



SWRPC

Commission Highlights

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Complete Streets Demonstrations in Keene and Swanzey

The Planning Commission, Healthy Monadnock 2020 and the Monadnock Alliance for Sustainable Transportation (formerly the MRTMA) will host “Complete Streets” demonstration events in Swanzey and Keene and Swanzey. The Swanzey event will take place on August 29th on Main Street in Swanzey from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., and will coincide with the Whitcomb Hall Committee’s annual chicken BBQ. The Keene event is scheduled for September 19th from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and will take place on Marlboro Street between the Savings Bank of Walpole and Grove Street. These events will temporarily transform a segment of the roadway to interactively show how the safety of all users can be taken into consideration in roadway design and how the streetscape is a vital component of a place’s identity and quality of life. Both educational events will be open to the public and will involve a wide array of community groups and citizens. For more information or to get involved, please contact Mari Brunner of Commission staff.

Lake Warren Management Plan

The Planning Commission recently received a grant from the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) through their Watershed Assistance Program to continue watershed management work for Lake Warren in Alstead. The funding will allow for the completion of a watershed management plan as well as implementation of two projects designed to reduce erosion. Two prior grants allowed Planning Commission staff to assist with the completion of a comprehensive lake inventory which was completed in 2011 and a nutrient loading study which was completed in 2014. For additional information, please contact Lisa Murphy of Commission staff.

Northeast Energy Direct Update - GRANITView II

SWRPC recently approached GRANIT, New Hampshire’s statewide geographic information system (GIS) clearinghouse, to integrate the proposed NH Northeast Energy Direct facilities with their interactive online mapping platform, GRANITView II. The website, which currently hosts a variety of NH-specific data layers, now incorporates the proposed pipeline route with three features: “NED Mainline,” “Fitchburg Lateral Extension”, and “Haverhill Lateral”. A visitor may now view these proposed facilities in conjunction with the many GRANIT resources previously available through this platform including conservation lands, various recreation themes, soils, water resources, wildlife, land cover, aerial photography, and other layers. For a direct link that will automatically display the proposed pipeline route, visit www.swrpc.org/pipeline. The “GRANITView II” link is posted near the bottom of the page. The online tool supports many common functions, including measurements, annotation, and printing. In addition, many more technical functions are available to more advanced users including the ability to import user-provided layers. A comprehensive online help menu is available. For more information, please contact Henry Underwood of Commission staff.

Transportation Planning Report - Energy Impacts and Resiliency

Planning Commission staff recently completed a transportation planning report titled *Transportation Planning for an Uncertain Energy Future: Creating a Resilient Transportation System for the Monadnock Region*. This report, financed in part through a grant from the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, examines the impact of the energy sector on the transportation sector and identifies three main strategies that local and regional planners can use to address an uncertain energy future: promoting alternative fuel and advanced vehicle technologies; transportation demand management and land use planning; and alternative transportation options. To view the report, please visit <http://www.swrpc.org/trans>. For more information, please contact Mari Brunner of Commission staff.

Community Development Block Grant Funding

For towns and organizations thinking about applying for the January 2016 round of Economic Development or Housing and Public Facilities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, now is a good time to start the application process. Housing and Public Facilities CDBG funding is available for municipally-sponsored projects in January and July of each year. Eligible projects can receive grants of up to \$500,000 for infrastructure or housing projects with a direct benefit to low and moderate income individuals and families. CDBG funding is also available for municipally-sponsored economic development projects year-round on a first come, first served basis starting in January. Up to \$500,000 is available for economic development projects that help create job opportunities for low to moderate income individuals and families. In addition, funds for feasibility studies are available in the amount of \$12,000. For more information, please visit the NH Community Development Finance Authority's website at www.nhcdfa.org or contact Rebeckah Bullock of Commission staff.



Complete Streets Workshop

The Planning Commission, along with Healthy Monadnock 2020, and Healthy Eating Active Living New Hampshire (HEAL NH), will conduct a Complete Streets Workshop on Friday, September 25, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Heberton Hall in Keene. The workshop will provide a foundational knowledge of Complete Streets including what they are, pros and cons, and examples of how they have been implemented in the region. The workshop will include lunch and an optional walking tour. For more information or to register, please contact Nik Coates of HEAL NH at ncoates@healthynh.com.

Southwest Region Planning Commission

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