



**City Council Public Hearing  
August 20, 2019  
Council Chambers  
7:00 PM**

**Agenda**

- 1. Call to Order**
  - 2. Amendment to Chapter 275 of the General Ordinances of the City of Rochester Regarding Downtown Commercial District P. 5**
  - 3. Adjournment**
- 

**Rochester City Council Special Meeting  
August 20, 2019  
Council Chambers  
*Immediately following the public hearing***

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Resolution Granting Community Revitalization Tax Relief to the Property Located at 22 South Main Street Under the Provisions of RSA 79-E in Connection with a Proposed Rehabilitation Project *second reading and consideration for adoption P. 9***
- 3. Resolution Authorizing Supplemental Appropriation to the FY 2020 Sewer Fund Capital Improvement Plan Project Fund in Connection with Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Biosolids and Carbon System Storage Facilities Project in the Amount of \$8,750,000.00 and Bonding Authority Pursuant to RSA 33:9 and Authorizing the Application for a State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan *second reading and consideration for adoption P. 21***

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City Clerk's Office

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4. **Supplemental Appropriation to the Department of Public Works CIP in an Amount of \$1,000,000 for the Colonial Pines Subdivision Drainage Project *first reading and refer to a Public Hearing on September 3, 2019* P. 25**
  5. **Adjournment**
- 

**Rochester City Council Workshop  
August 20, 2019  
Council Chambers  
*Immediately following the special meeting***

**Agenda**

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Public Input**
3. **Communications from the City Manager**
4. **Communications from the Mayor**
5. **Discussion: Ballot Questions:**
  - 5.1. **Sports Betting Per HB 480 P. 31**
  - 5.2. **Keno (*confirmed on June 5, 2018*) P. 33**
6. **CDBG Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing P. 35**
7. **Presentation: Wayfinding Status Update**
8. **Department Reports P.143**
9. **Other**
10. **Non-Public/Non-Meeting**
  - 10.1. **Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II(d) Land**
  - 10.2. **Non-Public Session Per RSA 91-A:2(a) Labor Negotiations**
11. **Adjournment**

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City Clerk's Office

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**Amendment to Chapter 275 of the General Ordinances of the City of Rochester the  
Downtown Commercial District**

THE CITY OF ROCHESTER ORDAINS:

That Chapter 275, Section 20.2.K. (~~65~~) of the General Ordinances of the City of Rochester and currently before the Rochester City Council, be amended as follows (changes in red):

(~~65~~) Downtown Commercial District. Within the Downtown Commercial (DC) District, multifamily is allowed with the following restrictions:

~~(a) Multifamily units are prohibited on the ground floor and only permitted non-residential uses within the Downtown Commercial District shall be located on the ground floor. However, parking shall be allowed on the ground floor except for parcels fronting any of the following streets:~~

- ~~i. Union Street~~
- ~~ii. North Main Street South of North Main Street Bridge~~
- ~~iii. South Main Street~~
- ~~iv. Wakefield Street south of Columbus Avenue~~
- ~~v. Hanson Street~~
- ~~vi. Museum Way~~

~~(ab) Ancillary ground floor multifamily use, such as entryways, lobbies, utility areas, and similar functional spaces shall be minimized to the extent practical. Remaining Gground floor space within the first 50 feet of building depth shall be reserved for non-residential uses, as permitted in the DC District, unless otherwise required to comply with state building code and/or fire code, for parcels fronting any of the following streets (Applicants may apply to the Special Downtown Committee to locate these uses between 30 feet and 50 feet):~~




- ~~i. Union Street~~
- ~~ii. North Main Street south of North Main Street Bridge~~
- ~~iii. South Main Street~~
- ~~iv. Wakefield Street south of Columbus Avenue~~
- ~~v. Hanson Street~~
- ~~vi. Museum Way~~

**These amendments shall take effect upon passage.**

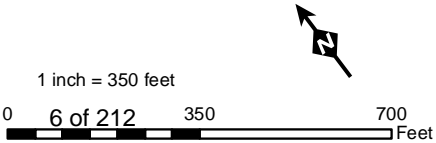




**Legend**

-  Building Footprint
-  Non Residential is Permitted. Residential is Not permitted (0-30ft)
-  Non Residential is Permitted. Residential may be Permitted by Conditional Use (30-50ft)

 Downtown Commercial Zone



This map is intended for planning purposes only.  
All features shown should be considered approximate.  
Date: 7/24/2019  
Author: DC - Rochester, NH  
Source: NHGRANIT, City of Rochester

Downtown Commercial Zone  
Proposed Zoning Change to 1st Floor Commercial Use  
Rochester, NH



**City of Rochester Formal Council Meeting****AGENDA BILL****NOTE: Agenda Bills are due by 10 AM on the Monday the week before the City Council Meeting.****AGENDA SUBJECT**

Amendment to Chapter 275, Section 20.2.K. (6) of the Zoning Ordinance

COUNCIL ACTION ITEM ☒  
INFORMATION ONLY ☐FUNDING REQUIRED? YES ☐ NO ☒  
\* IF YES ATTACH A FUNDING RESOLUTION FORMRESOLUTION REQUIRED? YES ☒ NO ☐FUNDING RESOLUTION FORM? YES ☐ NO ☒

AGENDA DATE	August 6, 2019		
DEPT. HEAD SIGNATURE	Caroline McCarley, Mayor		
DATE SUBMITTED			
ATTACHMENTS	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	* IF YES, ENTER THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES ATTACHED	1

**COMMITTEE SIGN-OFF**

COMMITTEE	
CHAIR PERSON	

**DEPARTMENT APPROVALS**

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER	
CITY MANAGER	<i>Blaine M. Cox</i>

**FINANCE & BUDGET INFORMATION**

FINANCE OFFICE APPROVAL	
SOURCE OF FUNDS	
ACCOUNT NUMBER	
AMOUNT	
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

**LEGAL AUTHORITY**

RSA 675:2; RSA 675:7

**SUMMARY STATEMENT**

Recent changes to the Zoning Ordinance for the Downtown Commercial District completely eliminated first floor residential uses on certain streets. This amendment seeks to allow for first floor residential uses on those streets with strict limitations.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

First Reading and referral to August 19, 2019 Planning Board Meeting and August 20, 2019 City Council Workshop for Public Hearing

**Resolution Granting Community Revitalization Tax Relief to the Property Located at 22 South Main Street Under the Provisions of RSA 79-E in Connection with a Proposed Rehabilitation Project**

**Be it Resolved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Rochester, as follows:**

**Whereas**, in an effort to stimulate local economic development and enhance City downtowns and Town centers, the New Hampshire Legislature has enacted RSA Chapter 79-E, entitled “Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive”; and

**Whereas**, the City of Rochester adopted the provisions of such Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive Program pursuant to RSA Chapter 79-E by Resolution of the City Council on October 7, 2008; and

**Whereas**, the Norman Vetter & Staci Vetter Revocable Trust, owner of the so-called 22 South Main Street in downtown Rochester, is desirous of making use of the benefits of RSA Chapter 79-E and it has, therefore, proposed a substantial rehabilitation project with respect to the structure located upon the so-called 22 South Main Street; and

**Whereas**, RSA Chapter 79-E requires that the governing body of the City of Rochester make certain findings and determinations with regard to a proposed substantial rehabilitation project in order for the structure to qualify for the RSA Chapter 79-E Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive;

**Now, Therefore**, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Rochester, by adoption of this resolution, hereby make the following findings and determinations with respect to the proposed substantial rehabilitation proposal for the so-called 22 South Main Street property contemplated by the owner’s Community Revitalization Tax Relief Application dated June 28, 2019, to wit:

(1) Any tax relief under the provisions of RSA Chapter 79-E or this resolution that is to be accorded with respect to the so-called 22 South Main Street property project shall be accorded only after the property owner grants to the City a covenant pursuant to the provisions of RSA 79-E:8 ensuring that the structure shall be maintained and used in a manner that furthers the public benefits for which the tax relief was granted and in accordance with the requirements of RSA 79-E:8; and

(2) The Mayor and City Council find public benefits under RSA 79-E:7 in the proposed revitalization project proposed with respect to the so-called 22 South Main Street property project; and

(3) The proposed substantial rehabilitation project with respect to the aforesaid 22 South Main Street provides the following public benefits to downtown Rochester:

- I. It enhances the economic vitality of the downtown;
- II. It enhances and improves a structure that is culturally and historically important on a local level, within the context of the City's Historic District and the City center in which the building is located;
- III. It promotes development of downtown Rochester, providing for efficiency, safety, and a greater sense of community, consistent with RSA 9-B;

(4) The specific public benefit is preserved through a covenant under RSA 79-E:8 if the project is implemented consistent with (a) the aforementioned application; (b) compliance with the recommendation to the City Council approved by the Community Development Committee on July 8, 2019; (c) the terms of this resolution; and (d) any other applicable requirements of Chapter 79-E; and

(5) The Mayor and City Council find that the proposed use is consistent with the City's Master Plan and development regulations.

**Furthermore**, as a result of making such determinations and findings, and subject to the owner's compliance therewith, and with the provisions of RSA Chapter 79-E, the Mayor and City Council hereby grant the requested tax relief for a period of eleven (11) years beginning with the completion of the substantial rehabilitation of the structure upon the so-called 22 South Main Street property.



# City of Rochester, New Hampshire

Division of Community Development

31 Wakefield Street, Rochester NH 03867

(603) 335-7522 [www.thinkrochester.biz](http://www.thinkrochester.biz)

## Review Form: For RSA 79e Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive

Building Name (if any): <u>Bank and Trust</u> Building Address: <u>22 South Main Street</u> Owner Name(s): <u>Norman Vetter</u> Owner Address(es): <u>PO Box 181, Rochester, NH 03866-0181</u>	Map# <u>120</u> Lot# <u>363</u> Zoning: <u>DTC</u> Overlay District: <u>Special Downtown</u> Year Built <u>1850</u> Square Footage of Building <u>12,000 SF</u>
Contact Name: <u>Norm Vetter</u> Phone # <u>603-817-9359</u> Email address: <u>norm@normvetterfoundations.com</u>	Applicant Name(s) (if different from owner): <u>Shannon Alther, TMS Architects</u> Applicant Address: <u>1 Cate Street, Ports, NH 03801</u> Phone # <u>603-436-4274</u> Email address: <u>pod1@tms-architects.com</u>
	Application Fee Paid: <u>X</u> Yes <u>      </u> No
Existing Uses (describe number of units by type and size ) <u>6,000 sq feet each for basement, first and second floors.</u> Is there a change of use associated with this project? <u>X</u> Yes <u>      </u> No If so, please describe: <u>The building has been vacant for a number of years. Renovations will include commercial and residential units</u>	Is the building eligible or listed on the State or National Register of Historic Places or located in a Local, State, or Federal Historic District? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>      </u> Provide historic district name: <u>The Norway Plains Savings Bank</u>
Will the project include rehabilitation of residential units? <u>X</u> Yes <u>      </u> No If yes, how many: <u>6</u> If yes, please describe: <u>The second floor which was +/- 6,000 SF of office space and will become a mix of one and two bedroom units and will total about 12,000 SF of area.</u>	Will the project involve affordable residential units? <u>      </u> Yes <u>X</u> No If yes, please describe: <u>Portsmouth-Rochester, NH 60% RENT LIMIT</u> <u>EFFIC. \$925/ 1 BR \$991/ 2 BR \$1,189</u> <u>NHHFA RENTS EFFECTIVE DATE: 5/1/2014</u> <u>Rental rates are below the above maximums.</u>
<u>Other Review &amp; Comment (if necessary)</u> Historic District Review: <u>yes</u> Special Downtown Review: <u>yes</u> Minor Site Review: <u>n/a</u> Planning Board Review: <u>n/a</u> Zoning Board of Adjustment: <u>n/a</u> Tax Assessor: <u>yes Jon Rice on 7/1/19</u>	<u>Section 79:E-4</u> Application Date: <u>6/21/19</u> Complete: <u>Y</u> Staff Review: <u>6/21/19</u> Community Development Committee: <u>7/8/19</u> Finance Committee: <u>7/9/19</u> Post Public Hearing: <u>no later than 7/26/19</u> Public Hearing Date: <u>8/6/19</u> *Required within 60 days of receipt of application City Council: <u>8/20/19 (update by JM on 7/31)</u> *Required within 45 days of Public Hearing

**Does this application meet the appropriate tests?**

Is it a qualifying structure located in a designated downtown zone? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Pre-rehabilitation assessed value (from most recent City Assessment): \$ 382,700
Total estimated cost of rehabilitation (from application): \$1,404,500 _____
Percentage of rehabilitation costs to assessment valuation: _____ 366.99% _____%
Does the estimated cost of rehabilitation exceed 15% of pre-rehabilitation assessed valuation, or \$75,000, whichever is lower? YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is there public benefit?</b> Must satisfy at least 1 of the conditions below. (Section 79-E:7)  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It enhances the economic vitality of the Downtown District. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It enhances and improves a structure that is culturally or historically important on a local, regional, state, or national level, either independently or within the context of an historic district. <input type="checkbox"/> It promotes development of municipal centers, providing for efficiency, safety, and a greater sense of community. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It increases residential housing in urban or town centers. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In a Local, State, or Federal Historic District?
<b>Are other funding programs being applied to this project?</b> _____ Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Other Programs.</b> – The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to properties whose rehabilitation or construction is subsidized by state or federal grants or funds that do not need to be repaid totaling more than 50 percent of construction costs from state or federal programs.

ELIGIBILITY: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
1) Substantial Rehabilitation Tax Relief Incentive (Up to 5 Years)	5
2) Additional Tax Relief Incentive for New Residential Units (Up to 2 Years)	2
3) Additional Tax Relief Incentive for Affordable Housing (Up to 4 Years)	_____
4) Additional Tax Relief for rehabilitation of historic places* (Up to 4 Years)	4
* Rehabilitation in accordance with the in accordance with Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.	11
	(Total)

**Name & Title:** Jenn Marsh, Economic Development Specialist **Date:** 6/26/19



## City Council Review/Decision

Public Hearing Posting: July 24, 2019 Public Hearing Date: August 6, 2019

City Council Meeting Date: First Reading August 6; Second Reading August 20

Does the City Council agree with findings of at least one Public Benefit?

- ☐ Enhances economic vitality of the village \_\_\_Yes\_\_\_No
- ☐ Enhances and improves a culturally or historically important structure? \_\_\_Yes\_\_\_No
- ☐ Promotes development of the downtown, providing for efficiency, safety, and greater sense of community? \_\_\_Yes\_\_\_No
- ☐ Increases residential housing units in downtown? \_\_\_Yes\_\_\_No

The Application was:	( ) GRANTED ( ) DENIED
Substantial Rehabilitation Tax Relief Incentive granted for (up to 5 years beginning with completion of rehab)	Years
Tax Relief Incentive for New Residential Units granted for (up to an additional 2 years, 4 years if affordable housing)	Years
Tax Relief Incentive for Rehabilitation of Historic Places in accordance with the U.S. Secretary of Interiors Standards for Rehabilitation for (up to additional 4 years)	Years
<b>Total</b>	Years

### IF DENIED, REASON(S) FOR DENIAL

Number of Yea: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Nay: \_\_\_\_\_

Follow Up Letters Sent to:

- ☐ Applicant/Owner
- ☐ Assessing Department
- ☐ Economic Development
- ☐ Planning Department
- ☐ City Manager's Office
- ☐ Finance Department

### COVENANTS

Completed By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Filed at Strafford County: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Copies to:

- ☐ Assessing Dept
- ☐ Finance Dept
- ☐ In File

**The Standards (Department of the Interior regulations 36 CFR 67) pertain to all historic properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.**

- 1) A property shall be used for its intended historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.
- 2) The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.
- 3) Each property shall be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or architectural elements from other buildings, shall not be undertaken.
- 4) Most properties change over time; those changes that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.
- 5) Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a historic property shall be preserved.
- 6) Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical, or pictorial evidence.
- 7) Chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, that cause damage to historic materials shall not be used. The surface cleaning of structures, if appropriate, shall be undertaken using the gentlest means possible.
- 8) Significant archeological resources affected by a project, shall be protected and preserved. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures shall be undertaken. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.
- 10) New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

**Comments from Historic District Commission:**

**Name & Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TITLE V  
TAXATION  
CHAPTER 79-E  
COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION TAX RELIEF INCENTIVE  
Section 79-E:1**

**79-E:1 Declaration of Public Benefit. –**

I. It is declared to be a public benefit to enhance downtowns and town centers with respect to economic activity, cultural and historic character, sense of community, and in-town residential uses that contribute to economic and social vitality.

II. It is further declared to be a public benefit to encourage the rehabilitation of the many underutilized structures in urban and town centers as a means of encouraging growth of economic, residential, and municipal uses in a more compact pattern, in accordance with RSA 9-B.

II-a. In instances where a qualifying structure is determined to possess no significant historical, cultural, or architectural value and for which the governing body makes a specific finding that rehabilitation would not achieve one or more of the public benefits established in RSA 79-E:7 to the same degree as the replacement of the underutilized structure with a new structure, the tax relief incentives provided under this chapter may be extended to the replacement of an underutilized structure in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

II-b. It is further declared to be a public benefit to encourage the rehabilitation of historic structures in a municipality by increasing energy efficiency in the preservation and reuse of existing building stock.

III. Short-term property assessment tax relief and a related covenant to protect public benefit as provided under this chapter are considered to provide a demonstrated public benefit if they encourage substantial rehabilitation and use of qualifying structures, or in certain cases, the replacement of a qualifying structure, as defined in this chapter.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1. 2009, 200:3, 4, eff. July 15, 2009. 2013, 78:1, eff. April 1, 2013.

Section 79-E:2

**79-E:2 Definitions. –** In this chapter:

I. "Historic structure" means a building that is listed on or determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or the state register of historic places.

II. "Qualifying structure" means a building located in a district officially designated in a municipality's master plan, or by zoning ordinance, as a downtown, town center, central business district, or village center, or, where no such designation has been made, in a geographic area which, as a result of its compact development patterns and uses, is identified by the governing body as the downtown, town center, or village center for purposes of this chapter. Qualifying structure shall also mean historic structures in a municipality whose preservation and reuse would conserve the embodied energy in existing building stock. Cities or towns may further limit "qualifying structure" according to the procedure in RSA 79-E:3 as meaning only a structure located within such districts that meet certain age, occupancy, condition, size, or other similar criteria consistent with local economic conditions, community character, and local planning and development goals. Cities or towns may further modify "qualifying structure" to include buildings that have been destroyed by fire or act of nature, including where such destruction occurred within 15 years prior to the adoption of the provisions of this chapter by the city or town.

III. "Replacement" means the demolition or removal of a qualifying structure and the construction of a new structure on the same lot.

IV. "Substantial rehabilitation" means rehabilitation of a qualifying structure which costs at least 15 percent of the pre-rehabilitation assessed valuation or at least \$75,000, whichever is less. In addition, in the case of historic structures, substantial rehabilitation means devoting a portion of the total cost, in the amount of at least 10 percent of the pre-rehabilitation assessed valuation or at least \$5,000, whichever is less, to energy efficiency in accordance with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Cities or towns may further limit "substantial rehabilitation" according to the procedure in RSA 79-E:3 as meaning rehabilitation which costs a percentage greater than 15 percent of pre-rehabilitation assessed valuation or an amount greater than \$75,000 based on local economic conditions, community character, and local planning and development goals.

V. "Tax increment finance district" means any district established in accordance with the provisions of RSA 162-K.

VI. "Tax relief" means:

(a) For a qualifying structure, that for a period of time determined by a local governing body in accordance with this chapter, the property tax on a qualifying structure shall not increase as a result of the substantial rehabilitation thereof.

(b) For the replacement of a qualifying structure, that for a period of time determined by a local governing body in accordance with this chapter, the property tax on a replacement structure shall not exceed the property tax on the replaced qualifying structure as a result of the replacement thereof.

(c) For a qualifying structure which is a building destroyed by fire or act of nature, that for a period of time determined by a local governing body in accordance with this chapter, the property tax on such qualifying structure shall not exceed the tax on the assessed value of the structure that would have existed had the structure not been destroyed.

VII. "Tax relief period" means the finite period of time during which the tax relief will be effective, as determined by a local governing body pursuant to RSA 79-E:5.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1. 2009, 200:5-7. 2010, 329:1, 2. 2011, 237:1, 2, eff. July 5, 2011. 2013, 78:2, eff. April 1, 2013.

#### Section 79-E:3

##### **79-E:3 Adoption of Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive Program –**

I. Any city or town may adopt or modify the provisions of this chapter by voting whether to accept for consideration or modify requirements for requests for community revitalization tax relief incentives. Any city or town may do so by following the procedures in this section.

II. In a town, other than a town that has adopted a charter pursuant to RSA 49-D, the question shall be placed on the warrant of a special or annual town meeting, by the governing body or by petition under RSA 39:3.

III. In a city or town that has adopted a charter under RSA 49-C or RSA 49-D, the legislative body may consider and act upon the question in accordance with its normal procedures for passage of resolutions, ordinances, and other legislation. In the alternative, the legislative body of such municipality may vote to place the question on the official ballot for any regular municipal election.

IV. If a majority of those voting on the question vote "yes," applications for community revitalization tax relief incentives may be accepted and considered by the local governing body at any time thereafter, subject to the provisions of paragraph VI of this section.

V. If the question is not approved, the question may later be voted on according to the provisions of paragraph II or III of this section, whichever applies.

VI. The local governing body of any town or city that has adopted this program may consider rescinding its action in the manner described in paragraph II or III of this section, whichever applies. A vote terminating the acceptance and consideration of such applications shall have no effect on incentives previously granted by the city or town, nor shall it terminate consideration of applications submitted prior to the date of such vote.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1. 2010, 329:3, eff. July 20, 2010.

#### Section 79-E:4

##### **79-E:4 Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive. –**

I. An owner of a qualifying structure who intends to substantially rehabilitate or replace such structure may apply to the governing body of the municipality in which the property is located for tax relief. The applicant shall include the address of the property, a description of the intended rehabilitation or replacement, any changes in use of the property resulting from the rehabilitation or replacement, and an application fee.

I-a. In order to assist the governing body with the review and evaluation of an application for replacement of a qualifying structure, an owner shall submit to the governing body as part of the application, a New Hampshire division of historical resources individual resource inventory form, prepared by a qualified architectural historian and a letter issued by the local heritage commission and if the qualifying structure is located within a designated historic district established in accordance with RSA 674:46, a letter from the historic district commission or, if such local commissions are not established, a letter issued by the New Hampshire division of historical resources that identifies any and all historical, cultural, and architectural value of the structure or structures that are proposed to be replaced and the property on which those structures are located. The application for tax relief shall not be deemed to be complete and the governing body shall not schedule the public hearing on the application for replacement of a qualifying structure as required under RSA 79-E:4, II until the inventory form and the letter, as well as all other required information, have been submitted.

II. Upon receipt of an application, the governing body shall hold a duly noticed public hearing to take place no later than 60 days from receipt of the application, to determine whether the structure at issue is a qualifying structure; whether any proposed rehabilitation qualifies as substantial rehabilitation; and whether there is a public benefit to granting the requested tax relief and, if so, for what duration.

III. No later than 45 days after the public hearing, the governing body shall render a decision granting or denying the requested tax relief and, if so granting, establishing the tax relief period.

IV. (a) The governing body may grant the tax relief, provided:

- (1) The governing body finds a public benefit under RSA 79-E:7; and
- (2) The specific public benefit is preserved through a covenant under RSA 79-E:8; and
- (3) The governing body finds that the proposed use is consistent with the municipality's master plan or development regulations; and
- (4) In the case of a replacement, the governing body specifically finds that the local heritage commission or historic district commission or, if such local commissions are not established, the New Hampshire division of historical resources has determined that the replaced qualifying structure does not possess significant historical, cultural, or architectural value, the replacement of the qualifying structure will achieve one or more of the public benefits identified in RSA 79-E:7 to a greater degree than the renovation of the underutilized structure, and the historical, cultural, or architectural resources in the community will not be adversely affected by the replacement. In connection with these findings, the governing body may request that the division of historical resources conduct a technical evaluation in order

to satisfy the governing body that historical resources will not be adversely affected.

(b) If the governing body grants the tax relief, the governing body shall identify the specific public benefit achieved under RSA 79-E:7, and shall determine the precise terms and duration of the covenant to preserve the public benefit under RSA 79-E:8.

V. If the governing body, in its discretion, denies the application for tax relief, such denial shall be accompanied by a written explanation. The governing body's decision may be appealed either to the board of tax and land appeals or the superior court in the same manner as provided for appeals of current use classification pursuant to RSA 79-A:9 or 79-A:11 provided, however, that such denial shall be deemed discretionary and shall not be set aside by the board of tax and land appeals or the superior court except for bad faith or discrimination.

VI. Municipalities shall have no obligation to grant an application for tax relief for properties located within tax increment finance districts when the governing body determines, in its sole discretion, that the granting of tax relief will impede, reduce, or negatively affect:

- (a) The development program or financing plans for such tax increment finance districts; or
- (b) The ability to satisfy or expedite repayment of debt service obligations incurred for a tax increment financing district; or
- (c) The ability to satisfy program administration, operating, or maintenance expenses within a tax increment financing district.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1. 2009, 200:8-11, eff. July 15, 2009.

#### Section 79-E:5

##### **79-E:5 Duration of Tax Relief Period. –**

I. The governing body may grant such tax assessment relief for a period of up to 5 years, beginning with the completion of the substantial rehabilitation.

I-a. For the approval of a replacement of a qualifying structure, the governing body may grant such tax assessment relief for a period of up to 5 years, beginning only upon the completion of construction of the replacement structure. The governing body may, in its discretion, extend such additional years of tax relief as provided for under this section, provided that no such additional years of tax relief may be provided prior to the completion of construction of the replacement structure. The municipal tax assessment of the replacement structure and the property on which it is located shall not increase or decrease in the period between the approval by the governing body of tax relief for the replacement structure and the time the owner completes construction of the replacement structure and grants to the municipality the covenant to protect the public benefit as required by this chapter. The governing body may not grant any tax assessment relief under this chapter with respect to property and structures for which an election has been made for property appraisal under RSA 75:1-a.

II. The governing body may, in its discretion, add up to an additional 2 years of tax relief for a project that results in new residential units and up to 4 years for a project that includes affordable housing.

III. The governing body may, in its discretion, add up to an additional 4 years of tax relief for the substantial rehabilitation of a qualifying structure that is listed on or determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, state register of historic places, or is located within and important to a locally designated historic district, provided that the substantial rehabilitation is conducted in accordance with the U.S. Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

IV. The governing body may adopt local guidelines to assist it in determining the appropriate duration of the tax assessment relief period.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1. 2009, 200:12. 2010, 329:4, eff. July 20, 2010.

#### Section 79-E:6

**79-E:6 Resumption of Full Tax Liability. –** Upon expiration of the tax relief period, the property shall be taxed at its market value in accordance with RSA 75:1.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1, eff. April 1, 2006.

#### Section 79-E:7

**79-E:7 Public Benefit. –** In order to qualify for tax relief under this chapter, the proposed substantial rehabilitation must provide at least one of the public benefits, and the proposed replacement must provide one or more of the public benefits to a greater degree than would a substantial rehabilitation of the same qualifying structure, as follows:

- I. It enhances the economic vitality of the downtown;
- II. It enhances and improves a structure that is culturally or historically important on a local, regional, state, or national level, either independently or within the context of an historic district, town center, or village center in which the building is located;
  - II-a. It promotes the preservation and reuse of existing building stock throughout a municipality by the rehabilitation of historic structures, thereby conserving the embodied energy in accordance with energy efficiency guidelines established by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.
- III. It promotes development of municipal centers, providing for efficiency, safety, and a greater sense of community,

consistent with RSA 9-B; or

IV. It increases residential housing in urban or town centers.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1. 2009, 200:13, eff. July 15, 2009. 2013, 78:3, eff. April 1, 2013.

#### Section 79-E:7-a

**79-E:7-a Public Benefit Determinations.** – Cities or towns may adopt according to the procedure in RSA 79-E:3 provisions that further define the public benefits enumerated in RSA 79-E:7 to assist the governing body in evaluating applications made under this chapter based on local economic conditions, community character, and local planning and development goals.

**Source.** 2010, 329:5, eff. July 20, 2010.

#### Section 79-E:8

##### **79-E:8 Covenant to Protect Public Benefit. –**

I. Tax relief for the substantial rehabilitation or replacement of a qualifying structure shall be effective only after a property owner grants to the municipality a covenant ensuring that the structure shall be maintained and used in a manner that furthers the public benefits for which the tax relief was granted and as otherwise provided in this chapter.

