



## OVERVIEW: ONE PLAN – SIX KEY TOPICS

While the work that went into developing this Regional Plan can be considered a new initiative for CNHRPC, it is built on all the other past and present efforts and projects that have taken place not only at the regional level but in partnership with communities. Some topics, such as energy and weather hazards, are being introduced for the first time; others cover topics that have long been a focus in the region - transportation, natural resources, housing and economic development. Each of these six topics has a series of implementation/action items that are summarized in this Chapter and can also be found in the individual chapters.

### PLANNING/OUTREACH PROCESS

The planning process provided many opportunities for the public to participate and be heard prior to the drafting of the overall Plan and the action items identified in this Chapter. Five important opportunities included a survey, individual comment cards, regional meetings, community events, and the project's website. Public workshops were held throughout the planning process to share information and gather input to shape the vision, principles, and strategies that frame this Plan. A review of local master plans not only helped to craft the vision but provided a check on the action items found in this Chapter. Throughout the entire process, CNHRPC also had the advice and assistance of the Regional Plan Advisory Committee (RPAC) comprised of local commissioners, non-profit representatives, and other local officials in the region. This approach ensures that the Plan's strategies and implementation priorities are responsive to local needs and priorities and are comprehensive and aligned with what we heard and identified from our research throughout this project.

### ADOPTION OF THE PLAN

According to RSA 36:47, a planning commission shall prepare a regional plan ("a comprehensive master plan") and shall make careful studies of the infrastructure, resources, identified issues/concerns and needs of its communities. As such a commission, the CNHRPC has overall responsibility to adopt the plan and to address any comments received on the draft. The Commission, comprised of representatives from the 20 CNHRPC municipalities, has discussed aspects of plan development at regular meetings during this project and worked with the RPAC and full Commission throughout the entire process. What gives life to the Regional Plan after adoption is its usefulness to communities and the value and implementation of the action items. CNHRPC will continue to work with local communities to be sure that any implementation activities continue to be responsive to current needs in the region.

### IMPLEMENTATION

Plans by their very nature are long range and need to leave room for discretion on how the Plan will be implemented. The Regional Plan contains numerous strategies, some of which are longer-term, needing some resourced and planning to implement; others are already underway or can be implemented immediately. This is not a regulatory document but rather a source of information with the main

purpose of recommending strategies/action items that will benefit the municipalities in the region. The intent of the action items in this Chapter is not to be prescriptive but rather advisory and subject to change, depending on existing or emerging conditions and needs in the region. Priorities change, new opportunities arise, policies get revised and funding evolves. The implementation or action items for all six elements of the Regional Plan are contained in a separate matrix at the end of this Chapter but these action items can also be found at the end of each Plan's Chapter. The implementation matrix is really an administrative document that will serve three functions:

- A framework for working on priorities and identifying potential partners.
- A tracking mechanism to record progress or revise priorities; and
- A planning tool to help CNHRPC and other partners pull out certain strategies or action items to pursue in one or three-year timeframes to help focus efforts and achieve results.

If needed, these action items can be reviewed and prioritized on an annual basis with CNHRPC staff and its partner communities. Some of the action items are ambitious and require significant commitment of staff and resources. The true success of this overall Plan will be in the progress on the agreed upon action items and the ongoing communication between CNHRPC and communities in the region.

The action items will also inform the annual work program of the CNHRPC as staff resources could be directed towards those items deemed a high priority by the region's communities and public outreach process. CNHRPC will be available to serve as a facilitator of regional dialogue on matters of regional importance identified in this plan. CNHRPC will also continue to work closely with the region's communities and will use this Plan to guide future work and to keep its current programs on target and responsive to community needs. Seeking funding resources to implement certain projects/tasks will be needed. CNHRPC's current programs and initiatives that communities in the region value and support will be maintained and can be enhanced by the work in the Plan. Some areas of particular emphasis include:

**Community Planning:** Continuing to provide direct assistance to communities on master plans, subdivision/site plan review regulations and development reviews is a long standing, important service offered by CNHRPC to those communities requesting such assistance. Being able to factor in some of the specific knowledge gained from the public outreach and research on particular topic areas for this Plan will enhance CNHRPC's ability to provide well informed, targeted assistance.

