



**NH OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (OPD)  
SPRING 2025 PLANNING & ZONING CONFERENCE  
SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025 FROM 8:45 AM TO 3:30 PM**

**SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

**PLANNING BOARD TRACK**

**Stephen C. Buckley, Esq., Legal Services Counsel  
New Hampshire Municipal Association**

[sbuckley@nhmunicipal.org](mailto:sbuckley@nhmunicipal.org)

*Stephen C. Buckley directs NHMA's legal services program as Legal Services Counsel, with responsibility for providing legal advice to members and overseeing training programs and educational publications for municipal officials. He was in the private practice of law from 1984 to 2014 concentrating in representing municipalities. In his hometown of Bow, Steve was a member of the planning board for 12 years and served as a member of the budget committee, and he currently serves as a member on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. He is a past chairman and current member of the executive committee of the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission, and he is currently a representative to the New Hampshire Association of Regional Planning Commissions. Steve received his B.A. from San Diego State University and his J.D. from UNH School of Law.*

**Laura Spector-Morgan, Esq.  
Mitchell Municipal Group, P.A.**

[laura@mitchellmuniigroup.com](mailto:laura@mitchellmuniigroup.com)

*Laura is the President and Senior Partner of Mitchell Municipal Group, P.A. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar in 1998 after graduating from The College of William and Mary, and William and Mary School of Law. Laura has devoted almost her entire career to serving our municipal clients. She is one of the most experienced appellate advocates in the State on municipal matters, frequently representing clients in land use matters and Supreme Court appeals. She is also the former vice-chair of the Bar's Municipal and Government law Section, a former member of the Bar's Continuing Legal Education Committee, and a frequent lecturer on municipal law topics.*

**Joseph H. Driscoll IV, Esq.  
Mitchell Municipal Group, P.A.**

[joe@mitchellmuniigroup.com](mailto:joe@mitchellmuniigroup.com)

*Joe is a partner of Mitchell Municipal Group, P.A. and brings 15 years of litigation experience to help guide municipal clients. He was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar in 2009 after graduating from The College of William and Mary and Suffolk University Law School. Joe began his career primarily practicing criminal defense, and furthered his extensive courtroom experience when he transitioned to civil practice after he returned home to Laconia and joined one of the City's oldest law firms. Joe came to MMG in 2020, and has brought his experience in the courtroom to serve our municipal clients. In addition to his practice, Joe is*



*a former member of the NH Bar Association's Leadership Academy Steering Committee, on which he served after successfully graduating from the program. He is also active in our local community having served, among other things, as the Vice President and Governance Chair of the Lakes Region Mental Health Center Board of Directors, as well as an Assistant Lacrosse Coach for the Inter-Lakes/Moultonborough Academy Boy's Varsity program.*

**Stephanie N. Verdile, Member  
NH Housing Appeals Board**

[stephanie.n.verdile@hab.nh.gov](mailto:stephanie.n.verdile@hab.nh.gov)

*Stephanie began her NH Municipal Planning career in 2001 with the City of Laconia and worked in Alton and Gilford until she became the Town Planner for Pembroke from 2012 to 2018. Stephanie worked for the Office of Planning & Development (OPD) from March of 2018 to April 2024 as a Principal Planner in the Municipal and Regional Assistance (MRA) Program providing training and assistance for municipal land use boards, officials, and the public. She was an elected member of the Alton Planning Board and served as the Municipal Representative for Laconia, Alton, Gilford, and Pembroke on the Transportation Advisory Committees (TAC) for the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) and the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC). In April 2024, Stephanie was appointed a member of the New Hampshire Housing Appeals Board by the NH Supreme Court.*

**Carol Ogilvie  
Planning Consultant**

[ogilvie.klein@gmail.com](mailto:ogilvie.klein@gmail.com)

