



SWRPC Fall Commission Meeting

On October 8th, SWRPC held its 2019 Fall Commission Meeting at Delegation Hall in the Historic Cheshire County Courthouse in Keene. The featured presentation was *2020 Census and Why It's Important to Everyone*. Guest panelists included Brendan Drew, Partnership Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau; Ken Gallagher, Principal Planner, NH Office of Strategic Initiatives; and Henry Underwood, SWRPC GIS Specialist/Planner. The presentation provided an overview of the purpose of the Census, its methodology and goals, challenges with data collection and uses for the data.

EDAC - Sponsored Event: 65 by 25

On November 13th, the SWRPC Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) will feature a presentation of the 65 by 25 initiative by Ross Gittell, Chancellor of the Community College System of New Hampshire, regarding the connections between post-secondary education and economic well-being. 65 by 25 sets a goal that 65% of NH adults (those 25 and over) will have some form of post-secondary education, from certificates to advanced degrees, by 2025. Following the presentation, there will be discussion on recent legislation passed in support of that goal: *Career Readiness Drive to 65 Act*, otherwise known as SB276. All are welcome to attend the meeting scheduled for November 13th at 1:00 p.m. at Delegation Hall at the Historic Cheshire County Courthouse, in Keene. For more information, please contact [Todd Horner](#) of SWRPC staff.

RSMS Roadway Maintenance Course

SWRPC staff recently attended the Road Surface Management System (RSMS) Roadway Maintenance Course held at the NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT) in Concord. The course included both classroom and field training and covered topics related to pavement treatments and methods for determining the appropriate applications based on roadway conditions and usage. SWRPC is currently working on providing 10-year road surface maintenance plans under the RSMS for Harrisville, Surry and Temple through the NHDOT sponsored program. For more information, please contact [Henry Underwood](#) or [Lisa Murphy](#) of SWRPC staff.

New Hampshire Rail Trail Conference

On October 26th, SWRPC staff attended the New Hampshire Rail Trails Coalition Conference entitled *Moving Forward Together into the 2020s* in Concord, NH. The biennial conference brought together trail advocates, state representatives, and volunteer rail trail groups from around the state. Representatives from the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, the Bureau of Trails, and many others hosted sessions describing their involvement with statewide trail plans, implementation, maintenance, and promotion. The Coalition also announced their new website: www.nhrtc.org. For more information, contact [Henry Underwood](#) of SWRPC staff.

Economic Inclusion and Digital Equity

On October 28th and 29th, SWRPC staff attended the NH Summit 2019, designed to engage attendees on issues related to our ability to access economic and educational opportunities that rely on access to technology like high-speed internet. The first day was dedicated to economic inclusion and focused on New Hampshire assets working to build a more inclusive and vibrant economy through improved access to credit and a diversified workforce. The second day's agenda focused on strategies to increase digital equity, such as affordable access to high-speed internet in low- and moderate-income communities. For more information on the summit visit: digitalequity.us/nh-summit or contact [Henry Underwood](#) or [Terry Johnson](#) of SWRPC staff.

Rural Communities Opioid Response Planning

On October 22nd, the Monadnock Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Consortium met at the Jaffrey Civic Center. The Consortium continued their work in identifying risks, protective factors and core values. SWRPC staff facilitated group discussions to examine data concerning opioid use and overdoses, resources and services in the Monadnock Region. SWRPC will incorporate participant input from the meeting into a gap analysis and needs assessment it is conducting on behalf of the Consortium regarding opioid use and misuse. Between June 1, 2018 and May 30, 2019 there were 472 confirmed drug overdose deaths in New Hampshire. In 2018, Cheshire and Hillsborough Counties had the second and third highest numbers of per capita drug overdose deaths in the state, with 4.14 and 4.09 deaths per 10,000 population, respectively. For more information regarding the work of the Consortium please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/MRCORPP>.



Floodplain Administrator 101 Training Workshop

The New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI), in coordination with the Southwest Region Planning Commission, will be holding a free three-hour Floodplain Administrator 101 Training Workshop for local community officials on December 9, 2019 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at 49 Community Way in Keene (*snow date December 12*). This workshop is for municipal officials who administer and enforce floodplain regulations, review applications and/or issue permits for development in floodplain areas, or are interested in learning more about a community's responsibilities as a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). To RSVP or for questions, please contact: Samara Ebinger, Principal Planner, NH Office of Strategic Initiatives at 603-271-1755 or samara.ebinger@osi.nh.gov

Southwest Region Planning Commission

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