JUNE 15, 2022
Holiday Inn Concord Downtown
172 North Main Street
603.224.9534

CONFERENCE PROGRAM
Thank you to the following organizations who helped make the New Hampshire Planners Association 2022 Spring Conference a success!

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Greetings!

On behalf of the New Hampshire Planners Association (NHPA) we are excited to welcome you to the 2022 NHPA Spring Conference—our first in-person conference since 2019. We extend a special welcome to those who have traveled from the far reaches of New Hampshire or from one of our neighboring states to participate in this event. We are committed to showcasing our state’s unique communities and this year is no different. This year’s conference is titled “Places for Everyone” and will focus on the interconnections between equity and community vibrancy.

Over the past two years the importance of equity has been brought to center-stage in our individual communities, the state of New Hampshire, and across the country. At the same time, new strategies to build social connections, both in residential neighborhoods and our downtowns have been used to strengthen the quality of life at the local level. We are thrilled to have Anthony Poore as our keynote speaker to discuss his work in supporting transformative systems change and equitable and sustainable communities, while seeking to address the needs of New Hampshire’s urban and rural low-and moderate-income communities. Additionally, we will hear from planning professionals on exploring how New Hampshire’s 234 municipalities can integrate these topics across planning areas, from housing to outdoor dining provisions and economic development.

Many thanks to the City of Concord for helping to host this conference, members of the conference organizing group, all our speakers, and to YOU for attending. We hope this years topics sparks some new concepts for you to implement in your community. Whether you represent a town of five thousand or fifty thousand we hope that the ideas presented today are relevant and applicable to the community you love!

Cheers!

Donna Benton, AICP  Kyle Pimental
President, NHPA  Conference Chair
The NHPA is excited to host its annual conference in the state’s capital this year. As the third largest municipality in New Hampshire, Concord is home to some very successful downtown redevelopment and renovation — a compelling story you will hear more about from Concord’s Deputy City Manager during the afternoon plenary session.

Conference Venue
Wednesday, June 15, 2022 @ 8:30AM – 3:00PM

Holiday Inn Concord Downtown
172 North Main Street
Concord, NH
603.224.9534

“Unplanned” Planner Therapy Networking Session
Wednesday, June 15, 2022 @ 3:30PM—5:00PM

Attendees are encouraged to grab a few colleagues and explore Concord’s downtown along North and South Main Streets.
Abbreviated Agenda

8:30AM - 9:00AM  Registration w/ Full Hot Buffet Breakfast

9:00AM - 9:15AM  Welcome and Opening Remarks from NHPA President

9:15AM - 10:15AM  Keynote Address: Anthony Poore

10:15AM - 10:30AM  Break: Coffee and Conversations

10:30AM - 11:30AM  Concurrent Session #1

Track A: “2022 Land Use Law Update”
Track B: “Ending Zonings Racist Legacy”

11:30AM — 12:30PM  Concurrent Session #2

Track A: “Navigating Outdoor Opportunities in Downtown”
Track B: “Housing, Homes, and a Roadmap for Engagement”

12:30PM - 2:00PM  Lunch and 2022 NHPA Awards Presentation

2:00PM - 3:00PM  Plenary Session: “Planning, Implementing, and Surviving a Successful Downtown Renovation: The Story of Concord’s Main Street Project”
**Anthony Poore**, has worked in support of transformative systems change and equitable and sustainable communities for 30 years as a community organizer and economic development practitioner, academic, workforce housing and public health advocate, policy analyst, researcher and executive addressing the needs of New Hampshire’s urban and rural low- and moderate-income communities. He launched AP Consulting Group in 2021, working with traditional and non-traditional financial institutions and community-based organizations to identify and develop mutually beneficial public-private community economic development projects. From 2018 to January 2021, Poore served as the Executive Director of New Hampshire Humanities, an affiliated organization of the National Endowment for the Humanities. From 2010 – 2018, Mr. Poore worked with Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, in a variety of leadership roles, directing research and policy initiatives of the Boston Fed’s Regional and Community Outreach Department. Prior to that, Mr. Poore, served as the Assistant Dean for Southern New Hampshire University’s School of Economic Development. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, Walden Mutual Bank, and New Hampshire Listens, a civic engagement initiative of the Carsey School of Public Policy at the University of New Hampshire. Mr. Poore holds a Bachelor of Arts, from Wright State University, and a Master of Science in Community Economic Development and a Master of Business Administration from Southern New Hampshire University. He is a resident of Manchester, NH.

