

SWRPC

Commission Highlights

June 2018

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2018 Annual Commission Meeting

On June 12th SWRPC held its 2018 Annual Meeting at Keene State College. The program focused on “Celebrating Monadnock” and Alan Rumrill, Executive Director of the Historical Society of Cheshire County was the guest presenter. The event also included the approval of the Commission’s work program budget and the election of directors and officers for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018. For more information, please contact Becky Baldwin of SWRPC staff.

Transportation Alternative Program Letters Due July 13th

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) is starting a new competitive selection round for pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure projects under the federally funded Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). New Hampshire's annual allocation for TAP is approximately \$3.2M (\$2.6M Federal). Two years of funding (\$5.2M) will be awarded in this round. The overall purpose of TAP is to foster non-motorized transportation infrastructure that is safe, in good physical condition, and accessible. **Interested applicants, including municipalities, are required to submit a letter of interest to the NHDOT by July 13, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.** Only applicants that submit a letter of interest will be eligible to submit an application for funding. Complete details on the submission requirements and process can be found on the Transportation Alternatives Program website: <https://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/planning/tap/index.htm>.

FCC Mobility Fund Phase II

Are there areas of your community that lack mobile voice and high-speed internet coverage? The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Mobility Fund Phase II will make up to \$4.53 billion available over 10 years to expand 4G Long Term Evolution service, primarily in rural areas. As part of this opportunity, the FCC established a Challenge Process to provide feedback on a map of eligible areas. Interested parties, including local governments have an opportunity to challenge an initial determination that an area is ineligible for support. This opportunity closes in late-November of this year. In New Hampshire, the Public Utilities Commission is assisting interested communities to coordinate their efforts to participate. In addition, SWRPC has created a dedicated webpage with information relevant to this process at www.swrpc.org/mf2. For more information, please contact Henry Underwood of Commission staff.

Brownfields Advisory Committee Activities

On June 26th, SWRPC’s Brownfields Advisory Committee (BrAC) met to learn about a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) conducted at the former Kingsbury Corporation site located in Keene. SWRPC’s environmental consultant recommended soil and groundwater testing as well as evaluation of hazardous building materials at the site. In addition, the BrAC accepted a scope of work to conduct Phase II ESA activities at the former W. W. Cross site located in Jaffrey on behalf of the Town. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of Commission staff.

Road Surface Management System Service

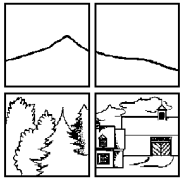
In most municipalities, road surfaces represent the largest single cost of maintaining and building a transportation system. Investing in roads when they are in good condition costs a fraction of rebuilding a road that has deteriorated to poor condition. Road surface management is the application of a pavement management analysis system, which includes conducting an inventory of pavement conditions, developing repair strategies and budgets to assist local governments in maintaining their paved roads. The purpose of a road surface management system is to ensure that objective and cost-effective decisions are being made regarding roadway maintenance. SWRPC is currently offering technical assistance to municipalities that are interested in road surface management. As part of the process, SWRPC collects data about road surface conditions and then works with the town highway department, public works department, and/or road agent to explore different maintenance, rehabilitation or repair scenarios for individual roads. Letters of interest are currently being accepted for this service. For more information, please contact Henry Underwood of Commission staff.

Lead Tackle Disposal Boxes Available

A statewide initiative has begun to collect lead fishing tackle in an effort to reduce lead poisoning deaths in loons. It is estimated that lead sinkers and lead-headed jigs are responsible for almost half of all known loon mortalities in New Hampshire. The intent is to place these collection boxes at local transfer stations or other appropriate locations in communities. The boxes are being offered by the Wings of Dawn a wildlife rehabilitation center located in the Town of Henniker at no charge, however, donations are accepted. For more information, please contact Wings of Dawn at (603) 428-3723 or Lisa Murphy of Commission staff.

Complete Streets Implementation

June 29th was the application deadline for the Monadnock Region Complete Streets Implementation Grant, an opportunity made possible by an anonymous donor through the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation “You Have our Trust” Fund to the Monadnock Alliance for Sustainable Transportation (MAST). Of the nine eligible communities with an adopted Complete Streets policy in the Monadnock Region, six communities submitted applications for improvements that take into account all users of the transportation facility: people driving, walking, biking, or utilizing transit. For more information about MAST, visit www.mastnh.org or contact Henry Underwood of Commission staff.



NH Statewide Aerial Imagery Needs Assessment

The NH GIS Technical Advisory Committee Task Force is developing a long-term plan for regular acquisition of statewide aerial imagery that will meet the needs of GIS data users throughout New Hampshire. If you make use of GIS data and aerial photography in New Hampshire, you are invited to participate in an important conversation about the future of statewide imagery collection. Sessions will be held at four locations throughout the State during July and August. In addition, the Task Force is accepting input from organizations, municipalities, and others by completing an online survey. For more information, please download the event flyer located at www.granit.unh.edu/ImageryNeedsAssessmentSurvey2018.pdf. For questions or further information, please contact NH GRANIT at granit@unh.edu.

