



## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

### **Scott Badger, Planning Board Vice Chair and Chair of Jackson Housing Opportunity Matters**

**Town of Jackson**

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Scott grew up in the small town of Jackson and was very fortunate to have the opportunity to return after school and make it home for his own family. His oldest daughter missed having one of his grammar school teachers by one year! Having now spent over 50 years in Jackson, Scott has watched the evolution of the town and its community and, sadly, over the past 10 – 20 years that evolution has not been a positive one in some ways. Jackson still looks like the small NH town it's always been, but increased property values, restricted development and, in result, lack of affordable homes have driven out young adults, young families and their children, and the elderly, leading to a community not nearly as robust and vital as it once was. Jackson is a community whose school is shrinking and whose police, fire department volunteers, teachers, and administrators often live elsewhere. It is now on its way to becoming a "community" of only second homes, retirees, and short-term vacation renters. In response, the Planning Board has made changes to its zoning and a non-profit trust, Jackson Housing Opportunities Matter, has formed, both of which Scott has been part of as he works towards preserving Jackson's community vitality and rural landscape.

### **Alexandra Barker, Data Dissemination Branch Supervisor**

**U.S. Census Bureau New York Region**

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Alexandra Barker is a supervisor for the Data Dissemination and Training Program of the U.S. Census Bureau. She is also the co-founder of Census Academy, which is the new digital hub of the Census Bureau for learning data skills. The mission of the Data Dissemination Program is to build and maintain relationships with stakeholders across the nation through the dissemination of Census data and training. Mrs. Barker has been part of this program since its implementation in 2011. Prior, she served as a Supervisory Survey Statistician for the U.S. Census Bureau Boston Regional Office, overseeing operations for the American Community Survey in MA and PR. She also worked as a media specialist during the 2010 Census. She graduated from PUC-Rio (Brazil) with a B.S. in Journalism and earned her Masters of Science in Public Affairs & International Relations from University of Massachusetts Boston.

### **Jeff T. Behler, New York Regional Director**

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Jeff T. Behler is the director for the Census Bureau's New York Regional Office. The New York Regional Office is responsible for data collection, data dissemination, and geographic operations in Puerto Rico and eight states—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Behler began his Census Bureau career in the Detroit Regional Office in 1997, working as a survey statistician on various programs. In 2002, he transferred to Census Bureau headquarters in Suitland, Maryland, to work in the Decennial Management Division as a project manager on the 2004, 2005, and 2006 Census Tests. In 2005, he returned to Field Division and served as chief of the Housing and Health Surveys Branch. Behler transferred to the Dallas Regional Office in December 2006 to serve as the assistant regional director. In 2007, he was selected as the deputy regional director and was responsible for a wide range of activities related to the 2010 Census for the Dallas region. In October 2010, Behler was selected as the director for the Detroit Regional Office; he led restructuring efforts as Detroit was one of the six Census Bureau regional offices to close in 2012. In January 2013, Behler became the director of the New York Regional Office. Behler earned a bachelor's degree in statistics, mathematics, and actuarial science from Central Michigan University. He also has master's certificate in leadership and management from the University of Maryland University College and a master's certificate in project management from George Washington University.

**Christopher L. Boldt, Esq.**  
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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 and City Councils 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 Local Government Center, the NH Office of Strategic Initiatives, the NH Bar Association, Primex and the NH Land Surveyors Association. Chris is also a Selectman in Sandwich and 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.

**Stephen C. Buckley, Esq., Legal Services Counsel**  
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Attorney Buckley became Legal Services Counsel at the New Hampshire Municipal Association in 2014 after nearly 30 years practicing municipal law in New Hampshire, with a special emphasis on zoning and planning. He earned his undergraduate degree from San Diego State University in 1981 and received his law degree from the Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1984. Attorney Buckley is a member of the NH Bar Association and its Municipal Law Section.