**PLACES FOR EVERYONE**

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**Detailed Agenda**

8:30AM - 9:00AM | Registration w/ Full Hot Buffet Breakfast
9:00AM - 9:15AM | Welcome and Opening Remarks from NHPA President

9:15AM - 10:15AM | Keynote Address—Main Ballroom
“Role of Trust, Relationships & Vulnerability in Building Places for Everyone”

Join Keynote speaker Anthony Poore as we explore what it means, and what it takes to build places for everyone and meaningfully engage with the lives, goals, and needs of the people in our communities.

10:15AM - 10:30AM | Break: Coffee and Conversations

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10:30AM - 11:30AM | Panel Discussion: "Transformative Systems Change in Practice"

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11:30AM - 12:00PM | Lunch & Networking
Detailed Agenda

10:30AM–11:30AM Concurrent Session #1

**Track A: “2022 Land Use Law Update” - Bartlett Room**

Join the New Hampshire Municipal Association’s Government Affairs Counsel, Natch Greyes, for the annual New Hampshire Planners Association Land Use Law Update. This year, Natch will cover important statutory changes during the 2022 legislative session, including changes made by the omnibus housing bill, updates to the building code, and other bills of interest to municipal planners. Natch will also cover important cases that may have a significant impact on the municipal land use law.

**NATCH GREYES** advocates for NHMA’s 234 member municipalities at the New Hampshire legislature and provides legal advice and training to NHMA members and partner organizations. He is routinely featured in New Hampshire-based publications focusing on a municipal audience, and is chair of the municipal bar section. Before joining NHMA, Natch was a prosecutor in northern Grafton County supporting three separate police departments. Natch received his bachelor’s degree from Clark University and his law degree from William & Mary.

**Track B: “Ending Zonings Racist Legacy” - Webster Room**

This session will provide an introduction to the history of zoning practice and contemporary planning tools - touching on the federal policies and programs that had a direct impact on racial segregation and how that has translated into our current day New England communities with real world examples. Lastly, we will discuss new equitable zoning policies and practices, with examples of real implementation, including the comprehensive engagement processes that help to create the ground-swell necessary to real, significant zoning changes and reforms.

**JENNIFER RAITT** is the incoming Executive Director of the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments based in Lowell. She previously served as Director of Planning and Community Development for the Town of Arlington, Massachusetts. She has worked with local, regional, state, and national housing, community development, and planning organizations. Her efforts have been awarded and recognized by the American Planning Association, Massachusetts Housing Partnership, Citizens’ Housing and Planning association, Massachusetts Municipal Association, and local and regional organizations. She is a member of the APA Legislative and Policy Committee.
Track A: “Navigating Outdoor Opportunities in Downtown” - Bartlett Room

Outdoor Dining programs around the state were instituted as a response to some of the many challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. A quick pivot to these programs offered a lifeline to many restaurants and the economic health of commercial areas and downtowns and created spaces that could still provide connection in a time of social distancing and isolation. This session offers perspectives on outdoor dining, accessibility, and downtown vibrancy from Beverly Mesa-Zendt, Portsmouth Planning Director, Anne Weidman, Access Navigators and Nicholas Coates, Bristol Town Administrator.

FACILITATOR: Jillian Harris, AICP, Assistant Planning Director, Bedford, NH

BEVERLY MESA-ZENDT is the new Planning Director for the City of Portsmouth. Beverly is coming to New Hampshire from the City of Redmond Washington where she managed the Comprehensive Planning, Housing, and Human Services teams. Ms. Zendt managed the outdoor dining program in Portsmouth for the 2022 season and processed over 45 applications for outdoor dining in historic downtown Portsmouth. Ms. Mesa-Zendt is an alumna of UNH where she received a Master’s degree in Public Administration.

ANNE WEIDMAN manages business development for JSA Design, a Portsmouth NH architecture and design firm. She is also the Director of Community Engagement for Access Navigators, a JSA-based non-profit organization providing reliable accessibility information that helps people with disabilities stay connected to their communities. Anne works with business owners helping them recognize accessibility as an economic driver. When the pandemic shifted restaurant dining outdoors into the public domain, Anne became a liaison between business owners and city staff to ensure that these popular new dining arrangements were inclusive for all. She is connected to people and organizations across New England, gathering wisdom about creating resources for those with disabilities, and facilitates graduate level occupational therapy accessibility projects at the University of New Hampshire and Salem State University.

