

## 2018 City of Manchester 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 Mayor, City Departments, Land Use Boards, and/or Board of Aldermen. 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 City of Manchester with conducting traffic counts as well as turning movement data; identifying fatal and incapacitating crash locations; providing pedestrian counts on trails and sidewalks; securing Ten-Year Plan funding for operational improvements at I-293 Exit 1; providing support for City interest groups such as Manchester Connects and the NHIA Downtown Cultural District; assisting with grant applications; updating the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS); overseeing Brownfields Region-Wide Assessment Grant funds to investigate and identify contaminated sites in the downtown area; and providing assistance with the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The following outlined table details services performed for the City of Manchester during the past year, and includes both hours worked specifically for the City 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	444	Performed traffic counts at 134 sites in the City;
2	144	Manchester Connects – Continued working with Community staff and stakeholders on a multi-modal conceptual plan for the Millyard Central Business District Area. With guidance from SNHPC, Manchester Connects' organizing committee established a framework for a Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Committee to act on the findings from the Manchester Connects Report and Action Kits;
3	142.75	Completed and secured approval for the updated Manchester Hazard Mitigation Plan. Organized and led community leaders in updating the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan, and made revisions as required by NH Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management;
4	128.6	Led Bike Manchester's efforts to increase its presence in the city and beyond, especially by staffing children's bicycling events, coordinating bike-to-work week event downtown in May, and staying up to date on other initiatives taking place in New Hampshire, New England, and throughout the region;
5	77.25	Provided planning, mapping and other technical support for to the Manchester Transit Authority (MTA) and assisted the MTA in updating its Short Range Transit Plan;
6	61.25	Assisted the City of Manchester with research and further development of its Zagster Bike Share program, including monitoring, mapping, and analyzing user data, meeting with stakeholders for potential new locations, and reporting back to the Bike Manchester group with updates.
7	60	Conducted a bicycle/pedestrian count study at 4 locations in Manchester in 2018 as part of the Bicycle/pedestrian counting program; analyzed and shared 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;
8	56.75	Leveraging grant funds awarded by Eastern Bank, SNHPC has worked with substance-abuse collaborative professionals, planners, police, and fire chiefs to learn more about long-term recovery needs for people battling substance use disorder. and SNHPC hosted a legislative outreach roundtable to promote regulatory solutions like zoning provisions for sober housing and improved non-vehicular transportation options between care facilities;
9	44	Identified and created maps identifying fatal and incapacitating crash locations in Manchester to support the development of Road Safety Audit (RSA) and Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding applications to the NHDOT;
10	32	Continued updates to CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) - a regional strategy which reflects local economic development needs and priorities and recommends a regional approach to achieving sustainable economic development;
11	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;
12	23.3	Began updating the SNHPC Long Range Transportation Plan;
13	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).

14	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.
15	21.6	Continued updating the regional travel demand model, which is used to forecast traffic volumes on roads in throughout the region;
16	20	Reviewed Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) applications for eligibility and completeness, organized & facilitated a meeting of the SNHPC TAP Evaluation Subcommittee to score applications, and facilitated the establishment of regional TAP project priorities with the SNHPC Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).
17	16.4	Represented the interests of the City on the Region 8 Regional Coordination Council for the Statewide Coordination of Community Transportation Services Project, and administered Federal funding for MTA's Shopper Shuttle, Easter Seals Demand Response, and Caregivers Volunteer Driver Services in the City of Manchester;
18	14.1	Statewide Assistance – Initiated and managed a Statewide Scenic Byway Marketing committee and its efforts to plan 2017 and 2018 forums;
19	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;
20	12.6	Coordinated the establishment of regional transportation performance measures through Partnering for Performance NH (PFPNH) workgroup;
23	12.6	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4): Staffed the Nashua/Manchester StormWater Coalition meetings and participated in regional planning commission coordination of MS4 Efforts;
21	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.
22	10.5	Participated in NH Complete Streets Conference Subcommittee, organizing and carrying out a statewide conference attended by 150 individuals on October 19, 2018;
24	8	Finished conducting a trip generation study at True Value in Manchester;
25	7.5	Coordinated with regional municipalities and the NHDOT to develop the 2019-2028 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan;
26	5.9	The FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program was developed and approved;
27	5.6	Coordinated with regional partners and the NHDOT on NH Rail Transit Authority Advisory and Governance Boards projects;
28	5.5	Participated in the Manchester Cultural Coalition meetings;
29	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;
30	4.75	Public Involvement Plan; Updated the Title IV and Environmental Justice Program;
31	3.8	Provided staff assistance to Statewide Coordinating Council for Community Transportation (SCC);
32	2	Identified possible signal warrant study locations in Manchester;

33	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;
34	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.

City of Manchester Representatives to the Commission

Daniel P. O'Neil  
Peter D. Capano  
Raymond P. Clement  
Elias "Skip" Ashooh  
Kevin McCue, Alternate

**Executive Committee Member:** Elias (Skip) Ashooh

