

**Transportation  
Advisory Committee**

**Transportation Advisory Committee**

**September 8, 2025  
2:00 p.m.**

Kendall Lane, Chair  
*Keene*

Frank Sterling, Vice Chair  
*Jaffrey*

Susan Ashworth  
*HCS Community Services*

Brian Barden  
*Dublin*

Michael Kowalczyk  
*Monadnock Region Rail  
Trails Collaborative*

Alfred "Gus" Lerandeau  
*Swanzey*

Don Lussier  
*Keene*

Leandra MacDonald  
*Peterborough*

Cheryl Mayberry  
*Walpole*

Karey Miner  
*Winchester*

Mary Day Mordecai  
*Harrisville*

Ed Smith  
*Hinsdale*

Ruth Ward  
*Stoddard*

*with*

Frank Linnenbringer  
*NHDOT District 4*

and

William Rose  
*NHDOT Bureau of  
Planning & Community  
Assistance*

**Southwest Region Planning Commission  
37 Ashuelot Street, Keene, NH**

**Agenda**

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Minutes of June 2, 2025
- III. Draft 2027-2036 Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan
- IV. Transportation Program Updates
- V. Other Matters
- VI. Next Meeting: November 3, 2025
- VII. Adjourn



## Southwest Region Planning Commission

### Transportation Advisory Committee

#### Draft Minutes

June 2, 2025

**Present:** Kendall Lane, Chair, *City of Keene*; Frank Sterling, Vice Chair, *Town of Jaffrey*; Brian Barden, *Town of Dublin*; Frank Linnenbringer, *NH Department of Transportation (DOT) District 4, ex-officio*; Don Lussier, *City of Keene*; Leandra MacDonald, *Town of Peterborough*; Cheryl Mayberry, *Town of Walpole*; Karey Miner, *Town of Winchester*; Mary Day Mordecai, *Town of Harrisville*; Lucy St. John, *NHDOT Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance, ex-officio*.

**Staff Members Present:** Todd Horner, *Executive Director*; J. B. Mack, *Assistant Director*; Jason Cooper, *Planner*.

**Guests:** Nick Alexander (remote), *NHDOT Office of Asset Management, Performance and Strategy*; Samantha Bevier (remote), *NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Air Resources Division*; Allan Gillis, *Community Volunteer Transportation Company*; Jack Wade (remote), *NHDES Air Resources Division*.

#### I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Lane called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

#### II. Minutes of April 7, 2025

**Motion: To approve the minutes of April 7, 2025, as presented.**

Motion by Karey Miner, seconded by Frank Sterling. Approved by unanimous vote.

#### III. Transportation Program Updates

Chair Lane asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the Transportation Program Updates memo. There were none.

Todd Horner made an announcement that the SWRPC Annual Meeting will happen on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Stonewall Farm in Keene and invited TAC members to attend. The meeting program will include an overview of SWRPC activities over the past fiscal year as well as a presentation on the first annual Monadnock Region Planner of the Year award.

Don Lussier made an announcement that on June 3<sup>rd</sup> the City of Keene will be holding its Keene Master Plan unveiling at the Keene Public Library.

#### **IV. Presentation: NHDOT Resilience Improvement Plan**

Nick Alexander gave a presentation (attached) on the 2025 NHDOT Resilience Improvement Plan (RIP) explaining that the RIP identifies locations on the state transportation system that are at risk for flooding and helps identify and then consider mitigation needs and opportunities for current and future transportation projects. He noted that the RIP included an asset criticality assessment which accounted for an asset's usage and operational importance, socioeconomic importance and health and safety importance using available data like functional classification, population density, and proximity to hospitals. The RIP also included a vulnerability assessment which looked at asset exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity such as proximity to flooding hazards, whether damage or closure is likely and alternate routes that are available if the asset were closed. Finally, it included a risk assessment which determined risk by factoring in vulnerability scores, the probability of a flooding event and the anticipated consequence in dollars if the asset needed to be rehabilitated or replaced. As part of the presentation Nick Alexander shared some online maps showing criticality, vulnerability and risk assessment maps.

