

SWRPC

Commission Highlights

November 2016

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Seeking Brownfields Nominations

SWRPC is working with its consultant to identify candidate petroleum contaminated properties for our Brownfields Assessment Program. Brownfields properties are those whose successful reuse or redevelopment is hindered by real or perceived environmental issues. Supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, we implement the program by assessing the degree of contamination and working with property owners, prospective purchasers and other partners towards the remediation and reuse, expansion or redevelopment activities. Sites meeting the eligibility criteria for petroleum contamination are more difficult to identify and we need your help. Current, past or even historic motor vehicle fueling retailers or bulk petroleum distributors are obvious candidates, but so are commercial properties whose proximity to a known or suspected petroleum contaminated site has been a hindrance to successful sale, re-use, or redevelopment. Local referrals continue to be SWRPC's best source for nominations to our Program. Give us a call! Please contact J. B. Mack of Commission staff to discuss any prospective sites or learn more about the Program.

UNH T2 Training: Treating Pavement Beyond Preservation

On November 2nd SWRPC staff attended a training workshop in Keene offered by UNH T2. Local officials, engineers, road agents, and public works personnel received information on different methods of preserving pavement that is beyond the point of repair. For more information, please contact Henry Underwood of Commission staff.

Community Event: *From Hurricane to Climate Change*

The Monadnock Institute at Franklin Pierce University will be presenting a documentary film entitled *From Hurricane to Climate Change* on **December 6th at the Colonial Theatre in Keene beginning at 7:00 p.m.** The film opens with rare footage of the Hurricane of 1938 in Peterborough, and traces the increase in extreme precipitation events like the Alstead flood of 2005. A main focus of the film is the city of Keene, which has experienced repeated flooding events and has been judged a "shining example of climate preparedness and adaptation." The film will be followed by a discussion from a panel of experts including a Question & Answer session. This event is open to the public and there is no cost for admission.

Energy Planning Workshop

On November 2nd SWRPC staff attended a workshop entitled *Developing an Energy Master Plan* that was hosted by NH Saves. The session focused on energy efficiency as a means to reduce consumption and user cost. Staff is currently assisting several towns in the region with adding energy chapters to their master plans. For additional information, please contact Lisa Murphy of Commission staff.

Solicitation of Transportation Projects

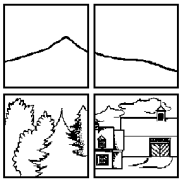
In the coming weeks, SWRPC staff will solicit member municipalities to nominate transportation projects for the 2019-2028 Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TYP). Projects must be surface transportation related (e.g. highways, bridges, transit, rail, bicycle and/or pedestrian projects) and have a defined purpose, need, conceptual scope of work, and cost estimate. SWRPC is in the process of finalizing a project application form with guidance from the NH Department of Transportation. A municipal solicitation outreach letter and application will be sent to each community's board of selectmen with copies going to planning boards, police, and highway departments. For more information about SWRPC's municipal TYP project solicitation process, please contact J. B. Mack of Commission staff.

Community Development Block Grant Workshops

During November, Planning Commission staff attended the following Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) workshops hosted by the NH Community Development Finance Authority:

- CDBG Implementation Workshop held on November 15th focused on use of the online grants management system, municipal adoptions/approvals, environmental reviews, subrecipient agreements and monitoring, procurement, financial management, construction management, municipal responsibilities, housing rehabilitation, acquisition and relocation, and job counting.
- CDBG Application Writing Workshop held on November 30th covered eligible projects, federal requirements, scoring process, Housing and Public Facilities applications, Economic Development applications, and the online grants management system.

For more information about the workshops or Community Development Block Grants, please contact Rebeckah Bullock or Raul Gonzalez of Commission staff.



MAST 2017 Annual Meeting

The Monadnock Alliance for Sustainable Transportation (MAST) will hold its annual meeting on January 18, 2017 from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at a location to be determined. The MAST Steering Committee invites all interested individuals, current and past volunteers, and partner organizations to attend. The program will include an update about efforts to promote sustainable transportation options from Transport NH and the Bike-Walk Alliance of New Hampshire. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Mari Brunner of Commission staff.

Southwest Region Planning Commission

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