**Grant Writing and Assistance:** CNHRPC has traditionally been available to assist communities with grant writing and management that support a wide range of planning activities. With the additional knowledge gained from research into funding opportunities in areas such as energy efficiency and renewables, weather hazards, and economic development, CNHRPC will be well positioned to provide additional resources and knowledge on programs/initiatives if needed.

**Training:** Providing opportunities for communities to build knowledge and expertise on specific topics is one component of CNHRPC's overall annual work program. One of the more successful outcomes of this Plan is the ability to expand and improve in this area by focusing on topics identified in the Plan as priorities. Whether the topic be broadband access, large scale renewable energy projects, watershed planning, hazard mitigation planning or economic development planning. CNHRPC will strive to facilitate opportunities to keep the region's communities up to date and informed on emerging issues and potential solutions.

**GIS and Data:** CNHRPC has long held an important role in the region’s GIS mapping of data for use in master plans, transportation planning and other analyses. As an affiliate of the U.S. Census Bureau, CNHRPC is also involved in population estimates and projection work and acts in an advisory capacity to the Office of Energy and Planning (OEP) on data review and analysis of Census and state generated data.

These services will continue and be enhanced and informed by the Regional Plan. For example, creating new datasets and improving the CNHRPC website to keep current on policies and initiatives in new areas such as energy efficiency, renewables, hazard mitigation and/or economic development planning can be pursued.

**Regional Initiatives:** CNHRPC will continue to pursue opportunities that are of value to its 20 municipalities that focus on regional issues and resources. Examples of new areas include roundtables for broadband, local energy committees and conservation commissions. The Regional Plan will inform and provide additional opportunities to focus efforts on regional work and may lead to new opportunities to broaden existing initiatives.

**Transportation Initiatives:** CNHRPC will continue to support the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), provide transportation planning assistance to its 20 municipalities, and continue to undertake regional transportation planning activities such as the preparation of the regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Issues and challenges identified within the Regional Plan will assist in the development of the Commission’s biennial Unified Planning Work Program.

## IMPLEMENTATION/ACTION ITEMS

The following section describes different levels of detail on implementation/action items. The first is a summary of implementation findings that have their roots in the themes developed as part of the regional story. These four themes were used to tell the story of the future direction for the region and influenced the overall vision and guiding principles found in the Vision Chapter. Here, they serve as a framework to highlight not only key implementation/action items but those that are common throughout all of the six topic chapters. The implementation matrix at the end of this section describes in detail the action items from each chapter, along with potential partners.

### 1. CONNECT

Connection was a dominant topic throughout the public outreach process and is an important guiding principle throughout most of the chapter topics. A region where people have more choices on how they connect to the places where they live, work and recreate was reported as highly desirable and an important principle identified in many of the Plan’s chapters. The term “connect” is used in its broadest sense here as it addresses connections for the transportation system, schools, recreation access and broadband. Action items in every chapter have some elements of the role connections play in what needs to be accomplished. Some action items that support the role of connections are:

- Identifying opportunities to develop regional dialogue on economic development and energy efficiency and renewables.
- Supporting conservation efforts that connect wildlife corridors across municipal borders;
- Finding opportunities to bring residents to the outdoors closer to home; and

- Promoting an expanded and faster broadband and telecommunications infrastructure.
- Working on establishing a regional complete streets policy that can be incorporated into local master plans.

## **2. INVEST**

The lack of a regional identity and how to develop economically in ways that are both strategic and focused on what already works in this region is an important guiding principle that lays the foundation for implementation strategies. Certainly the region’s quality of life is an asset that can attract and retain workers, employers and visitors. Capitalizing on this asset and investing in what is currently valued is important as businesses want to operate in an area that has a readily available, talented workforce.

It is important to look towards fostering a climate that is attractive to investment and opportunity. There are many ways to market the region that are explored in the Economic Development Chapter and the following matrix. Key principles include:

- **“Growing our own”** by focusing on retention, expansion and fostering a climate of investment and economic opportunity in the region;
- Encouraging economic development that is a “good fit” for the region and fosters a prosperous quality of life that provides opportunity and supports the needs of the region; and
- Promoting and developing new and existing businesses.

