

NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION
OF REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSIONS

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**Nashua Regional
Planning Commission**
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North Country Council
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**Rockingham
Planning Commission**
156 Water Street
Exeter, NH 03833
Telephone: 778-0885

**Southern NH
Planning Commission**
438 Dubuque Street
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**Southwest Region
Planning Commission**
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**Stafford Regional
Planning Commission**
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**Upper Valley Lake Sunapee
Regional Planning
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NHARPC Meeting

December 8, 2022

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**NH Municipal Association
John B. Andrews Room
25 Triangle Drive
Concord, NH**

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Introductions
- II. Action Items
 - A. Review and Approve the Minutes of August 25, 2022
 - B. Nomination for RPC rep to the SCC (Sylvia von Aulock)
 - C. Set Meeting Schedule/Review Poll results
- III. Guest Speaker, Bill Cass, NHDOT Commissioner
- IV. Discussion Items
 - A. NHARPC Website feedback
 - Review website and see <https://www.vapda.org/>
 - B. Commissioner Convening: Time, venue, and format
- V. NHARPC - NHMA Partnership
 - A. Town & City Articles and Webinars
- VI. 2023 Legislative Session
- VII. Other Matters
- VIII. Updates
 - A. What's new in your Region?
- IX. Next Meeting
- X. Public Comment
- XI. Adjourn

New Hampshire Association of Regional Planning Commissions
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 25, 2022
NH Municipal Association
John B. Andrews Room
25 Triangle Drive, Concord, NH

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Jerry Coogan called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and asked for introductions. Members present: Jen Czysz, SRPC, Don Hamann, SRPC; Michele Morin-Grey, North Country; Steve Buckley, Central; Peter Griffin, Southern; Jerry Coogan, Upper Valley, Bill Chaisson, Upper Valley; Matt Baronas, Central; Sylvia Von Aulock, SNHPC; Jay Minkarah, NRPC.

Members attending remotely: Barbara Kravitz, Rockingham; Tim Murphy, Southwest.

Guest presenters: Noah Hodgetts, NHOPD;

II. Review and Approve the Minutes of June 30, 2022

Chair J. Coogan asked for a motion. S. Buckley motioned to accept the minutes of June 30, 2022 as written, seconded by P. Griffin. There was no discussion. A roll call vote was taken: B. Chaisson, P. Griffin, J. Coogan, J. Czysz, M. More-Grey, voted in favor. S. Von Aulock, P. Griffin, D. Hamann abstained. Motion passed with all votes in favor.

III. Discussion Items

**A. The Future of the NHARPC:
Survey Results**

J. Coogan read the results of the brief survey that was sent to the NHARPC membership asking for their thoughts, ideas, and suggestions on how the NHARPC should proceed in FY23, and in future years; how to best conduct the meetings to make them interesting and valuable for all. Additionally, the survey asked for preferences and regarding for the FY 2023 Commissioners convening.

The members discussed the survey questions and responses. A summary of the discussion:

- Should the committee go back to working with a lobbyist
- Suggestions for meetings included:
 - To engage speakers,
 - hold presentation series,
 - host state agency commissioners, municipal department heads, non-profit organizations, and partner with Industries with land use interests.
 - Update the audio and video technology
 - Feature presentations from each RPC
 - Allow for speakers to present virtually.
 - Separate business meetings from presentation meetings
 - Record presentations
 - Continue the virtual option for attendance
- Create a YouTube Channel to post recordings of meetings
- Create additional outreach materials describing what RPC's do

- Continue updates/upgrade the website; add a job seekers category.
- Work with the Council of New Hampshire Humanities/History of Planning
- Discussion for a commissioner convening included
 - holding an afternoon session
 - part social part presentation.
 - Provide a virtual option for presenters and members.
 - Convening has a twofold purpose; an opportunity for both networking and educational purposes. Does a virtual meeting meet the social purpose of the meeting.

SRPC administrative staff will create a poll with options for the FY23 meeting schedule. The consensus was that quarterly meetings are the best option.

Review website and see <https://www.vapda.org/>

There was a brief discussion on review of the website and ideas for updates. A suggestion was made to add a job seekers section to the website.

