

SWRPC

Commission Highlights

June 2019

Vol. 25 - No. 6

Brightfields 2019 - New England

There is still time to register for *Brightfields 2019 - New England*, scheduled for July 23rd from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Falls Event Center in Manchester, NH. The event is being organized by Brightfield Listings and held in collaboration with NH's regional planning commissions. *Brightfields 2019 - New England* is an interactive solar marketplace event designed to bring together communities, solar developers, real estate professionals, property owners, and other public- and private-sector partners for illuminating educational sessions, networking and live market-making. The agenda includes:

- [A Landowner Educational Track](#) focusing on solar development from a property owner's perspective.
- [A Developer Track](#) emphasizing the issues developers encounter during a brightfields project.
- [Solar Market Mixer](#) a fast-paced marketplace forum connecting event participants in face-to-face networking.
- [Technical Assistance](#) including 1-on-1 help and Q&A sessions offered on-site by qualified experts on all aspects of brightfield development.

Municipalities interested in the development of solar energy on land (rather than rooftops), are encouraged to attend. Any community with a brownfield, greenfield, greyfield or landfill can add their potential solar development site(s) to the mix and attend the entire event for free. For more information and to register go to <https://events.brownfieldlistings.com>.

Hinsdale-Brattleboro Bridge Project Advisory Committee

On June 5th, the Hinsdale-Brattleboro Bridge Project Advisory Committee (PAC) met with officials from the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) and the Vermont Agency on Transportation (VTrans). Updates were provided on refinements to the project design and schedule which is expected to go out to bid in May 2020. The PAC provided feedback to NHDOT and VTrans final design questions relating to the new bridge's lighting and two planned overlooks. The PAC was also briefed on the Hinsdale-Brattleboro Existing Bridges Subcommittee meeting which took place on May 23rd and featured a presentation from SWRPC and Windham Regional Commission covering baseline information about Hinsdale Island, the Anna Hunt Marsh and Charles Dana bridges. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of SWRPC staff.

Emergency Preparedness Workshops

During June, SWRPC held four emergency preparedness workshops in partnership with the Greater Monadnock Public Health Network and others to develop a plan and implementation strategies to strengthen community resilience and address public health resulting from extreme precipitation events and severe weather. Workshops were held with the assistance of Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services, Monadnock at Home, Keene Housing, and the Keene Senior Center. The goal of each session was to increase individual preparedness and skills through the use of emergency preparedness kits, early warning systems such as NH Alerts and creating plans to shelter in place, evacuate and stay connected. For more information, please contact Henry Underwood of SWRPC staff and visit www.swrpc.org/brace.

Social Engagement Focus Group

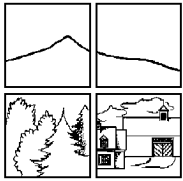
On June 18th, SWRPC hosted a focus group session entitled *Achieving Social Connectedness: Meeting the Social Needs of All Ages in the Monadnock Region*. This was one in a series of topic-based sessions designed to inform the ongoing Age-Focused Planning project for Southwest New Hampshire. Area residents discussed changes that can be made to strengthen social engagement choices in the region for the benefit of a variety of ages as well as the best way to promote such events to a wide audience. For more information, please contact Lisa Murphy of SWRPC staff.

Transportation Center Feasibility Study

On June 25th, SWRPC hosted an Open House regarding a study to assess the feasibility of a regional intermodal transportation center. The objectives of the study are: to evaluate the transportation needs of Greater Keene and the Monadnock Region; to examine whether an intermodal transportation center might help address those needs; and, if so, to explore what such a center might look like, what features it might include, where it might be located, and how much it might cost. Attendees engaged in a variety of activities where they shared ideas, priorities and concerns. The open house also included a short presentation on study activities to date and next steps. For more information about the study, please contact Todd Horner of SWRPC staff and visit www.swrpc.org/ITC.

SWRPC 2019 Traffic Research Season

During May and June, SWRPC staff welcomed student interns that will assist with transportation-related fieldwork including traffic counting, culvert and road/stream crossing inventories, road pavement assessments, and other ongoing projects throughout the summer. Michael Centuori, Cynthia Clausen and Bryanna Weigel are students from Keene State College and all have completed coursework through the Geography Department. Please join us in welcoming them for this important work.



Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation

On June 19th, SWRPC staff attended the NH Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT) kick-off meeting for the FY2021-2030 Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TYP). GACIT is comprised of NH's five Executive Councilors and the Commissioner of the NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT). GACIT assists NHDOT in coordinating feedback and input from various stakeholders regarding the draft FY2021-2030 TYP scheduled for release in August. This fall, GACIT will hold multiple hearings throughout the State including locations in southwest New Hampshire. Community leaders and the general public are encouraged to attend to provide input in developing the TYP. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of SWRPC staff.

Southwest Region Planning Commission

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