









SRPC ANNUAL REPORT

ACCEPTED: Accepted September 22, 2023

FISCAL YEAR

2

STR&FFORD

Regional Planning Commission

The Role of the Commission

Strafford Regional Planning Commission works with municipalities, statewide organizations, and other partners to provide technical assistance with planning documents, outreach, projects and regulations. We create a space for our stakeholders to connect and share information, and we provide information to the public, offering opportunities for engagement with important planning initiatives.

We serve our communities in two additional designated roles, as a Metropolitan Planning Organization, and as an Economic Development District. We work closely with the NH Department of Transportation to implement data collection programs, assist and advocate for local transit agencies and municipal projects, and create long-range plans which address safety and quality of life. With guidance from our partners, we maintain a regional economic development strategy that includes economic trends and local priority projects. We also assist local communities with economic development strategies and facilitate regional discussion.

Municipalities

Barrington Madbury Nottingham Brookfield Middleton Rochester Milton Rollinsford Dover Durham New Durham Somersworth Farmington Newmarket Strafford Lee Northwood Wakefield

Staff

Stephen Geis

Jen Czysz Jackson Rand Courtney Grugnale
Kyle Pimental Mark Davie Lisa Murphy
Kathy Foster Autumn Scott Angela Cleveland
Colin Lentz Natalie Gemma Troy Troy
Rachel Dewey Megan Taylor-Fetter

Blair Haney

Contact Us

Address: 150 Wakefield Street, Suite 12, Rochester, NH 03687

Tel: (603)994-3500

E-mail: srpc@strafford.org
Website: www.strafford.org
Instagram: @strafford.org

Facebook: @straffordregionalplanningcommission LinkedIn: @strafford-regional-planning-commission



Letter from the Executive Director

Thank you to the staff, commissioners, and community partners that have made Fiscal Year 2023 so exciting and successful. I am pleased to say that Fiscal Year 2024 is looking to continue the trend.

This past year has been one of collaborations and transitions. The housing crisis shaped much of our work and laid a foundation for the year ahead. SRPC staff worked alongside the eight other NH Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs), the NH Office of Planning and Development, and NH Housing to create what is to date the most robust Regional Housing Needs Assessments for NH's communities. SRPC has been successful in leveraging this work to assist municipalities in applying for Housing Opportunity Planning Grants through the InvestNH Program. Courtney Grugnale was hired under this effort to work as a Housing Navigator for Farmington and New Durham. During 2024 staff have committed to work with Barrington, Farmington, Newmarket and Somersworth to prepare housing master plan chapters, audit regulations, and draft regulatory updates.

On the economic development front, while the tremendous work undertaken as part of the CARES Act funded <u>Covid-19 Recovery</u> efforts wound down early in the fiscal year, SRPC was awarded a CEDR Grant from the NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs. This grant provided additional resources to build upon and maintain recovery efforts by supporting the collective work of the <u>Seacoast Economic Development Stakeholders</u> (SEDS). Funds enabled staff from the Rockingham Planning Commission and the Regional Economic Development Center to join SRPC on regular SEDS calls, to offer <u>micro-grants</u> to our communities, and to create an <u>employer toolkit</u> for workforce retention and attraction.

Continuing our partnership with Rockingham Planning Commission to support regional transit, during FY 2023 we worked with the Alliance for Community Transportation (ACT) to update the <u>Regional Coordinated Transit Plan</u>. This plan seeks to improve transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes. Over the next two years, our two planning commissions will join forces again to assess impediments to fixed route transit and improve access for residents living with disabilities. As part of this effort, we will focus on the intersections between land use and transit planning to understand how future development could occur in a way that improves transit connections.

Given the high levels of collaboration with regional partners last year, this year's goal is to strengthen internal collaboration and partnerships. Working with SRPC's commissioners, we are adjusting the format of our regular meetings to better balance SRPC's programs – increasing representation of economic development and regional planning initiatives. The quarterly commission meetings will aim to rotate throughout the region to facilitate on the ground connections with members of our communities, staff, and volunteers. The land use team will be launching a planner's roundtable to connect local planners and land use assistants for peer learning.

To keep up to date with other projects and happenings at SRPC throughout the year, be sure to <u>subscribe</u> to the SRPC monthly newsletter, weekly Bits and Pieces updates, and social media. The SRPC team looks forward to seeing what great work Fiscal Year 24 brings us!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Czysz, AICP

SRPC Executive Director

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Volunteer and Staff Directory



Volunteers nominated by a municipal planning board and appointed by a municipal council or select board represent their community on the Commission. Per RSA 36: 45-58 each member municipality may appoint between two and four representatives to the Commission dependent on population. Commissioners are considered voting members if their community is dues paying. Commissioners are appointed for four-year terms and inform planning policies for the region. They are tasked with providing input to staff; adopting reports, planning documents, amended Bylaws, and the Annual Budget and Dues; and electing Officers and Executive Committee members.



FY 2023 Commissioners

Commissioners' names and term expiration dates are listed by town below. Executive Committee members are indicated by (EC) after the term expiration.

Barrington

Matthew Towne (7/9/23) Steve Diamond (7/1/25)

Brookfield

Ed Comeau (3/2/24) Vacant (3/2/26)

Dover

Lindsey Williams (11/4/25) Sophie Robison (11/4/26) David Landry (11/4/23) (EC) Vacant (11/4/24)

Durham

Wayne Burton (4/30/24) (EC) Leslie Schwartz (4/30/25) Vacant (4/30/26)

Farmington

William Fisher (1/1/27) (EC) Vacant (3/31/25)

Lee

Katrin Kasper (11/21/24) (EC) Mary Woodward (3/1/25)

Madbury

Thomas Crosby (9/1/26) (EC) Mark Avery (3/1/25)

Middleton

John Mullen (5/28/27) Kate Buzzard (5/28/25)

Milton

John Nute (12/9/27) Karen Golab (3/13/24)

New Durham

Vacant (6/28/27) Vacant (10/28/25)

Newmarket

Lisa Henderson (12/7/24) Peter Nelson (3/1/25) (EC)

Northwood

Scott Martin (4/30/25) Vacant (4/30/27)

Nottingham

Charlene Andersen (2/1/24) Cheryl Smith (5/13/26) Teresa Bascom (alternate)

Rochester

Barbara Holstein (6/6/27) (EC) Vacant (6/6/24) Donald Hamann (6/30/25) (EC) Joe Boudreau (6/30/26)

Rollinsford

Vacant (4/21/25) Vacant (4/21/27)

Somersworth

Michael Bobinsky (5/2/24) (EC) Mark Richardson (5/31/25) Chris Horton (5/2/26)

Strafford

Donald Coker (8/15/25) Vacant (8/1/27)

Wakefield

Victor Vinagro (8/1/24) Vacant (8/1/26)

Staff Directory



Jennifer Czysz, AICP, Executive Director

May 2018 - Present

Email: jczysz@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 100

Project Areas: Organizational development and financial management; community development; land use, transportation, economic development, housing, and natural resources planning

Current Projects: Financial and administrative management of SRPC, SMPO and SEDD contracts; personnel; partnership building; represent SRPC at the COAST Finance Committee, Seacoast Drinking Water Commission, Commission to Study Offshore Wind and Port Development, and Coastal Resilience and Cultural and Historic Reserve District Commission; represent the nine NH Regional Planning Commissions at NH Housing and Community Development Planning Council, and the NH Council on Housing Stability's Regional Leadership and Coordination workgroup (co-chair).



Kyle Pimental, Assistant Director

June 2008 - Present

Email: kpimental@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 101

Project Areas: Project management and administrative oversight; climate adaptation and resilience planning, hazard mitigation, natural resource management and protection, land use and master planning, as well as the contract planner for the Town of Farmington.

Current Projects: Contract planner for the Town of Farmington; technical assistance with a cost-benefit analysis for a FEMA grant proposal in Durham; the development of a Nitrogen Control Plan in Milton; preparation of several grant applications to develop a river corridor plan for the Cocheco River, a watershed management plan for Milton Three Ponds, and implementation of actions in the Sunrise Lake plan, open space and master planning in Newmarket; as well as participation in the New Hampshire Planners Association's Executive Committee, Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association's Executive Committee, Coastal Adaptation Workgroup (CAW), CAW Outreach Subcommittee, CAW Talks, New Hampshire Coast Flood Risk Model Advisory Committee, and the Great Bay 2030 Focal Groups.



Kathy Foster, Financial Manager

September 2013 – Present Email: <u>kfoster@strafford.org</u>

Phone EXT: 111

Responsibilities: Full charge bookkeeping, payroll processing and reporting; human resources; budget development and analysis; grant and contract financial administration and management; financial and grant reporting; indirect cost rate calculation and recovery; assistance with financial auditing.



