

Visions

SERVING OUR REGION'S COMMUNITIES SINCE 1966



Summer 2023

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- Daniel Heath, Alt.
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Londonderry

Announcing Pathways to Play Call for Projects

Nominations Due *July 21st*



Pathways to Play is an initiative to better connect kids and families to play spaces in Southern New Hampshire. With funding from the **New Hampshire Children's Health Foundation**, SNHPC is engaging with residents

to learn about favorite play spaces, understand barriers and opportunities for accessing recreation, and develop a user-friendly interactive map for our region.

Presently, Southern NH Planning Commission (SHNPC) is excited to offer **free planning support** to assist one of the Commission's 14 communities with strategizing on how to improve a children's park or recreation space. Do you know of a children's recreation space in your community that could use improvement? Perhaps there's a local playground in that you wished might serve young families better, a natural recreation area that could better support kids and families, or a neighborhood park that you wished was more accessible. If so, consider **nominating the site** to become a **Pathways to Play pilot project!**

SNHPC staff will undertake technical analysis, facilitate community workshops, and create a collaborative action plan to make your park, playground, or other recreation space the best it can be. Download **this summary** for more details on the pilot project opportunity, and complete this **simple form** to nominate as many sites as you'd like!

If your site is selected, we'll work together to develop a Play Space Action Plan that includes community findings, a prioritized wish list, and

- Debora Lievens
- **Arthur Rugg, Secretary**
- Suzanne Brunelle
- Brian Battaglia
- Lynn Wiles, Alt.
- Jeff Penta, Alt.

Manchester

- Peter Capano
- Raymond Clement
- Daniel O'Neil
- Donald Waldron
- Marcus Ponce de Leon, Alt.

New Boston

- **Mark Suennen, Vice Chair**
- David Litwinovich
- *Seeking Alt. Representative*

Weare

- Naomi Bolton
- *Seeking Representative*
- *Seeking Alt. Representative*

Windham

- **Peter Griffin, Chair**
- Edgar Lapointe
- *Seeking Representative*
- *Seeking Alt. Representative*

clear action steps to advance the community's vision – potentially addressing design needs, transportation access, programming, stewardship, or funding opportunities.

Nominations are due July 21, so be sure to spread the word in your community!

For more information, contact Suzanne Nienaber, SNHPC Principal Planner, at 603-669-4664 or snienaber@snhpc.org.



Check out this **new** article from the NH Children's Health Foundation!!

[Pathways to Play offers alternative to the metaverse](#)



SNHPC Plans for an Electric Future

In 2020 the transportation sector generated the largest share of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. Greenhouse gas emissions from transportation primarily come from burning fossil fuel for our cars, trucks, ships, trains, and planes. Electric Vehicles (EVs) that are powered by non-fossil fuel sources, including renewable energy sources (hydroelectricity, wind and solar) are a more sustainable alternative to Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) vehicles.

SNHPC has developed a **[Region Plan for Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Development](#)** to identify viable Direct Current Fast Charger (DCFC) locations along the region's major travel corridors, which may be considered by municipalities when funding becomes available. The charging locations are intended for use by the general public- those who live, work,

and play in our region, as well as those who are just passing through.

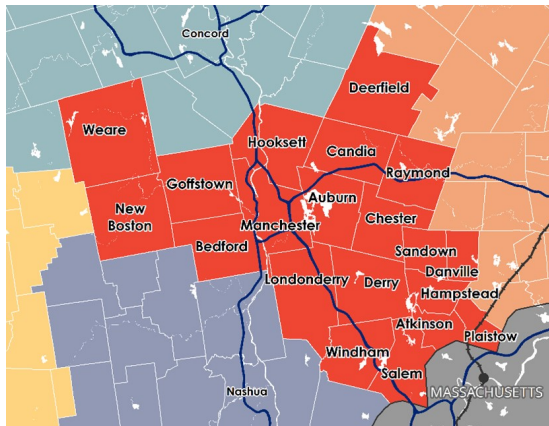
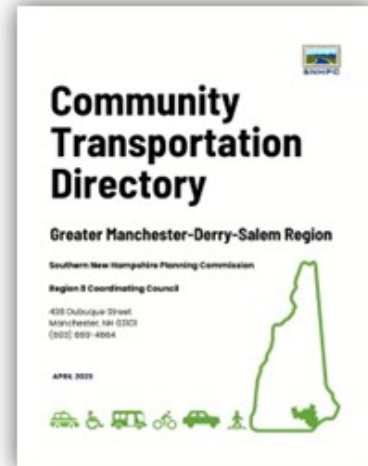
The Draft Plan can be accessed via **[our website](#)**. SNHPC will be seeking plan adoption by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) at the July 25th meeting.

