

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

September 10, 2012
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

SNHPC Conference Room

AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Review Top Five “Existing Resources”
3. Review Existing Policies, Principles, Goals, and Questions to be addressed
4. Discuss Baseline Data and Benchmarks
5. Next meeting- **TBD**
 - Topic- Finalize Worksheet
6. Adjourn

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

**Southern NH Planning Commission
Conference Room
September 10, 2012**

Members in Attendance

Robin Leblanc, PlanNH
Lisa Murphy, SWRPC
Matt Sullivan,
David Preece, SNHPC
Monica Leap, SNHPC

Nadine Peterson, DHR
Erin Lambert, Nobis Engineering
Kyle Barker, AIANH
Carolyn Russell, NHDES
Susan Slack, OEP

1. 1:38pm meeting called to order by Nadine Peterson, Chair. Round of introductions.

2. Worksheet Updates:

Nadine: What we've already done is get the big picture (collecting the resources and highlighting the relevant ones) and filter out the ideas that are important from those top resources. The next section we are working on is the baseline metrics and planning benchmarks (numbers) for the short term, midterm, and long term. The worksheet is expected to be completed by some date in October, but the date is TBD.

Carolyn: My understanding is that these short-long term measures, not general goals. They should be things we can track to make sure we are making progress.

Matt: Jen Cycz from the Nashua Regional Planning Commission has said that those columns are indeed about the numbers. It is about statistics that we can put into the plan.

A discussion follows about how do you reference local goals and plans? They are specific to the areas they reference. Towns are different from each other, so how do you determine which town's master plan or downtown plan to use? One suggestion is to take the elements we like from the plans and reference that. i.e. Manchester's downtown Parking Policy states there is no parking requirement for the downtown district. If that is something we like, then we should include it somehow in the worksheet.

A question was raised as to how we could track zoning changes. If the data was available it would be a very informative metric to include and track. The group discusses a few studies and groups, NHPR, LGC but no one collects the data thoroughly or consistently. A survey of each town might be the best way, as sampling would be inconsistent. The real question becomes, is the outcome going to be worth all the effort?

Another issue with this method of data collection is that even if they call it one thing, the actual policy or implementation of it is really not that at all.

Downtown master plans are most likely online for committee members to reference. Staff can look into their locations for the committee, but they would be found on the town/city website. They are so local that the Committee wonders if one town's plan be relevant to other towns in the region?

Nadine: Economic Development – There are local historic districts and there are neighborhood heritage districts. Another worthwhile metric could be to count how many are in existence and to see how the number grows or changes as we move forward. After this phase, we may not have much responsibility until the 2 or 3 year, and then, it will primarily be in an advisory capacity. Every 3 months there will be a meeting – 2013: January, April, June, September, and December. In 2014 there will be meetings in March and June. They may be conference calls or face-to-face meetings. Staff should ask Jen what big picture questions she will ask of the Committee members for these meetings.

Carolyn: The community centers database should be included in the baseline or metrics section. This group also has the opportunity to hold workshops for RPC staff to be better informed of background information to these different categories and resources.

3. Tasks to be completed by RPC Staff and Commission members:

- 1) We should include the "Vision" line.
- 2) The total resource list should be tied with this document and reference updated.
- 3) Get the total resource list in a google doc so everyone can reference. Share with Erin.
- 4) Add a column next to the resource list for committee members to initial and take ownership of.
- 5) Done by September 19th - Fill out the gaps in the worksheet with information from the resource list. Pick the ones you are familiar with and review them to see what you can draw from them and put into the worksheet. If no one claims it, the RPC Staff will cover it.
- 6) Confirm the date the final worksheet needs to be in by – October 19th?
- 7) Complete final worksheet entries by Friday, Oct 12 for baseline metrics and short-long term benchmarks (i.e If we are successful, what will we see? What should we be looking at to track progress?)
- 8) A conference call will be set for Wednesday, Oct 17 afternoon to review the worksheet completely filled out. SNHPC will set up a conference calling number. Tentatively, the worksheet has been set to be complete before Oct 19, 2012

