNSE)
- Massry School of Business
- Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, home to the School of Criminal Justice
- School of Education

The University at Albany engaged the Capital District Regional Planning Commission to assess its overall economic impact on the Capital Region. The Commission last performed these analyses in 2003, 2008, 2010, and 2018.

In this current analysis, there is a focus on providing an assessment of the overall economic impact of:

- University at Albany Overall Operations
- Average Annual Capital (Construction) Expenditures
- Student Spending at the University at Albany
- Visitor Spending Attributed to the University at Albany

In this analysis, we include the activities of the College of Nanotechnology, Science, and Engineering (CNSE) which moved back from SUNY Polytechnic Institute to the University at Albany in the Fall of 2023.

CDRPC prepared this economic impact analysis based on the information provided by the University at Albany as well as additional sources.

University at Albany Snapshot:



3 Campuses
9 Schools and Colleges
Avg. Annual Capital Spending
\$123,152,399

2023



Annual UAlbany Employment
4,826



Total Enrollment
16,880

REGIONAL OVERVIEW

For this analysis, we considered the impact of the University at Albany on the Capital Region, consisting of eight counties, with a total land area of 5,185 square miles. They are shown in the graphic to the right.

The total Capital Region population is 1,110,341 and includes 469,850 households.

1,110,341



Region
Population

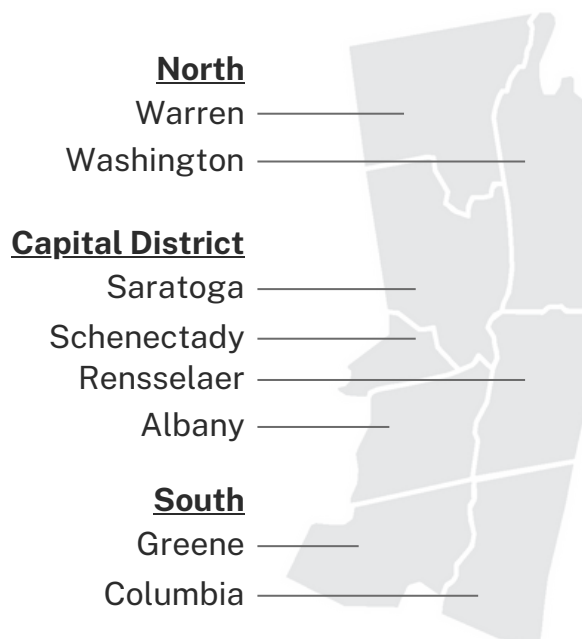
\$78,741



Avg.
Household
Income

Within this region there are 670,402 jobs across 401 industry clusters. The gross regional product – the total value of goods and services within a region – is nearly \$87 billion. The total personal income of individuals in the region is approximately \$73 billion.

We used the most recent IMPLAN dataset and model, based on 2022 data, to prepare the report.



Major Industries by Income

1. **State government** (non-education)
2. **Local government** (education)
3. **Scientific research and development** services
4. Hospitals
5. Offices of physicians
6. Local government (non-education)
7. Insurance carriers
8. Management of companies & enterprises
9. Architectural, engineering & related services
10. Employment services

UNIVERSITY OPERATIONS

The **permanent, ongoing** operations of the University have an estimated annual average economic impact of more than \$813.5 million per year on the region.

These impacts include the direct, indirect, and induced impacts that the University's day-to-day operations have on the regional economy in the long-term. For example, 6,705 jobs are supported by the University at Albany's operations through direct, indirect, or induced impacts.



\$813.5M

total impact per year



6,705

JOB



\$399M

LABOR INCOME



\$493M

VALUE ADDED

Expenditures include the University's total number of employees, employee payroll, and overall expenditures, much of which takes place in the local economy.

