NRPC Regional Plan—Project Roles, Responsibilities and Schedule

NRPC Commissioners

Under RSA 36: 45-47, the main duty of NRPC is to prepare a coordinated plan for the development of the region, to develop a vision and make recommendations for the future about transportation, land use, recreation, open space, economic development, public infrastructure and other planning related topics. In addition to the comprehensive plan, the RPC must compile a regional housing needs assessment every 5 years for the purpose of assisting municipalities in complying with RSA 674:2, III (l), which is the housing section of local master plans.

Commissioner Responsibilities:
- Attend quarterly NRPC meetings
- Review and evaluate NRPC staff work
- Provide feedback and guidance on technical studies and other products
- Volunteer to serve on subcommittees
- Attend subcommittee meetings as interest/time allows
- Hold public hearing and formally adopt the regional plan

Regional Advisory Team

Staff – Kerrie Diers, Mary Brundage, Jen Czysz
Committee Members: May Balsama, Katherine Hersh, Janet Langdell, Sarah Marchant, Martin Michaelis, Shaunae Nolet, Bill Parker, Liz Racioppi, Beth Todgham, Alejandro Urrutia, James Vayo

Outreach and engagement: work with NRPC staff to ensure a broad spectrum of local participation and inclusion during the planning process. Advise on the best manner to achieve the greatest results in terms of engaging the largest number of participants and ensuring a diversity of participation.

Sounding Board for NRPC staff on components not covered by other subcommittees:
- Visioning Process: help to develop the story of the Nashua Region which describes the overall vision for the next 20 years.
- Existing Trends & Conditions: Examines baseline demographic data, trends and existing local, regional and statewide plans.
- Comprehensive Needs Assessment of the region's current status: Evaluate strengths and needs within each of the areas described in the Six Livability Principles.
- Help to plan scenario planning workshops which will assess different future development options.
- Implementation Plan: details who will champion the priorities, how they will be accomplished, potential funding sources and timeframes for completion.

Transportation Committee
Staff – Tim Roache, Camille Pattison, Julie Chizmas, Matt Waitkins, Ryan Friedman
Committee Members - George Hall, Janet Langdell, Dan Kelly, Tom Koenig, Bob Larmouth, Tom Young,

Develop the Metropolitan Transportation Plan:
- Examine regional networks, and transportation choices including public transit, biking, and walking
- Propose regional priorities
- Develop recommendations and implementation strategies.

Community & Economic Vitality Committee
Staff – Kerrie Diers, Mary Brundage
Members—Mark Cookson, Michael Dell Orfano, Kevin Lynch, Jim Petropulous, Michael Tabacsko, Andy Seale

Develop an Economic Development Chapter:
- Produce an economic analysis that considers the region's comparative economic advantages, and emerging opportunities
- Meet the requirements of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
- Investigate and propose strategies that will enhance community vitality and job growth, including the intersection of economic development opportunities, employment, cultural events, education, public health and social justice

Housing Committee
Staff – Jennifer DiNovo, Sara Siskavich, Jen Czysz
Members—Michael Dell Orfano, Dave Hennessey, Tom Lopez, Kevin Lynch, Robert Tourigny, Tom Young

Develop a Housing Chapter that examines:
- Existing and projected housing need by type and tenure that is available to all ranges of family income.
- NH Housing's statewide Housing Preferences and Needs Study and how it fits with regional needs - combine a quantitative analysis of current demographics, housing utilization and needs with a qualitative analysis of New Hampshire households' current housing conditions and future housing plans and preferences.
- Regional Fair Housing and Equity Assessment that addresses the ability of residents to take advantage of housing opportunities throughout the area without discrimination.

