



SWRPC

Commission Highlights

March 2014

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NH Broadband Conference May 16, 2014

On Friday, May 16th, the NH Broadband and Mapping Program will be hosting a statewide conference on broadband at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord. The purpose of this event is to bring together a variety of stakeholders to discuss what is happening to expand broadband access, adoption, and use throughout New Hampshire. Conference sessions will be designed to help provide an understanding of broadband's role for economic competitiveness, education, health care, governance, public safety, and overall quality of life in the state. In addition, the conference will highlight broadband accomplishments, future plans, and current/emerging broadband technologies. The intended audience for this event includes municipal officials, legislators, community leaders, internet service providers, representatives from business, health/medical, education and public safety sectors, and New Hampshire residents. For more information, please visit <http://www.iwantbroadbandnh.org/broadband-conference-2014> or contact Tara Germond of Commission staff.

Hazard Mitigation Planning

The Planning Commission recently began working with the Town of Bennington on their hazard mitigation plan update. The first meeting took place on March 17, 2014 and the next meeting is scheduled for April 7th at 2:00 p.m. in the Bennington Town Hall. These meetings are open to the public. The Commission also recently assisted the towns of Greenfield, New Ipswich, and Francestown with completing updates to their plans. For additional information on hazard mitigation plan updates, please contact Lisa Murphy of Commission staff.

Prevailing Wage Seminar

SWRPC staff attended a prevailing wage seminar on March 4, 2014 hosted by the Wage and Hour Division of the U.S. Department of Labor in Manchester, NH. The seminar covered topics including overview of labor law coverage, Davis Bacon Act (DBA) wage determinations and conformances, and DBA compliance principles and enforcement. For additional information, please contact Rebeckah Bullock of Commission staff.

Peterborough Safe Routes to School Travel Plans

Since the fall of 2012, the Planning Commission has been working with the Town of Peterborough and the Peterborough Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Task Force to develop a SRTS Travel Plan for the South Meadow Middle School and the Peterborough Elementary School. The purpose of the Travel Plans are to identify recommendations for physical improvements, education programs and community efforts that will encourage walking and biking within a two-mile radius of each school. Planning Commission staff recently developed a draft Travel Plan for each school, which are currently under review of the SRTS Task Force. These plans include a review of travel conditions within each study area and outline recommendations for safety improvements at and near each school. The final Plans will be completed before the end of the 2013-2014 school year. For more information about this project, please contact Tara Germond of Commission staff. More information about the NH SRTS program is available at the following website: <http://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/planning/srts/>.

New Ipswich Tax Map Updates

During March, SWRPC staff completed updating the tax maps for the Town of New Ipswich including making changes to parcel boundaries, acreage, as well as lot, and sub-lot identifiers. These changes can be made on a periodic basis and can be linked to assessing records for planning purposes. If your community would like to discuss updating tax maps or other mapping needs, please contact Steve Waleryszak of Commission staff.

2014 Annual Drinking Water Source Protection Workshop

The 2014 Annual Drinking Water Source Protection Workshop has been scheduled for April 30, 2014 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord. Topics will include a summary of NHDES's plans to address MtBE (an additive used in gasoline), climate change risks to water systems, developing watershed water quality monitoring plans, information about the new EPA MS4 stormwater permit, research concerning the quality of New Hampshire's groundwater, guidance for potable water standards in municipal codes, and case studies of successful source water protection projects. Registration and a full agenda are available at the American Ground Water Trust's website <http://www.agwt.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=180>. For more information, please contact Pierce Rigrod (pierce.rigrod@des.nh.gov) at NHDES (271-0688) or Garret Graaskamp (garret@agwt.org) at the American Ground Water Trust (228-5444).



20th Annual OEP Spring Planning and Zoning Conference

The 20th Annual OEP Spring Planning and Zoning Conference will be held on May 3, 2014 at the Mountain View Grand Resort in Whitefield, NH. Topics will include: planning board basics; plan reading; ZBA decision making process; local policies for new demographics; legal update; agriculture, agritourism and land use controls; preservation planning; and other topics: The cost is \$60 per person which includes full conference participation and lunch. The deadline to register is April 25th. To register, and for additional conference details, please go to: <http://www.nh.gov/oep/planning/resources/conferences/spring-2014/index.htm> or contact Michele Zydel at 271-2155.

Southwest Region Planning Commission

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