PATTERN BOARD ADOPTS REVISED STRATEGIC PLAN AT ANNUAL RETREAT
At the annual board retreat December 12, Pattern leadership confirmed its commitment to current strategic areas—infrastructure, local government support, and regional leadership/training—and stressed the need to increase programs that aid local government efficiency. The board and staff thank Dr. William Richards for leading the strategic planning process.

CITY OF NEWBURGH ASKS PATTERN TO CONSULT ON CHARTER REVISION
Pattern will conduct a charter review for the City of Newburgh, funded by a $45,000 grant from NYS Department of State. Joining Pattern in the study, which will also look for opportunities for shared services and consolidation of services, will be Dr. Gerald Benjamin of SUNY New Paltz’s Center for Research, Regional Education and Outreach. The City’s first step will be to form a charter review commission. (more)

PATTERN SPEAKS ON SHARED SERVICES FOR NORTHERN DUTCHESS ALLIANCE
Appearing on a December 14 panel at Norrie Point Environmental Center in Staatsburg, Jonathan Drapkin discussed progress in other parts of the region, as well as reviewing status of a study of shared services potential among 24 Dutchess municipalities sponsored by the Dutchess County Mayors and Supervisors Association. (more)

CHANGES TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNOUNCED FOR JANUARY
The board of directors and staff of Pattern would like to thank the following board members, who are stepping down at the end of 2010, for their years of service and their support of regionalism: Howard Hellman, president of All Bright Electric, and Michael Keegan, president of the Hudson Valley Region for M&T Bank. Joining the board in January are: Kevin Dahill, president and CEO of Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association, Julie Krieger, M&T Bank’s administrative VP for Hudson Valley commercial banking, and Richard O’Beirne, president of Airport Properties, LLC, owner of the Hilton Homewood Suites Hotel.

TOWN OF THOMPSON CONTRACTS WITH PATTERN FOR PLANNING SUPPORT
As municipal governments continue to lose staff, Pattern is piloting with the Town of Thompson a way to supplement their resources. Pattern will provide research assistance in housing development analysis, shared services potential, recycling planning, grant writing, and planning issues related to economic development and increasing the Town’s employment base.

PATTERN ON THE ROAD...
... Jonathan Drapkin spoke to Leadership Orange December 1 on topics of home rule, and intergovernmental cooperation among the many layers of government.
... At the DEC’s Conference on Water Resources and the Regional Economy December 13, Jonathan Drapkin co-chaired the panel entitled “Water access and waterfront revitalization as an economic strategy”.
... Pattern VP John Tully met with Hudson Baylor executives to discuss the progression of the company’s plans to expand recycling operations, with the goal of expanding municipalities’ - and residents’ - recycling options.

PATTERN BOARD MEMBERS AND FELLOWS IN THE NEWS ...
Board member Michael Turturro, partner at Vanacore, DeBenedictus, DiGiovanni & Weddell, has been appointed to the Ulster County Comptroller’s Advisory Committee (more) ... Board Members Carl Meyer, president/CEO of The Solar Energy Consortium (TSEC), and Arthur Weintraub, planning consultant and past president of the Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association, have been appointed to the newly established president’s advisory council at Mount Saint Mary’s College; Meyer will chair the group (more) ... Congratulations!