



August 2022 – eBulletin

Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission



Greetings UVLS Region!

I hope you are all finding ways to beat the heat! There has been a lot of talk about drought, water resources, and cyanobacteria throughout the region. While we are lucky to live in an area of the world that has an abundance of water resources, they are still being threatened by the hot summer we are facing and the long-term change in climate. Did you know that UVLSRPC has participated in integral parts of helping protect these water resources? We conduct Natural Resource inventories, assist with Source Water Protection Plans, lead water quality testing efforts, and support the Connecticut River Joint Commissions. Protecting these resources for drinking water, agriculture, and recreation is an important effort to keep the Upper Valley a great place to live! Reach out to learn more.

Take Care,

Meghan

InvestNH: Affordable Housing Program

InvestNH makes \$100 million available to accelerate the approval and construction of affordable workforce housing in New Hampshire. It is a new, one-time flexible resource to benefit small and large projects across the state plus the municipalities in which they will be located.



InvestNH is funded through the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery using the state's allocation of Fiscal Recovery Funds. The funds are for multifamily rental housing that is affordable to individuals and families at or below 80% of area median income (AMI). Other municipal programs under InvestNH will provide grants to communities that approve these projects, grants to update or review zoning, and dilapidated building demolition grants.

It should be noted, UVLSRPC Staff are willing to visit municipal board meetings or jump on a quick call with any Town that is interested.

For more information, click [here](#).

NH Clean Diesel Program

Proposals (Round 1) due September 9th, 2022

NHDES anticipates distributing approximately **\$1,400,000** for eligible projects that reduce diesel emissions. Eligible projects include vehicle, engine, or equipment replacement with new diesel, propane, CNG, or electric units; idle reduction technologies; and certain retrofits and upgrades. Eligible applicants include



Some example projects include:

- Replacing school buses with electric buses
- Replacing old plow trucks with new plow trucks
- Truck stop electrification
- Repowering an old diesel engine in a boat
- Remanufacturing a locomotive

For more information, click [here](#).

Keys Corner



Taxes and Assessed Value

In every survey on the topic of housing, concern for the cost of property taxes inevitably comes up in responses. The cost of property taxes, and the related assessing system, can make living or staying in a community more or less affordable to diverse incomes; and it is the essence of municipal financing. This financing provides much of the funds for local

staff, maintenance of sidewalks and roads, a new fire truck, schools, support to address our housing crisis, and much more that many of us benefit from and rely on.

Keys to the Valley called out the need to better understand the **opportunities and challenges to the assessing and tax system** to address the housing crisis. Are the cost of taxes representative of the cost of community infrastructure and services? What are our equity blind spots, now and in the past? Do taxes and assessed value receive unfair blame? What improvements at the local and state level could improve our shortfalls, and celebrate what works?

UVLSRPC is committed to moving this forward. This knowledge may not build a house now, but it can help us to become even more resilient and equitable communities with maintainable infrastructure and affordable home ownership.

Working on this topic? Interested to partner with us in this effort? We want to hear from you – contact Olivia Uyizeye at ouyizeye@uvlsrpc.org.

A recent conversation on this topic happened with Urban3 in 2020

Taxes, Land Use & Land Value Analysis of 15 New Hampshire Communities Focus by Joe Minicozzi of Urban3

And... what disparities and equity do we need to know about in the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee region? It's not easy to reflect on, but it is essential if we want a safe and fair community for all who make our communities tick. [Hear more from Joe Minicozzi about his hometown of Asheville, North Carolina.](#)

Funding Essential Community and Municipal Projects - USDA Rural Development, NH

Webinar: 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm. Wednesday, August 17, 2022



USDA Rural Development is a federal agency focused on the needs of rural communities. USDA-RD offers loans, grants and loan guarantees to help create jobs and support economic development and essential services such as housing; health care; first responder services and equipment; and water, electric and communications infrastructure. It also provides technical assistance to help cities and towns undertake

community empowerment programs.

Join Jon-Michael Muise, Area Director, Rural Development-NH and Misty Sinsigalli, Rural Development-VT, from the United States Department of Agriculture who will provide an overview of USDA's programs that can assist in funding your essential community projects, water and wastewater infrastructure, businesses, housing and much more!

This webinar is open to NHMA members and is of interest to all municipal officials and employees. To register, click [here](#).



NH Charitable Foundation: Community Grants Program

Proposals are due Friday, September 30, 2022

This competitive grants program awards unrestricted grants to support an organization's general operations (rather than a particular project or capacity-building effort).

Applicants must be recognized as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In general, organizations are eligible for one grant per calendar year from the Foundation's Community Grants Program (including Unrestricted and Express grants). Organizations with an active unrestricted multiyear grant are not eligible to apply for a new award.

For more information, click [here](#).

PLEASANT STREET BLOCK PARTY

AUGUST 13, 2022
3:00 PM - 8:00 PM



Pleasant Street - Claremont, NH

Join the community to celebrate the completion of this exciting revitalization project!



City of Claremont Pleasant Street Block Party

August 13, 2022

Join the community to celebrate the completion of this exciting revitalization project in Claremont, NH!

Granite State Clean Cities Invites NH Municipalities to Learn How to Fund and Deploy Electric Trash Trucks in Your Communities

The webinar is Thursday, September 1 at 10:30 am

Heavy-duty transportation electrification is making in-roads to municipal and commercial activities like trash removal. Electric Trash Trucks are in the market and on the road to zero-emission waste hauling. Join the Clean Cities Northern Tier Team to hear from a leading municipality that is refusing refuse pollution and increasing efficiency by transitioning to Zero-Emissions Refuse Haulers. Learn about the steps, costs, and benefits from the perspective of a Fleet Manager. Peer under the lid with manufacturers to see their current and coming

products and projects. Connect with opportunities to fund and deploy Electric Refuse Haulers in your community.

To register, click [here](#).

Brownfield Clean-Up Grants

On a biannual basis, NHDES holds a competition for brownfields cleanup grants of up to \$200,000 per site. The grants provide funding to conduct cleanup activities at sites where the redevelopment or reuse of the site is complicated by the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances or contaminants.



The forms to apply for a brownfields cleanup grant are available below:

- [Notice of Cleanup Grant Funding Availability](#)
- [Cleanup Grant Application](#)

We're HIRING!

We are looking for someone to fill a new GIS Analyst/Data Manager position. UVLSRPC is looking for an energized individual that is willing to learn and support multiple projects at once. We are looking for someone who is **skilled in researching, querying, and analyzing various data types, including Census and ACS data, survey data, and GIS data**. We are looking for someone confident in data management with the ability to provide oversight of the organization's data files. The candidate will be able to effectively communicate data through various media, including verbally, in-text, visuals, and digital media.

For more information, click [here](#).



Traffic Counts

This summer, staff at the Commission have been conducting traffic counts.

Picture: Tim setting up tubes across the road

UVLSRPC Commission Meeting Calendar 2022

August 10, 2022
October 12, 2022
December 7, 2022
February 8, 2023
April 12, 2023
June 7, 2023



Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Lebanon, NH
Time: TBD

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Chris at 603-448-1680

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Connect with us

