

Economic Opportunity, Environmental Quality

Lakes Region Plan 2015 - 2020 Implementation Plan and Strategies



Bristol Square



WOW Trail, Laconia

WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROGRAM (WRBP) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (CIP) 2013 UPDATE



The Winnepesaukee River Basin Program (WRBP) is the state-owned sewer system, established in RSA 485-A:45-54, which serves portions of the New Hampshire Lakes Region member communities of Center Harbor, Moultonborough, Gilford, Meredith, Laconia, Belmont, Sanbornton, Northfield, Tilton, Franklin. The WRBP Advisory Board was established in RSA 485-A:52 for the purposes of reviewing matters of mutual concern to the member communities.



Andover Bike Path



Ashland Sidewalk



Lakes Region Community College - Solar



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Implementation Plan and Strategies

INTRODUCTION

The goal of the Lakes Region Plan is to provide for the orderly development of the Lakes Region, to be a resource and source of information for local governments as they prepare updates to the local Master Plan and to encourage local governments to understand the changing demographics. Due to significant population increases experienced beginning in the 1960s to the mid-2000s, there was concern and interest regarding planning and growth management. Beginning in the late 2000s, the regional situation has changed.

Due to changing demographics, the Lakes Region finds itself in a transitional stage. Over the 40 year period, 1970 to 2010, the population of the region increased by 52,274 people, or an average of 2.1 percent per annum. The region's population is projected to increase by 11,200 people over the 2010 to 2040 period, or an average of 0.33 percent per annum. This suggests a reduction in the rate of increase from 1,300 persons to about 370 persons per year. This slower growth in the region leads to a steady rise in the average age of the population; this trend will make New Hampshire one of three states with the oldest population in the nation followed by Maine and Vermont.

This important demographic trend has played a significant role in the preparation of the Lakes Region Plan. The Commission's outreach efforts in 2012 through 2013 led to the Plan's theme of *Economic Opportunity, Environmental Quality*. Outreach efforts have demonstrated that communities in the Lakes Region embrace a strong sense of community and sense of place. Protection of natural resources, especially water quality and water supply systems, and the protection of historic sites and scenic views are often identified as key strategies.

As noted, the theme of the plan is *Economic Opportunity, Environmental Quality*. The Lakes Region Plan embraces the work of the Regional Development Corporations, especially the Belknap Economic Development Council's efforts to train new workers in advanced manufacturing and the promotion of entrepreneurship.

PURPOSE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION CHAPTER

The purpose of the Implementation Chapter is to identify realistic projects that can help implement the vision for the future. The implementation chapter has two sections – planning projects and infrastructure projects. The Implementation and Strategies section contains action items for each of the chapters that comprise the Lakes Region Plan.

REGIONAL GOALS

The following are regional goals that appear in the matrix along with individual strategies, levels of actions, and partners.

Economic Development: Create suitable well-paying jobs, consistent with the stewardship of the region's natural resources.

Housing: Provide a range of housing opportunities for all persons.

Transportation: Provide an integrated, all-mode transportation system in the Lakes Region which offers efficient, effective and safe movement of people and provides mode choice whenever possible while enhancing and preserving the character and livability of the area.

Environmental (Natural Resources and Water Infrastructure): Recognize the role and value of the quality of the region's natural resources, lakes, water quality, rivers, agricultural and forest lands by utilizing management practices that represent the most economical and effective techniques to protect the resource through regional cooperation.

Natural Hazards and Climate Change: Promote planning efforts that reduce the likelihood of adverse impacts due to hazards such as flooding, erosion, severe winter weather events, high winds, fire, and health hazards.

Energy Efficiency and Green Building: Increase energy efficiency of existing and future buildings; increase education on energy efficiency issues and alternatives.

In order to be successful in the implementation phase, the LRPC needs to cooperate and partner with many organizations in the public, private and non-profit sectors. For project implementation, infrastructure projects include those transportation projects recommended by the LRPC's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), wastewater treatment and water supply projects identified by the NH Department of Environmental Services and action items included in the Economic Development Plan.

