



SWRPC

Commission Highlights

February 2018

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2018 Winter Commission Meeting

There is still time to register for the Southwest Region Planning Commission's Winter Meeting scheduled for Monday, March 12th at Scores Sports Bar & Grille located at 82 Main Street in Keene. The event will feature a Monadnock Region Energy Forum, which is being held in conjunction with NH Energy Week from March 12 - 16. Come hear about energy-related initiatives taking place in the Monadnock Region and beyond from local businesses, municipalities, and others. There is no charge to attend but **advance registration is required by March 9th**. For more information or to register, please contact Becky Baldwin of Commission staff.

Intermodal Transportation Center Feasibility Study

On February 7th, New Hampshire's Executive Council authorized a Federal Transit Administration grant for SWRPC to conduct a feasibility study for of an intermodal transportation center in the greater Keene area. The study will look at opportunities for connecting intercity bus, local bus service, motorists, walkers, and bicyclists. The study will also explore whether an intermodal transportation center can make positive impact on the local economy, and help improve the region's connections with other destinations in New England. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of Commission staff.

Flood Resiliency & Community Action Workshops

On January 30th and February 6th, SWRPC staff participated in workshops aimed at proactively addressing infrastructure vulnerability to flooding that were held in Winchester, NH. The first workshop, hosted by Trout Unlimited, featured introductory material on basic stream functions, the results of a 2016 road/stream crossing inventory, and best practices used to evaluate sites and prioritize retrofits. The second workshop featured a more in-depth look at a recent restoration project in Southwest NH: Fall Brook in Swanzey, as well as presentations by a variety of partners available to communities considering flood resiliency and habitat restoration. For more information, please contact Henry Underwood of Commission staff.

MRCC Support of Mobility Management Services

On February 20th the Monadnock Regional Coordinating Council on Community Transportation (MRCC) approved a contract with the Community Volunteer Transportation Company (CVTC) to provide mobility management services to the region during State fiscal year 2019. CVTC will manage trip requests from seniors and persons with disabilities as well as provide education and outreach about the need for additional support for community transportation. SWRPC, as part of its contract with the NH Department of Transportation, provides staff administrative and technical support to the MRCC. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of Commission staff.

Microenterprise Community Development Block Grant Training

On February 22nd SWRPC staff attended the Microenterprise Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Training session hosted by the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority at their offices in Concord, NH. The training covered the following Microenterprise CDBG topics: program overview and objectives, program eligibility, guidelines for grantees and subrecipients, application process and deadlines, program administration, and best practices. For more information about the training or the CDBG program, please contact Rebeckah Bullock of Commission staff.

Hazard Mitigation Planning

SWRPC staff has begun working with Keene, New Ipswich and Walpole to update their hazard mitigation plans. Plan updates are required every five years to remain eligible for federal assistance and hazard mitigation funding in the event of a disaster declaration. Updates include staff conducting a series of meetings with local officials. Meetings are posted on SWRPC's website www.swrpc.org under *Other Meetings* and are open to the public. SWRPC recently completed plan updates for the towns of Alstead, Fitzwilliam, Gilsum, Hancock, Harrisville, Langdon, Roxbury, and Winchester. For additional information, please contact Lisa Murphy of Commission staff.



Electrify America Seeking Feedback

Electrify America, LLC, a subsidiary of the Volkswagen Group of America (VWGoA), was founded in 2016 to lead and manage the \$2 billion Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Investment Commitment resulting from the settlement between VWGoA, the federal government, and the State of California. This effort is the largest of its kind and will be delivered over ten years through four, 30-month cycles of investment. Electrify America is currently looking for input from states, municipal governments, and others on possible investment opportunities. This request for proposals is not a call for grant requests, but rather solicits meaningful input from interested parties on the development of the Cycle 2 ZEV Investment Plans. Submission instructions and additional information can be found at <https://www.electrifyamerica.com/submissions>.

Southwest Region Planning Commission

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