Matt Baronas who maintains the website, offered his contact information so that members can send their suggestions to him.

J. Coogan asked members to review the NHARPC website in the next 30 days and provide feedback.

B. How Can RPC's Best Position Themselves to Leverage New Opportunities such as...

- Invest NH grants
- Housing Needs Assessment implementation
- Comprehensive Plan updates

J. Czysz stated there is abundant funding available. How can we make best use of funds and work together to make funding sustainable in the future; to carry forward the work under the ARPA Grant and NHHNA The current market climate makes it difficult to find staff. If we are ramping up staff to work on projects, what happens when projects are completed and the funding ends? This is an opportunity for planning commissions to shine and show their value.

Members discussed how to approach their municipalities to assist with obtaining funding opportunities and to establish relationships with agencies.

IV. Commissioner Convening: Time, venue, and format

Members shared their ideas and concerns for holding a FY2023 commissioner convening.

Ideas:

- Host a panel presentation which would provide different perspectives on a topic
- Offer a hybrid option

Concerns:

- Travel time for members; where is the most central location for all RPC's
- Covid exposure
- Staff time required to organize

Further discussion on this topic will continue at the next RPC meeting. In the interim J. Czysz will talk with staff at Rockingham, look at what portable technology is available then report back at the next meeting. The consensus was that the convening will most likely be a hybrid event.

V. Updates

A. What's new in your Region?

Each member was asked to share 1 or 2 items their region is working on.

Bill Chiasson reported that the Housing Needs Assessment is in process. There are more housing developments happening. Now that the UV corridor studies are complete, the next step is to get communities to respond and start planning.

S. Buckley reported there was an excellent presentation on trail and trail development in central NH. The presentation provided an overview of which trails are developed and extended, refurbished made more accessible.

S. Von Aulock reported that as part of the Ten Year Plan project proposal, there are two proposed trail projects. SNHPC recently completed a regional trails plan. She reported that there is an extra 10 million coming down the pike.

J. Czysz reported that SRPC has a records digitization project under way funded by the CARES Act. The POP project was completed with a story line containing over 350 recreation sites mapped out. SRPC is looking to implement a new interactive data base on the website.

M. Morin-Grey-reported for NPC. There were 12 awards for technical assistance to municipalities in the region. One of the projects is for trails and the focus will be on outdoor recreation and bike friendly trails.

J. Minkarah reported for Nashua Region. Of the 14 applications submitted for projects in the Ten Year Plan all but 2 are bike/ped. Two projects awarded direct discretionary funding; in the process of figuring out how those funds work. The commission is finally full staffed and has 6 circuit writers working in their region.

Barbara Kravitz reported that the Rockingham planning commission has several projects in the works in Hampton. One of the projects is an Age friendly Community project.

Hampton is in the process of negotiating with the state liquor commission for two major developments on the 95 plazas. Hampton Beach has two housing developments proposed for the Center. The Commission is in process of updating the Hampton Beach master plan and in is working on a feasibility study for an ADA compliant pier off of Hampton beach.

Tim Murphy reported for Southwest. There are new Brownfields assessment awards. The commission is updating CEDS and is in the homestretch with RHNA. They are working on a watershed grant and there are now 4 digital literacy needs assessments. Working on a grant to improve broadband tech assistance to municipalities. The commission has new staff and has a position open.

VI. NHARPC - NHMA Partnership

A. Town & City Articles and Webinars:

Jen Czysz reported everything is on track; there is one more article in the que for this year. The most recent article on the RHNA will be coming out soon. The Economic Resiliency Planning article for the November/December issue is due Oct 5. The committee needs to come up with

something for January/February issue due in December. This will be a discussion at the next meeting.

B. NHMA Annual Conference

Workshop Proposals NHARPC present proposal?

T. Murphy reported that 2 proposals have been submitted. One on how municipalities can take advantage of RPC's services for roads and the second on support with hazard mitigation plans. S. Buckley reported there should be news soon on which proposals were accepted.

NHARPC Booth

The members discussed the difficulty involved in getting people to attend a booth. There was consensus that presentations hold more value.

