

# SWRPC

## Commission Highlights

August 2013

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### Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan Hearings Scheduled

The Governor's Advisory Committee on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT) recently released its schedule of hearings for New Hampshire's 2015-2024 Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TYP). The TYP, updated every two years, is the result of an interactive process which begins as a list of priority transportation projects compiled by the nine NH Regional Planning Commissions and the NH Department of Transportation followed by multiple public hearings around the State by GACIT. The Governor's Committee synthesizes information it has collected during its extensive public hearing process and forwards its recommendations to the Governor and Legislature for further consideration. The following GACIT hearings are scheduled in or near the Southwest Region:

- September 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m., Charlestown Town Hall, 19 Summer Street
- September 25, 2013 - 12:00 p.m., Hinsdale Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 11 Main Street
- October 8, 2013 - 6:30 p.m., Keene Parks and Recreation Building, Room 14, 312 Washington Street
- October 21, 2013 - 6:30 p.m., Peterborough Town Hall, Upper Hall, 1 Grove Street

The Planning Commission's recommended regional projects for the TYP can be found as a link on our home page at [www.swrpc.org](http://www.swrpc.org). For more information about the GACIT hearings, please contact J. B. Mack of Commission staff.

### Broadband Forum Scheduled for Late September

The Planning Commission, in collaboration with the Southwest Broadband Stakeholders Group (SWBSG), will be holding a public forum on Wednesday, September 25, 2013 to review the draft Southwest Region Broadband Plan. This forum will take place from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Cheshire County Historical Society, 246 Main Street, Keene. Commission staff and members of the SWBSG will present an overview of the draft Plan's components including proposed goals, objectives and strategies for addressing broadband availability and adoption within the Region. The forum is also an opportunity for the public to provide feedback on the Plan content and to learn about next steps for the planning process. This forum and draft Plan are part of the Planning Commission's work on the New Hampshire Broadband Mapping and Planning Program - a multiyear effort aimed at mapping the location and quality of broadband in the Region and to plan for increased broadband adoption and utilization in the future. If you plan on attending this event or for more information, please contact Steve Waleryszak of Commission staff.

### Tax Parcel Map Updates

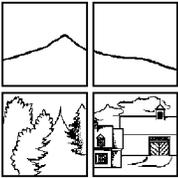
Planning Commission staff recently completed updating the Town of Chesterfield's tax parcel maps. SWRPC utilizes Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to make parcel lot line and acreage adjustments as well as create and print tax maps in a variety of sizes. The Planning Commission has an extensive database of spatial information such as roads and other infrastructure, hydrology, and conservation land boundaries as well as demographic and socioeconomic data for each of our member towns. If your community is interested in our services for tax parcel mapping or any other GIS products, please contact Steve Waleryszak of Commission staff.

### Broadband Service Map Verification Project

The Planning Commission is wrapping up efforts to collect cable and DSL information from municipalities through the Broadband Service Map Verification Project which is part of the NH Broadband Mapping and Planning Program. Staff has been reaching out to municipal officials to gather local knowledge about where broadband - or high-speed internet exists in our Region. Staff has also been visiting with community leaders to explain the project and assist with determining where broadband infrastructure exists. If you have questions about this project or would like to set up a meeting, please contact Henry Underwood of Commission staff.

## Community Development Block Grant Activities

During August, SWRPC staff were active in providing communities with support in administering several Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects. The Cheshire County Brookbend East Housing project saw significant progress in construction activities of the demolition and rebuilding of affordable housing off Ivy Drive in Keene. The City of Keene Brookbend West Housing project completed construction and is in the process of filling the rebuilt units off Meadow Lane in Keene. The Town of Greenville High Street Emergency CDBG and Marlborough Homes CDBG projects both underwent significant pre-construction activities and began construction. The New Ipswich Warwick Mills/High Bridge Foundation CDBG and Winchester Learning Center CDBG projects are in the process of closing out after successfully completing all project requirements. For questions about any of these projects or to determine how the CDBG program might benefit your community, please contact Rebeckah Bullock of Commission staff.



## Natural Resource Survey

The Planning Commission is currently collecting data to be used in the development of the Southwest Region Environmental Plan which is a component of the Monadnock Region Future initiative. As part of this data collection, a survey was emailed to the chairperson of each conservation commission or town office. The survey covers a wide range of environmental topics and will be a valuable source of information in preparing the Plan. It is important that feedback be provided by each community in order to get an understanding of the top environmental priorities and concerns. The return date is **October 10, 2013** and can be done on-line or sent to us by mail or email. If your community did not receive a survey, please contact Lisa Murphy of Commission staff.

**Southwest Region Planning Commission**

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