November 2019



## Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission

28 Commercial Street, Suite 3 Concord, NH 03301 (603) 226-6020 www.cnhrpc.org

# **CNHRPC NEWS & UPDATES**

# **Upcoming Events**

**CommuteSmart NH Coordination Committee Meeting** Friday, November 22, 2019 at 1:00 PM CNHRPC Conference Room 28 Commercial Street, Suite 3, Concord NH



**CNHRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting** Friday, December 6, 2019 at 9:00 AM Bow Municipal Building 10 Grandview Road, Bow NH

#### Warner River Survey Now Available

The Warner River was designated as a protected river in 2018 under the state's River Management and Protection Program (RMPP). The designated river corridor consists of the lands within one-quarter mile of each bank of the river, between the confluence of the West Branch Warner River and Andrew Brook in Bradford and the confluence of the Warner and Contoocook Rivers in Hopkinton.



View of the Warner River in Warner

After designation, the RMPP, requires that a local advisory committee, in this case the Warner River Advisory Committee (WRLAC), prepare and implement a corridor management plan to help guide river communities in protecting and managing the valuable resources of the designated river. With help from CNHRPC, the WRLAC has designed a survey that will help inform the preparation of the management plan. This survey is for everyone in the five riverfront towns (Bradford, Hopkinton, Sutton, Warner and Webster) who would like to share their thoughts on the Warner River's resources.

Survey Link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WarnerLAC

## CNHRPC Completes 2019 Data Collection Season

CNHRPC staff has completed traffic data collection for the 2019 data collection season. CNHRPC collected data at over 250 locations across the region. In addition to traffic volume data, some locations also included vehicle direction, classification and speed. Average Daily Traffic (ADT) for all of the 2019 locations has been uploaded onto



the CNHRPC website at http://cnhrpc.org/gis-data/traffic-count-data/.

If your community would like additional data such as hourly reports or speed and classification breakdowns, please contact Dean Williams at <u>dwilliams@cnhrpc.org</u>.

#### **Boscawen Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)**

The CNHRPC has begun working with the Boscawen Conservation Commission on developing a Natural Resource Inventory (NRI). An NRI documents the various natural resources in a community, from agricultural, wildlife habitat, surface waters, drinking water, scenic views, and others. A large component of this NRI is a weighted cooccurrence analysis, which weighs and overlays various natural resource data layers to find the areas of town that have the highest conservation value. Part of the job is to reach out to the community to share what it views as the towns highest priority for land conservation. A survey is currently being developed and will be distributed digitally in the coming weeks.

#### **Streetscape Demonstration Project**

CNHRPC has teamed up with the City of Concord and local volunteers to set up a temporary streetscape demonstration projects in the south end neighborhood of Concord. The demonstration was intended to demonstrate street improvements that could create a safer environment for pedestrians and bicycles, and improve overall livability of the neighborhood.

On South Street, between McKee Square and Abbot-Downing/Rundlett Schools, a protected bicycle lane was demonstrated. A separated bike lane buffers bicycle traffic from car and truck traffic by a 3' buffer with planters and bollards. Protected bike lanes are being used across the country to help a broader range of people feel safe riding a bicycle in the street, particularly families.

At the intersection of Broadway and Pillsbury Street, a temporary bump out was delineated. A bump out shortens the distance a pedestrian needs to cross the street, improves visibility for pedestrians, and slows the speed of traffic through the intersection. Bump outs are a prominent feature of Concord's Main Street.

Short video clips of the project are available:

- <u>Video 1</u> Bump out
- <u>Video 2</u> Bike lane
- <u>Video 3</u> Bike lane

Equipment for the demonstration was loaned to CNHRPC by the Southern NH Planning Commission.



#### **CNHRPC Brownfields Program Update**

Since this past spring, several new sites have been added to the region's brownfield assessment program, including the P & M Realty site in Concord. The P & M site has completed assessment work prior to joining the CNHRPC program, and now CNHRPC is looking to move the site closer to the cleanup planning stage by providing additional assessment work. The Associated Electric site in Hillsborough is another site that has had some assessment work previously completed and CNHRPC funds will assisting in moving this site closer to the cleanup planning stage as well. A third new site is an extension of the Allied Tannery site in Boscawen to a nearby abutting property along Commercial Street. This site is undergoing a fast-moving assessment progress and is already leveraging cleanup funds from the new owner. Further, the Town of Boscawen will be applying for a cleanup grant from EPA for their portion of the Allied Tannery site which would assist in facilitating cleanup.

Our existing sites in Pittsfield, Boscawen, and Hillsborough have also seen additional assessment work in preparation for cleanup and reuse planning. CNHRPC has looked at other sites across the region with our hope is to not only move our existing sites along, but also to lay the foundation for our next grant application in the fall/winter of 2020. If you know of any other potential sites please reach out to Matt Monahan at mmonahan@cnhrpc.org to explore assessment options.

#### CommuteSmart NH Buses, Bikes & Brooms Challenge

From October 20 - November 2, businesses, employers, and workplaces from across the state adapted their current commuting practices for sustainable methods of getting to work. Accepted modes included walking, biking, skateboarding, carpooling, telecommuting, and transit.



In total, 19 teams totaling 49 individuals participated. 563 trip segments were logged totaling 3,561 miles, and saved approximately 5,344 pounds of pollutants and \$3,995.

Prizes will be awarded to individuals based on the total number of days logged by that individual during the challenge. Prizes include a logo decal sticker, reusable water bottles filled with candy, and insulated travel mugs. For more information on this challenge or other CommuteSmart NH events, please visit <u>commutesmartnh.org</u>.



#### New Hampshire Flood Hazards Handbook for Municipal Officials

A valuable new flood hazards resource is now available for NH's public officials relating to flood preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. A team collaboration of federal and NH state agencies under the NH Silver Jackets program developed the New Hampshire Flood Hazards Handbook, A Guide for Municipal Officials. Completed with local and regional experienced-based feedback based on flooding events in New Hampshire communities over the last 15 years,



the resource was finalized in October 2019 and is available online for download on the NH Silver Jackets website.

#### What is New Hampshire?

Useful to policymakers, nonprofits, business leaders, and New Hampshire residents, *What is New Hampshire*? is now in the hands of the Carsey School of Public Policy after previously being produced by the New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies. While there are some different data sources and historical comparison periods employed in this version, the biggest change is that What is New Hampshire? has moved largely online. As a result:

- Graphics are interactive-allowing users who wish for deeper dives to see data in different ways while not bogging down the presentation for users who do not.
- There will be no single date when the entire publication is released. During 2019 and 2020 sections will be added as they are completed. Subsequently, they will be updated periodically. They will be structured so that as new data are available sections can be updated periodically.

The purpose of What is New Hampshire? is to set a factual baseline of understanding as the state makes decisions about its future. It is a set of facts and simple descriptive text describing where we are, where we have been, and what challenges we may face based on our analysis. It is our hope that by starting from a common factual premise, discussion in the state will be elevated and the decisions will be made on the basis of a deeper understanding of the underlying facts.

View What is New Hampshire?: https://carsey.unh.edu/what-is-new-hampshire/

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