II. The covenant shall be coextensive with the tax relief period. The covenant may, if required by the governing body, be effective for a period of time up to twice the duration of the tax relief period.

III. The covenant shall include provisions requiring the property owner to obtain casualty insurance, and flood insurance if appropriate. The covenant may include, at the governing body's sole discretion, a lien against proceeds from casualty and flood insurance claims for the purpose of ensuring proper restoration or demolition of damaged structures and property. If the property owner has not begun the process of restoration, rebuilding, or demolition of such structure within one year following damage or destruction, the property owner shall be subject to the termination of provisions set forth in RSA 79-E:9, I.

IV. The local governing body shall provide for the recording of the covenant to protect public benefit with the registry of deeds. It shall be a burden upon the property and shall bind all transferees and assignees of such property.

V. The applicant shall pay any reasonable expenses incurred by the municipality in the drafting, review, and/or execution of the covenant. The applicant also shall be responsible for the cost of recording the covenant.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1. 2009, 200:14, eff. July 15, 2009.

#### Section 79-E:9

##### **79-E:9 Termination of Covenant; Reduction of Tax Relief; Penalty. –**

I. If the owner fails to maintain or utilize the building according to the terms of the covenant, or fails to restore, rebuild, or demolish the structure following damage or destruction as provided in RSA 79-E:8, III, the governing body shall, after a duly noticed public hearing, determine whether and to what extent the public benefit of the rehabilitation or replacement has been diminished and shall determine whether to terminate or reduce the tax relief period in accordance with such determination. If the covenant is terminated, the governing body shall assess all taxes to the owner as though no tax relief was granted, with interest in accordance with paragraph II.

II. Any tax payment required under paragraph I shall be payable according to the following procedure:

(a) The commissioner of the department of revenue administration shall prescribe and issue forms to the local assessing officials for the payment due, which shall provide a description of the property, the market value assessment according to RSA 75:1, and the amount payable.

(b) The prescribed form shall be prepared in quadruplicate. The original, duplicate, and triplicate copy of the form shall be given to the collector of taxes for collection of the payment along with a special tax warrant authorizing the collector to collect the payment under the warrant. The quadruplicate copy of the form shall be retained by the local assessing officials for their records.

(c) Upon receipt of the special tax warrant and prescribed forms, the tax collector shall mail the duplicate copy of the tax bill to the owner responsible for the tax as the notice of payment.

(d) Payment shall be due not later than 30 days after the mailing of the bill. Interest at the rate of 18 percent per annum shall be due thereafter on any amount not paid within the 30-day period. Interest at 12 percent per annum shall be charged upon all taxes that would have been due and payable on or before December 1 of each tax year as if no tax relief had been granted.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1. 2009, 200:15, eff. July 15, 2009.

#### Section 79-E:10

**79-E:10 Lien for Unpaid Taxes.** – The real estate of every person shall be held for the taxes levied pursuant to RSA 79-E:9.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1, eff. April 1, 2006.

#### Section 79-E:11

**79-E:11 Enforcement.** – All taxes levied pursuant to RSA 79-E:9 which are not paid when due shall be collected in the same manner as provided in RSA 80.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1. 2007, 42:3, eff. July 20, 2007.

Section 79-E:12

**79-E:12 Rulemaking.** – The commissioner of the department of revenue administration shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, relative to the payment and collection procedures under RSA 79-E:9.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1, eff. April 1, 2006.

Section 79-E:13

**79-E:13 Extent of Tax Relief.** –

I. (a) Tax relief granted under this chapter shall pertain only to assessment increases attributable to the substantial rehabilitation performed under the conditions approved by the governing body and not to those increases attributable to other factors including but not limited to market forces; or

(b) Tax relief granted under this chapter shall be calculated on the value in excess of the original assessed value. Original assessed value shall mean the value of the qualifying structure assessed at the time the governing body approves the application for tax relief and the owner grants to the municipality the covenant to protect public benefit as required in this chapter, provided that for a qualifying structure which is a building destroyed by fire or act of nature, original assessed value shall mean the value as of the date of approval of the application for tax relief of the qualifying structure that would have existed had the structure not been destroyed.

II. The tax relief granted under this chapter shall only apply to substantial rehabilitation or replacement that commences after the governing body approves the application for tax relief and the owner grants to the municipality the covenant to protect the public benefit as required in this chapter, provided that in the case of a qualifying structure which is a building destroyed by fire or act of nature, and which occurred within 15 years prior to the adoption of the provisions of this chapter by the city or town, the tax relief may apply to such qualifying structure for which replacement has begun, but which has not been completed, on the date the application for relief under this chapter is approved.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1. 2010, 329:6. 2011, 237:3, eff. July 5, 2011.

Section 79-E:14

**79-E:14 Other Programs.** – The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to properties whose rehabilitation or construction is subsidized by state or federal grants or funds that do not need to be repaid totaling more than 50 percent of construction costs from state or federal programs.

**Source.** 2006, 167:1, eff. April 1, 2006.

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City Clerk's Office

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**Resolution Authorizing Supplemental Appropriation to the FY 2020 Sewer Fund Capital Improvement Plan Project Fund in Connection with Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Biosolids and Carbon System Storage Facilities Project in the Amount of \$8,750,000.00 and Borrowing Authority pursuant to RSA 33:9 and Authorizing the Application for a State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER, AS FOLLOWS:**

That the amount of Eight Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$8,750,000.00) is hereby appropriated as a supplemental appropriation to the Department of Public Works FY2020 Sewer CIP fund for the purpose of paying costs associated with the WWTP Biosolids and Carbon System Storage Facilities Project.

In accordance with the provisions of RSA 33:9 and in conjunction with this supplemental appropriation, the City Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, be, and hereby are authorized to borrow the sum of Eight Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$8,750,000.00) through the issuance of bonds and/or notes, and/or through other legal form(s), such borrowing to be on such terms and conditions as the said Treasurer and City Manager may deem to be in the best interest of the City of Rochester. Such borrowing is authorized subject to compliance with the provisions of RSA 33:9 and Section 45 of the Rochester City Charter to the extent required, necessary and/or appropriate.

Further, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Rochester, by adoption of this Resolution, authorize the Department of Public Works to submit a loan application in the amount of Fifteen Million Nine Hundred Fifty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Three and 50/100 Dollars (\$15,952,773.50) to the NHDES CWSRF Loan program in order to finance the completion of the WWTP Biosolids and Carbon System Storage Facilities Project.

It is also further resolved that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Rochester, by adoption of this Resolution, accept the loan amount of Fifteen Million Nine Hundred Fifty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Three and 50/100 Dollars (\$15,952,773.50) from the NHDES CWSRF Loan program.

Finally, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Rochester, by adoption of this Resolution authorize the City Manager and/or the Finance Director to act as the City's representative(s) and designated authority(ies) for the execution of all documents necessary to complete the application to the CWSRF.

To the extent not otherwise provided for in this Resolution, the Finance Director is hereby authorized to designate and/or establish such accounts and/or account numbers as necessary to implement the transactions contemplated by this Resolution and to establish special revenue, non-lapsing, multi-year fund account(s) as necessary to which said sums shall be recorded.

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City Clerk's Office

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**City of Rochester Formal Council Meeting****AGENDA BILL****NOTE: Agenda Bills are due by 10 AM on the Monday the week before the City Council Meeting.**

AGENDA SUBJECT

COUNCIL ACTION ITEM ☐  
INFORMATION ONLY ☐FUNDING REQUIRED? YES ☐ NO ☐  
\* IF YES ATTACH A FUNDING RESOLUTION FORMRESOLUTION REQUIRED? YES ☐ NO ☐FUNDING RESOLUTION FORM? YES ☐ NO ☐

AGENDA DATE		
DEPT. HEAD SIGNATURE		
DATE SUBMITTED		
ATTACHMENTS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	* IF YES, ENTER THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES ATTACHED	

**COMMITTEE SIGN-OFF**

COMMITTEE	
CHAIR PERSON	

**DEPARTMENT APPROVALS**

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER	
CITY MANAGER	

**FINANCE & BUDGET INFORMATION**

FINANCE OFFICE APPROVAL	
SOURCE OF FUNDS	
ACCOUNT NUMBER	
AMOUNT	
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	

**LEGAL AUTHORITY**

**SUMMARY STATEMENT**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

**Supplemental Appropriation to the Department of Public Works CIP in an amount of  
\$1,000,000.00 for the Colonial Pines Subdivision Drainage Project**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
ROCHESTER:**

That the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated as a supplemental appropriation to the Department of Public Works CIP fund for the purpose of paying costs associated with the Colonial Pines Subdivision Project. The funding for this supplemental appropriation shall be derived in its entirety from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance.

To the extent not otherwise provided for in this Resolution, the Finance Director is hereby authorized to establish and/or designate such multi-year, non-lapsing accounts and or account numbers as are necessary to implement the transactions contemplated in this Resolution.

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City Clerk's Office

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**City of Rochester Formal Council Meeting****AGENDA BILL****NOTE: Agenda Bills are due by 10 AM on the Monday the week before the City Council Meeting.**

AGENDA SUBJECT
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COUNCIL ACTION ITEM <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY <input type="checkbox"/>	FUNDING REQUIRED? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> * IF YES ATTACH A FUNDING RESOLUTION FORM
RESOLUTION REQUIRED? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	FUNDING RESOLUTION FORM? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

AGENDA DATE		
DEPT. HEAD SIGNATURE		
DATE SUBMITTED		
ATTACHMENTS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	* IF YES, ENTER THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES ATTACHED	

**COMMITTEE SIGN-OFF**

COMMITTEE	
CHAIR PERSON	

**DEPARTMENT APPROVALS**

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER	
CITY MANAGER	

**FINANCE & BUDGET INFORMATION**

FINANCE OFFICE APPROVAL	
SOURCE OF FUNDS	
ACCOUNT NUMBER	
AMOUNT	
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	

**LEGAL AUTHORITY**

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**SUMMARY STATEMENT**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**



**AGENDA BILL - FUNDING RESOLUTION****EXHIBIT**Project Name: Date: Fiscal Year: 

Fund (select):

GF Water Sewer Arena CIP Water CIP Sewer CIP Arena CIP Special Revenue Fund Type: Lapsing Non-Lapsing **Deauthorization**

	Org #	Object #	Project #	Fed Amount \$	State Amount \$	Local Amount \$
1				-	-	-
2				-	-	-
3				-	-	-
4				-	-	-

**Appropriation**

	Org #	Object #	Project #	Fed Amount \$	State Amount \$	Local Amount \$
1				-	-	-
2				-	-	-
3				-	-	-
4				-	-	-

**Revenue**

	Org #	Object #	Project #	Fed Amount \$	State Amount \$	Local Amount \$
1				-	-	-
2				-	-	-
3				-	-	-
4				-	-	-

DUNS # CFDA # Grant # Grant Period: From   
To 

If de-authorizing Grant Funding appropriations: (select one)

Reimbursement Request will be reduced Funds will be returned

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City Clerk's Office

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8/15/19



Over \$2 Billion and Counting for our Schools

July 31, 2019

City Manager Blaine Cox  
City of Rochester  
31 Wakefield Street  
Rochester, NH 03867

GOVERNOR Christopher T. Sununu  
CHAIRMAN Debra M. Douglas  
COMMISSIONER Paul J. Holloway  
COMMISSIONER J. Christopher Williams  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Charles R. McIntyre

City of Rochester  
City Manager  
Received  
AUG 5 2019

Dear City Manager Cox,

As you may be aware, House Bill 480 was recently signed into law legalizing sports betting in New Hampshire. The Lottery Commission's division of sports wagering will conduct and regulate sports betting in the state, which is allowed through various channels, including at up to ten sports book retail locations.

We anticipate launching sports betting platforms in early 2020 following the selection process for online vendors and retailers. While we cannot predict if the physical sports books will be stand-alone or co-located within other commercial businesses, we do expect retailers to apply in metropolitan areas – and they can only conduct sports book operations in municipalities that have voted to allow it.

In a process identical to that allowing Keno, cities have the option to put the question to voters whether to permit the operation of sports book retail locations within the municipality. Given the launch schedule and the anticipated demand by players, I respectfully recommend the City Council place HB 480 on the ballot for voters to decide this fall. This does not mean that a business will apply within your city for one of the ten available sports book locations, but this suggestion is being made so that if a retailer does wish to apply, they would not have to wait two years until the election of 2021 before they could engage in the activity.

Be assured that if the City votes to allow the operation of sport books and an establishment is selected by the Lottery Commission, the City must grant that establishment approval before the Lottery will permit that location to begin operations.

The local option section of House Bill 480 is enclosed for your reference. My staff is standing by to answer any questions you may have, and will do our best to attend an upcoming City Council meeting at your request.

Respectfully,

Charlie McIntyre  
Executive Director

Enclosure



Live Free or Die

New Hampshire Lottery Commission 14 Integra Drive Concord, New Hampshire 03301  
TEL 603.271.3391 FAX 603.271.1160 TDD 1.800.735.2934 of 212.nhlottery.com

**CHAPTER 215**  
**HB 480-FN - FINAL VERSION EXCERPT**

8/15/19

For the full text of HB 480: [www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill\\_status/billText.aspx?sy=2019&id=217&txtFormat=html](http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/billText.aspx?sy=2019&id=217&txtFormat=html)

**HOUSE BILL 480-FN**

AN ACT relative to sports betting.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

215:1 New Chapter; Sports Betting. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 287-H the following new chapter:

**CHAPTER 287-I SPORTS BETTING**

287-I:5 Sports Book Retail Operations. The commission and its agents are further authorized to operate physical sports book retail locations within the state for the purposes of accepting tier I and tier III sports wagers from authorized bettors and paying prizes relating to those wagers. The sports book retail locations may be co-located with other commercial businesses or general commercial retail locations. No more than 10 sports book retail locations may be in operation at any given time.

**287-I:6 Local Option for Operation of Sports Book Retail Locations.**

I. Any town or city may allow the operation of a sports book retail location according to the provisions of this subdivision, in the following manner, excepting that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit Internet or mobile wagering or lottery games involving tier III sports wagers in the jurisdiction, if so authorized by the passage of this statute.

(a) In a town, the question shall be placed on the warrant of an annual town meeting under the procedures set out in RSA 39:3, and shall be voted on a ballot. In a city, the legislative body may vote to place the question on the official ballot for any regular municipal election, or, in the alternative, shall place the question on the official ballot for any regular municipal election upon submission to the legislative body of a petition signed by 25 of the registered voters.

(b) The selectmen, aldermen, or city council shall hold a public hearing on the question at least 15 days but not more than 30 days before the question is to be voted on. Notice of the hearing shall be posted in at least 2 public places in the municipality and published in a newspaper of general circulation at least 7 days before the hearing.

(c) The wording of the question shall be substantially as follows: "Shall we allow the operation of sports book retail locations within the town or city?"

II. If a majority of those voting on the question vote "Yes", sports book retail locations may be operated within the town or city.

III. If the question is not approved, the question may later be voted upon according to the provisions of paragraph I at the next annual town meeting or regular municipal election.

IV. A municipality that has voted to allow the operation of sports book retail locations may consider rescinding its action in the manner described in paragraph I of this section.

V. An unincorporated place may allow the operation of a physical sports book retail location by majority vote of the county delegation, after a public hearing is held.

VI. The commission shall maintain a list of municipalities where sports book retail locations may be placed into operation.



# FAQs for Retailers

## How much will I make by selling KENO 603?

You'll earn 8% commission (**highest commission rate in US for Keno**) on every dollar sold for the KENO 603 game. You'll get a bonus for selling a KENO 603 prize of \$10,000 and greater equal to 1% of the prize capped at \$75,000. For the other lottery products, you'll receive 5% commission on every dollar sold, along with a 1% cashing bonus on scratch tickets along with the games of Fast Play, Pick 3 and Pick 4 as well as a bonus of 1% on selling prizes of \$10,000 and greater (capped at \$75,000, not applicable for scratch tickets). Establishments that sell Keno in other states report an increase in food and beverage sales from customers staying longer to play Keno.

## How do I know if I'm eligible to become a KENO 603 retailer?

In order to be eligible, you must have be holding a valid liquor license under RSA 178:20, II, RSA 178:21, II(a) or (b), or RSA 178:22. Final approval to sell KENO is subject to New Hampshire laws and New Hampshire Lottery Commission rules and regulations. Additionally, each city and town must pass KENO locally in order for establishments to sell.

## What do I do to apply to become a KENO 603 retailer?

Complete an application form. That form is found online ([www.nhlottery.com/keno](http://www.nhlottery.com/keno)) or call the New Hampshire Lottery at (603) 271-3391 for more information. Along with your completed application, please include payment of the \$500 annual licensing fee.

## Why do I need a background check?

Each principal owner is required to have a criminal background check performed as part of the process of becoming a Lottery Retailer. The criminal background check is performed free of charge.

## How much does it cost to become a KENO 603 Retailer: Is there a licensing fee? Is this a one-time fee or annual fee?

There is an annual \$500 licensing fee to become a Keno Retailer.

## Do I need to be bonded and is there a minimum bond required?

No, we are not requiring KENO 603 Retailers to be bonded at this time.

## What do I need to do after I am approved to become a KENO 603 retailer?

The Lottery will work with you on an easy step-by-step process.

## What are the hours that KENO 603 will be on sale?

KENO 603 will be sold from 11 AM to 11 PM daily year around.

## How much time will KENO 603 take away from my wait staff?

Less than you might think. In fact, some of the lottery equipment you may receive is designed to assist your wait staff. For instance, you will receive a multi-purpose (MP) self-service lottery terminal, which allows your customer to place their own Keno bets, allows them to scan their ticket to determine if it is

a winner and allows a winner to use winnings as credit to purchase additional tickets. You'll also receive a ticket checker, which allows a player to scan their own ticket to see if it is a winner.

#### **Will you help me train my wait staff?**

Staff training will be conducted and we will also provide you with easy-to-understand training materials to make learning and teaching KENO 603 fun and simple.

#### **Will the price of Keno take away from my wait staff tips?**

You can expect the opposite, actually. Many Keno winners share their winnings with their wait staff.

#### **Will you help me teach customers how to play?**

The Lottery will help you with selling and teaching customers how to play KENO 603. We'll also provide point-of-sale materials with new and exciting pieces that also help teach each customer how to play.

#### **How much does consumer point-of-sale materials cost?**

The Lottery will provide all point-of-sale materials at no cost to you. This includes (but may not be limited to) signage, animated KENO 603 draw shows and other point-of-sale materials that can be used at certain times of the year for Keno parties and promotions. This is part of our commitment to helping KENO 603 succeed in your establishment.

#### **What equipment will I receive once I become a KENO 603 retailer?**

All retailers will receive standard lottery equipment, which includes a lottery terminal, printer, customer display unit, and ticket checker. In addition, you receive a large flat screen monitor to display the game. You'll also receive an MP self-service lottery terminal. You may elect to have a lottery vending machine installed that sells all of our products. Additional items beyond the equipment will be KENO 603 caddies stocked with play slips, pencils and "how to" cards.

#### **Who pays for the KENO 603 equipment?**

The Lottery will pay for all equipment and for the installation. However, if equipment is broken, the establishment is responsible for the cost of the replacement.

#### **How do the KENO 603 drawings show up on the monitor?**

The Lottery will install a communication device (either DSL3G/internet or VSAT/satellite) at your establishment. The communication device sends and receives bet transactions along with the KENO 603 winning number show, which will occur every 5 minutes from 11 AM to 11 PM.

#### **My business already has a satellite dish; can we use it instead of installing another dish?**

No. VSAT communication is on a private network dedicated for use by the Lottery. The network is engineered to use specific satellites to transport gaming traffic to and from the New Hampshire Lottery data center and your Lottery terminals.

#### **Is there any chance of damage to my building and who will be responsible for repairing any damage if it occurs?**

There is always a slight chance of damage in any maintenance activity; however, the installers utilized for your installation are experienced and trained professionals who will minimize any chance of damage. The installers are bonded and insured, and will be fully responsible for the repair of any damage attributed to the installation of communications and/or lottery equipment.

**City of Rochester Formal Council Meeting****AGENDA BILL****NOTE: Agenda Bills are due by 10 AM on the Monday the week before the City Council Meeting.**

AGENDA SUBJECT
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COUNCIL ACTION ITEM <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY <input type="checkbox"/>	FUNDING REQUIRED? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> * IF YES ATTACH A FUNDING RESOLUTION FORM
RESOLUTION REQUIRED? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	FUNDING RESOLUTION FORM? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

AGENDA DATE		
DEPT. HEAD SIGNATURE		
DATE SUBMITTED		
ATTACHMENTS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	* IF YES, ENTER THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES ATTACHED	

**COMMITTEE SIGN-OFF**

COMMITTEE	
CHAIR PERSON	

**DEPARTMENT APPROVALS**

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER	
CITY MANAGER	

**FINANCE & BUDGET INFORMATION**

FINANCE OFFICE APPROVAL	
SOURCE OF FUNDS	
ACCOUNT NUMBER	
AMOUNT	
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	

**LEGAL AUTHORITY**

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**SUMMARY STATEMENT**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**





*City of Rochester, New Hampshire*  
 Office of Economic & Community Development  
 31 Wakefield Street • Rochester, NH 03867  
 (603) 335-7522  
[www.RochesterNH.net](http://www.RochesterNH.net)



## **City of Rochester, New Hampshire Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing 2019**

### **Table of Contents**

- I. Executive Summary
- II. Community Participation Process
- III. Assessment of Past Goals and Actions
- IV. Fair Housing Analysis
  - A. Demographic Summary
  - B. General Issues
    - i. Segregation/Integration
    - ii. Racially or Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAPs)
    - iii. Disparities in Access to Opportunity
    - iv. Disproportionate Housing Needs
  - C. Disability and Access Analysis
  - D. Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Analysis
- V. Fair Housing Goals and Priorities

## I. Executive Summary

*Summarize the fair housing issues, significant contributing factors, and goals. Also include an overview of the process and analysis used to reach the goals.*

The City of Rochester, New Hampshire, is an urban/suburban community of approximately 30,000 residents that is located in southeastern New Hampshire. According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, the City of Rochester is 94.3% white (28,080 residents), 0.7% black (211 residents), 0.1% American Indian (41 residents), 0.7% Asian and Pacific Islander (209 residents), 2.0% Hispanic (597 residents), and 2.2% other (663 residents). The City is majority white by a large margin, with residents who are categorized as “other” and Hispanic representing the next largest racial/ethnic groups.

The City of Rochester is also significantly less wealthy than its surrounding neighbors. According to 2015 data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the median family income for the Portsmouth-Rochester Metropolitan Area was \$86,100.<sup>1</sup> In contrast, according to 2016 data from the New Hampshire Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau, the median family income for just the City of Rochester is \$58,531.<sup>2</sup> This same set of data also states that 13.5% of Rochester residents live below the poverty line.

The City of Rochester also has a relatively high percentage of residents with disabilities. According to the data compiled in the Strafford Regional Planning Commission’s 2015 master plan, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, the City of Rochester has one of the highest concentrations of individuals receiving Social Security benefits for disability for the entire Strafford County region. There are about 1,140 residents receiving these benefits (about 4% of the overall population). Rochester also has an increasingly elderly population and an increasing number of residents experiencing substance abuse addiction, especially addiction to heroin and other opiates.

### Process and Analysis Used to Identify Housing Needs and Set Goals

The City of Rochester approached the analysis of fair housing issues within the jurisdiction through a three-pronged approach: (1) gathering and analysis of federally-available formal data, primarily HUD data; (2) supplementation with state and local formal data, such as data from the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights and Strafford Regional Planning Commission; and (3) supplementation with informal data and observances from regional organizations, such as the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County and the New Hampshire Disability Rights Center. In identifying organizations to consult for the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, the City of Rochester and the Rochester Housing Authority used a combination of HUD guidance documents on the AI process and established relationships with local organizations likely to have useful knowledge on fair housing issues.

Identified housing needs include an increase in affordable housing and workforce housing, an increase in lead-based paint screening and abatement, weatherization of older housing stock, and an increase in production and availability of smaller and more accessible units (versus large,

<sup>1</sup> FY 2015 Income Limits Documentation, Portsmouth-Rochester, NH HUD Metro U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2015/2015summary.odn>.

<sup>2</sup> Rochester, NH Community Profiles, Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, New Hampshire Employment Security. <http://www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/products/cp/profiles-htm/rochester.htm>.

detached single-family homes). According to HUD-obtained data, many low to moderate income households are paying significantly over 30% of total income on housing, and the struggles for such households to obtain and keep affordable housing have been confirmed during consultations with many public service agencies who serve this demographic. In particular, the agencies serving the region's homeless populations have reported that there is significant "doubling up" of individuals and families that results in severe overcrowding and that individuals with mental health and/or substance abuse issues experience especially acute troubles in maintaining stable housing.

The data available, including both data compiled by HUD as well as locally-obtained data, suggest several potential fair housing issues and housing needs within the city. According to the *Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Fair Housing Analysis* drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. Hispanic/Latino residents also have the highest level of poverty (21%) of all races and ethnicities in the City. In addition, the City of Rochester has a relatively high percentage of residents with disabilities, especially children with disabilities. While racial and ethnic minorities do not appear to be overrepresented among the City's homeless population, based on the Annual Homeless Assessment Reports (AHAR) to Congress, people with disabilities (and especially those with mental health-related disabilities) are vastly overrepresented among those reported to be experiencing homelessness.

Anecdotal reports from several public service agencies that serve low-income residents suggest that family size has been a basis of discrimination within the City of Rochester, with larger families with children being turned away from rental housing by landlords. Data from the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project (<http://www.nhla.org/content/housing-16>), as well as the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights (<https://www.nh.gov/hrc/>), indicate that disability is by far the protected category with the most reports of discrimination. These reports do not include information on the nature of the disability, unfortunately (e.g., physical, developmental, behavioral).

In addition, the Strafford Regional Planning Commission's *Fair Housing and Equity Assessment* identified the City of Rochester's 75+ population as an "area of concern," which indicates segregation of this population. Other community needs assessments, such as the 2014 Strafford County Community Assessment published by the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County and the Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment, have indicated that the population of the City of Rochester increasingly will skew older over the next five years and beyond. This is in keeping with overall statewide trends, and the preference for New Hampshire's elderly population to "age in place."

#### Goal #1: Increase Access to Quality Affordable Housing

One of the most common housing problems, identified across multiple consultations, is the lack of adequately affordable housing. Average income has not kept pace with average rental costs; as a result, many Rochester residents spend well over 30% of their income on housing. According to calculations from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, less than 10% of the housing units in Strafford County are affordable to half of the renting households.

#### Goal #2: Increase Home Ownership Opportunities for Ethnic and Racial Minorities

According to the *Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Fair Housing Analysis* drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their

homes as compared to white residents. Hispanic/Latino residents also have the highest level of poverty (21%) of all races and ethnicities in the City. Housing cost burdens above 30% of household income are a problem for all City residents, with a City-wide percentage of 38% facing this problem. (See Table 21 below.) The percentage of white residents with a housing cost burden above 30% of the household income is only slightly above this at 38.2%. Certain racial and ethnic minorities have far greater percentages, however, primarily Asian and American Indian residents. The computed rate for Hispanic residents (17.4%) excludes a large percentage of “no/negative income” residents and seems contradicted by other reports of a high poverty rate of 21% among Hispanic residents. It seems likely that Hispanic residents, as a category, also have a disproportionately high housing cost burden.

Overall, the greater needs of specific racial or ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester seem to correlate strongly with economic/income status. Addressing the housing needs of low-income residents will address the needs of low-income racial and ethnic minorities. In addition, addressing the greater rates of poverty among specific racial and ethnic groups in the City indirectly will impact and reduce housing needs. Analysis of the potential barriers to home ownership for racial and ethnic minorities and approaches to reducing these barriers are also needed, especially as home ownership is a traditional anchor of wealth building for American families.

#### Goal #3: Reduce Housing Discrimination Against Residents with Disabilities

The City of Rochester has a relatively high percentage of residents with disabilities, especially children with disabilities. Based on federal AHAR reports, people with disabilities (and especially those with mental health-related disabilities) are vastly overrepresented among those reported to be experiencing homelessness. Data from the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project (<http://www.nhla.org/content/housing-16>), as well as the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights (<https://www.nh.gov/hrc/>), indicate that disability is by far the protected category with the most reports of discrimination. These reports do not include information on the nature of the disability, unfortunately (*e.g.*, physical, developmental, behavioral).

