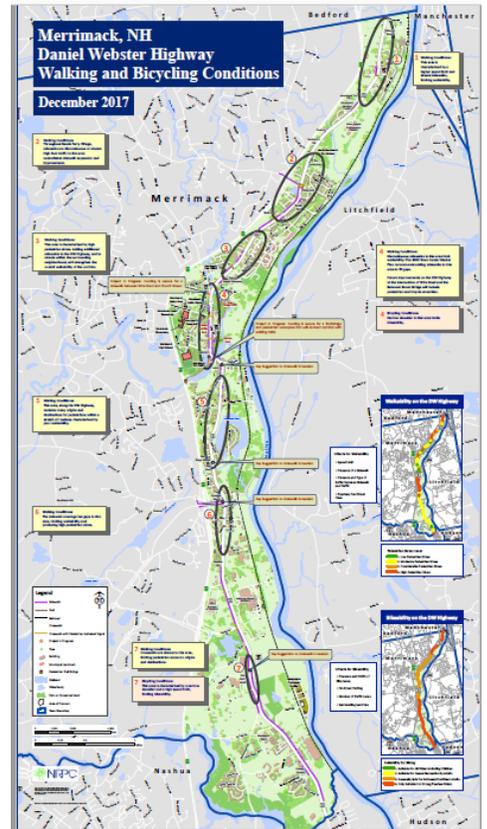


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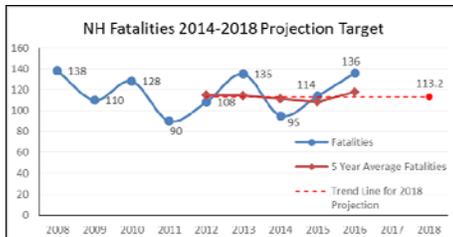
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Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning

NRPC worked with the Town of Merrimack to map existing bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure along the Route 3 / Daniel Webster Highway corridor and to identify gaps in that infrastructure. Specifically, staff developed a base map using existing geographic information system (GIS) data layers to show sidewalks, crosswalks, bicycle lanes, paths, trails, and other significant information in order to plan for future needs in the corridor. Staff then travelled the corridor in order to verify existing conditions that may have not been evident in the GIS data layers. The information was then used to develop a Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) analysis for the corridor which is intended to analyze the comfort of bicyclists with varying experience levels depending on the physical characteristics of a street. A similar analysis was performed for pedestrians. The map was reviewed at a Merrimack Planning Board workshop and feedback was incorporated into the map. The information gathered during the mapping process will be used to inform a future bicycle and pedestrian corridor planning process.



Transportation Safety Performance Measures



Staff has been coordinating with NHDOT and the other New Hampshire MPO's to develop and adopt targets for each of five Safety Performance Measures (SPMs) that would apply to all public roads. The measures include the number of motor vehicle fatalities, rate of motor vehicle fatalities, number of serious motor vehicle injuries, rate of serious motor vehicle injuries, and number of serious and fatal non-motorized injuries. It is anticipated that the Nashua MPO will adopt the measures in December. They will ultimately be incorporated into the NRPC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).



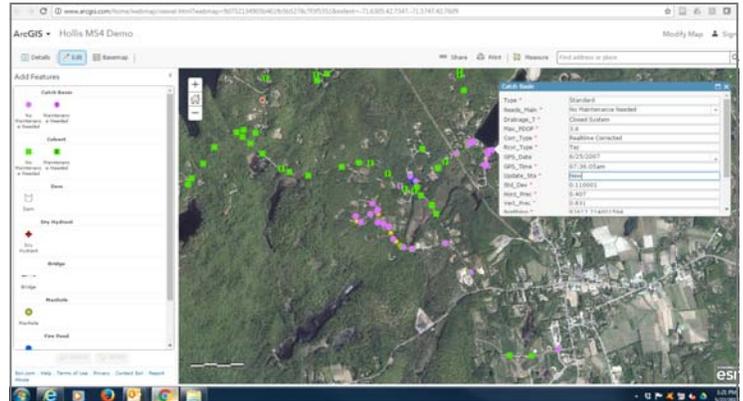
Safe Routes to School



NRPC staff, in partnership with the Wilton Safe Routes to Schools Committee finalized a Safe Routes to School Travel Plan for Florence Rideout Elementary and the Wilton-Lyndeborough Middle schools. The travel plan is essentially a Safe Routes to School “Master Plan” because it lays out a vision for how the schools and the community can accomplish the goal of encouraging more students to walk or ride their bikes to school safely.