Specific projects that implement these principles are identified in the implementation matrix below and are tied to recommendations in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

## **3. PARTNER**

There is a strong history of successful partnerships in the region and the outreach process confirmed that this trend should be continued and improved in the future as funding and staff resources continue to be limited. Many communities are over burdened with the day to day management of municipal affairs and administration and lack sufficient time and resources to address issues of concern and of interest. Strengthening existing partnerships and seeking new partners is a key principle that is common throughout all of the six topic area chapters.

Many opportunities for projects/initiatives require outside funding and some type of leverage or match. Working in partnership with communities and other groups is often needed in order to be strategic in how funding is pursued. Common to all six chapters is the constraints on funding and staff time to pursue projects and other initiatives. Reaching out to communities to strategically identify funding opportunities and to avoid competing for the same funding source and encourage a regional grant application is key.

Some of the action items that support these principles include:

- Addressing regional issues such as watershed management in a collaborative partnership with the region’s communities, CNHRPC and state agencies;

- Identifying grant opportunities and incentives by working with local and regional governments, non-profits, and state agencies to identify the most appropriate funding sources for projects and programs; and
- Fostering partnerships on responses to hazardous events, including weather related disasters.

#### 4. SUSTAIN

The theme of sustainability has its roots in the public outreach throughout the planning process and the impact of demographic trends such as an aging population. Given the current trend and projected population growth, revisiting how services are provided at the local and regional level needs a closer look. Trying to find ways to ways to engage/recruit younger volunteers for many of our local land use boards and committees is also of concern given these trends.

The region today is already a special space for residents and highly valued for its quality of life. Key principles common to all chapters focus on working hard to maintain a healthy lifestyle that includes clean water, a diverse housing supply, stable energy costs and a safe, multi-modal transportation network. These principles are further refined as action items in the matrix below and include:

- Maintaining access to a local food supply in the region;
- Encouraging/maintaining a strong volunteer base in our communities;
- Reducing energy consumption in order to sustain a healthy environment;
- Preserving our natural and built environment;
- Being strategic and efficient in fiscal expenditures; and
- Stewardship of our natural resources so that future generations are able to enjoy the same amenities we experience today.

## Chapter 4: Housing

Strategy	Functional Areas							Potential Partners	
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy		Engagement
Support the development of workforce housing ordinances that allow for a mix of market rate and workforce housing in the same development within close proximity to employment centers.		●		○					Municipal, building industry, CNHRPC
Support senior housing ordinances within close proximity (walking/bus) to services and amenities (medical; food stores, etc.) and employment centers.	○	●		○					Municipal, building industry, senior groups, CNHRPC
Support zoning ordinances that allow for opportunities to locate housing for assisted living facilities within close proximity to services, amenities and employment centers.	○	●		○					Municipal boards and committees, staff, CNHRPC
Support accessory apartment ordinances for senior housing and housing for young people.		●		○					Municipal boards and committees, staff, CNHRPC
Monitor demographic changes occurring in the region and the effects it may have on their communities and the local economy by monitoring Census and other data sources as well as conducting surveys and focus groups within the community.							●		CNHRPC, municipal boards and committees, staff
Support zoning ordinances that allow for opportunities for group housing within close proximity to services, amenities and employers.	○	●	○	○					Municipal boards and committees, staff, CNHRPC
Support zoning ordinances allow for home occupations, including day-care in each community.		●		○					Municipal boards and committees