#### Goal #4: Landlord Education and Outreach on Fair Housing Issues and Protected Categories

According to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Fair Housing Analysis drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. These same reports also indicate that a greater percentage of renter households (48% of all renters) in the Strafford County region have a high housing cost burden (30% or more of income) than do owner households (33% of all owners). In addition, these analyses have found that senior occupancy of rental units should increase, as more elderly residents reach age 75+ and seek smaller living spaces located closer to services and amenities.

Anecdotal reports from several public service agencies that serve low-income residents suggest that family size has been a basis of discrimination within the City of Rochester, with larger families with children being turned away from rental housing by landlords. Both “familial status” and “marital status” are protected categories under New Hampshire RSA 354-A.

## II. Community Participation Process

1. *Describe outreach activities undertaken to encourage and broaden meaningful community participation in the AI process, including the types of outreach activities and dates of public hearings or meetings. Identify media outlets used and include a description of efforts made to reach the public, including those representing populations that are typically underrepresented in the planning process such as persons who reside in areas identified as R/ECAPs, persons who are limited English proficient (LEP), and persons with disabilities. Briefly explain how these communications were designed to reach the broadest audience possible. For PHAs, identify your meetings with the Resident Advisory Board.*

The City of Rochester has developed a Citizen Participation Plan (included below) to guide the community participation process. This process has involved extensive outreach, including both formal outreach methods (such as public hearings and public comments notices) and informal outreach methods (such as neighborhood meetings and online surveys).

### Online Community Development and Fair Housing Surveys

An online survey requesting public feedback on fair housing issues was made available on September 5, 2017.<sup>3</sup> Annual online surveys requesting public feedback on a range of community development topics, including housing affordability and neighborhood accessibility issues, were made available on October 19, 2015; September 26, 2016; and September 5, 2017.<sup>4</sup> News releases about the surveys were sent to local news media at the time the surveys were made open, and hyperlinks to the surveys were posted to City-owned social media pages as well as the Facebook pages for several neighborhood ward groups.

Comments received in response to the surveys included support for the regional homeless shelters, more affordable housing, substance use disorder recovery services, food pantries, youth activities, bicycle paths, code enforcement, reduction in social services, mental health access, substance abuse treatment, downtown improvements, bus service expansion, the development of private business versus "handouts," and to decline CDBG grant funds. The comment suggesting that the City of Rochester decline receipt CDBG funds was not accepted. This comment was not accepted because it was decided that it is in the City of Rochester's best interest to continue to receive CDBG funding. All other comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as appropriate.

### Neighborhood Ward Meetings and Rochester Housing Authority Residents Meeting

The City of Rochester's Community Development Coordinator also met with each of the City's six neighborhood ward groups in person to discuss community development and fair housing issues. The Community Development Coordinator met with Ward 6 residents on October 28, 2015. Residents discussed the ongoing opioid crisis and the presence of unsheltered homeless residents in the neighborhood. The Community Development Coordinator met with Ward 5 residents on November 11, 2015. Residents discussed their seclusion from the downtown and a desire for an in-city homeless shelter serving male residents. The Community Development Coordinator met with Ward 2 residents on November 16, 2015. Residents discussed the need for more services for

<sup>3</sup> The online survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DTRC5V9>.

<sup>4</sup> The 2015 survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WCMGJTN>. The 2016 survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N79863W>. The 2017 survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/K6QYH9Q>.

substance use disorder treatment and recovery, the need for more curb cuts in sidewalks, and concerns about crime and violence. The Community Development Coordinator met with Ward 3 residents on November 18, 2015. Residents discussed the need for more transportation services and services for homeless youth. The Community Development Coordinator met with Ward 4 residents on February 22, 2016. Residents discussed need for substance use disorder treatment and recovery services, concerns about infrastructure (such as policing) to support housing developments (e.g., public and multifamily housing), and concerns about the impact of absentee landlords on housing quality and the neighborhood.

The Community Development Coordinator was unable to attend any Ward 1 meetings during the fall 2015-spring 2016 period but was able to meet with Ward 1 residents on December 14, 2016. Residents discussed their concerns about the ongoing opioid crisis as well as the need for continuing non-profit services such as the SHARE Fund (which provides rental assistance, financial counseling, and food pantry assistance) and the Rochester Area Senior Center.

The Community Development Coordinator and Rochester Housing Authority staff also met in-person with Rochester Housing Authority residents on November 11, 2015. Many residents in attendance were elderly and/or residents with disabilities. The discussion centered on the need for more transportation accessibility and options, as well as concerns regarding the opioid abuse epidemic and food insecurity issues for lower-income residents. All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments and/or Rochester Housing Authority staff for follow-up, as appropriate.

The Community Development Coordinator and Rochester Housing Authority staff met with the Rochester Housing Authority Tenant Advisory Board on January 28, 2019. Fair housing issues discussed include the need for more affordable housing throughout the city, the need for mental health supportive services, and the need for more housing and accommodations for elderly residents and residents with disabilities. All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments and/or Rochester Housing Authority staff for follow-up, as appropriate.

#### Public Hearings and Public Comments Notices

On December 15, 2015, a formal public hearing was held to solicit public input on the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing and fair housing issues. No comments were received at the public hearing. The public hearing notice was published in the local newspaper, *Foster's Daily Democrat*, on November 18, 2015. A second public hearing was held on January 23, 2018. The public notice for this hearing was published on November 30, 2017. No comments were received at the public hearing.

#### Public comments period

#### Second public hearing

#### Citizen Participation Plan for the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

The purpose of the Citizen Participation Plan developed for the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing is to make the process of investing in the City of Rochester's community as inclusive as possible. It is the desire of the City of Rochester, in partnership with the Rochester Housing Authority (RHA), to have goals and activities undertaken with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and other funds to affirmatively further fair housing objectives and reflect the needs and desires of the people of the City of Rochester.

This process is an ongoing activity and includes formal and informal outreach to various communities within the City. The City and RHA works actively to communicate with its citizens, neighborhood coalitions, City departments, law enforcement, nonprofit agencies, community and faith-based organizations, and the New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care. Specific efforts will be made to reach residents living in revitalization areas, slum, or blighted area, as well as neighborhoods designated by HUD as 51% or greater low- to moderate-income. This will include staff attendance at neighborhood meetings in these areas, outreach to the Rochester Housing Authority's residents and resident advisory board, and related activities. Technical assistance will be provided to any citizens or organizations who request such assistance, either orally or in writing.

All official public hearing notices and other important documents will be posted in accordance with the City of Rochester's Language Access Plan, which provides that such documents include a notice in French that oral interpretation of such documents is available for free upon request. The full Language Access Plan is available on the Community Development Division webpages at <http://www.rochesternh.net/community-development-division/pages/policies-and-procedures>.

Copies and summaries of the Consolidated Plan for the City of Rochester and Annual Action Plans are available in the Office of Economic & Community Department and on the Community Development Division web page, located at <http://www.rochesternh.net/community-development-division>. Copies and summaries of Rochester Housing Authority's Consolidated Plan are available at the Rochester Housing Authority's main office. These documents are also available via electronic attachments upon request.

Data and maps to be used during the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing drafting process, including HUD-supplied data, will be made available to the general public on the Community Development Division's webpages. Comments and feedback are welcome throughout the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing planning and drafting periods, in addition to the formal public comments period.

As part of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing planning and drafting processes, the City and RHA make efforts to bring the developing plan concepts to the community via community gatherings and forums; this includes public service networking groups, neighborhood coalition meetings, and presentations to community groups and associations. Creative utilization of technology will involve postings to the Office of Economic & Community Development's social media accounts (e.g., Facebook and Twitter), an online fair housing survey, and other related methods. In addition, outreach targeting particularly vulnerable communities will involve activities such as distribution of materials to English as a Second Language (ESOL) classes held within the City, presentations given and feedback gathered at meetings held specifically for public housing residents, and ensuring the online survey provides the opportunity for the participant to provide important demographic information.

The Citizen Participation and Consultation Process in the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing includes the following:

**Public Hearing (First):** Public is gathered at a formal public hearing, prior to the drafting of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing; this meeting is intended to solicit the public's feedback on current CDBG projects and performance, perceived needs for future projects, and general opinions and concerns regarding community development in the City of Rochester.

This meeting is held in an accessible location for people with physical disabilities; accommodations for people with visual or hearing impairments, as well as accommodations for Limited English



Proficiency speakers, are available upon request. The hearing is advertised in one or more local newspapers within forty-five days (45) of the hearing. Public notice also is provided at strategic sites of public interest, including the public library, community center, public housing bulletin boards, and City Hall.

Notice is provided via electronic means, as well; including but not limited to email announcements to community stakeholders (e.g., currently-funded non-profits and community business associations), postings to the Community Development Division's website, and postings to the Office of Economic & Community Development's social media accounts (e.g., Facebook and Twitter).

Following the hearing, minutes will be available on the City of Rochester's website, and interested parties can view the hearing in its entirety on the local government cable channel, as well as online.

**Public Hearing (Second):** The draft Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing is subject to a public hearing. This meeting is held in a location accessible to people with physical disabilities; accommodations for people with visual or hearing impairments, as well as accommodations for Limited English Proficiency speakers, are available upon request.

Notification of this public hearing, and draft plan availability, are published in one or more local newspapers within forty-five days (45) of the public hearing. Public notice is provided at strategic sites of public interest, including the public library, community center, public housing bulletin boards, and City Hall. Notice also is provided via electronic means; including but not limited to email announcements to community stakeholders (e.g., currently-funded non-profits and community business associations), postings to the Economic & Community Development Office's website, and postings to the Economic & Community Development Office's social media accounts (e.g., Facebook and Twitter). Interested parties can view the hearing in its entirety on the local government cable channel as well as online.

**Public Comment:** Comments are accepted throughout the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing preparation process via in-person meetings, postal mail, telephone, and electronic means of communication; however, a formal thirty (30) day public comments period will also be announced via publishing in one or more general newspapers of local circulation. The notice will include a summary of the plan, details or estimate of available funding for fair housing activities, details as to proposed activities, and information on where copies of the plan can be obtained by members of the general public. Free copies of the plan will be made available upon request.

Comments received during the public comment period, as well as comments received during public hearings and at other public meetings, are summarized and included in the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing. Comments may be oral or written. The Community Development Division and Rochester Housing Authority will respond to concerns and directives through appropriate goal-setting and fair housing activities or will refer concerns and directives to the proper City department for follow-up. Any comments not accepted will include a response from the Community Development Division and the Rochester Housing Authority as to why the comments were not accepted. These comments also will be forwarded to HUD as part of the completed Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing.

**Complaints:** The Community Development Division and/or Rochester Housing Authority will respond to all citizen complaints submitted in writing within fifteen (15) business days. This response may be a statement that more time is needed to provide a more substantive response, in which case the substantive response will be provided within thirty (30) business days.



**2. Provide a list of organizations consulted during the community participation process.**

<b>Organization/Entity</b>	<b>Method of Outreach/ Consultation</b>	<b>Description of Consultation</b>	<b>Date of Consultation</b>
Rochester Economic Development Commission	Facebook	Link to online fair housing survey	10/20/2015
Ward 6 Rochester United Neighborhoods ward meeting	In-person	See narrative above	10/28/2015
New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority	In-person	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing training	10/28/2015
Rochester Housing Authority residents meeting	In-person	Need for housing rehabilitation, need for more transportation services, problems with substance abuse and homelessness, housing costs in region, food insecurity issues	11/10/2015
Ward 5 Rochester United Neighborhoods ward meeting	In-person	See narrative above	11/11/2015
Community Action Partnership of Strafford County	In-person	Need for better social services program awareness in community and need for more affordable housing development	11/12/2015
Cross Roads House	In-person	Need for more workforce and affordable housing development, more services for chronically homeless populations, and for permanent supportive housing	11/13/2015
The Housing Partnership	In-person	Need for more workforce and affordable housing development, more services for chronically homeless populations, and for permanent supportive housing	11/13/2015
Goodwin Community Health	In-person	Anecdotally have received reports of housing discrimination against residents with mental illnesses and mental disabilities	11/16/2015

Ward 2 Rochester United Neighborhoods ward meeting	In-person	See narrative above	11/16/2015
Ward 3 Rochester United Neighborhoods ward meeting	In-person	See narrative above	11/18/2015
Families in Transition	In-person	Discussion of need for services for substance abuse treatment and recovery, homelessness, affordable housing, and permanent supportive housing	11/18/2015
Rochester Youth Reach	In-person	Discussion of need for services for substance abuse treatment and recovery, homelessness, affordable housing, and permanent supportive housing	11/18/2015
Strafford Regional Planning Commission	In-person	Affordable housing and fair housing concerns, transportation needs, economic development needs	12/15/2015
Public hearing	In-person	See narrative above.	12/15/2015
City of Rochester residents	Website	Creation of Fair Housing page on Community Development Division website	3/16/2016
Rochester School Department	In-person	Discussion with ESL teacher regarding ESL students in Rochester school system and first languages of ESL city residents	4/13/2016
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute	In-person	Immigrants and access to housing conference/training	6/12/2016
New Hampshire Legal Assistance – Housing Justice Project	Telephone	State and local fair housing issues	6/21/2016
City Attorney, City of Rochester	Email	HUD/DOJ joint statement on local land use laws and the Fair Housing Act	11/18/2016
Director of Building, Zoning and Licensing Services, City of Rochester	Email	HUD/DOJ joint statement on local land use laws and the Fair Housing Act	11/18/2016
Tri-City Consumers' Action Cooperative	Email	Big issues for residents with mental health issues affordable	11/30/2016

		housing and access to mental health supportive services	
Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast	Telephone	Harder for younger residents and people with physical disabilities to live in the City of Portsmouth	1/9/2017
Staff Planner, City of Rochester	In-person	Outreach to renters is needed, the NH accessory dwelling units law should provide more affordable housing	1/9/2017
Community Liaison Officer, Rochester Police Department	Telephone	Lots of homeless residents are on SSI, there is resistance to entering homeless shelters due to active use of alcohol/substances, lots of chronically homeless residents have mental illnesses	1/18/2017
Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness	Telephone	Both intracity and intercity transportation is a housing barrier, regional low vacancy rates area problem, as well as lack of affordable and permanent supportive housing	2/1/2017
Title I Coordinator, Rochester School Department	In-person	Lots of homeless youth are living doubled-up; residents with disabilities, felonies, and bad credit are disproportionately represented among homeless; concerns regarding conditions of existing lower-income housing within the city	2/6/2017
Hope on Haven Hill	Telephone	Rental difficulties for residents with bad credit and/or criminal records; COAST bus service is accessible; lack of grocery stores downtown is a problem but substance abuse recovery resources are accessible	2/24/2017
AIDS Response Seacoast	In-person	Transportation challenges between cities in region; areas of need include language services, especially for immigrant populations, and for African-American residents	11/18/2016
Frisbie Community Care Teams	Telephone	Homeless issues, substance abuse issues	2/24/2017

Rochester Child Care Center	In-person	Impact of housing affordability and transportation issues on lower-income families with children	3/20/2017
Bridges Domestic & Sexual Violence Support	In-person	Violence Against Women Act and its intersections with fair housing law	3/24/2017
New Hampshire Disability Rights Center	Telephone	Discussion of affordable and accessible housing, effects of emotional support animals not being classified as disability animals	4/12/2017
SHARE Fund	In-person	Issues impacting housing availability – affordability of housing, physical accessibility of housing, substance abuse issues; need for more landlord outreach	4/13/2017
Gafney Home	In-person	Need for social services for elderly residents and residents with disabilities; physical accessibility issues for a lot of city housing	4/19/2017
National Fair Housing Alliance	Webinar/w ebsite	Fair Housing Act overview, discussion of landlord responsibilities	4/28/2017
University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension	In-Person	Importance of language access, importance and benefits of integrating immigrant and non-immigrant communities, and City of Manchester community development and outreach examples.	5/5/2017
Organization for Refugee and Immigrant Success	Telephone	Housing equity barriers include lack of affordable housing and higher paying employment; also, larger families have a hard time renting	5/12/2017
Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services, City of Rochester	In-person	Discussion of variances and state law which only allows for variances under strict conditions – whether the property is unusable/unprofitable without the variance	6/14/2017

Community Development Planner, City of Dover	In-person	Discussion of housing affordability and availability impacting housing equity	6/26/2017
Community Development Coordinator, City of Portsmouth	In-person	Discussion of housing affordability and availability impacting housing equity	6/26/2017
Great Bay Community College	In-person	Discussion of high school-community college advanced manufacturing programs and need for affordable student housing and student stipends.	12/18/2017
Grace Community Church	In-person	Discussion of need for pro-social community events and spaces for teenage residents.	9/5/2018
WOVEN Community Development Association / The Commons Evangelical Covenant Church	In-person	Discussion of the need for an in-city maker's space to provide close self-employment opportunities for tradespeople.	9/5/2018
Strafford Public Health Network	In-person	Discussion of need for more mental health supports in the community.	9/5/2018
Rochester Main Street	In-person	Need for improvement of downtown housing quality and addition of green spaces downtown.	9/5/2018
Make Rochester Great	In-person	Discussion of need for improved downtown safety and beautification.	9/5/2018
Elm Grove Properties	In-person	Discussion of need for improved downtown safety and beautification.	9/5/2018
New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority	In-person	Discussion of fair housing issues in New Hampshire, including difficulties in analyzing data in a rural state and need for more institutional power to create meaningful change	10/4/2018
Tri-City Consumers' Action Cooperative	In-person	Discussion of need for more Housing First and other low-barrier homeless services and need for more affordable housing incentives.	10/31/2018

EasterSeals / The Homemakers	Telephone	Discussion of the need for transitional and SUD recovery housing and the need for additional in-home services to allow aging population to remain in their homes.	11/2/2018
New Hampshire Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees	In-person	Discussion of immigrant outreach and advocacy needs	11/7/2018
American Civil Liberties Union of New Hampshire	In-person	Discussion of immigrant rights and immigration law updates.	11/7/2018
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services – Office of Health Equity	In-person	Discussion of the social determinants of health, especially those affecting immigrant populations in New Hampshire.	11/7/2018
Rochester Housing Authority Tenant Advisory Board	In-person	Discussion of lack of affordable housing, need for more transportation, more services for substance use disorder recovery and mental health services, and more sidewalk and road infrastructure improvements in lower income neighborhoods.	1/28/2019

In addition to the above consultations, the City of Rochester and Rochester Housing Authority also reached out repeatedly to the Seacoast chapter of the National Association for the Advance of Colored People (NAACP) and the New Hampshire Rental Property Owners Association to request consultations. Neither organization responded to the multiple requests.

**3. *How successful were the efforts at eliciting meaningful community participation? If there was low participation, provide the reasons.***

In addition to the formal public hearing and public comments processes, which historically result in a low number of comments, the City of Rochester pursued more informal outreach methods such as an online fair housing survey and attendance at neighborhood ward meetings. These informal methods were very successful in reaching a larger number of residents; it is estimated that about 100 residents were reached through these outreach methods.

**4. *Summarize all comments obtained in the community participation process. Include a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons why.***

Online Community Development and Fair Housing Surveys

An online survey requesting public feedback on fair housing issues was made available on November 29, 2016.<sup>5</sup> Annual online surveys requesting public feedback on a range of community development topics, including housing affordability and neighborhood accessibility issues, were made available on October 19, 2015 and September 26, 2016.<sup>6</sup> News releases about the surveys were sent to local news media at the time the surveys were made open, and hyperlinks to the surveys were posted to City-owned social media pages as well as the Facebook pages for several neighborhood ward groups.

Comments received in response to the surveys included support for the regional homeless shelters, more affordable housing, substance use disorder recovery services, food pantries, youth activities, bicycle paths, code enforcement, reduction in social services, mental health access, substance abuse treatment, downtown improvements, bus service expansion, the development of private business versus "handouts," and to decline CDBG grant funds. The comment suggesting that the City of Rochester decline receipt CDBG funds was not accepted. This comment was not accepted because it was decided that it is in the City of Rochester's best interest to continue to receive CDBG funding. All other comments were accepted or referred to other City departments for follow-up, as appropriate.

#### Neighborhood Ward Meetings and Rochester Housing Authority Residents Meeting

The City of Rochester's Community Development Coordinator also met with each of the City's six neighborhood ward groups in person to discuss community development and fair housing issues. The Community Development Coordinator met with Ward 6 residents on October 28, 2015. Residents discussed the ongoing opioid crisis and the presence of unsheltered homeless residents in the neighborhood. The Community Development Coordinator met with Ward 5 residents on November 11, 2015. Residents discussed their seclusion from the downtown and a desire for an in-city homeless shelter serving male residents. The Community Development Coordinator met with Ward 2 residents on November 16, 2015. Residents discussed the need for more services for substance use disorder treatment and recovery, the need for more curb cuts in sidewalks, and concerns about crime and violence. The Community Development Coordinator met with Ward 3 residents on November 18, 2015. Residents discussed the need for more transportation services and services for homeless youth. The Community Development Coordinator met with Ward 4 residents on February 22, 2016. Residents discussed need for substance use disorder treatment and recovery services, concerns about infrastructure (such as policing) to support housing developments (e.g., public and multifamily housing), and concerns about the impact of absentee landlords on housing quality and the neighborhood.

The Community Development Coordinator was unable to attend any Ward 1 meetings during the fall 2015-spring 2016 period but was able to meet with Ward 1 residents on December 14, 2016. Residents discussed their concerns about the ongoing opioid crisis as well as the need for continuing non-profit services such as the SHARE Fund (which provides rental assistance, financial counseling, and food pantry assistance) and the Rochester Area Senior Center.

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more transportation accessibility and options, as well as concerns regarding the opioid abuse epidemic and food insecurity issues for lower-income residents.

All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments and/or Rochester Housing Authority staff for follow-up, as appropriate.

In January 2019, the Community Development Coordinator met with the Rochester Housing Authority Tenant Advisory Board. Concerns included lack of affordable housing, the need for more transportation, more services for substance use disorder recovery and mental health services, and more sidewalk and road infrastructure improvements in lower income neighborhoods. All comments were accepted or referred to other City departments and/or Rochester Housing Authority staff for follow-up, as appropriate.

#### Public Hearings and Public Comments Notices

On December 15, 2015, a formal public hearing was held to solicit public input on the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing and fair housing issues. No comments were received at the public hearing. The public hearing notice was published in the local newspaper, *Foster's Daily Democrat*, on November 18, 2015. This hearing was held prior to the finalization of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Rochester Housing Authority and the City of Rochester to prepare a joint AI, and therefore the 45 day notice period required of public housing authorities was not observed. To rectify this, a second public hearing was held on January 23, 2018. The public notice for this hearing was published on November 30, 2017. No comments were received at the public hearing.

#### Public comments period

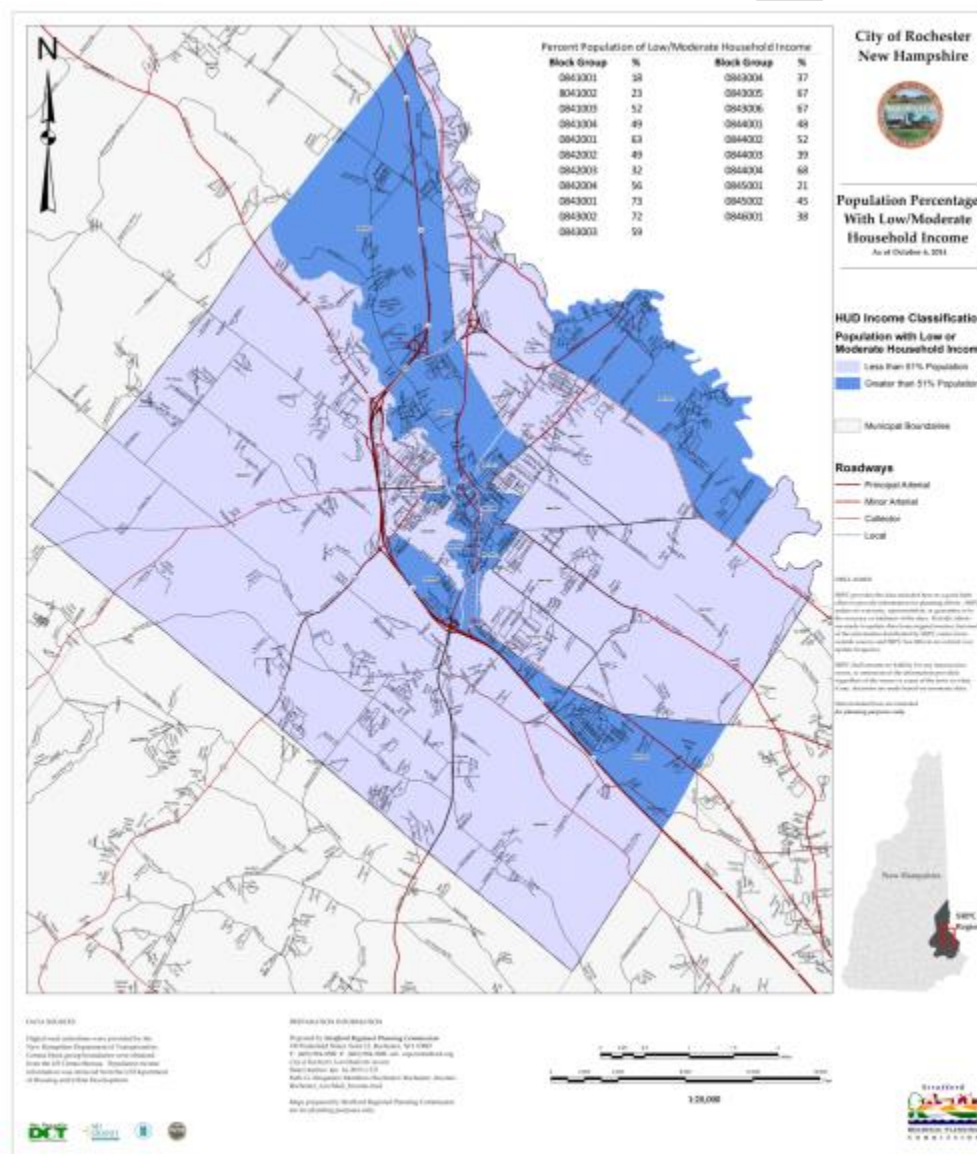
#### Second public hearing



### III. Assessment of Past Goals, Actions and Strategies

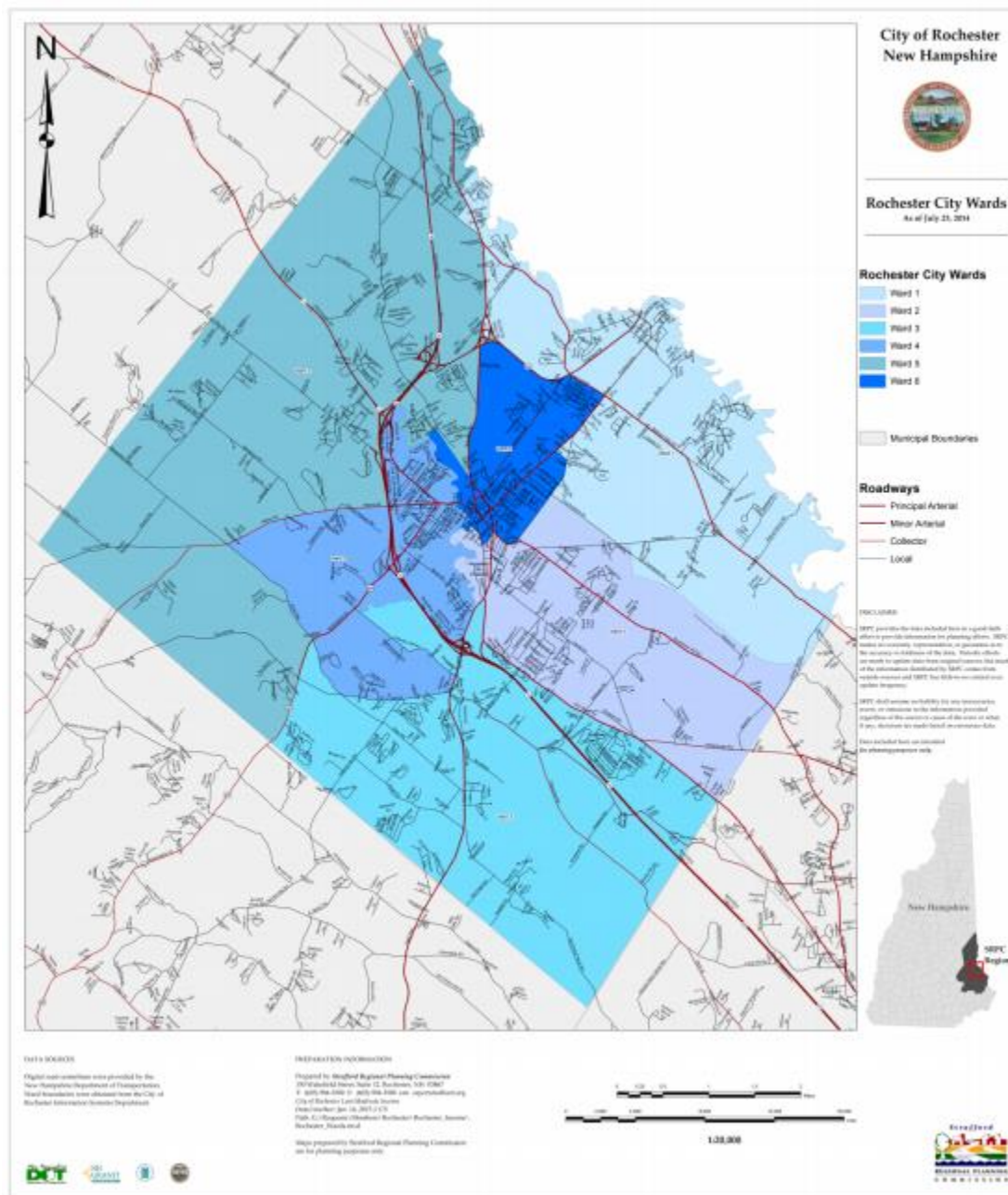
#### 1. *Indicate what fair housing goals were selected by program participant(s) in recent Analyses of Impediments, Assessments of Fair Housing, or other relevant planning documents:*

As discussed and analyzed in the City of Rochester's FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Action Plan, there are over four times as many renter-occupied housing units with multiple housing problems as there are owner-occupied units. The residents of renter-occupied units are lower income than the residents of owner-occupied units, on the whole, with most renter households earning less than the area median income. The most recently updated census tract information from HUD indicates that there is low to moderate income concentration in several census tracts of the city, which is indicated on the map below.



