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June 1, 2020

Southern NH Planning Commission



Media Blast

Transitioning To A New Normal

Our vocabularies, our morning rituals, our gatherings, our shopping; most facets of life have changed in ways I couldn't have imagined just a few months ago. I use phrases like "new normal" and "self-quarantine". I make sure I have a spare mask in the car, I hunt down hand sanitizer like a dog on a bone. And most days my commute is to my dining room table. Still, some rituals do continue and for SNHPC that's our traffic counting program. We've created "teams" for both placing the tubes and pulling the tubes, all in masks and keeping as far apart as the activity allows.

Also, our new normal is staggering shifts at the SNHPC office, so that staff work a couple of days in the office and a few days at home. By staggering our time, we ensure only 2-5 staff at any given time are in the office. Many of the meetings we run on Zoom, such as TAC, MPO, and Executive Committee are all from our conference room, but other meetings are Zoomed in from our homes.

We are still providing assistance to our communities: making maps, reviewing subdivision applications, providing grant assistance, representing community interests in state transportation programs, working with partner agencies on understanding the impacts of COVID-19 and more. Please know we are here and ready to work with you.

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Southern NH Planning Commission
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2020 Census Response Challenge

SNHPC

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Mission Statement

As part of
Southern New
Hampshire Planning
Commission's
(SNHPC's) efforts
to improve
communication and
awareness among its
region's municipalities,
we have developed this
monthly email update to
keep constituents better
informed of events in
the area. Awareness of
these upcoming events
will provide recipients
with new opportunities
to learn about and get
involved with the region.

Census 2020 Response Rates				
	2020 (rank)		2010 (rank)	
Bedford	79.2%	1	79.7%	1
Auburn	77.4%	2	75.2%	3
Candia	76.0%	3	75.8%	2
Hooksett	75.6%	4	74.1%	5
New Boston	75.1%	5	73.4%	6
Chester	74.4%	6	70.8%	9
Goffstown	74.1%	7	67.8%	12
Windham	73.5%	8	71.2%	8
Londonderry	71.6%	9	74.7%	4
Weare	68.7%	10	67.7%	13
Derry	66.5%	11	68.4%	10
Deerfield	65.3%	12	68.1%	11
Francestown	63.6%	13	71.4%	7
Manchester	62.7%	14	66.2%	14
*as of 5/25/20				
BOLD indicates higher response rates in 2020 than 2010				

The challenge is on! Since the Census has been available to the public, five SNHPC communities (Bedford, Auburn, Candia, Hooksett, New Boston) have response rates above 3/4. Leading the charge is Bedford with a 79.2% rate. Eight towns already have higher response rates than in 2010! Can the others catch up? Can all 14 communities equal or best their response rates from a decade ago?

**There's no time like the present to challenge your city or town...
the U.S. Census is counting on it!**

Key Facts About the 2020 Census

The Census counts every person living in the United States, regardless of age or citizenship status every 10 years, in years ending in 0.

- It's in the Constitution.
- There is NOT a Citizenship question on the 2020 Census.

It's important:

- It's about money, power, and data.

- Every year people pay their taxes. Only every ten years, we help decide how those dollars come back to us. The 2020 Census will help to distribute billions of dollars in Federal resources in our community.
- Our community gets resources based on population counts. These resources help pay for schools, roads, police, fire, healthcare and many more services. An undercount in our community would jeopardize our full share of these resources.
- An accurate and complete Census helps businesses, community leaders and elected officials make informed decisions every day.

It's easy:

For the first time, people can respond online or by phone, in addition to the mail-in option. It takes about 10 minutes to complete, and impacts the next 10 years because the next Decennial Census does not happen until 2030.

It's safe and confidential:

Your data is protected and it's confidential. Federal law protects your responses, which cannot be shared with law enforcement, immigration agencies, or housing authorities.

COVID-19 and the 2020 Census:

- The 2020 Census is underway and the most important and safe thing you can do is respond online, by phone, or by mail. It has never been easier to respond to the 2020 Census.
- Responding now will minimize the need for the Census Bureau to send census takers out into communities to follow up with households.
- Please check [this page](#) regularly for updates on operational adjustments in response to COVID-19 and the latest status of operations and current timeline.