GIS Support for Stormwater Permitting

NRPC has been developing GIS approaches to support the mapping requirements of the EPA municipal stormwater permit. Specific service offerings include field data collection tools and data processing methods, Phase 1 map specification, and online viewing capability.



GIS Out and About

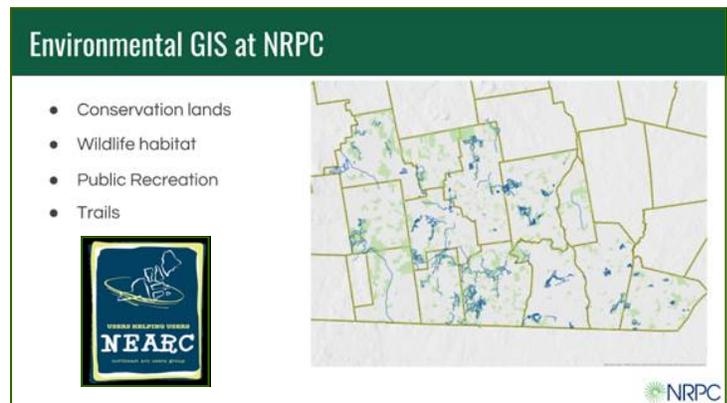
Ryan Friedman of NRPC’s GIS team attended two conferences in November, where he learned about new technologies, took part in municipally-focused GIS workshops, and spread the word about the planning commission’s recent GIS accomplishments in the fields of conservation and recreation.

At the annual NEARC (Northeast Arc Users Group) Fall Conference in Newport RI, several presentations focused on issues that NRPC and our member communities may find themselves dealing with, from climate resiliency and hazard mitigation tools to the development of robust bicycle and pedestrian networks, stormwater management, and school redistricting based on a changing population. More technical sessions covered emerging technologies like using LiDAR to map stone walls and other land features and showcased the coming changes to ESRI’s mobile apps which promise to improve field data collection and deployment.

Later in the month, Ryan presented as part of a regional planning panel at the annual RCP (Regional Conservation Partnership) Network Gathering right here in Nashua. The audience, which included representatives of these partnerships [from across New England and New York](#), as

well as other public and private conservation stakeholders, heard about NRPC’s history of participation in regional conservation planning, with a focus on our latest datasets and products in the world of recreation and trail mapping. Among the highlighted projects were paper maps from Mine Falls Park and Beaver Brook, online apps such as our upcoming Recreation Story Map, and multi-faceted projects like our Merrimack Outdoors brochures, posters, apps, and navigation files.

The RCP’s 2018 gathering will focus even more on the link between regional planning and land conservation, so all interested are encouraged to keep an eye on the [RCP website](#) for more information.



Census State Data Center Affiliate Activities

As a State Data Center affiliate, NRPC has partnered with the U.S. Census Bureau to raise awareness of the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) initiative that is crucial to an accurate 2020 census of population. NRPC hosted a Census workshop on LUCA and offered to serve as an official reviewer for communities wishing to participate. NRPC also hosted a separate Census Bureau workshop focused on web applications for economic development.



Parks and Playgrounds

The Nashua Regional Planning Commission was awarded a grant from the HNH foundation to develop a suite of tools to help communities plan for parks and playgrounds. As part of this effort, NRPC created and launched a story map, guidebook, and infographic. The story map is comprised of a general map of the region with



pictures and descriptions of all recreation areas, and is also compatible with mobile devices. The

guidebook is an in depth analysis of locations, materials, equipment, maintenance and case studies of successful playgrounds, and the infographic evaluates access to parks and playgrounds in the region. All parks and playgrounds tools can be found on the NRPC website.

Farmers Market



Upon receiving a grant from the USDA Farmers Market Program, NRPC and Nashua's Great American Downtown (GAD) partnered to produce a feasibility study for a winter farmers market in Nashua and a second feasibility study for a mobile market serving Nashua neighborhoods. The purpose of the studies is to explore options to increase consumption and access to locally and regionally produced agricultural products, and to develop new market opportunities for farming operations serving local Markets. Staff attended farmers markets throughout the 2016 season to survey patrons and vendors regarding interest in a winter farmers market as well as a mobile farmers market. Online surveys were also created and marketed to Nashua residents and residents of neighboring communities. In October of 2017, NRPC and GAD successfully published the winter market study and mobile market study. Each study specifically analyzed interest in the alternative market, pertinent case studies, trends, needs specific to Nashua, possible locations/routes, and a road map for navigating the permit process for the launch of each market.

