



The New Hampshire Association of Regional Planning Commissions (NHARPC) is the affiliation of the nine regional planning commissions in the state of New Hampshire. The members of the association are the Commissioners of the nine RPCs, and services are provided by RPC staff. Regional planning commissions are required by New Hampshire statute to prepare regional master plans, compile housing needs assessments, and review developments of regional impact.

NRPC's representatives to the NHARPC are Kerrie Diers, Mike Fimbel and Stuart Schneiderman.

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

News:

At its recent Annual Fall Planning Conference, the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association recognized the NH Innovative Land Use Techniques Handbook as the 2009 Project of the Year. The ILU Handbook was developed under the leadership of the NH Department of Environment Services in coordination with the State's 9 regional planning commissions. Others contributing to the effort included the NH Office of Energy and Planning and the NH Local Government Center.

Legislative Policy Committee:

The NHARPC adopted the attached set of Legislative Policies and Priorities at its meeting on November 12, 2009. The LPC met on December 2 to review the approximately 900 LSR requests that had been filed at the Legislature. The LPC identified 60 bills that had potential interest to regional planning commissions. As the texts become available, the LPC will revise the list and distribute to members.

The NHARPC will be reviewing the process it uses to solicit policy recommendations from member RPCs and hopes to have a new process ready for the Spring/early Summer.

NHARPC Legislative Priority Policy Areas 2010 Legislative Session

The following list of Legislative Priorities and Legislative Policies was endorsed by NHARPC at their November 12, 2009 meeting.

Legislative Priorities:

- Increase current state funding levels for regional planning and explore alternative funding sources that could provide an increase in future funding.
- Strengthen provisions for review of developments of regional impact.
- Support programs which encourage protection of natural, cultural and historic resources such as LCHIP.
- Increase funding for safe and adequate transportation infrastructure and greater flexibility in spending for transportation improvements.

Legislative Policies:

These policies are organized within the four general categories of NHARPC's Planning Principles for New Hampshire.

Sustainability:

- Promote groundwater withdrawal regulation and groundwater preservation and protection.
- Promote shoreland protection and regulation.
- Promote the establishment of permanent funded programs and incentives which promote proper disposal of household hazardous waste.
- Support stormwater management efforts including stormwater utility enabling legislation.
- Support efforts to protect wetlands.
- Promote measures to mitigate climate change.
- Support the development and increased use of sustainable/renewable energy.

Prosperity:

- Support workforce housing.
- Support appropriate mechanisms for regional water, wastewater, septage management and solid waste management.
- Support financial and regulatory incentives for public water supply systems to interconnect their systems and implement conservation measures.
- Support regional economic development consistent with NHARPC planning principles.

Mobility:

- Support transit and multi-modal transportation.

Livability:

- Promote smart growth.
- Support regionalism.
- Support policies which strengthen municipal and regional planning authority.

Footnotes:

1. Nashua RPC recommended adding the following priorities:
 - Promote funding and sustainable support of passenger rail.
 - Encourage a state wide drinking water plan for the 21st century.
 - Support a complete streets coalition that all modes be considered in transportation projects.
2. Lakes Region RPC suggested that priorities and policies be more specific.
3. Strafford RPC was unable to support the “Promote measures to mitigate climate change” policy due to a lack of information.
4. Southern RPC was unable to support the “Support workforce housing” policy as a blanket approval.