**David Brooks, Director of Planning & Zoning**  
**City of Lebanon**  
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Mr. Brooks is the Director of Planning and Zoning for the City of Lebanon, NH. He joined the City in 2005 as an Associate Planner and has been working in the field of Zoning and Land Use Planning since 1999. Before coming to Lebanon, Mr. Brooks was the Zoning Administrator for the Town of Barnard, Vermont. He also worked for Land Marks, a private consulting firm specializing in Planning, Design, and Permitting in eastern Long Island, New York. While completing a graduate degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Portland State University, Mr. Brooks worked for the City of Portland, Oregon; the Blaine County (Idaho) Housing Authority; and the City of Sherwood, Oregon. His primary background in Planning is the interaction of land use and transportation. He also has a developing interest in stormwater management and economic development. Outside of planning, his interests include travel, hiking, skiing and golf.

**Tim Corwin, Esq., Senior Planner and Zoning Administrator**  
**City of Lebanon**  
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Tim is the Senior Planner for the City of Lebanon, NH, and provides direct staff support to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment. He practiced law in Pennsylvania for several years, primarily focusing on land use, development, and zoning. As a planner, Tim worked for the City of Dover, NH and Town of Windham, NH prior to accepting his current position with the City of Lebanon. From 2010 to 2015 he served on the Executive Committee of the New Hampshire Planners Association and chaired the NHPA's Legislative Committee. Tim has a Masters in City Planning from the University of Pennsylvania and a Juris Doctor from Temple University, and holds AICP accreditation from the American Planning Association.

**Anne Cunningham, Planning Board Chair**  
**Town of Freedom**  
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Anne moved to Freedom in 2001 and retired from a twenty-five-year career in management consulting in 2003. In 2006, she served as a volunteer member of the committee updating the Master Plan. Anne saw the value of land use planning and thought that her experience might be applicable to the planning board. She was elected to the Planning Board in March 2007 and has served as chair since 2008. She is a graduate of Cornell University and the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

**Jennifer Czysz, Executive Director**  
**Strafford Regional Planning Commission**  
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Ms. Czysz has 19 years of experience in municipal, regional and state planning, community development, and architectural design. As Strafford Regional Planning Commission's (SRPC) Executive Director she manages the daily operations of the agency by providing administrative and managerial direction in the areas of policy formation, budget maintenance, staff resource allocation, and management of complex planning projects. Prior to joining SRPC in May of 2018, she served as the Assistant Director at Nashua Regional Planning Commission where she managed the office's land use programs. While at NRPC she served as the Program Manager for the statewide Granite State Future efforts and supported the many program partners and committees to engage stakeholders and coordinated efforts of the regional planning commissions. The end results of this extensive planning process included statewide core data and a snapshot of regional priorities. Previously, she served as a Senior Planner at the NH Office of Energy and Planning and a Regional Planner at Southern NH Planning Commission working in the areas of land use policy, municipal and regional planning assistance, water resources housing, natural hazard mitigation, and emergency management planning.

**C. Christine Fillmore, Esq.**  
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Christine Fillmore is an attorney with the firm of Drummond Woodsum (recently merged with Gardner Fulton & Waugh). She advises towns, cities and village districts on a wide variety of issues, including governance, budgeting and annual meetings, right to know law, road law, land use and enforcement, health and building inspection, contracts and ordinances, local welfare assistance, and environmental issues. In her current position and previously as a staff attorney with the NH Municipal Association, Christine's practice has focused exclusively on representing municipalities and their officials and employees since 2005. She also has a background in corporate transactions and environmental law from her practice with Rath, Young & Pignatelli from 1998-2005, where she was first exposed to municipal law.

**Benjamin D. Frost, Esq., AICP, Director, Legal & Public Affairs**  
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Ben is the Director of Legal and Public Affairs at New Hampshire Housing, where he coordinates legislative initiatives and serves as internal counsel. He frequently lectures on issues of affordable and workforce housing, land use law, and ethics. He has over 30 years of experience as a land use planner and 20 years as an attorney. He is a founding member of the Governing Council of Housing Action NH, a low-income housing advocacy organization and for 10 years has served on the New Hampshire Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board. Ben is the Treasurer of both the NH Planners Association and the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association. He coordinates a national consortium of American Planning Association chapters and divisions that provides free online training for professional planners. Ben holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Geography from Colgate University and Syracuse University, respectively and a law degree from Cornell Law School. He lives in Warner, where he serves as Chair of the planning board.

