Town of Deerfield Review of Recent Planning Services by Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission (SNHPC) has provided the Town of Deerfield with a wide range of services and resources to help the town address its planning and transportation needs.

The SNHPC staff appreciate working with town staff in planning, building, fire, police, recreation, and administrative departments. The SNHPC also thanks the volunteers on the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, and Conservation Commission. Finally, SNHPC staff appreciate the dedication of Town Commissioners including Frederick McGarry, presently serving on the Executive Committee, and Erroll Rhodes.

Despite nationwide inflation and cost increases across the vast spectrum of goods and services, the SNHPC has kept its municipal membership dues rate flat at \$0.676 per capita for the past four years by leveraging federal and other funding sources to benefit SNHPC member communities.

Highlights of the SNHPC's recent services to the Town of Deerfield included:

- Assisting the Planning Board and Planning Office with subdivision and site plan reviews, and zoning ordinance, site plan and subdivision regulation review.
- Securing funding totaling \$3.029 Million in the NHDOT's FY 2025-2034 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan for intersection improvements at NH Route 107, Church Street, and Candia Road.
- Conducting traffic counts within the Town of Deerfield to monitor townwide traffic volume patterns and changes.
- Assisting the Deerfield Planning Board with securing a \$25,000 grant through the state's Housing Opportunity Planning (HOP) grant program and updating housing portions of the Town's Master Plan.
- Providing mobility management services to connect Deerfield residents to free and affordable transportation options, with a particular focus on supporting members of traditionally underserved communities such as older adults and people with disabilities.
- Completing a comprehensive update of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment to analyze historical trends, project future needs, and identify strategies to meet the region's housing needs.
- Launching implementation of a \$500K U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment grant, which will assess sites to provide new opportunities for cleanup and economic development.
- Working with Town staff and stakeholders to complete a grant-funded "Pathways to Play" project to enhance recreation access in SNHPC communities, including fielding a regional survey to assess recreation needs and opportunities, and developing an interactive map of recreation facilities.
- Coordinating regional climate action planning efforts, developing a climate action toolkit focused on roadway adaptations, and supporting federally-funded climate action planning efforts.
- Updating the SNHPC Complete Streets Toolkit to include guidance on the most recent best practices and projects from New Hampshire and beyond.

<u>Town of Deerfield Representatives to the Commission</u> Frederick McGarry (SNHPC Executive Committee) & Erroll Rhodes