J. Coogan asked for a vote by a show of hands in favor of hosting a booth at the NHMA annual conference. Jerry raised his hand and T. Murphy said he was agreeable to either option. Vote failed due to lack of a consensus.

VII. 2022 Legislative Session

Noah Hodgetts reviewed the summary of changes pursuant to HB 1661 and provided a brief explanation of each section. The new law will have significant effects on how municipal land use boards conduct business.

VIII. Other Matters

There were no other matters discussed.

IX. Next Meeting

A. Proposed FY2023 Schedule

The results of a poll taken in July showed the majority of respondents could attend meetings held on the 3rd Thursday of even months. A brief discussion took place with several members stating that this would not be a convenient schedule for them. SRPC administration will send out a new poll with several choices for dates.

X. Public Comment

There was no public comment

XI. Adjourn

J. Czysz motioned to adjourn seconded by S. Buckley. All members in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Q1 Your name

Answered: 13 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Robert Snelling	11/29/2022 9:56 AM
2	Jeff Hayes	11/28/2022 12:42 PM
3	Lary Robinson	11/28/2022 11:49 AM
4	Donald Hamann	11/28/2022 11:30 AM
5	Barbara Kravitz	11/28/2022 8:11 AM
6	Leslie Schwartz	11/22/2022 7:44 PM
7	Jay Minkarah	11/22/2022 1:15 PM
8	Jen Czysz	11/21/2022 4:38 PM
9	Tim Murphy	11/21/2022 2:19 PM
10	Meghan Butts	11/21/2022 1:29 PM
11	Bill Chaisson	11/21/2022 1:01 PM
12	Mike Tardiff	11/21/2022 12:55 PM
13	Michelle Moren-Grey	11/21/2022 12:39 PM

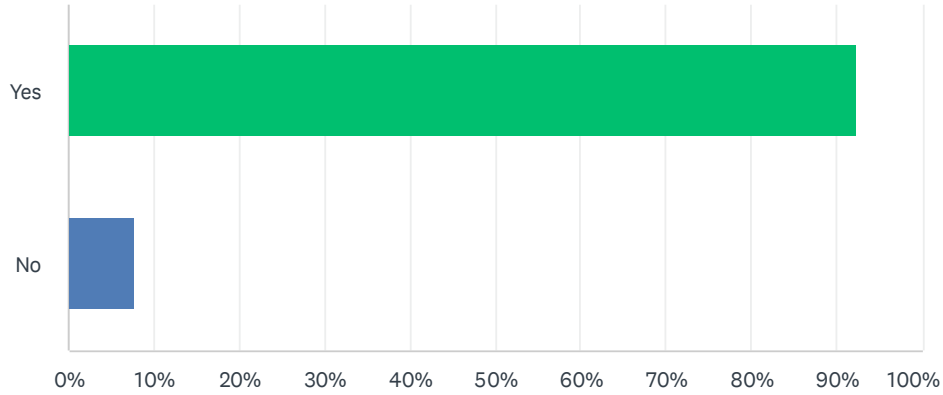
Q2 What RPC do you represent?

Answered: 13 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Lakes Region	11/29/2022 9:56 AM
2	LRPC	11/28/2022 12:42 PM
3	SWRPC	11/28/2022 11:49 AM
4	SRPC	11/28/2022 11:30 AM
5	Rockingham Planning Commission	11/28/2022 8:11 AM
6	Strafford	11/22/2022 7:44 PM
7	NRPC	11/22/2022 1:15 PM
8	SRPC	11/21/2022 4:38 PM
9	SWRPC	11/21/2022 2:19 PM
10	Upper Valley Lake Sunapee RPC	11/21/2022 1:29 PM
11	UVLSRPC	11/21/2022 1:01 PM
12	CNHRPC	11/21/2022 12:55 PM
13	North Country Council	11/21/2022 12:39 PM

Q3 Would you be available to attend meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each quarter? The dates will be 3/15/2023, 6/21/2023, and each meeting will be scheduled for 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