Leandra MacDonald asked if links to the RIP and maps could be sent. J. B. Mack said he would send links after the meeting.

Leandra MacDonald asked what states are supposed to do with the seeming shifting landscape where the federal government may be reducing or stopping FEMA programming and states can't rely on federal dollars through disaster declarations anymore. Don Lussier mentioned that public works mutual aid can provide some manpower relief and access to equipment, but can't provide dollars to rebuild infrastructure.

#### **V. Presentation: SWRPC Vulnerability Assessment**

Jason Cooper gave a presentation (attached) on SWRPC's Vulnerability Assessment project which is wrapping up this June. He explained that the objectives of the project include better understanding the risks facing stream crossing infrastructure in the Monadnock Region, identifying areas in the transportation network that are particularly vulnerable to extreme precipitation events, assisting municipalities with project prioritization and pursuing funding and raising public awareness of the risks associated with extreme weather to our transportation system. There are many climate related threats to our transportation infrastructure, but SWRPC's project focused on flooding specifically and its impact on 2,662 public owned culverts and bridges crossing water features.

Jason Cooper provided an overview of the Vulnerability Asset Management Tool (VAST), a Federal Highway Administration tool that was used to conduct the assessment including the methodology used by SWRPC. It involved finding data variables that could be used to describe asset sensitivity, exposure and adaptive capacity and assigning a weight to each of those criteria. Jason showed slides of example assets and their scores. He ended the presentation by explaining that SWRPC plans to share data with Towns and other stakeholders to help them with capital improvement planning. He also explained that the data can be used to evaluate Ten Year Plan nominations and assist with local hazard mitigation planning.

Frank Sterling expressed interest in having access to the vulnerability score data for the Town of Jaffrey and suggested other towns would benefit from the analysis. Frank Linnenbringer stated he would be interested in asset data for assets maintained by NHDOT District IV.

#### **VI. Other Matters**

Lucy St. John made a number of announcements. She announced that NHDOT is currently seeking comment on its historic resource review process for transportation projects. She noted that a draft Section 106 PA is available for review on the NHDOT cultural resources website and is open through June 18<sup>th</sup>.

She told TAC members to contact her if they need help accessing the document. Lucy also announced that NHDOT will begin day work on NH 124 at Perkins Pond at the Troy/Jaffrey town line on June 4th. This work consists of installing steel plates over the culverts that run under NH 124 at Perkins Pond and the work is expected to last two days. Frank Linnenbringer added that the project is an emergency measure to maintain the area through the year before the same area is improved next year. Finally, Lucy St. John announced that NHDOT is putting together a draft version of the 2027-2036 Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TYP) and expect to publish the draft later in the summer. The Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation public hearings will be held in the fall to collect public feedback on the TYP.

**VII. Next Meeting: September 8, 2025**

J. B. Mack said that he plans to give the TAC the summer off and asked if the TAC had a preference to meet the Monday before or after Labor Day. The TAC agreed to meet on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