*Carol has worked as a land use planner in New Hampshire for over 35 years, primarily providing technical and planning assistance to local planning and zoning boards. She retired from her position as Director of Community Development for the Town of Peterborough in 2013 after more than 10 years in that position and continues to provide planning services around New Hampshire as an independent planning consultant. Prior to working in Peterborough, she was employed for 14 years at the Southwest Region Planning Commission in Keene, NH and for the NH Office of State Planning (now OPD). From 1999 to its conclusion in 2015 Carol taught the class on Selectmen's role in land use planning and enforcement for Antioch New England's Selectmen's Institute. In addition, she has held a position as an adjunct professor at Antioch NE teaching a course on Land Use and Community Planning. Carol received her B.A. from Keene State College and her M.A. in Sociology and Policy Planning from Kent State University. She lives in Gilsum, NH with her husband, where they both served on the Planning Board for many years, and where she currently serves on the Planning Board.*

**ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT TRACK**

**Christopher L. Boldt, Esq.  
Donahue, Tucker & Ciandella, PLLC**

[cboldt@dtclawyers.com](mailto:cboldt@dtclawyers.com)

*As a partner in DTC since January 2007, Chris conducts a state-wide practice out of the Firm's Meredith offices for a wide range of property owners, businesses, and municipalities. He enjoys helping clients find solutions to problems as cost-effectively as possible. Chris counsels a wide variety of City and Town*



*Managers/Administrators, Boards of Selectmen, City Councils and Land Use Boards in all parts of NH; and he appears before Land Use boards and Superior Courts across the State as well as before the NH Supreme Court and various State Agencies. Chris handles a wide variety of municipal and taxation matters, conveyancing and title issues, boundary and easement disputes, matters involving the creation and interpretation of conservation easements, land use and development matters, shoreland and wetlands issues, site plan and variance applications, and related mediation, litigation and appeals. Since February 2004, Chris has been an active member of the NHBA Title Standards Subcommittee charged with reviewing and revising the NH Title Standards under the auspices of the NHBA Board of Governors. Chris is a member of the Belknap and Carroll County Bar Associations and the NH Bar Association. Chris frequently lectures on a variety of municipal, title and land use topics for the New Hampshire Municipal Association, the NH Office of Planning and Development, the NH Bar Association, Primex and the NH Land Surveyors Association. Chris has also served as a Selectman, Planning Board member, Assistant Moderator and Library Trustee in Sandwich and is an active member of St. Andrew's in the Valley Episcopal Church in Tamworth. Chris earned his B.A. from Trinity University in 1984, a Diploma of Anglo-Irish Literature from Trinity College, Dublin in 1985 and his J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law in 1988. Chris became licensed to practice law in Texas in 1988, in New Hampshire in 2002, and in Vermont in 2016.*

**Cordell Johnston, Esq.**

**Attorney at Law**

[cordell@cajohnston.com](mailto:cordell@cajohnston.com)

*Cordell Johnston has practiced law in New Hampshire since 1984. After almost 20 years at the Concord law firm Orr & Reno, he served as Government Affairs Counsel at the New Hampshire Municipal Association for 18 years, from 2004 to 2022. Since 2022, he has maintained a solo practice limited to representing municipalities. He is the co-author, with C. Christine Johnston, of four volumes on municipal law (original author Peter Loughlin) in the Lexis/Nexis New Hampshire Practice Series, and has written many articles and given many presentations on the Right-to-Know Law, land use regulation, town meeting, and other municipal law topics. He has served as a selectman and planning board chairman in the Town of Henniker and has been the town moderator since 2018.*

**Steven Whitley, Esq.**

**Drummond Woodsum**

[swhitley@dwmlaw.com](mailto:swhitley@dwmlaw.com)

*For nearly 17 years, Steven has been advising clients on a wide variety of municipal legal issues including town governance, annual town meetings, public finance, zoning and land use matters, Right to Know law, and tax abatement appeals. He regularly represents municipal clients in New Hampshire District, Superior, and Supreme Courts, and before state administrative agencies. Steven's depth of experience is a tremendous asset for his clients. Dedicated to serving his community, Steven is also a member of the Selectboard and Economic Development Committee for the Town of Hopkinton.*