The blue regions are 51% or more low to moderate income residents as determined by most recent HUD data.

The FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan also discussed areas of concentration of both racial and ethnic minorities and low-income families, as well as overlap between the two areas. According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, the City of Rochester is 94.3% white (28,080 residents), 0.7% black (211 residents), 0.1% American Indian (41 residents), 0.7% Asian and Pacific Islander (209 residents), 2.0% Hispanic (597 residents), and 2.2% other (663 residents). According to data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its 2015 report, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, there was mostly even integration of racial and ethnic minority renters in the City of Rochester, with a slight concentration near the City's downtown (Wards 2 and 6). In contrast, there was a heavy concentration of racial and minority homeowners in the City's northwestern region (Wards 3 and 5), indicating segregation. A map of the City of Rochester's six Ward districts is included below.



Also discussed in that consolidated plan was regional data showing more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. Hispanic/Latino residents also had the highest level of poverty (21%) of all races and ethnicities in the City.

Finally, the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Action Plan identified the need for permanent supportive housing and related support services for people with substance abuse and/or mental health-related disabilities, fair housing education and support for people with disabilities, and the development of housing tailored to the needs of elderly persons. In addition, fair housing statistics indicated that the highest numbers of housing discrimination complaints within the City of Rochester were based upon disability.

***a. Discuss what progress has been made toward their achievement;***

During the last five years, significant progress has been made toward addressing fair housing goals. Rental assistance has been provided to low and moderate income residents, which data shows are disproportionately racial and ethnic minorities, through CDBG subgrants to the SHARE Fund and Community Partners. In addition, Community Partners' rental assistance program serves residents with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities. Other assistance for residents with disability was provided through multiple CDBG subgrants to Community Partners and to the Tri-City Consumers' Action Cooperative, which provides peer-to-peer mental health services, as well as through a subgrant to New Hampshire Legal Assistance's Housing Justice Project to provide educational outreach on the rights of tenants with disabilities.

Assistance has also been provided for people with substance use disorders, as the opioid epidemic has devastated both the region and the state during the last five years. Rochester provided \$75,000 in general city funds to assist the Rochester Community Recovery Center to open downtown, and over \$100,000 in CDBG funding was provided to open Hope on Haven Hill, an in-patient and out-patient facility for homeless women with substance use disorders.

***b. Discuss how you have been successful in achieving past goals, and/or how you have fallen short of achieving those goals (including potentially harmful unintended consequences); and***

There has been both success and challenges in working toward fair housing goals. Most of the CDBG subgrantees discussed above have met or exceeded their projected number of clients served. Exceptions have been the SHARE Fund and New Hampshire Legal Assistance, both of which underperformed by a small percentage. There have not been any identified potentially harmful unintended consequences from any of these activities.

In addition, racial minority residents have been served by CDBG funds disproportionately over the course of the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan. During FY 2014-2015, 84% of all residents served with CDBG funds were white, while 16% of residents were of non-white races. During FY 2015-2016, 90% of all residents served with CDBG funds were white, while 10% of residents were of non-white races. During FY 2016-2017, the midway point through the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan, 86% of all residents served with FY 2016-2017 CDBG funds were white, while 14% of served residents were of non-white races, predominately Black/African-American or Asian.

A potential harmful unintended consequence is that the disproportionate percentage of non-white residents may reflect that these demographics are not experiencing long-term decreases in poverty. In particular, the CDBG-funded Community Action Partnership of Strafford County's weatherization assistance program, which provides weatherization rehabilitation to low and moderate income

homeowners, reports serving mostly white residents. The City of Rochester believes these reports largely reflect the lower rates of homeownership among non-white residents.

***c. Discuss any additional policies, actions, or steps that you could take to achieve past goals, or mitigate the problems you have experienced.***

Over the course of the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan, CDBG funding has gone more toward rental housing assistance than homeownership assistance, as more low to moderate income residents rent rather than own their housing. While this has allowed the city's CDBG program to serve a large number of low to moderate income residents, future activities should be targeted at increasing homeownership accessibility for racial minority residents, as this is an area of unmet need.

***d. Discuss how the experience of program participant(s) with past goals has influenced the selection of current goals.***

Demographics data on residents served by the weatherization assistance program has indicated that homeownership assistance aimed at non-white residents is needed. Demographic data and more informal data from the regional homeless shelters, social service agencies serving residents with disabilities, and fair housing organizations such as New Hampshire Legal Assistance and the New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights has influenced a focus on preventing and addressing housing discrimination based on disability, as data indicates this is the protected class with the most discrimination claims.

Experience with educational outreach to landlords through New Hampshire Legal Assistance's Housing Justice Project, provided through a CDBG subgrant in FY 2015-2016, showed that it is difficult to encourage landlords to participate in such programs. A more sustained program, with a longer period of outreach and engagement, is therefore necessary to achieve substantive results.

## IV. Fair Housing Analysis

### A. Demographic Summary

#### 1. *Describe demographic patterns in the jurisdiction and region, and describe trends over time (since 1990).*

The overall population of the City of Rochester has been increasing at a moderate rate between 1990 and 2010, the most recent year for which there is U.S. Census data. The 1990 Census showed the population of Rochester at 26,630 residents, the 2000 Census showed the population had risen to 28,461 residents, and the 2010 Census showed the population at 29,752 residents. The 2015 population estimate from the American Community Survey estimated Rochester's population as 29,954 residents. The clear overall trend is that the population for the City of Rochester is increasing but at a slower rate than in years past.

The City of Rochester's FY 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan states: "Our community of racial or ethnic minorities does not have particular area of concentration geographically. 2000 Census data shows a non-white racial population that is less than 3%. Likewise, overcrowding is not a significant problem within the city." In comparison, the 2010 Census shows the white population as 95.4% of the overall city population, with multiracial residents being the second most populous at 1.7%, followed by Asian residents at 1.2% and Black/African-American residents following at 0.8% of the overall population. The 2015 American Community Survey estimated the white population at 95.7%, followed by 2.1 % multiracial residents then 1% Asian residents and 0.7% Black/African-American residents. This data indicates a population that is gradually becoming less white over time, with the largest and growing population of non-white residents being multiracial races or residents who identify as belong to two or more races.

Comparative housing and demographic data from 1990 and 2000 is also available from Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2004 *Regional Housing Needs Assessment*:

Table #4 represents a housing cost burden over 30%, which means families are spending at least 30% of their earnings on rent or mortgage. This is shown in categories by tenure, renters, single-family homeowners and elderly vs. non-elderly. The number of renters from 1990 to 2000 with a 30% cost burden barely changed. In both years 1990 and 2000, the majority of renters earned under 30% MAI and there was a 739 renter increase in this interval from 1990 to 2000. The number of renters earning over 100% MAI actually decreased from 1990 to 2000 by about 40. The non-elderly category has the highest percentage of renters, 85.1%, with a cost burden over 30%. Overall, renters with a cost burden over 30%, accounted for 35.3% of all renters for the year 2000, with 41.8% being renters 65 years and older and 33.9% under the age of 65.<sup>7</sup>

This data, of course, is from before the economic recession of 2008. Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2015 housing update, published after the 2008 recession, found that:

Household demographics have been changing over the past 20 years. Eighty four percent of the net growth in households from 1990-2010 in the SRPC region was among 1 and 2 person households. Housing development relied heavily on construction of larger single family homes ...

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<sup>7</sup> Strafford Regional Planning Commission, *Regional Housing Needs Assessment: Toward Housing Policies and Implementation Strategies*, May 25, 2004. <[http://strafford.org/cmsAdmin/uploads/reg\\_hna\\_final.pdf](http://strafford.org/cmsAdmin/uploads/reg_hna_final.pdf)>.

Relatively little multifamily or rental housing was developed, and nearly all of that occurred in SRPC urban centers.<sup>8</sup>

These changes reflect the aging population of Rochester, Strafford County, and New Hampshire overall. In 2010, the median age for Rochester was 41.5 years. In 2015, the median age for Rochester was estimated at 41.7 years. In comparison, the national median age in 2010 was 36.9 and in 2015 was 37.6 years.

**2. *Describe the location of homeowners and renters in the jurisdiction and region, and describe trends over time.***

According to data from Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2015 *Annual Building Permit Inventory*, the City had a total of 89 housing permits issues in 2015. This includes 44 single unit permits, 6 multi-unit permits, and 39 manufactured housing permits. The neighboring City of Dover, which has a similar population as Rochester, had 49 housing permits, with 45 single unit permits and 3 multi-unit permits.

The 2015 inventory report also states:

Between 2008 and 2010 single-unit construction decreased by approximately 27% while commercial/industrial construction decreased by approximately 40%. During this time construction of other building types remained relatively constant. Unfortunately data were not available for all communities in 2010, so totals from municipal Annual Reports were used as a substitute to get a better sense of total new construction.

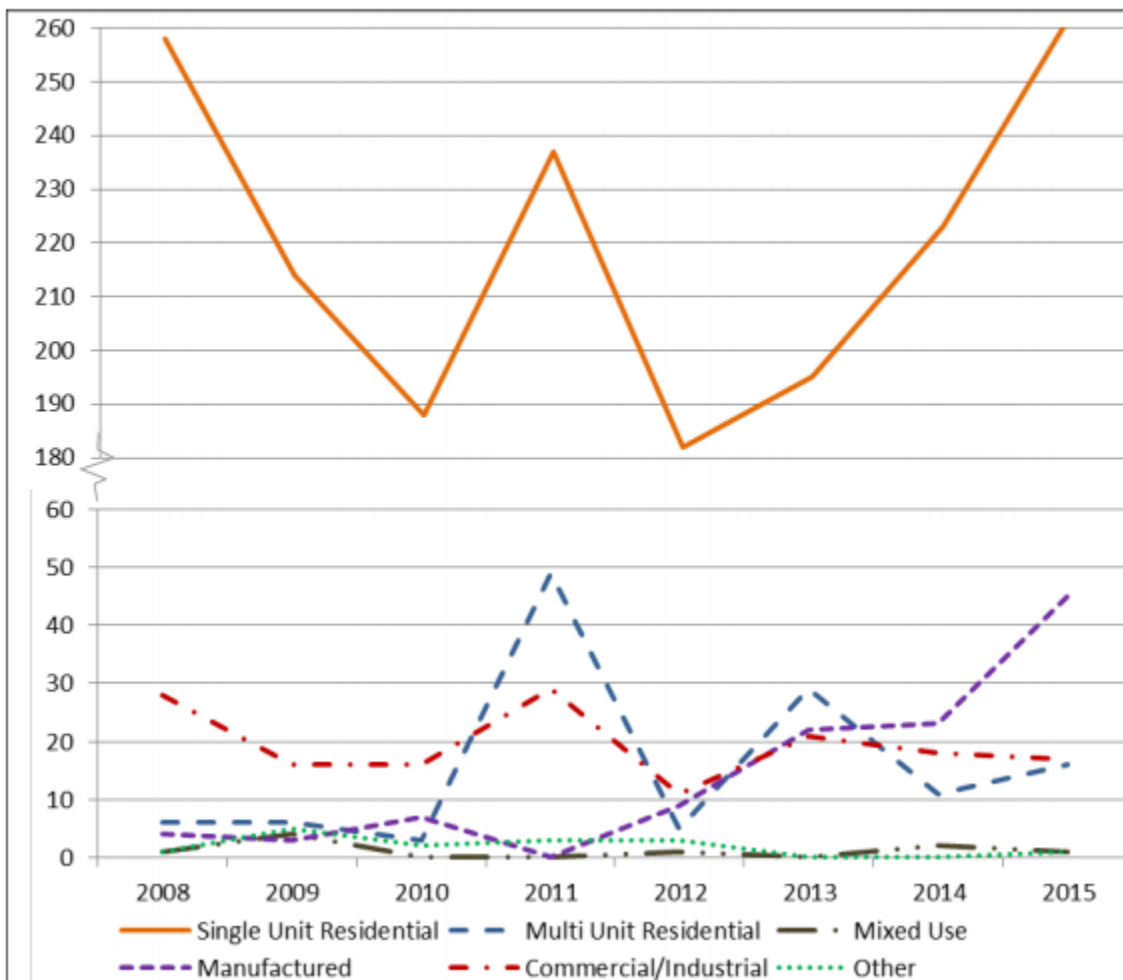
Both single-unit and multi-unit construction rose significantly in 2011 and again in 2013. The rise in single and multi-unit construction was due in part to the beginning of several large multi-unit student apartment projects in Durham, including the Cottages project in 2011. New construction in the region has been on a steady rise overall since 2012. The majority of the 31% increase was in new single-unit residential construction. Manufactured homes also saw an increase during this time with the total number rising from nine in 2012 to 45 in 2015. Overall single-unit and multi-unit structures have seen the greatest fluctuation over time with single unit construction ranging from 182 structures in 2012 to 263 structures in 2015, a 44% increase over time.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Stafford Regional Planning Commission, *Regional Housing Needs Assessment: Local Solutions for the Strafford Region*, January 2015. <[http://straftford.org/cmsAdmin/uploads/reg\\_hna\\_final.pdf](http://straftford.org/cmsAdmin/uploads/reg_hna_final.pdf)>.

<sup>9</sup> Stafford Regional Planning Commission, *Annual Building Permit Inventory 2015*. <<http://straftford.org/cmsAdmin/uploads/2015-annual-building-permit-inventory.pdf>>.



### Regional Change in Total Permits Issued for New Construction from 2008 to 2015



source: Strafford Regional Planning Commission, 2015 *Annual Building Permit Inventory*  
<http://straftford.org/cmsAdmin/uploads/2015-annual-building-permit-inventory.pdf>

The City of Rochester's Planning Department also tracks the number of housing units approved to be built, and this data shows a total of 387 housing units approved since 2013. Of these 387 housing units, 267 housing units are apartments to be rented or about 68% of all approved housing units. The remainder of the housing units is comprised of single-family dwellings, townhomes, and duplexes. Consultations with Planning Department staff indicate that the increase in housing development is accelerating, after the housing development lull that followed the 2008 economic recession.

Of these, only one development, of 21 apartments, is located in the downtown region. The other housing developments are located largely on the outskirts of the city, in the north, east, and south. This is part of an overall trend over the last ten years of new housing developments being built farther out from the city's center, which is already heavily developed with a mix of residential, commercial, and light industrial buildings. Much of the downtown housing stock is older properties occupied by renters, while homeowner-occupied housing has traditionally been located outside the downtown and in the more rural outskirts of the city. The increase of largely rental housing being currently being planned and built outside the downtown, however, indicates that these housing demographics likely will shift in future years.

## B. General Issues

### i. Segregation/Integration

#### 1. Analysis

- a. ***Describe and compare segregation levels in the jurisdiction and region. Identify the racial/ethnic groups that experience the highest levels of segregation.***

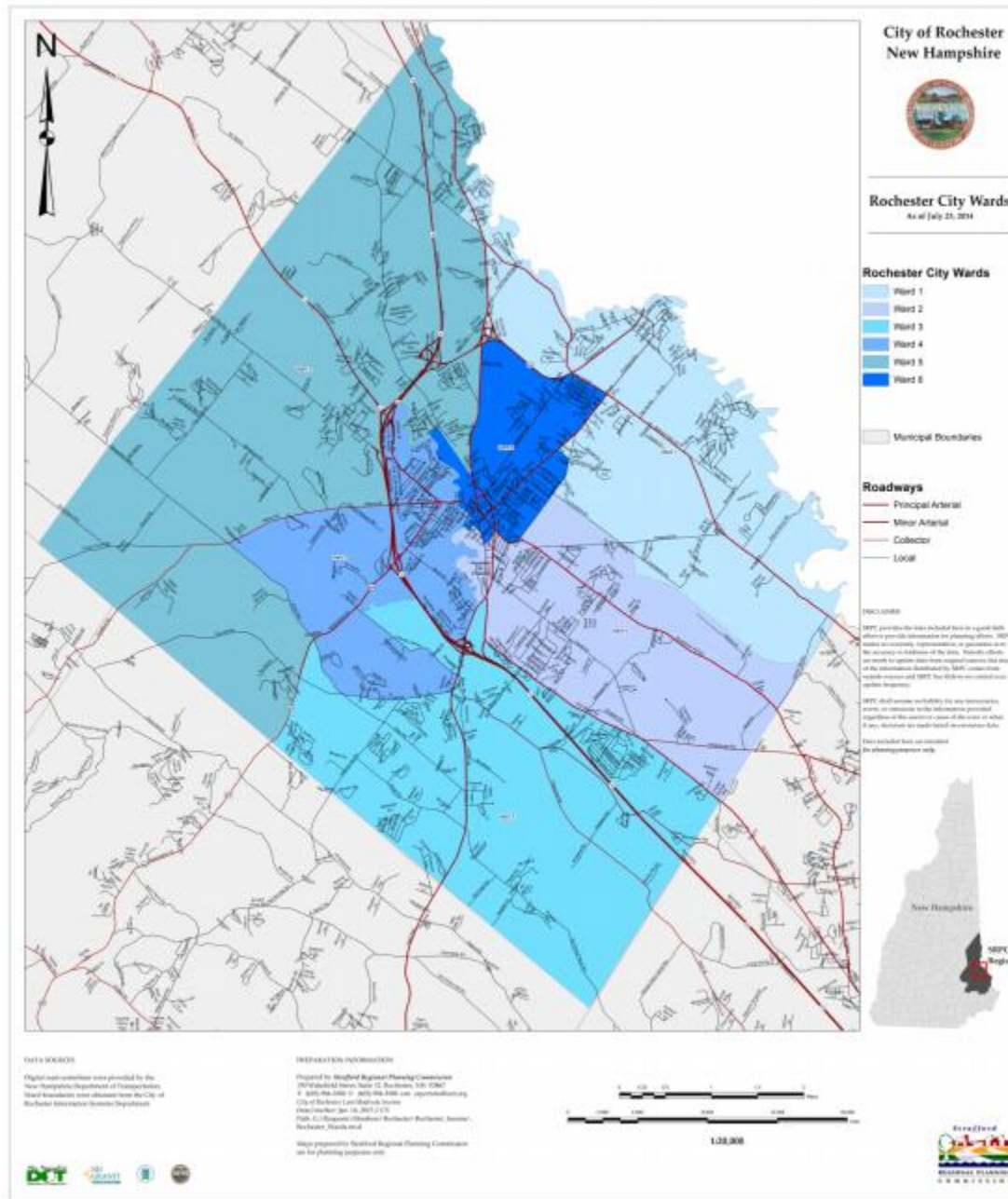
According to 2010 U.S. Census data analyzed in Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2015 report, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, the Stafford County region of New Hampshire is "is fortunate to be home to zero HUD designated Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty."<sup>10</sup> Approximately six percent of the region's total population belonged to a racial/ethnic minority category, which the report determined meant "the presence of RCAP's and ECAP's in the region and state is highly improbable."

Rochester-specific data in the report indicates that there was mostly even integration of racial and ethnic minority renters in the City of Rochester, with a slight concentration near the City's downtown (Wards 2 and 6). In contrast, there was a heavy concentration of racial and minority homeowners in the City's northwestern region (Wards 3 and 5), indicating some segregation. A map of the City of Rochester's six Ward districts is included below.

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<sup>10</sup> Strafford Regional Planning Commission, *Fair Housing and Equity Assessment: Local Solutions for the Strafford Region*. January 2015. <<https://strafford.org/cmsAdmin/uploads/fhea.pdf>>.





Regional data from the 2015 report shows more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. Hispanic/Latino residents also had the highest level of poverty (21%) of all races and ethnicities in the region.

*b. Explain how these segregation levels have changed over time (since 1990).*

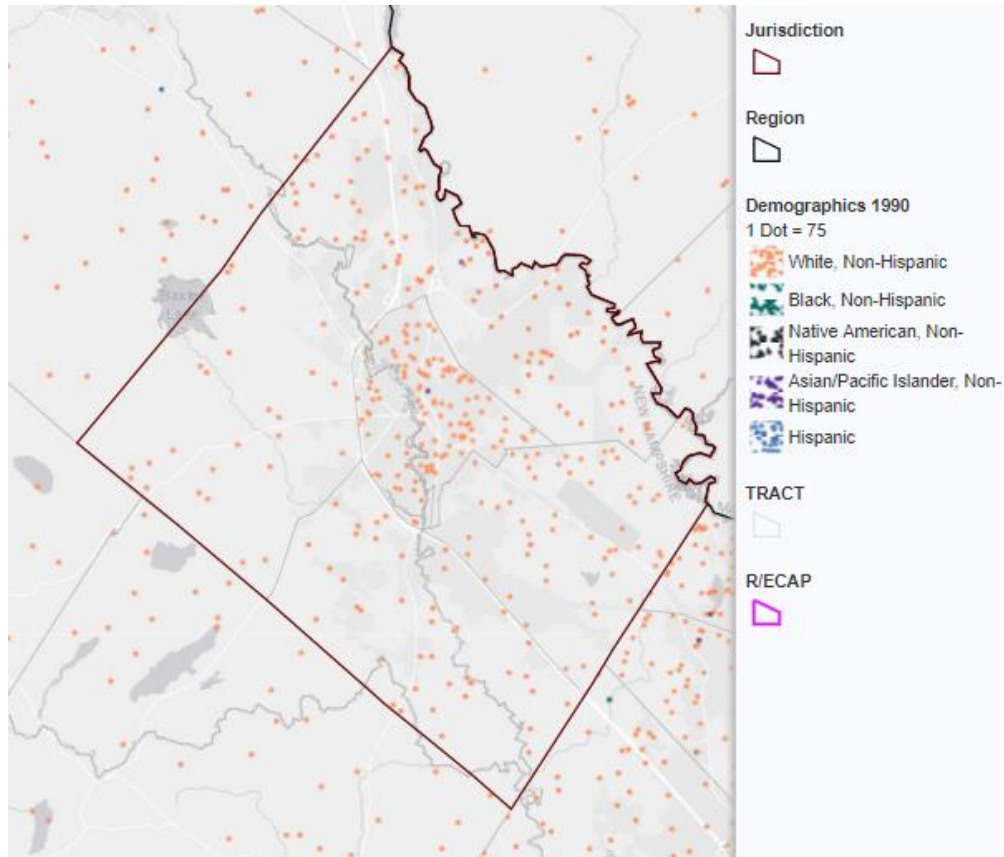
According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, in 2010 the City of Rochester was 94.3% white (28,080 residents), 0.7% black (211 residents), 0.1% American Indian (41 residents), 0.7% Asian and Pacific Islander (209 residents), 2.0% Hispanic (597 residents), and 2.2% multiracial (663 residents). This same data shows that the neighboring City of Dover was 90.6% white (27,155 residents), 1.7% black (521 residents), 0.2% American Indian (37 residents), 4.6% Asian

and Pacific Islander (1,371 residents), 2.2% Hispanic (660 residents), and 2.3% multiracial (680 residents). The City of Portsmouth was 91.5% white (19,017 residents), 1.7% black (359 residents), 0.2% American Indian (46 residents), 3.5% Asian and Pacific Islander (719 residents), 2.8% Hispanic (573 residents), and 2.3% multiracial (479 residents).

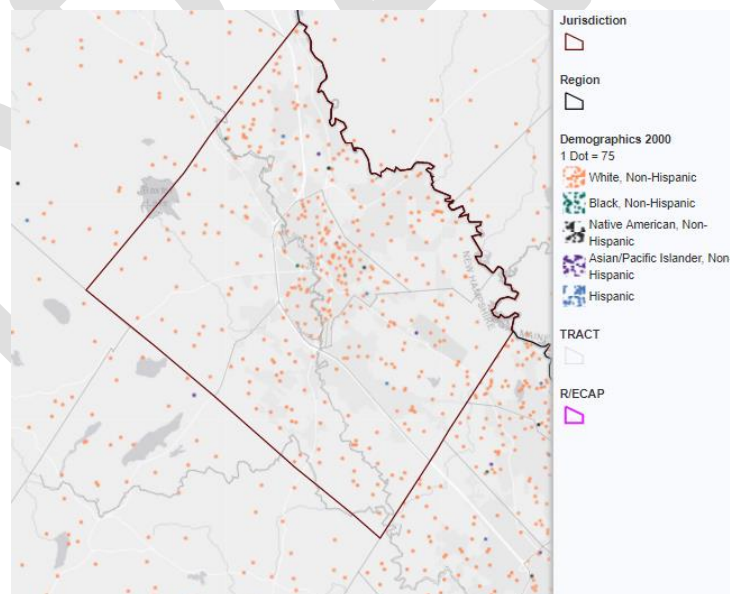
Data from the 2015 ACS profiles estimate that, for the City of Dover, the white percentage of the population had remained fairly stable at 90.4%, and most racial/ethnic minority categories saw small increases or decreases in percentages. The percentage of multiracial Dover residents, however, increased from 2.3% to 3.2%, the most significant change. For the City of Portsmouth, the white percentage of the population dropped from 91.5% to 89.2%, the multiracial percentage had risen from 2.3% to 3.3% of the overall population. All other racial/ethnic minority categories saw small increases in percentages, as well. Meanwhile, the percentage of white residents within the City of Rochester was estimated to increase from 94.3% to 95.7%, and most racial/ethnic minority categories saw small decreases in percentages. The exception is for Asian residents, which saw an increase from 0.7% to 1.0%.

Data from prior to 2000 related specifically to racial and ethnic minority segregation is difficult to obtain; however, Strafford Regional Planning Commission data related to homeowner vs. renter income levels and housing cost burden is available and can be used to extrapolate. Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2004 *Regional Housing Needs Assessment* found that between while "[t]he number of renters from 1990 to 2000 with a 30% [housing] cost burden barely changed," the number of single-family homeowners during this same decade with a same cost burden "decreased by about 500." Given that current data indicates that racial/ethnic minorities disproportionately rent versus own their housing, it is likely that racial and ethnic minorities lived in the heavily renter-occupied Rochester downtown, which has a large number of multiunit building, disproportionately than the outskirts of the city that has more single-family homes occupied by the homeowner.