NICHOLAS J. COATES (Nik) is the Town Administrator for the Town of Bristol and he manages the Town’s economic development efforts in that role. During his six-plus years, he has overseen the construction of the State's first municipal broadband network and partnered with neighboring towns to build the network across Grafton County; is managing a municipal sewer extension project; and built new a riverfront rail trail and park, a Safe Routes to School network, a new Town Office construction, among others. He also serves as the Chair of the Grafton County Broadband Committee, and is a board member of the Campton Select Board; Grafton Regional Development Corporation, Plan NH, Mid-State Health Center and member of the NH Housing and Development Planning Council. Prior to Bristol, Nik was a planner at a regional planning commission and ran an environmental nonprofit. He holds a Master's degree from Northeastern University and Bachelor's degree from Southern New Hampshire University.
Track B: “Housing, Homes, and a Roadmap for Engagement” - Webster Room

Through the lenses of three (3) unique, and uniquely positioned organizations, session attendees will learn about approaches to housing policy implementation and the creation of not just ‘housing’, but homes for diverse geographies and regions. These will include creation of an small-community affordable housing trust in the Southwest region, an ambitious 67-town, multi-state, regional housing planning and analysis effort in the Upper Valley, and an effort in the North Country to engage municipalities and employers in an ongoing and honest conversation about housing challenges and opportunities.

FACILITATOR: Noah Hodgetts Principal Planner, Office of Planning and Development

ANGELA PAPE grew up in a working class family in southeastern New Hampshire. While growing up she saw huge disparities in public education and housing, and experienced generosity of community, which all motivated her to work for systemic change. Working for the past 17 years in faith based community organizing in various roles across 4 states, she is proud to have been part of many successful campaigns and transformative moments. Experiencing the power of people coming together, building relationships and collective power, and winning changes has been inspiring. Angela has recently moved back to NH and is currently a community organizer with Monadnock Interfaith Project. She is also a mother of 3 children. Angela has a B.A. from the College of William and Mary.

OLIVIA UYIZEYE is a Planner and Senior GIS Analyst with the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission since 2018. She seeks to provide creative, adaptable, and community driven planning that build our region's collective resilience. Her work includes spatial or mapping GIS services; environmental planning; and planning for homes. Her housing work is brought together through the Keys to the Valley initiative, a bi-state collaboration to address the housing crises in the greater Upper Valley. She holds an M.S. in Sustainable Development and Climate Change from Antioch University New England (AUNE), a Certificate in Applied GIS Analysis (AUNE) and another in Leadership and Management (UNH). She holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Georgetown University.

KAELA TAVARES is the Community and Economic Development Planner at North Country Council. She has studied community development, applied economics, and urban planning at the University of Vermont and Hunter College, Kaela brings over ten years of experience as a professional planner to her work and the region. Throughout her career she has worked in a housing and homelessness policy at the federal and local levels, as a municipal planning director for communities in VT and RI, and as a regional planner in NH. She is well versed in technical development review, comprehensive planning, housing policy and economic development. Outside of the office, Kaela operates a family-owned flower farm and is often found mountain biking or snowboarding.

12:30PM - 2:00PM Lunch and 2022 NHPA Awards Presentation
**Detailed Agenda**

2:00PM – 3:00PM   Plenary Session

"Planning, Implementing, and Surviving a Successful Downtown Renovation: The Story of Concord’s Main Street Project"

Truly transformative projects require planning, tenacity, and a creativity many times borne from earlier mistakes. This session will explore the Concord Main Street Project and the ingredients that made this multimillion dollar initiative successful.

**CARLOS P. BAIA** is the Deputy City Manager for Development for the City of Concord. In that capacity, Carlos oversees the Engineering, Planning, Code Administration, and Health and Licensing operations as well as the Airport. Prior to Concord, Carlos was the Economic Development Manager for the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida where he also ran the Beach/Cove Community Redevelopment Agency.

Carlos is an ICMA Credentialed Manager and Certified Economic Development Finance Professional. He has held several statewide and national leadership roles including the past presidency of the Municipal Management Association of New Hampshire and as the Northeast Vice President of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). Carlos currently serves on the Local Government Hispanic Network National Board of Directors.

Locally, Carlos is a member of the YMCA of Concord’s Advisory Board and the Capital Regional Development Council Board of Directors.

Carlos is a magna cum laude graduate of Brandeis University and holds Masters’ degrees from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and the University of Florida.
SAVE THE DATE

2022 NNECAPA Planning Conference: Serendipitous Partnerships; Unique Results

Monday October 17 - Wednesday October 19, 2022
Sunday River Resort, Newry Maine

Register Here

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