**Key:**

- Primary functional area(s) affected
- Secondary Functional Area(s) affected

Strategy	Functional Areas								Potential Partners
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy	Engagement	
Support infill ordinances where they may be beneficial.	○	●		○					Municipal board and committees, CNHRPC
Support strategies and ordinances that can encourage the development of housing near services, amenities and job centers with as little reliance on cars as possible (i.e. walkable; public transit, etc.).	○	●		○					Municipal boards and committees, CNHRPC
Support strategies to ensure adequate broadband access to rural residential areas and areas where home occupations are permitted/encouraged.		○		●					Municipal, broadband advocacy groups, CNHRPC, State Legislature
Support the development of a cluster ordinance, or “open space development” ordinance.		●			○				Municipal boards and committees, staff, CNHRPC
Support the adoption of RSA 79E and use it to encourage the development of various housing types in more dense areas (assisted living, workforce, senior, etc.).	○	○		●					Municipal boards and committees, staff, CNHRPC
Ensure an adequate variety and choice of housing and neighborhood types within communities.	●	●							Municipal boards and committees, staff, CNHRPC
Support local housing entities such as CATCH in the development of permanent affordable housing.	○	●	○	○					Municipal boards, staff, CNHRPC, housing nonprofits

**Key:**

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- Secondary Functional Area(s) affected

Chapter 5: Economic Development									
Strategy	Functional Areas								Potential Partners
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy	Engagement	
Facilitate the expansion and upkeep of infrastructure, including but not limited to water, sewer, transportation, and energy related projects as identified in the region's CEDS Priority Project list (see Table 5.1).			○	●			○	○	Municipalities, CNHRPC, CEDS Strategy Committee, CNHRPC Transportation Advisory Committee
Encourage efforts to clarify local governmental processes to foster a business friendly environment. Make various additional development information available online including property listings, demographic data, economic data, transportation data, etc.			○	●				○	Municipalities, CNHRPC
Encourage and provide support to communities to establish local economic development committees.				●				○	Municipalities, CNHRPC, EDCs
Explore Regional Economic Development District (EDD) feasibility and possibilities.				●				○	Municipalities, CEDS Strategy Committee, CNHRPC, SNHPC
Develop a regional brand.				●				○	Municipalities, Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce, Municipalities, CNHRPC

**Key:**

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Strategy	Functional Areas							Potential Partners	
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy		Engagement
Reinforce and strengthen regional industry clusters and industries of local importance, including the development of strategies for the expansion of complementary businesses and services.				●			○		CEDS Strategy Committee, Municipalities, CNHRPC, CRDC, DRED
Expand telecommunications, broadband services and other information technologies throughout the region. Encourage communities to work together to address broadband needs on a regional or sub-regional basis.				●					Municipalities, CNHRPC, Regional or sub-regional Broadband Advisory Groups
Encourage the assessment and cleanup of brownfield sites throughout the Central NH Region for reuse or redevelopment.				●	○				Municipalities, CNHRPC, DES, EPA, CRDC
Encourage home business expansion and development.		○		●					Municipalities, CNHRPC,
Support the development of a strong, local workforce, including quality education.				●				○	CEDS Strategy Committee, CNHRPC, Municipalities, NHTI

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Strategy	Functional Areas							Potential Partners	
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy		Engagement
Encourage municipalities to identify and certify properties for use/reuse.				●					Municipalities, CNHRPC, SNHPC, CEDS Strategy Committee
Expand business technical assistance and development assistance services.				●				○	CEDS Strategy Committee, Municipalities, CNHRPC

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Chapter 6: Transportation									
Strategy	Functional Areas							Potential Partners	
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy		Engagement
Continue to support the Bow-Concord I-93 Improvements through assistance to the consultant team and outreach to CNHRPC member communities.			●	○			○		FHWA, DOT, CNHRPC, City of Concord town of Bow, Consultants
Continue to support regional transit and volunteer driver services.			●	○		○	○		DOT, CNHRPC, Municipalities, NGOs
Increase safety for all users of the transportation system at the Regional & Local levels in partnership with State & Federal Initiatives such as the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)			●	○					FHWA, DOT, CNHRPC, Municipalities
Continue to support improvements to state-maintained regional highways in the CNHRPC region through existing advocacy avenues such as the CNHRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)			●					●	DOT, CNHRPC, Municipalities
Work with the City of Concord and DOT to explore alternative options for funding projects located within the Urban Compact.			●					○	DOT, CNHRPC, city of Concord
Encourage municipal participation in transportation asset management practices.			●					○	DOT, CNHRPC, Municipalities, UNH
Continue to enhance Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Committee membership to extend beyond municipal representation and include private sector and legislative representation.			●					●	DOT, CNHRPC, Municipalities, private business, state and local representatives

