

# SWRPC

## Commission Highlights

August 2015

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### Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan Hearings

Every two years, the Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT) hosts public hearings throughout New Hampshire to present information and receive input on the biannually updated draft Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TYP). The newest draft TYP, which can be viewed at <http://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/planning/typ/index.htm>, contains information about the NH Department of Transportation's (DOT) anticipated transportation revenue for the period 2017-2026 as well as a listing of planned projects across the state. GACIT and DOT gather input from the hearings in order to inform any TYP recommendations to the Governor and Legislature. GACIT meetings that are likely to be more convenient for people living and working in Southwest NH include hearings scheduled in **Keene on September 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m., Charlestown on September 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m., and Bedford on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** More information is available at the link above and on the [www.swrpc.org](http://www.swrpc.org) homepage. For more information about the current draft TYP or about the GACIT hearings, please contact J. B. Mack of Commission staff.

### NHMA Annual Law Lecture Series

The 2015 Municipal Law Lecture Series, hosted by the NH Municipal Association, has been scheduled for September 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Antioch University New England, 40 Avon Street, Keene. These lectures are intended for municipal officials including members of planning boards, zoning boards, conservation commissions, and select boards (and councilors), planners, building inspectors, and code enforcement officers. This year's lectures include:

- *Grandfathering: The Law of Non-Conforming Uses and Vested Rights - September 16<sup>th</sup>*
- *Local Regulation of Agriculture - September 23<sup>rd</sup>*
- *Implementing and Enforcing the State Building Code and State Fire Code - September 30<sup>th</sup>*

Please visit <https://www.nhmunicipal.org/Resources/Event/813> or contact Ashley Monier at 603-230-3340 for more information about individual sessions or to register.

### Community Development Block Grants Awarded

The Town of Winchester has been awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to fund a study of the water infrastructure needs of the Jones Road neighborhood. Planning Commission staff assisted the Town of Winchester with writing the CDBG application. The Town will use the funds to secure a firm to conduct the study and determine the feasibility of a future implementation grant. SWRPC will act as grant administrator for the project.

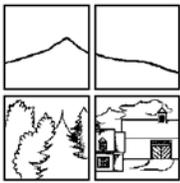
Cheshire County has been awarded two CDBG projects. The Westmill Senior Housing project will involve subgranting CDBG funds to Southwestern Community Services to support the development of 26 units of affordable senior housing off Railroad Street in Keene. All of the units to be created will be filled by low income elderly households.

The Cheshire County Microenterprise project involves subgranting CDBG funds to the Hannah Grimes Center, the University of New Hampshire/Pathway to Work program, and the Rockingham Economic Development Center. Subgranted funds will be used to provide training and technical assistance services to a minimum of approximately 200 microenterprises throughout the State, the majority of which employ low- and moderate-income workers. The microenterprise program mission is to increase the income and economic stability of self-employed people and microenterprises, by helping them to access capital, business training and expanded market opportunities.

For more information, please contact Rebeckah Bullock of Commission staff.

## Complete Streets Demonstration in West Swanzey

On Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup> Southwest Region Planning Commission and the Town of Swanzey sponsored a “complete streets” demonstration project on Main Street in West Swanzey during the Whitcomb Hall Committee’s annual chicken barbeque. This event was supported by the Partnerships to Improve Community Health initiative in conjunction with Cheshire Medical Center and Healthy Monadnock 2020. The intent of this event was to allow residents and town officials the opportunity to observe how roads and streetscapes can be designed to safely accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists, incorporate visual amenities, and promote civic engagement in downtown areas and village centers. Planning Commission staff and volunteers built two temporary crosswalks and curb extensions to shorten crossing distances at the existing crosswalk, added shared bicycle lane markings to the roadway, constructed a mini park, and staffed an education table with information about complete streets. For more information about this event, please contact Mari Brunner of Commission staff or visit <http://www.monadnocktma.org/demodays>.



## Tennessee Gas Pipeline - Scheduled Open Houses

The Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. has scheduled five public open houses in NH regarding the proposed Northeast Energy Direct project. All open houses will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the following locations:

- September 9, 2015 - Mascenic High School, 175 Turnpike Rd., New Ipswich
- September 10, 2015 - Fitzwilliam VFW, NH Rt. 12, Fitzwilliam
- September 15, 2015 - Hampshire Hills, 50 Emerson Rd., Milford
- September 16, 2015 - Rockingham Park, 79 Rockingham Park Blvd., Salem
- September 17, 2015 - Merrimack American Legion, 43 Baboosic Lake Rd., Merrimack

**Southwest Region Planning Commission**

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