**Jamieson L. Hess, Energy Committee Chair**  
**Town of New London**

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Jamie Hess chairs the New London Energy Committee, a town committee appointed by the Selectboard. In this role Jamie and fellow committee members advise the Town on ways to simultaneously save energy and save money while moving toward the voter-approved goal of achieving 100% renewable energy by 2030 for electricity, and by 2050 for heating and transportation. In the sphere of outreach, Jamie has organized residential Solarize and Weatherize initiatives, an Energy & Environment Expo, and three Electric Vehicle Expos. Prior to joining the Energy Committee, Jamie's career included stints in software engineering, transportation planning, and founding and operating a small business. Jamie holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Princeton University.

**Cordell Johnston, Esq., Government Affairs Counsel**  
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Cordell Johnston is an attorney and lobbyist for the New Hampshire Municipal Association, where he represents the interests of cities and towns before the New Hampshire legislature and provides legal services and training to member municipalities. Before joining NHMA in 2004, he practiced law with the Concord law firm of Orr & Reno for 19 years. Cordell lives in Henniker, where he is the town moderator; he previously served as a selectman and as a member and chairman of the planning board. He is a frequent speaker on the Right-to-Know Law, land use law, and other municipal law topics.

**Jackson Kaspari, Chemistry Graduate Student**  
**University of New Hampshire**  
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Jackson Kaspari is a graduate student at the University of New Hampshire pursuing a doctorate in physical chemistry, after graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering in May of 2018. His research with Dr. Margaret Greenslade focuses on the impact of atmospheric aerosols on climate change. During the summer of 2018 he worked with the City of Dover New Hampshire's Planning Department, via the UNH Sustainability Institute Fellows Program, to publish the first ever combined carbon and nitrogen footprint report for a municipality. He currently serves as the youngest full member on Dover's Planning Board and is now an alumni advisor to the Fellows Program.

**Michael Klass, Principal Planner**  
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Mike is a Principal Planner at the NH Office of Strategic Initiatives. His responsibilities include working with local land use board members, municipals officials, and citizens on land use matters in addition to outreach and education for planning and zoning board members. Prior to joining OSI, Mike was an attorney in private practice, where he focused on land use matters, real estate development, property disputes, and related litigation. As an attorney, Mike regularly appeared before planning and zoning boards where he gained an appreciation for the role local land use boards play in sound and sustainable community development. Mike has a B.S. in Watershed Science from Colorado State University and a J.D. from Vermont Law School.

**Kevin Lacasse, CEO**  
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Kevin Lacasse, CEO of New England Family Housing founded in 2004. Kevin's experience includes single family, multifamily acquisition and renovation, campgrounds, mobile home parks, and apartment complexes. Kevin has been on the sponsor side for most of the projects, which has given him the perspective of many funding sources (private money, institutional, government (LIHTC, CDBG)). Being on the sponsor side of projects has also given Kevin a unique perspective on the municipal planning process. Current projects include a 24-lot single family home subdivision as well as a large scale mixed use re-development. Kevin's accreditations include being a Licensed Real Estate Broker, Licensed Septic Installer, NHMHA Board Member, and Member of NH Home Builders.

**Danica Melone, Associate Planner**  
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Ms. Melone is an Associate Planner for North Country Council. Among other various roles, her recent work has focused on land use planning, solid waste technical assistance, and community outreach. Ms. Melone holds a B.S. in Tourism Planning and Development at UNH where she received the Outstanding Student Award for the graduating class in her field, as well as the George T. Gilman Scholarship Award given to “full-time students interested in protecting environment, wildlife, or other aspects affecting quality of life in New Hampshire.”

**Stephen Meno, Community Development Field Specialist**  
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Stephen Meno is a Field Specialist with the UNH Cooperative Extension Community and Economic Development team. His work is focused on building the capacity of local and regional leaders to implement effective strategies to grow and sustain the regional economy and strengthen communities, including stakeholder engagement, downtown revitalization, workforce education and development, and growing the nature economy. Previously, he was a Senior Regional Planner at Nashua Regional Planning Commission. He has a Master’s Degree in Regional Planning from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

**Nancy Merrill, Planning & Development Director**  
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Nancy Merrill has been with the City of Claremont since 2004, currently serving as Director of Planning & Economic Development. During Nancy’s tenure the City has focused on reinvestment and adaptive reuse as a driver for economic growth. Nancy has written several articles for magazines and publications including “Economic Development Now” and the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston’s “Communities & Banking.” Claremont received the 2010 International Economic Development Council Program Award for Real Estate Development and Reuse. She is a member of the Community Development Advisory Committee at NH Community Development Finance Authority and serves on the Board of Directors for the NH Business Finance Authority.

