

# SWRPC

## Commission Highlights

October 2018

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### **NH State Plan on Aging Listening Session**

As part of a statewide effort to understand the needs of older adults, the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services and the State Plan on Aging Planning Committee are seeking public input that will guide and inform the next four-year State Plan on Aging. If you are, know, or care for an older adult, please consider attending a session on this topic on Friday, **November 2, 2018** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the ground floor auditorium at Cheshire Medical Center, located at 590 Court Street in Keene. This session will allow attendees to provide information on the availability of support in their communities, including health care programs and screenings, affordable housing, transportation, and in-home long-term support and services.

If accommodations for communication access such as interpreters, CART (captioning), assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services are needed, please contact Kim Hillson at 603-271-9215 or [Kimberly.Hillson@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Hillson@dhhs.nh.gov) in advance of the listening session. For additional information, please visit [this site](#) or contact [Lisa Murphy](#) of Commission staff.

### **Northeast Solar Conference**

On October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, J. B. Mack of SWRPC staff attended the 2018 Northeast Solar Conference in Boston, MA hosted by the engineering, consulting and construction management firm TRC and provided information about SWRPC's inventory of brownfields sites. The conference invited solar developers and landowners contemplating ground mounted, rooftop and carport solar arrays to listen to informative presentations about solar industry trends, technological advancements, site evaluation considerations, state regulations, and state and federal incentives. Several case studies from around New England were presented at the conference and "meet and greet" sessions were set aside for landowners and developers to discuss potential projects. A focus of the SWRPC Brownfields Assessment program is to learn more about opportunities to help improve municipal property tax portfolios, address high-energy costs, and help towns prepare for climate change by making use of vacant or underutilized contaminated land for renewable energy projects. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of Commission staff.

### **New Hampshire Complete Streets Conference**

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, Todd Horner of SWRPC staff attended the 2018 NH Complete Streets Conference sponsored by the NHDOT Complete Streets Advisory Committee. The program included a diverse range of speakers, including transportation planning professionals, engineers, elected officials, and advocates. The keynote speaker was Jeff Olson of Alta Planning, who presented on *Transforming Communities through Greenways and Complete Streets*. Other topics included how to organize complete street demonstration projects, the economic development potential of complete streets projects, and an introduction to the Americans with Disability Act. For more information, please contact Todd Horner of Commission staff.

### **Plan for Ashuelot Rail Trail: Open House & Online Survey**

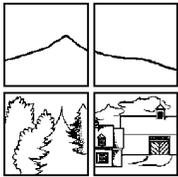
SWRPC will hold an open house for Plan for Ashuelot Rail Trail on Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Whitcomb Hall, 17 Main St. in Swanzey. Plan for Ashuelot Rail Trail is a planning effort aimed to address challenges and opportunities along the approximately 21.5-mile stretch of trail between Hinsdale and Keene. Attendees will learn more about project goals and activities, share their perspectives by identifying trail assets and opportunities and help build a vision for the trail's future. To register, please RSVP [here](#). Trail users and others interested in the Ashuelot Rail Trail are also encouraged to share their experiences and perspectives on the trail by taking this short online [survey](#). For more information, please visit this [site](#), or contact [Henry Underwood](#) of Commission staff.

## Interstate Natural Gas Pipeline Informational Resource Completed

During October, SWRPC staff, along with the Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) completed work on an online resource entitled *An Introduction to Interstate Natural Gas Pipeline Proposals in New Hampshire*. The purpose of the guide is to present key components of the interstate natural gas pipeline permitting process. It was developed based on the combined experiences of SWRPC and NRPC staff, as well as the efforts of the NRPC Energy Facilities Advisory Committee, and was supported through funding from the NH Charitable Foundation and the Federal Highway Administration. The document is available [here](#). For more information, please contact [Henry Underwood](#) of Commission staff.

## Emergency Operations Planning

SWRPC staff recently completed an update of the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for the Town of Marlborough. Staff worked with the Town's EOP Committee on the five-year update in a series of meetings held at the Marlborough Town Offices. SWRPC staff has completed the latest EOP training recommended by NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) and has also participated in an HSEM training session covering Emergency Operations Plan creation and update processes. For more information on EOP updates, please contact [Rebeckah Bullock](#) of Commission staff.



## ReadyNH Website

With the winter storm season fast approaching, residents should be preparing for winter storm events. The NH Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management's ReadyNH website can help improve preparedness for disasters. The website includes information on how to prepare for disasters, suggestions for emergency kits and family plans and how to sign up for emergency alerts. It also contains resources that municipalities can use to help residents become more prepared, such as suggested public service announcements for television or radio. For more information, please visit the website at [www.readynh.gov](http://www.readynh.gov) or contact NH HSEM staff at (603) 271-2231.

**Southwest Region Planning Commission**

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