UNIVERSITY CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS

The estimated annual average economic impact for capital construction activities of the University is more than:

\$211.6M
impact per year



1,396
JOBS



\$101M
LABOR INCOME

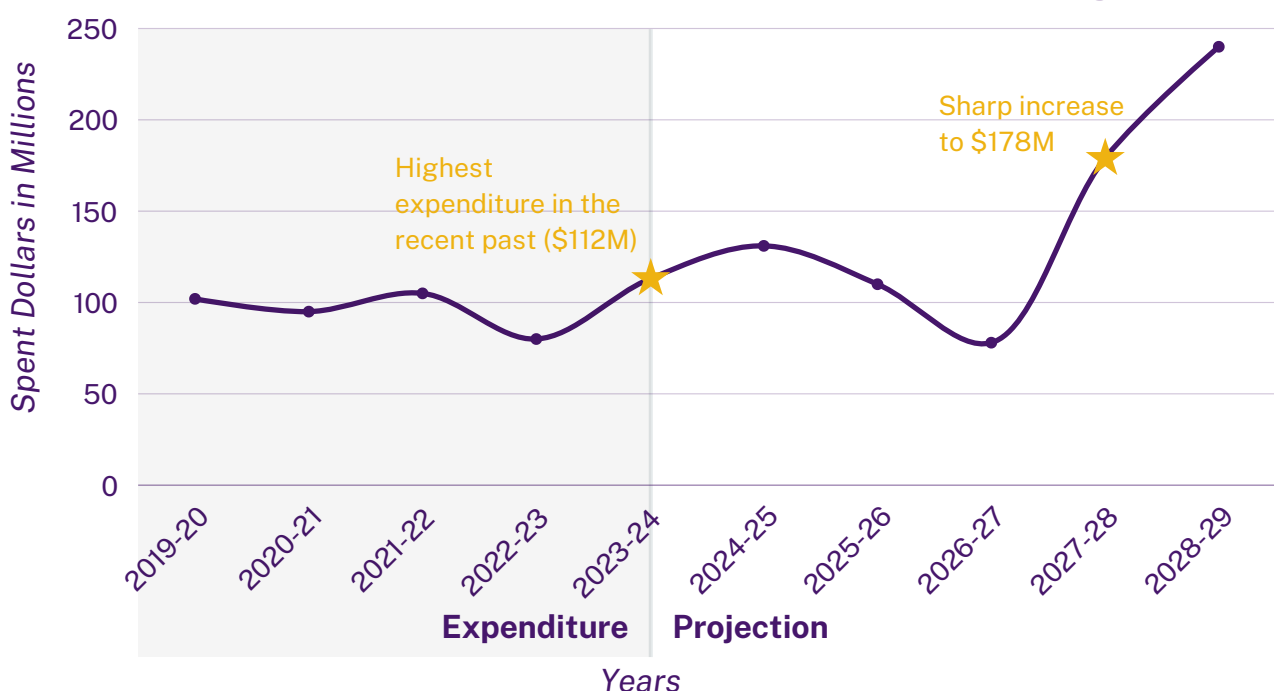


\$137M
VALUE ADDED

The University at Albany's capital investments can include new academic and research facilities, residence halls, sports and event spaces. The construction investment can vary from year to year, thus a 10-year annual average was calculated based on activity five years in the past until the present, and then to five years into the future.

Using the capital spending figures provided by the University, we can measure the impact that these capital projects may have on the region's economy. The chart below illustrates past and projected future capital expenditures by the University at Albany over 10 years.

10-Year Capital Construction Spending

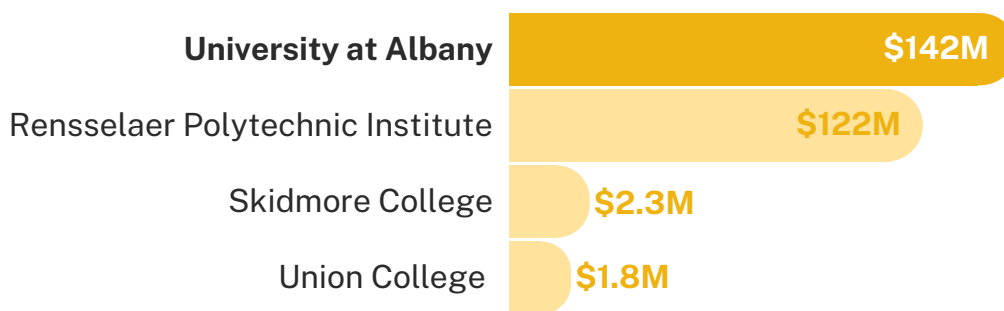


FOCUS ON RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

The University at Albany is one of the four R1 research centers within the State University of New York system and serves as a critical research and commercialization hub, leading the Capital Region in research and development (R&D) expenditures.