UPDATED TSP TASC WORKSHEET

Related Plan Chapters and Appendices	Top 5 Existing Resources	Existing Policies, Principles, Goals, and Questions to be Addressed	Baseline Data: Existing Conditions and Trends	Short Term Planning Process (1-3 Years)	Mid Term Benchmarks (3-5 Years)	Long Term Implementation Effect (5-20 Years)	Reference #s	
Land Use	1. State and City Regulations	Promote efficient use of land through compact development strategies (1, 2, 3); Preference for infill & redevelopment (especially within Community Center Areas) over new, "greenfield" development (1, 2, 3); Maintain viable working landscape (1, 2); Protect drinking water supply intake areas (3); Protect/retain future potential supplies (both surface water and groundwater) (3, 4); Encourage nodal and mixed use land development;	Identify current regulations that are barriers to sustainable development				NHDES Strategic Plan 2008 (1)	
	2. Livable Walkable Toolkit						NH Climate Action Plan (2)	
	3. Innovative Land Use Handbook							NH Water Resources Primer (3)
	4. Local Master Plans							Favorable Gravel Well Analysis (4)
	5. DES Strategic Plan							Water Infrastructure Needs Assessment (5)
Implementation	1. Local Master Plans	Change local zoning and regulations to be consistent with sustainable development principles (1, 2, 3) Build flexibility into zoning a regulations to allow for innovative and evolving technologies (1, 2, 3, 4)					Water Demand/Consumption Estimates (6)	
	2. State and City Regulations		Identify current regulations that are barriers to sustainable development and incorporating innovative technologies	Collaborate with municipalities during the permitting process to explore ways to incorporate innovative technologies into project				Stressed Basins Project (NHGS) (7)
	3. Innovative Land Use Handbook							Fluvial-Erosion Hazard Analyses (8)
	4. Land use and floodplain regulations							303(d)/305(b) Water Quality Assessments (9)
	5. Local plans and Integrated Permitting Process							Various Watershed, Lake, River Management Plans (10)
Housing	1. Fair Housing Needs Assessments	Promote mixed use/mixed income housing, particularly within and near existing community centers (2) Explore opportunities for cottage and in-fill housing to provide affordable housing opportunities within urban boundary (4)	SNHPC Region Estimated Workforce HHs (2008) : 49,913	Local Analysis to determine each communities baseline	TBD in 2015 SNHPC Housing Needs Assessment	Estimated increase needed from 2008 - 2015: 4,635 (from 2010 SNHPC HNA)	Southeast Watershed Alliance (11)	
	2. Innovative Land Use Handbook							Gov Water Sustainability Commission (12)
	3. Federal, City and State Regulations							Water Quality Restoration Plans (TMDLs) (13)
	4. Concord Housing Comission Charette Study			Identify current regulations that are barriers to this type of development. Identify communities where opportunities exist and have need for developing add'l housing in urban boundary	Collaborate with municipalities to develop zoning language that accomodates in a manner consistent with town/city vision			Piscataqua Region Estuaries Project Mangement Plan (14)
	5. Downtown Plans							FEMA/DOT Culvert Assessments (15)
Transportation	1. Regional and Local Corridor Transportation Plans	Integrated transportation, land use and environmental planning efforts (1, 2); Ensure culverts and crossings are adequately sized for potential higher flows with larger storm events (2, 3); Improve winter management to reduce salt use (13); promote "complete streets" - appropriate scale, public amenities, interconnected parking & street systems; provide/support transit, bicycle, pedestrian travel to support traditional, compact development forms;	Mode share (the goal is to decrease the dependence on single-occupancy vehicle (SOV)): SOV: 85%, Carpool: 9%, Transit: 1%, Bike: 0.5%, Walk: 5%				NH Climate Adaptation Planning (16)	
	2. Downtown Plans		Headway and service times of mass transit: currently is about 55 minutes, or just under 1 pick-up/stop/hour.				EPA Guidance on Sustainability at Drinking Water and Waste Water Facilities (17)	
	3. Pedestrian/Bike Plans		The miles of bike paths/bike lanes					

	4. Livable Walkable Toolkit		The miles of connected sidewalks in an area				
	5. NH Climate Action Plan		Walk score (website to measure the concentration of amenities in walking distance)				
Water Infrastructure	1. DES Strategic Plan	Protect drinking water supply intake areas (3); Protect/retain future potential supplies (both surface water and groundwater) (3, 4); Explore opportunities for strategic interconnections (inc resiliency) (3); Invest in community on-site wastewater disposal systems to support compact development within community centers (2, 3); Increase water conservation & energy efficiency of infrastructure (2, 3); Invest in maintenance/inc capacity of existing systems over expansion into new areas (1)					
	2. NH Water Resources Primer						
	3. Water Infrastructure Needs Assessment						
	4. Water Demand/Consumption Estimates						
	5. The Sustainability of New Hampshire's Surface Water						
Environment	1. DES Strategic Plan	Increase water conservation (2, 3); Maintain flood storage capacity with development (2, 3); Protect riparian areas/maintain vegetated buffers to reduce impacts of development on water quality and habitat (3, 10); Preserve natural hydrologic processes (infiltration and evapotranspiration of rain water, quantity & timing of rain runoff from land, minimize pollutants to protect water quality) (3, 8, 10, 12, 13); minimize impervious surfaces (3, 10)					
	2. Forest Management Plans						
	3. Various Local Watershed, River, Lake Management Plans						
	4. Local Open Space Plans						
	5. NH Coastal Program						
Economic Development	1. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS)	4)The preservation of historical resources creates new jobs, revitalizes downtowns, provides affordable housing and supports heritage tourism. A wide range of demographic, economic, social and political trends shape resource protection in the State and lead to the success of traditional development patterns espousing the livability principles. Tools employed to promote these principles include demolition review ordinances; community revitalization tax relief incentives (79-E), neighborhood heritage districts and traditional local historic districts, and the recent study of sustainability and historic preservation. 5) The National and State Registers of Historic Places are a listing of significant					
	2. Report on Historic Preservation and Economic Development						
	3. Downtown Plans						
	4. State Historic Preservation Plan						
	5. National and State Register						
Climate Change Impacts	1. Innovative Land Use Handbook	Address changing risks of flood/drought, particularly within areas of high-density existing development and at drinking water and wastewater facilities (2, 3, 16); 4) The NH Climate Action Plan does address historic preservation by discussing how embodied energy					
	2. DES Strategic Plan						
	3. NH Wildlife Action Plan						
	4. NH Climate Action Plan						
	5. Hazard Mitigation Plans						
Energy Efficiency and Green Building	1. Energy Plans	Increase energy efficiency of drinking water and wastewater facilities (2); Encourage development patterns that support walk/bike/public transportation (2) Provide incentives for (or require achieving a certain level) for high performing, energy efficient projects (2) Encourage and recognize sustainability is new development and renovation of all types - commercial, retail, housing, schools, neighborhoods (2) Promote and recognize sustainability in construction and	Many rating systems exist, high cost for obtaining certification. See projects setting goals and incorporating without going for certification	Create information toolkit about rating systems and ways to incorporate elements into projects			
	2. LEED and Energystar Certification						
	3. Smart Growth Toolkit						

4. Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure
5. Architecture 2030

Currently in development. First rating system geared towards infrastructure projects	Establish rating system, learning curve on what/who/how to implement	Create information toolkit about rating system and ways to incorporate into projects		