

## MEETING OF THE SRPC COMMISSION AND EDD BOARD

Friday, May 15, 2026, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting (Conference Rm 1A, SRPC Office & via Teams)

In accordance with RSA 91:A, the Commission requires an in-person quorum. So long as an in-person quorum, Commissioners may participate virtually. Guests may attend the meeting virtually or at the SRPC Office. All participants, both in-person and virtual, can communicate contemporaneously.

### Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Join:** <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/26158346669748?p=4xytesfYGFhcig30qO>

Meeting ID: 261 583 466 697 48

Passcode: fH7Va7Ph

These instructions have also been provided at [www.strafford.org](http://www.strafford.org). If anybody is unable to access the meeting, please email [mtaylorfetter@straffordrpcnh.gov](mailto:mtaylorfetter@straffordrpcnh.gov) or call 603-994-3500 (x115).

Agenda Item	Time	Pre-Meeting Notes
<b>1) Welcome and Introductions</b>	9:00-9:05	
<b>2) Commissioner Roundtable</b>	9:05-9:15	Updates from your community
<b>3) Action Items</b> Minutes from April 17, 2026	9:30-9:40	See meeting packet
<b>4) Discussion Items</b> a) CEDS Final Draft Presentation and start of Public Comment Period b) FY2027 Executive Committee Slate of Officers c) Grant Opportunities	9:40-10:20	Refer to the memo
<b>5) Other Business</b>	10:20-10:25	
<b>6) Citizens Forum</b>	10:25-10:30	
<b>7) Adjourn</b>	10:30	

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a detailed description of the accommodation you will need along with your contact info. Please make your request as early as possible; allowing at least 5 days advance notice. Last minute requests will be accepted but may be impossible to fill. Please call (603) 994-3500 or email [info@straffordrpcnh.gov](mailto:info@straffordrpcnh.gov)



## **RULES OF PROCEDURE**

*Strafford Regional Planning Commission  
Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization, and  
Strafford Economic Development District*

### **Meeting Etiquette**

Be present at the scheduled start of the meeting.

Be respectful of the views of others.

Ensure that only one person talks at a time. Raising your hand to be recognized by the chair or facilitator is good practice.

Do not interrupt others or start talking before someone finishes.

Do not engage in cross talk.

Avoid individual discussions in small groups during the meeting. When one person speaks, others should listen.

Active participation is encouraged from all members.

When speaking, participants should adhere to topics of discussion directly related to agenda items.

When speaking, individuals should be brief and concise when speaking.

The Strafford Regional Planning Commission & Metropolitan Planning Organization holds both public meetings and public hearings.

For public meetings, guests are welcome to observe, but should follow proper meeting etiquette allowing the meeting to proceed uninterrupted. Members of the public who wish to be involved and heard should use venues such as Citizen Forum, Public Hearings, Public Comment Periods, outreach events, seminars, workshops, listening sessions, etc.

**DATE:** May 15, 2026

**TO:** SRPC Commissioners

**FROM:** Jen Czysz, Executive Director  
Natalie Gemma, Senior Regional Planner  
Michael Polizzotti, Senior Economic Development Planner

**RE: May 15, 2026, Agenda Items & Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

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## 2026-2030 Draft CEDS Presentation

The draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for 2026-2030 has been released for public comment. At the May 15 Commission meeting, staff will provide a presentation on the draft and solicit comments.

Public Notice: <https://straffordrpcnh.gov/2026/05/07/public-comment-period-2026-2030-comprehensive-economic-development-strategy/>

Direct link to the draft CEDS:  
[https://docs.straffordrpcnh.gov/documents/plans/edd/ceds\\_2026.pdf](https://docs.straffordrpcnh.gov/documents/plans/edd/ceds_2026.pdf)

The public comment period for the draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy began on May 8 and will conclude on June 7, 2026. An adoption hearing is scheduled for the June 19 Commission Meeting.

Please come prepared to share your feedback on the draft! We hope to have a robust discussion.

## FY2027 Executive Committee Slate of Officers

Each year at the June Annual Business Meeting we elect Commissioners to serve on the executive committee. There are 3 officers (chair, vice chair, and secretary/treasurer), 4 regular members, and 2 alternate members. If you are interested in serving on the executive committee, or continuing to do so, please reach out to Jen or Megan.