***Sarah Thunberg, Principal Planner  
NH Office of Planning and Development***

[sarah.m.thunberg@livefree.nh.gov](mailto:sarah.m.thunberg@livefree.nh.gov)

*Sarah Thunberg has been a Principal Planner with OPD since May 2024 working as a NFIP coordinator. Before working for the Office of Planning and Development Sarah worked as a meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Gray Maine where she helped communities and emergency managers prepare for hazardous weather events, including several federally declared flooding disasters. Sarah received her B.S. in Atmospheric Sciences from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 2019 and her M.S. in Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Alaska Fairbanks in 2021.*

***Stephanie Frechette, Principal Planner  
NH Office of Planning and Development***

[stephanie.h.frechette@livefree.nh.gov](mailto:stephanie.h.frechette@livefree.nh.gov)

*Stephanie Frechette is new to OPD as a Principal Planner in the NFIP program. Prior to this position, she worked at NHDES for about 10 years in several roles including emergency planning and security. This involved helping municipalities prepare for, respond to and recover from manmade events and natural disasters. Stephanie graduated from the University of Vermont and has a B.S. in Environmental Science with a concentration in water resources.*



## **HISTORIC PRESERVATION & HOUSING TRACK**

### **Andrew Cushing, Community Preservation Services Manager**

#### **NH Preservation Alliance**

[ac@nhpreservation.org](mailto:ac@nhpreservation.org)

Andrew works for the NH Preservation Alliance, traveling the state connecting communities to the resources they need to restore and reuse historic landmarks. He provides technical assistance, practical advice on preservation strategy, and fundraising guidance. He is a New Hampshire native who returned to his hometown of Grafton, where he is busy restoring two houses. (It sounds fancier than it is.) When not glazing windows or mowing, he serves as president of Mascoma Valley Preservation and as chair of the Grafton Library Trustees. Prior to returning to the Alliance in 2022, Andrew headed up the Bureau of Historic Sites for NH State Parks. Andrew is a graduate of Bowdoin College and the University of Pennsylvania, where he received an M.S. in Historic Preservation.

### **Brandee Loughlin, Preservation Planning & Development Coordinator**

#### **NH Division of Historical Resources**

[brandee.r.loughlin@dncr.nh.gov](mailto:brandee.r.loughlin@dncr.nh.gov)

Brandee Loughlin is the Preservation Planning & Development Coordinator at the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR). Brandee has worked in both the historic preservation and municipal planning fields, and currently oversees the Preservation Planning, Certified Local Government, and Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit programs for NHDHR.

### **Jared A. Guilmett AIA NCARB, Associate Partner + Principal Architect**

#### **Misiaszek Turpin Architects**

[jared@misiaszekturpin.com](mailto:jared@misiaszekturpin.com)

Jared received his Masters of Architecture from Wentworth Institute of Technology in 2016. Since graduating, Jared returned home to the Lakes Region and became a licensed architect in the state of New Hampshire. He has had the privilege to work on numerous historic restoration and community-focused projects throughout the state, including the award-winning restoration of the Colonial Theatre in downtown Laconia. Alongside his passion for architecture and historic preservation, Jared has a strong dedication to volunteerism and community involvement, participating in various boards and committees around the Lakes Region. In his free time, he enjoys being with family and friends, traveling, sailing and strength training.

### **Mark J. Fougere, AICP, Principal**

#### **Fougere Planning & Development**

[fougereplanning@comcast.net](mailto:fougereplanning@comcast.net)

Mark Fougere is an AICP land use planner with over 34 years of public and private sector experience and holds a Master's Degree in planning. Mr. Fougere has an extensive background in project management dealing with a broad array of planning related issues including spearheading rezoning efforts, managing development teams, site and land use planning, impact fees, fiscal impact analysis, public presentations, expert witness testimony, land use law analysis, and consensus building challenges. He has managed numerous rewrites and amendments to zoning ordinances and site plan/subdivision regulations.