Household Hazardous Waste 2017 Season Wrap-up

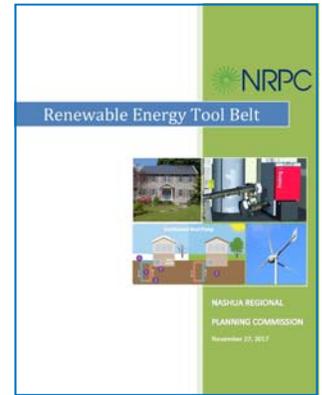
NRPC conducts HHW collections each year on behalf of the Nashua Region Solid Waste Management District to allow residents to properly dispose of hazardous products. Seven collections were held during the 2017 HHW season. Five of the events were located in Nashua, one was held in Milford, and one was held in Pelham. In 2017, a total of 1,808 households participated in the HHW collections District-wide. This was an increase from the 2016 total of 1,736 households. 38% of District-wide participants were first time attendees. The Solid Waste District manifested a total of 98,284 pounds of waste during the 2017 collection season. This is an increase of 4,899 pounds from the 2016 total. Paint continued to be the most common item received; 951 households District-wide brought paint to the 2017 collection events. Solvents and thinners were the second most common items disposed of (757 households), followed by lawn and garden products (558 households).



Renewable Energy Tool Belt

Imagine you are a Local Energy Committee member. You have been tasked with implementing the Energy chapter of your town's Master Plan. You'd like to focus on the recommendation to increase your town's renewable energy use; but where should you start? Should you offset your town's electricity usage with solar or its heating needs with wood? How would you start to compare the two? Is solar feasible at the library? Would Town Hall benefit from a heat pump? Is a wood chip system suitable for the elementary school? How would you make the decision?

The Renewable Energy Tool Belt is designed to help community leaders evaluate potential renewable energy systems. While the Tool Belt will not replace the work of an outside professional, it will give communities a starting point to compare renewable energy options.



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For a complete staff listing, go to:

<http://www.nashuarpc.org/about/contact-us/>

Communities can then enter into discussions with energy professionals having a better understanding of the benefits and drawbacks of each renewable energy type and will be able to make more informed decisions about which option is best for them.

In addition, the Renewable Energy Tool Belt will help communities to move renewable energy projects forward by providing guidance on how to develop a comprehensive public outreach strategy. Public outreach is an essential component of taking renewable energy projects from the planning phase to implementation.

The Renewable Energy Tool Belt was created by the Nashua Regional Planning Commission in partnership with the Local Energy Solutions Work Group with funding from NH Charitable Foundation, Charles H. Cummings Fund. To access the Renewable Energy Tool Belt along with other helpful energy resources, visit <http://www.nashuarpc.org/energy-environmental-planning/highlighted-projects/> or <http://www.nhenergy.org/>

Our Commissioners

AMHERST: Michael Dell Orfano | Martin Michaelis | Susan Ruch (Chair)

BROOKLINE: Jill Adams | Tom Rogers

HOLLIS: Robert Larmouth | Venu Rao

HUDSON: James Battis (Treasurer) | Roger Coutu | Ted Luszey | Ethan Meinhold

LITCHFIELD: Kimberly Queenan |

LYNDEBOROUGH: Bret Mader

MASON: Louise Lavoie

MERRIMACK: William W. Boyd III | Karin Elmer (Vice Chair) | Margaret Morris | Anant Panwalkar

MILFORD: Chris Costantino | Janet Langdell | George Skuse

MONT VERNON: Michael Fimbel

NASHUA: Mark Cookson | Roger Houston | Dan Kelly | Sarah Marchant | Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja | Daniel Moriarty (A) | David Schoneman

PELHAM: David Hennessey | Hal Lynde

WILTON: Jim Kofalt | Kermit Williams

Our Mission

NRPC's mission is to provide leadership, facilitation and coordination for member communities in implementing the regional vision.

NRPC serves as a resource to support and enhance local planning, provides a forum for communities to share information, and coordinate land use, environmental and transportation planning at the regional level, and provides a clear voice for the region at the State and Federal levels.

NRPC provides its member communities with comprehensive planning services addressing environmental, land use, transportation, and regional planning issues as well as offering mapping and data services that utilize the latest technologies.