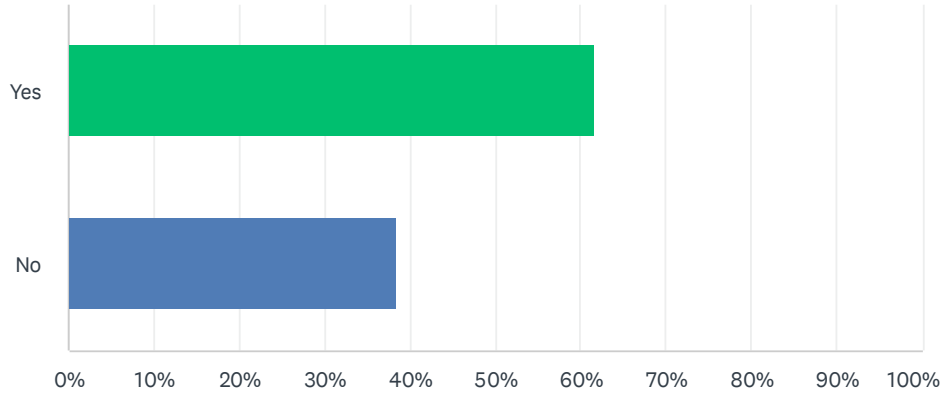
Answered: 13 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	92.31%	12
No	7.69%	1
TOTAL		13

Q4 Would you be available to attend meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each quarter? The dates will be 3/16/2023, 6/15/2023, and each meeting will be scheduled for 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

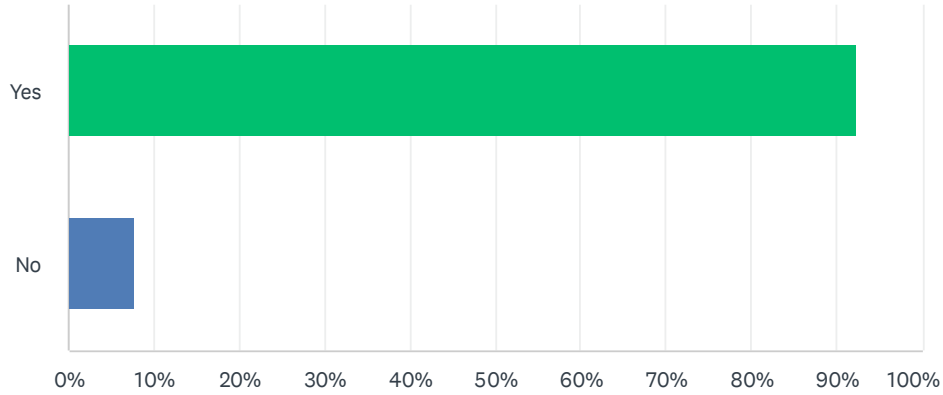
Answered: 13 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	61.54%	8
No	38.46%	5
TOTAL		13

Q5 Would you be available to attend meetings on the 4th Wednesday of each quarter? The dates will be 3/22/2023, 6/28/2023, and each meeting will be scheduled for 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

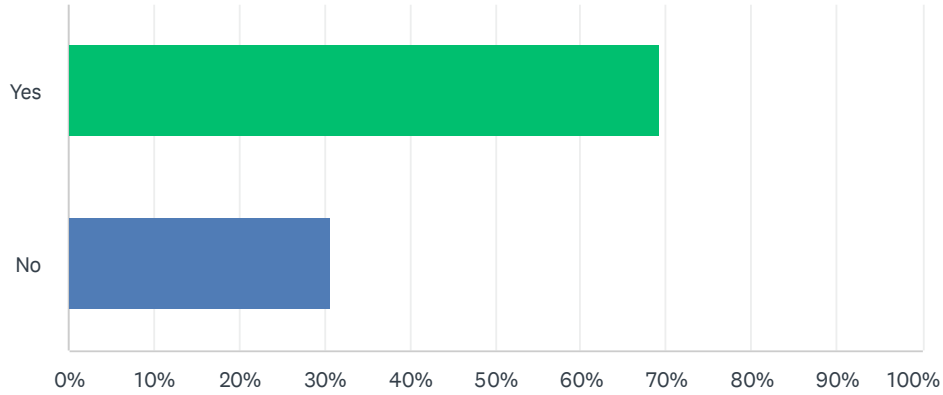
Answered: 13 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	92.31% 12
No	7.69% 1
TOTAL	13

Q6 Would you be available to attend meetings on the 4th Thursday of each quarter? The dates will be 3/23/2023, 6/22/2023, and each meeting will be scheduled for 1:00 p.m.to 3:00 p.m.

