

SWRPC

Commission Highlights

February 2013

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Planning Commission's Winter Meeting set for March 19, 2013

There is still time to register for the Planning Commission's 2013 Winter Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 19th at Papagallos Restaurant in Swanzey, NH. Our featured speaker will be Carole Monroe, Executive Director of NH FastRoads, LLC. Carole will provide information on NH FastRoads which is part of the larger Network NH Now initiative to expand broadband coverage to keep the state vibrant, innovative and relevant for businesses, citizens and educational institutions. For additional information or to register, please contact Becky Baldwin of Commission staff.

Monadnock Region Future Online Public Forum

An online tool for citizens to identify areas in their community and the Region that are important locations that could be improved or enhanced has recently become available through the Granite State Future/Monadnock Region Future initiative. This is a tool which allows the public to provide geographically specific input and related comments on an electronic map. Once comments and locations are entered, others can vote on whether they agree or disagree with posted remarks. We encourage you to visit this site and provide your thoughts and comments. The information collected from this map will be used to inform the development of the Regional Plan for Southwest New Hampshire. This site is located at: <http://southwest.granitestatefuture.org>. For more information, please contact Tara Germond of Commission staff.

Road Safety Audit in Swanzey

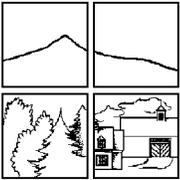
Does your community have a safety issue involving a state road? If so, you may want to consider a Road Safety Audit. A Road Safety Audit is a formal examination of safety issues for a segment of road or intersection usually based on a review by an interdisciplinary team of individuals with expertise in traffic engineering, planning, highway maintenance, enforcement, emergency response and other fields of expertise. The NH Department of Transportation (DOT) is accepting applications on a rolling basis for nominated sites, which can be submitted through an application with the Planning Commission. A recent example is an application submitted by the Town of Swanzey to assess safety at the intersection of Route 32 and Sawyer's Crossing Road. A Road Safety Audit Team meeting and a field review of the site is resulting in a formal assessment of the safety at the intersection along with recommendations for potential improvements, which will be reviewed by DOT for consideration as part of its Highway Safety Improvement Program. For more information, please contact J. B. Mack of Commission staff.

NH Listens!

On April 2, 2013, UNH Cooperative Extension and NH Listens will be hosting a facilitated dialogue about the future of our communities, region, and state. This event will take place at Heberton Hall adjacent to the Keene Public Library and will run from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. This informative conversation will be focused on the question, "How can we make our region the best place to live, learn, work, and recreate for everyone?" This conversation is designed to be an opportunity for neighbors to talk with neighbors about local concerns, needs, and ideas for the future. This event is held in conjunction with the Monadnock Region Future initiative and is free and open to the public. To register in advance, please visit: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=wfmitukab&oeidk=a07e70ja1sua964f87e>. Several of these conversations will be taking place statewide. For additional event dates and locations, please visit: <http://granitestatefuture.org/>.

Upcoming Events

- Students in the Hood: How Student Housing Choices Impact the Local Housing Market, sponsored by Heading for Home, March 22, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. at the Alumni Center, Keene State College. A light breakfast will be included. To register, please visit www.headingforhome.org or contact Susy Thielen at susy@headingforhome.org.
- 2013 NH Water & Watershed Conference: March 22, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH. For more information or to register, please call (603) 535-3179 or visit www.plymouth.edu/center-for-the-environment.
- Saving Special Places 2013: April 6, 2013, 8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. at the John Stark Regional High School in Weare, NH. On-line registration is encouraged at <http://savingspecialplaces.org> or by calling Sharon Hughes at (603) 862-1029.



Greater Keene Air Quality Outreach Campaign

The Air Quality Outreach Campaign continues to make progress in enhancing awareness about small particle air pollution. We have added two local individuals to our team to assist us in getting the message better understood within the community. In addition, a dedicated page has been created on our website where more information and materials can be found. Please visit www.swrpc.org/airquality. For more information, or if you know of a group that would be interested in hosting a presentation on this topic, please contact Jamison Cook of Commission staff.

Southwest Region Planning Commission

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