

## Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission

28 Commercial Street ❖ Concord, NH 03301

Telephone: (603) 226-6020 ❖ Fax: (603) 226-6023 ❖ [www.cnhrpc.org](http://www.cnhrpc.org)



### Central NH Regional Planning Commission Full Commission Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 2026

7:00pm

Horseshoe Pond Community Resource Room  
26 Commercial Street  
Concord, NH 03301

#### *Agenda*

**7:00 Speaker:** Eric Feldbaum from the NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Bureau of Community Recreation.

*Mr. Feldbaum will provide an overview of the recently announced Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Round (Grant Round 37) that supports the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas.*

**7:30 Business Meeting**

1. Introductions
2. Minutes of the April 9, 2026 Full Commission Meeting
3. Report of the Chair
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Staff Reports
6. Proposed FY 2027 CNHRPC Work Program and Budget
7. Election of FY 2027 Officers
8. Other Business
9. Adjournment

**Central NH Regional Planning Commission**

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**CNHRPC Full Commission**

**Meeting Summary**

**Thursday April 9, 2026**

**7:00pm**

**Horseshoe Pond Community Resource Room w/ Zoom Remote Option**

**26 Commercial Street**

**Concord, NH 03301**

**Commission Attendees**

Jim Bibbo, Town of Bradford  
Stan Brehm, Town of Pembroke  
Barbara Randall, Town of Boscawen  
Susie White (Chair), Town of Hillsborough  
Keith Johnson, Town of Deering  
Joe Schmidl, Town of Salisbury  
Emilio Cancio-Bello, Town of Sutton  
Craig Fournier, Town of Webster  
Theresa Finnemore, Town of Webster

Barbara Marty, Town of Warner  
Ben Frost, Town of Warner  
Chuck Frost, Town of Dunbarton  
Ken Swayze, Town of Dunbarton  
Matthew Hicks, City of Concord  
Ali Sekou, City of Concord  
Jim Schlosser, City of Concord  
Sanford Way, Town of Chichester  
Sandy Crystall, Town of Bow

**Speakers**

Stuart Arnett, Arnett Development Group LLC (ADG)  
Steve Fortier, NH Dept of Business & Economic Affairs (NH BEA)

**CNHRPC Staff**

Michael Tardiff, Executive Director  
Matthew Baronas, Principal Planner  
Matt Monahan, Senior Planner  
Craig Tufts, Senior GIS & Transportation  
Planner

Stephanie Alexander, Senior Planner  
Riley Stafford, Office Support & Outreach  
Coordinator

**Call to Order, Introductions**

The April 9, 2026, CNHRPC Full Commission Meeting was called to order by Chair Susie White at approximately 7:00 PM. Both in-person and remote attendees briefly introduced themselves.

## Speakers Steve Fortier & Stuart Arnett: Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) Program Funding & Changes

Chair Susie White turned the meeting over to the scheduled speakers and their discussion regarding the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) funding opportunities.

Steve Fortier presented an overview of the NBRC, detailing its federal-state partnership framework and elaborating on the current funding opportunities available. He emphasized two primary programs: the *NBRC Catalyst program*, which is financed through the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* and targets rural and distressed regions and the *Timber for Transit program*, which is competitive across all four participating northern states.

Stuart Arnett clarified that the eligibility for NBRC funding is determined solely by geographic location rather than income levels. He also outlined the broad categories of eligible projects, which include healthcare, transportation, and water/sewer infrastructure. The NBRC allocates funding for projects that have defined start and end points, particularly those which impact economic development, community development, and workforce training. The discussion included funding limits, eligible applicants (government units and non-profits), and the significance of matching funds, with infrastructure projects potentially qualifying for up to \$1 million and non-infrastructure projects for up to \$500,000. The role of Local Development Districts (LDDs) was underscored in its importance in managing and administering grants. It was noted that CNHRPC currently has a pending application for a feasibility study in Epsom.