NHARPC Legislative Service Requests of Interest, December 2009

Bill #	LSR #	Title	Sponsor	Committee	Intent	Link
HB1395	2008	Relative to Workforce Housing	David Hess		This bill makes various changes to the workforce housing requirements.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1395.html
HB1287	2022	Relative to setback requirements on private rights-of-way	Gene Chandler		This bill provides that a private right-of-way of undetermined width that forms a boundary line for one or more properties shall be deemed to be the width required by the municipality for town roads solely for the purpose of setback requirements under the local land use ordinances.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1287.html
HB1288	2025	Relative to the term of office of an appointed member of a local land use board	Christine Hamm		This bill specifies when the term of office of an appointed member of a local land use board member begins and ends.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1288.html
HB1451	2037	Relative to the expiration of certain committees	L Mike Kappler		This bill exempts the local river management advisory committees, the rivers management advisory committee, the New Hampshire lakes management and protection program, including the lakes management advisory committee, and the oil fund disbursement board from the expiration dates under 2009, 144:87.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1451.html
HB1292	2050	Relative to underground storage tank facility permits, compliance, and cleanup fund eligibility	Chris Christensen		This bill removes provisions necessitating periodic re-issuance of underground storage tank facility permits and removes provisions which limit transfer of oil cleanup fund coverage.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1292.html
HB1293	2051	Relative to the oil discharge cleanup fund	Chris Christensen		This bill repeals several sections of law enacted in 1995 relative to the oil discharge cleanup fund.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1293.html
HB1295	2063	Establishing a committee to study the effects of milfoil and methods of eradication	Richard Drisko		This bill establishes a committee to study the effects of milfoil and methods of eradication.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1295.html
HB1138	2080	Relative to the authority to expand municipal transportation improvement funds	Donna Schlachman		This bill removes the requirement that municipal transportation improvement funds be expended only by the legislative body of the municipality.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1138.html
HB1298	2085	Establishing a statewide septic system commission	Jane Beaulieu		This bill establishes a statewide septic system commission	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1298.html
HB1299	2086	Establishing a committee to study enacting a moratorium on the sale and use of fertilizers containing phosphorous	Jane Beaulieu		This bill establishes a committee to study enacting a moratorium on the sale and use of fertilizers containing phosphorous.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1299.html
HB1305	2096	Relative to designating uses for surface waters	Marcia Moody		This bill clarifies the definition of surface waters, designates beneficial uses of surface waters, and establishes requirements for antidegradation.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1305.html
HB1457	2117	Establishing a committee to study urban compacts	Susan Kepner		This bill establishes a commission to study urban compacts.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1457.html
HB1462	2146	Establishing a shoreland advisory council	Nancy Stiles		This bill establishes a shoreland advisory council.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1462.html
HB1399	2181	Relative to state water pollution control and drinking water revolving loan funds, and state contributions to sewage disposal facilities.	Betsy Patten		L. Permits the state to participate in federally funded grants provided under the Clean Water Act.II. Limits state contributions for certain sewage disposal facility construction costs.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1399.html
HB1149	2183	Relative to incorporation by reference in State Agency rulemaking	Betsy Patten, Maurice Pilotte		This bill allows state agencies to incorporate by reference in its final rulemaking proposal a manual of best management practices.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1149.html
HB1332	2224	Relative to planning board members	Amy Perkins		This bill limits the applicability of the prohibition on 2 or more town planning board members serving on another board or commission.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1332.html
HB1153	2242	Relative to membership of the commission to study water infrastructure sustainable funding	Karen Umberger , Thomas Buco, Martha Fuller Clark		This bill adds a member to the commission to study water infrastructure.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1153.html
HB1606	2278	Relative to the transfer of funds within the department of environmental services.	Thomas Buco , Benjamin Baroody, Thomas Katsiantonis, Sandra Keans, John Gallus		This bill requires the commissioner of the department of environmental services to redirect certain funds within the department.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1606.html
HB1234	2295	Relative to the disclosure of property rights & responsibilities in the sale of shorefront property	Leigh Webb , David Palfrey		This bill requires the seller of shorefront property to disclose to the purchaser the rights and responsibilities of shorefront ownership.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1234.html
HB1349	2309	Relative to enforcement of surface water classification	Judith Spang , L. Mike Kappler, Martha Fuller Clark, Jacalyn Cilley, Amanda Merrill, Bob Odell, Dennis Abbott, Naida Kaen, Gary Richardson		This bill clarifies the enforcement of classification for surface water.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1348.html
HB1200	2310	Relative to definition of "abutter" for notice of land use board hearings	Paul McEachern		This bill changes the definition of "abutter" for notice of land use board hearings to include condominium or collective unit owners rather than the officers of the collective or association.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1200.html