*Mr. Fougere has worked extensively in many New England communities on fiscal impact analysis, traffic corridor studies, housing, workforce housing, and land use regulations. Mark has also served on a municipal planning board and as a Selectman.*

**Judi Barrett, Founding & Managing Director  
Barrett Planning Group LLC**

[judi@barrettplanningllc.com](mailto:judi@barrettplanningllc.com)

*Judi Barrett is the owner and managing director of Barrett Planning Group LLC. She brings 35 years of planning and community development experience as a consultant and community and economic development professional with state and local government. Judi has devoted her career to building the capacity of cities and towns to solve difficult public policy questions and to develop effective leadership and advocacy skills. She has prepared numerous city and town comprehensive plans, neighborhood revitalization plans, zoning ordinances and bylaws, and housing studies. She is well known for her work in affordable and fair housing policy and inclusionary zoning. A frequent panelist at regional and national conferences and a guest lecturer for graduate planning programs, Judi is also a technical assistance resource and trainer for city and town officials and non-profit boards.*

**Ivy Vann, Planning Consultant  
Planning Consultant, Ivy Vann Town Planning and Design**

[ivy.vann@gmail.com](mailto:ivy.vann@gmail.com)

*Ivy is a planner and designer with many years of experience in town planning both in New Hampshire and nationally. She works on charrettes, planning projects, code review, master planning, public engagement, and comprehensive planning. Ivy is certified as a planner by both the American Planning Association and the Congress for the New Urbanism, as well as being certified to write form-based code by the Form-Based Code Institute. She is a 42-year resident of New Hampshire, and served on her own town's planning board for more than a dozen years, providing her an up-close look at the process for improving zoning regulations to increase housing choice. She particularly enjoys helping citizens articulate their vision for their place. In her own life she is a small developer, having turned her house into a three family, and the original carriage house into a duplex. She currently has a 14-unit project which just completed the entitlement process.*

**Robert Tourigny Executive Director  
NeighborWorks Southern New Hampshire**

[rtourigny@wnsnh.org](mailto:rtourigny@wnsnh.org)

*Robert Tourigny is the Executive Director of NeighborWorks Southern New Hampshire, joined the organization in May 2005, bringing his experience in both urban and rural environments in all aspects of housing activities, including homeownership, multi-family and single family development, home repair and weatherization, and rental management. He also brought a vision, and he has guided its transformation into an organization that addresses the affordable housing needs of a total of 31 communities in Southern New Hampshire, including the Cities of Manchester and Nashua. He has promoted and facilitated an approach of developing affordable housing in a very cooperative manner, inviting the input and approval of leaders and stakeholders from communities. This approach has resulted in NeighborWorks® Southern New Hampshire's reputation as a resource for communities, and has spurred several positive development*



projects in Southern New Hampshire. He has overseen the development and rehabilitation of nearly 1,500 units of affordable housing and community facilities in his career, totaling more than \$175 million in investments. Mr. Tourigny is involved in several initiatives that address the community development and affordable housing needs in New Hampshire. He serves on the Governing Council of Housing Action New Hampshire, the Board of Directors of the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority, the Board of Directors for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston, and Evernorth's (f/k/a Northern New England Housing Investment Fund) NH Investment Committee. He has previously served on the Board of Directors of the National Rural Housing Coalition, Granite United Way, and as President of the Manchester Rotary Club. He has also served on numerous state and municipal housing task forces and committees.

**Ethan Conner-Ross, MPA, Executive Vice President & Principal  
Econsult Solutions Inc.**

[connerross@econsultsolutions.com](mailto:connerross@econsultsolutions.com)

Ethan Conner-Ross is an Executive Vice President and Principal at Econsult Solutions, Inc. (ESI), where he has worked since 2014. His expertise spans public policy, transportation, tourism, economic development, and strategic planning, with a focus on maximizing public benefits. He has led numerous projects for governmental and private organizations and has presented before legislative bodies in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Previously, he was Vice President of Research and Planning at Visit Philadelphia, overseeing market research and strategic planning. He holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Pennsylvania and a Bachelor's in History and Political Science from Amherst College. A Philadelphia native, he lives in the city with his wife and two children