Mr. Fortier and Mr. Arnett emphasized the significance of the pre-application deadline on August 18<sup>th</sup> for new projects, with the full application deadline on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Steve highlighted the advantages of the program for small rural communities and urged participants to examine the 100-point scoring system to evaluate the feasibility of their projects. It was indicated that pertinent scorecards and sections of the program manual would be provided to Matt Monahan for further distribution. Both speakers stressed the importance of initiating planning at an early stage, even if the specifics of the projects have yet to be finalized.

Mr. Fortier and Mr. Arnett provided the following resources for the purpose of communication:

*Steve Fortier, Administrator of Rural Economic Development at NH Dept of Business & Economic Affairs:* [steven.j.fortier@livefree.nh.gov](mailto:steven.j.fortier@livefree.nh.gov); (603) 688-5918

*Stuart Arnett, Arnett Development Group LLC*

*Northern Borders Regional Commission (NBRC):* [www.nbrc.gov](http://www.nbrc.gov)

*Technical assistance:* [www.nbrc-nh.com](http://www.nbrc-nh.com)

## January 8, 2026 Full Commission Meeting Minutes

A quorum was verified, and review of the January 8, 2026 Full Commission Meeting minutes was completed. The motion for approval of the January 8, 2026 Full Commission Meeting minutes was made by Ben Frost and seconded by Matt Hicks. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Mike Tardiff delivered the Treasurer's Report for consideration. Mike informed the members that the month of February, which saw a little over \$50,000 in revenue, was a notably positive month. He also noted that it was slightly premature to report on the month of March as all invoicing was not yet complete for the month.

## **NH Ten-Year Transportation Plan Update**

Craig Tufts reviewed the fiscal situation of the draft Ten Year Plan discussed at the previous meeting. This includes a \$400 million shortfall that has resulted in many projects being cut or delayed. At the previous meeting the Full Commission voted to support increased revenues through tolls and the gas tax for the continued maintenance and improvement of New Hampshire's transportation infrastructure. Craig reported that there have not been discussions regarding the gas tax. A House Bill proposes to increase turnpike tolls for out of state EZ Pass holders and out of state vehicles, but keeps rates the same for NH EZ Pass holders and New Hampshire license plates. If this bill were to pass, it is estimated the additional funding would enable turnpike projects in Manchester (I-293 exit 6 and 7) to move forward. Although the changes would not be enough for the I-93 Bow-Concord project to be advanced, the required bridge work component of that project could be funded by toll revenue rather than state gas funds. Using turnpike toll revenue for these bridges would free up other funds for other transportation priorities.

Craig noted some projects in the CNHRPC region are moving forward, including the Henniker-Hopkinton roundabout along NH202/9, NH28 and Main St in Chichester, NH106 and S Village Road in Loudon, and Loudon Road Bridge in Concord.

## **Regional Plan Public Engagement Update**

Stephanie Alexander provided an update on the regional plan, unveiling a new digital public engagement platform called CNHRPC Connect. The website (CNHRPC-connect.org) allows the planning commission to publish and share its many ongoing projects with the communities they serve, including details about the ongoing 2026 Regional Plan Update. The platform not only allows for the sharing of pertinent information about ongoing projects, but enables the sharing of feedback between the community and CNHRPC. This is achieved through various engagement tools, including a comprehensive survey function. Ms. Alexander shared that the 2026 Regional Plan Survey was now live and active on the new CNHRPC Connect website and encouraged all attending the meeting to visit the site, complete the survey, and share the link as frequently as possible. She emphasized that the feedback received in these survey questions is invaluable in the composition of a regional plan that works for communities. The Regional Plan Survey will be available until December.

Stephanie shared the team's current strategies to enhance the accessibility of the new regional plan, such as the availability (within the digital CNHRPC Connect platform) of clickable planning tools, and the development of shorter, snapshot-like documents. These fact sheets will outline and summarize the content found within each individual chapter.