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Strategy	Functional Areas							Potential Partners	
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy		Engagement
Encourage future development in the region to take place at locations where the primary road function is appropriate for the type of development proposed.	○		●	●					CNHRPC, Municipalities, private business
Establish a regional complete streets policy that can be incorporated into municipal master plans.	○		●	○			○		CNHRPC, Municipalities
To assist communities in the development of corridor plans and implementation of access management practices.			●	○				○	Local Planning Boards with assistance from CNHRPC or other planning professionals
To assist communities in the consideration of biking and walking components in the design of transportation infrastructure.				●			●		DOT, CNHRPC, Municipalities,
To continue to evaluate the cost benefit outcomes of various rail and bus options for the Capitol Corridor.			●	○			●		DOT, CNHRPC, City of Concord town of Bow, Consultants, private businesses

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Chapter 7: Natural Resources									
Strategy	Functional Areas							Potential Partners	
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy		Engagement
Encourage best practices in stewardship of conservation lands in the region.					●			○	Municipal conservation commissions, non-profits CNHRPC
Partner with communities on efforts to engage more volunteers and to promote stewardship opportunities with all age groups in the community.					○			●	Municipal board and committees, CNHRPC
Provide opportunities for round-table conversation and peer to peer learning for conservation commissions to discuss conservation priorities at a regional level.					●	○		○	Municipal conservation commissions, CNHRPC
Encourage partnership and improve coordination between communities to protect contiguous land for conservation across municipal boundaries.	○				●			○	Municipal conservation commissions, CNHRPC
Encourage communication between agricultural and conservation commissions, and local land use boards on municipal issues, regulations, and local affairs related to agriculture and conservation.					●			○	Municipal conservation and agricultural commissions, CNHRPC
Assist interested communities in reviewing regulations to ensure that new development will support land use patterns that protect large un-fragmented blocks of land.	●				○	○			Municipal boards and committees, CNHRPC

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Strategy	Functional Areas								Potential Partners
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy	Engagement	
Work with interested communities on prioritizing open space conservation toward larger connected blocks of conserved land, including wildlife habitat identified by NH Fish & Game's Wildlife Action Plan, to provide wildlife corridors, habitat diversity and ecological sustainability.					●	○			Municipal boards and committees, CNHRPC
Support efforts to seek funding for conservation acquisitions.				○	●				Municipal boards and committees, CNHRPC
Encourage a watershed management approach to water quality to address the cumulative impacts of non-point source pollution and other pollutants.	○			○	●				Municipal boards and committees, CNHRPC
Provide educational opportunities and resources to communities on the importance of protecting wetlands, groundwater and drinking water by providing information on tools such as overlay districts as well as permanent land conservation techniques.				○	●			○	Municipal boards and committees, CNHRPC
Support stormwater management on a watershed scale through education of the public and municipal employees, including road agents, by utilizing the New Hampshire Homeowner's Guide to Stormwater Management by DES and Green SnowPro Certification available through UNH.					●			○	Municipal staff, state agencies, CNHRPC
Support any municipal efforts to incorporate low impact development as well as sedimentation/stormwater controls in local regulations.					●				Municipal boards and committees, CNHRPC
Encourage communities to develop Asset Management Plans of drinking water and wastewater infrastructure by inventorying characteristics of facilities such as age, size, and condition (e.g. transmission lines, intakes) for addressing future challenges and required upgrades.					●				Municipal staff, CNHRPC