## Upcoming Grant Opportunities

There are several open grant opportunities for municipalities.

- [Recreational Trails](#), due May 29
- [Coastal Resilience Grants](#), due June 5
- [Piscataqua Region Environmental Planning Assessment Grants](#), due June 16
- [Project Builder Program](#), due July 1
- [Source Water Protection Grants](#) (land protection), due May 28



## Draft Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

(subject to change)

**Monthly Meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month, 9-10:30 AM, SRPC Office, Conf. Room 1A

**Quarterly Field Trips:** Thursdays, 3:45-5:30 PM, in Sept., Dec., Feb., and Jun.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Tentative Agenda Items</b>
Fri. Jun. 19, 2026* 9-10:30 AM	SRPC	RPC EDD MPO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CEDS Adoption and Final Presentation</li> <li>• Business items</li> </ul>
Thu. Jun. 25, 2026 4:30-7:30 PM	The Oaks Somersworth	RPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Meeting Dinner <b>SRPC at 55: Rooted in History, Focused on the Future</b></li> </ul>

\* Note, this date is a holiday.

## **MEETING OF THE SRPC MPO POLICY COMMITTEE AND EDD BOARD**

Friday, April 17, 2026 9:00 – 10:30 AM

Hybrid Meeting (Conference Rm 1A, SRPC Office & via Zoom)

### **1) Introductions**

At 8:10AM, Chair Paul Rasmussen called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

**Commissioners present:** Paul Rasmussen, Durham; Mark Richardson, Somersworth; Joe Boudreau, Rochester; Steve Stancel, Wakefield; Matt Towne, Barrington; Kate Buzard, Middleton; Michael Williams, COAST; Mike Bobinsky, Somersworth; Sarah Wrightsman, Newmarket; Curtis Register, Durham; Krista Gingue, Dover; Lee Howlett, Milton; John Muillen, Middleton; Rick Healy, Rochester; Don Manter, Northwood; Katrin Kasper, Lee

**Staff:** Kyle Pimental, Mark Davie, Colin Lentz, Rachel Dewey, Mike Polizzotti, Jen Czysz, Rachel Dewey, Mark Davie, Angelina, Mike Polizzotti

**Commissioners attending on Zoom:** Lyndsey Williams, Dover, Glen Griswold, Steve Pesci, UNH; Steve Brown, Dover; William Rose, NHDOT; Jack Wade, NHDES

**NYC Guest presenters:** Tianle Fang, Sherry Wei, Meg Egan, Jody Chen, Annisa

**Staff attending remotely:** Natalie Gemma, Blair Haney, Lisa Murphy

### **2) Commissioner Roundtable**

M. Richardson reported that Velcro is moving their manufacturing from Manchester to Somersworth.

#### **a. Approve TIP Amendment 4**

J. Boudreau moved to open the public hearing. C. Register seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting unanimously in favor. The motion passed.

C. Lentz stated that SRPC manages projects in the four-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Significant changes to project costs or scope require additional public transparency and review. Such amendments to the TIP occur approximately quarterly. Transportation Planner Colin Lentz presented on the current amendment, which contains only one project in the region: safety improvements at US4 and Madbury Rd in Durham.

C. Register moved to close the public hearing seconded by R. Healy. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting unanimously in favor. The motion passed.



## **b. Minutes from March 20, 2026**

M. William moved to approve the TIP Amendment and the March 20, 2026 Meeting Minutes, second by K. Kasper. A roll call vote was taken. All members voted unanimously in favor. Motion passed.

### **3) Discussion Items**

#### **a. NYU Child Care Presentation**

N. Gemma opened the presentation and stated that SRPC has again partnered with the New York University Wagner School to host a capstone project to continue research on childcare availability and affordability and develop new resources to aid in implementation.

The student team joined virtually to present an overview and highlights from their project, an analysis of supply and demand for childcare in our region.

The presentation focused on the following:

- Develop a model zoning ordinance for home-based childcare in partnership with the NH Office of Planning and Development
- Engage stakeholders to evaluate and compile recommendations on how to broaden the reach of NH CDFA's resources for family childcare providers.
- Develop sustainable business financing plans for childcare providers in collaboration with the Strafford Economic Development Corporation.