*Please visit our new public engagement site **CNHRPC Connect** at [cnhrpc-connect.org](https://cnhrpc-connect.org).*

## **CommuteSmart NH Statewide Spring Commuter Challenge Update**

Riley Stafford provided a brief update on the upcoming CommuteSmart NH 2026 Statewide Spring Commuter Challenge, indicating the event would take place between May 1-31. She presented some statistics from the previous two Spring Challenge events, noting that while overall numbers are promising, a slight decline in participation was observed between 2024-2025. This was in contrast to the Fall Commuter Challenge which experienced a record-breaking year in 2025, having had its most successful year to date.

Riley encouraged Full Commission members to spread the word about the Spring Challenge to as many organizations and individuals as possible. She offered to provide the Spring Challenge outreach info packet via email to anyone who might be interested in utilizing the pre-made outreach materials.

## **Other Business**

With regret, Matthew Baronas shared this would be his last Full Commission meeting as he will be moving to Portland, ME within the next few weeks to begin a new position. He emphasized the move is based on life changes and will deeply miss working with the planning commission staff and communities.

## **Adjournment**

With no additional business to be shared, a motion to adjourn was made by Jim Bibbo and seconded by Sanford Way. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40 PM.

Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission  
Profit and Loss YTD Comparison  
April 2026

	<u>Apr 26</u>	<u>Jul 25-Apr 26</u>	<u>FY26 Budget</u>	<u>%</u>
<b>Income</b>				
<b>4000 · Regional Planning</b>				
EPA Brownfields Assessment Program	0.00	1,739.37	3,500.00	49.7%
Hazard Mitigation Planning Program	1,235.00	13,911.88	17,000.00	81.8%
NBRC LDD Assistance	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	0.0%
NFWF Crossing Navigators Program	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	0.0%
Regional Plan Update	9,343.64	50,515.69	72,000.00	70.2%
CDFA Transformational Grant	0.00	6,024.34	6,024.34	100.0%
<b>Total 4000 · Regional Planning</b>	<b>10,578.64</b>	<b>72,191.28</b>	<b>103,524.34</b>	<b>69.7%</b>
<b>4100 · Local Planning Projects</b>				
InvestNH Housing Zoning/Regulations	4,598.75	59,522.80	54,000.00	110.2%
Bow Master Plan Update	500.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	100.0%
Allentown MS4 planning/coordination	292.50	1,186.25	2,000.00	59.3%
Pembroke MS4 planning/coordination	227.50	1,381.25	2,000.00	69.1%
<b>Total 4100 · Local Planning Projects</b>	<b>5,618.75</b>	<b>74,090.30</b>	<b>71,000.00</b>	<b>104.4%</b>
<b>Development Review</b>				
Development Review	640.00	7,788.10	10,000.00	77.9%
<b>Total · Development Review</b>	<b>640.00</b>	<b>7,788.10</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>77.9%</b>
<b>4300 · Circuit Rider</b>				
PB/EDC/GIS Circuit Rider Agreements	6,515.00	52,206.25	71,230.00	73.3%
<b>Total 4300 · Circuit Rider</b>	<b>6,515.00</b>	<b>52,206.25</b>	<b>71,230.00</b>	<b>73.3%</b>
<b>5000 · Transportation Planning</b>				
Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) program	0.00	0.00	6,240.00	0.0%
NHDOT Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)	19,262.63	195,775.09	278,218.00	70.4%
<b>Total 5000 · Transportation Planning</b>	<b>19,262.63</b>	<b>195,775.09</b>	<b>284,458.00</b>	<b>68.8%</b>
<b>6900 · Local Dues</b>	<b>10,816.00</b>	<b>107,267.00</b>	<b>129,792.00</b>	<b>82.6%</b>
<b>6901 · Other Services &amp; Income</b>				
Land Use Handbooks	0.00	1,118.10	2,275.00	49.1%
Interest on Deposits & CD's	0.39	7.64	0.00	N/A
NHARPC Website	0.00	1,125.00	1,500.00	75.0%
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	0.00	0.0%	N/A
<b>Total 6901 · Other Services &amp; Income</b>	<b>0.39</b>	<b>2,250.74</b>	<b>3,775.00</b>	<b>59.6%</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>53,431.41</b>	<b>511,568.76</b>	<b>673,779.34</b>	<b>75.9%</b>

Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission  
Profit and Loss YTD Comparison  
April 2026

	<u>Apr 26</u>	<u>Jul 25-Apr 26</u>	<u>FY26 Budget</u>	<u>%</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>7000 · Salaries</b>				
Permanent Salaries/Interns	35,566.00	343,916.75	414,471.25	83.0%
<b>Total 7000 · Salaries</b>	<u>35,566.00</u>	<u>343,916.75</u>	<u>414,471.25</u>	<u>83.0%</u>
<b>7100 · Payroll, Taxes &amp; Benefits</b>				
Payroll Taxes - FICA/SUTA/FUTA	2,630.12	25,880.19	31,499.82	82.2%
Medical Insurance	4,355.56	25,664.20	32,950.00	77.9%
Dental Insurance	363.80	4,739.44	6,400.00	74.1%
Life Insurance	11.90	119.00	300.00	39.7%
Disability Insurance	133.40	1,334.00	1,800.00	74.1%
Accident Insurance	49.08	490.80	1,500.00	32.7%
Employee Retirement - SIMPLE	1,052.12	10,157.54	14,000.00	72.6%
Workers' Comp Insurance	0.00	1,172.00	1,172.00	100.0%
<b>Total 7100 · Payroll, Taxes &amp; Benefits</b>	<u>8,595.98</u>	<u>69,557.17</u>	<u>89,621.82</u>	<u>77.6%</u>
<b>8000 · Service Expenses</b>				
Professional Consulting Serv.	0.00	828.10	4,500.00	18.4%
Land Use Regulation Handbooks	0.00	2,345.80	2,345.80	100.0%
<b>Total 8000 · Service Expenses</b>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>3,173.90</u>	<u>6,845.80</u>	<u>46.4%</u>
<b>9000 · Office and administration exp.</b>				
Accounting - Payroll Processing	615.32	5,257.61	8,250.00	63.7%
Advert. and other Recruitment expenses	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.0%
Bank Fees-Finance/Service Chrgs	0.00	545.00	500.00	109.0%
Dues & subscriptions	19.99	1,079.76	2,500.00	43.2%
Insurance, property & liability	314.93	6,924.79	9,750.00	71.0%
Lease - Equipment	719.51	7,195.10	7,800.00	92.2%
Office Rent	1,689.69	16,894.14	20,276.28	83.3%
Office Space Utilities/CAM/Taxes	2,339.39	10,268.94	14,000.00	73.3%
Postage & shipping	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.0%
Prof. Auditing	0.00	21,735.00	46,000.00	47.3%
Services & Maint. Computers	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.0%
Supplies - Office	45.98	238.31	1,200.00	19.9%
Telephone & internet	254.97	4,758.80	5,200.00	91.5%
Training & Workshops	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.0%
Travel	0.00	1,207.86	1,500.00	80.5%
Meals	0.00	0.00	225.00	0.0%
Vehicle Maintenance/Insur/Gas	15.16	603.06	1,750.00	34.5%
Equip - Computers	0.00	0.00	1,200.00	0.0%
Equip - Software	2,709.90	26,717.97	32,427.50	82.4%
Equip - Traffic Count	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.0%
Website Development	0.00	0.00	1,400.00	0.0%
Miscellaneous / other expenses	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.0%
<b>Total 9000 · Office and administration exp.</b>	<u>8,724.84</u>	<u>103,426.34</u>	<u>156,978.78</u>	<u>65.9%</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>52,886.82</u>	<u>520,074.16</u>	<u>667,917.65</u>	<u>77.9%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>544.59</u>	<u>(8,505.40)</u>	<u>5,861.69</u>	