



**NH OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (OPD)
SPRING 2023 PLANNING & ZONING CONFERENCE
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023**

ONLINE CONFERENCE DETAILED AGENDA

(ALL SESSIONS WILL BE RECORDED AND AVAILABLE ON [OPD'S YOUTUBE PAGE](#) FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE)

PLANNING BOARD TRACK

8:45 – 9:00 AM **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**
Stephanie N. Verdile, Principal Planner, NH Office of Planning & Development

9:00 – 10:15 AM **PLANNING BOARD BASICS**
Stephen C. Buckley, Esq., New Hampshire Municipal Association

This session is for new planning board members, as well as veterans, who want a refresher course on how recent laws affect planning board actions and decisions. This session will review statutory duties of the planning board including subdivision and site plan approvals, Workforce Housing Statute, Innovative Land Use Controls, and Off-site Exactions. Also included is a review of types of planning board application review, timeline for applications, recent statutory changes related to HB1661, and the Housing Appeals Board.

10:15 – 10:30 AM **BREAK**

10:30 – 11:45 AM **PLANNING BOARD PROCEDURES AND POLICIES**
Stephanie N. Verdile, Principal Planner, NH Office of Planning & Development

This session will look at planning board operations and policies including application completeness and acceptance, site walks, purpose and need for checklists, waiver requests and how to address them, drafting and adopting board's rules of procedure, member responsibilities and more. This session is geared for board members old and new for general refresher training and to help board members navigate the planning board responsibilities and application processes.

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM **LUNCH BREAK**



12:45 – 2:00 PM

PREPARING PLANNING BOARDS FOR SOLAR FARMS AND EV FAST-CHARGING STATIONS

Tom Morgan, Community Planning Consultant, TZM Planning

As the public’s attention is increasingly focused on efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, municipal officials are asking what can be done to prepare local Planning Boards for applicants who propose ground mounted solar arrays and electric vehicle (EV) fast-charging stations. The latter provides electric vehicles with an 80% charge in 25 minutes or less. New Hampshire’s municipal zoning ordinances pre-date this technology. Fortunately, the ordinances can be updated with but a few minor tweaks. However, it’s important to first give some thought to the types of locations that are appropriate for such installations, and those that are not. In this session, we will explore siting issues and the revisions to the zoning ordinance that would prepare municipal planning boards for solar and EV fast-charging proposals.

2:00 – 2:15 PM

BREAK

2:15 - 3:30 PM

THE PLANNER IS IN FOR THE DAY

Stephen C. Buckley, Esq., New Hampshire Municipal Association

Tara Bamford, Planning Consultant

Matthew Monahan, Senior Planner, Central NH Regional Planning Commission

Tom Morgan, Community Planning Consultant, TZM Planning

Moderated by OPD Principal Planner, Stephanie. N Verdile, this year’s session will include time for Q&A from the morning’s sessions in addition to the “free-for-all” question format. Our long-time partners and planning professionals, Steve, Tara, and Matt, are ready to answer your planning questions including board policies and procedures, subdivision and site plan decisions and approvals, CIP, Master Plan work, zoning amendments, administrative work and more. Bring your questions!