There is an implementation matrix for planning projects for each chapter.

LAKES REGION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX – SECTION 1 PLANNING PROJECTS

Economic Development – Goal: Create suitable well-paying jobs, consistent with the stewardship of the region’s natural resources.

Strategy	Level of Action *	Potential Partners	Notes*
Workforce development – Encourage training in advanced manufacturing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region • State 	LRCC, BEDC, NH DRED, NH Workforce Council	Economic Development Plan pg. 60: Advanced Manufacturing training to fill positions of retirees.
New Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region ◦ Local 	BEDC, NH DRED, Broadband, LRPC	Economic Development Plan pg. 61: Determine how technology impacts the economy.
Sustainability: Energy and Natural Environment – Encourage small scale renewable energy projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • State 	Municipalities, North Country RC&D, LRPC	Economic Development Plan pg. 61: NH OEP, NH PUC
Entrepreneurship – Promote new business startups; encourage entrepreneurs to locate in the region; use local retired talent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • State 	BEDC, GCEDC, WEDCO, NH DRED, SCORE	Economic Development Plan pg. 62: Collaboration.
Action Plan: Implement the CEDS by providing assistance to sponsors for project development. Examples – Northfield and Tilton. TA to local EDCs to develop projects and marketing efforts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • State 	Municipalities, RDCs, NH DRED, LRPC	Economic Development Plan pg. 64 – 7: Potential funding sources are CDBG, EDA, and NH DOT.
Social Capital and Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Local •Private 	Municipalities, non-profits, LRPC	Economic Development Plan pg. 61.
Creative Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Local •State 	BEDC, NH DRED, GCEDC, WEDCO, LRPC	Economic Development Plan pg. 62.
Improve Quality of Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Local •State •Private 	Municipalities, HEAL, LRPFA, LRPC	Economic Development Plan pg. 63.
Technical Assistance – Assist municipalities with local Economic Development Chapters, Best Management Practices and other programs to encourage economic development		Municipalities, LRPC, RDCs	Economic Development Plan pg. 70-71.

Notes: This field can contain information on potential funding sources, fiscal impact (cost neutral), minimal investment, significant investment, and other relevant factors.

LAKES REGION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX – SECTION 1 PLANNING PROJECTS

Housing – Goal: Provide a range of housing opportunities for all persons.

Strategy	Level of Action *	Potential Partners	Notes*
Assist decision makers in understanding current and projected demographic trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region • State 	LRPC, NH HFA	Housing Chapter pg. 50
Assist municipalities in addressing the requirements of the NH Workforce Housing law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region 	LRPC, NH HFA, LACLT, ELRHC	Housing Chapter pg. 50
Become knowledgeable on regional housing trends and needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • State 	LRPC, LACLT, ELRHC, private developers	Housing Chapter pg. 50
Identify regional housing needs every five years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region 	NH OEP, NH HFA, municipalities	See RSA 36:47 II
Continue the annual Development Activity Report			Http://www.lakesrpc.org/documents/pdfs/DTR%20final%205-13-14.pdf
Monitor new housing construction			Housing Chapter pg. 50

Notes: This field can contain information on potential funding sources, fiscal impact (cost neutral), minimal investment, significant investment, and other relevant factors.

LAKES REGION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX – SECTION 1 PLANNING PROJECTS

Transportation – Goal: To provide an integrated, all-mode transportation system in the Lakes Region that offers efficient, effective and safe movement of people and provides mode choice whenever possible while enhancing and preserving the character and livability of the area.