**VIII. Adjourn**

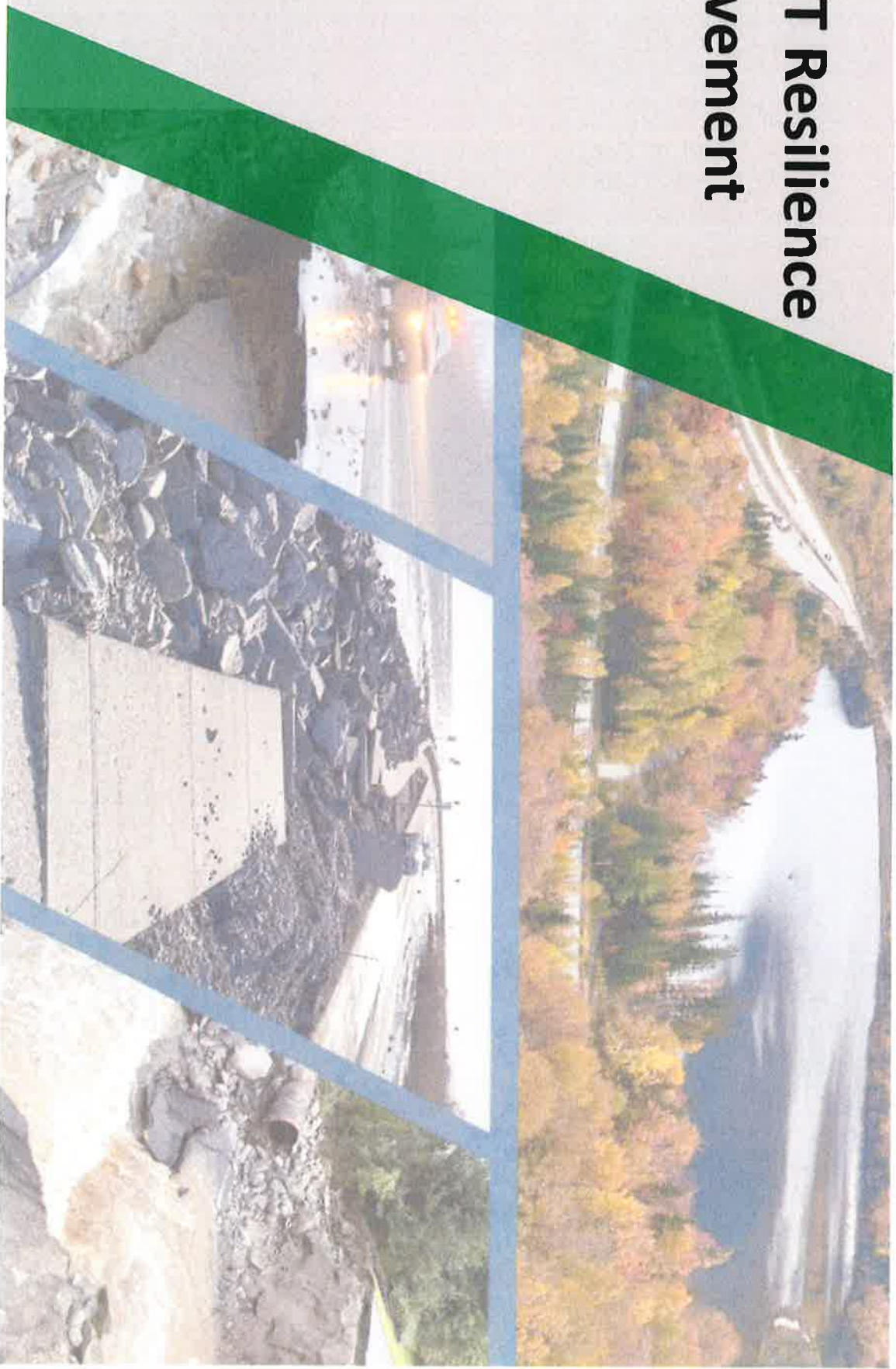
The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. Mack  
Assistant Director

# NHDOT Resilience Improvement Plan

June 2025



## What & Why

- Plan that identifies locations on the state transportation system that are at-risk for flooding
- Help identify locations to consider mitigation in current and future projects
- Included in federal transportation bill (IIJA)
  - Optional plan, not required
  - Provides match reduction for PROTECT funds

# Criticality Assessment

- Usage & Operational Importance
  - Functional classification, traffic volumes
- Socioeconomic Importance
  - Population & employment density, community resilience
- Health & Safety Importance
  - Power plants, dams, shelters, first responders, hospitals, DOT facilities, evacuation

# Vulnerability Assessment

- **Exposure**
  - Proximity of the asset to flooding hazards
  - SADES stream crossing, FEMA maps, Aqueduct data, Floodplain
- **Sensitivity**
  - Is damage or closure likely?
- **Adaptive Capacity**
  - Alternative routes of similar capacity

# Risk Assessment

- Risk is a summary calculation of
  - Vulnerability score
  - Probability of a flooding event
  - Consequence in \$ if the event happens