Colin Lentz, Senior Transportation Planner

March 2014 - Present

Email: clentz@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 102

Project Areas: Implementing tools for project development, assistance to public transit providers, collaborating with municipalities and NHDOT to execute federal-and state-funded transportation projects, crash analysis for safety improvement projects, connecting transportation and economic development, providing local transportation technical assistance, coordination with NHDOT and New Hampshire's three other MPOs.

Current Projects: Integrating performance measures, project prioritization, and regional trends into MPO planning and operations; travel demand model implementation; regional climate resilience planning; improving project development tools for municipalities; regional public transportation coordination and development; increasing outreach and engagement of underserved, underrepresented communities.



Angela Cleveland, Principal Planner

April 2023-Present

Email: acleveland@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 104

Project Areas: Economic Development, Housing, Master Planning, Community Engagement and Outreach, CommuteSMART (regional and statewide) initiatives, social media coordinator.

Current Projects: Strafford Economic Development District/CEDS, Somersworth Housing Plan and Audit, Communities for Healthy Aging Transitions, Municipal Guide for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.



Blair Haney, Principal Regional Planner

September 2021 – Present Email: bhaney@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 107

Project Areas: Hazard mitigation planning, circuit riding, and other land use planning activities

Current Projects: Contract planning services for Nottingham and Strafford Planning Boards, Barrington Future Land Use Master Plan chapter, and Community Development Block Grant administration.



Rachel Dewey, Senior Data Analyst

November 2015 – Present Email: rdewey@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 106

Project Areas: Transportation planning, data collection & analysis, GIS mapping, IT, website development and support

Current Projects: Regional Data Snapshot; Data analysis and visualization for SRPC's transportation, land use, environmental planning, and economic development planning programs; Technical assistance to communities through data analysis and reporting; Development of data tools and resources; SRPC website maintenance.



Natalie Gemma, Senior Regional Planner

November 2020 – Present Email: nmoles@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 113

Project Areas: Economic Development, Regional Planning

Current Projects: Strafford Economic Development District processes, Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, Seacoast Economy Calls, community outreach and engagement with a focus on local business support, provision of technical assistance to member municipalities and businesses, Consultant Technical Assistance Program, Municipal Record Digitization Project, Regional Housing Needs Assessment.



Lisa Murphy, Senior Regional Planner

May 2023-Present

Email: lmurphy@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 103

Project Areas: Land use, transportation, housing, and natural resources planning; brownfields, hazard mitigation/emergency management

Current Projects: Rochester Recreation Plan, Barrington Housing Chapter, Brownfields grant administration, Hazard Mitigation Plan updates for Strafford, Middleton, and Rochester, Transportation Climate Resiliency Plan



Jackson Rand, Senior GIS Planner

September 2019 – Present Email: irand@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 110

Project Areas: Transportation planning; data collection & analysis; GIS mapping

Current Projects: Data visualization for SRPC's transportation, land use, environmental planning, and economic development planning programs; Technical assistance to communities through GIS mapping and spatial analysis; Lee trail mapping; Various Annual Tax Map Updates.



Mark Davie, Regional Planner

May 2021 - Present

Email: mdavie@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 105

Project Areas: Transportation planning, data collection, circuit riding.

Current Projects: Annual data collection rotation, including traffic counts, bicycle and pedestrian counts, pavement assessments (RSMS), and field activities. MPO project prioritization and outreach. Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). Contract planner, Town of Northwood.



Stephen Geis, Planning Technician

June 2019 - Present

Email: sgeis@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 112

Project Areas: Transportation planning, data collection & analysis, GIS mapping

Current Projects: Data collection; field work; traffic counts; road surface management systems forecasting and sidewalk assessments; NPMDRS data analysis; Assisting with IT; building permit reporting; Hazard Mitigation Planning; Various Annual Tax Map Updates.



Courtney Grugnale, Housing Navigator

January 2023-Present

Email: cgrugnale@strafford.org

Phone: (603) 866-0830

Project Areas: Community engagement, master plan updates, Housing Opportunity Planning grants, Requests for Proposals, Land Use, Housing and regulatory changes.

Current Projects: Housing Opportunity Planning grants, New Durham regulatory changes, Farmington regulatory changes, and Housing Navigator grant for Farmington and New Durham.



Autumn Scott, Regional Planner

May 2021 - Present

Email: ascott@strafford.org

Phone EXT: 114

Project Areas: Regional planning, environmental and land use planning, watershed planning, stormwater management, climate & coastal adaptation and resilience, public health, master planning, equity and engagement, natural resource management, accessibility, graphic design, visioning & scenario planning, modeling & site design, grant tracking

Current Projects: Comprehensive update to Newmarket Master Plan including management of Protecting Source Water Through Open Space Conservation Planning and Riverfront Resilience Planning through the Community Design Master Plan Chapter projects, Title 6 and Environmental Justice program development and management, outreach & engagement strategies for updates to the Barrington Housing Master Plan, support for the Rochester Recreation Master Plan

& Somersworth Housing Master Plan update, Natural Resource Inventories for Dover, Natural Resource Master Plan update in Somersworth, Brownfields program support, Great Bay Adapts advisory group, attends Great Bay 2030 Engagement and Stewardship Workgroup, Seacoast Stormwater Coalition, Natural Resources Outreach Coalition, Coastal Adaptation Workgroup, Grant opportunity tracking & communication, preparation of several grant applications and letter of intent to develop a river corridor plan for the Cocheco River, Coastal technical assistance, networking for collaborative partnerships with UNH and other regional and state partners, graphic identity and design, development of internal accessibility protocols.



Megan Taylor-Fetter, Office Coordinator

June 2021 - Present

Email: <u>mtaylorfetter@strafford.org</u>

Phone EXT: 115

Project Areas: Office administration

Current Projects: Payroll and HR, assist with meeting coordination for the Executive Committee, Commission, Policy Committee and TAC. Committee volunteer roster updates and recruitment. Staff recruitment and scheduling for the records digitization project, town reports and other organizational processes.



Troy Troy, Transportation Data Collection Intern

May 2023-Present

Email: troy@strafford.org

Project Areas: Data Collection, building permit reporting, climate resiliency

Current Projects: Active Transportation Plan, Traffic Data Collection, Annual Building Permit Report, climate resiliency planning, bike and pedestrian counts, community anchors



Staff News

New Staff

- Courtney Grugnale joined SRPC as a Housing Navigator in January 2023.
- Angela Cleveland joined as Principal Planner in April 2023.
- Lisa Murphy joined SRPC as Senior Regional Planner in May 2023.
- Troy Troy began as Data Collection Summer Intern in May 2023.

Promotions

- Kyle Pimental was promoted to Assistant Director in June 2023.
- Jackson Rand and Natalie Gemma were promoted to senior staff members in June 2023.
- Mark Davie, Stephen Geis, and Autumn Scott were promoted to Planner II in June 2023.

Staff Fun Staff Picnic

SRPC staffers and family members enjoyed a day in the sun at Ellacoya State Park in August 2022.

Holiday Dinner

Staff celebrated the holidays at The Farm in Dover for dinner and a Secret Santa gift exchange.

SRPC Alumni

- Jane Tuttle vacated her position as Record Digitization Technician in July 2022.
- Jenny Duong completed her term as a Record Digitization Assistant in August 2022.
- Tyler Distefano completed his Economic Development Internship in August of 2022.
- Adam Salamone vacated his position as a Record Digitization and Data and IT Assistant in January 2023.
- Senior Economic Development Planner James Burdin vacated his position in January 2023.
- Senior Outreach and Communications Planner Shayna Sylvia vacated her position in March 2023.
- Zuzana Duffy completed her temporary position as Assistant Economic Development Planner in July 2023.
- Matthew Winders completed his Planning Internship August 2023.