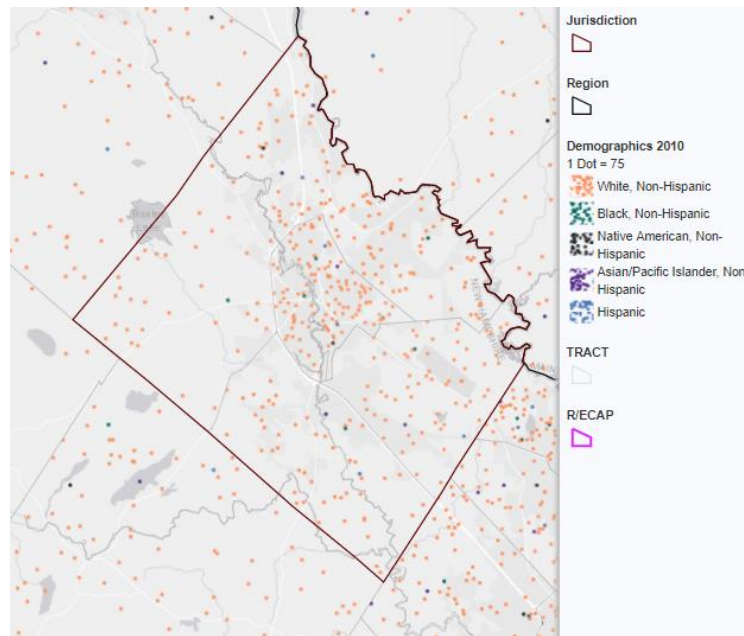
It is difficult to analyze this data as, given the very small number of residents belonging to racial/ethnic minority categories within the southeastern New Hampshire region, some of this data might not be statistically significant given margins of error. The Strafford Regional Planning Commission data seems to indicate a trend of the City of Rochester's percentage of white residents increasing, while for the more southern, urban areas of the region, the percentage is decreasing, indicating possible segregation on a regional scale. However, race/ethnicity trend data available from HUD (displayed in the maps below) indicate rising overall non-white populations within the city.



**Race/Ethnicity Trends, 1990**



**Race/Ethnicity Trends, 2000**



**Race/Ethnicity Trends, 2010**

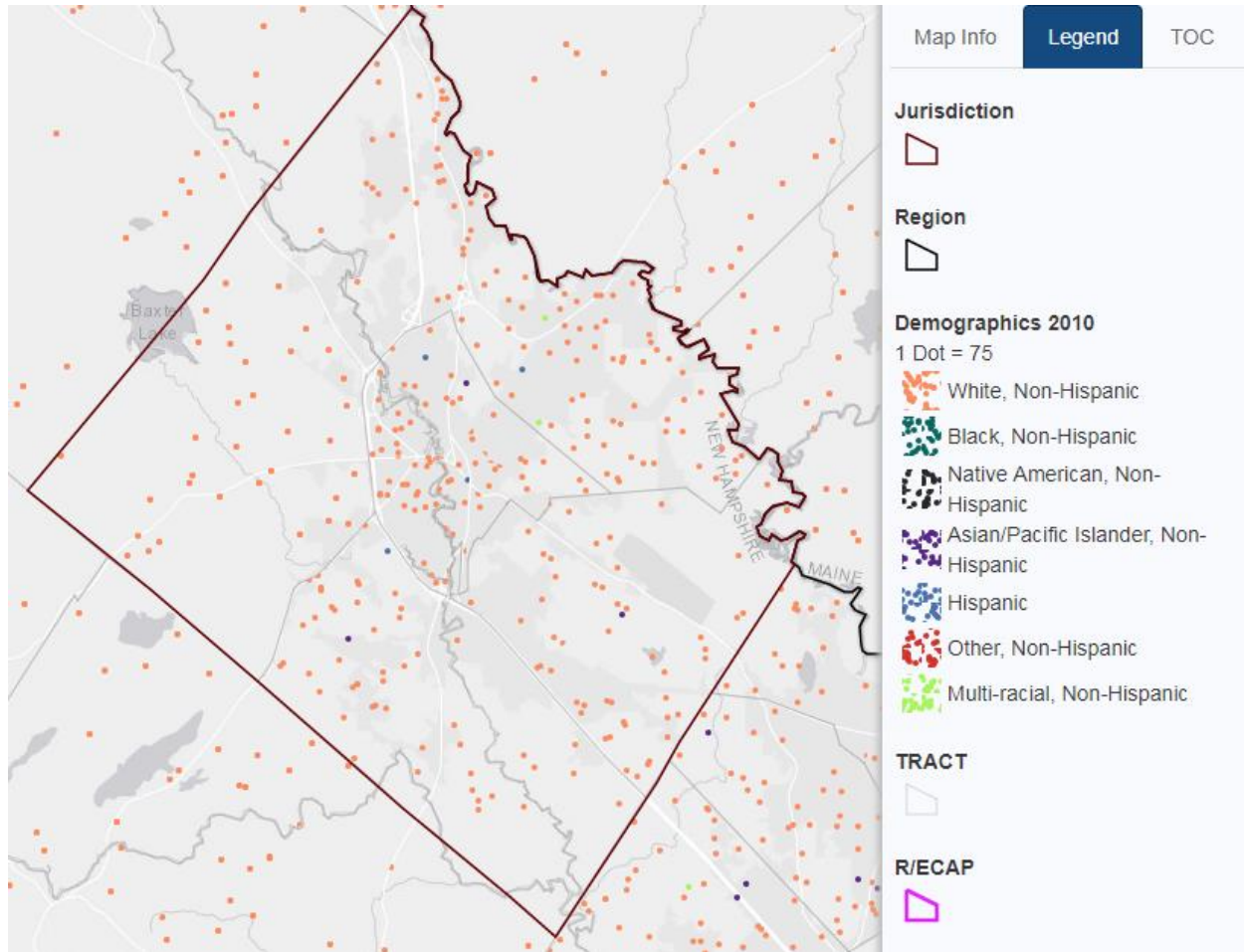
- c. ***Identify areas with relatively high segregation and integration by race/ethnicity, national origin, or LEP group, and indicate the predominant groups living in each area.***

According to 2010 U.S. Census data analyzed in Stafford Regional Planning Commission's 2015 report, *Local Solutions for the Stafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, the Stafford County region of New Hampshire is "is fortunate to be home to zero HUD designated Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty." Approximately six percent of the region's total population belonged to a racial/ethnic minority category, which the report determined meant "the presence of RCAP's and ECAP's in the region and state is highly improbable." According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, the City of Rochester is 94.3% white (28,080 residents), 0.7% black (211 residents), 0.1% American Indian (41 residents), 0.7% Asian and Pacific Islander (209 residents), 2.0% Hispanic (597 residents), and 2.2% other (663 residents).

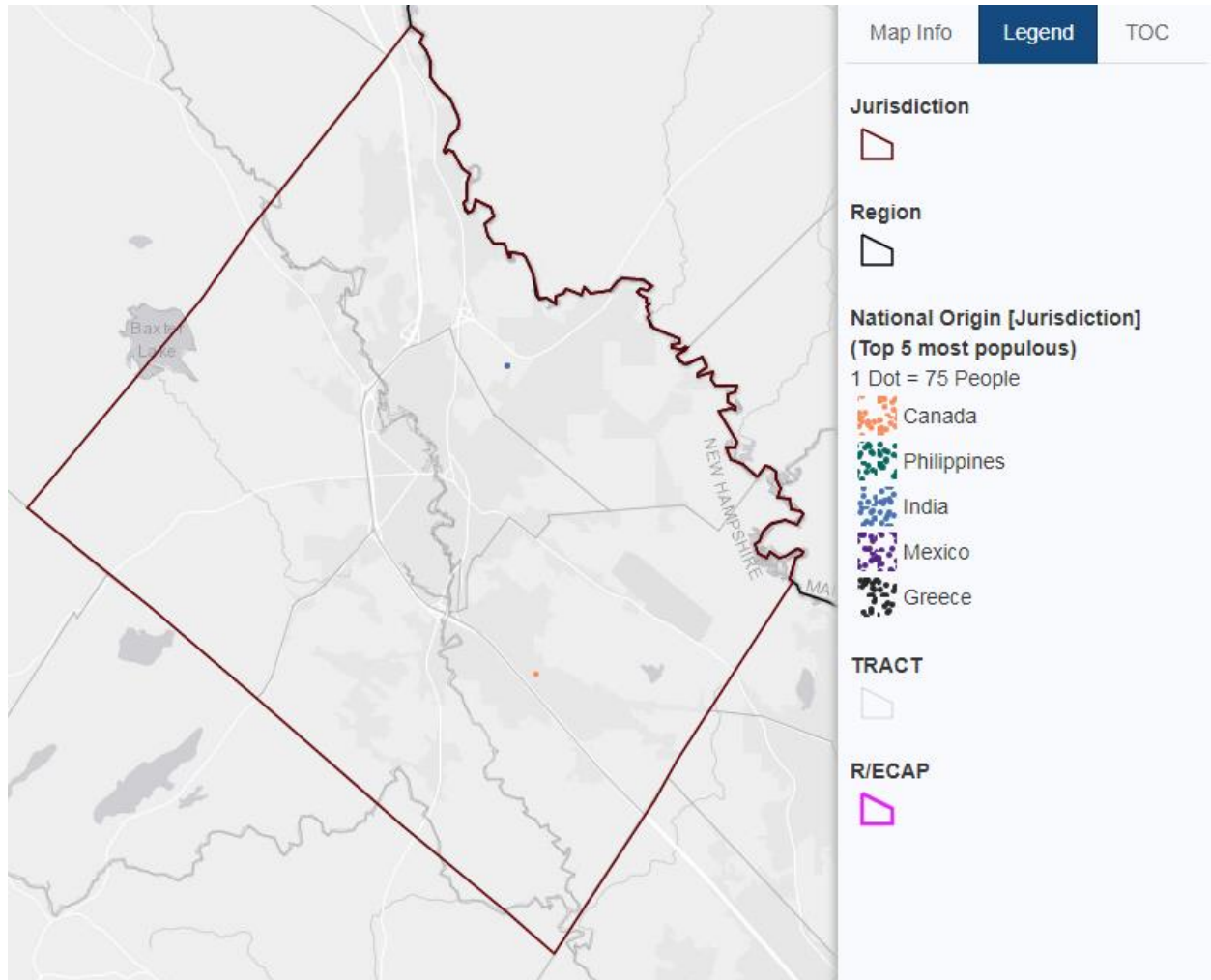
Rochester-specific data in the report indicates that there was mostly even integration of racial and ethnic minority renters in the City of Rochester, with a slight concentration near the City's downtown (Wards 2 and 6). In contrast, there was a heavy concentration of racial and minority homeowners in the City's northwestern region (Wards 3 and 5), indicating some segregation.

Race/ethnicity demographic data and maps supplied by HUD through the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Tool (AFFHT) indicate that there are measurable populations of non-white residents in certain sections of the city. As seen in the map included below, there are a measurable population of Hispanic residents in the northwest, north-central, and south-central sections of the city; of Asian/Pacific Islander residents in central, south-central, and east-central sections of the city; and of multi-racial residents in the north-central section of the city.

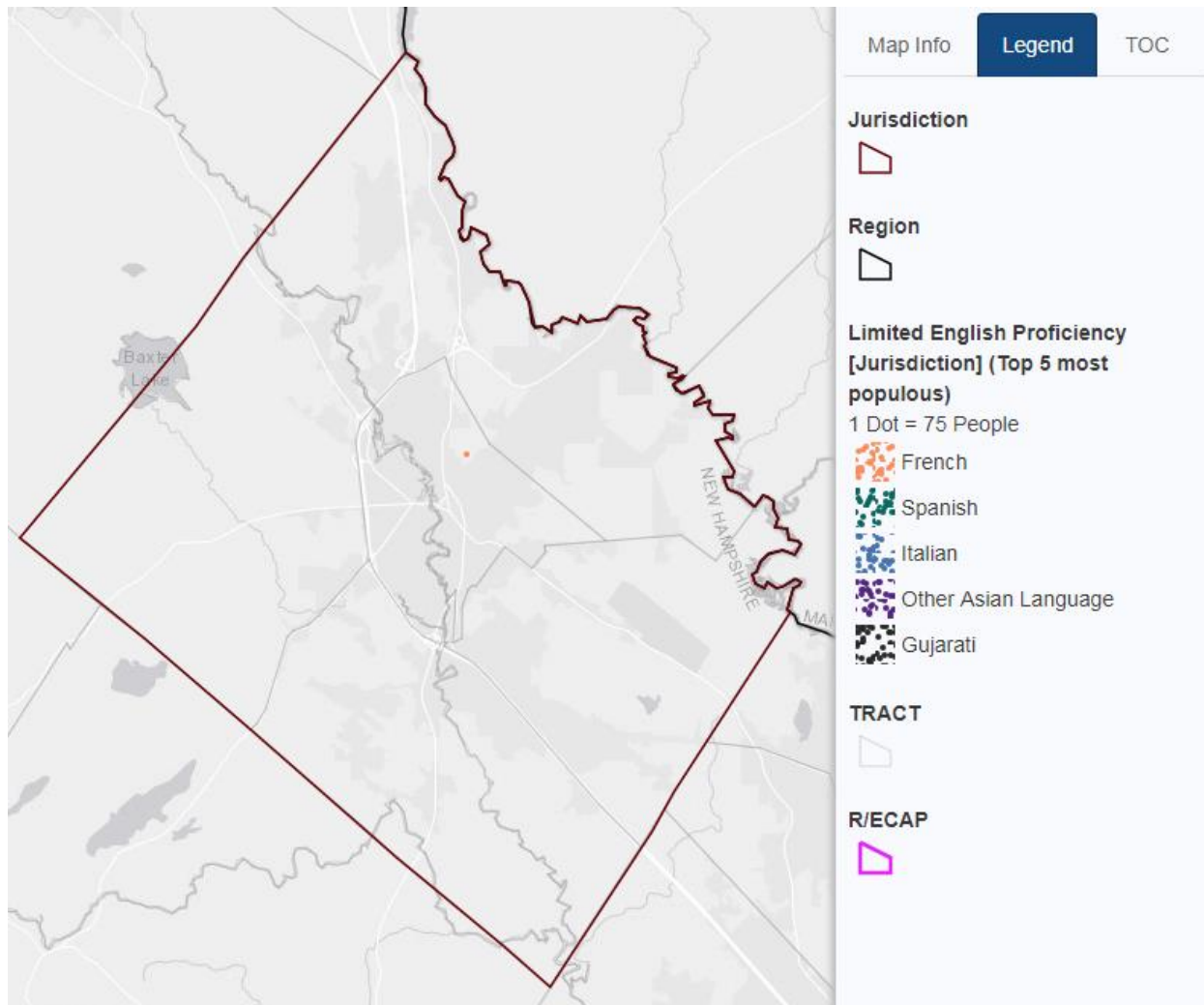




National origin data and maps from HUD indicate a measurable population of residents originally from Canada in the east-central part of the city and from India in the north-central part of the city:



Limited English proficiency data and maps provided by HUD indicate a measurable population of French speakers in the north-central part of the city:



- d. ***Consider and describe the location of owner and renter occupied housing in determining whether such housing is located in segregated or integrated areas.***

According to data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its 2015 report, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, there was mostly even integration of racial and ethnic minority renters in the City of Rochester, with a slight concentration near the City's downtown (Wards 2 and 6). In contrast, there was a heavy concentration of racial and minority homeowners in the City's northwestern region (Wards 3 and 5), indicating segregation. A map of the City of Rochester's six Ward districts is included below.

- e. ***Discuss how patterns of segregation have changed over time (since 1990).***

Data from prior to 2000 related specifically to racial and ethnic minority segregation is difficult to obtain; however, Strafford Regional Planning Commission data related to homeowner vs. renter income levels and housing cost burden is available and can be used to extrapolate. Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2004 *Regional Housing Needs Assessment* found that between while "[t]he number of renters from 1990 to 2000 with a 30% [housing] cost burden barely changed," the number of single-family homeowners during this same decade with a same cost burden "decreased by about 500." Given that current data indicates that racial/ethnic minorities disproportionately rent versus own their housing, it

is likely that racial and ethnic minorities lived in the heavily renter-occupied Rochester downtown, which has a large number of multiunit building, disproportionately than the outskirts of the city that has more single-family homes occupied by the homeowner.

It is difficult to analyze this data as, given the very small number of residents belonging to racial/ethnic minority categories within the southeastern New Hampshire region, some of this data might not be statistically significant given margins of error. However, given the data available, segregation trends in the City of Rochester do not seem to have changed much during this time period.

*f. Discuss whether there are any demographic trends, policies, or practices that could lead to higher segregation in the jurisdiction in the future.*

Consultations and data suggest that concentrations of racial and ethnic minorities are likely due to disparities in income, which result in a disparities of renting versus homeownership. The City of Rochester is exploring and implementing a variety of policies and programs that should hopefully reduce the costs of housing development and the costs of housing. The City of Rochester's Community Development Division and Planning Department plan to host a workforce housing charrette with the Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast. The Planning Department has also received two grants to simplify downtown historic district design guidelines and to increase downtown density limits.

## **2. Contributing Factors of Segregation**

*Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of segregation.*

- ***Community Opposition***

Public input received through the FY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan citizen participation process, as well as multiple Annual Action Plan citizen participation processes, have revealed a markedly split opinion regarding affordable housing in the City of Rochester. This input has been received through the monthly neighborhood ward meetings as well as online surveys. While many residents have expressed concerns about the cost of housing in the city, other residents have expressed concerns about affordable housing and, specifically, have expressed the opinion that there is already an excess of public housing in Rochester. The Rochester Housing Authority, however, maintains waitlists of several years, as do several other public housing authorities in the region.

- ***Displacement of residents due to economic pressures***

Data from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, in its *Housing Market Update* report for September 2017 and November 2017, indicates statewide trends of rising home prices, low rental vacancy, low availability of homes for purchase, and increasing rents. The City of Rochester's Planning Department has reported that much of the new housing development in the last three years has been higher-end housing (\$300,000 and up). Regionally, there has been a trend of lower income residents being priced out of the southern part of the Seacoast New Hampshire region, then housing costs rising in the northern regions.

- ***Lack of community revitalization strategies***



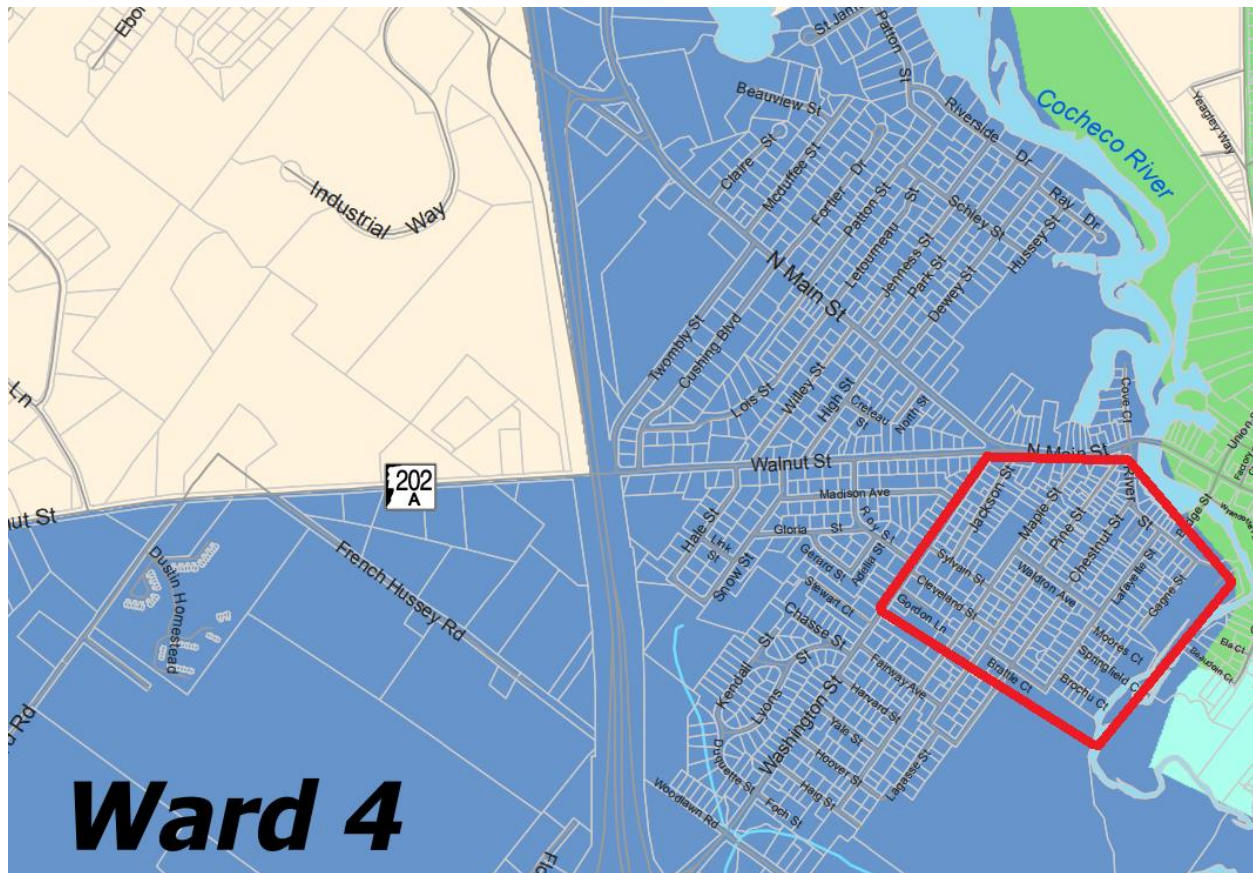
The City of Rochester's FY 2015-2020 Community Development Block Grant Consolidated Plan discusses the need to reduce the blight in Rochester's downtown region and encourage economic development, and the City's recently adopted update to its Economic Development Master Plan calls for more economic development focus on the downtown after a period of focus in other geographic areas of the City. The City's current Downtown Master Plan, approved in April 2003, also specifically calls for "substantive improvements to existing properties and new construction that lifts property values for surrounding areas." The 2016 *First Impressions: Rochester* report, a result of a University of New Hampshire initiative, also identified vacant and blighted downtown properties as deterring downtown foot traffic.

In addition, the City of Rochester's Riverwalk Committee has been reinstated within the last few years, and there is now a Rochester Community Vibrancy Committee, which has been working on downtown beautification projects.

Currently there are many community revitalization strategies. The main needed update, in terms of planning, is an update to the Downtown Master Plan, which is almost fifteen years old. Most of what is needed, however, is more funding and better implementation of current community revitalization strategies.

- ***Lack of private investments in specific neighborhoods***

Public input received at neighborhood ward meetings as well as consultations with non-profit agencies and local business organizations have indicated that there is a lack of private investment in the downtown Ward 4 residential neighborhood (Block Group 2, Census Tract 844) known as Frenchtown. Frenchtown is the area outlined in red on the map below, bordered by River Street, Gagne Street, Washington Street, and North Main Street:



This neighborhood is low-income with significant crime rates and drug activity rates. Much of the residential housing is owned by out of state property owners who do not maintain their properties in good condition, and this neighborhood was the focus of the City of Rochester's 2009 Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

- *Lack of public investments in specific neighborhoods, including services or amenities*

Most of the City of Rochester's investments, especially its CDBG investments, have been targeted to low-income downtown census tracts, as these areas of the city have the highest populations and greatest needs. Higher-income census tracts on the outer edges of the city have received less funding, and consultation with the Strafford Regional Planning Commission indicates that the East Rochester area of the city lacks a grocery store.

- *Lack of regional cooperation*

The City of Rochester's Community Development Division has worked to enhance coordination between the Rochester Housing Authority, non-profit organizations providing housing and related services, community development staff in the neighboring cities of Dover and Portsmouth, and relevant Rochester departments such as the Welfare Office and Planning Department. The City of Rochester's Community Development Coordinator also engages in significant outreach and involvement in relevant community organizations, such as serving on the Greater Seacoast Coalition on Homelessness steering committee, serving on the board of directors of the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST), and active involvement with the Balance of State Continuum of Care. This has included attending an

informational session in November 2017 on the Balance of State Continuum of Care's implementation of statewide coordinated entry for homeless services.

Public input and consultations with a range of non-profit agencies have indicated transportation gaps in the Seacoast region. Due to financial concerns and low ridership, COAST has reduced or eliminated routes to the northern, more rural areas of Strafford County. COAST data and other consultations also indicate increasing and undermet needs for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit and demand response services, which are generally more expensive than fixed-route services.

- ***Land use and zoning laws***

In April of 2014, the City of Rochester updated the Chapter 42 of City of Rochester General Ordinances, which took ten years to complete. The Downtown Commercial District Zone has an average parcel size of 17,675 square feet, which would only allow for three dwelling units per parcel without seeking a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment under the 2014 ordinance. In early 2018, the ordinance was revised to lower the density limits to 500 sq. ft. per dwelling unit to allow for increased density within this zone, as the previous density regulations proved off-putting for developers who otherwise would be interested in investing in the downtown mixed-use buildings. Later in 2018, the Rochester Planning Department worked with the Community Development Division and the consultants at BendonAdams to perform a more in-depth analysis of downtown density and draft recommendations to further improve property owners' ability to develop downtown housing. A revised version of these recommendations was approved by City Council in 2019.

- ***Lending discrimination***

Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data for 2016 for all City of Rochester census tracts, provided by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, showed 649 individual loan denial records for primary applicants. Of these 649 records, there was one record from an American Indian/Alaska Native resident, nine records from Asian residents, one record from a Black or African-American/Hispanic resident, two records from Black or African-American residents, ten records from Hispanic or Latino residents, and 43 records in which the applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification. The remaining 578 records were of white non-Hispanic residents.

A search of this same record set for co-applicant race and ethnicity data showed nine Asian residents, one Black or African-American/Hispanic resident, three Black or African American residents, two Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander residents, 31 records in which the co-applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification, and 321 records for which there was not a co-applicant. The remaining 282 records were of white non-Hispanic residents.

No reason for the loan denial was provided for any of the records.

For primary applicants, if one excludes the records where an applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification, 96.2% of the denied loan applicants were white non-Hispanic residents. For co-applicants, if one excludes the records where an applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification or where there was not a co-applicant, 94.9% of the denied loan co-applicants were white non-Hispanic residents. According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, the City of Rochester is 94.3% white (28,080 residents), so these loan denial rates seem to indicate that there is not discriminatory lending occurring, as the percentage of non-white residents who have received denials is roughly the same as the overall percentage of non-white residents within the city.

- ***Location and type of affordable housing***

Non-public affordable housing is mainly comprised of duplex and multi-unit buildings built over fifty years ago, concentrated in the downtown area, with some other multi-unit apartment complexes located more toward the outskirts of the city. Public housing is spread throughout the City of Rochester, including near the downtown, in the former East Rochester village, and the former Gonic village. Available public housing ranges from small four-unit buildings at Wellsweep Acres to the large 72-unit building of Wyandotte Falls. Many of the units are intended for elderly residents and/or residents with disabilities, while the 60-unit Cold Spring Manor is available for families.

- ***Occupancy codes and restrictions***

The Community Development Coordinator consulted with the City of Rochester's Office of Economic Development. This consultation indicated that the City's current fire safety codes have impacted the development of multi-family housing units. Such multi-family units are required to have sprinkler systems, as opposed to fire alarms, and building developers and property owners often find this cost-prohibitive. Given that this impacts multi-family housing but not single-family housing, these fire safety codes disproportionately impact the City of Rochester's affordable housing.

- ***Private discrimination***

Anecdotal reports from several public service agencies that serve low-income residents suggest that family size has been a basis of discrimination within the City of Rochester, with larger families with children being turned away from rental housing by landlords. Consultation with the City of Manchester-based Organization for Refugee and Immigrant Success indicates that family size discrimination may disproportionately impact refugees and immigrants. Such discrimination may be underreported.

Data from the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project (<http://www.nhla.org/content/housing-16>), as well as the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights (<https://www.nh.gov/hrc/>), indicate that disability is by far the protected category with the most reports of discrimination within the City of Rochester. Consultation with the Housing Justice Project has indicated that many of the disability-based discrimination cases statewide are regarding individuals with mental disabilities, and this is likely true for the Rochester-specific data also.

## **ii. Racially or Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty (R/ECAPs)**

### **1. Analysis**

#### ***a. Identify any R/ECAPs or groupings of R/ECAP tracts within the jurisdiction.***

According to 2010 U.S. Census data analyzed in Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2015 report, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, the Strafford County region of New Hampshire is "fortunate to be home to zero HUD designated Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty." Approximately six percent of the region's total population belonged to a racial/ethnic minority category, which the report determined meant "the presence of RCAP's and ECAP's in the region and state is highly improbable."

## **iii. Disparities in Access to Opportunity**

## 1. Analysis

### a. Educational Opportunities

- i. *Describe any disparities in access to proficient schools based on race/ethnicity, national origin, and family status.*

The City of Rochester has one high school, Spaulding High School, which also houses the Bud Carlson Academy for at-risk students and the Creteau Technology Center, and one middle school, Rochester Middle School. There are eight elementary schools: Gonic School, School Street School, William Allen School, Chamberlain Street School, Nancy Loud School, McClellan School, East Rochester School, and Maple Street Magnet School, enrollment in which is via an application process. About 43% of Rochester School District students citywide receive free or reduced lunch.

