Getting Back to the Office

Many of us have been working from home for so long that driving into the office still seems like driving into the unknown. Yet, staff at the Commission are doing just that more and more: driving into the office, donning masks, and sharing space. This was all taken for granted just a few short months ago. However, as we move into our new normal, many of us are getting back to the routine of venturing out of our home office space and back to our shared workspace.

The return to the office reminds me somewhat of the turtle and the hare story. Some come in enthusiastically, jumping at the chance, while others take their time, and at a much slower pace, peeking out of their shells, yet still finding the finish line at 438 Dubuque Street.

For a few of our SNHPC staff, going back to "the office" means going out into the field. Throughout the summer and fall, our field teams are out and about with traffic counters, bicycle and pedestrian counters, and doing culvert assessments. Soon we'll be mapping trails to assist the Windham Conservation Commission with creating fantastic maps for Windham residents and visitors. This work entails walking with GPS units and gathering trail data that will provide the basis for the maps.

To all our partners and community stakeholders, please know that the Commission is here to serve. Please let us know if you need assistance with a project.

Sylvia von Aulock
Southern NH Planning Commission
svonaulock@snhpc.org
2020 Census Response Challenge

Census 2020 Response Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>2020 (rank)</th>
<th>2010 (rank)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bedford</td>
<td>80.2%</td>
<td>79.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>78.1%</td>
<td>75.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candia</td>
<td>77.2%</td>
<td>75.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hooksett</td>
<td>76.5%</td>
<td>74.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Boston</td>
<td>75.9%</td>
<td>73.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chester</td>
<td>75.8%</td>
<td>70.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goffstown</td>
<td>75.2%</td>
<td>67.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windham</td>
<td>74.8%</td>
<td>71.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Londonderry</td>
<td>72.8%</td>
<td>74.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weare</td>
<td>69.6%</td>
<td>67.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derry</td>
<td>67.6%</td>
<td>68.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deerfield</td>
<td>66.6%</td>
<td>68.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francetown</td>
<td>65.7%</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td>63.7%</td>
<td>66.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*as of 6/23/20
BOLD indicates higher response rates in 2020 than 2010

The challenge continues!

For the SNHPC Region, the 2010 response rate was 69.9%. In 2020, we have 69.1% so far. Keep going!!

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](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/dashboard/home/#/) 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.

**Independence Day**

*July 3, 2020* - In observance of the Independence Day holiday, the office will be closed.

**Executive Committee Meeting**

*July 9, 2020* - Executive Committee - 7:30 AM *(The meeting will take place virtually- stay tuned for details.) ^*NOTE one week later than usual.*

*August 6, 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.

**Hazard Mitigation Meeting #4 - Hooksett**

**July 14, 2020 - Hooksett Hazmit Meeting #4 - 1:00 PM** *(The meeting will take place virtually - stay tuned for details.)*

The Southern NH Planning Commission will be working with the Town of Hooksett 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 DiIonno at mdiionno@snhpc.org.

**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.

**Technical Advisory Committee Meeting**

**July 16, 2020 - TAC Meeting - 9:30 AM** *(The meeting will take place virtually - stay tuned for details.)*

**August 20, 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**

**July 16, 2020 - NH Lower Merrimack Valley Stormwater Coalition Meeting - 1:00 PM** *(The meeting will take place virtually - stay tuned for details.)*

**August 20, 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.

Frost/Stagecoach Scenic Byway Meeting

July 20, 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.

Hazard Mitigation Meeting #1 - Bedford

July 22, 2020 - Bedford Hazmit Meeting #1 - 2:00 PM (*Location TBD*)

The Southern NH Planning Commission will be working with the Town of Bedford 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 DiIonno at mdiionno@snhpc.org.

SNHPC Monthly Meeting

July 28, 2020 - SNHPC Monthly Meeting - 11:30 AM (*The meeting will take place virtually - stay tuned for details.*)

August 25, 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.

Upcoming NHDES Watershed Grant Opportunities

September 18, 2020 - Pre-proposals due.

NHDES' Watershed Assistance Section has released the 2021 Watershed Assistance Grants' Pre-proposal RFP to support local initiatives to restore impaired waters or protect high quality waters. Pre-proposals are due September 18, 2020.

For more information, please visit https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/was/categories/grants.htm
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&amp;oeidk=a07eh2rxel2e39390ef](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=zsahawcab&amp;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/](https://goffstownrailtrail.org/)
- **Friends of the Salem Bike-Ped Corridor** - [https://fsbpc.org/](https://fsbpc.org/)
- **Windham Rail Trail Alliance** - [https://www.windhamrailtrail.org/index.html](https://www.windhamrailtrail.org/index.html)
- **Derry Rail Trail Alliance** - [https://derryrailtrail.org/](https://derryrailtrail.org/)
- **Londonderry Trailways** - [https://londonderrytrails.org/](https://londonderrytrails.org/)
- **Granite State Rail Trail** - [https://www.gsrtnh.org/](https://www.gsrtnh.org/)
- **New Boston Rail Trail** - [https://www.nbrailtrail.com/](https://www.nbrailtrail.com/)
- **Head's Pond Trail (Hooksett)** - [https://www.traillink.com/trail/heads-pond-trail/](https://www.traillink.com/trail/heads-pond-trail/)
- **Merrimack River Greenway Trail (Concord)** - [https://www.merrimackrivergreenwaytrail.org/](https://www.merrimackrivergreenwaytrail.org/)

For more information, please contact
Madeleine DiIonno at [mdiionno@snhpc.org](mailto: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, Franconia, 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

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

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