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Project Name	Engage	Measure	Plan	Service		Geography	Funder	Project Dates	SRPC	SMPO	SEDD	Angie C.	Autumn S.	Blair H.	Colin L.	<u></u>	Jackson R.		Jen C.	Kathy F.	Kyle P.	Lisa M.	Mark D.	Megan T.F.		Shayna S.	Stephen G. Zuzv D.
Municipal Mast	er	ΡI	aı	ns	aı	nd Regulatory	Updates																		•		
Future Land Use and Transportation Master Plan	•	•	•			Barrington	Barrington	July 2022 to June 2023	•					•	•		•						•			•	
Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance			•	•		New Durham	New Durham	Summer 2022	•												•		•				
Comprehensive Master Plan Update	•	•	•			Strafford	Strafford	July 2022 to June 2023	•				•				•	•				•				•	•
Town Planning	Se	erv	/io	ces	5																						
Farmington			•	•		Farmington	Farmington	CY2022 CY2023	•												•						
Northwood			•	•		Northwood	Northwood	CY2022 CY2023	•									•					•				
Nottingham			•	•		Nottingham	Nottingham	July 2022 to June 2023	•					•													
Strafford			•	•		Strafford	Strafford	July 2022 to June 2023	•				•	•										•			
Wakefield			•	•		Wakefield	Wakefield	July 2022 to January 2023	•										•					•			

		Τу	pe					A	re	a							S	ita	ff '	Te	ean	n					
Project Name	Engage	Measure	Plan	Service	Geography	Funder	Project Dates	SRPC	SMPO	SEDD	Anaie C.	Autumn S.	Blair H.	Colin L.	Courtney G.	Interns	Jackson R.	Jailes D.	Jen C. Vathy F	Katny F.	Kyle P.	LISA M.	Medan T F	Natalie G.	Rachel D.	Shayna S.	Stephen G. Zuzy D.
Tax Mapping														•									•				
Farmington		•		•	Farmington	Farmington	JulDec. 2022	•									•										•
Somersworth		•		•	Somersworth	Somersworth	JulDec. 2022	•									•										•
Strafford		•		•	Strafford	Strafford	AprSep. 2023										•										•
Custom Mappii	ng	•	•				<u>, </u>																				
Trail Maps		•		•	Lee	Lee	JulDec. 2022	•							, .		•										•
Trail Maps		•		•	Nottingham	Nottingham	OctDec. 2022	•									•										•
Historic Sites StoryMap		•		•	Somersworth	Somersworth	JunSep. 2022	•									•										
Regional and N	lor	ı-F	Pro	fit	Projects																						
NH Association of RPCs Administration				•	Statewide	NHARPC	July 2022 to June 2023	•											•	•			•	,			
Communities for Healthy Aging Transitions	•		•		Regional Farmington Newmarket Rochester Strafford	Tufts/Point32 Health Foundation	July 2020 to September 2023	•		•	•	•				•		•	•						•	•	
Explore Moose Mountains Market Study		•		•	Brookfield, Farmington, Middleton, Milton, New Durham, Wakefield	EMM USDA RD Grant	November to December 2022			•														•	•	•	
	ers	R	eg	jio	nal Commission	Grant Administ	ration																				
Water Infrastructure Improvements				•	Sanbornville Water Precinct	NBRC	March 2021 to September 2023			•			•						•								

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Project Name	Engage	Measure	Plan	Service	Geography	Funder	Project Dates	SRPC	SMPO	SEDD	Angie C.	Autumn S.	Blair H.	Colin L.	Courtney G.		Jackson K.	James b.	Jen C. Kathii F	Kathy F.	Kyle P. I isa M	Mark D.	Megan T.F.	Natalie G.	Rachel D.	Stephen G.	Zuzy D.
Union Hotel Rehabilitation				•	Wakefield	NBRC	December 2022 to Sep. 2024			•			•					•	•								
U.S. Dept of Ec	on	or	nic	c D	evelopment Ad	ministration Pro	grams																				
Recovery and Resiliency Planning	•		•	•	Regional	US EDA CARES Act	Sep. 2020 to Sep. 2023			•		•				•		•	•				•	•		•	•
Economic Development District Planning	•		•		Regional	US EDA Planning Partnership Program	July 2021 to June 2024			•	•						•	•	•					•	•	•	•
U.S. Environme	ent	al	P	rot	ection Agency F	Programs																					
Brownfields Community Assessments				•	Regional		FY20-23			•							•	•									
NH Departmen	t o	f	Ec	one	omic Affairs, Of	fice of Planning	and Developme	nt	Pı	rog	gra	m	S														
Targeted Block Grant	•	•		•	Regional	NHOPD	July 2022 to June 2023	•				•					•	•	•			•			•	•	
Regional Housing Needs Assessment	•	•			Regional	ARPA	Sep. 2021 to March 2023	•									•	•	•			•		•	•	•	
Seacoast Economic Development Stakeholders	•			•	Regional	BEA CEDR Grant	July 2022 to June 2023			•	•							•	•					•			•
Dept of Environ	nm	er	nta	al S	Services																						
Coastal Technical Assistance	•		•	•	Dover, Durham, Madbury, Newmarket, Rollinsford	NHDES Coastal NOAA	July 2022 to June 2023	•				•									•				•	•	

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Flood Smart Seacoast	•		•		Madbury, Rollinsford	NHDES Coastal NOAA Project of Special Merit	October 2021 to March 2024	•				•								•	•						
Permeable Reactive Barrier Demonstration Project				•	Oyster River, Durham	NHDES Watershed Assistance	September 2018 to December 2022	•												•	•						
Aquifer & Wellhead Ordinance Updates			•	•	Middleton Nottingham Rollinsford Wakefield	NHDES Source Water Protection	June 2022 to May 2023	•				•	•					•	•	•	•	•					
	lew	/ H	la	mp	shire Piscataqı	ua River Estuarie	es Program		1																		
Increased Buffer Protections			•	•	New Durham	UNH PREP	June 2021 to September 2022	•				•						•	•	•	•						
NH Community	/ D	ev	el	ор	ment Finance A	uthority Commu	inity Developme	ent	: B	loc	k	Gr	an	t A	dn	nin	ist	rat	tio	n							
Community Action Partnership of Strafford Co. Homeless Shelter				•	Dover and Strafford County	NHCDFA CDBG	January 2021 to June 2023			•			•				•	•	•	•							
CAPSC Gafney Home Senior Housing				•	Rochester	NHCDFA CDBG	March 2022 to June 2024			•			•				•	•	•	•							
NH Housing Fi	na	nc	е	Au	thority Invest																						
Housing Navigator					Farmington New Durham	NHHFA Invest NH	October 2022 to September 2024	•							•			•	•	•	•			•			

	•	Ту	pe	e				Α	rea	3					S	Sta	aff	Te	am					
Project Name	Engage				Geography	Funder	Project Dates	SRPC	SMPO	SEDD	Autumn S.	Blair H.	Courtney G.		<u>ج</u>	Ö.			Lisa M.		Megan T.F.	Natalle G.	Shayna S.	Stephen G. Zuzy D.
Department of	Sa	ife	ty	/ H	omeland Securi	ty Hazard Mitiga	ation Planning						_		-									
Barrington	•	•	•		Barrington	FEMA PDM	Jan. `21-May.'23	•			•	•			•									
Durham	•	•	•		Durham	FEMA BRIC 20	May '23-Aug. \25	•							•			•	•					
Middleton	•	•	•		Middleton	FEMA BRIC 20	May '23-Aug. `25	•							•				•					
Milton	•	•	•		Milton	FEMA BRIC 20	May '23-Aug. `25	•							•									•
Nottingham	•	•	•		Nottingham	FEMA BRIC 20	May '23-Aug. \25				•	•			•									
Strafford	•	•	•		Strafford	FEMA BRIC 20	May '23-Aug. \25	•							•				•					
Transportation	U	niſ	ie	ed	Planning Work F	Program																		
Annual Listing of Obligated Projects		•			Regional	NHDOT, FHWA, FTA	December 2022		•			•												
Traffic Counts		•			Regional	NHDOT, FHWA, FTA	Summer & Early Fall		•			•		•						•		•	,	•
Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts		•			Regional	NHDOT, FHWA, FTA	Summer & Early Fall		•			•	,	•						•				•
Regional Data Snapshot		•			Regional	NHDOT, FHWA, FTA	January to April 2023		•			•)	•	•					•		•		•
Ten Year Plan Project Solicitation	•		•		Regional	NHDOT, FHWA, FTA	July 2021 to June 2023		•			•	,		•					•				
Transportation Improvement Program			•		Regional	NHDOT, FHWA, FTA	July 2021 to June 2023		•			•								•				
Road Surface Management Systems		•			Regional	NHDOT, FHWA, FTA	July 2021 to June 2023		•			•	,											•

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Project Name	Engage	Measure	Plan	Service	Geography	Funder	Project Dates	SRPC	SMPO	SEDD	Angie C.	Autumn S.	Blair H.	Courtney G.	Interns	Jackson R.	James B.	Jen C.	Kathy F.	Kyle P.	Lisa M.	Mark D.	Megan T.F.	Natalle G.	Shavna S	Stephen G.	Zuzy D.
CommuteSmart NH	•			•	Regional	NHDOT, FHWA, FTA	July 2021 to June 2023		•		•		•	,								•			•		
CommuteSmart Seacoast	•			•	Regional	NHDOT, FHWA, FTA, COAST, CMAQ	July 2021 to June 2023		•		•		•									•			•		

Outreach and Engagement



SRPC integrates outreach and engagement with all of its projects. Gathering feedback from residents, municipal staff and volunteers, partners and other stakeholders is essential when planning for the future of the Stafford region.

By the Numbers

Check out some awesome statistics from FY 2023.

24

grants and proposals were submitted in FY 2023; 19 of which were successful and amounted to \$1.52

million in funds for SRPC and partner organizations, including a \$500,000 Brownfields Assessment 4-year award and a Housing Navigator and 3 Housing Opportunity Grants totaling \$471,010.

