Federal and state grant resources that are available only to Regional Planning Commission provide services to member communities. Matching funds are often required of the Commission and/or the communities but may be in-kind or cash depending upon grantor requirements and resources available. These services can include:

- Transportation Corridor Studies
- Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Emergency Operations Plans
- NHDOT Special Planning Projects
- Household Hazardous Waste Collections

Local contracts are an important part of meeting the needs of the region as it becomes more engaged in planning efforts. Because of the current funding structure, Regional Planning Commissions are obliged to charge for services that require in-depth and focused Commission resources that are not supported by membership dues, including:

- Master Plans
- New or Revised Zoning Ordinances
- New or Revised Subdivision Regulations
- New or Revised Site Plan Regulations
- Circuit Rider Contracts
- GIS Mapping Projects
- GIS Training
- GPS Data Collection
- Capital Improvement Programs
- Community Facilitation
- Cost of Community Services
- Natural Resource Inventories
- Build-out analysis
Regional Planning Commissions are conduits for state and federal funding resources. All communities benefit from our work regardless of membership status. This includes participation in various organizations, workshops, local, regional and state conferences, advocating for the region at the state level, and providing input on funding initiatives that benefit the region.

Regional Planning Commissions throughout the state work collaboratively and efficiently with limited resources. These coordinated efforts provide communities with resources and tools to solve problems or respond to growth and economic development.

The Commission provides an environment for communities to solve development issues that affect multiple or conflicting land interests. It is our goal to provide techniques, guidance, technical expertise, and other resources to enable communities to sustain or attain a way of life that is equitable, healthy and sustainable. Some of the benefits to the region include:

- Regional Plan Development
- Housing Needs Assessment
- Traffic Counts for NH DOT
- Municipal Culvert Inventories
- Municipal Road Inventories
- Regional Transportation Plan
- Statewide Initiatives
- Regional Collaborations
- Transportation Advisory Committee
- Programs and workshops keeping communities informed of best practices in planning
- Regional GIS data resource
- USDA Solid Waste Management
- EPA Brownfields Mitigation

Any municipality or county in the planning region and having a planning board, by ordinance or resolution, may become a member of the Commission. Communities in the region are able to benefit through membership. The State of New Hampshire does not provide funding to Regional Planning Commissions for basic planning services to communities other than a small amount for technical assistance. Membership dues allow the organization to leverage general operating expense funds and provide a mechanism to leverage funding for projects such as regional transportation and local hazard mitigation planning.

Regional Benefits

The Commission strives to provide services to member communities that demonstrate sensitivity to local needs and flexibility in addressing changing development pressures. Some of the services the Commission is committed to providing member communities include:

- Base map for community each year
- The Service Incentive Program
- Representation on the Commission
- Representation on statewide initiatives
- Information on Funding Sources
- Reduction in Matching and Contractual Service Charges
- Audit/Technical Assistance with Land Use Regulations and Planning
- Developments of Regional Impact Review and Comment
- Subdivision/Site Plan Review Assistance
- Circuit Rider Services

Member Benefits

Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) is one of nine Regional Planning Commissions (RPC) in New Hampshire enabled through state legislation. RPCs were created to coordinate all aspects of planning, act as a liaison between local and state/federal governments and provide advisory technical assistance. Regional Planning Commissions promote intergovernmental collaboration and coordination throughout the regions they serve.

UVLSRPC has been providing professional planning assistance to municipal boards since 1963 as the Upper Valley Development Council. Our current expertise includes comprehensive planning, land use regulations, transportation planning, natural resource inventories, community/economic development, public participation, affordable housing, and hazard mitigation planning.

UVLSRPC serves 27 municipalities and local groups such as river advisory committees, economic development councils, housing organizations and others who are vital to the future land uses of the region.

The Commission is governed by Commissioners appointed by member communities, counties and a small number of at-large members. It is the Commissioner’s role to be a regional collaborator, bringing local issues to the attention of the Commission and conversely to articulate regional strategies that can benefit local efforts.