

# Windham Master Plan Community Visioning Workshop July 16, 2014



**SNHPC**

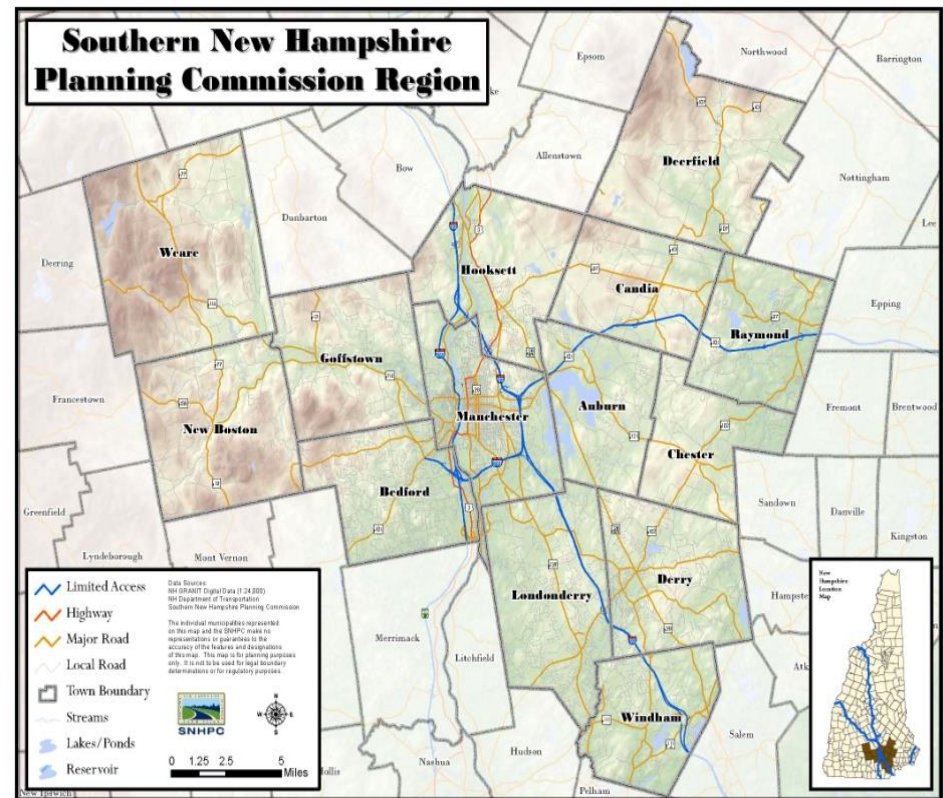
**Southern New Hampshire  
Planning Commission**

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# Southern NH Planning Commission

- Coordinating agency for the planning initiatives of 14 communities in the region.
- City of Manchester and 13 surrounding municipalities with populations ranging from 3,600 to 110,000
- Largest MPO in New Hampshire – Regional Transportation Planning





# What is a Master Plan?

- A Master Plan is a policy document that helps a town, municipality, region, or state plan for its future
- The Master Plan is also a tool that a community uses to make sound decisions about its future growth and development
- It is generally recognized that a Master Plan needs to be updated every five years or so due to changing conditions



# Guiding Legislation in NH

RSA 674:2 enumerates the purpose and content of a Master Plan:

- “The Master Plan shall be a set of statements and land use and development principals for the municipality with such accompanying maps, diagrams, charts, and descriptions as to give legal standing to the implementation ordinances and other measures of the planning board.”



# Master Plan Contents

A Master Plan must include, at minimum, the following required chapters:

- Vision
- Land Use

SNHPC has been asked to prepare these two chapters plus a chapter covering regional concerns and demographics.

We are also currently working with the Planning Board in implementing a **community wide web-based master plan survey**.



# Purpose of Meeting

- To help provide the Windham Planning Board with public input and guidance in developing a new **Vision Statement** and new **Goals** for the Town's Master Plan.
- A **Vision Statement** is a description of what you want your town to look like and how it should grow and develop in the future.
- **Goals** provide the Planning Board and town boards and officials with clear direction and guidance in specific areas – such as land use, transportation, recreation, etc.



# The Process

- We are starting off with a **“clean slate”** – we are not going to look at what the current master plan says or what the existing goals are....
- **We want new input, new guidance and new thoughts and ideas!!**
- We are going to break into 6 topic discussion groups:
  - Natural and Cultural Resources
  - Economic Development
  - Transportation
  - Housing
  - Community Facilities and Utilities
  - Recreation



# Running the Meeting

- We have a **facilitator** and a **recorder** for each topic discussion group.
- We have two questions that will be posed by the facilitator:
  1. **What is the Town of Windham doing right in this area?**
  2. **What can be improved upon now and in the future?**
- We will have 2 discussion rounds – 1<sup>st</sup> Round will end at **8:00 PM** and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round end at **8:45 PM** – with a final report out by 9:00 PM.





# Report Out

- After the workshop -- SNHPC will summarize the results in a report for the Planning Board.
- SNHPC will also prepare a DRAFT Vision Statement and DRAFT Goals for each of these 6 topic areas.
- This information will be presented to the Planning Board on **July 30, 2014** for their review and inclusion in the plan



# Master Plan Schedule

## **July 30, 2014 Planning Board Meeting**

- Results of the Community Master Plan Survey
- Results of this Kick Off/Visioning Workshop
- Start Community Vision and Goals

## **August 13, 2014 Planning Board Meeting**

- DRAFT Demographics Chapter
- DRAFT Existing Land Use Chapter
- DRAFT Regional Concerns Chapter

## **September 10, 2014 Planning Board Meeting**

- Work with Planning Board to finalize Chapters

## **October 29, 2014 Planning Board Meeting**

- Final Presentation of all 4 Chapters, Survey and Workshop Results in one complete document



# Questions

**It is now time to go to the Discussion Group of your choice....**

**If possible – let's keep all the groups evenly attended!**

**Thanks**