88

miles of roads assessed and prescribed treatments for in Newmarket and Milton's 2023 Road Surface Management System Reports.

792+

meetings attended by SRPC staff.

808

total members of Commute Smart
Seacoast challenges online and mobile
app, due to outreach and the
Business2Business statewide
challenge that SRPC coordinates with
Rockingham Planning Commission
every May.

1,838

responses to 17 surveys conducted

by SRPC during FY 2023 using 3 survey platforms: SurveyMonkey, MetroQuest, and Survey123.

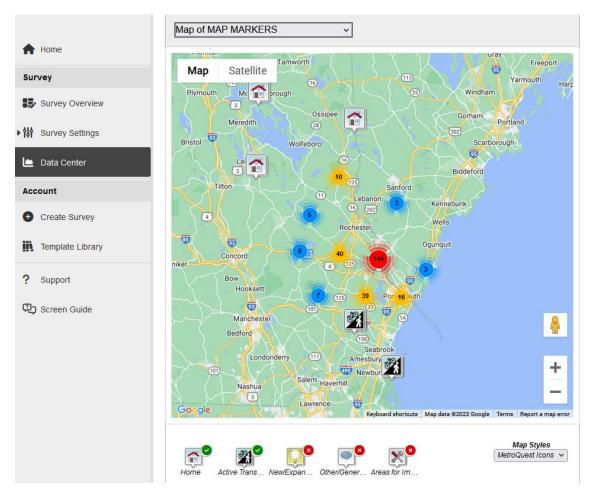
OUTREACH Spotlight: Active Transportation Planning



In FY2023, staff began drafting plan content for a regional Active Transportation Plan. The goals and strategies in the plan will be based on input from a steering committee of municipal representatives and stakeholders, and a regional survey that was conducted in FY2022. SRPC staff also standardized bicycle and pedestrian data collection in FY2022 and FY2023, increasing the counting capabilities of staff and working with municipalities and local landowners to coordinate trail and sidewalk counts.

SRPC used an online survey tool called MetroQuest to gather input for the Regional Active Transportation Plan. There were 247 individuals that responded to the survey and asked a wide range of questions about improving safety and expanding the network of infrastructure for walking and biking.

The data will be valuable in regional efforts to improve bicycle and pedestrian accessibility and safety.



Webinars and Presentations



SRPC staff were able to provide expertise throughout the year at a variety of different conferences, workshops, and trainings.

2022 NH Climate Summit

During the week of Sept. 26, the NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup held its yearly NH Climate Summit. This event took place both virtually and in-person and featured presentations by regional planner Autumn Scott and principal regional planner Kyle Pimental.

Kyle presented on <u>SRPC's Durham Groundwater Rise Vulnerability and Planning Study</u>, which allowed SRPC and partners the ability to map and model assets that may be impacted by future groundwater rise. Assets that were assessed in this study included roads, septic systems, wells, municipal critical facilities, water and sewer pipes, and stormwater infrastructure. The project resulted in a series of maps showing current depth to groundwater, modeled groundwater rise under a variety of future sea level rise scenarios, areas in Town that will be most susceptible to future groundwater rise, and all of the assets that may be impacted by future groundwater rise.

Read more below about Autumn's presentation on the Dover Equity Project.

Regional Housing Needs Assessment

Given SRPC's focus on the Regional Housing Needs Assessment throughout FY2023 staff presented SRPC's and the collective efforts of the nine RPCs in many different venues. Combined executive director Jen Czysz, senior planner Natalie Gemma, and regional planner Mark Davie made nine presentations to local municipalities, regional organizations and at statewide conferences including:

- Barrington, NH Planning Board
- Rochester, NH City Council
- Seacoast Board of Realtors
- NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup
- Seacoast Economic Development Stakeholders
- NH CHS Regional Leadership and Coordination Workgroup
- NH Council on Housing Stability (CHS)
- NH Association of Regional Planning 2023 Commissions' Convening
- NH Municipal Association 2022 Annual Meeting

Advancing Freight Workshop

Senior planner Colin Lentz participated on a panel discussion with RPC colleagues for a freight planning workshop on Sept. 21 and 28. The online workshop was hosted by the Federal Highway Administration and covered a wide range of current and future freight issues. Primary participants were staff from state and federal agencies, RPC staff, and freight stakeholders. On the panel, Colin provided regional context for freight issues and highlighted several projects with freight components – including large rail and truck projects that will require regional collaboration and investment.

Community Transportation Association of America

On August 18, 2022, senior communications and outreach planner Shayna Sylvia and regional planner Autumn Scott presented at the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) Small Urban Network (SUN) Conference in Manchester.

In their presentation, "Louder Now: Elevating Marginalized in Public Participation" Shayna and Autumn reviewed SRPC's equitable approaches to outreach, focusing on the Dover Equity project. Shayna introduced the audience to SRPC, the documents that guide its outreach, and some basic approaches to ensuring equity in its planning and engagement. Autumn shared the framework for the Dover Equity project, that while not focused entirely on transportation, has provided a foundation for building more equitable transportation engagement planning and opportunities around transportation processes. SRPC's Building Resilience by Building Equity in Dover project sought to engage the City's historically underserved communities (HUCs) in climate change conversations as they are often disproportionately vulnerable to its impacts, to develop a framework for future planning decision making processes in Dover. SRPC staff then engaged in a Q and A with transportation stakeholders from across the U.S.





Meetings

SRPC staff host and facilitate a number of meetings throughout the year. In addition to meetings held by SRPC, staff also play leading roles in the NHPA Annual Meetings.

NHPA Annual Meeting

On June 2, 2023, the New Hampshire Planners Association (NHPA) hosted their annual spring conference at the Common Man Inn & Spa in Plymouth, NH. The conference is designed to provide development opportunities for professional planners, planning board members, and individuals with an interest in planning. It is a forum to discuss planning issues on a statewide level and to ensure planners are actively engaged in relevant trends impacting the state.

This year, the conference was heavily focused on addressing housing affordability with speakers from Plan NH, NH Housing, and the Office of Planning and Development. Other topics included a discussion of work being done in the White Mountains National Forest, the NH Zoning Atlas, and a legal update. Unfortunately, a severe thunderstorm cancelled the proposed historic walking tour of downtown Plymouth.

SRPC was well represented with three members of the team in attendance including Blair Haney, Angie Cleveland, and Kyle Pimental. Additionally, several SRPC staff serve in a leadership role on the NHPA Executive Committee including Kyle Pimental (Professional Development Officer) and Shayna Sylvia (Social Media Coordinator), prior to her taking a position at UNH.

SRPC Meetings

Resiliency Roundtables

Throughout the year SRPC held two Resiliency Roundtables, a series that has been an outcome of the SRPC's resiliency subcommittee. This group is comprised of dedicated SRPC commissioners who in this role have the opportunity to focus on the topic of resiliency in our communities, how we can better prepare for unforeseen events, and how we can be more prepared to face future challenges.

The two roundtables included:

- "Protecting Our Local Food Systems" Part II (September 23, 2022)
- "Improving Your Energy Efficiency with NH Saves" (January 23, 2022)

2023 Commissioners' Convening sponsored by the NH Association of Regional Planning Commissions

SRPC office coordinator Megan Taylor-Fetter and executive director Jen Czysz organized the 2023 Commissioners' Convening which included presenters from each of the regions across the state who shared their insights on the Regional Housing Needs Assessment project. This was the first in-person convening since 2019.

SRPC September 2022 Commission Meeting

At the September 22, 2022 Commission Meeting, SRPC staff presented data from the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) and conducted a hands-on activity with the commissioners and attendees to discuss housing needs, barriers, and opportunities.

SRPC December 2022 Commission Meeting

SRPC held its December Commission meeting on Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022 where staff presented on RHNA progress and engaged commissioners in a discussion of projected housing needs in each of our communities. The results of these discussions were incorporated into the final RHNA.

SRPC February 2023 Commission Meeting

At the February 23, 2023 Commission Meeting, SRPC staff led a discussion with the commissioners to discuss updates to the SRPC Strategic Plan. This discussion focused on priorities across the region, new initiatives, and how SRPC can better support our commissioners and municipalities.

Solar Planning Panel - SRPC 2023 Annual Meeting

SRPC invited presenters to speak to Solar Planning in our communities, the region and state. This session was moderated by principal planner Angela Cleveland and included a three-person panel of presenters Shanna Saunders, Planning Director, City of Rochester; Sherrie Trefrey, Energy Market Leader, VHB; and Josh Elliott, Director, Division of Policy and Programs, NH Department of Energy.

The panelists shared information on solar programs, permitting, local ordinances, available incentives, and case studies of successes and challenges.