**Stephen Madsen, MCRP, Director  
Econsult Solutions Inc.**

[smadsen@econsultsolutions.com](mailto:smadsen@econsultsolutions.com)

Stephen Madsen is a director at Econsult Solutions, Inc., providing expertise in housing and economic development policy analysis. In 2020, Mr. Madsen earned his Master's in City and Regional Planning from the Rutgers University Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. In 2012, Mr. Madsen earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the College of the Holy Cross. Prior to joining ESI, Mr. Madsen worked across the public and private sectors with experience at the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency; the New York City Economic Development Corporation; and Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP. During these experiences, Mr. Madsen has worked on the development, implementation and evaluation of local, state and federal affordable housing programs and economic development practices including the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit; the State of New Jersey's Down Payment Assistance program; and locally-funded real estate development.

**George Reagan, Director of Community Engagement  
NH Housing**

[greagan@nhhfa.org](mailto:greagan@nhhfa.org)

George Reagan has been the Community Engagement Manager at New Hampshire Housing since 2008. In that role, he helps communities and organizations show the connection between an adequate and balanced supply of housing and economic growth and stability. He works with public officials, organizations and business partners, as well as regional workforce housing advocacy groups, to provide



education, technical assistance and support. Prior to joining New Hampshire Housing, Reagan held consumer and commercial lending positions with Fleet Bank and St. Mary's Bank, and was the campaign director for United Way of the Greater Seacoast and United Way of Greater Manchester.

**Ellie Brown, President**

**President, Kawasiwajo Community Land Trust Board**

[info@kcltnh.org](mailto:info@kcltnh.org)

*Ellie Brown is originally from the Adirondack Mountains of upstate NY and is guided by the desire to connect people meaningfully to land. In 2017, she moved to NH and received her masters at Antioch University in Rural Community Conservation. She is a co-founder of Kawasiwajo Community Land Trust and currently serves as board president. She is also a librarian and part time potter.*

**Jamie Pottern**

**Senior New England Program Manager, American Farmland Trust**

[jpottern@farmland.org](mailto:jpottern@farmland.org)

*Jamie Pottern is the Senior New England Program Manager at American Farmland Trust (AFT). She works across New England to address land access barriers for farmers, protect farmland, and provide support to conservation organizations and communities. She is the co-author of AFT's Farms Under Threat: A New England Perspective research report, which analyzes threats and opportunities for a more resilient and justice-driven agricultural system in New England. Prior to joining AFT, Jamie managed the Farm Conservation Program at Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust in north-central Massachusetts and also served as the Land, Community & Education Director at Agrarian Trust. She has volunteered over the years on a diversity of municipal and non-profit boards and committees in her community. Jamie holds a Masters in Sustainable Landscape Planning & Design from The Conway School, a BA in Environmental Studies and International & Global Studies from Brandeis University, and a certificate from The Farm School's Learn to Farm Program.*

**Noah Hodgetts, Principal Planner**

**NH Office of Planning and Development**

[noah.d.hodgetts@livefree.nh.gov](mailto:noah.d.hodgetts@livefree.nh.gov)

*Noah Hodgetts is a Principal Planner at the Office of Planning & Development (OPD) within the New Hampshire Department of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA). He has worked at OPD since March 2018, where he provides technical assistance and training on planning and zoning matters to a diverse range of stakeholders, tracks planning and zoning legislation, and is BEA's point person on housing policy. Most recently he coordinated the Regional Housing Needs Assessment Program with the state's nine Regional Planning Commissions and the development of the New Hampshire Housing Toolbox. Noah currently serves on the New Hampshire Council on Housing Stability, the New Hampshire Zoning Atlas Leadership Team, the InvestNH Planning & Zoning Grant Steering Committee, and the New Hampshire Planners Association Executive Committee. Noah was named the 2023 Professional Planner of the Year by the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association and the New Hampshire Planners Association. Prior to working for the State of New Hampshire, Noah worked as a research analyst for a Boston-area affordable housing consulting firm. He received a M.Sc. in Urban and Regional Policy from Northeastern University and a B.A. in Human Ecology from College of the Atlantic.*