**Nate Miller, AICP, Deputy Executive Director**  
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Nathan Miller, AICP is the Deputy Executive Director at the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission (SNHPC). The SNHPC is one of nine Regional Planning Commissions in New Hampshire, and serves as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the 14 municipalities comprising and surrounding the Manchester, New Hampshire urbanized area. Mr. Miller oversees the development of the region’s Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). He also provides technical assistance to the region’s municipalities, public transportation providers, and the New Hampshire Department of Transportation. Mr. Miller holds a Master’s Degree in Urban Planning from McGill University, and serves on the Board of Directors of Advance Transit and the Cooperative Alliance for Regional Transportation.

**Carol Ogilvie, Planning Consultant and Former Community Development Director of Peterborough  
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Carol has more than 30 years of experience in land use planning. 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 consultant. Prior to working in Peterborough, she worked for the Southwest Region Planning Commission and for the NH Office of State Planning. 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 in 1977 and her M.A. in Sociology and Policy Planning from Kent State University in 1981. She lives in Gilsum, NH with her husband, both of whom served on the Planning Board for many years; and where she currently serves on the Board of Adjustment.

**Elena Piekut, Assistant City Planner and Zoning Administrator  
City of Dover**

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Elena Piekut is the Assistant City Planner and Zoning Administrator for the City of Dover, NH. She provides staff support to the City's active Energy Commission, which has played a role in a smart LED streetlight retrofit, establishing the City's first two solar installations through power purchase agreements, and completing a greenhouse gas and nitrogen inventory for municipal operations. She previously worked as a planner in Ellsworth and Kittery, ME and holds a BA in Human Ecology.

**George Reagan, Housing Awareness Program Administrator  
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Mr. Reagan is the Housing Awareness Program administrator at New Hampshire Housing, a position he has held since 2008. In this role George works with municipalities, regional workforce housing coalitions, Plan NH and other local, regional and state partners to educate employers, community leaders and officials, and the public about the connection between economic stability, growth and the need for a balanced and diverse supply of housing.

**Tim Roache, Executive Director  
Rockingham Planning Commission**

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Tim Roache is the Executive Director of the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC). He has held this position since 2017. Prior to becoming Executive Director of the RPC, Mr. Roache worked as Principal Transportation Planner, Assistant Director and Executive Director for the Nashua Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Roache has extensive experience in transportation and environmental planning including air quality and climate change initiatives. Since joining the RPC Mr. Roache has helped focus the agency's efforts to promote regional coordination, community resilience and the integration and land use and transportation policy. He has served on numerous regional and statewide advisory committees and boards over the years, including the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership, CMAQ and Transportation Alternatives Program Advisory Committees, Seacoast Commission on Long Term Goals and Requirements for Drinking Water and Seacoast Workforce Housing. Mr. Roache received his Bachelor's degree in Atmospheric Science from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell.

**Jennifer Rowden, Senior Planner**  
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Jenn has been a land use planner at RPC since 2013. Currently, Jenn serves as the circuit rider planner for Fremont, North Hampton and Newton and is involved in multiple land use projects at the RPC involving water resources, natural resources, hazard mitigation and transportation planning. Previously, Jenn worked at NHDES for five years on a variety of watershed and drinking water protection efforts. At NHDES, she served as staff to the N.H. Rivers and Lakes Management Advisory Committees, N.H. Flood Commission and N.H. Water Sustainability Commission. She completed her undergraduate work in Political Science and graduate work in Natural Resources at UNH.