Natural Resources
Staff – Jill Longval, Julie Chizmas, Tim Roache, Jennifer DiNovo, Matt Waitkins, Jen Czysz
Members—Annette Immorlica

Develop an Environmental Planning Chapter:
- Evaluate land use decisions and develops strategies to sound environmental planning.
- Evaluate opportunities to enhance natural resource connectivity for both ecological purposes and human health benefits.
- Assess a range of likely climate change impacts and provides a basis for defining adaptation actions and strategies. UNH's Carbon Solutions New England will prepare Comprehensive Climate Change Impact Assessments for each of the regional planning commissions.
- Examine Energy Efficiency and Green Building to establish a baseline where feasible and inform a regional strategy for energy efficiency and green buildings.
- Develop Water Infrastructure plan to insure that investments in drinking water, wastewater and stormwater systems support the sustainability of the community and are aligned with municipal and regional land use goals and policies.

Regional Planning Process:

Each Committee will kick off their work by a 2-3 hour workshop that examines:
- Existing trends & conditions
- Existing resources (local, regional & state)
- Existing policies and plans (local, regional & state)
- Public input gathered to date
- Begins conversation:
  - What does this mean to communities in our region?
  - What are our strengths and challenges?
  - What additional information do we need?
  - Who else do we need to talk to?

Committee members will work with NRPC staff to develop plan outline, gather additional input and data, review staff work on the plan, and present at quarterly NRPC Full Commission meetings.

2013 Workshop Schedule:

February -   Transportation

March -   Housing

April -   Economic Development

May -   Water Infrastructure

July -   Environment/Natural Resources

August -   Climate Change & Energy Efficiency

September -   Scenario Planning

Project Products:

- Existing Conditions Report
- Comprehensive Needs Assessment
- Regional Plan that defines the vision for the Region, identifies important regional values, discusses desired future conditions, and articulates the goals, priorities and recommended strategies for the region.
- Technical Studies:
  - Metropolitan Transportation Plan
  - Housing Needs and Fair Housing Equity Assessment
  - Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
  - Environmental Analysis (Water Infrastructure, Comprehensive Climate Change Impact Assessment, Energy Efficiency and Green Building)
- Statewide Compilation of all 9 Regional Plans describing regional priorities, goals, and strategies

To participate on a committee, or provide information for the Regional Plan,
contact Karen Baker at karenb@nashuarpc.org or at 424-2240

Project Timeline

Tasks and Milestones

Section / Task	2012	2013	2014	2015
Outreach and Engagement				
Regional and Local Engagement Process:				
Regional Advisory Team Meetings				
Meetings with Local Officials				
Neighborhood Conversations				
Regional Workshops				
Regional Visioning sessions				
Preliminary Information Gathering/Local Outreach Events				
First round of of sessions - major themes and what we've heard				
Second round of sessions - scenario planning				
Establish regional strategy for engagement & outreach				
Develop Regional Goals and Priorities				
Social Media - Facebook, Twitter, etc.				
Pre-Plan Development - Regional Level				
Identify Regional Technical Advisors				
Review of regional conditions, existing plans and trends				
Planning process template customized for each region				
Evaluate HEAL Action Strategies appropriate for the region				
Develop a Regional Comprehensive Needs Assessment				
Plan Writing - Regional Level				
Vision Statement				
Telling the Story		FIRST (DRAFT DUE)	Second (DRAFT DUE) / Adoption (ADOPTION)	
What we've heard, what it means, why it's important;				
Desired Future Conditions, anticipated outcomes and scenario				
Goals, Priorities and Recommendations results				
Implementation Plan				
Plan Appendices - Regional Level				
Regional Transportation Planning		W C C2		
Housing Needs Assessment		W/C C2		
Fair Housing Equity Assessment		W/C C2		
Economic Development Planning		W C C2		
Water Infrastructure		W C C2		
Comprehensive Climate Change Impacts Assessments (Cameron Wake)		W C C2		
Energy Efficiency and Green Building Planning		W C C2		
Environmental Planning		W C C2		
Scenario Planning - Results Writup				

Timeline columns span months: 2012 (F M A M J J A S O N D), 2013 (J F M A M J J A S O N D), 2014 (J F M A M J J A S O N D), 2015 (J).

Milestone markers:
- FIRST DRAFT DUE — early 2014
- Second DRAFT DUE — mid 2014
- Adoption / ADOPTION — late 2014