

**SRPC REGIONAL PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

Friday, May 15, 2026, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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

In accordance with RSA 91:A, the Commission requires a minimum of an in-person quorum. To organize this, the Commission staff will confirm the necessary in-person attendance. It is the preference of the Commission that others participate via Zoom, however, guests may attend the meeting at the SRPC Office. All participants, both in-person and virtual, can communicate contemporaneously. View the remote access information below.

**Meeting URL:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83773252229>

**Meeting ID:** 837 7325 2229

**Telephone-only Access:** +1 646 558 8656

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.

Agenda Item	Time	Pre-Meeting Task/Notes
1) Welcome and Introductions	10:30-10:35am	
2) Review of April Minutes	10:35-10:40am	Review draft minutes
3) Land Use & Environment Chapter Goal-Setting Activity	10:40-11:10am	Draft themes and goals
4) Next Steps for Climate Addendum and Review of Case Study Interviews to date	11:10-11:25am	
5) Citizen’s Forum	11:25-11:30am	
6) Adjourn	11:30am	

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  
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.



# SRPC Regional Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee

## Meeting 7

Friday, April 17, 2025 | Conference Room 1A

Mr. Davie called the meeting to order at 10:55am.

### **Members Present**

Katrin Kasper, Lee  
Mark Richardson, Somersworth  
Sarah Wrightsman, Newmarket  
Don Manter, Northwood  
Mark Richardson, Somersworth

### **Remote Members**

Steve Brown, Dover

### **Staff Present**

Mark Davie, Senior Planner  
Colin Lentz, Principal Transportation Planner  
Mike Polizzotti, Senior Economic Development Planner  
Angelina Palazzolo, Intern

## **Review of February Minutes**

Mr. Brown motioned to amend the February minutes to ensure his comments made in the Climate Addendum portion of the meeting were represented across all agenda items, as intended. Ms. Kasper voted to approve the minutes as amended, followed by a second from Mr. Richardson. All attending and virtual members voted in favor of approving the February minutes as amended.

## **Review of Transportation Themes**

Mr. Davie reviewed the draft thematic areas and lenses for the upcoming Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Themes ranged from alternative transportation routes to improving transportation safety. Members discussed the importance of these themes and provided clarifying feedback for the themes.

## **Transportation Goals Activity and Debrief**

Mr. Davie described the activity to gather initial feedback on goals for the upcoming Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Commissioners provided feedback for potential goals based on the proposed thematic areas for the upcoming plan. Members debriefed the activity and discussed their recommendations related to roadway safety, needs to address a culture of aggressive driving, and ways to better connect trails.

## **Adjourn**

Ms. Wrightsman moved to adjourn. At 11:54am. Ms. Kasper seconded. The group voted unanimously in favor to adjourn.

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# **Strafford Regional Planning Commission Forward Thinking: A Comprehensive Plan Land Use and Environment**

## **Proposed Lenses, Themes, and Initial Draft Goals**

### **Proposed Lenses**

These lenses are overarching principles that will impact many, if not all, of the themes that follow.

- ***Regional Partnerships and Collaboration:*** Strengthening regional and intercommunity relationships that advance shared priorities and look to the future; including land management and stewardship, conservation and resource protection, housing and infrastructure needs, and recreation. Fostering ongoing coordination, communication, regionalization, and inclusive engagement among municipalities, local boards and commissions, stakeholders, and residents to ensure regional planning is informed by all necessary community voices.
- ***Resiliency and Future Readiness:*** Supporting a region that is equipped for change, prepared for risk, and committed to the long-term viability of land, diverse alternative energy, infrastructure, and natural resources. Encouraging conscious development patterns and investment decisions that reduce vulnerability, preserve regional assets for future use, and position the region to adapt to evolving environmental conditions, demographic shifts, and economic uncertainty.
- ***Quality of Life and Community Identity:*** Preserving and enhancing the unique natural, historic, cultural, and recreational assets that define the region's character and support high quality of life. Supporting decisions that maintain access to open space and waterways, strengthen downtowns and village centers, promote outdoor recreation, and protect the features that make the region vibrant, livable, and welcoming for present and future enjoyment.
- ***Age Friendliness:*** Promoting initiatives that support residents of all ages by encouraging and adapting civic engagement opportunities,

applying locally tailored solutions to enhance accessible housing, public spaces, and community amenities. Supporting regional planning that facilitates aging in place, improves access to services and recreation, utilizes connections and actions from the Age-Friendly Resource Guide and Action Plans, and strengthens social and physical connections for changing demographics.