# Project List

- List will be updated at least with each 10-Year Plan
- Projects must be located at vulnerable or at-risk areas
- Benefits of inclusion:
  - 7% match reduction for PROTECT funds (10% in future)
  - Simplifies sections of PROTECT discretionary application
  - Potential benefit for PROTECT discretionary selection

# Links

- NHDOT RIP  
<https://www.dot.nh.gov/about-nh-dot/divisions-bureaus-districts/asset-management>

- Mapping

\*Please note these links are subject to change. They will be kept up-to-date in the RIP published at the link above.

- Criticality & Vulnerability  
<https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=daf520d17972404bae30b2aef1aef52>
- Risk Assessment  
<https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=c9fc856ff4ac4045942aece77d08460a>

# Monadnock Region Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessment

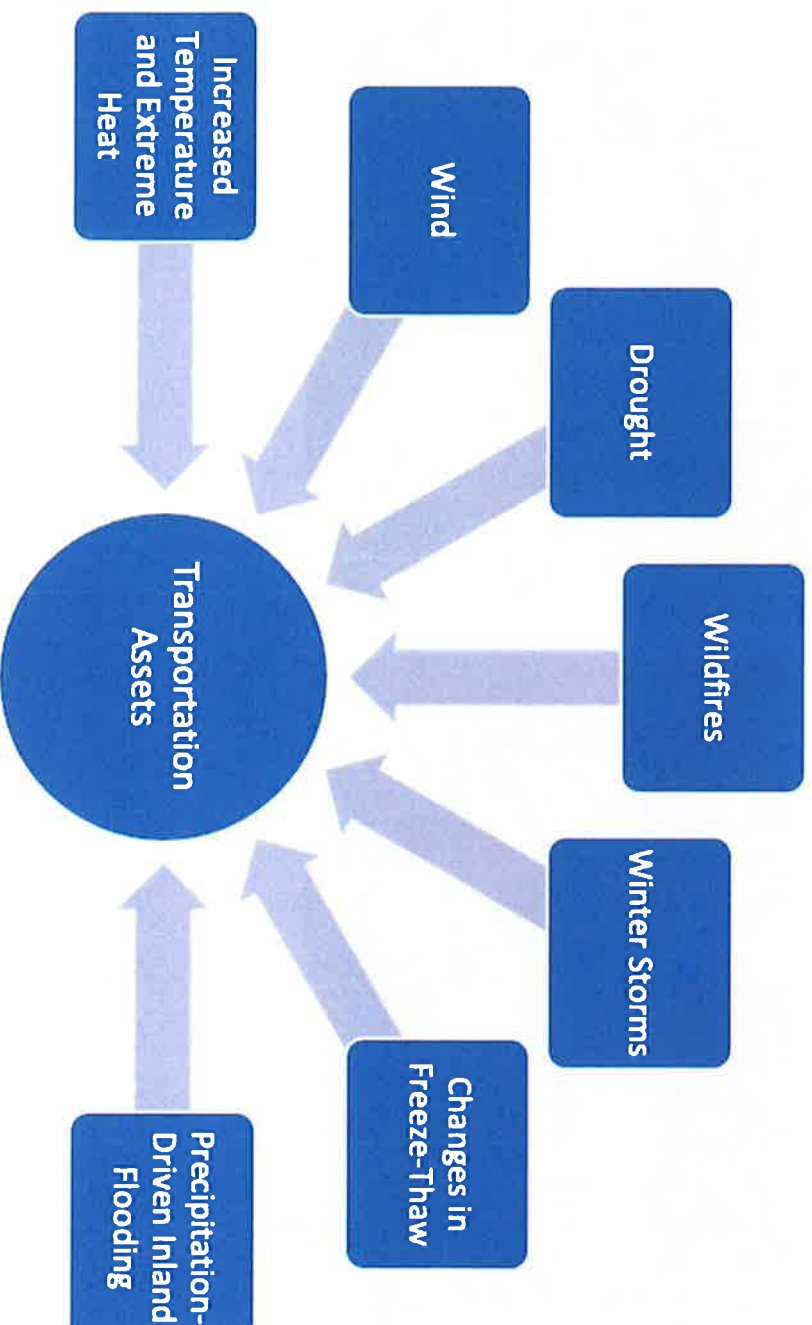
SWRPC Transportation Advisory  
Committee  
June 2, 2025