PLANS Spotlight: Barrington Master Plan Update



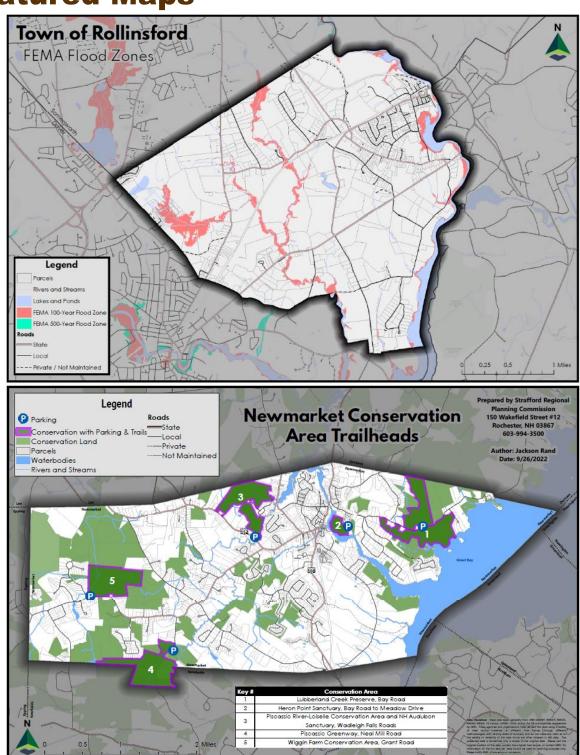
The Town of Barrington hired SRPC to update the master plan vision, transportation, and future land use chapters. A steering committee of local board members and interested citizens worked with SRPC staff throughout the process to plan outreach efforts and review draft documents. There were 614 people that responded to a local survey to identify their priorities, and a wide range of residents attended an in-person workshop to discuss ideas and actions for the town. This direct input from community members informed updates to the town's vision and new goals and priority actions. SRPC also compiled up to date data for the chapters. The new vision, transportation, and future land use chapters were adopted by a vote of the Barrington Planning Board on June 20, 2023.



GIS Highlights



Featured Maps



By the Numbers

At the close of the 2023 fiscal year, **SRPC's ArcGIS Online site** hosted:

14

4

4

3

interactive maps

webapps

dashboards

StoryMaps.

At the close of the 2023 fiscal year, annual site traffic saw:

8,861

views on the Tax Parcel Viewer

828

views on all nine of SRPC's standard maps

26,762

views on the Open Data Portal

1,238

views on all SRPC StoryMaps

1,457

views on the Promoting Outdoor Play!

Map viewer

216

views combined on all SRPC dashboards

291

views on the Arts and Culture Inventory Map Viewer **260**

views on the data snapshot web app

SRPC's New Online Mapping Content

SRPC staff have been updating and adding new online mapping content to SRPC's ArcOnline page. Some of this new content includes a Municipal Guide to EV Charging Stations Storymap, a 2023 Traffic Counts Tracking Dashboard, and a Historic Traffic Counts Dashboard for the SRPC region.

A variety of our online mapping resources have also been updated to include updated datasets. All of SRPC's online mapping resources can be found on our ArcOnline <u>site</u> or on the <u>SRPC website</u>.

MAP Spotlight: Strafford Master Plan





Vision 2023

Strafford values its distinct rural character and small-town community look and feel. We want the Town to grow in a way that protects and enhances our natural, cultural, and recreational resources, especially Bow Lake. We envision a thriving small- and home-business centric economy, robust community services and programs that serve all ages, and expanded housing opportunities that are broadly affordable to all.



Master Plan Chapters









In June 2023, SRPC completed a comprehensive update to the Town of Strafford's Master Plan. Maps completed as part of this project include conservation and recreation, groundwater protection, land use, topography, and water resources. As part of this Master Plan update, the entire Master Plan document was created in an ArcOnline Storymap platform making all the plan's content interactive. Maps, charts, and images break up the narrative, and help to provide more context. Overall, the Storymap format is more navigable and digestible than a traditional printed Master Plan or online PDF document. The map series and the online Storymap were created by senior GIS planner Jackson Rand with assistance from regional planner Autumn Scott.

PROJECT Spotlight: Regional Housing Needs Assessment



Throughout fiscal year 2023, SRPC worked to update the Regional Housing Needs Assessment. This project highlighted the housing needs of the region across all income levels and was meant to provide a foundation for change by including tools, recommendations, and strategies for local decision-makers to address housing- related issues in their communities. This iteration of the RHNA is unique in the level of statewide collaboration through the entirety of the process, with all nine RPCs, NH Housing, and the New Hampshire Office of Planning and Development partnering to create common outreach strategies, methodologies, data analysis, and an outline for each plan to allow for easy comparison between regions. Moreover, planners from across the state were involved on different subcommittees to work on various parts of the RHNA.

Community engagement was a crucial component of this project, and SRPC staff worked hard to ensure that this assessment was informed by feedback from residents about how the housing crisis has impacted their businesses, communities, or personal lives.

In addition to community wide surveys that gathered information from different stakeholders, including the public, business owners, developers, and more, SRPC held three outreach events. The 2022 SRPC Housing Workshop was geared towards municipal planning and administrative staff and took place on August 16 in two sessions, one for SRPC's smaller, more rural communities, and one for SRPC's larger, more urban communities. SRPC then held its RHNA Commissioner Workshop on September 22, followed by its last outreach event, the Housing Forum on September 26. This last event was attended by housing authority & workforce housing representatives and social service providers.

The final <u>Regional Housing Needs Assessment</u> and supporting research was accepted by Commissioners on March 17, 2023.



PROJECT Spotlight: Housing Navigator



The Towns of Farmington and New Durham partnered with support from Strafford Regional Planning Commission to hire housing navigator, Courtney Grugnale. The Navigator program was created in response to New Hampshire communities being impacted by housing pressures and challenges and is a grant funded opportunity through NH Housing and InvestNH with a focus on community engagement, land use planning, and process improvements. Additionally, Courtney will be working with the two communities to review land use policies and identify opportunities to remove barriers and increase capacity to meet housing needs.

As part of the Housing Navigator position, Courtney and volunteers from the two towns attended the Housing Academy hosted by UNH Cooperative Extension. The Housing Academy explored current housing ideas, the power of storytelling and how to engage communities on difficult issues.

Farmington

With assistance from the Housing Navigator, Farmington successfully submitted, and was awarded, a Housing Opportunity Planning (HOP) Grant to perform an analysis of the Route 11 corridor. This project will explore options for more housing and mixed-use opportunities as well as identify areas for economic development. To boost downtown redevelopment, Courtney worked with town staff and boards to prepare a request for proposals to redevelop the Old Fire House property as a mix of commercial and residential development. The town hopes this will entice mixed-use development and encourage economic development opportunities downtown. Currently, the town's land use regulations are being reviewed for suggestions to improve housing opportunities to be presented at town meeting 2024.

New Durham

The greatest success we've had in New Durham was the Community Event held July 8, 2023 that Courtney planned in collaboration with the town's Planning Board and SRPC staff. This event engaged and introduced the community to housing, commercial development, short-term rentals, and recreation-based economy issues and opportunities. The event was attended by over 50 community members and had great participation throughout the discussion activities.

The event was followed up by a report of findings and a survey that is currently live for the public to fill out and further share their ideas about the community's future. New Durham was also awarded a HOP grant and is in the process of hiring a consultant to be selected in November. The Housing Navigator has been working with the Planning Board to form a Development Committee that will work with the HOP grant consultant to identify new opportunities for the town.

SERVICE Spotlight: Circuit Riders



For member communities without a full-time town planner, SPRC remains uniquely positioned to fulfill a town's duty for timely, technical reviews of applications to the land use boards. SRPC staff, contracted as "circuit riders," provide administrative review for application completion, technical analysis for public health, safety, and welfare, and compliance review against town ordinances and regulations.

Given our organization's capacity, SRPC often provides full wrap-around professional planner services including but not limited to:

- Land use application reviews
- Zoning amendments
- GIS mapping
- Building permit reports
- Master plan updates

- Community engagement
- Data collection and analysis
- Tax map updates
- Development of Regional Impact review

Internal coordination allows SRPC staff working on a grant proposal to loop in a circuit-riding community that will benefit from the grant. For example, in 2022, SRPC received a state grant to review and recommend changes to town zoning specific to drinking water protection. Autumn Scott, project lead on the grant, coordinated with Blair Haney, circuit rider for Nottingham, to review Nottingham's Aquifer Protection District and propose amendments that would modernize the language, bring it into compliance with state statutes and best practices, and streamline project review. SRPC staff were elated when the Nottingham Town Meeting overwhelmingly approved the proposed zoning amendment. And this time-intense process was provided at no cost to the town, all SRPC staff time was paid for by the grant!