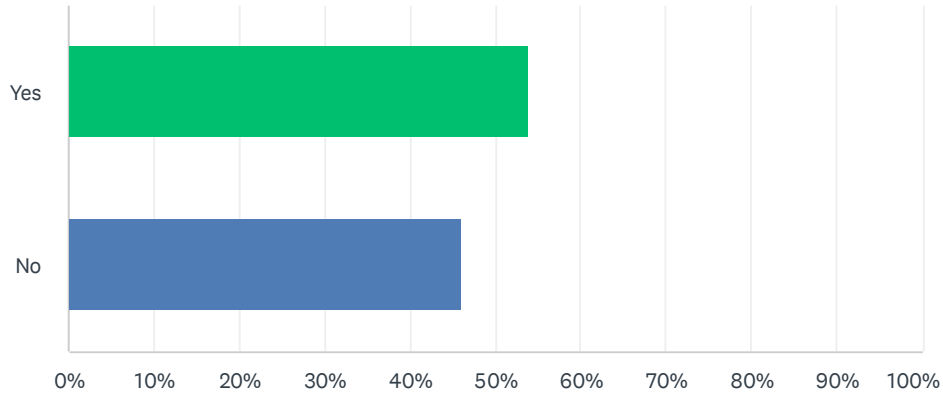
Answered: 13 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	69.23%	9
No	30.77%	4
TOTAL		13

Q7 Would you be available to attend meetings on the 2nd Thursday of each quarter? The dates will be 3/9/2023 and 6/8/2023 and each meeting will be scheduled for 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please note the RPC Directors meetings fall on these same dates in the morning, and would be in person.

Answered: 13 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	53.85% 7
No	46.15% 6
TOTAL	13

Q8 Comments

Answered: 5 Skipped: 8

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Most dates look fine but LRPC's Board meets on the second thursday of the month.	11/28/2022 12:42 PM
2	Thanks for your help	11/28/2022 8:11 AM
3	June 22nd is SRPC's annual meeting	11/21/2022 4:38 PM
4	I cannot guarantee I can be available for the whole meeting as I have childcare responsibilities at 3PM in Lebanon meaning I would have to leave Concord before 2PM to get home if I cannot find coverage. Earlier meeting times are better for me.	11/21/2022 1:29 PM
5	My planning board meets on the third Thursday of the month.	11/21/2022 1:01 PM

NHARPC/NHMA
 Planning Education Partnership
 2022 Schedule for Town & City Articles

CY2023 List

Issue	Due Date	Topic	Authors
Jan/Feb	December 1, 2022	Municipal Natural Resource Inventories	UVLSRPC/NRPC/RPC/CNHRPC Olivia will take the lead
Mar/Apr	February 1, 2023	Community Transportation – RCC and SCC work, Mobility Managers	SNHPC, SWRPC, NRPC
May/Jun	April 3, 2023		
Jul/Aug	June 1, 2023		
Sep/Oct	August 1, 2023		
Nov/Dec	October 2, 2023		

2022 Articles

- Community Power/ Electricity Aggregation
- Data Collection – SADES, etc.
- Hazard Mitigation Planning
- Regional Housing Needs Assessment
- Economic Resiliency Planning

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **David Preece**

Date: Fri, Nov 25, 2022 at 7:50 AM

Subject: Re: Gerry Coogan would like to invite you to a meeting

To: gicoogan@gmail.com

Hi Jerry,

I will be glad to participate in a future legislative committee meeting.

Here are some potential bills that I think the regional and local planners should be aware of and possibly support.

2023-0059 HR **Title:** calling for the federal government to enact an American Marshall Plan to rebuild economically impoverished communities and strengthen climate resilience infrastructure.

Sponsors: (Prime) [Joshua Adjutant](#) , [Linda Massimilla](#), [Matthew Wilhelm](#), [Amanda Elizabeth Toll](#)

2023-0058 HB **Title:** requiring the adoption of innovative vehicle emissions standards pursuant to section 177 of the federal Clean Air Act.