The University at Albany expects to report significantly increased R&D expenditures in 2024 thanks to the newly expanded College of Nanotechnology, Science, and Engineering (CNSE) as well as overall increases in research and development across its comprehensive research enterprise.

Ranked 2023 Capital Region Higher Education R&D Expenditures



*Data Source: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Higher Education Research and Development Survey.
This chart is representative.*

ECONOMIC & SOCIAL IMPACT

The University at Albany is a leader in prioritizing a quality education for all students and emphasizes making college accessible to first-generation students and those from underrepresented backgrounds. The student population has been steadily growing more diverse — in 2023, 56.6% of undergraduate students were of a minority race or ethnicity. First-generation students represented over 35% of the student body with over 44% receiving financial support through a Pell Grant.

The University at Albany is rated within the EMI's Tier 1, placing it in the top 20% of institutions that "are unambiguously delivering strong economic mobility outcomes" to students.

A 2023 Economic Mobility Index (EMI) created by Third Way measures how well institutions help their students improve upon their socioeconomic status and reflects a national shift in higher ed toward emphasizing the affordability of college and return on investment for students.

University at Albany
Top Tier Designation



STUDENT SPENDING

Student spending also contributes to the overall economic impact of the University. Total direct expenditures by students are estimated for the 2023-2024 school year. The SUNY Net Price Calculator was utilized to provide average student expenditures for transportation, books, personal/miscellaneous expenses, and room and board for off-campus students only.

\$80.8M
economic activity per year



VISITOR SPENDING

The University at Albany is a top destination within the region and attracts a significant number of out-of-area visitors for a variety of events. Using standard industry data, we can calculate per-day visitor expenditure estimates for a typical tourist in Albany County. Visitor spending provided an economic impact of over \$7.3 million in the Capital Region and had a positive impact on over 51 jobs in 2023.

In addition, athletic camps, festivals, and events on campus bring an estimated 163,900 attendees – 81,970 of whom are not affiliated with the University.



Visitor spending benefits the local economy and provides an important stimulus for local businesses. Direct spending leads to multiple rounds of additional spending, providing further stimulus to the local economy. The multi-day commencement celebration is the largest annual event and is estimated to attract over 19,000 attendees not affiliated with the University.



Discover Albany reports that the University at Albany is one of the top destinations for visitors to the region.

In a study of visitors who attend an event at the Albany Capital Center, July 2022 to July 2023, the data showed University at Albany was one of the top secondary locations these visitors went.

Where Visitors Who Go to the Capital Center Also Go? Other POIs

- University At Albany
- Mvp Arena
- Crossgates
- The College Of Saint Rose
- Colonie Center Mall
- Stuyvesant Plaza
- Albany International Airport
- The Egg Performing Arts Center
- Empire State Plaza Visitor Center
- Albany City Hall



Provided by Discover Albany

METHODOLOGY

This report includes information on the estimated total economic impact of the University at Albany, State University of New York. We've completed an analysis of the estimated total economic impact of the University's short-term, temporary capital projects; long-term, ongoing daily operations; student spending, and visitor spending. The data used as inputs to this report were provided by the University at Albany and we performed the analysis using an IMPLAN Input-Output model. IMPLAN is a commonly used model, initially developed for the USDA Forest Service in the late 1970s. Input Output (I/O) models are useful in describing how a local economy works and what are the potential economic impacts associated with a project or activity.

We summarize the estimated economic impacts of the project measured by impacted jobs (note that IMPLAN provides an estimate of total jobs including full, part-time, and seasonal), change in income, and output.