Starting with Northwood in 2014, SRPC has grown its portfolio of circuit riding services to 5 member communities: Northwood (2014), Nottingham (2019), Farmington (2019), Wakefield (2021), and Strafford (2021). Our core services under these contracts include technical reviews and applicant coordination, board administration and meeting attendance, regulation development and revisions, and office hours, as necessary, to meet with potential applicants, concerned residents, or town staff. As noted on the SRPC website, "the benefits of using a Circuit Rider include flexibility, cost control, and the ability to tap into the broader expertise of the RPC, its staff, and services."

SERVICE Spotlight: Community and Small Business Assistance



Community Technical Assistance

In September 2022, SRPC concluded its Consultant Technical Assistance Program which was made possible through CARES Act funding and designed to support small business operations. By the end of the program, 76 businesses received assistance across 14 out of SRPC's 18 municipalities. This translated into 277 hours of assistance provided by 5 different private consultants, totaling over \$32,000 in services provided to businesses at no cost to them.

Additional details and testimonials can be found at https://strafford.org/services/technical-assistance-for-small-businesses/

Resources for Small Businesses

This initiative of engaging with partners and conducting research to compile funding opportunities and resources to support business operations and capacity building was originally created in response to the rapidly changing information amid the Covid-19 pandemic. These resources were originally disseminated to a list of all registered businesses in the SRPC geographical region via e-mail once a month. Following the expiration of the CARES Act grant in September 2022, the newsletters are now disseminated on a quarterly basis.

In FY 2023:

4

newsletters were sent out.

In addition grant opportunities information for non-profit organizations and local businesses, other information gathered and disseminated included opportunities for companies to engage with high school and college students through work programs, resources for talent recruitment and retention, cybersecurity, legal, and tax resources, 0% interest loans, down payment assistance, free courses and workshops on various different business related topics, information on tax credits to support economic development, and more.

COLLABORATION Spotlight: Seacoast Economic Development Stakeholders



During FY 2023, the Seacoast Economic Development Stakeholders (SEDS) continued to meet regularly and work collaboratively on different efforts to promote the economic vitality of our communities and region. During this period, the SEDS used their platform to advance conversations about key issues affecting the region, such as Housing, Workforce Development, Business Operations, Childcare, Transportation, and Energy.

In FY 2023, there were:

24 586 118

calls held cumulative meeting attendees

distinct partners attended the meetings

SEDS Microgrants — In April 2023, the SEDS began accepting applications for microgrants to fund community initiatives and small projects that met at least one of the following priorities:

- 1. Foster a sustainable workforce environment,
- 2. Create affordable and quality housing options,
- 3. Facilitate infrastructure improvements, or
- 4. Promote quality of life in the Greater Seacoast.

Applications were accepted by SRPC and partners Rockingham Planning Commission and the Regional Economic Development Center on a rolling basis. A total of \$5,100 was awarded to the following grantees:

Dover Social Media Marketing Pilot — This grant was awarded to the City of Dover, Office of Business Development (OBD) to study the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of social media promotion in place of more traditional advertising methods. Social media activities encouraged increased economic activity during the target events and supported ongoing efforts to demonstrate the region's quality of life to potential residents and businesses.

Elephant in the Room Series Resource Listing — The NH Theatre Project's Elephant-in-the-Room Series® presents play readings, videos, and community conversations about topics that we, as a society, often feel uncomfortable discussing. These include Navigating Addiction; Courageous Conversations on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Suicide & Self-Harm; and PTS & First Responders. NH Theatre Project used the grant funds to help upgrade their website to include regional and statewide resources that are available for communities, businesses, and individuals coping with these issues.

Exeter Vibe Summer Music Series — This grant was awarded to the Exeter Parks & Recreation Department to expand its Summer Concert Series. The new Child Concert Series provided family-friendly entertainment, gave children and adults the opportunity to get outdoors and enjoy a fun day on the town, and supported local artists and musicians.

Native American Workforce Summer Employment Program — The Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce coordinated its second summer workforce program by providing career and cultural opportunities for eight young Native Americans from Pine Ridge. In a public/private partnership, these workers arrived at Hampton Beach to work for NH State Parks and beach businesses between May 22nd and September 15th. With the help of this grant, Chamber members, and a non-profit team, the Chamber was able to support these workers' cost of travel and initial food and living expenses. The project was featured in Seacoast Online: https://www.seacoastonline.com/story/news/local/2023/06/14/lakota-tribe-workers-pine-ridge-reservation-find-jobs-opportunity-hampton-beach-nh/70298475007/

Student Workforce Signing Days — The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce partnered with schools and businesses to host "signing days" for graduating high school students directly entering the work force. These students were given a celebration to acknowledge their accomplishments and photographed with their families and future employers, wearing their prospective company's attire. By calling attention to those choosing to go directly into the work force and highlighting the many quality employment opportunities in the area, this project will serve to help non-college bound students feel good about their decision and inspire others to follow suit.

COLLABORATION Spotlight: UNH Sustainability Dual Major Capstone Project



In the spring 2023 semester, SRPC had the opportunity to mentor a group of Sustainability Dual Major (SDM) capstone students at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and leverage their expertise to support a local planning project. The team of capstone students included:

Cole Burnham

B.A Psychology; Sustainability, M.S Agriculture, Food, & Environment (expected May 2025)

Elisabeth Hunter

B.A. Anthropology; B.S. Sustainability

Larissa Biette

B.A. Studio Art: Design, B.S. Sustainability

"Working on this project reminded me that my work, even as a student, is important. Getting to collaborate with a group of professionals who took me seriously and valued my skills and knowledge while I continued to refine them was an invaluable experience."

Lilliana Vornhem

B.S. Community & Environmental Planning; Sustainability (Expected May 2025)



Pictured above: Sustainability capstone students presenting at the UNH Undergraduate Research Conference, from left to right, Elisabeth Hunter, Larissa Biette, Cole Burnham, Liliana Vornhem.

The team worked together to develop a capstone project plan that has laid the foundations, through extensive research, for subsequent updates to SRPC's Climate Change Appendix of our Regional Comprehensive Plan.

The project is a part of a larger effort by NH's nine regional planning commissions to conduct and integrate the Regional Housing Needs Assessment data and findings into their regional comprehensive plan updates. SRPC's current regional comprehensive plan, last updated during 2013 and 2014 (adopted early 2015) provides a historic, current, and projected regional snapshot throughout its various appendices (chapters), identifies goals and objectives for the future, and provides advisory actions for communities to consider in their operations. Students' work focused on the Climate Change Appendix, where data and information need to be updated with current science, plans, projections, and assessments developed since early 2015. New research in the field since the last update includes studies of sea level and ground water rise, maps and geospatial tools, observed impacts of climate change, and projections, among others. As a result, not only has the data that informs policy decisions evolved but our community and regional needs have changed. SRPC will use deliverables provided by the capstone team to update and integrate this information to engage in more effective planning and decisionmaking across the region. The ultimate goal of the Regional Master Plan Climate Change Appendix is to provide best available science including information on vulnerable infrastructure/assets/populations and emergent adaptation planning strategies to reduce our communities' vulnerability to climate change.

This project combined each pillar of sustainability in the planning process using existing and projected social, economic, and environmental pressures to build more resilient, adaptive, and equitable communities. Students employed their expertise in a collaborative process that will be used to inform sustainable development in the Strafford region over the next decade. SRPC's main goal in this mentorship collaboration was to provide hands-on learning and skill-building opportunities in equitable engagement strategies, resilience and climate adaption planning, data collection and literature review, and tools and processes for project management. We are excited at the opportunity to continue connecting with students at the University and engage in symbiotic partnerships.

A special thanks to SDM Lecturer and Program Coordinator Dr. Erin Hale and former UNH Research Professor, Dr. Cameron Wake for facilitating such an enriching experience!

Data Collection Highlights



By the Numbers





123

traffic counts were set during the 2022 data collection season; **5** were supplemental. View all in the SRPC traffic count dashboard.

15

of SRPC's 18 communities had traffic counts set within their boundaries in summer 2022

20

Bicycle and pedestrian counts were conducted in **16** communities in the 2022 data collection season

~4,000

miles were put on SRPC's transit van during the 2022 data collection season.