## **Proposed Themes and Associated Goals**

### ***Balanced Growth and Housing***

**Goal Statement:** An evolving housing community that maintains a balance between growth and environmental priorities, uses adaptive strategies to avoid sprawl, creates inclusive opportunities, and expands access to shifting demographics. Work with community leaders and municipalities to address the region's housing needs, revise regulatory efforts, address aesthetic concerns, and grow the affordability and diversity of the region's housing.

#### **Sub-Goals:**

- Expand transportation options, community connectivity, and elder care facilities to create housing better adapted to aging in place
- Focus new development on the appropriate types and prices to close the "missing middle" gap for residents and newcomers
- Utilize and incentivize adaptive reuse strategies on existing buildings and housing conversions in growth centers
- Ensure housing development has minimal impact on natural resources
- Explore mixed-income strategies to create a diverse housing mix and expand affordability
- Address the scarcity of affordable housing to support the region's current and future workforce
- Incentivize development in areas with existing community anchor institutions and adaptively reuse commercial space to prevent sprawl
- Support affordable housing projects that extend decent housing to individuals and families who have historically been excluded
- Provide regulatory policy and zoning ordinance assistance to address restrictions on housing construction
- Planning, design, construction, and renovation innovations to increase the energy efficiency, affordability, occupancy health, and environmental sustainability of homes

## ***Resilient Infrastructure***

**Goal Statement:** Infrastructure innovation that maintains environmental assets and priorities, utilizes infill planning in existing urban areas, explores mixed-use development for the most efficient use of space possible, and remains strong and resilient through environmental changes.

### **Sub-Goals:**

- Maintain and address limited access water infrastructure: drinking water treatment, sewer systems, pump stations, stormwater management, and drainage
- Review regulations that limit mixed-use zoning and building height to allow for more attainable development in already developed areas
- Increase knowledge of what is “buildable” based on environmental constraints to inform land-use and development decision making
- Expand public transportation options, sidewalks, and cycling infrastructure to support community connectivity, decrease environmental impacts, and decrease congestion
- Maintain and adapt roads, bridges, traffic signals, and other safety measures to more frequent and intense weather events.
- Expand electrical infrastructure to include renewable resources and improve energy efficiency of existing utilities
- Draw attention to costal, shoreline, and wetland infrastructure to increase protection and resilience against severe weather events
- Direct development away from the flood plain and address current flood prone infrastructure areas
- Address gaps and inefficiencies in solid waste systems like landfills, transfer stations, and recycling facilities.
- Promote urban green space development for flood mitigation, urban runoff absorption, aesthetics, and improved air quality in congested areas.

## ***Conservation & Recreation***

**Goal Statement:** A robust recreational industry that is focusing on improving management of public and green spaces, protecting vulnerable and valuable areas,

and using tourism-related strategies as a launch point for environmental conservation activities and awareness. Invest funding in spaces that give residents and tourists of all ages healthy and vibrant places to work, play, improve mental and physical health, connect with the community, and have fun.

**Sub-goals:**

- Identify areas that need improved upkeep and care to ensure the health and quality of recreational space
- Peruse new funding avenues to operate, maintain, and conserve lands to meet the growing needs of the community
- Mitigate the impacts of pollution, waste, and vehicular traffic on environmental assets
- Continue the theme of natural resource protection, wildlife considerations, and biodiversity in development conversations
- Peruse new recreational opportunities in underserved areas of the region to address the needs of growing communities
- Evaluate and expand recreational programs for accessibility for all ages, abilities, and
- Strengthen inter-departmental relationships and collaboration
- Utilize innovative conservation and planning tools to provide additional protection to vulnerable and valuable areas
- Restore and maintain quality in surface and ground waters, wetlands, buffers and floodplains, salt marshes, and local waterways
- Assess and implement effective stormwater management practices to prevent contamination and erosion

***Community Education and Engagement***

**Goal Statement:** A knowledgeable and involved community that has access to public space and recreation information, is involved in civic planning, and has interregional connections for collaboration.

**Sub-goals:**

- Expand local and regional knowledge of recreation and trail system locations
- Expand educational relationships to K-12 schools
- Create a universal education design to inform, encourage, and provide easy access to opportunities for civic participation, the local and regional planning structures, and open space management
- Encourage youth and family engagement through hybrid and accessible meetings

- Strengthen collaborative connections with community land trusts, UNH extension, and inter-departmental relationships
- Inter-regional collaboration and cooperation to plan for open space protection of land coming out of current use, grant applications, management, and reporting.
- Include a nonvoting seat for UNH students to participate in commission discussions
- Foster future leadership for environmental stewardship and conservation

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