



2021 Town of Bedford Report by Southern NH Planning Commission

The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission (SNHPC) provides a wide range of services and resources to help member communities with a variety of land use planning and transportation challenges. Each year, with the approval of appointed representatives, the Commission's skilled staff designs and carries out programs of regional significance mandated by New Hampshire and federal laws or regulations. The Commission also works with Community staff, land use board volunteers, and governing boards on a variety of local projects.

Often, community stakeholders request assistance from SNHPC for traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle counts, grant assistance, specific studies, mapping, and facilitation services. Technical assistance is provided in a professional and timely manner as SNHPC carries out projects of common interest and benefit to all member communities; keeps officials apprised of changes in planning and land use regulations; and in conjunction with the New Hampshire Municipal Association, offers annual land use training workshops.

In 2021, the Commission provided the Town of Bedford with assistance on a number of local planning efforts including:

- Working to secure an additional \$3,105,000 of Federal funds to support the widening of U.S. Route 3 from Hawthorne Drive to Raymond Wiczorek Drive (Manchester Airport Access Road).
- Updating the Bedford Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Conducting traffic counts, collecting speed data, and providing pedestrian counts
- Performing stream crossing assessments

The following table details services performed for the Town of Bedford 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 community. Examples of regional projects are the development of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan and a regional Congestion Management Plan update.

Hours	Description
173.5	Updated the Bedford Hazard Mitigation Plan to reduce loss of life and property by minimizing the impact of disasters. This updated plan also keeps Bedford eligible for FEMA funding in the event of a disaster.
143.5	Conducted traffic counts at 31 sites in town including NH 114 north of JCT NH 101 (approximately 24,000 Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)) and Wallace Rd. at Merrimack town line (approximately 3,000 AADT).
35	Worked with NHDES Geological Survey to conduct assessments of existing town culverts and small bridges to determine overall condition and storm capacity.

Hours	Description
32	Participated in state and regional transportation councils to better coordinate transportation options locally, regionally, and statewide. Tasks included scoping and developing budgets for transit-related projects and coordinating with stakeholders to develop a regional Mobility Manager position. Anticipated to be filled in 2022, this position will help ensure Greater Manchester residents get accurate information and are able to book convenient demand-responsive transportation options.
27	Reviewed Bedford's existing components for the regional Intelligent Transportation System Architecture for a required update. Verified architecture for compliance for federal funding (ongoing).
24.5	SNHPC assisted in facilitating the NH Dept. of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding round #4. TAP facilitation included application review and formation of an ad-hoc scoring committee meetings.
21	Developed a framework for a regional freight bottleneck analysis along NHDOT priority routes with associated strategies and compiled a Freight Bottlenecks Report.
18	Completed necessary reviews of Bedford's portfolio of planned and funded projects for the federal and state required Transportation Improvement Plan. Process included presentations and reviews by staff and the TAC and MPO Policy Committees. Provided ongoing updates and revisions to maintain project status funding and scheduling.
16	Hosted CommuteSmart NH challenge to encourage multi-modal trips (transit, carpooling, bicycle, etc.) to help residents save money, reduce wear and tear on their vehicle, help relieve congested roads, and live a healthier, less stressful lifestyle.
13.5	Updated the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and regional Travel Demand Model. The regional Travel Demand Model is used to understand existing and projected future year (2045) trips by private automobiles throughout the region for transportation project planning.
10	Conducted a pedestrian/ bicyclist count on the Bedford Heritage Trail at Moore's Crossing.
8.25	Began working on a Regional Housing Needs Assessment in collaboration with other Regional Planning Commissions (ongoing through 2022).
8	Hosted a free virtual workshop: "How-to-Do an ADU" with support from AARP. The workshop addressed zoning allowances, design/ construction challenges, local examples, tips for becoming a landlord and a review of recent legislation introduced to address aging in place and housing shortages.
7	Coordinated a comprehensive update to SNHPC's Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). In partnership with NHDOT, solicited, evaluated, and prioritized project proposals for the TIP update. As part of this process, secured an additional \$3,105,000 of Federal funds to support the widening of U.S. Route 3 from Hawthorne Drive to Raymond Wiczorek Drive (Manchester Airport Access Road).
6	Developed a regional Rail Trail Passport program in celebration of Bike to Work Month. Worked with community representatives to provide outreach and education on local trails throughout the region.

Town of Bedford Representatives to the Commission

William Duschatko
Charlie Fairman
Bill Jean
Bryan Lord, Alternate
Barbara Salvatore, Alternate

Executive Committee Member: William Duschatko

