Strafford Regional Planning Commission 2009 Report

Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC), a political subdivision of the State of New Hampshire, serves in an advisory role to the Town of Lee and seventeen other communities. We provide planning services to assist officials, boards and citizens in managing growth and development and to foster regional collaborative efforts.

SRPC’s professional staff offers a range of planning services in transportation; land use, economic development, natural resources and geographic information systems (GIS) mapping and analysis. These services are available in customized modes to meet the diverse needs of communities. Access is also provided to SRPC educational resources including our website, library, workshops and forums, and customized training.

2009 Accomplishments:
- Hired Planning Consultant Bruce Mayberry to update the 2009 Strafford Region Housing Needs Assessment in compliance with state requirements; staff available for presentations in 2010
- Updated Census statistical areas in preparation for the 2010 Census
- Met with Town officials for 2011-2020 for NH Transportation Ten-Year Plan Project Solicitation
- Coordinated with the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector to create a current Land Use map for economic development and zoning discussions
- Provided mapping assistance for landowners interested in the federal Wetland Reserve Program for land conservation
- Completed traffic counts on Route 155 requested by the Police Chief
- Created GIS maps for residents, officials and businesses as requested
- Collaboration with NHDOT and Town regarding potential location for park and ride lot
- Worked with Town staff and boards on the Piscataqua Regional Estuaries Partnership environmental regulation assessment document created for all coastal communities in New Hampshire and Maine
- Coordinated Bike Walk to Work Day activities
- Distributed New Hampshire Planning and Land Use Regulation books to local land use boards

SRPC provided the following services to all municipalities in 2009:
- Approved amendments to 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Established work tasks and budget for 2010-2011 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for region’s transportation planning program
- Published and created maps and database for 2008 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects
• Collaborated with Alliance for Community Transportation (ACT) to provide coordinated transportation for human service agencies in Southeastern NH
• Served on Legislative Study Commission on siltation in the Great Bay Estuary
• Served on the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership Management Committee
• Established a bi-weekly newsletter and regular updates on website to keep communities informed of meeting schedules, events, local news and other beneficial information
• Updated SRPC’s standard map sets including Transportation, Conservation Land, Water Resources, Land Use and Community Features
• Downloaded and displayed the latest demographic and economic data to SRPC web page as tools for municipalities to utilize in planning efforts

Goals for 2010:
• Secure federal Economic Development Administration funds to create a Strafford County Comprehensive Economic Development document to be completed in 2010
• Participate in the Southeast Watershed Alliance organizing year as member of advisory committee per RSA 485:E
• Secure funding for regional and local projects in energy efficiency, economic development, water resources, transit and transportation

We look forward to working with the citizens and officials of Lee in 2010 in an exciting time for the town. 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 cjc@strafford.org. Please visit our website at www.strafford.org.

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