**For more information, please contact
Zachary Swick at zswick@snhpc.org.**

2020 Traffic Counting Season Underway

The 2020 traffic counting season in the SNHPC region was shaping up to be unlike any in recent memory due to the untimely passing of Pamela Garrity in January. Her nearly-two decades of accumulated knowledge and expertise are irreplaceable.

The team was just beginning to gear up when the Coronavirus pandemic struck, providing a second hurdle to the program. If a hurdle seems too high, however, sometimes the only option is to train to jump higher. Staff has done just that, familiarizing themselves with all elements of traffic counting over the last several weeks.



The first counters were set out on May 19 - by masked field crew - and successfully retrieved on May 26. While this season surely won't proceed with the usual smoothness, times of transition can also make team members stronger and more versatile. With a committed squad of staff assembled, the 2020 season will move forward regardless of the obstacles.

General John Stark Scenic Byway Meeting

June 1, 2020 - General John Stark Scenic Byway Meeting - **2:30 PM** (*The meeting may take place virtually or at Goffstown Town Office, 16 Main St. - stay tuned for details.*)

**For more information, please contact
Adam Hlasny at 669-4664.**

June 3rd Deadline: NHDES DERA Funding: \$300,000 Available

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) has approximately \$300,000 of funding available through the Environmental Protection Agency's Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Program. This Request for Proposals (RFP) is a second round of funding administered by NHDES through the State Clean Diesel Grant Program.

The State Clean Diesel Grant Program provides partial funding for local/state governments, school districts, and businesses operating in New Hampshire to reduce emissions through idle reduction technologies, exhaust controls, and/or replacement of older on- or off-road diesel engines/vehicles/equipment with newer engines/vehicles/equipment - alternative fuel projects (e.g., compressed natural gas, propane and electric) are also eligible!

Grant funding is available with a required match by the grantee. Eligible project submissions will be scored and selected through a competitive solicitation process. To view prior grant recipients and previous projects visit the NH DERA Project webpage at the link below.

Round 2 RFP applications will be accepted through June 3 at 4PM.

To access the RFP, Application, Scoring Criteria and "Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)" documents visit the NH DERA Project webpage:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/tsb/tps/msp/diesel-vehicles/dera.htm>

**For details, contact Jessica Wilcox, NHDES-ARD Grants Manager:
jessica.wilcox@des.nh.gov**

Executive Committee Meeting

June 4, 2020 - Executive Committee - **7:30 AM** *(The meeting will take place virtually- stay tuned for details.)*

July 9, 2020 - Executive Committee - **7:30 AM** *(Belmont Hall, Manchester)*
**please note, meeting may shift to a virtual venue dependent on NH Stay-at-home and emergency declaration orders.*

For more information, please contact
Sylvia von Aulock at 669-4664.

SAVE THE DATES: NH Planners Association Spring Conference (Virtual)

June 10, 17, 24, 2020 - NHPA Spring Conference - **2:00 - 3:15 PM** *(Virtual Access TBD)*

Topics:

- 6/10- COVID Lessons Learned
- 6/17- Recycling
- 6/24- Housing

NHPA is making their Spring Conference virtual! The agenda, speakers, and information on registration for our series of webinars will be available soon.

Frost/Stagecoach Scenic Byway Meeting

June 13, 2020 - Frost/Stagecoach Scenic Byway Meeting - **7:00 PM** *(The meeting may take place virtually or at Derry Municipal Center, 14 Manning St. - stay tuned for details.)*

For more information, please contact
Adam Hlasny at 669-4664.

Upper Lamprey Scenic Byway Meeting

July 15, 2020 - Upper Lamprey Scenic Byway Meeting - **2:30 PM** *(The meeting may take place virtually or at Deerfield Town Office, 8 Raymond Rd. - stay tuned for details.)*

For more information, please contact
Adam Hlasny at 669-4664.