William Allen School is located near the downtown, is 89% white, and had 56% of students scoring proficient in reading and 61% of students scoring proficient in mathematics in grade 5 for FY 2015-2016.<sup>11</sup> Consultations with Rochester School Department staff also indicate that a high percentage of William Allen School students receive free or reduced lunch. Chamberlain Street School is located in the east-central part of the city, just outside the downtown, is 88% white, and had 57% of students scoring proficient in reading and 49% of students scoring proficient in mathematics in grade 5 for FY 2015-2016.<sup>12</sup> Consultations with Rochester School Department staff also indicate that 50% of Chamberlain Street School students receive free or reduced lunch.

Gonic School is located in the former village of Gonic, in the south-central part of the city, is 91% white, and had 38% of students score proficient in reading and 71% of students score proficient in mathematics in grade 5 for FY 2015-2016.<sup>13</sup> Consultations with Rochester School Department staff indicate that Gonic School has a relatively low number of students receiving free or reduced lunch. McClelland School is located in the central part of the city, just south of the downtown, is 91% white, and had 68% of students scoring proficient in reading and 66% of students scoring proficient in mathematics in grade 5 in FY 2015-2016.<sup>14</sup>

East Rochester School is located in former village of East Rochester, in the northeast of the city, is 92% white, and had 43% of students scoring proficient in reading and 38% of students scoring proficient in mathematics in grade 5 in FY 2015-2016.<sup>15</sup> Consultations with Rochester School Department staff also indicate that East Rochester School has a sizable population of English as a Second Language (ESL) and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students and families. School Street School is located in the downtown, is 84% white, and had 17% of students scoring proficient in reading and 27% of students scoring proficient in mathematics in grade 4 in FY 2015-2016.<sup>16</sup> (Grade 5 data for School Street School was unavailable.)

<sup>11</sup> NH School and District Profiles: William Allen School, New Hampshire Department of Education. <http://my.doe.nh.gov/profiles/profile.aspx?s=22690&year=2017>.

<sup>12</sup> NH School and District Profiles: Chamberlain Street School, New Hampshire Department of Education. <http://my.doe.nh.gov/profiles/profile.aspx?s=22695&year=2017>.

<sup>13</sup> NH School and District Profiles: Gonic School, New Hampshire Department of Education. <http://my.doe.nh.gov/profiles/profile.aspx?s=22725&year=2017>.

<sup>14</sup> NH School and District Profiles: McClelland School, New Hampshire Department of Education. <http://my.doe.nh.gov/profiles/profile.aspx?s=22665&year=2017>.

<sup>15</sup> NH School and District Profiles: East Rochester School, New Hampshire Department of Education. <http://my.doe.nh.gov/profiles/profile.aspx?s=22650&year=2017>.

<sup>16</sup> NH School and District Profiles: School Street School, New Hampshire Department of Education. <http://my.doe.nh.gov/profiles/profile.aspx?s=22720&year=2017>.

Consultations with Rochester School Department staff indicate that about 75% of School Street School students receive free or reduced lunch.

Nancy Loud School is located in the former village of East Rochester, in the northeast of the city, is 92% white, and had 67% of students score proficient in reading and 79% of students score proficient in mathematics in grade 4 in FY 2015-2016.<sup>17</sup> (Grade 5 data for Nancy Loud School was unavailable.) Maple Street Magnet School is located in the downtown, is 86% white, and had 76% of students score proficient in reading and 88% of students score proficient in mathematics in grade 5 in FY 2015-2016.<sup>18</sup> Consultations with Rochester School Department staff indicate that a relatively low percentage of Maple Street Magnet School students receive free or reduced lunch.

In addition to this data, all of the Rochester elementary schools have higher percentages of students with disabilities (in the range of 17-30% for most) than the state average of 18%.<sup>19,20</sup>

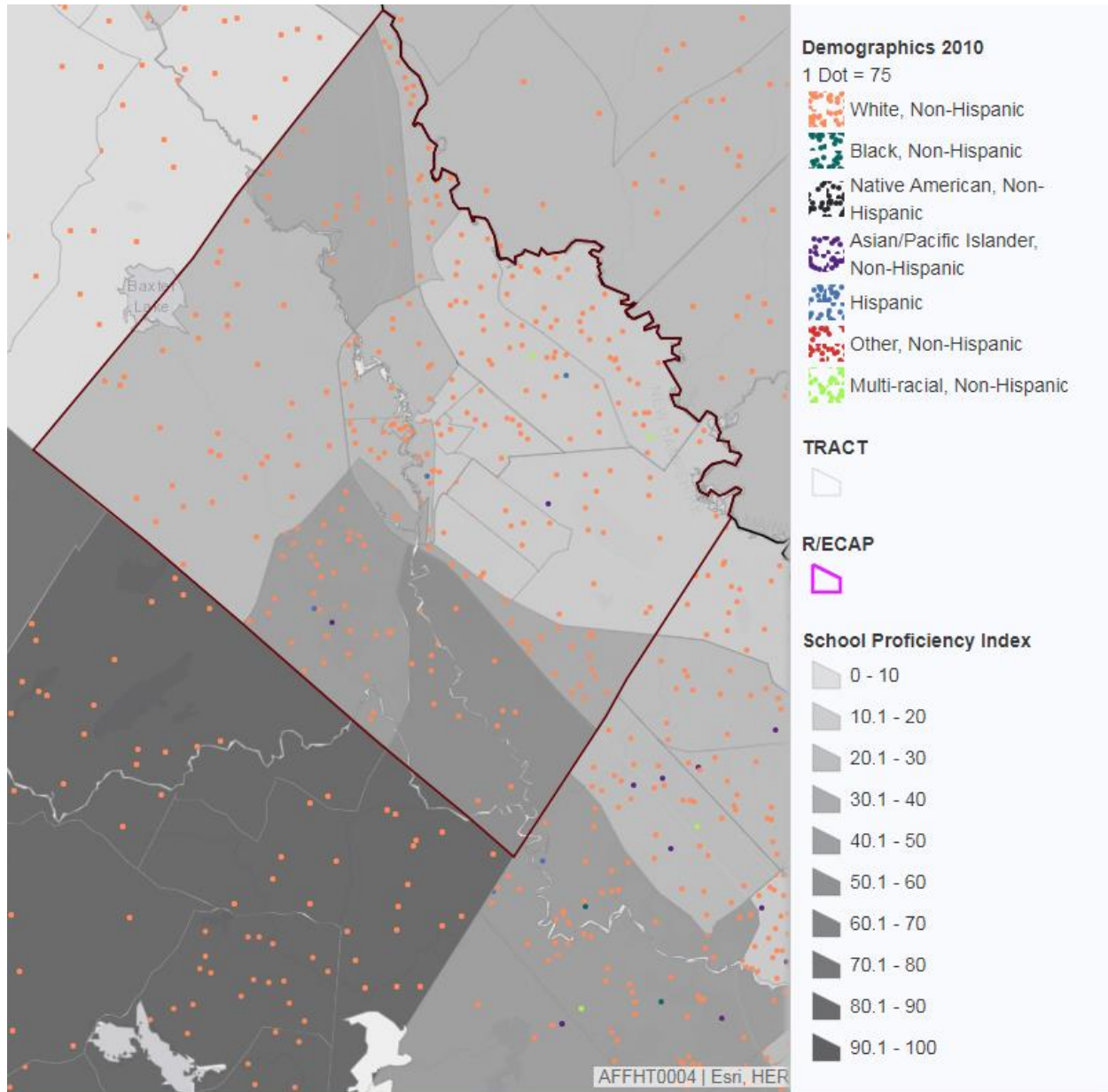
<sup>17</sup> NH School and District Profiles: Nancy Loud School, New Hampshire Department of Education. <<http://my.doe.nh.gov/profiles/profile.aspx?s=22660&year=2017>>.

<sup>18</sup> NH School and District Profiles: Maple Street Magnet School, New Hampshire Department of Education. <<http://my.doe.nh.gov/profiles/profile.aspx?s=29080&year=2017>>.

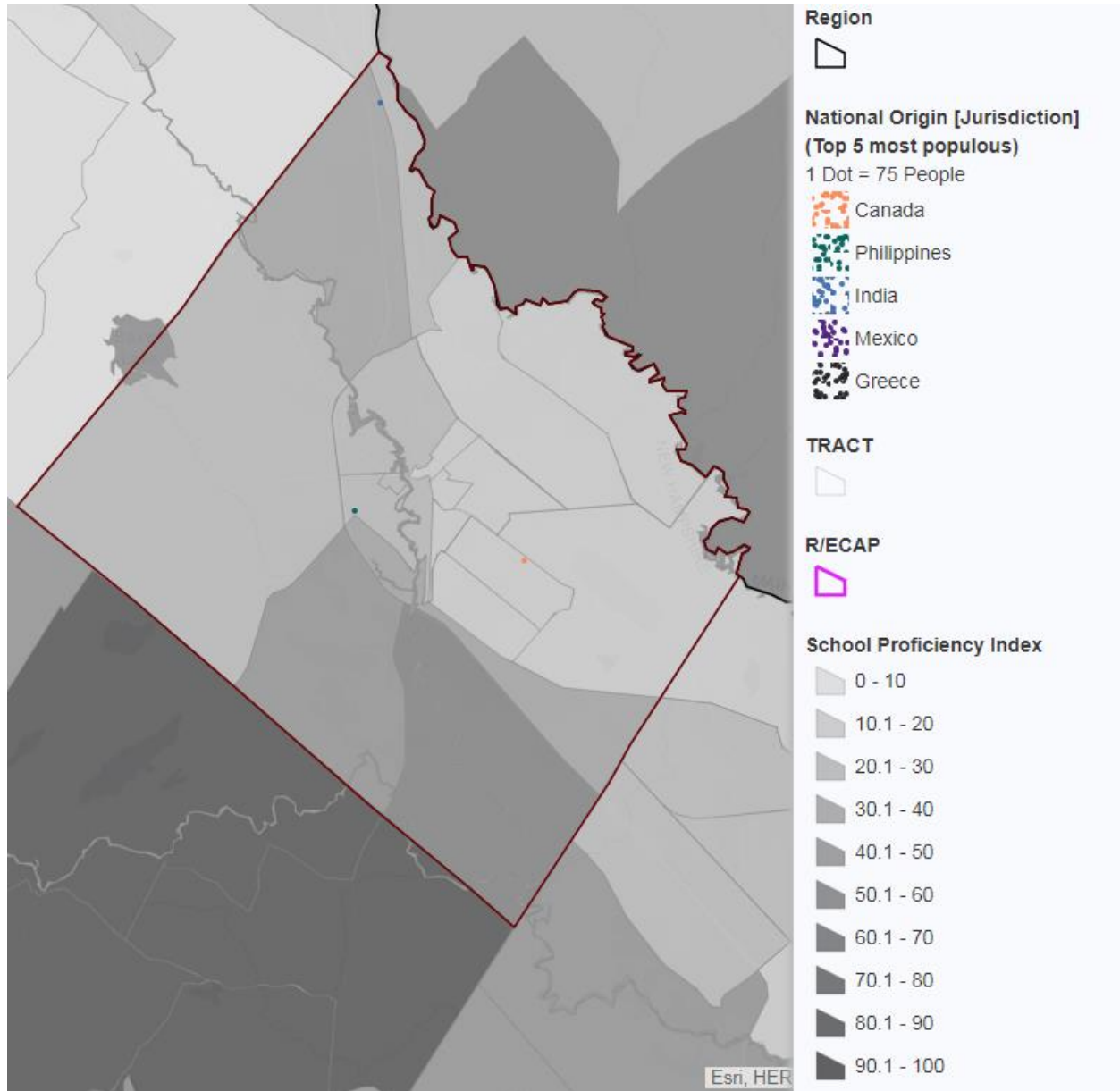
<sup>19</sup> [https://www.greatschools.org/compare?state=nh&school\\_ids=417,418,419,420&search\\_url=%2Fnew-hampshire%2Frochester%2Frochester-school-district%2Fschools%2F%3FgradeLevels%3De](https://www.greatschools.org/compare?state=nh&school_ids=417,418,419,420&search_url=%2Fnew-hampshire%2Frochester%2Frochester-school-district%2Fschools%2F%3FgradeLevels%3De).

<sup>20</sup> [https://www.greatschools.org/compare?state=nh&school\\_ids=421,422,423,426&search\\_url=%2Fnew-hampshire%2Frochester%2Frochester-school-district%2Fschools%2F%3FgradeLevels%3De](https://www.greatschools.org/compare?state=nh&school_ids=421,422,423,426&search_url=%2Fnew-hampshire%2Frochester%2Frochester-school-district%2Fschools%2F%3FgradeLevels%3De).



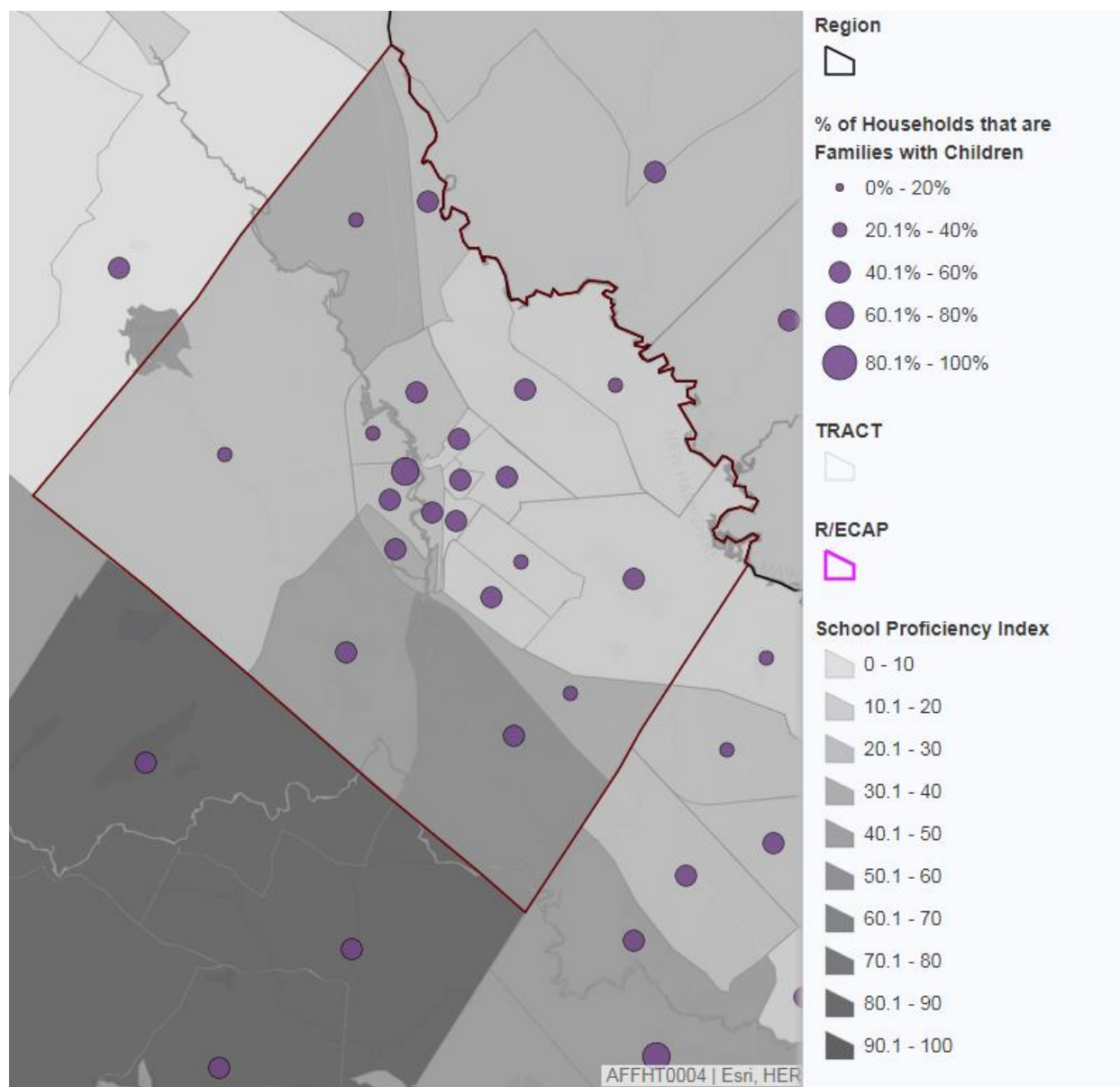


**School Proficiency and Race/Ethnicity**



**School Proficiency and National Origin**





**School Proficiency and Family Status**

HUD data taken from the AFFH Tool maps, included above, indicate that the city overall varies only a little between census tracts. There is largely even distribution of race/ethnicity, national origin, and family status among the proficiency levels, with the exception of Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic, and multiracial residents living disproportionately in lower proficiency census tracts.

Overall, all of the city's elementary schools have higher percentages of non-white students than the overall city population, which suggests shifting race and ethnicity demographics. The main outlier in the school data is School Street School, which has the higher percentage of non-white students, one of the highest percentages of students receiving free or reduced lunch, and the lowest proficiency rates in reading and mathematics. While the school with the next highest percentage of non-white students, Maple Street Magnet School, has the highest proficiency rates in reading and mathematics, this school also has a much lower percentage of students receiving free or reduced lunch.

**ii. Describe the relationship between the residency patterns of racial/ethnic, national origin, and family status groups and their proximity to proficient schools.**

As discussed in previous sections, racial and ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester disproportionately rent rather than own their housing, and rental housing (especially affordable rental housing) in the City of Rochester disproportionately is located in the downtown and immediate vicinity of downtown. Schools in the downtown are William Allen School, Chamberlain Street School, School Street School, and Maple Street Magnet School. Maple Street Magnet School enrollment is via application rather than residency; therefore, Maple Street Magnet School students live throughout the city.

National origin data and maps from HUD indicate a measurable population of residents originally from Canada in the east-central part of the city and from India in the north-central part of the city. Schools in the east-central part of the city are Chamberlain Street School and McClelland School. Schools in the north-central part of the city include East Rochester School and Nancy Loud School. Overall, there is equitable access to schools of similar proficiency, with the main exception being students enrolled at School Street School. The availability of the high-proficiency Maple Street Magnet School to students throughout the city somewhat offsets this.

**iii. Describe how school-related policies, such as school enrollment policies, affect a student's ability to attend a proficient school. Which protected class groups are least successful in accessing proficient schools?**

The Rochester School Department policies related to enrollment include Admission of Nonresident Students (JECB),<sup>21</sup> Assignment of Students to Schools (JECC),<sup>22</sup> and Assignment of Students to Magnet Schools (JECC-1).<sup>23</sup> The Admission of Nonresident Students policy states, in part, that:

*the Superintendent or designee will review the applications and determine eligibility for admission to Spaulding High School based on a variety of factors, including ... [l]ikelihood of success ... In applying these selection criteria, the Rochester School District will not discriminate on the basis of any protected classification as identified in Policy AC (Nondiscrimination) or any classification protected by state or federal law.*

The Assignment of Students to Schools policy states that “[s]tudents shall be assigned to schools based upon their home address” with assignment zones “reviewed by the administration on an annual basis, and updated on the district’s website.” There are a few exceptions to the policy, including special needs of specifically classified students and class size limits. The Assignment of Students to Magnet Schools policy states, in part, that “requests for available slots will be accepted from February 1<sup>st</sup>” and if there are more requests for admission than slots available, “a lottery will be used for any open slots and a waiting list established.” Students with an older sibling already enrolled at Maple Street Magnet School do not have to participate in the lottery to also gain admission. This is a facially neutral and equitable policy, as students regardless of residency have an equal chance of acceptance into the school. Exploration of building in preferences into the current system, such as for students currently enrolled at underperforming schools, might be worth exploring.

## **b. Employment Opportunities**

<sup>21</sup> <http://rochesterschools.com/Webmaster/policy/BookJ/JECB.htm>.

<sup>22</sup> <http://rochesterschools.com/Webmaster/policy/BookJ/JECC.htm>.

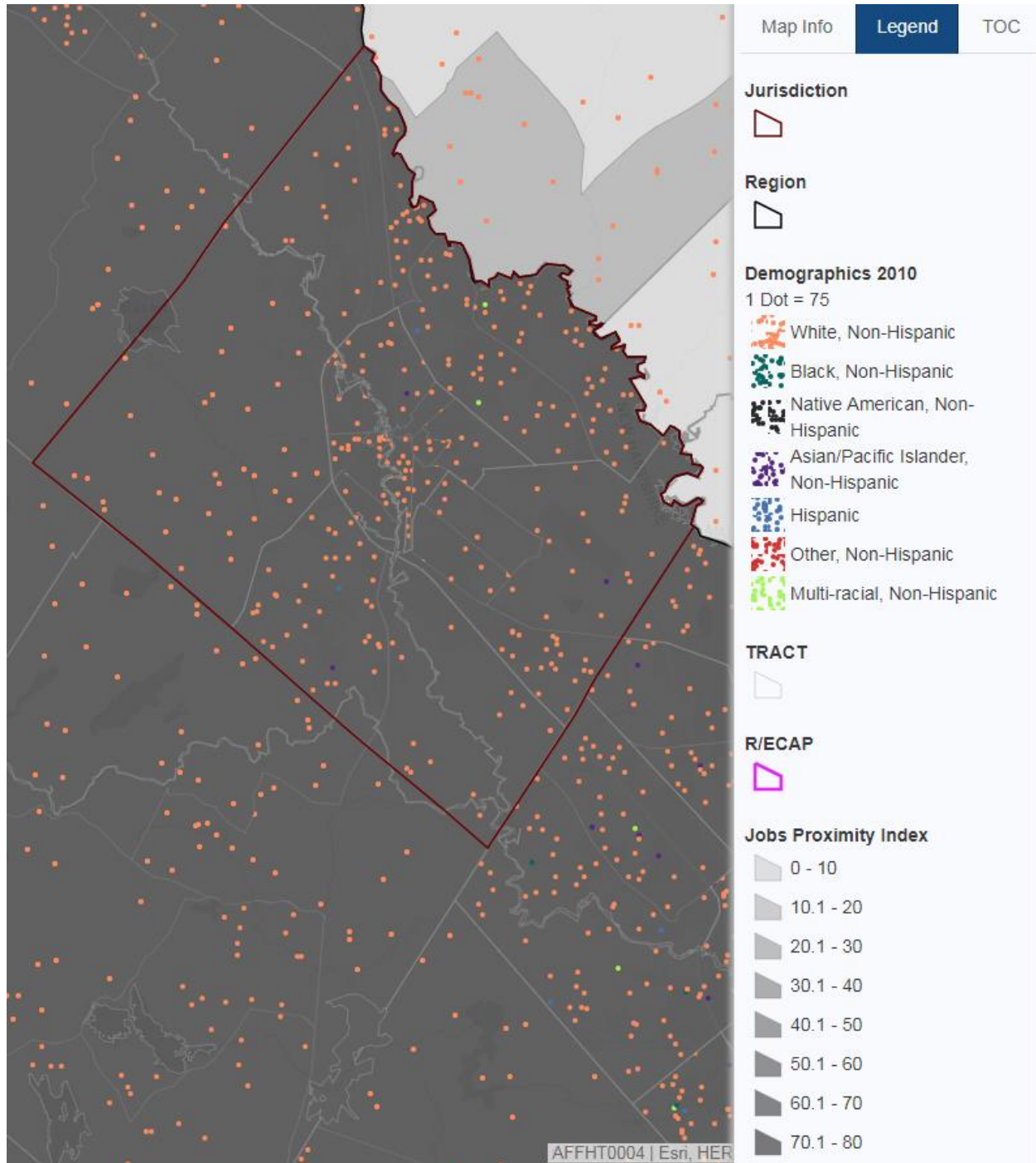
<sup>23</sup> <http://rochesterschools.com/Webmaster/policy/BookJ/JECC-1.htm>.

*i. Describe any disparities in access to jobs and labor markets by protected class groups.*

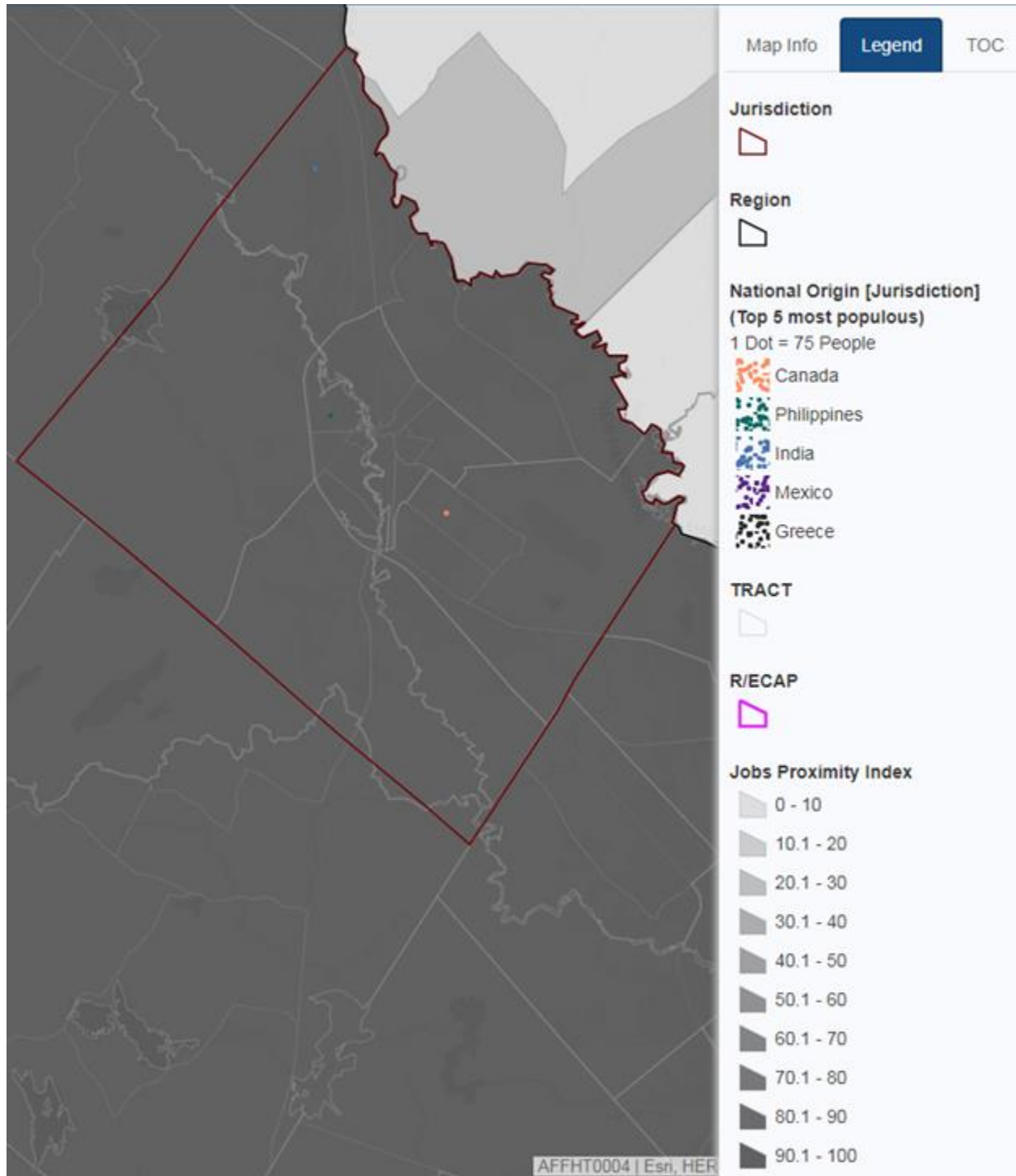
All areas of the City of Rochester, as well as Strafford County, have close proximity to jobs. American Community Survey data from 2012 to 2016 indicates that the vast majority of Rochester workers travel less than an hour to reach their place of employment (91.9%), and 54% of Rochester workers travel less than a half hour to reach their place of employment. The mean travel time to work according to this ACS data is 26.2 minutes.

HUD data, obtained through the AFFH Tool, shows that job proximity is the same throughout all census tracts in the City of Rochester. Specific maps with race/ethnicity data, national origin data, and familial status are included below.

