

OFFICE OF  
**Energy and Planning**

an official NEW HAMPSHIRE government website

## Planning News

**Welcome to the NHOEP planning news page! This page is intended to provide planning related news for those involved with planning in New Hampshire.**

**Notifications regarding updates to this page will be sent out weekly through the Plan-Link Listserv and @NHOEP on Twitter. If you are not a subscriber to the Plan-Link Listserv, please visit NHOEP's Plan-Link web page.**

### News

Lebanon Moves to Update Master plan, Prioritize Renewable Fuels

June 8, 2017

The Lebanon City Council voted Wednesday to amend the city's master plan, removing references to natural gas as a favored energy source. The move is largely symbolic, but it reflects growing concern around the environmental impact of natural gas. Residents in the Upper Valley are organizing to fight a proposal by Liberty Utilities for a new natural gas facility and pipeline running through Lebanon and Hanover. The state Public Utilities Commission is slated to hear that proposal in September.

Ground Broken on State's Largest Solar Array

June 7, 2017

Construction has begun on what will be the largest solar electricity array in the state – NH Electric Cooperative's two-megawatt system in Moultonborough. The \$5 million ground-mounted solar photovoltaic system has approximately 8,000 panels is expected to be online by the end of 2017 and producing approximately 3.5 million kilowatt-hours of electricity per year for the next 25 years or more – enough power for approximately 600 homes, the utility said.

Groundbreaking Ceremony held for Woodmont Commons Development

June 6, 2017

Nearly a decade in the making, the official groundbreaking for Woodmont Commons kicked off what ultimately will be the largest economic development project in the state. The fact that this multi-use development is finally moving forward, supporters say, is a good sign for the region's economic growth and a major step for the statewide initiative to encourage young people to stay, work and play in the Granite State. In 2010, Londonderry changed its own zoning to allow the planned unit development, which over the next 20 years is designed to accommodate 833,000 square feet of retail, 700,000 square feet of commercial and 1,300 new homes. "The entire Northeast really needs to do some catching up when it comes to building these kind of communities," said Londonderry Town Manager Kevin Smith. "The reality is these village developments will meet demand of the market for both millennials and seniors. People are saying these massive malls and box store destinations aren't what people want anymore." Woodmont Commons is designed by the same architects who created Birkdale Village, a successful, smaller, multi-use community in Huntersville, N.C., a suburb of Charlotte.

Generations Agree: Communities need to do more to be Age-Friendly



June 5, 2017

There aren't many differences between what a 70-year-old and a 28-year-old wants from a community. A recent survey of New Hampshire's generations about their communities showed many similarities between the two biggest demographics — the baby boomers, aged 53 to 71, and millennials, aged 20 to 36.

According to the survey, both generations want one-floor living in affordable homes near places they can shop, hang out, recreate and have fun. They want places to walk. They want public transportation. They want to work and make a decent wage. The majority also believed their communities were failing to meet their needs. The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission presented the findings to 150 community leaders at the New Hampshire Institute for Politics at St. Anselm College last week. The goal of the meeting was to show the importance of making communities more age-friendly while providing ideas on how to do it.

## Planning News Archives

All documents have been saved in Portable Document Format .

- [January 2017](#)
- [February 2017](#)
- [March 2017](#)
- [April 2017](#)

## Events

For upcoming planning related events please visit [OEP's Events Calendar](#).

## Online Resources

[American Planning Association](#)

[New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions](#)

[New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services](#)

[New Hampshire GRANIT](#)

[New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority](#)

[New Hampshire Municipal Association](#)

[New Hampshire Planners Association](#)

[Northern New England Chapter of the APA](#)

[Plan NH](#)

[Smart Growth America, "Getting Back on Track: Aligning State Transportation Policy with Climate Change Goals" Vibrant Villages NH](#)

[Library](#)

[New Hampshire Association of Regional Planning Commissions](#)

[Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission](#)

[Lakes Region Planning Commission](#)

[Nashua Regional Planning Commission](#)

[North Country Council, Inc.](#)

[Rockingham Planning Commission](#)

[Southern NH Planning Commission](#)

[Southwest Regional Planning Commission](#)

[Strafford Regional Planning Commission](#)

[Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission](#)

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