Sponsors: (Prime) [Rebecca McWilliams](#) , [David Watters](#), [Christine Seibert](#), [Jacqueline Chretien](#), [Rebecca Whitley](#), [Amanda Elizabeth Toll](#)

2023-0043 HB **Title:** relative to the municipal planning master plan.

Sponsors: (Prime) [Laurel Stavis](#) , [Latha Mangipudi](#), [David Preece](#), [Chuck Grassie](#), [Rosemarie Rung](#), [Jim Maggiore](#), [Eric Gallager](#)

2023-0034 HB **Title:** relative to requiring the department of transportation to adopt street standards established by the National Association of City Traffic Officials.

Sponsors: (Prime) [Rebecca McWilliams](#)

Take care.
David



Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version
LSR 2023-0003	Kristina Schultz	establishing a committee to study electrical vehicle charging for residential renters.		
LSR 2023-0033	Laurel Stavis Latha Mangipudi Chuck Grassie	relative to the operation of certain homeowners' associations.		
LSR 2023-0043	Laurel Stavis Latha Mangipudi David Preece	relative to the municipal planning master plan.	NHMA Supports	
LSR 2023-0055	Joshua Adjutant Ellen Read Chuck Grassie	relative to the transfer of residential property.		
LSR 2023-0084	Rebecca McWilliams Julie Gilman Josh Yokela	relative to permissible residential units in a residential zone.		
LSR 2023-0088	Sallie Fellows	relative to the land and community heritage investment program surcharge. - WITHDRAWN		
LSR 2023-0135	Bob Lynn	establishing a superior court land use review docket.		
LSR 2023-0182	Eric Gallager	requiring composting and waste recycling to be made available to residents of public housing.		
LSR 2023-0183	Eric Gallager Maureen Mooney Rosemarie Rung	relative to religious use of land and structures.	NHMA Supports	
LSR 2023-0271	Carol McGuire	relative to ratification of amendments to the state building code and state fire code.		
LSR 2023-0291	Ellen Read	relative to accessory dwelling unit uses allowed by right.		
LSR 2023-0369	Andrew Renzullo	relative to public notice requirements for zoning board of adjustment hearings.	NHMA Supports	
LSR 2023-0499	Lucius Parshall	providing zoning provisions for certain workforce housing complexes to be equipped with electric vehicle charging units.		
LSR 2023-0500	Lucius Parshall	relative to local authorities control over placement of personal wireless service facilities.		
LSR 2023-0510	Thomas Walsh	relative to local ordinances governing driveway permits.		
LSR 2023-0587	Gaby Grossman	relative to a study on residential swimming pool regulations.		
LSR 2023-0657	Travis Corcoran	relative to membership on a zoning or planning board.		
LSR 2023-0660	Travis Corcoran	relative to required education for zoning board members.		

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version
LSR 2023-0682	Wendy Thomas	relative to notice of PFAS and other groundwater contamination prior to the sale of real property.		

1-19 of 19

Suggested Language on HB 1021 –

Replace RSA 674:76 with the following:

674:76 Religious Use of Land and Structures.

- I. No zoning ordinance or local land use regulation shall prohibit, regulate, or restrict the use of land or structures based solely on the religious nature of the use.
- II. No zoning ordinance or local land use regulation shall impose a substantial burden on the religious exercise of a person, including a religious assembly or institution, unless the regulation is in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest and is the least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental interest.

As discussed in the webinar that NHMA did with the Bureau of Economic Affairs, the law as passed is unclear and we have seen substantial interest from our membership in clarifying what is and what is not allowed. This rewrite accomplishes the following:

- Section I incorporates the decision in [*Church of Lukumi Babalu Aye, Inc. v. Hialeah*, 508 U. S. 520, 533 \(1993\)](#) (“[A] law targeting religious beliefs as such is never permissible”).
- Section II incorporates the [Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000](#) (RLUIPA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000cc, et seq., which protects individuals, houses of worship, and other religious institutions from discrimination in zoning laws.

We believe that this rewrite would serve the interests of protecting religious practice while also clarifying the law in a manner that removes ambiguity from its drafting.