Strategy	Level of Action *	Potential Partners	Notes*
Project Development – Advocate for the priority projects in the 10 year plan; advocate for secondary regional priorities; identify and evaluate potential projects for inclusion in the Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region • State 	Municipalities, TAC, NH DOT	Transportation Chapter pgs. 9 – 11
Secondary and unnumbered state roads – Encourage NH DOT to allocate funding for these projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region 	Municipalities, TAC, NH DOT, NHARPC	Transportation Chapter pgs. 9 - 11
Transportation Planning – participate in corridor studies such as the NH Rte. 16 Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • State 	NH DOT, Municipalities	Transportation Chapter pgs. 15 – 17
Public Transportation – Continue to assist the Regional Coordinating Councils as they plan and promote public transportation.		Municipalities, TAC, RCCs, NH DOT	
Project Implementation			Transportation Chapter pgs. 40 - 42

Note: The LRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) is the responsible entity for this chapter of the Lakes Region Plan.

Notes: This field can contain information on potential funding sources, fiscal impact (cost neutral), minimal investment, significant investment, and other relevant factors.

LAKES REGION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX – SECTION 1 PLANNING PROJECTS

Environmental (Natural Resources and Water Infrastructure) – Goal: Recognize the role and value of the region’s natural resources, lakes, water quality, rivers, agricultural and forest lands by utilizing management practices that represent the most economical and effective techniques to protect the resource through regional cooperation.

Strategy	Level of Action *	Potential Partners	Notes*
Natural Resources – Recognize that the natural resources provide the foundation for a comprehensive approach to land development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region • State 	Local land use boards; private developers; state agencies	Environment pg. 1
Active role for LRPC – Assist with watershed planning efforts; promote an integrated watershed management approach; collect data and information; convene workshops; facilitate and coordinate programs; provide model ordinances; assist with grant preparation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region 	Municipalities; watershed associations	Environment pg. 7.
Land conservation – Educate public and municipalities on SPNH Conservation plan; monitor trends; encourage municipalities to be aware of key parcels for future acquisition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • State 	SPNHF, Land Trusts, Conservation Commissions, Municipalities	Environment pgs. 11, 23, 24.
Water infrastructure – Promote public awareness and education of the issues; support water quality monitoring.		Watershed Associations, Winnepesaukee Gateway	Environment pg. 40
Wastewater Treatment Facilities and Water systems – Develop cooperative working relationship with utilities.		Utilities, WRBP	Environment pg. 40
Watershed Planning – Facilitate discussions among watershed Associations			Environment pg. 7
Stormwater Management – Share information regarding innovative approaches to Storm Water Management			Environment pg. 38

Notes: This field can contain information on potential funding sources, fiscal impact (cost neutral), minimal investment, significant investment, and other relevant factors.

LAKES REGION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX - SECTION 1 PLANNING PROJECTS

Natural Hazards and Climate Change – Goal: Promote planning efforts that reduce the likelihood of adverse impacts due to hazards such as flooding, erosion, severe winter weather events, high winds, fire, and health hazards.

Strategy	Level of Action *	Potential Partners	Notes*
Local hazard mitigation plans – Continue to prepared and update Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMP) in cooperation with municipalities, NH DES, NHHS, FEMA, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region • State 	Municipalities, NH DES, NHHS, FEMA, Cooperative Extension	Natural Hazards & Climate Change Chapter pgs. 19 – 21.
Stormwater runoff – Work with municipalities to reduce stormwater runoff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region 	Municipalities, LRPC, NH DES	Natural Hazards & Climate Change Chapter pgs. 19 – 21.
Infrastructure and utilities – Use preventative maintenance to reduce damage to infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • State 	Public Works Directors, NH DES	Natural Hazards & Climate Change Chapter pgs. 19 – 21.
Reduce carbon emission – Encourage retrofit of older buildings; encourage alternative transportation means such as public transportation, bicycle and walking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Private 	Building owners	Natural Hazards & Climate Change Chapter pgs. 19 – 21.

Note: Much of the information in this Chapter is based on the Climate Change Assessment prepared by Dr. Cam Wake, UNH and local Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMPs).

Notes: This field can contain information on potential funding sources, fiscal impact (cost neutral), minimal investment, significant investment, and other relevant factors.

LAKES REGION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX - SECTION 1 PLANNING PROJECTS

Energy Efficiency and Green Building – Goal: Increase energy efficiency of existing and future buildings; increase education on energy efficiency issues and alternatives.