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Attorney Serge is a member of the Municipal Group at Drummond Woodsum and MacMahon in Manchester, advising towns and cities on a wide range of issues including: land use matters, zoning enforcement actions, right to know law, welfare assistance, and general government relations. His experience on behalf of municipalities and other clients includes participation in numerous New Hampshire Supreme Court appeals, individually and as co-counsel. Attorney Serge served as law clerk for the New Hampshire Superior Court and also served as law clerk for the Honorable Linda S. Dalianis of the New Hampshire Supreme Court. He graduated *summa cum laude* from the New England School of Law in 1999, was class valedictorian, and served as Executive Director for the New England Law Review. He has served as a lecturer in the New Hampshire Municipal Association law lecture series in 2009 and 2012, and was a graduate of the NHBA Leadership Academy in 2011.

**Sara Siskavich, Assistant Director – GIS/IT Programs**  
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Sara Siskavich, Assistant Director – GIS/IT Programs, oversees the direction of Nashua Regional Planning Commission's technology initiatives as well as provides supervisory, contractual, budgeting, and advanced project management duties as needed to support the day-to-day administration of the Commission. Ms. Siskavich has worked in the GIS field since 2001 and has managed the NRPC GIS Program since 2012. Formerly, she was the Manager of GIS and CAD at Unutil Service Corp in Hampton, NH and has also held GIS positions in consulting and state government. Her professional interests include enterprise system implementations, database technology, and collaborative technologies to facilitate information sharing within and across organizations. Ms. Siskavich earned a Bachelor of Arts in Biology, magna cum laude, and a Master of Arts in Geography, both from Boston University, and maintains professional GIS certification. Ms. Siskavich holds a voting seat on the NH Statewide GIS Committee and is active in its technical and advisory subcommittees.

**Rachel Stevens, Stewardship Coordinator & Wildlife Ecologist**  
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Rachel is the Wildlife Ecologist for NH Fish and Game Department and Stewardship Coordinator for Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. She focuses on land conservation and its subsequent research and management.

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Shawn Tanguay is an attorney/shareholder at the law firm of Drummond Woodsum & MacMahon who specializes in municipal law. He has dedicated most of his 20-year legal career to representing towns and cities across the State of New Hampshire. As part of his practice, Shawn has worked extensively with local land use boards and their staffs from the initial application to the hearing process as well as the appeals to the courts including the New Hampshire Supreme Court. His experience has led him to realize that the quality of a zoning or planning board's decision derives from the procedural process that such land use board has implemented to address those cases that come before it.

**Dean Trefethen, Director of Planning/Community Development & Code Enforcement**  
**City of Laconia**  
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Dean has been the Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement Director for the City of Laconia, New Hampshire, for two years. Before that he worked as an electronics design engineer for more than 25 years while living in Dover. He was on that city's Zoning Board of Adjustment for 17 years and the Planning Board for 10 years, and also served on the City Council for 10 years, including two as the Mayor. He has an AS degree in electronics design.

**Michael Unger, P.E.**  
**NH Department of Environmental Services**  
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Michael (Mike) Unger is a civil/environmental engineer in the Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau of the NH Dept. of Environmental Services. He has a Bachelor's in Physics and German from Middlebury College and a Master's in Civil Engineering with an Environmental Engineering Emphasis from the University of New Hampshire. He has over 12 years of experience in the water works industry, mostly providing consulting engineering services to municipal water systems. Mike joined NHDES in 2018 to provide technical assistance for the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund program.

**Sylvia von Aulock, Executive Director**  
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Sylvia is the Executive Director for Southern NH Planning Commission (SNHPC). Her career has been focused in the public sector working as Town Planner in Exeter, NH, as a Civil Engineer and Project Manager for the City of Seattle's Drainage and Wastewater Utility, and as a Landscape Designer for NH Washington State DOT. Sylvia's thorough planning experience, solid education, and positive approach has already helped her make her mark with SNHPC's 14 communities. Sylvia's educational history began in 1977 when she successfully undertook a Bachelor's Degree program in Civil Engineering at Rutgers University in NJ and later earned a Masters in Landscape Architecture from SUNY in Syracuse (finishing in 1985). Sylvia enjoys weaving together her years of experience and education with her skills as an artist, comedian, gardener, garage sale negotiator, and team captain to bring about positive solutions to the challenges she encounters as the Director of SNHPC.