

**Traditional Settlement Patterns  
Technical Advisory Committee  
Granite State Future**

May 23, 2013  
9:00 – 11:00 AM

SNHPC Conference Room

AGENDA

1. Review the Regional Framework and Appendices  
*An opportunity to make refinements and sign off on the Committee's work*
  - a) Review of the full framework document – TSP TASC elements are included within each chapter
  - b) Review of only the TSP TASC matrix in the appendix
2. Review the Traditional Settlement Patterns Section of the Existing Conditions and Trends Assessment

*When reviewing our section, Traditional Settlement Patterns (pages 7-12), we should pay particular attention to the highlighted sections – your expertise is needed here.*

3. Discuss Options and Opportunities for TASC Next Steps  
*How can we most efficiently provide ongoing technical assistance to the regional planners as they write their plans?*

*Example 1) The Equity and Engagement TASC is in the process of developing and equity planning checklist for planners to use as a resource. Next step is to identify how to share the new resource with all RPCs*

*Example 2) The Climate Change and Energy Efficiency TASC may merge with another effort to develop an Adaptation Tool Kit for municipalities. The tool kit would serve as a great resource to help RPCs identify potential action items for their plans.*

*All Traditional Settlement Patterns TASC Meetings are open to the public. For questions, special accommodations or directions, please call 669-4664*

**Granite State Future  
Traditional Settlement Patterns  
Technical Advisory Subcommittee**

**Southern NH Planning Commission  
Conference Room  
May 23, 2013**

**Members in Attendance**

Robin Leblanc, PlanNH  
Lisa Murphy, SWRPC  
Matt Sullivan, SRPC  
David Preece, SNHPC  
Jillian Harris, SNHPC  
Nadine Peterson, DHR  
Carolyn Russell, NHDES  
Susan Slack, OEP

**1. 9:20 AM - meeting called to order by Nadine Peterson, Chair.**

**2. Regional Planning Framework Review:**

Nadine: The Cultural and Historic Resources Chapter is listed as optional or intended to be integrated throughout the Regional Plans. Is there an opportunity to reach out to the RPC's to encourage a more intense focus on this topic?

David: SNHPC has chosen to have Cultural and Historical Resources stand alone as its own Plan chapter.

Carolyn: New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services is holding workshops for all the RPC's on water resource / natural resource data and reports. Perhaps something similar could be done for Cultural and Historic resources?

David: Advised inquiring via Jen Czysz regarding the claiming of an item on the Program Managers Meeting agendas.

Nadine: With Cultural and Historic Resources topics simply being integrated throughout the document, there is a concern that it will be focused adequately upon.

Carolyn: How will integration work with conflicting topics? For example, historic preservation and energy efficiency can sometimes conflict. Regional Plans should show how both can be done together.

Lisa: This is the ultimate objective of planning – integrating all topics and making them work together in concert.

Carolyn/David: Traditional Settlement Patterns is, by nature, integrated throughout the Plan and will not be a stand-alone chapter.

Lisa: Traditional Settlement Patterns is the keystone topic, where all the others come together and are integrated.

Nadine: Is that explicit in the Regional Planning Framework? Perhaps this committee should provide written comments in the framework related to how RPC's can do this integration better or in the most effective way.

Jillian: Perhaps this is a next step for the TSP TASC?

Lisa: Identified several typing errors in the framework document.

*The committee began reviewing the appendices of the Regional Framework Document.*

Carolyn: Where is the comprehensive resource list that was compiled before the list was ranked? Can that be provided to the RPC's somehow? It is a good resource and shouldn't be lost.

Jillian: The resource list still exists in draft form, but has not been published. Perhaps we can think about how this could best be provided to the RPC's and in what form.

Nadine: Can changes be made to the TSP TASC matrix. Specifically to the Historic and Cultural resources that were provided on pages 12-13. We need to be sure these resources are considered, and correctly categorized, allowing for them to be used effectively in other chapter areas.

Carolyn: (With reference to Nadine) There is a concern about information and resources getting lost in this process. It might help to sit down and make the case for these resources and the topic of historic and cultural resources with the Program Managers to bring a focus to it.

### **3. Existing Conditions and Trends Review:**

Carolyn: It appears that the statistics on percent of population within a ½ mile of Community Center Areas (CCAs) is not in the trends document. This and the percent destinations statistics should be included. Increasing acres of developed land per person should also be included.

Matt/Carolyn: We need to compare what is in the core metrics that were developed to what is in the existing conditions and trends report.

Carolyn: Existing conditions and trends should be reported at the state level (or County) and then Regional Plans should break it down even farther.

Matt: In the Implementation section – Percent Floodplain Developed was also included in the core metrics list.

Carolyn: Distribution of affordable housing relative to services and community centers and employment – is this data analyzed anywhere?

*Conversation on relative data and reports ensued and how this could be analyzed. It was noted that there is a lack of rental housing data that makes it hard to analyze this topic.*

The committee decided this should be included in the “Considerations for the Future” section of the Report.

Add to Report: “How is distribution of affordable housing changing throughout our communities and regions relative to community center areas?”

Carolyn: Could New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority upgrade the rental cost survey work to help refine the data on rental costs and distribution in the State? This might help with the analysis.

Add to Report: “What are the opportunities for developing infrastructure in our community centers to support more balanced housing options and services?”

Add to Report: “What is the current status of bike/pedestrian infrastructure? What is the current status of bike/pedestrian connectivity?” This should be included in the transportation section as well.

In the Environment Section – Runoff statistics should be modified to ensure value of information is realized.

Add to Report: “What are the regulatory and financial barriers and incentives that encourage development and redevelopment within our traditional community centers?”

Policy Recommendation: Propose tax incentives to encourage affordable housing within our traditional town centers.

*The committee discussed developing possible next step being the development of a toolkit of implementation tools for compact development and traditional town center development, both regulatory and financial.*

Robin: Smart Growth America recently released a report titled, “Building Better Budgets,” which may be a good resource for providing data on the economic benefits of compact development and smart growth techniques in communities.

Carolyn: “Building Better Budgets” may not be as useful for rural communities because its statistics are based on metropolitan areas.

Add to Report: Data on Drinking water and Wastewater facilities at risk of flooding (Carolyn may have a resource for this data).

David: New FEMA flood maps are out. Flood insurance rates are increasing or not being offered at all in some areas.

*The committee questioned whether this should be addressed within the Traditional Settlement Patterns topic.*

Add to Report: “How do flood risks / natural disaster risks influence Traditional Settlement Pattern development?” What have we learned from past experiences?

*The committee discussed that continued development and redevelopment of our traditional town centers may need to be innovative or thought of carefully. Examples were given for having parking on the bottom floor of buildings or raised structures to reduce flood hazards.*

**4. Next Steps**

- 1) Lisa will create an outline for the Toolkit of implementation tools for compact development and traditional town center development, both regulatory and financial.
- 2) The committee will review the toolkit outline before the next meeting in preparation for discussion.
- 3) Jillian will coordinate a Doodle poll to determine the date and time of the next meeting in June.

**5. Adjournment – 11:15 AM**