

# 2018 Francestown Report

## By Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission (SNHPC) has a wide range of services and resources available to help member communities deal with a variety of municipal issues. Technical assistance is provided by a professional staff whose expertise is, when necessary, supplemented by consultants selected for their specialized skills or services. Each year, with the approval of appointed representatives, the Commission's staff designs and carries out programs of regional significance mandated by New Hampshire and federal laws or regulations, as well as local projects which pertain more exclusively



to a specific community.

Technical assistance is provided in a professional and timely manner by staff at the request of the Town Administrator, Town Departments, Land Use Boards, and/or Board of Selectmen. The Commission conducts planning studies and carries out projects of common interest and benefit to all member communities; keeps officials apprised of changes in

planning and land use regulation; and in conjunction with the New Hampshire Municipal Association, offers annual training workshops for Planning Board and Zoning Board members.

In the past year, it has been the Commission's pleasure to assist the Town of Francestown with conducting traffic counts at seventeen sites in town, including creating three new counting sites: Stevens Road West of 2<sup>nd</sup> NH Turnpike, Birdsall Road East of NH 136, and Bible Hill Extension North of Bible Hill Road. The Commission also assisted the Town in identifying fatal and incapacitating crash locations.

The following outlined table details services performed for the Town of Francestown during the past year, and includes both hours worked specifically for the Town and for projects involving multiple municipalities. In the latter case, the total hours spent by SNHPC staff are divided equally by the number of communities, resulting in time allotment attributed to each of the communities. Examples of a regional project are the development of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) Ten- Year Transportation Improvement Plan and the organization of a legislative event for NH Legislators and local officials in the SNHPC region.

No.	Hours	Project Description
1	55.89	Performed traffic counts at 17 sites in town;
2	27.4	Conducted research and attended meetings on up-and-coming transportation technology, such as Electric Vehicle charging stations and autonomous vehicles. Conducted public outreach in the region, especially regarding transit availability and the need for coordinating trail systems;
3	23.3	Began updating the SNHPC Long Range Transportation Plan;
4	23	Becoming Age Friendly Pilot Program Phase II: SNHPC invited communities and businesses to create pilot programs in which the Commission worked with the Pilot Community/Business to could tackle various community identified issues related to the one of the elements within the Age-Friendly assessment (transportation, housing, recreation, or economic development).
5	22.7	Vulnerability Assessment Program: As part of SNHPC's work program, staff is providing assistance to municipalities through documentation of transportation network vulnerability. This work identifies climate related risk to culverts and small bridges. In 2018 staff engaged local Road Agents and Engineering Departments to identify the risk factors. Data from SNHPC meetings with local managers was catalogued based on potential future actions and past incidents to be utilized for prioritizing risk among all documented assets. A vulnerability assessment will be provided to each municipality in the SNHPC region in 2019.
6	21.6	Continued updating the regional travel demand model, which is used to forecast traffic volumes on roads in throughout the region;
7	14.1	Statewide Assistance – Initiated and managed a Statewide Scenic Byway Marketing committee and its efforts to plan a statewide forum;
8	13.7	Continued work with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Region-wide Assessment Grant for environmental studies and investigations to help move contaminated sites to clean up, redevelopment and reuse;
9	12.6	Coordinated the establishment of regional transportation performance measures through Partnering for Performance NH (PFPNH) workgroup;
10	12.5	Continued to update the 2012 Regional Trails (RT) Plan, including collaboration with Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) staff and outreach to local trail groups. Planned and staffed RTCC meetings in March, June, and November.
11	10.5	Participated in NH Complete Streets Conference Subcommittee, organizing and carrying out a statewide conference attended by 150 individuals on October 19, 2018
13	7.5	Coordinated with regional municipalities and the NHDOT to develop the 2019-2028 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan;
14	7	Bicycle/pedestrian counting program; completed ten counts in seven communities, analyzing and sharing data with interested stakeholders. Planned 2019 counting season, which included researching new and proposed count locations as well as purchasing a second infrared counter for additional capability and responsiveness;
15	5.9	The FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program was developed and approved updated;
16	5.6	Coordinated with regional partners and the NHDOT on NH Rail Transit Authority Advisory and Governance Boards projects;
17	5.2	Provided monthly information to the Planning Board regarding upcoming meetings, project and grant updates, webinars and other training opportunities through the planning commission's quarterly Newsletters, monthly Media Blasts and periodic E-Bulletins;

18	4	Identified and mapped fatal and incapacitating crash locations in Francestown to support the development of Road Safety Audit (RSA) and Highway Safety Improvement Program (HISP) funding applications to the NHDOT;
19	3.8	Provided staff assistance to Statewide Coordinating Council for Community Transportation (SCC);
	3.75	Provided mapping assistance; updated road inventory base maps for the town;
20	2.5	Conducted research and attended meetings on bicycle/pedestrian events and technology, worked with Bike Manchester in coordinating children's bicycling events, conducted bike/ped outreach throughout the region and stayed up to date on bike/ped initiatives taking place in New Hampshire and New England;
21	2	Identified possible signal warrant study locations in Francestown;
22	1.2	Participated in discussions with the Nashua MPO to cooperatively develop and adjust Transportation Management Area (TMA)-related plans, programs, and schedules to ensure consistency;
23	1	Organized and facilitated the 2018 Legislative Event "Creating a Healthy Response to NH's Substance Abuse Crisis" for NH Legislators and local officials in the SNHPC region.

Town of Francestown Representatives to the Commission

Linda Kunhardt  
 Prescott "Guy" Tolman  
 Rebecca Harris, Alternate  
 Jennifer Vadney, Alternate

**Executive Committee Member:** Prescott "Guy" Tolman

