

# SWRPC

## Commission Highlights

March 2020

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### **Regional Economic Information Session for Businesses and Communities Impacted by COVID-19**

On April 8, 2020 at Noon, SWRPC's Economic Development Advisory Committee will host an economic information session for Monadnock Region communities, businesses and others who may be seeking resources and strategies for addressing economic impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19). The session will provide a forum for government agencies and others to share information about programs and resources designed to help support businesses and municipalities. It will also provide an opportunity to identify needs and to share strategies that may be useful during the current public health emergency. Those interested in participating may join online at: <https://zoom.us/j/748475943> or by calling (646) 558-8656, and entering meeting ID: 748 475 943. For additional information, please contact Todd Horner of SWRPC staff at [thorner@swrpc.org](mailto:thorner@swrpc.org).

### **Census 2020 Response Rate Map**

The 2020 Census response rate map ([2020census.gov/response-rates](https://2020census.gov/response-rates)) shows how cities and towns across the country are responding. The map will be updated daily for everyone to see the response rate in their area and compare it to other areas across the nation. The map also shows the comparable response rate from the 2010 Census for each geographic area. The Census Bureau is challenging every state, city and town nationwide to beat its 2010 Census self-response rate. Their Response Rate Challenge toolkit includes ideas to motivate communities to respond to the census on their own as early as possible. For more information visit [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov) or contact Henry Underwood of SWRPC staff at [hunderwood@swrpc.org](mailto:hunderwood@swrpc.org).

### **NH Route 10 Corridor Study**

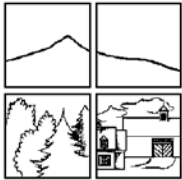
On March 11<sup>th</sup> SWRPC staff held a kickoff meeting of a study work group for the NH Route 10 Corridor as it extends through Swanzey, covering a distance of approximately 5.5 miles. The purpose of the Study is to develop findings and recommendations that will improve mobility, accessibility and safety for all users of the Corridor. Although the focus will be an examination of the Corridor as it relates to transportation, the Study will also examine the highway's relationship to surrounding land uses and economic activities. It is anticipated that the Study will be completed by June 2021. The work group is scheduled to meet several times over the course of the project and plans to hold two public meetings to share information and gather public input. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of SWRPC staff at [jbmack@swrpc.org](mailto:jbmack@swrpc.org).

### **Emergency Management Planning Update**

SWRPC staff is working with Greenville and Temple to update their Hazard Mitigation Plans. In addition to hazards caused by natural disasters such as flooding and severe wind events, the current updates will include an expanded list of hazards that are identified as technological hazards including aging infrastructure and known/emerging contaminants, as well as human caused hazards such as mass casualty and cyber security. In response to the current COVID-19 pandemic, infectious disease has also been added as a hazard for towns to incorporate into their plan updates. SWRPC staff is also assisting with an update to the Walpole Emergency Operations Plan which should be completed soon. For more information on Hazard Mitigation or Emergency Operations planning, please contact Lisa Murphy of SWRPC staff at [lmurphy@swrpc.org](mailto:lmurphy@swrpc.org).

## 2023-2032 Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan Update

While a draft 2021-2030 Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TYP) is currently being reviewed by the New Hampshire Legislature, the NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT) and the State's nine regional planning commissions are planning for the next TYP update cycle. SWRPC staff has joined a task force with three other regional planning commissions and NHDOT to improve the transportation project evaluation criteria used in developing regional priorities. Key objectives of the task force include improving the criteria so that there is no bias to any specific transportation mode, ensuring that there are criteria that effectively address needs in both urban and rural areas, identifying additional data resources to evaluate projects, and considering factors such as resiliency, equity and accessibility. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of SWRPC staff at [jbmack@swrpc.org](mailto:jbmack@swrpc.org).



## 2020 Complete Streets Implementation Grant Round

On behalf of the Monadnock Alliance for Sustainable Transportation (MAST) SWRPC staff anticipates another complete streets implementation grant round for 2020. Accordingly, municipalities that have an adopted complete streets policy will be invited to submit applications through the 2020 Monadnock Region Complete Streets Implementation grant program. This opportunity is made possible by an anonymous donation made through the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's "You Have our Trust" fund. A total of \$90,000 is expected to be available on a competitive basis for complete streets implementation projects that enhance safety and mobility for users of all ages, abilities and modes of travel. Staff anticipates an application due-date in late July 2020 with notification of award(s) later in the calendar year. For more information, please contact Henry Underwood of SWRPC staff at [hunderwood@swrpc.org](mailto:hunderwood@swrpc.org).

**Southwest Region Planning Commission**

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