Strafford Regional Planning Commission 2016 Annual Report

Cynthia Copeland, AICP, Executive Director

Strafford Regional Planning Commission's mission is to assure that the region is responsive to the needs of its residents through cooperative actions with municipalities and federal and state agencies, through the implementation of



regional plans, and through local planning assistance. The Commission's professional staff provide transportation, land use, economic development, hazard mitigation, water, public health, and natural resource planning services; geographic information services (GIS); data collection and analysis; facilitation; and project management.

2016 Specific Accomplishments in Farmington:

- Revised the Aquifer Protection Overlay District boundaries and overall Aquifer Protection
 Ordinance, which was approved at the Farmington Town Meeting in March 2016. (DES funded
 project).
- Completed the standardized map set for the region, including maps for the Town of Farmington.
- Beginning in August 2015, Senior Regional Planner Liz Durfee began providing planning services to the Town as the Interim Town Planner. This included:
 - Reviewing site plan and subdivisions applications and preparing findings and recommendations memos for the Town and Planning Board.
 - o Reviewing variance applications and preparing findings and recommendations memos for the Zoning Board of Adjustment.
 - Providing support to Boards, including the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and Economic Development Committee.
 - o Attending Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment meetings.
 - o Holding weekly office hours and providing support to applicants and potential applicants.
 - o Assisting the Town with preparing warrant articles.
 - o Assisting the Town with preparing updates and drafting amendments to Site Plan Review Regulations, Subdivision Regulations, and proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance.
 - o Preparing a parcel and zoning district map.
 - o Presenting information about the Town's economic development incentives (TIF and 79-e) to the Planning Board and Economic Development Commission.
 - o Preparing outreach materials for the Community Revitalization Tax Incentive (79-e).
 - Assisting the Town with identifying and initiating next steps for the TIF district.
- Conducted 4 traffic counts to support state and local planning efforts and 9 supplemental traffic counts.
- Distributed New Hampshire Planning and Land Use Regulation books to local land use boards.
- Provided technical assistance to the Moose Mountains Region on economic development and tourism initiatives.
- Adopted the 2015-2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Goals for 2017 for the Region:

- Provide technical assistance through mapping efforts.
- Use federal designation as an Economic Development District to provide municipalities with access to additional infrastructure and program development grants.

- Continue to carryout Brownfields assessment grant for the region and apply for additional assessment funds.
- Release the formatted 2015-2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.
- Carry out SHRP2 performance measure project with NHDOT, MPOs, our communities, and other stakeholders.
- Provide technical assistance to communities updating their floodplain and/or stormwater regulations.
- Develop online web maps and applications for use by the public, using ArcGIS online
- Continue local transportation planning tasks in support of safety, mobility, and access management.
- Complete Ten Year project solicitation with all Strafford region municipalities and transit agencies.
- Improve technical capacity for transportation project development and long-term planning.
- Continue to provide technical assistance, education and outreach on multi- hazard mitigation strategies, and low impact development.
- Continue development in the following three planning program areas to benefit the region's communities: energy/utilities, community health and safety, and resiliency to climate adaptation.
- Continue to enhance water resource protection by working with municipalities to improve drinking water protection.
- Complete the land use layer update.

We look forward to working with the citizens and officials of Farmington in 2017. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and for your continuing support of regional planning. Further questions or comments can be referred to Cynthia Copeland, AICP, Executive Director at cic@strafford.org. We can be found on Twitter and Facebook! We also have a blog at http://strafford.org/magazine/.

Please visit our website at www.strafford.org for more information.

If you would like to receive E-Bulletins from SRPC, please go to our home page of our website noted above.