Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission

Full Commission Meeting

August 12, 2026
UVLSRPC Office-10 Water Street-Lebanon, NH

Commissioners Present & Remote	Commissioners Present & Remote	Staff Present
Ted Cooley-Orford (remote) Alan Eisenberg-Wilmot Gavan, Gina-Claremont (remote) Peter Guillette-Grantham Andrew Hatch-Washington Ellen Hender-At-Large Chris Kennedy-Hanover Jeff Kessler-Newport Tom Luther-Claremont Bill Malcolm-Lyme Nancy Merrill-At-Large Ed Morris-Enfield	Dan Nash-Lebanon Nate Reichert-At-Large Albert St. Pierre-Charlestown Josh Trow-Sunapee John Yacavone-Plainfield	Meghan Butts Chris Courtemanche John Haffner Anna White

Call to Order
Chair Josh Trow called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes from June 10th, 2026
Jeff moved to approve the June 12, 2026, minutes, and Peter seconded. The motion passed with Dan abstaining.

Committee Reports
Finance Committee - Peter reported that the organization remains in a strong financial position, posting another positive month and ending the fiscal year on solid footing.

Executive Committee-Josh noted that the Committee met, but no action was taken.

Personnel/Joint Loss-No report; meetings are in September

TAC Committee-The committee is working to identify 10 priority projects, with the next meeting scheduled for October.

Regional Plan Discussion-Staff, John Haffner
Housing was identified as the primary focus of the Regional Plan introduction. The discussion covered rising property taxes, the affordable housing shortage, zoning regulations, and the need for workforce housing for higher-income households. Participants also emphasized the importance of planning for an aging population and maintaining infrastructure. They noted limited participation by many young people in community activities and highlighted technical education and the skilled trades as ways to attract and retain young professionals who can contribute to the community.

Director Updates
Staffing update: Operations are running smoothly. Vickie will retire at the end of October, and the organization does not plan to hire a replacement because staff members have already begun transitioning her responsibilities.
Finance Manager: Erin Webster-Chambers will start tomorrow, with Ryan staying on briefly to help with the transition.
New Contracts: The $500,000 Brownfields Grant includes $94,000 for UVLSRPC staff over five years, while the $157,000 USDA Solid Waste Grant includes $97,000 for staff over one year. UVLSRPC also received five new NBRC grants totaling approximately $52,000 over three years to provide technical assistance and grant administration.

Regional Transportation Updates by Meghan

- Staff are completing fieldwork in Canaan and Plainfield before beginning culvert work in Newport and Claremont.
- Staff conducted two turning-movement counts in Newport and Claremont to support Road Safety Audit applications.
- The UVLSRPC TAC met last night to identify regional priority projects along each corridor for inclusion in the Long-Range Transportation Plan.
- The Governor vetoed the State Ten-Year Plan, likely because the legislation included toll increases to help address an approximately $680 million funding shortfall before projects were removed. On August 19th, the House and Senate may vote to override the veto. If the veto is not overridden, the existing plan will remain in effect without new projects or changes. If the override succeeds, the plan will include UVLSRPC's new Enfield project and construction funding for another Enfield project. Work on the next Ten-Year Plan has not begun because the state has not provided directions on how to proceed.
- **Federal:** The latest stopgap measure extends Highway Trust Fund support to states at the FY26 level through December 11th. Because the measure excludes transit and rail funding, it could significantly affect UVLSRPC's partners. The situation has changed

several times in recent weeks and is being monitored closely. Although the impact on UVLSRPC remains uncertain, any reduction in state transportation funding would affect the organization's work and the region.

Other Business:

- Contract Authorization for New Grants
  Josh requested a motion to approve the new EPA Brownfields and USDA Solid Waste grants. *Peter moved to approve the grants, and John seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*
- TAC Representative
  Nate moved to nominate Dan Nash as UVLSRPC's representative to the TAC Committee, and Ed seconded. The motion passed with one abstention. Ed moved to nominate Tom of Claremont as an alternate representative to the TAC Committee, and Dan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn:

Jeff moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 pm.

Minutes prepared by Chris Courtemanche