For details, contact SNHPC Regional Planner Tammy Zamoyski at tzamoyski@snhpc.org.

Everything You Might Want to Know About Transportation Services: The All-New Community Transportation Directory

With dozens of community transportation options available throughout the region, it's hard for those who need a ride to know what services are available to them. That's why our Regional Mobility Manager, Ben Herbert, has provided our region with a Community Transportation Directory. To see the services available in your region, click [here](#)!

This directory provides information on 26 community transportation services throughout the greater Manchester-Derry-Salem area (see map below).



The types of transportation listed in this directory include fixed-route bus services, volunteer driver programs, demand-response transportation, and youth transportation services. Each service listed in this directory has information on the following:

- cost
- service area
- contact information
- riders served
- advance notice requirements
- wheelchair accessibility

Information on community transportation is also organized by the towns served, so users can easily find transportation that exists within their community. For more information on the directory, or for general inquiries on transportation, reach out to Ben at bherbert@snhpc.org or call 603-669-4664.

For more information, contact Regional Mobility Manager Ben Herbert at bherbert@snhpc.org.

Get to Know SNHPC's Updated Public Participation Plan

As an advisor, advocate, and coordinating agency working with 14 unique communities in the Greater Manchester area, the Southern NH Planning Commission (SNHPC) celebrates the diversity of the region and values everyone's input. We know meaningful public engagement is essential to ensuring that transportation planning programs and initiatives reflect the needs and priorities of the communities we serve.

SNHPC's Public Participation Plan (PPP) is our guiding document for achieving effective engagement. We are very pleased to announce that the updated PPP was officially adopted on June 27 by the MPO Policy Committee.



The updated Plan provides a user-friendly introduction to a variety of important topics: the Commission's goals and strategies to guide public participation efforts; the various methods and approaches used; engagement opportunities in the MPO transportation planning process; and performance measures to track progress.

If you only have a few minutes, be sure to check out **“Ways to Participate” on page 7** for a few suggestions on how you can get more involved in SNHPC’s regional planning initiatives.

In the coming weeks we will feature more highlights from the PPP, so be sure to [follow us on Facebook](#) to learn more. Many thanks to all who contributed to developing a strong Public Participation Plan that will keep our region working better, together!

For more information, contact Suzanne Nienaber, SNHPC Principal Planner, at 603-669-4664 or snienaber@snhpc.org.

Volunteer Driver Programs

Volunteer Driver Programs (VDPs) are to transportation like David is to Goliath. Although these organizations tend to rely almost completely on volunteers, they provide rides for many older or disabled adults who would otherwise have no other option to get where they need to go.

In the SNHPC region, two VDP organizations reported the following performance measures during 2022:

- **6.25:** The total **number of paid staff**
- **21:** The total **number of towns served** by the two VDPs
- **176:** The total **number of volunteers** driving
- **391:** The total **number of unique riders**
- **5,617:** The **number of registered trips**
- **7,407:** The total **number of volunteer hours**
- **53,038:** The total **number of miles logged**



For more information on volunteer driver programs, visit:

<https://www.snhpc.org/transportation/community-transportation/pages/volunteer-driver-programs>.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a volunteer driver, visit:

<https://nhaha.info/volunteer-driver-initiative/>

SNHPC Welcomes Anthony Summers

Anthony joined the SNHPC staff as a Field Technician in May 2023. As a Field Technician, Anthony will focus on collecting traffic count data and inventorying pedestrian infrastructure for the Statewide Asset Data Exchange System (SADES). He is a graduate of Eastern Washington University where he studied Urban and Regional Planning. Anthony’s background includes working with communities to improve local and regional economies and recover from natural disasters in New England and the Southeast. Outside of transportation planning, Anthony’s interests include historic preservation, adaptive reuse of historic structures, and food systems.