The analysis models the direct, indirect, and induced impacts of the activities associated with the project. CDRPC has analyzed the following types of activities:

1. Temporary impacts associated with short-term, temporary activities including construction
 - a. Five years past and five years projected construction expenses
2. Permanent impacts associated with the day-to-day operation of the University
3. Permanent impacts associated with student spending
4. Permanent impacts associated with visitor spending

Data Used and Assumptions Made

When performing multiplier analysis, IMPLAN requests data on output, employment, employee compensation, and student and visitor headcounts. Input data was provided primarily from the University, also HERC.

Full and part-time staff

Total job figures were provided by the University at Albany and entered into IMPLAN as headcount. The data does not differentiate between full-time, part-time, or seasonal employment.

Employee compensation

The University provided payroll data, including total salaries and sectors. This information was then used to generate an IMPLAN estimate of total compensation.

Geography

As with the 2018 Economic Analysis Report, the regional analysis was based on the 8-county Capital Region area.

Student Spending

UAlbany generates economic impact when students spend money to support their pursuit of a college education. Care was taken to identify spending that occurs off-campus only to ensure there is no double counting of impact, and that the measure of spending in the local economy is the focus of the analysis. A second parameter relates to not including the activity of local students who live at home to attend school. The housing expenses they incur at their parents' house would have been incurred whether or not they were pursuing education so it should not be included in the analysis to ensure that. Undergraduate student spending data was collected from the SUNY Net Price Cost Calculator specific to the University at Albany. It provides room and board, books and supplies, personal expenses, and transportation estimates. These expenses are based on full-time enrollment and calculated for two categories of students: living on campus and living off-campus (not local, moved to Albany to attend the University at Albany).

Input was compiled as such for these two groups of students:

- Living on campus — Books and supplies + personal expenses + on-campus transportation
- Living off campus — Off-campus room and board + books and supplies + personal expenses + off-campus transportation.

Construction Activity

In analyzing the temporary impacts, we considered the overall construction costs. We assume that all purchases are made locally. Capital projects were analyzed according to their relevant sector (i.e. residential dormitory versus academic/educational space).

Visitor Spending

The University provided visitor counts at events held on campus for the 2022-2023 academic year. Only non-University at Albany affiliated, out-of-area visitors were utilized as input for the analysis.

Research and Development

Data from: Rankings by total R&D expenditures, National Science Foundation, accessed December 1, 2024, <https://ncesdata.nsf.gov/profiles/site?method=rankingBySource&ds=herd>.

Economic and Social Impacts

Data from: 2023 Economic Mobility Index, Third Way, accessed August 20, 2024, <https://www.thirdway.org/report/2023-economic-mobility-index>.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Direct Effects

Direct effects are the expenditures or changes in production as the result of an activity. These expenditures or actions are used in the model to predict economic impact. They may include actual expenditures by value or the number of employees engaged in an activity.

Indirect Effects

Indirect impacts are considered backward linkages. They include elements of the supply chain such as manufacturers, transportation, and suppliers. In examining the impact of constructing a new building, the indirect impacts may link back to suppliers of concrete, steel, and wood, the trucking company that transported the materials to either a retailer or to the construction site, and the skilled labor used in the design and construction of that building.

Induced Effects

Induced impacts are considered forward linkages. This is the household spending that results from the project. For example, the skilled labor used to construct the building in the example above will be paid a wage. Those wages will be used to buy goods and services for those workers, thereby resulting in household consumption spending. The labor involved in other aspects of the construction, such as the suppliers and delivery drivers will also have their own household spending.

Intermediate Expenditures

The monies spent purchasing goods and services to create an industry's production.

Labor Income

The total value of all forms of employment-based income paid throughout a defined economy during a specified period of time.

Output

Output represents the value of industry production. In IMPLAN these are annual production estimates for the year of the data set and are in producer prices. For manufacturers, this includes sales plus/minus change in inventory. For service sectors production = sales. For Retail and wholesale trade, output = gross margin and not gross sales.