9/7/2025

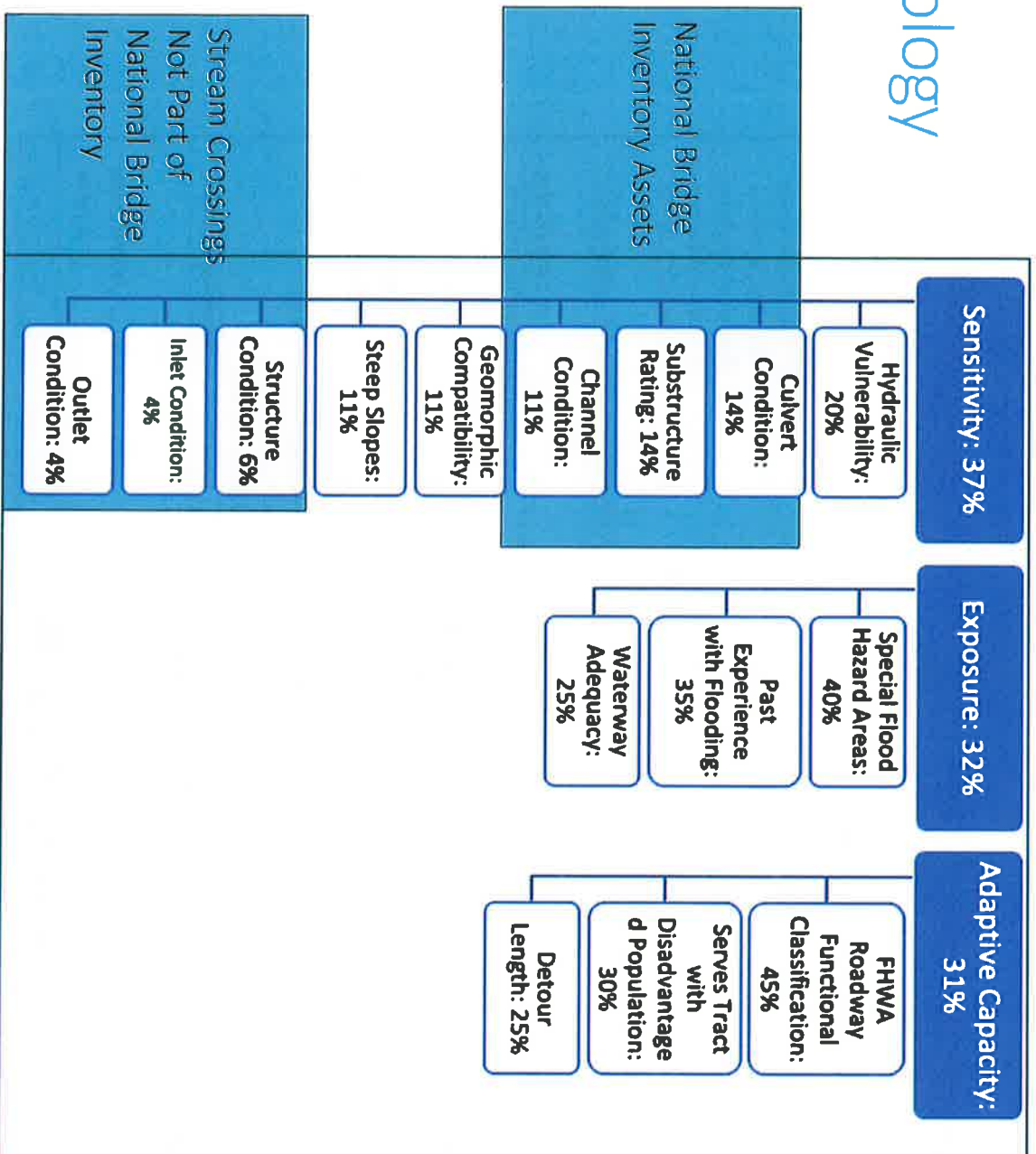
Langdon,  
2025 MRP

# Threats to the Transportation Network





# Methodology



→ Vulnerability

# Example Score

ADAPTIVE CAPACITY				
	Value	Score	Weight	Actual Weight (adjusted for no data)
Detour Length	9	4	25%	25%
FHWA Roadway Functional Classification	3	4	45%	45%
Serves Tract with Disadvantaged Population	79,5389049	4	30%	30%
	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a
	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a
	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a
	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a
	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a
	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a
	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a
	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a
<b>Adaptive Capacity Score</b>		<b>4.0</b>		





## Agenda Item III

**Date: September 8, 2025**  
**To: Transportation Advisory Committee**  
**From: Staff**

**RE: Draft 2027-2036 Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan**

### **Background**

Based on a variety of factors including higher than anticipated inflation projections, higher projections for indirect cost rates, New Hampshire Department of Transportation's (NHDOT) experience having several lagging projects from the 2025-2034 Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TYP) that need to be extended in the 2027-2036 TYP, and other factors, the slate of projects that NHDOT would typically schedule into the 2027-2036 TYP would make the TYP overprogrammed by approximately \$400 million in what is required to be a fiscally constrained plan. As a result, NHDOT is recommending suspending the addition of any new projects, delaying construction altogether for 15 projects in the existing 2025-2034 TYP, and removing 34 projects altogether that are currently listed in the existing 2025-2034 TYP. More information about NHDOT's proposal is available at <https://www.dot.nh.gov/projects-plans-and-programs/ten-year-plan>.

At the September 8th meeting, the TAC will hear from NHDOT about the proposed draft TYP and staff will provide information about some of the impacts affecting Southwest NH. Following this discussion, staff will facilitate a discussion with TAC to make plans on how to approach upcoming Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation hearings for the 2027-2036 TYP later this fall.

### **Recommendation**

For your information.



