

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

***Carol A. Murray, Commissioner***

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**STATEWIDE MEETINGS ON NEW HAMPSHIRE'S  
FUTURE TRANSPORTATION NEEDS**

The Community Advisory Committee, a 24-member task force formed by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and the New Hampshire Department of Transportation to look at the Granite State's future transportation needs kicks off a series of public meetings next week to obtain citizen input.

The Committee has released a report that finds that on average, households spend 20% of their budget on transportation, second only to housing. The report also concludes that issues of growth, land use and an aging population will continue to impact transportation in New Hampshire in the coming decades.

"New Hampshire has the fastest growing population in New England, increasing traffic congestion, and undeveloped land being used up at twice the rate of our growth," says Lew Feldstein, Chair of the Community Advisory Committee and President of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. "Our report shows that we need to do a better job linking land-use and transportation planning and reform the way we plan transportation at the state and local levels."

Public participation in planning for New Hampshire's transportation needs will be the focus of discussion at the following meetings:

Tuesday, March 21	<b>Hanover</b>	Howe Library, 13 East South Street
Wednesday, March 22	<b>Bethlehem</b>	Rocks Estate, 107 Glessner Road
Thursday, March 23	<b>Nashua</b>	Nashua City Auditorium, 229 Main St.
Wednesday, March 29	<b>Keene</b>	Keene Library, 60 Winter Street
Thursday, March 30	<b>Bedford</b>	NH Housing Finance Authority 32 Constitution Drive
Tuesday, April 4	<b>Newington</b>	Town Hall, 205 Nimble Hill Road
Wednesday, April 5	<b>Laconia</b>	Meredith Village Savings Bank 379 South Main Street
Tuesday, April 11	<b>Concord</b>	City Council Chambers, 41 Green St.
Thursday, April 13	<b>Berlin</b>	Berlin City Hall, 168 Main Street

All of the meetings begin at 6:30 pm, except Bedford, which begins at 6:00 pm. For more information, including a copy of the report, visit [www.nhtranplan.com](http://www.nhtranplan.com).