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Bill #	LSR #	Title	Sponsor	Committee	Intent	Link
HB1627	2368	Relative to the regulation of manufactured housing and modular buildings	Thomas Buco, Kathleen Taylor		I. Requires the department of safety to certify manufacturers, dealer/builders, and installers of modular buildings. II. Revises the department's rulemaking and enforcement authority regarding modular buildings. II. Revises the definition of manufactured housing as well as the responsibilities and membership of the manufactured housing installation standards board. IV. Transfers enforcement and rulemaking authority for manufactured housing installation standards from the board to the department of safety.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1627.html
HB1227	2390	Relative to laying pipes for pressurized hot water transmission and distribution	Laurance Rappaport		This bill permits pipes for the transmission of pressurized hot water to be laid by a municipality.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1227.html
HB1363	2400	Relative to continuing care communities	Jill Hammond		This bill clarifies the law regulating continuing care communities when a person has not yet moved into the facility, but is receiving continuing care services at home.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1363.html
HB1609	2415	Relative to current use and the land use change tax	Derek Owen		This bill changes the procedure for setting current use value of unproductive land, clarifies that the land use change tax is not a property tax but is a change of use tax, allows local assessing officials 5 years to discover that the land use change tax is due and payable if they receive no written notice, and clarifies current use taxation of condominium development areas.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1609.html
HB1572	2429	Relative to the certification of integrated residential communities	Thomas Donovan, Catriona Beck		This bill establishes the certification of integrated residential communities. This bill exempts such entities from the licensure law regulating health care facilities.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1572.html
HB1434	2447	Relative to exemptions from sewage disposal systems approval	Cynthia Dokmo, Peter Bergin, Peter Fleishman		This bill exempts certain transfers of title to land from sewage disposal systems approval requirements when the owner retains title to buildings.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1434.html
HB1375	2450	Establishing a committee to study regional planning commissions	John Cloutier, Thomas Donovan, Larry Brown, Rick Watrous		This bill establishes a committee to study regional planning commissions.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1375.html
HB1573	2468	Relative to the greenhouse gas emissions reduction fund and the renewable energy fund	Jacqueline Cali-Pitts, Martha Fuller Clark		This bill expands the types of programs eligible for funding from the greenhouse gas emissions reduction fund. The bill also allows the public utilities commission, on its own motion, to make transfers between the greenhouse gas emissions reduction fund and the renewable energy fund.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1573.html
	2470	Including solar hot water heating systems in electric renewable energy class I	Jacqueline Cali-Pitts, Martha Fuller Clark, David Borden			
HB1377	2471	Permitting utilities to establish loan programs for owners of residential and business property engaging in renewable energy and energy efficiency projects	Jacqueline Cali-Pitts, David Borden, Martha Fuller Clark		This bill permits utilities to establish loan programs for owners of residential and business property engaging in renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1377.html
HB1380	2481	Relative to assessing fees by zoning boards of adjustment	Laura Gandia		This bill authorizes zoning boards of adjustment to assess fees to cover costs and administrative expenses.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1380.html
HB1382	2484	Relative to Workforce Housing	William O'Brien, Stephen Shurtleff, John Hikel, Warren Groen		This bill provides that municipalities lacking specified building restrictions shall be deemed compliant with workforce housing requirements.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1382.html
HB1575	2488	Relative to commercial composting	Daniel Carr, Peter Allen, Susan Wiley, Suzanne Smith		I. Requires commercial composters to have a permit. II. Establishes a permit process for commercial composters. III. Establishes rulemaking authority for the commissioner of the department of environmental services.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1575.html
HB1401	2497	Limiting corn-based ethanol as an additive to gasoline sold in New Hampshire	Charles Townsend, Beatriz Pastor		This bill limits the amount of corn-based ethanol that may be added to gasoline sold in New Hampshire.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1401.html
HB1174	2531	Relative to terms for appointed town officials	Jessie Osborne, Mary Cooney, Christine Hamm		This bill provides that the term of an appointed official continues until a successor is appointed and qualified.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1174.html
HB1221	2545	Relative to excavating and dredging permits	Judith Day, Susan Kepner		I. To abutters concerning excavating and dredging permits, and II. To persons against whom complaints have been filed for violations.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1221.html
HB1222	2546	Relative to the authority of the commissioner of the department of environmental services to grant permits under the comprehensive shoreland protection act.	Judith Day, Susan Kepner		This bill provides that the commissioner of the department of environmental services shall not be bound by the decisions of municipalities concerning waivers and variances.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1222.html
HB1499	2557	Reducing the number of area agencies in the state	Elaine Swinford, Edith Hogan, Warren Groen		This bill reduces the number of area agencies in the state from 12 to 4, and consolidates area agency management under one executive director.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1499.html
HB1521	2571	Relative to funding of the New Hampshire rail transit authority	Neal Kurk, Peter Bergin		This bill prohibits the New Hampshire rail transit authority from proceeding with any commitment for passenger rail service until the treasurer certifies that no state-funded subsidy will be needed.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1521.html