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Strategy	Functional Areas								Potential Partners
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy	Engagement	
Encourage communities to set aside annual Capital Reserve Funds for water or wastewater infrastructure emergency improvement funding and to place upgrades to water or sewer lines or facilities into Capital Improvements Programs.					●				Municipal staff, boards and committees, CNHRPC
Encourage municipalities to develop or continue local agriculture commissions to promote farming presence in municipalities.				○	●				Municipal boards and committees, CNHRPC
Ensure that the region is represented in any statewide initiative or legislation regarding agriculture and right to farm issues.					●				Municipal boards, CNHRPC
Support maintenance and improvement to recreation opportunities, including access to water resources, lakes and rivers, for all users and age groups in the community and seek funding opportunities for developing improved recreation opportunities.								●	Municipal boards, state agencies, nonprofits, CNHRPC
Help interested communities in the region to improve and develop trails and access points with a focus on connectivity between trails systems and across municipal borders.	○				●				Municipal boards and committees, state agencies, land trusts, CNHRPC
Provide information on public open space on CNHRPC's website or on a regional web portal site to promote the region's available public parks and recreation areas. Also encourage municipalities to include local information on their website, in municipal offices and annual reports.								●	Municipal staff, boards and committees, state agencies CNHRPC

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## Chapter 8: Weather Hazards

Strategy	Functional Areas							Potential Partners	
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy		Engagement
Consider completing a vulnerability assessment of critical community assets to include analysis, description, and/or maps of potential natural and other hazard threats and ascertain risk to the community.			○			●		○	Municipal staff and boards, CNHRPC
Consider revisions of zoning ordinances, land use regulations, building codes, and municipal policies to help mitigate extreme weather hazards, such as adopting a stricter floodplain ordinance, providing conservation subdivision incentives in high-risk areas, encouraging village center zoning, utilizing transfer of development rights, and focusing on open space and land preservation.	○				○	●			Municipal boards, staff, CNHRPC
Utilize fluvial erosion hazard (FEH) information to ascertain the most appropriate locations for new development by keeping new buildings out of flood-prone or fluvial erosion-prone areas.	○			○		●			Municipal boards, staff, CNHRPC
Incorporate elements of low impact development and green infrastructure site design into local Subdivision Regulations and Site Plan Review Regulations.					○	●	○		Municipal boards, staff, CNHRPC
Work to protect the lands serving as floodwater storage through permanent preservation to ensure the ability of the land to retain its current water volume is continued into perpetuity.					○	●			Municipal board and committees, CNHRPC, land trusts and nonprofits
Encourage placing the lands surrounding public water supplies into permanent conservation using funding sources such as DES Water Supply and Protection Fund Grant Program.					○	●			Municipal board and committees, CNHRPC, land trusts and nonprofits

**Key:**

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Strategy	Functional Areas							Potential Partners	
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy		Engagement
Encourage large public water systems to have back-up power for all critical infrastructures and ensure small water systems install a power transfer switch to readily accept a generator when necessary.						●	○		Municipal staff, state agencies, CNHRPC
Encourage municipal public works or highway department employees to complete the NH Department of Environmental Service's certified culvert maintainer program to provide easier maintenance and upgrading of local Class V road culverts.						●		○	Municipal staff, state agencies, CNHRPC
Develop municipal priority lists from the local Hazard Mitigation Plan, Asset Management Plan, Vulnerability Assessment, Energy Audit, Climate Adaptation Action Plan and Emergency Management Department needs and incorporate projects into the Capital Improvements Program.					○	●	○		Municipal staff, boards and committees, CNHRPC
Assist in the development of Asset Management Plans of municipal service facilities to track the age, condition, and cost, and anticipated replacement date of each item of equipment.				○		●			Municipal staff, boards, CNHRPC
Encourage communities to adopt long- range infrastructure investments and improvements such as water and sewer lines replacement, treatment facilities improvements, and transportation system reconstruction (upgrade roads, upsize culverts, replace bridges, enhance drainage systems, etc.) into Capital Improvements Programs (CIPs) and maintenance plans.			○	○		●			Municipal staff, boards, CNHRPC
Identify the locations of all water crossings in the community, such as bridges and culverts, and record the dimensional, infrastructure, and waterflow characteristics, with the use of GPS technology and take photographs of upstream and downstream features to maintain in a geodatabase.			○		○	●			Municipal staff, boards, CNHRPC