Hazard Mitigation Meetings #4 - Derry

June 12, 2020 - Derry Hazmit Meeting #3 - **10:00 AM** *(The meeting will take place virtually- stay tuned for details.)*

The Southern NH Planning Commission will be working with the Town of Derry to update their Hazard Mitigation Plans as required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

A Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Committee must be established and host at least three public meetings to collaborate on the updated plan.

For more information, please contact
Madeleine DiIunno at mdiionno@snhpc.org.

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

June 18, 2020 - TAC Meeting - 9:30 AM *(The meeting will take place virtually- stay tuned for details.)*

July 16, 2020 - TAC Meeting - 9:30 AM *(SNHPC Conference Room) *please note, meeting may shift to a virtual venue dependent on NH Stay-at-home and emergency declaration orders.*

For more information, please contact
Nate Miller at 669-4664.

NH Lower Merrimack Valley Stormwater Coalition

June 18, 2020 - NH Lower Merrimack Valley Stormwater Coalition Meeting - 1:00 PM *(The meeting will take place virtually- stay tuned for details.)*

July 16, 2020 - NH Lower Merrimack Valley Stormwater Coalition Meeting- 1:00 PM *(Nashua Regional Planning Commission office, 30 Temple St., Nashua) *please note, meeting may shift to a virtual venue dependent on NH Stay-at-home and emergency declaration orders.*

For more information, please contact
Zachary Swick at zswick@snhpc.org.

SNHPC Monthly Meeting

June 23, 2020 - SNHPC Monthly Meeting - 11:30 AM *(The meeting will take place virtually- stay tuned for details.)*

July 28, 2020 - SNHPC Monthly Meeting - 11:30 AM *(SNHPC Conference Room) *please note, meeting may shift to a virtual venue dependent on NH Stay-at-home and emergency declaration orders.*

For more information, please contact
Sylvia von Aulock at 669-4664.

Save the Date: Plan NH Golf Classic

October 7, 2020 - Plan NH Golf Classic- *(Canterbury Woods Country Club, 15*

W Road, Canterbury, NH)

For more information, please visit

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=zsahawcab&oeidk=a07eh2rxel2e39390ef>

Feel like taking a stroll? Regional Trail Information

Get some fresh air while keeping your distance on the following trails:

Goffstown Rail Trail - <https://goffstownrailtrail.org/>

Friends of the Salem Bike-Ped Corridor - <https://fsbpc.org/>

Windham Rail Trail Alliance - <https://www.windhamrailtrail.org/index.html>

Derry Rail Trail Alliance - <https://derryrailtrail.org/>

Londonderry Trailways - <https://londonderrytrails.org/>

Granite State Rail Trail - <https://www.gsrtnh.org/>

New Boston Rail Trail - <https://www.nbrailtrail.com/>

Head's Pond Trail (Hooksett) - <https://www.traillink.com/trail/heads-pond-trail/>

Pembroke Rail Trail - <https://www.traillink.com/city/pembroke-nh-trails/>

Merrimack River Greenway Trail (Concord)
- <https://www.merrimackrivergreenwaytrail.org/>

For more information, please contact

Madeleine DiIunno at mdiionno@snhpc.org.

Southern NH Planning Commission

The SNHPC region includes the City of Manchester and the towns of Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Chester, Deerfield, Derry, Francestown, Goffstown, Hooksett, Londonderry, New Boston, Weare and Windham.

The main functions of SNHPC are to increase communication; promote intergovernmental cooperation and coordination between planning boards and local officials; promote coordinated development of the region; prepare and adopt regional plans, including policies and strategies for the region; and perform other acts or functions as deemed appropriate to fulfill its duties.

SNHPC is governed by a Board of Commissioners, 48 local representatives from our 14 member communities. The Commissioners are appointed by the

governing bodies of the member municipalities upon the recommendation of their respective planning boards, as outlined in RSA 36:46. An Executive Committee, consisting of 14 commissioners, is elected from the membership of the full Board of Commissioners to provide overall policy direction and guidance, and to administer the Commission's financial and operational affairs. An Executive Director is appointed by the Commission to manage and supervise the day-to-day operations of the Commission and its staff under the general direction provided by the Executive Committee and the Board of Commissioners.

Sylvia von Aulock
Executive Director

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