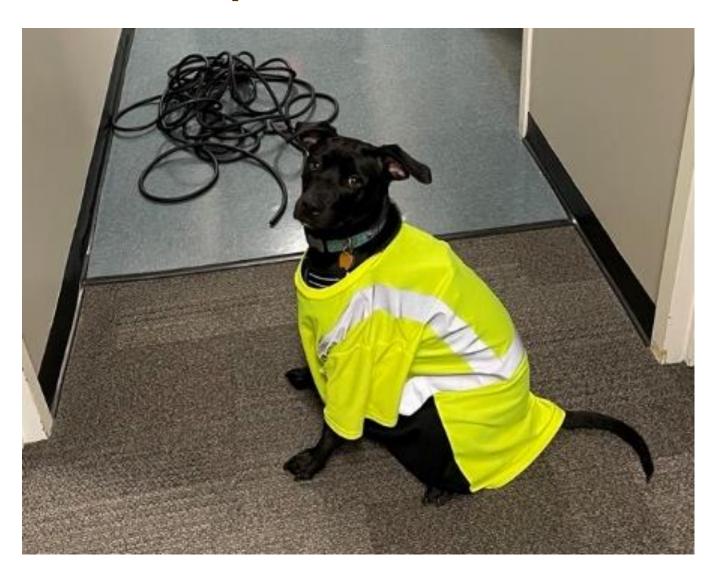
2

Road Surface Management projects. Data collection for Milton occurred in May 2022 but forecasting was not complete until winter 2023. Data Collection in Newmarket occurred in November and forecasting wrapped up in winter 2023.

7.6

miles of trails mapped for the Town of Lee between three separate forests for future trailhead signage

Data Team Updates



Summer Intern

Troy Troy joined the data collection team for the 2023 field work season. They assisted planning technician Stephen Geis and Regional Planner Mark Davie in setting traffic and bicycle-pedestrian counts across the region.



New Bicycle & Pedestrian Programming

In an effort to build out programming in the area of bicycle and pedestrian counting, SRPC data collection intern Troy Troy, planning technician Stephen Geis, and Regional Planner Mark Davie visited locations in eight municipalities to collect data in FY 2023. This aligns with Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization's expanded efforts to build its active transportation program, and the information collected has been included in the Active Transportation plan being drafted in FY 2023 and 2024. SRPC purchased two additional bike/pedestrian radar counters from "EcoCounter" to add up to five total radar counters for SRPC, further expanding the amount of data able to be collected at one time.



AI Traffic Data Collection

In June of 2023, SRPC decided to partner with Leetron Visions of Concord, NH to collect traffic data with camera systems. Our new camera system can automatically collect data using AI and be used for NHDOT classification counts. This system will keep employees off the road, collect traffic data during the winter and much more!



Online and Digital Engagement



As SRPC's contact list has grown over the years, staff have leveraged several communication methods, including <u>Bits and Pieces</u>, a weekly update, and the monthly <u>Newsletter</u> to disseminate information to a large audience. SRPC also sends out direct communications on specific project updates or important news on an as-needed basis.

SRPC is active on social media through <u>Facebook</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to ensure a broader reach.

SRPC's communications are designed to engage stakeholders and members of the public. In a world where people are often inundated with information, SPRC places a higher emphasis on focused content and graphic design.

Bits and Pieces and the Newsletter by the Numbers

38%

average open rate for SRPC's e-news releases

71

communications sent out in FY 2023

999

people currently subscribed to the Bits and Pieces and Newsletter

1

press release sent out in FY 2023







June 2, 2023 STRAFFORD REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

Greetings,

Happy National Donut Day! Hope you enjoyed the preview of summer this week.

Staff continue to tie up FY23 in preparation for an exciting FY24 beginning July 1. In this issue you will find information on SRPC's latest staff changes; the EPA's award of a brownfield grant to SRPC; several planning events of interest and fundine opportunities.

Happy Planning,



IN THIS ISSUE SRPC Awarded Brownfield Assessment Funding Staff Hellos, Goodbyes, and Congrats! Data Collection Season Status Update Farmington Fire Station RFP Now Live Planning Events of Interest Grant Corner Community Happenings

You're invited! SRPC's
Annual Meeting &
Luncheon is Thursday,
June 22, 2023, It will be
held at the Governor's
Inn in downtown Rochester once
again. The deadline to register is June
14. The registration link is found
here!

This week, Senior
Planners Colin Lentz and
Blair Haney submitted
the final drafts of the
Transportation and Land
Use chapters of Barrington's master
plan. Following approval...

Social Media by the Numbers

465

240

148

Facebook Followers

Instagram Followers

LinkedIn Followers

160

Posts on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram combined in FY 2023

5,807

People reached on Facebook

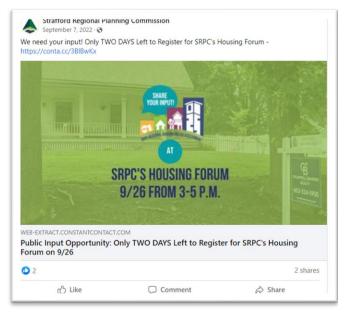
818

People reached on Instagram

105

Videos on SRPC's YouTube Channel

Our top reaching Facebook posts:

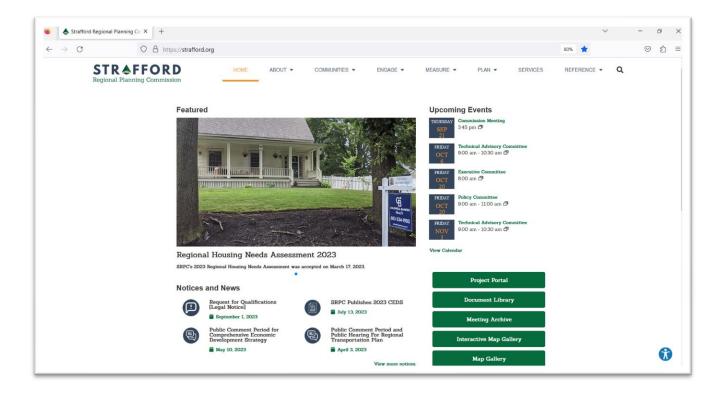


The RHNA Housing Forum Registration Link posted 9/7/22 reached 384 people



The Bike/Pedestrian Survey posted 8/29/22 reached 219 people

Website by the Numbers



7.2K

visitors to the <u>www.strafford.org</u> website

30K

page views across www.strafford.org

5.9K

page views for the <u>www.strafford.org</u> home page

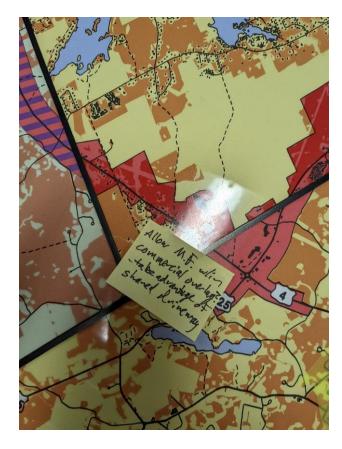
4.23

average clicks per user

EVENT Spotlight: RHNA Workshops







Through the process of drafting the region's first Regional Housing Needs Assessment in seven years, many types of feedback were received. In August and September of 2022, SRPC hosted two open-house workshops for commissioners and area planners to discuss strategies for tackling the region's housing crisis. Seen above are the maps used to guide discussion. An underlying map of the region's zoning is featured, with a transparent overlay map of developable lands.

Awards and Awardees SRPC Annual Awards



For the 2023 annual awards, SRPC staff chose to recognize Mary Adamo Friedman for her contributions to advancing the field of planning; to the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership (PREP) for their contributions to advancing water quality and environmental conditions; and to New Hampshire Sea Grant for their contributions to advancing resilient coastal communities.

SRPC shared a special remembrance of Marcia Gasses, who passed away in February of 2023, for her contributions and commitment to planning in the region.

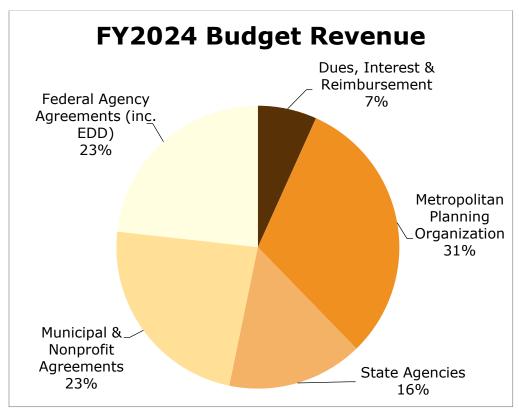


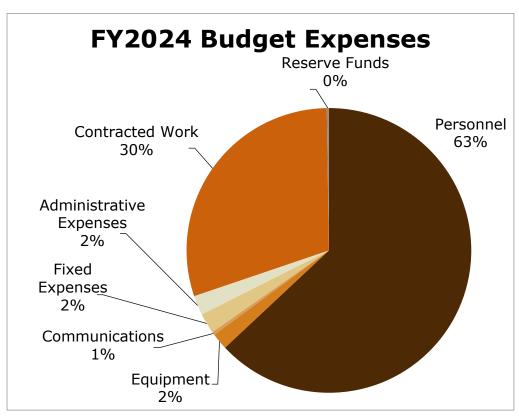
FY2024 Budget and Work Plan



Summary Table

	FY2023	FY 2024	
	Revenue	Revenue	Net Change
Dues, Interest & Reimbursement	131,355	139,422	8,068
Metropolitan Planning Organization	614,856	640,958	26,102
State Agency Agreements	224,011	320,873	96,862
Municipal & Nonprofit Agreements	222,557	486,241	263,684
Federal Agency Agreements	607,150	480,750	(126,400)
Total	1,799,929	2,068,245	268,316
	FY2023	FY2024	
	Expenses	Expenses	Net Change
Personnel	1,099,685	1,293,176	193,491
Equipment	35,081	38,518	3,437
Communications	7,591	7,591	0
Fixed Expenses	48,197	47,166	(1,031)
Administrative Expenses	49,725	45,650	(4,075)
Contracted Work	533,040	614,798	81,759
Reserve Funds	14,000	5,000	(9,000)
Total	1,787,320	2,051,900	264,580
Net (Deficit)/Surplus	12,608	16,345	3,736