N. Gemma explained that state law requires home-based care to be allowed in residential zones, with many Stafford region municipalities still needing zoning updates to comply. She noted available model ordinances and best practices to further reduce barriers. J. Czysz added that SRPC has grant funding to help municipalities with updates and outreach. Participants thanked the student team and partners, emphasized aligning policy with financing and technical support, and discussed the economic impacts of limited care capacity. Staffing shortages were highlighted as a major challenge, with suggestions to examine enrollment and workforce trends—particularly in Child Studies and Development programs—to inform long-term, statewide solutions.

#### **b. Data Snapshot – *Due to timing, this agenda item was addressed ahead of the Childcare Presentation.***

R. Dewey announced that today is the release of the 2026 Annual Regional Data Snapshot. She provided a SRPC conducts region-wide analysis of a number of data metrics each year for different projects and plans. The Regional Data Snapshot is a document that contains many of these analyses in one place. The Data Snapshot covers demographics, economic vitality, livability and quality of life, mobility and accessibility, and resiliency. In approximately 180 pages, the Regional Data Snapshot provides over 160 metrics for the SRPC region. In previous years, new Data Snapshots included additional metrics not found in years prior. This year, changes include refreshing some

charts and metrics from the first edition to adapt to changes in the source data, as well as the removal of select metrics where the source data is no longer maintained.

The group engaged in a brief discussion on data sources for housing availability and costs.

### **Upcoming Grant Opportunities**

J. Czysz stated that The Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership (PREP) have released a Request for Proposals for their 2026-2026 Piscataqua Region Environmental Assessment (PREPA) Grant Program. These grants provide \$5,000 - \$25,000 to support projects in the following key areas:

- Wetland & Shoreland Protections: Safeguarding water bodies and areas along shores, rivers, and vernal pools as well as other wetlands.
- Floodplain Management: Reducing flood risk by strengthening local floodplain and planning for future flood hazards.
- Land Conservation: Protecting important natural areas and open space through planning, conservation tools, and local land use policies.
- Stormwater Management: Managing stormwater runoff through stronger standards, low impact development, and local stormwater planning.
- Septic System Management: Protecting water quality by improving septic system standards, tracking systems, and promoting proper maintenance.
- Climate Resilience: Preparing communities for climate impacts through vulnerability assessments, planning, and actions that reduce future risk.
- Drinking water protections: Supporting plan adoption and local actions to protect drinking water sources.

DES announced Coastal Resilience grants, with only five eligible municipalities in the region: Durham, Dover, Newmarket, Madbury, and Rollinsford. These grants support projects similar in scope to PREPA but with a slightly larger budget. While Coastal Resilience grants do not require a match, providing a match— including in-kind contributions—is strongly recommended to remain competitive. PREPA grants require no match.

J. Czysz stated that we want to ensure that municipalities are aware of these funding opportunities and know that partnership support, including grant writing, is available. If you are looking to partner with SRPC on the project, we are able to do the grant writing for you.

The group discussed the decline of eelgrass along the coast.

The group engaged in conversation on zoning laws and monitoring septic systems near bodies of water and if there is a model septic system ordinance.

### **4) Other Business**

M. Williams shared that COAST just issued a press release proposing a fare increase which is first since 2008. It is in a public comment period.

D. Manter shared that there is a proposed development on a 187-acre property on the border of Candia. It would have a regional impact.

K. Kasper reported that the first week of May is energy week. Many activities and events will be happening.

S. Pesci shared that UNH has been coordinating Coast and will adjust the Wildcat Transit cash fares to match Coast when they do make that change.

R. Healy reported that the planning board can demand the developer upgrade the road leading up to new developments.

L. Williams shared that the Dover City Nature Challenge in coordination with the Nature Conservancy is happening later this month and there will be many events and activities. Don't Trash Dover on April 25th is hosting the Power of an Hour where each ward picks up as much trash as possible as a healthy competition to see who can gather the most trash.

J. Czysz reminded the group that the SRPC Annual meeting will take place on June 25, it will be a dinner this year at the OAKS celebrating 55 years of regional planning.

#### **4) Citizens Forum**

There were no citizens' comments

#### **5) Adjourn**

M. Bobinsky moved to adjourn. With a Second by D. Manter. All members voted in favor. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:30AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Taylor-Fetter