## Agenda Item IV

**Date: September 8, 2025**  
**To: Transportation Advisory Committee**  
**From: Staff**

**RE: Transportation Program Updates**

### Background

Several transportation-related items of interest are summarized below. These items can be discussed further at the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- a. **“Next Generation” Transit Project:** SWRPC began the last phase of the “Next Generation” Transit Project in July this year. The end goal is to select a new transit sponsor and provide technical support to the sponsor to conduct preparations for launching the service in July 2027. The proposed service will replace the existing HCS operated fixed route bus service in Keene with an on-demand microtransit service with an expanded coverage area including the urbanized areas of Keene, Marlborough and Swanzey. In addition, a critical access medical transportation service will be established to fulfill unmet need regionwide. Key to establishing expanded transit services is the transition of transit operations and capital assets from HCS to the new sponsor. Securing sufficient local match funding to meet federal funding sources is another key factor that will contribute to the successful startup of the service. Continued outreach to municipalities and local institutions to contribute to the system is another essential implementation task. SWRPC is currently preparing to release an RFP for a transit consultant to provide additional technical support for the project.
- b. **SWRPC On Call Engineering Services Program:** SWRPC was recently granted approval from the NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT) to release a Request for Qualifications solicitation for on-call transportation engineering services. Services will be available to member municipalities and other qualified applicants for engineering services to consult on transportation projects. Most of the on-call engineering work is anticipated to support engineering firms conducting site visits and stakeholder meetings to understand specific local or regional transportation needs and then developing conceptual plans and cost estimates to address those needs. SWRPC anticipates using the engineering services for the NH Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan nomination process, for federal discretionary grant programs like the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program and other transportation related funding opportunities.
- c. **Title VI Program Updates:** As a subrecipient of federal funding for its transportation programming through NHDOT, SWRPC is required by USDOT to maintain a Title VI plan for the agency. A Title VI plan refers to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, and national origin in programs receiving federal funding. SWRPC’s current Title VI plan, completed in 2023, is focused on the organization’s involvement with the Monadnock Regional Council for Community Transportation (MRCC).