In his free time, Anthony enjoys working on visual art projects, increasing his performance building knowledge, kayaking, and gold panning.





The "A" Team

At left, **Andrew Lawpaugh** assists Anthony with a traffic count in the field.

Andrew is working at SNHPC until the fall, when he returns to the University of New Hampshire. His major is Environmental Conservation and Sustainability.

SNHPC Seeks Another Awesome Planner!

Would you like to become part of the amazing SNHPC Planning Team?

Please review our job opportunity and consider applying:

https://www.snhpc.org/sites/g/files/vyhliif5006f/uploads/23-0601_planner_listing.pdf



SNHPC Commissioner Appreciation

David Pierce, Goffstown

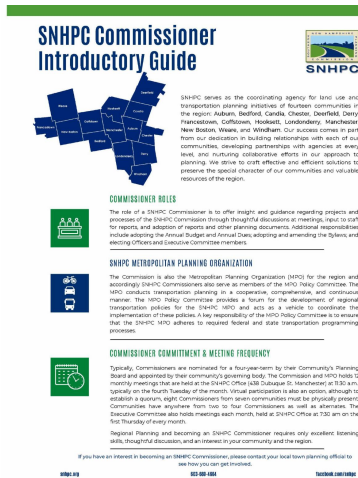
Goffstown Commissioner David Pierce is stepping back from some of his municipal involvement, which unfortunately includes SNHPC. He began his role as an Alternate Commissioner (2013-2015) at the request of alternate Commissioner Tony Marts who was retiring out-of-state. The deal was locked up as then SNHPC Executive Director David Preece invited Dave to lunch (at Chez Vachon of course) to explain what his role as a Commissioner would entail.

Dave stepped up as a "full" Commissioner in 2015, and later that year agreed to be the Goffstown member on the Executive Committee. Two years later, in October 2017, Dave was appointed as SNHPC's Treasurer which for meant for the past 6 years he has visited SNHPC once each week to fulfill his Treasurer duties.

During his time with the SNHPC, Dave also had other roles in Goffstown: two 3-years terms on the Select Board and two 2-year terms as a State Representative. When he lost his bid for a third term on the Select Board, he immediately started serving as an alternate member of the Planning Board --- a role he still performs.

Having been a licensed Professional Engineer (civil engineering), Dave enjoys being involved with reviewing the many development and boundary plans which come before the Planning Board. Finally, he is now on his second elected term as a Sewer Commissioner. Being compensated \$750 (annually), he is responsible for an \$1.7M annual budget, 3 full-time employees, and sewer services provided to 2,100 customers. He is also involved with the Goffstown Rail Trail. So we believe Dave is not completely slowing down on serving Goffstown.

Dave will be replaced as a Commissioner by Goffstown Planning Board member Colleen Mailloux, and Commissioner Jacob LaFontaine will serve on the SNHPC Executive Committee.



Have you thought of becoming a Commissioner?

Our volunteers often come from Planning Boards, Conservation Commissions, or other land use boards. We currently need regular members and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) representatives.

Need information on what a Commissioner/MPO representative does? Look no further! We have a Commissioner factsheet available to anyone wanting more information: [click here!](#)

SNHPC is currently seeking Commissioners from **Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Chester, Deerfield, Derry, Hooksett, New Boston, Weare, and Windham.**

To learn more, visit <https://www.snhpc.org/about-snhpc/pages/commission>, and if you want to volunteer, contact your local community planning office or governing officials.

Save the Date!! SNHPC Annual Meeting September 8th

Email invitations with additional details will be sent soon.



Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission
snhpc.org



The Southern NH Planning Commission | 438 Dubuque Street, Manchester, NH 03102

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