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Strategy	Functional Areas							Potential Partners	
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy		Engagement
Encourage partnership with local businesses to help them develop disaster recovery plans to help businesses quickly recover and reopen after floods or other extreme weather.				○		●			Municipal staff, boards, businesses, state agencies, CNHRPC
Support implementation of green infrastructure at municipal facilities to help reduce runoff and stormwater flows that may otherwise exceed system capacity (examples include bio-retention areas/rain gardens, low impact development methods, pervious pavement, green roofs, swales, and the use of vegetation or pervious materials instead of impervious surfaces).					○	●	○		Municipal staff and boards, CNHRPC
Encourage cooperative agreements among municipalities to reduce costs for services and to share resources, such as for water and sewer services, equipment and inspection staff/consultants, shared municipal services, and for more integrated transportation, land use and environment planning.			○	○		●			Municipal boards and committees, CNHRPC
Identify potential recommendations for severe weather adaptation actions within local and regional policy, planning, and regulatory sectors (i.e. Master Plan, Open Space Plans, Hazard Mitigation Plans, Zoning Ordinances and Land Development Regulations).					○	●	○		Municipal boards and committees, state agencies, CNHRPC
Locate funding sources to assist municipalities with achieving any climate adaptation goals, including municipal energy efficiency projects, culvert upgrading, residential home efficiency, revision of ordinances and regulations for resource conservation, etc.			○		○	●	○		Municipal staff, boards, CNHRPC

**Key:**

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Chapter 9: Energy									
Strategy	Functional Areas							Potential Partners	
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy		Engagement
Reconvene Regional Roundtable of Local Energy Committees (LECs) to provide ongoing support and coordination to energy efficiency work in the Region; encourage the emergence of LECs in other communities throughout the Region.							●	○	CNHRPC, Municipal boards and committees (LECs)
Establish program area on CNHRPCs website that serves as a clearinghouse for energy related activities /initiatives in the Region.						○	●	○	CNHRPC, State agencies, utilities, energy related organizations
Coordinate and provide ongoing forums for local and regional projects and programs that showcase best practices in energy efficiency/ renewables.							●	○	CNHRPC, Municipal boards and committees (LECs), State agencies, energy related organizations
Conduct regulatory reviews for interested communities that identify any barriers to effectively reviewing and regulating renewable energy applications.		○		○			●		CNHRPC, Municipal boards and committees, (planning boards)

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Strategy	Functional Areas								Potential Partners
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy	Engagement	
Pursue customized training opportunities for local code enforcement officials to expand understanding and compliance with the state’s energy code.		○					●		CNHRPC, Municipal employees, boards and committees, NH Building Code Collaborative
Provide guidance and technical assistance to communities on the preparation of an energy chapter in master plans.	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	○	CNHRPC, Municipal boards and committees (planning boards)
Encourage and provide guidance to communities on the use of energy audits as the first step in identifying opportunities to improve energy efficiency and reducing municipal energy use.							●		CNHRPC, Municipal boards and committees (LECs), municipal employees
Work with other partners on addressing financial and other barriers to successfully implementing energy efficiency initiatives/projects.				○			●	○	CNHRPC, Municipal boards and committees, PUC, lending institutions, energy organizations

**Key:**

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- Secondary Functional Area(s) affected

Strategy	Functional Areas							Potential Partners	
	Settlement Patterns	Housing	Transportation	Economic	Natural Resources	Climate	Energy		Engagement
Expand awareness and understanding of rebate and loan programs that can support municipal and regional efforts on energy conservation and efficiency.							●	○	CNHRPC, Municipal employees, boards and committees (LECs), State agencies and commissions
Work with communities to encourage the use of land use principles that include strategies to create connectivity to recreation and services, utilize existing infrastructure and integrate green building measures into project design.	○	○	○				●		CNHRPC, Municipal boards and committees (planning boards)
Forge partnerships with schools to integrate energy related topics into the curriculum and raise awareness of energy use and conservation.							●	○	CNHRPC, Municipal boards and committees (LECs, school board), schools
Ensure that the region is represented in any efforts to address energy efficiency measures and reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the regional and state level.	○		○				●		CNHRPC, NH DES, NH OEP, other State agencies, utilities and energy organizations
Keep up on emerging technology for renewable energy sources and evaluate viability for applicability in the Region.							●		CNHRPC, Municipal boards and committees

**Key:**

- Primary functional area(s) affected
- Secondary Functional Area(s) affected