This summer, SWRPC staff worked to develop a Title VI assessment document and a Title VI goals document as required by NHDOT. These documents were intended for the organization to assess the effectiveness of its Title VI programming and to identify goals to more effectively serve the Region in an equitable manner. SWRPC is additionally currently working on an update to its Title VI plan which will expand its scope from the MRCC to the organization's transportation programs at large.

- d. **Antrim Culvert Inventory and Assessment Project:** Starting in July, SWRPC began a culvert inventory and assessment project for the Town of Antrim. The project will contribute to a broader effort by the town in developing a comprehensive asset management program, building off of inventory and assessment work SWRPC conducted last year examining road pavement conditions and sidewalk conditions. Supported by a summer intern team, SWRPC has inventoried and assessed approximately 1,200 closed culvert and drainage system assets (ie. structures that channel stormwater and surface runoff under roads and other barriers) as well as 68 stream crossings (ie. culverts or bridges that carry streams, brooks and rivers under roadways). At this stage of the project, the data attributes entered by the field team are undergoing a quality assurance program that includes screening by SWRPC and NH Department of Environmental Services staff. After the quality assurance process, SWRPC will develop a series of deliverables that the town can use to understand the location and condition of its assets as well as prioritize assets that need repair or replacement.
- e. **New Ipswich Master Plan Transportation Chapter:** SWRPC recently completed a draft Transportation and Thoroughfare Analysis chapter of the Town of New Ipswich Master Plan and shared the update with the Town. The chapter includes an analysis of commuting patterns, traffic volumes, and community transportation needs, along with mapping of transportation infrastructure, crash locations and safety concerns, and recent or potential improvements. The chapter also inventories local roads and bridges, reviews multimodal opportunities, and outlines goals and actions for road maintenance, safety, and access management. The New Ipswich Master Plan Steering Committee will review the draft chapter in September, and the entire Master Plan update is projected to be complete by the end of the year.
- f. **Timber for Transit Project:** As reported to the TAC earlier this year, SWRPC was awarded funding from the Northern Border Regional Commission to manage a Timber for Transit Program. The Program will fund feasibility studies and preliminary engineering for timber-based transportation infrastructure projects in Cheshire County. SWRPC has received two nominations of transportation-related projects so far including nominations from Alstead and Keene. SWRPC is still accepting nominations on a rolling basis. In addition to helping towns with timber bridges, potential projects could include bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure, trail kiosks, carpools, and more. The project nomination form can be found on SWRPC's website at <https://www.swrpc.org/featured-projects/timber-for-transit/>. For more information, please contact Chloe Gross at [cgross@swrpc.org](mailto:cgross@swrpc.org).
- g. **Monadnock Regional Coordinating Council for Community Transportation (MRCC):** The MRCC took a hiatus from meeting during the summer and reconvened in August. At that meeting, two items were approved including SWRPC's annual mobility management work plan and a mobility management budget revision request. The MRCC also decided to form a fund development subcommittee which will be an item on its September meeting agenda. It was recommended that the subcommittee consider integrating its efforts with "Next Generation" Transit Project fund development activities. In other news, the current mobility

manager, Terry Johnson, is retiring from SWRPC in September. SWRPC began its search for a new mobility manager in August.

- h. **Monadnock Alliance for Sustainable Transportation (MAST)**: On June 13th MAST and Cheshire Medical Center announced the 2025 round of the MAST Complete Streets Implementation Grant which will award up to \$130,000 in funds towards infrastructure-related project proposals as well as non-infrastructure purposes such as planning, preliminary engineering, community education, “pop-up” or temporary projects, demonstration events, and encouragement activities. Applications are due September 15, 2025.

In addition to the above, SWRPC staff and TAC members may suggest other transportation-related updates during the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Recommendation**

For your information.