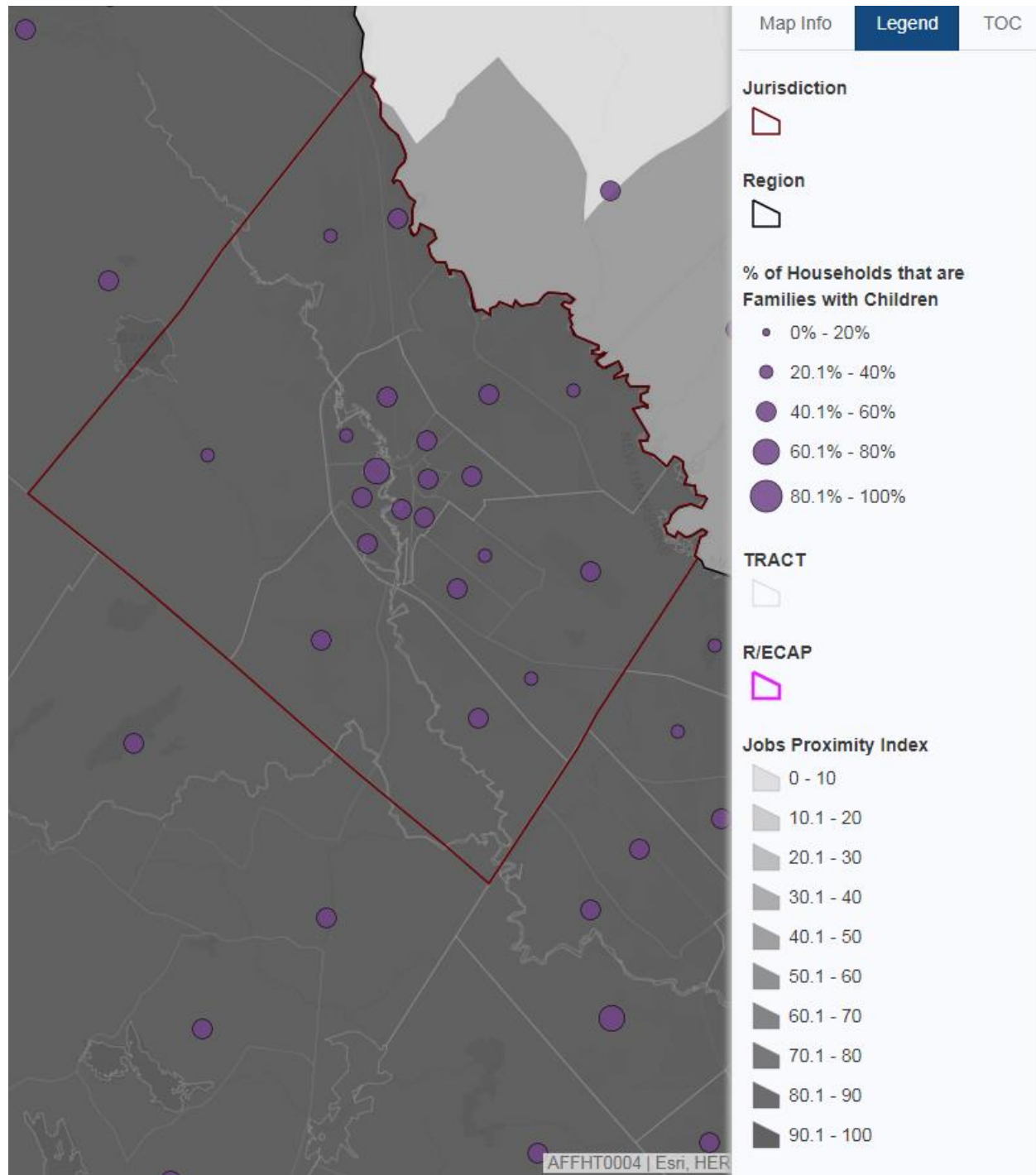
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**Job Proximity by Race/Ethnicity**



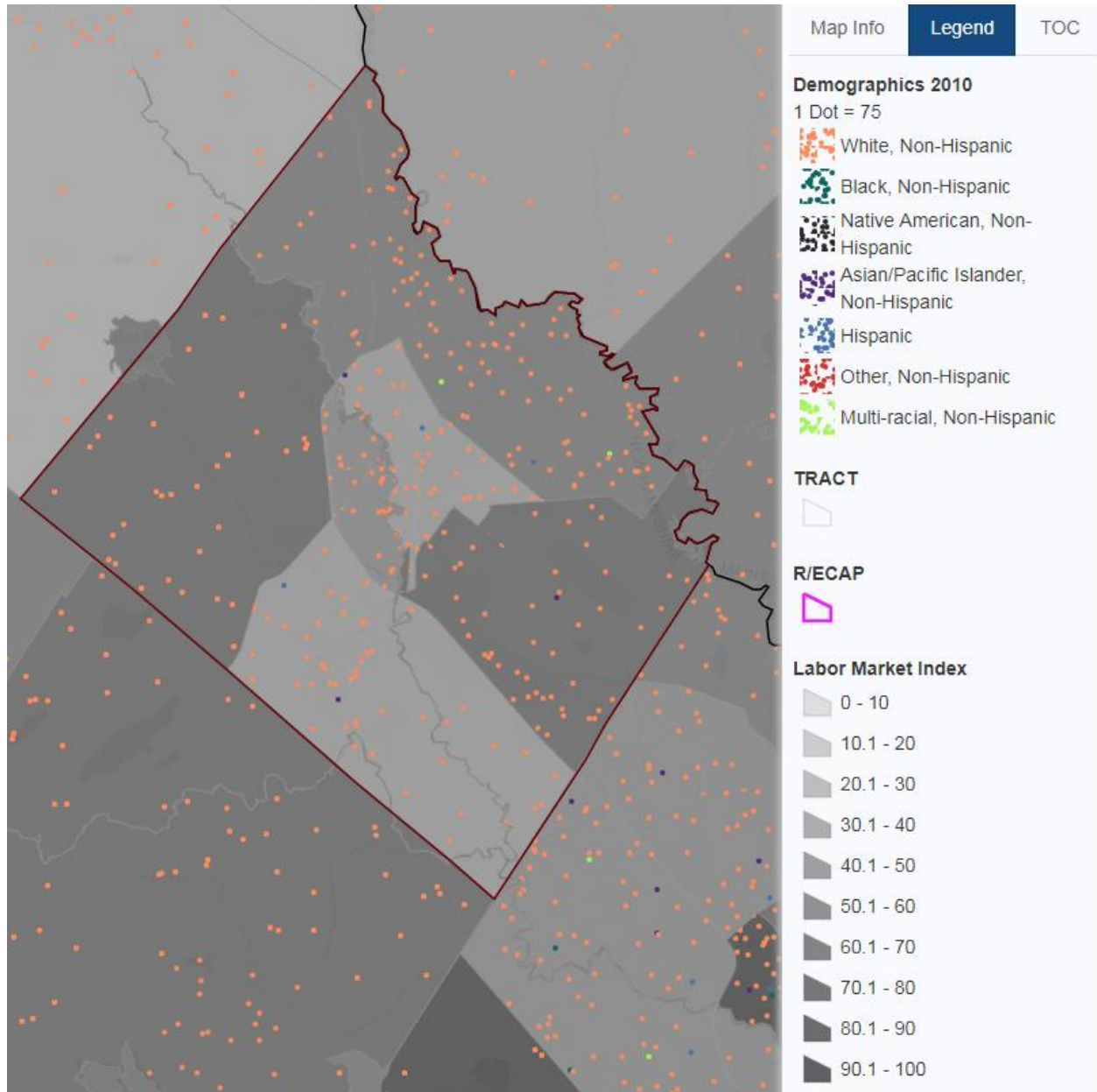
**Job Proximity by National Origin**



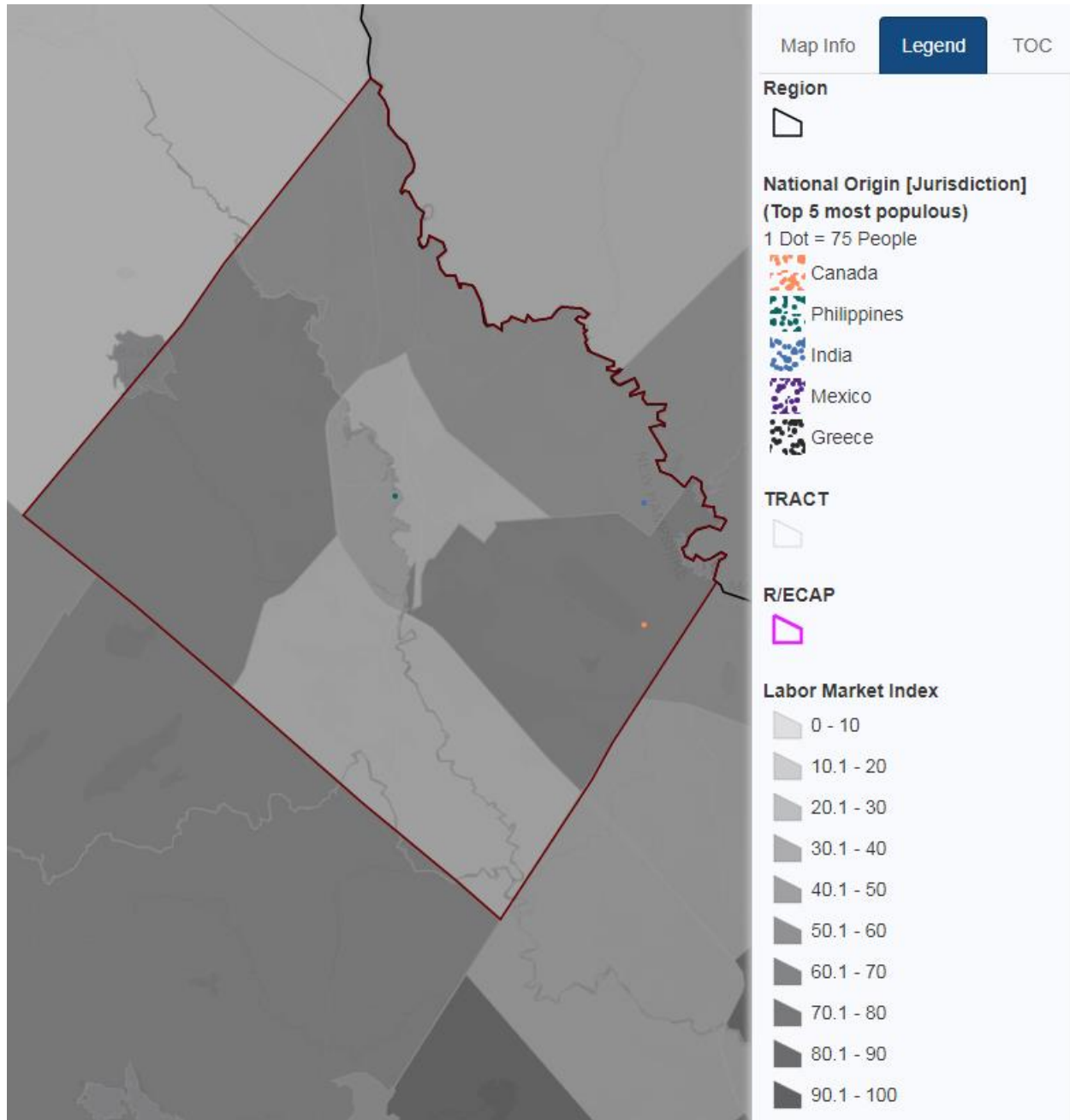
**Job Proximity by Family Size**

Labor market index data is not as homogenous. As seen on the maps below, created using the HUD AFFH Tool, darker areas indicate higher levels of labor engagement, while lighter areas indicate lower levels of labor engagement. No areas of the city are either at the highest or lowest levels, but there are disparities, with the central (downtown) and south-southeastern parts of the city showing lower levels than the northern, western, and eastern parts of the city. While residents seem relatively evenly spread between higher and lower census tracts based on race/ethnicity and national origin, there appears to be a concentration of families with children in the lower census tracts.



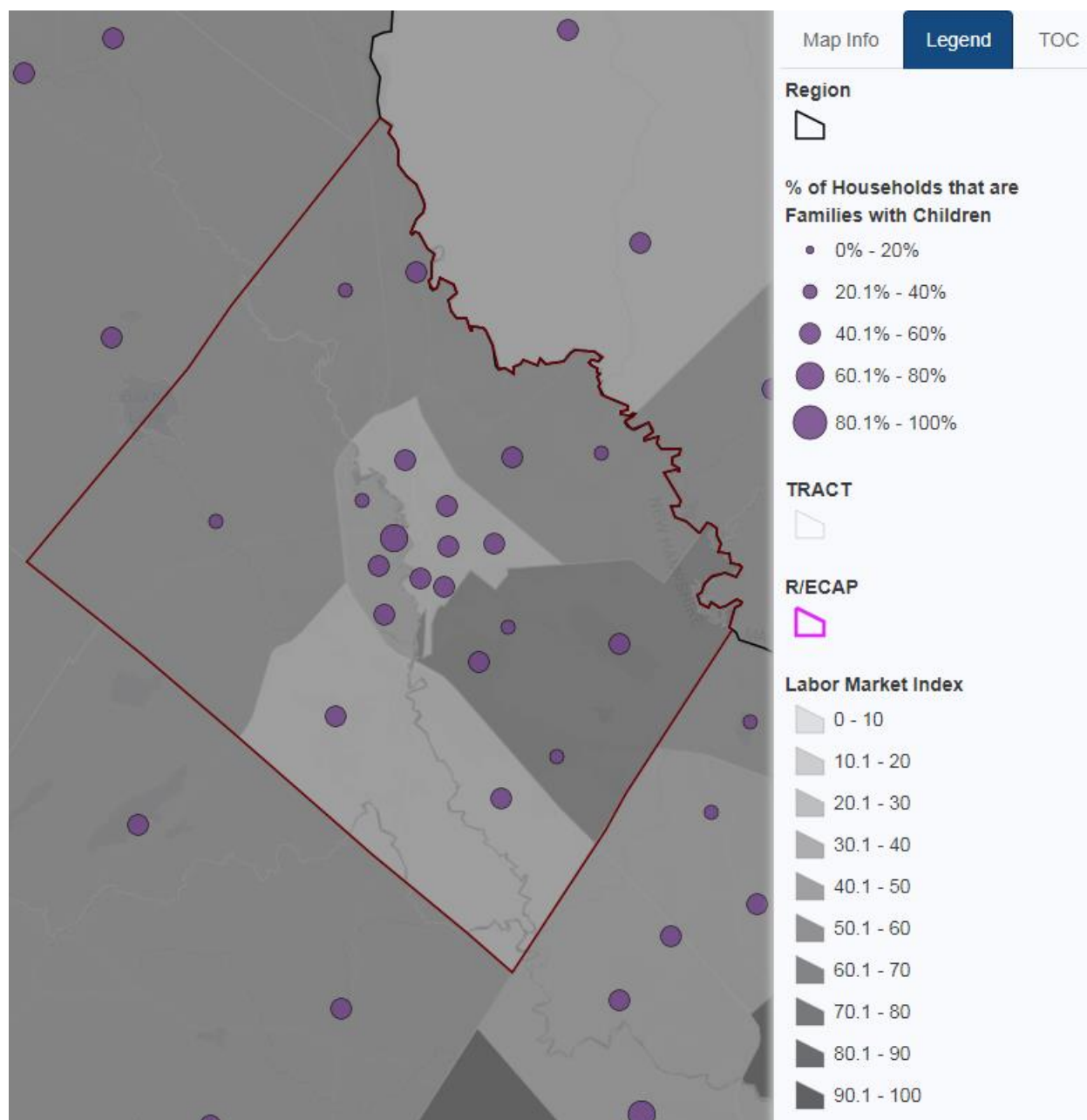


**Labor Market Index by Race/Ethnicity**



**Labor Market Index by National Origin**





**Labor Market Index by Family Size**

**ii. *How does a person's place of residence affect their ability to obtain a job?***

A primary impact of residency for many residents is access to public transportation. American Community Survey data from 2012-2016 indicates that 3.7% of Rochester households do not have a personal vehicle and 18.1% of households have only one personal vehicle. The Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST) has four bus routes that run through the City of Rochester. These routes primarily pass through the main corridors of the city—NH Route 11, NH Route 125, and NH Route 108. Public input received at neighborhood ward meetings as well as at Rochester Housing Authority residents meetings has consistently expressed the need for more transportation services, especially services for elderly residents and residents with disabilities.

Fortunately, these bus routes run through the densely populated downtown region and provide access to a large number of residents. As discussed in previous sections, racial and ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester disproportionately rent rather than own their housing, and rental housing (especially affordable rental housing) in the City of Rochester disproportionately is located in the downtown and immediate vicinity of downtown. Families with children also disproportionately live in or near the downtown.

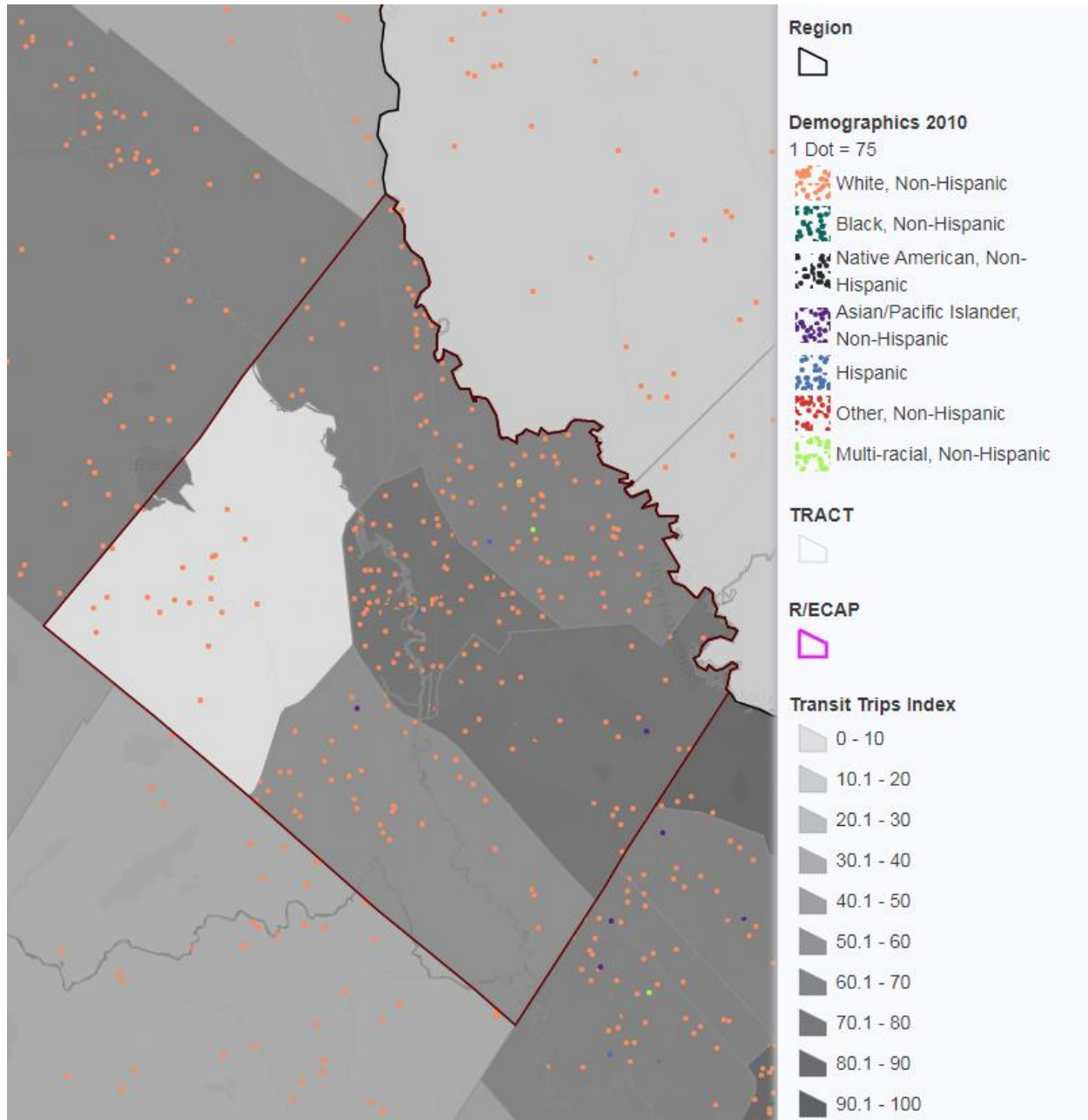
**iii. Which racial/ethnic, national origin, or family status groups are least successful in accessing employment?**

As seen on the maps in the previous subsection, darker areas indicate higher levels of labor engagement, while lighter areas indicate lower levels of labor engagement. No areas of the city are either at the highest or lowest levels, but there are disparities, with the central (downtown) and south-southeastern parts of the city showing lower levels than the northern, western, and eastern parts of the city. While residents seem relatively evenly spread between higher and lower census tracts based on race/ethnicity and national origin, there appears to be a concentration of families with children in the lower census tracts.

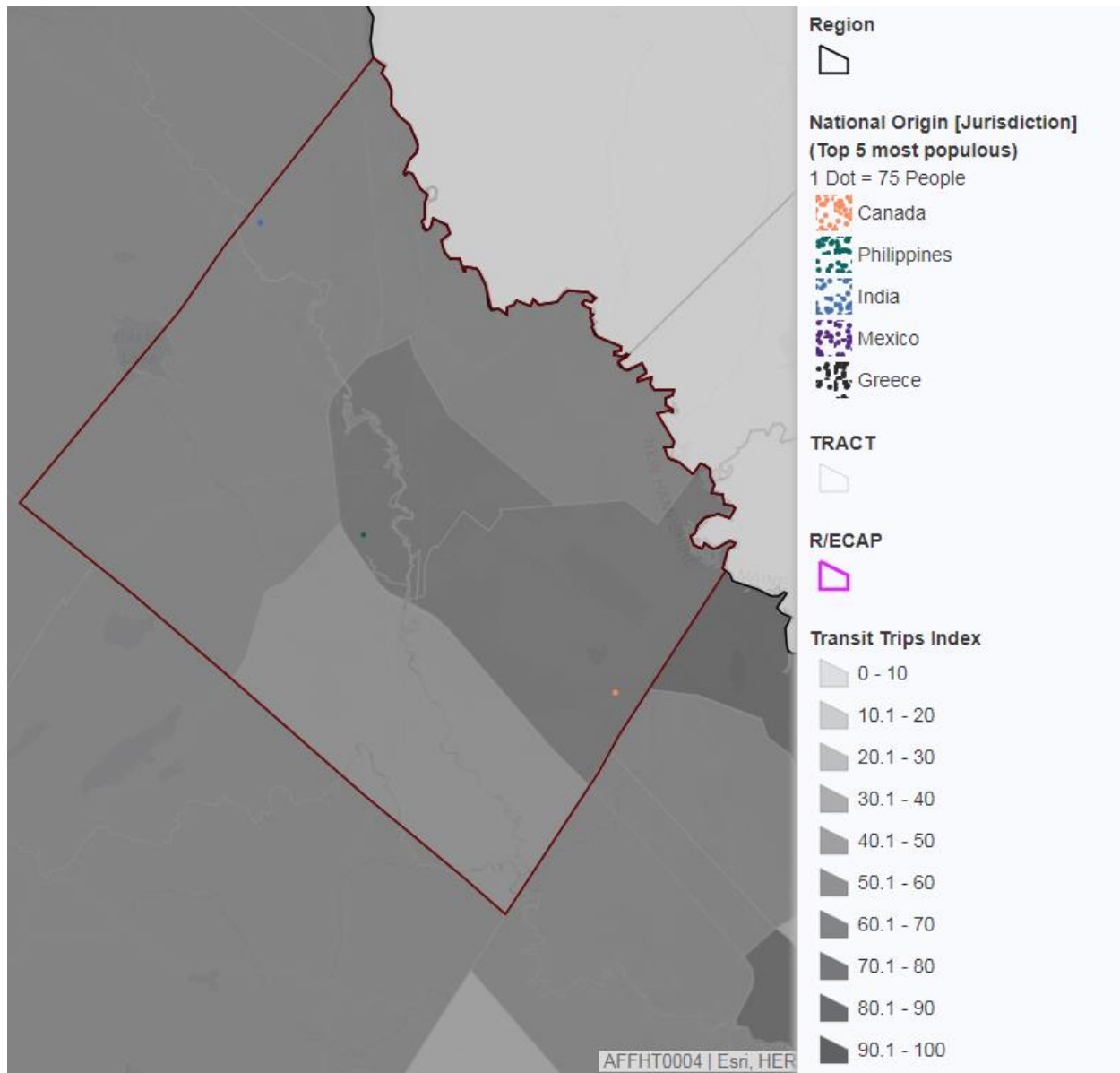
**c. Transportation Opportunities**

**i. Describe any disparities in access to transportation based on place of residence, cost, or other transportation related factors.**

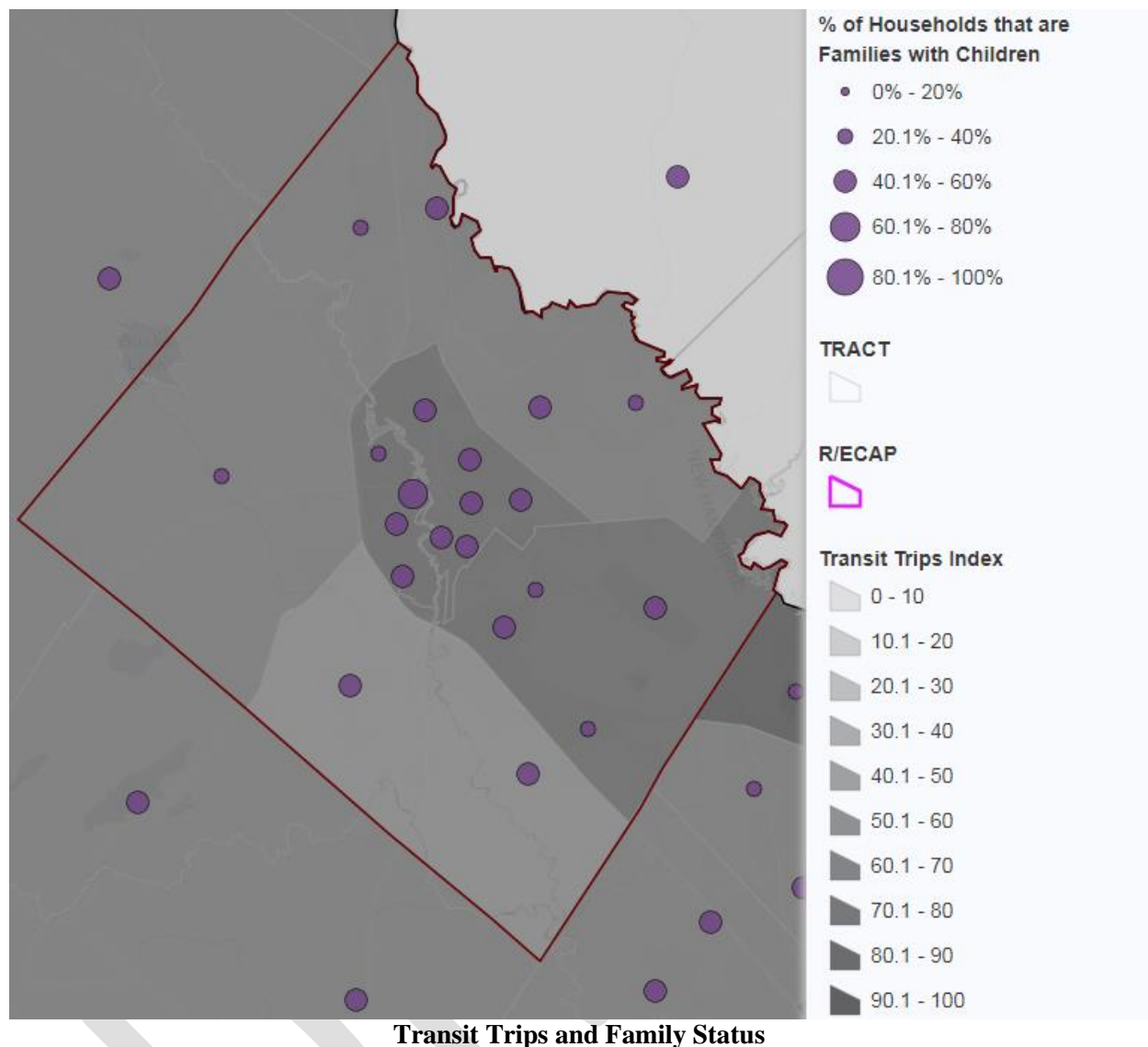
American Community Survey data from 2012-2016 indicates that 3.7% of Rochester households do not have a personal vehicle and 18.1% of households have only one personal vehicle. The Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST) has four bus routes that run through the City of Rochester. These routes primarily pass through the main corridors of the city—NH Route 11, NH Route 125, and NH Route 108. The University of New Hampshire (UNH) Wildcat Transit system also provides bus services regionally. In addition to COAST and UNH Wildcat, the Seacoast region has train transportation access with Amtrak stations in the City of Dover and the towns of Durham and Exeter. Charter bus services (to Boston and New York City) are available through C & J Bus Lines, which has bus stations located in the cities of Dover and Portsmouth.