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Bill #	LSR #	Title	Sponsor	Committee	Intent	Link
HB1272	2592	Relative to expanding the community revitalization tax relief program to provide incentives for rehabilitating historic structures	David Watters, Susan Price, Sandra Keans, Bob Odell, David Borden		This bill allows towns and cities to add historic structures in the municipality, whose preservation and reuse would conserve the embodied energy in existing building stock, to the community revitalization tax relief program in RSA 79-E.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1272.html
HB1242	2593	Relative to broadband infrastructure	Robert Foose, David Pierce		This bill modifies the definition of revenue producing facilities as they pertain to broadband infrastructure for municipal revenue bond purposes.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1242.html
HB1179	2627	Relative to municipal access to the enhanced 911 data base	David Kidder		This bill requires the state to provide municipalities with information from the enhanced 911 system for reverse emergency notification.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1179.html
HB1148	2642	Establishing the New Hampshire great ponds study commission	Steven Lindsey		This bill establishes the New Hampshire great ponds study commission.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1148.html
HB1421	2659	Establishing regional advisory councils in the state park system	Patricia McMahon		This bill establishes regional advisory councils in the state park system.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1421.html
HB1422	2660	Establishing a committee to study the establishment of a department of natural resources	Patricia McMahon		This bill establishes a committee to study the establishment of a department of natural resources.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1422.html
HB1429	2672	Establishing a committee to study the inclusion of universal design requirements in the state building code	Patricia McMahon		This bill establishes a committee to study the inclusion of universal design requirements in the state building code.	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2010/HB1429.html
	2707	Relative to merger of lots or parcels	Kathleen Sgambati			
	2713	Relative to permitting of large groundwater withdrawals	Jacalyn Cilley			
	2759	Relative to the selection of members of the conservation commission	Matthew Houde, Timothy Butterworth			
	2760	Relative to the payment of certain amounts from the water fund to the general fund by the town of Hanover	Matthew Houde, haron Nordgren, Bernard Benn, David Pierce			
	2761	Relative to the expiration of large groundwater withdrawal permits	John Barnes, Jr, Frank Case, Martha Fuller Clark, L. Mike Kappler			
	2765	Relative to sewage disposal systems	Bob Odell, Matthew Houde, Martha Fuller Clark, Ken Hawkins, Patricia McMahon			
	2766	Relative to purchasing alliances	Kathleen Sgambati, Deborah Reynolds, Bob Odell, John Gallus, Michael Downing, Edward Butler, Thomas Donovan			
	2818	Relative to the state water pollution control and drinking water revolving loan funds	Martha Fuller Clark			
	2834	Relative to the jurisdiction of planning boards	John Gallus			
	2843	Relative to energy conservation in new building construction	Amanda Merrill			
	2850	Relative to approval procedures on plats	Betsi DeVries, Mary Cooney			
	2859	Relative to assessment of the land use change tax	Betsi DeVries, Mary Cooney, Betsy Patten			
	2916	Relative to alternate members of land use boards	Sheila Roberge, John Graham			
	2935	Relative to users of private water supply wells	Judith Spang			

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