FY 2024 Revenues by Work Program

	FY 23 Revenue	FY2024 Revenue	FY2024 Dues Match	
Dues, Interest & Reimbursements	131,355	139,422	0	7%
2000 Municipal Dues (minus Brookfield)	130,755	138,822		
Interest	100	100		
HealthTrust Employee Rewards	500	500		
Municipal & Nonprofit Service Agreements	222,557	486,241	0	24%
3104 Barrington Housing Master Plan Chapter		21,500		
3501 Farmington Town Planner Services	40,000	40,000		
3506 Farmington Tax Maps	1,000	1,000		
350x Farmington RT11 Audit and Regulatory Change (HOP Grant)	,	135,740		
3903 Milton Nitrogen Removal Study		50,000		
410x Newmarket Tax Maps	1,000	1,000		
410x Newmarket Housing, Demographics Master Plan Chapter (HOP Grant)		24,000		
410x Newmarket Comprehensive Master Plan Update		20,000		
4201 Northwood Town Planner Services	25,000	25,000		
4301 Nottingham Town Planner Services	25,000	25,000		
4403 Rochester Recreation Master Plan	,	23,000		
4604 Somersworth Tax Maps	1,903	1,000		
4605 Somersworth Housing Chapter Master Plan and Audit (HOP Grant)		67,000		
4701 Strafford Town Planner Services	38,000	38,000		
470x Strafford Tax Maps	1,000	1,000		
4802 Sanbornville Precinct Northern Borders Regional Comm. Grant Admin	4,000	2,000		
4803 Wakefield Union Hotel Northern Borders Regional Comm. Grant Admin	3,000	3,000	,	
5002 NH Association of Regional Planning Commissions Administration	8,000	8,000		
5501 GIS projects (small billable projects)	1	1		
Federal Agency Agreements	607,150	480,750	17,500	23%
U.S. Dept of Economic Development Ad				
7003 Economic Development District Planning Partnership	70,000	70,000	17,500	
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency		,	•	
7111 Brownfields Community Assessment Fiscal Years 2024-2028	0	93,750		

	FY 23 Revenue	FY2024 Revenue	FY2024 Dues Match				
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development							
7201 HUD EDI CDS - Regional Plan Update (All 9 NH RPCs)	380,000	317,000					
State Agreements	224,011	320,873	3,390	16%			
Department of Business and Economic	Affairs						
6001 Targeted Block Grant	11,111	11,111					
Department of Environmental Services							
6104 Coastal Technical Assistance Grant	15,000	15,000	2,500				
614x Newmarket Coastal Resilience Grant-Downtown Riverfront Plan		18,650					
6305 Source Water Protection- Newmarket Open Space Plan		16,223	890				
University of New Hampshire							
5206 Great Bay Adapts		5,000					
5207 PREPA Grant-Dover Natural Resources Inventory		20,230					
5208 PREPA Grant-Lee Natural Resources Inventory		20,230					
5209 PREPA Grant-Somersworth Natural Resources Master Plan		21,600					
NH Community Development Finance A	uthority						
6602 CDBG Grant Administration (Rochester Gafney Home)	8,000	4,000					
6603 Transformative Planning Grant		10,000					
NH Housing Finance Authority		•					
6801 InvestNH Housing Navigator Grant	88,226	131,154					
Department of Safety Homeland Securi	ty						
6502 Hazard Mitigation Plans BRIC20- Durham, Middleton, Milton, Nottingham, Strafford	41,500	10,475					
6503 Hazard Mitigation Plans BRIC21- Madbury, Northwood, Rochester		24,000					
6504 Hazard Mitigation Plans 4516- Dover, Farmington, Newmarket		13,200					
Metropolitan Planning Organization	614,856	640,958	86,301	31%			
Agreements	-	•		31 70			
8001 UPWP Federal Highways & Transit	602,400	634,958	70,551				
8101 COAST CommuteSmart Seacoast	0	6,000	2,000				
8102 Safe Streets for All MPO Partnership	0	0	13,750				
Total	1,799,929	2,068,245	107,191				

FY 2024 Expenses

	FY23		FY2024		
	Budget		Budget		Change
Personnel	1,099,685	69%	1,293,176	63%	17.6%
Salaries and Hourly Wages	868,131		997,606		14.9%
Payroll Taxes	66,412		77,230		16.3%
Payroll Processing - QuickBooks	3,778		3,778		0.0%
Health Insurance	89,569		130,793		46.0%
Dental Insurance	6,190		7,384		19.3%
Life Insurance	1,295		1,524		17.7%
Shor-term Disability	2,926		2,876		-1.7%
Long-term Disability	748		837		11.9%
Paid Family Medical Leave	0		6,010		-
FSA Fees	0		0		-
Health Incentives	11,276		11,935		5.8%
SIMPLE IRA Pension	25,647		29,284		14.2%
Worker's Compensation	1,909		1,899		-0.5%
Unemployment Insurance	1,969		2,230		13.3%
Staff Training & Workshops	14,000		15,000		7.1%
Professional Dues	5,836		4,792		-17.9%
Equipment	35,081	3%	38,518	2%	9.8%
GIS Software	5,463		6,338		16.0%
TransCAD Modeling Software	1,500		1,500		0.0%
Office Software	7,680		11,080		44.3%
INRIX Transportation Planning Database	8,200		8,200		0.0%
Traffic Count Supplies and Repair	3,000		3,000		0.0%
Equipment Rental and Repair	500		500		0.0%
Copier Maintenance Contract	3,838		3,900		1.6%
Computers and Peripherals	3,900		3,000		-23.1%
Office Furniture	1,000		1,000		0.0%
Communications	7,591	2%	7,591	0%	0.0%
Postage and Delivery	400		400		0.0%
Office Phone System	1,164		1,164		0.0%
Internet and Phone Service	3,600		3,600		0.0%
Website Design and Maintenance	1,427		1,427		0.0%
Media Outreach Activities	1,000		1,000		0.0%
Fixed Expenses	48,197	5%	47,166	2%	-2.1%
Property and Liability	7,173		7,173		0.0%
Office Vehicle Lease and	11,024		9,993		-9.3%
Maintenance	11,024		7,773		-9.370
Rent	30,000		30,000		0.0%
Administrative Expenses	49,725	1%	45,650	2%	-8.2%
Printing	150		150		0.0%

	FY23 Budget		FY2024 Budget		Change
Audit and Accounting Services	16,000		16,000		0.0%
Legal	4,000		4,000		0.0%
Office and Mapping Supplies	3,000		4,000		33.3%
Office Expense	21,150		10,000		-52.7%
Meeting Expenses and Notices	3,500		3,500		0.0%
Travel	10,000		5,000		-50.0%
NH Planning and Land Use Regulations Books	2,449		2,500		2.1%
Bank Fees	0		0		ı
HealthTrust Employee Rewards	1,000		500		-50.0%
Outsourced Contracts	533,040	20%	614,798	30%	15.3%
1000 IT Services	15,800		29,000		83.6%
350x Far RT11 Audit & Regulations Consultant Team	0		113,075		-
3903 Milton Nitrogen Removal Study Consulting Engineer	0		37,500		1
Architect, Landscape Architect, Engineer Consultant Support	0		15,000		-
5207 PREPA Grant-Dover NRI Environmental Consultant	0		6,000		-
5208 PREPA Grant-Lee NRI Environmental Consultant	0		6,000		-
61xx Coastal Resilience Grant (Newmarket) Landscape Architect	0		4,000		-
6801 InvestNH Housing Navigator Direct Costs	2,833		2,286		-19.3%
7111 EPA Brownfields QEP	19,775		84,938		329.5%
7201 HUD EDI CDS Regional Plan Subawards to 8 RPCs	320,000		267,000		-16.6%
8002 Contract Transportation Engineering Support (UPWP)	50,000		40,000		-20.0%
8002 Contract UPWP Title VI and Environmental Justice Support	0		10,000		-
Reserve Fund Contribution	14,000	0%	5,000	0%	-64.3%
Total	1,787,319		2,051,900		14.8%