Strategy	Level of Action *	Potential Partners	Notes*
Prepare a Comprehensive Regional Sustainability Plan and Energy Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region • State 	NH OEP, NH PUC	Energy Efficiency & Green Building Chapter pgs. 37 – 38.
Utilize smart growth and livability principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region 	Municipalities, private developers	Energy Efficiency & Green Building Chapter pgs. 37 – 38.
Coordinate energy with other planning policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • State 	NH OEP, NH PUC, municipalities	Energy Efficiency & Green Building Chapter pgs. 37 – 38.
Increase small scale local energy production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private • Local 	NH OEP, NH PUC, municipalities	Energy Efficiency & Green Building Chapter pgs. 37 – 38.
Increase energy efficiency of existing and future buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private • Local 	Private building owners, municipalities	Energy Efficiency & Green Building Chapter pgs. 37 – 38.
Increase the regional use and support of renewable energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private • Local 	NH OEP, NH PUC, municipalities, non-privates, private entities	Energy Efficiency & Green Building Chapter pgs. 37 – 38.
Encourage and support local energy committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • Region 	Municipalities, non-profits	Energy Efficiency & Green Building Chapter pgs. 37 – 38.

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LAKES REGION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX – SECTION 2 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Infrastructure Projects – Transportation, Wastewater, Water Supply and Stormwater.

	Strategy	Level of Action *	Potential Partners	Notes*
<u>Transportation</u>	Lakes Region Transportation Improvement Plan 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State • Region • Local 	Municipalities, NH DOT, US DOT	Pg. 11, 40-42LR Transportation Plan http://www.lakesrpc.org/GSF/Elements/LRP%20Transportation%2004%2007%2014.pdf
<u>Wastewater</u>	Lakes Region Environmental Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State • Region • Local 	Municipalities, Utilities, NH DES,	Attach I – Lakes Region Environmental Plan http://www.lakesrpc.org/GSF/Elements/Environmental%20Chapter_06232014.pdf
<u>Water</u>	Lakes Region Environmental Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State • Region • Local 	Municipalities, Utilities, NH DES,	NH DES source
<u>Stormwater</u>				Attach II- Lakes Region Environmental Plan http://www.lakesrpc.org/GSF/Elements/Environmental%20Chapter_06232014.pdf
<u>Economic Development</u>	Lakes Region Economic Development Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State • Region • Local 	Municipalities, local Economic Development Committees, funding partners	Pg. 64 – 69 Lakes Region Economic Development http://www.lakesrpc.org/GSF/Elements/LRP%20Econ%20Dev%20Chapter%2004%2007%2014.pdf

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ACRONYMS

BEDC	Belknap Economic Development Council
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
ED	Economic Development
EDA	Economic Development Administration
ELRHC	Eastern Lakes Region Housing Coalition
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GCEDC	Grafton County Economic Development Council
HEAL	Healthy Eating, Active Living
HMP	Hazard Mitigation Plan
LACLT	Laconia Area Community Land Trust
LRCC	Lakes Region Community College
LRPC	Lakes Region Planning Commission
LRPPH	Lakes Region Partnership for Public Health
NHARPC	NH Association of Regional Planners
NH DES	NH Department of Environmental Services
NH DOT	NH Department of Transportation
NH DRED	NH Department of Resources & Economic Development
NHHFA	NH Housing Finance Authority
NH HHS	NH Health & Human Services
NH OEP	NH Office of Energy & Planning
NH PUC	NH Public Utilities Commission
RC&D	Resource Conservation & Development
RDC	Regional Development Councils
RSA	Revised Statutes Annotated
SCORE	Senior Core of Retired Executives
SPNHF	Society for the Protection of NH Forests
TAC	Transportation Advisory Committee
WEDCO	Wolfeboro Economic Development Council
WRBP	Winnepesaukee River Basin Program
US DOT	United States Department of Transportation

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