

SWRPC

Commission Highlights

September 2018

Vol. 24 - No. 9

2018 Fall Commission Meeting

The Southwest Region Planning Commission's 2018 Fall Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, **October 9, 2018** at 5:00 p.m. at the Historical Society of Cheshire County located at 246 Main Street in Keene, NH. The topic will be Transportation Infrastructure in Southwest NH: Major Projects on Tap. NHDOT Project Managers will be on hand to discuss the Hinsdale/Brattleboro Bridge replacement project and a solution for the dog-leg intersection of multiple routes in downtown Jaffrey. While there is no charge to attend, **advance registration by Friday, October 5th is requested**. For more information, please visit www.swrpc.org/files/2018%20Fall%20Meeting%20Invitation.pdf or contact Becky Baldwin of Commission staff.

Road Safety Audit

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) is currently accepting applications for Road Safety Audits. A Road Safety Audit is a formal safety performance examination of an existing road or intersection by an independent, multidisciplinary team. It qualitatively estimates and reports on potential road safety issues and identifies opportunities for improvements in safety for all road users. Road segments or intersections with a record of one or more fatalities or incapacitating injuries in the last ten years are eligible for this program. SWRPC has created an online map to view individual crashes that meet the application criteria as well as potential areas of concern that were quantitatively screened and highlighted by NHDOT based on their crash history. The map can be viewed at <http://arcg.is/10GOC9>. If a Road Safety Audit application is selected and a cost-effective safety countermeasure can be identified for that road or intersection, NHDOT may consider allocating funding from the federal Highway Safety Improvement Program to address the road safety issue. More information about the Road Safety Audit process in New Hampshire is available at <https://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/highwaydesign/hwysafetyimprovements/>. Applications for Road Safety Audits are **due December 3, 2018**. If you are interested in applying for a Road Safety Audit or learning more about the program, please contact J. B. Mack of Commission staff prior to the end of October.

Protecting Drinking Water in the Monadnock Region

On September 21st the NH Department of Environmental Services and the SWRPC Natural Resources Advisory Committee co-sponsored a workshop highlighting what municipalities can do to protect their drinking water supplies. The workshop covered topics such as the relationship between land uses and drinking water quality, how land use planning plays a significant role in protecting drinking water supplies and resources available to planning officials to help protect their local water supplies. For additional information, please visit www.swrpc.org/files/Water_Resource_Protection.pdf or contact Lisa Murphy of Commission staff.

Emergency Operations Planning

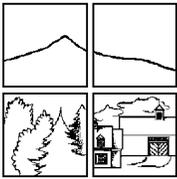
SWRPC staff is available to assist towns in creating and updating Local Emergency Operations Plans (LEOP). The State of New Hampshire through the New Hampshire Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) offers a grant program, which provides funding assistance in creating and/or updating the LEOP at no monetary cost to the town. SWRPC staff has completed the latest LEOP training recommended by HSEM and is qualified to assist towns with their plans. This training involved the completion of FEMA courses covering the National Incident Management System, the National Response Framework, the Incident Command System (ICS), and ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents. SWRPC staff also participates in periodic HSEM training sessions covering LEOP creation and update processes. For more information, please contact Rebeckah Bullock of Commission staff.

Peterborough NH 101/US 202 Corridor Study

SWRPC staff has begun a study of the intersection and surrounding area of the NH 101/US 202 corridor in Peterborough. The initiative involves an extensive analysis of data being collected including demographics, land use, environmental and historical assets, economic development, development constraints, traffic analysis, and more. On September 25th a project advisory committee held their first meeting at the Peterborough Town Office. For additional information, please contact Lisa Murphy of Commission staff.

New Hampshire Complete Streets Conference

On Friday, October 19, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. the NH Complete Streets Conference will be held at the NH Department of Environmental Services Auditorium located at 29 Hazen Drive in Concord, NH. The day-long program will include a wide variety of Complete Streets topics including age-friendliness, bike sharing, demonstration projects, economic development, engineering, safety education, technology, and more. The conference is free to attend and lunch is included. To learn more or to register, visit the New Hampshire Department of Transportation Bicycle and Pedestrian Program website: www.nh.gov/dot/programs/bikeped/news.htm.



Regional Transportation Improvement Program - Public Comment Period

The Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) documents regional projects and planning initiatives that advance the vision, goals and objectives of the SWRPC Long Range Transportation Plan, *Southwest Connects*. This document is updated every two years. At this time, the draft RTIP has been released for public review and comment before a final draft is presented to the SWRPC Transportation Advisory Committee and considered for ratification by the SWRPC Board of Directors. The document is available to view at SWRPC's office or online at www.swrpc.org/files/draft_rtip_2018.pdf. Instructions for providing input are included. The public comment period will close at 5:00 p.m. on November 16, 2018. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of Commission staff.

Southwest Region Planning Commission

37 Ashuelot Street Keene, NH 03431 603-357-0557 www.swrpc.org

