

SWRPC

Commission Highlights

June 2022

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SWRPC Annual Meeting

On June 14th, SWRPC held its 2022 Annual Meeting at the Keene Housing Stone Arch Senior Facility with both in-person and online attendees. As part of the featured topic: *Addressing the Housing Challenge*, SWRPC staff shared data and results of outreach activities that have been collected to-date from stakeholders in the region. Rob Dapice, Executive Director/CEO, New Hampshire Housing was the featured presenter. A video of the presentation can be found on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ug355LU1BQ8&t=1142s>. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of SWRPC staff at jbmack@swrpc.org.

Monadnock Community Power Roundtable

On June 7th, SWRPC and the Monadnock Sustainability Hub (MSH) hosted a Monadnock Community Power Roundtable at the Keene Public Library. Community Power, authorized by [NH RSA 53-E](#), enables towns, cities and counties to choose sources and providers of electricity on behalf of residents and businesses, work with utilities on local energy infrastructure upgrades and provide electricity supply rates and services to all customers participating in the program. The Roundtable recognized establishment of community power plans in Harrisville, Keene, Marlborough, Peterborough, Swanzey, Walpole, and Cheshire County, and provided an opportunity to share lessons learned with others considering Community Power. Over thirty people attended the event including stakeholders from Chesterfield, Dublin, Nelson, Jaffrey, and Westmoreland. SWRPC and MSH plan to hold additional events in the coming months. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of SWRPC staff at jbmack@swrpc.org.

NH 9 West Corridor Public Meeting

As part of the update to *Southwest Connects*, the Regional Transportation Plan for Southwest New Hampshire, SWRPC will host the first of eight public meetings over the coming months on **July 12, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.** Each meeting will focus on a corridor system featured in the Plan, with the first being the NH 9 West Corridor - a subregion comprising Chesterfield, Hinsdale and Keene. The Corridor's main feature is NH Route 9 from Keene to Brattleboro, VT, and also includes NH Route 63, NH Route 9A and NH Route 119. Other assets such as the Chesterfield Gorge Park and Ride lot and the Fort Hill Branch rail trail are considered part of the Corridor system. The meeting will be held on Zoom and interested parties may access the meeting through a link at www.swrpc.org/swconnects. At the meeting, SWRPC staff will present data and information about the Corridor to be followed by open discussion, ideas and feedback among attendees. In addition, interested parties can provide feedback through a survey and interactive map available at www.swrpc.org/swconnects. For more information, please contact Lisa Murphy at lmurphy@swrpc.org or Andrew Smeltz at asmeltz@swrpc.org.

Pavement Preservation Plan in the Town of New Ipswich

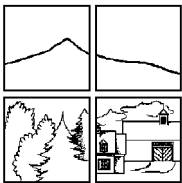
During June, SWRPC completed a Pavement Preservation Plan for the Town of New Ipswich utilizing Road Surface Management System (RSMS) guidance, protocols and forecasting software offered by the UNH Technology Transfer Center and NH Department of Transportation. RSMS is a data-driven approach to managing roads using recent road condition data and applying the principals of pavement preservation. Undertaking the RSMS process that helps towns extend pavement life at a cost savings systemwide. This project involved a field inventory of pavement conditions on all Town-maintained roads and an analysis that examined projected future road conditions and repair costs. Using this information, as well as input from local officials, SWRPC created a 10-year plan that will assist the Town in planning for future pavement maintenance. For more information, please visit www.swrpc.org/rsms or contact Andrew Smeltz of SWRPC staff at asmeltz@swrpc.org.

July Public Input Meetings on Transit in Southwest NH

SWRPC has scheduled three meetings in July to hear from you about potential changes to public transit in our region. Changes may include new or modified bus routes as well as new options like microtransit. Microtransit is public transportation that comes to you when requested by a mobile app or by calling the dispatcher. There are no routes or schedules and you can only travel within certain areas. The three meeting options are scheduled as follows:

- Peterborough – Wednesday, July 20th at 5:30 p.m. at the Peterborough Town Library at 2 Concord Street
- Keene – Thursday, July 21st at 2:30 p.m. at Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services at 312 Marlboro Street
- Online – Monday, July 25th at 6:00 p.m. – Zoom Virtual Meeting

Please register to attend any of these events either by e-mailing cathal@ridewithvia.com or visiting the website tinyurl.com/SouthwestNH.



Digital Literacy and Access Project Surveys Available Through August 7th

Through financial support from the Monadnock United Way, and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a group of local social service agencies led by the Keene Senior Center is undertaking a regional needs assessment focused on digital literacy and access. As consultant to the project, SWRPC is promoting two different tools to inventory both assets and gaps related to access and digital literacy – having access to and being able to use the Internet and modern technologies. To participate in the needs assessment, organizations serving older adults including social service agencies, libraries, healthcare providers, and community groups, are encouraged to respond to the *organizational questionnaire* online. Older adult residents of Southwest NH are also encouraged to respond to the *individual questionnaire*. To access both questionnaires, visit the project's webpage at www.swrpc.org/digital. For more information, please contact Henry Underwood of SWRPC staff at hunderwood@swrpc.org.

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