Type I Multiplier

Calculated by taking the sum of the Direct Effects and the Indirect Effects and dividing by the Direct Effects. It differs from the Type SAM multiplier because it does not consider Induced Effects; they Type SAM multiplier does.

Type SAM Multiplier

Calculated by taking the sum of the Direct Effects, Indirect Effects, and Induced Effects and dividing by the Direct Effects. It differs from the Type I multiplier because it considers Induced Effects; they Type I multiplier does not.

Value Added

Measures the contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) made by an individual producer, industry, or sector. It represents the difference between total output and the cost of intermediate inputs. It is comprised of employee payroll, taxes, imports less subsidies, and gross operating surplus.

CAPITAL DISTRICT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

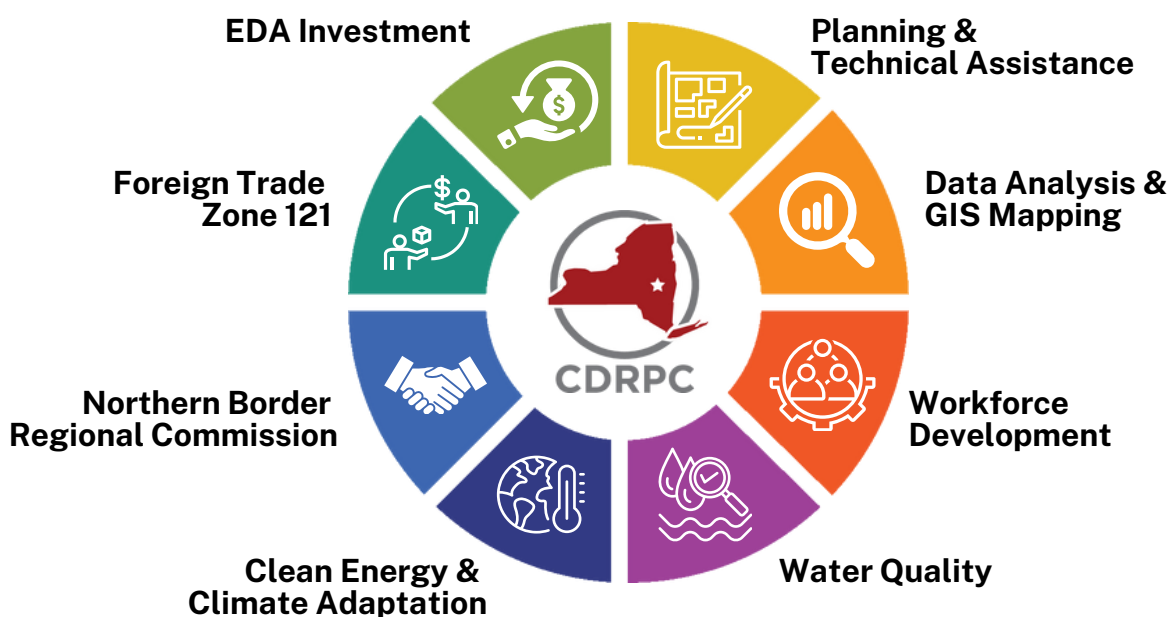
The Capital District Regional Planning Commission (CDRPC) is a regional planning and resource center serving the upstate New York counties of Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady. CDRPC objectively analyzes data, trends, opportunities, and challenges relevant to the Region’s economic development and planning communities.

CDRPC serves the best interests of both the public and private sectors by promoting intergovernmental cooperation; communicating, collaborating, and facilitating regional initiatives; and sharing information and fostering dialog on solutions to regional problems. Our organization provides added capacity to local municipalities through its regional coordination programs. By partnering with CDRPC, local municipalities can leverage the expertise of a full-time professional planning staff with significant network resources to provide added benefit to the work regularly performed in the Region.

PURPOSE

CDRPC was established in 1967 as a regional planning board by a cooperative agreement among the counties of Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady. Its original purpose was to perform and support comprehensive planning work, including surveys, planning services, technical services, and formulating plans and policies to promote sound and coordinated development of the entire Region.

CDRPC PROGRAMS





CAPITAL DISTRICT

**Regional
Planning
Commission**