

FY 08 Annual Report for the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (Commission)

The Commission is one of nine regional planning commission in New Hampshire created to coordinate all aspects of planning, act as a liaison between local and state/federal agencies and provide advisory technical assistance on land use issues. We serve 27 communities from Piermont to Charleston along the Connecticut River and from Wilmot to Washington to the east.

Over the past year the Commission has expended a significant amount of energy increasing visibility, public relations and identifying the needs of the communities, ultimately aimed at building stability and capacity in order to better address land use issues that are important to the long-term sustainability of the communities within the region. The Commission experienced a year of transition and expansion as it hired a Geographic Information Systems Analyst to provide mapping services and a new Executive Director to provide leadership and guidance.

Revenue for the Commission was \$565,964 for FY08. A large percentage of this funding comes from the Unified Planning Work Program utilizing Federal Highway Administration funding through the NH Department of Transportation. Other state and federal funding sources include the NH Department of Environmental Services, the NH Department of Safety - Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and the Office of Energy and Planning. Member communities and counties provide membership dues. In FY2008 this allowed the Commission to leverage approximately \$250,000 in state and federal funds, and provided with the Commission with just over 15% of its revenue.

The Commission consists of representatives appointed by the leadership of each member municipality or county. These Commissioners represent your community's interests in the work the Commission does. The Commission had ten new Commissioners appointed by various municipalities and counties expanding resources and expertise within its leadership and demonstrating considerable renewed interest in regional collaboration. Additionally, Grafton County became a member of the Commission this year.

Some of this year's highlights include completion of the Route 120 Phase I Corridor Study in Lebanon and Hanover and a number of Human Transit Coordination plans and Hazard Mitigation plans. The Commission assisted communities in developing Master Plans in Claremont, Cornish, Acworth, Enfield and Lyme which will enable communities to better align their policies and land uses decision with the goals expressed through community participation. Direct planning assistance was made available to Planning Boards in Orford, Wilmot and Springfield, and regulatory review and ordinance assistance was provided to Claremont, Plainfield, Springfield and Washington.

The Commission provides a significant amount of hours of technical assistance to communities that inquire about specific local issues, data requests or needed resources. The communities of Croydon, Lempster, Goshen, Cornish, Charlestown, New London, Hanover, Sunapee, Lebanon, Grantham, Dorchester, Newport, Unity, Orange, Enfield, Piermont, Plainfield and Leominster all took advantage of these services this past year. This past year we also received inquiries for assistance from regional and other organizations including the Sugar River Conservation Council, Connecticut River Joint Commissions, Mascoma River Watershed Council, Lake Sunapee Advisory Committee, The Nature Conservancy and Dartmouth College.

The Commission was engaged in over 45 projects within the region this year and has increased its capacity to serve the communities of the region. A list of some of this year's accomplishments and projects that were completed, as well as a copy of this Annual Report are available on our website at www.uvlsrc.org.

We have already begun work on many new initiatives in the region and thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Walker
Executive Director

Commissioners serving your community during FY08

ACWORTH

*Richard Bishop
John Tuthill*

CANAAN

*Laurie Hildebrandt
Tim Josephson*

CHARLESTON

*Eric Lutz
Jan Lambert*

CLAREMONT

Bernard Folta

CORNISH

*Gail McKenzie
J Cheston Newbold*

CROYDON

Willis Ballou Jr.

ENFIELD

*Sandra Akacem
Ken Daniels
Steven Schneider*

GOSHEN

Melanie Bell

HANOVER

Katherine Connelly

*William Dietrich
Michael Cryans*

LEBANON

*Sean Donovan
Joan Monroe
Larry LeClair*

LEMPSTER

Terry Spada

LYME

Freda Swan

NEW LONDON

Peter Stanley

NEWBURY

*Sheila Barry
Nancy Marashio*

NEWPORT

*Virginia Irwin
Jeff Kessler*

ORANGE

Jay Heinrichs

ORFORD

*Paul Dalton
Jonathan Sands*

PIERMONT

Helga Mueller

PLAINFIELD

*Stephen Halleran
Richard White
James Taylor*

SPRINGFIELD

Kevin Lee

SUNAPEE

*Aaron Simpson
Stephen White*

WASHINGTON

John Sheehy

WILMOT

Richard Chase

SULLIVAN COUNTY

Jeff Barrette

AT-LARGE MEMBERS

*Peter Gregory – Two-
Rivers Ottauquechee
RPC
Mark Scarano –
Grafton County
Economic
Development Council*



President, Peter Stanley (New London) looks on as incoming President Shawn Donovan (Lebanon) gives closing remarks at the Commission's Annual Meeting held at the Mount Sunapee Resort in June 2009.