**Transit Trips and Race/Ethnicity**



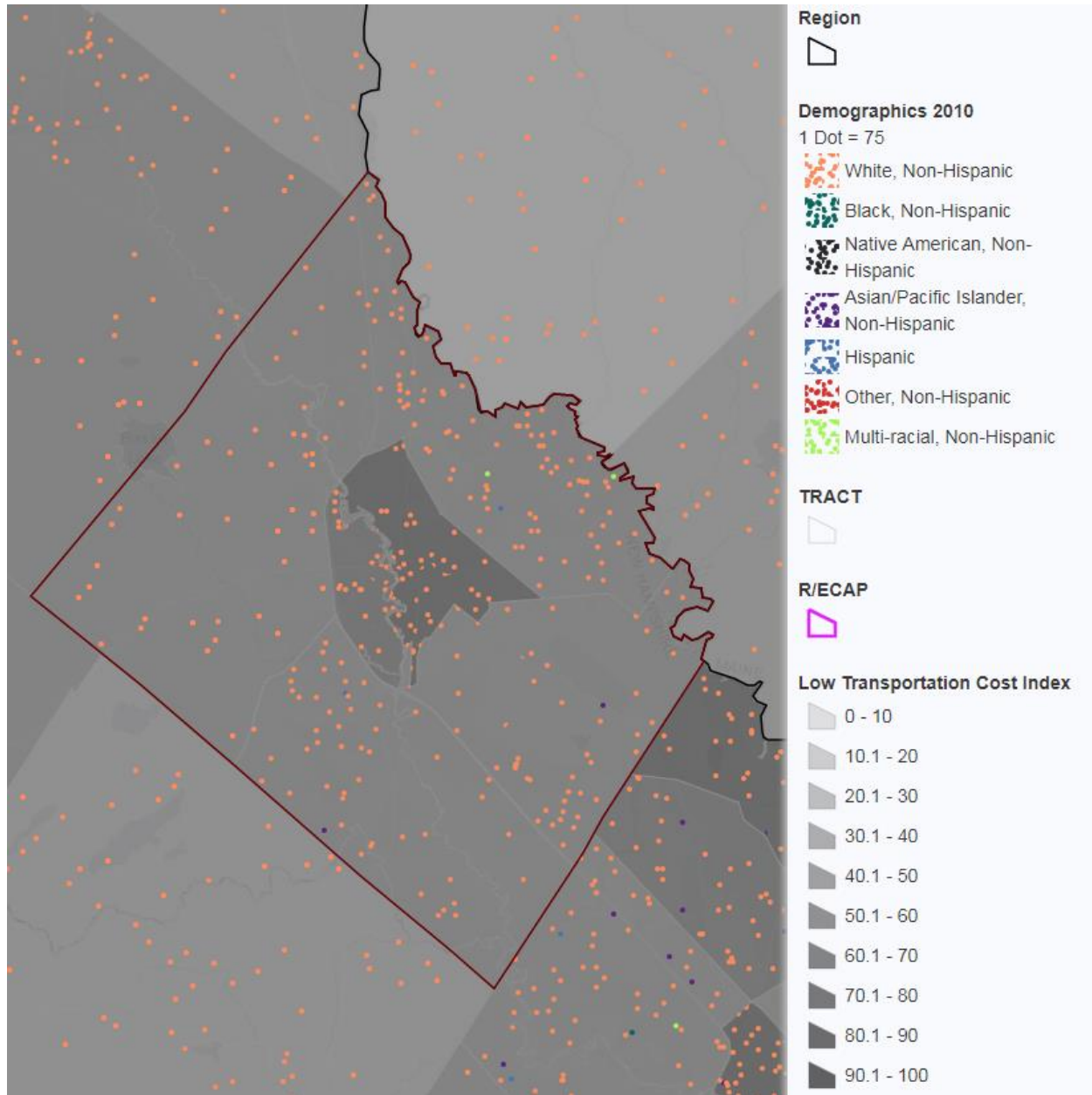
**Transit Trips and National Origin**



As seen on the maps above, created using HUD data and the HUD AFFH Tool, there are high levels of transit access citywide. The central area of the city and the eastern area have slightly higher levels, however, while the southeastern portion of the city has slightly lower levels. Racial and ethnic minorities, residents with foreign national origins, and families with children live largely in the areas of the city with higher levels of transit access.

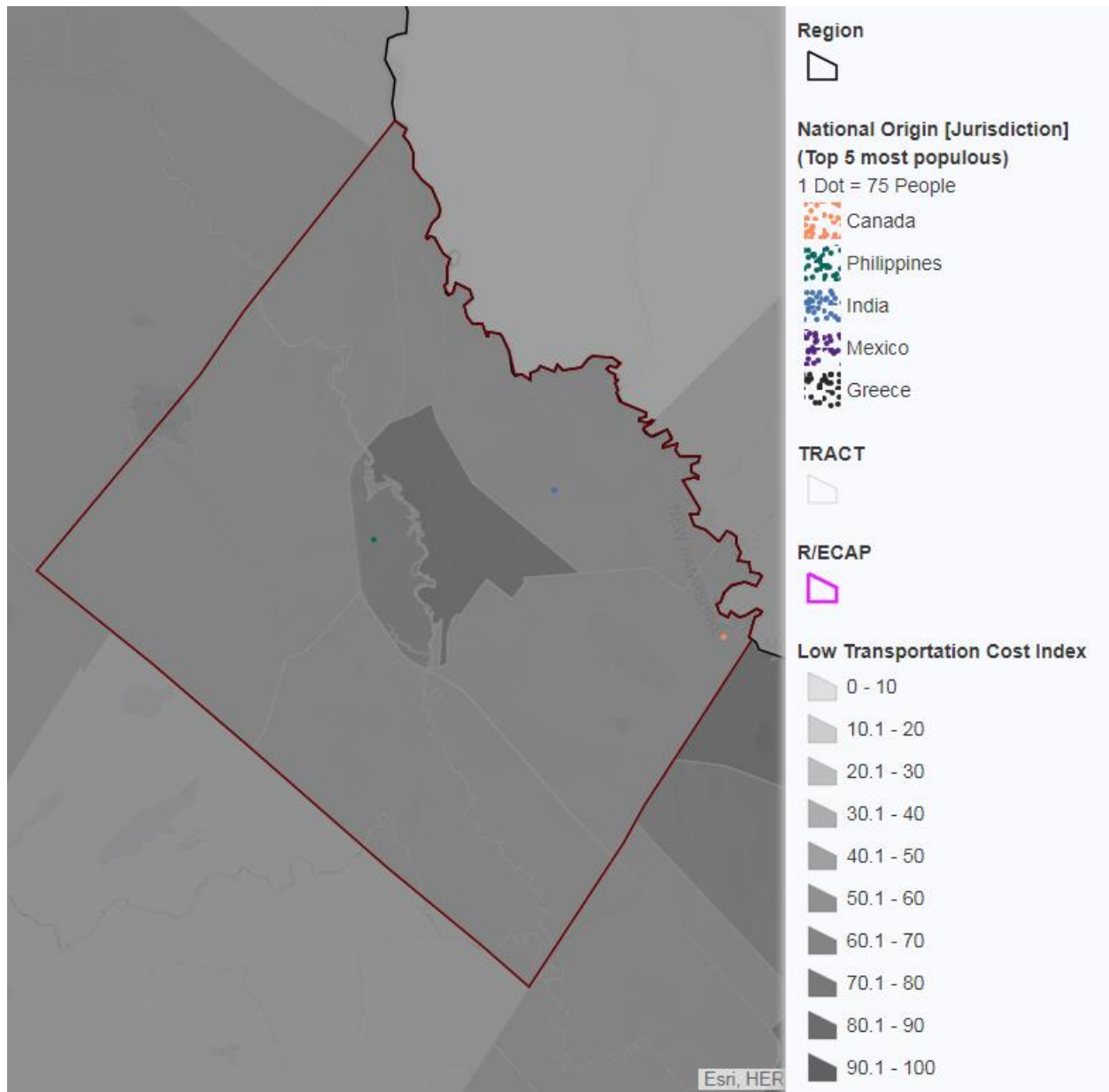
**ii. Which racial/ethnic, national origin or family status groups are most affected by the lack of a reliable, affordable transportation connection between their place of residence and opportunities?**

As seen on the maps in the previous subsection, created using HUD data and the HUD AFFH Tool, there are high levels of transit access citywide. Racial and ethnic minorities, residents with foreign national origins, and families with children live largely in the areas of the city with higher levels of transit access. However, public input received at neighborhood ward meetings as well as at Rochester Housing Authority residents meetings has consistently expressed the need for more public and private transportation services, especially services for elderly residents and residents with disabilities.

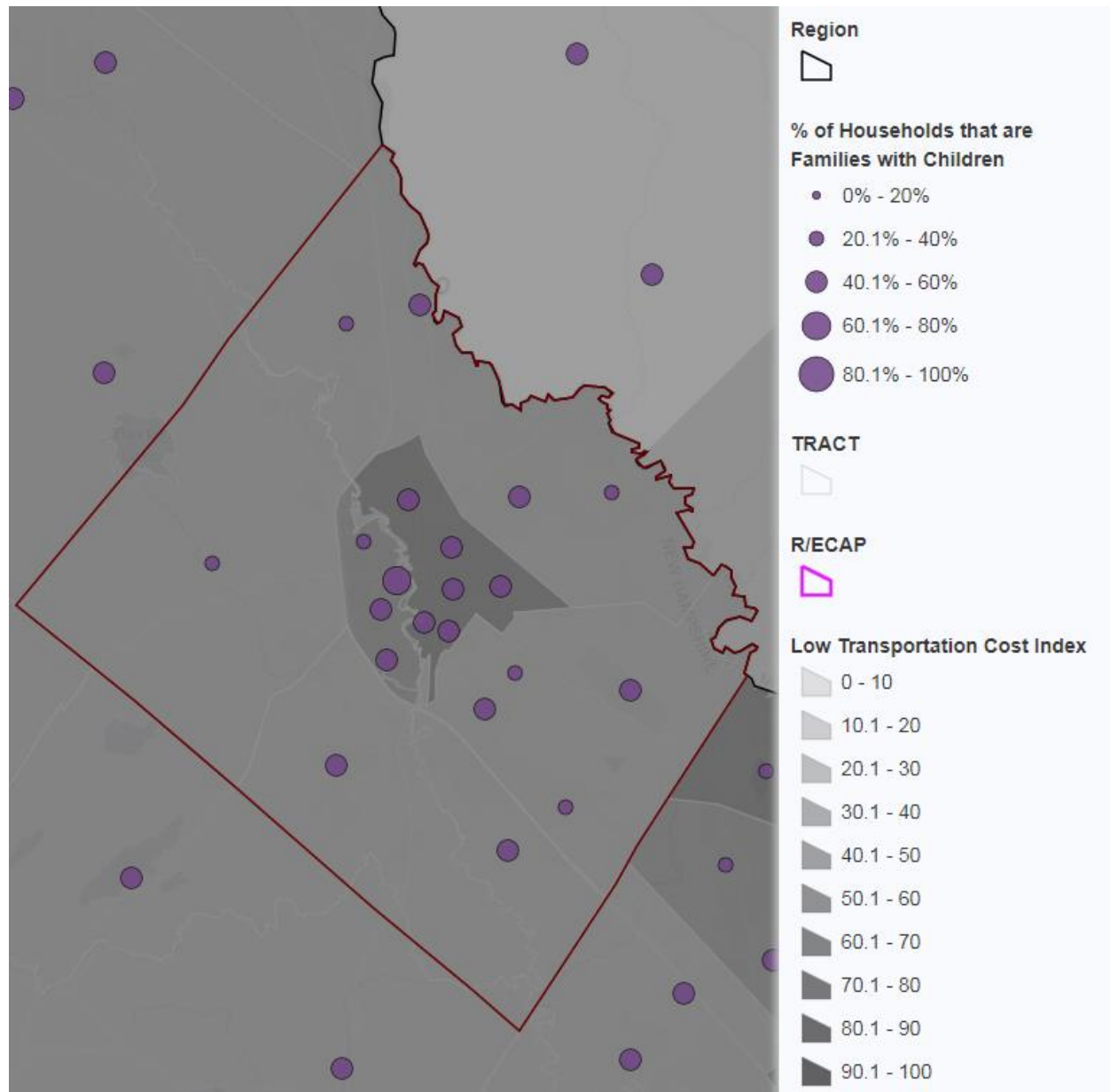


**Low Transportation Cost and Race/Ethnicity**





**Low Transportation Cost and National Origin**



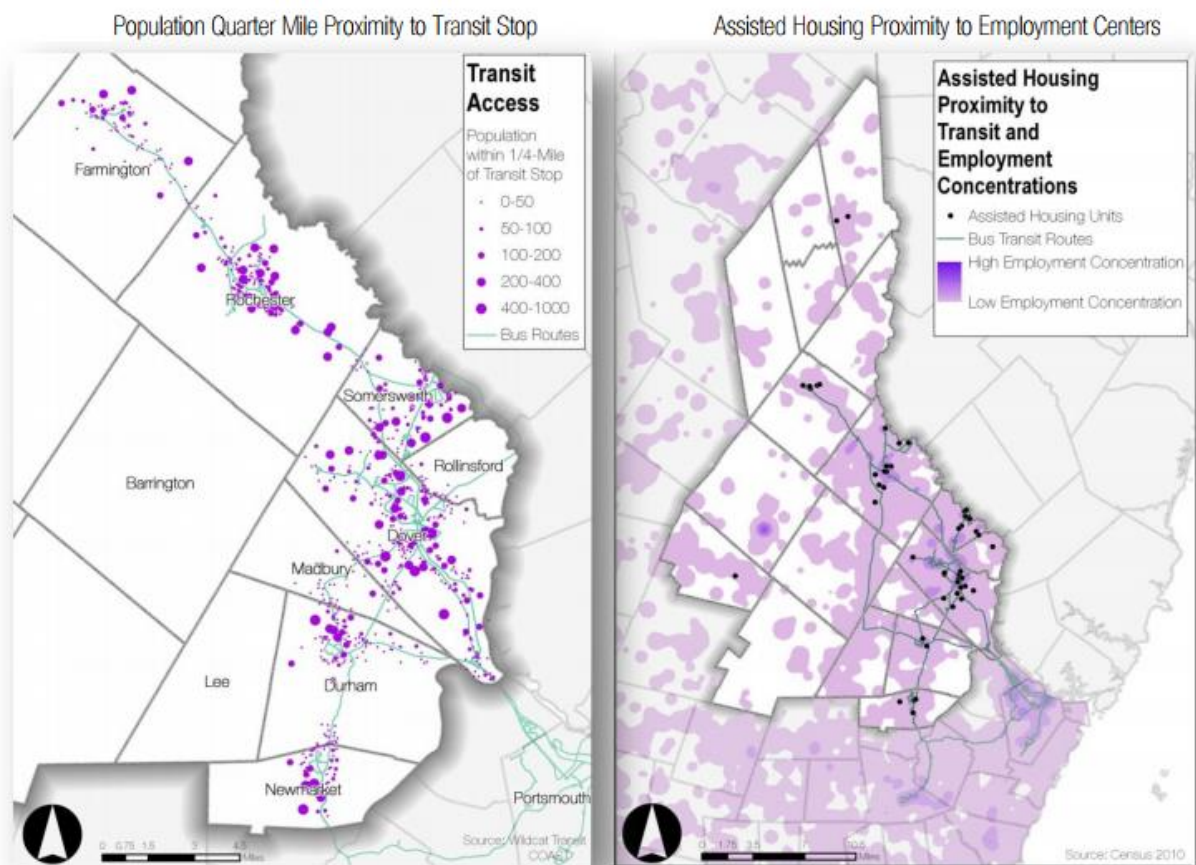
**Low Transportation Cost and Family Status**

On the transportation cost maps above, created using HUD data, higher transportation cost indices (the darker shading) represents lower cost of transportation in that neighborhood. The lowest transportation costs, therefore, exist in the central and more urban part of the city, which is also where bus routes are concentrated. The more rural outskirts of the city have slightly higher costs, but all areas of the city have relatively high transportation costs indices (in the 50-70% range). While most families with children live in the regions with lower transportation costs, Asian/Pacific Islander residents, Hispanic residents, and multiracial residents live disproportionately in the regions with somewhat higher transportation costs. Residents originating from Canada and India also live disproportionately in the regions with somewhat higher transportation costs.



- iii. *Describe how the jurisdiction's and region's policies, such as public transportation routes or transportation systems designed for use personal vehicles, affect the ability of protected class groups to access transportation.*

American Community Survey data from 2012-2016 indicates that 3.7% of Rochester households do not have a personal vehicle and 18.1% of households have only one personal vehicle. The alternative transportation access section of Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2015 *Fair Housing and Equity Assessment* affirmed that access to opportunity, including employment opportunity, is dependent on access to transportation. Two GIS-based surveys conducted by the commission examined the relationship between population centers in Strafford County and transportation services, and these analyses (mapped below) found that transportation services are available within a quarter mile walking distance of the most densely populated regions of the county and large portions of the county's population.



### Population Proximity to Bus Stops in Strafford County

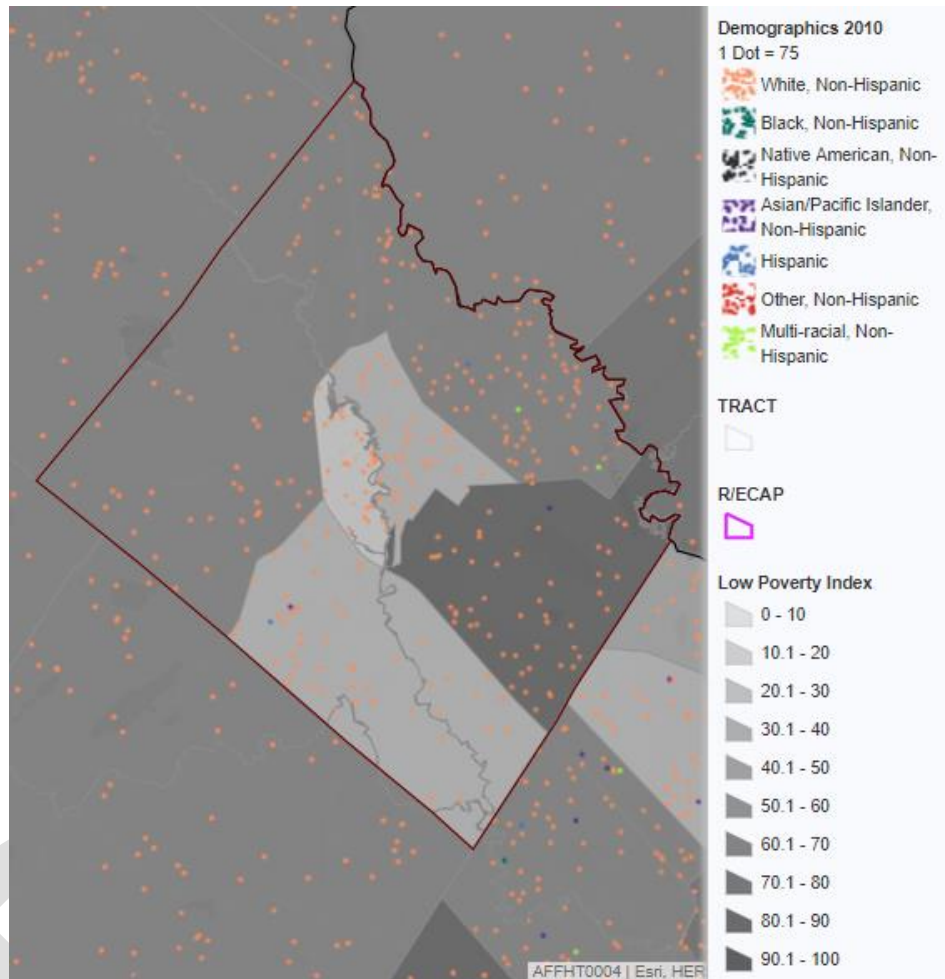
source: Strafford Regional Planning Commission, Fair Housing and Equity Assessment (January 2015)

#### d. Low Poverty Exposure Opportunities

- i. *Describe any disparities in exposure to poverty by protected class groups.*

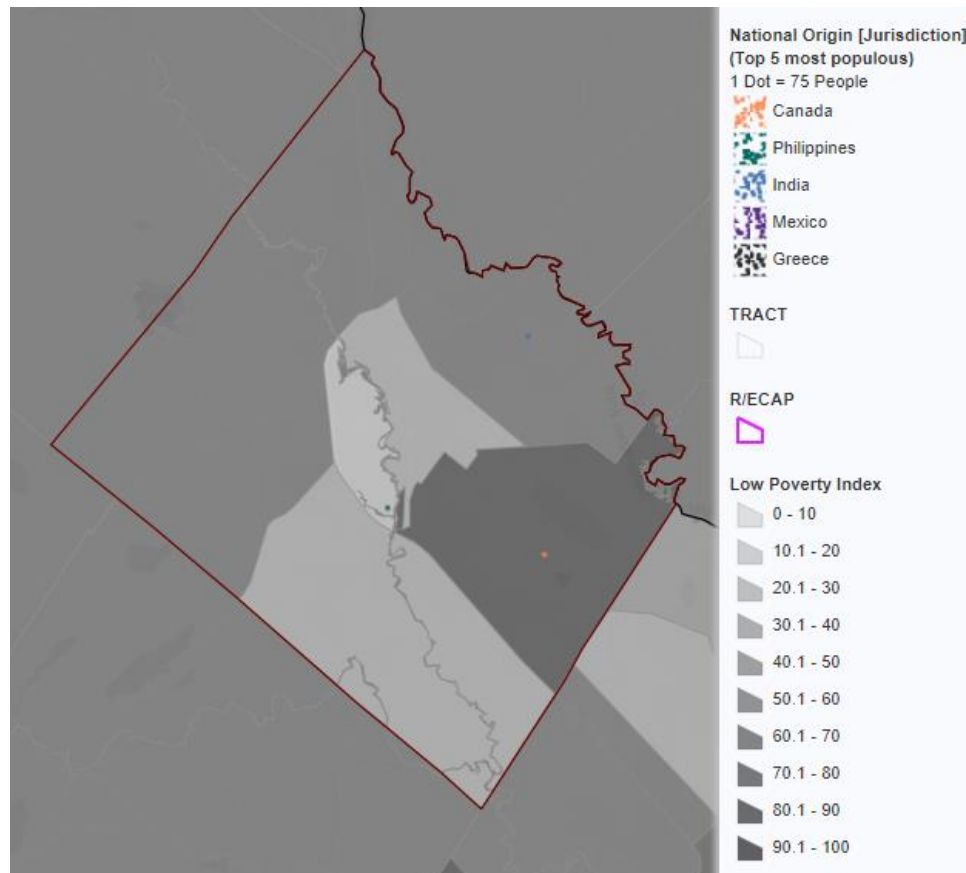
In the maps below, created using HUD data on depth and intensity of poverty by census tract, the values range from 0 to 100, and higher scores indicate less exposure to poverty in a neighborhood. The

areas of highest poverty exposure are the more urban center of the city and the southeastern region of the city, while the more rural eastern and western region of the city has the least poverty exposure. The northern region of the city, comprised of the former Village of East Rochester, has intermediate levels of poverty exposure.



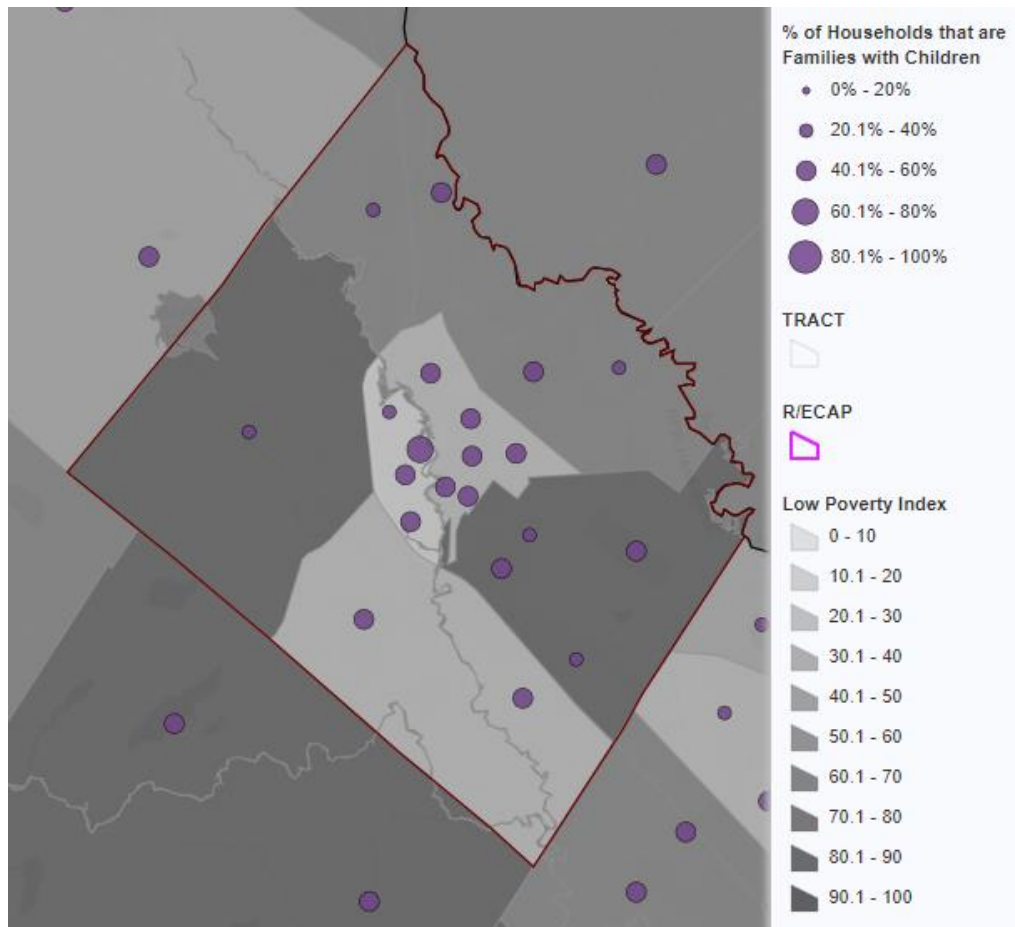
**Poverty and Race/Ethnicity**

As shown on the map above, created using the HUD AFFH Tool, Asian/Pacific Islander residents and Hispanic residents disproportionately live in the census tracts with intermediate and highest poverty exposure, while multiracial residents disproportionately live in intermediate poverty exposure census tracts.



### Poverty and National Origin

As shown on the map above, created using the HUD AFFH Tool, residents with a national origin from India live disproportionately in census tracts with the highest poverty exposure, while residents with a national origin from Canada live disproportionately in census tracts with the lowest poverty exposure.



**Poverty and Family Status**

As shown on the map above, created using the HUD AFFH Tool, families with children largely live in the census tracts with the highest poverty exposure, although there are sizable populations of families with children in census tracts with intermediate and lowest poverty exposures.

**ii. *What role does a person's place of residence play in their exposure to poverty?***

The areas of highest poverty exposure are the more urban center of the city and the southeastern region of the city, while the more rural eastern and western region of the city has the least poverty exposure. The northern region of the city, comprised of the former Village of East Rochester, has intermediate levels of poverty exposure.

**iii. *Which racial/ethnic, national origin or family status groups are most affected by these poverty indicators?***

Asian/Pacific Islander residents and Hispanic residents disproportionately live in the census tracts with intermediate and highest poverty exposure, while multiracial residents disproportionately live in intermediate poverty exposure census tracts. Residents with a national origin from India live disproportionately in census tracts with the highest poverty exposure, while residents with a national origin from Canada live disproportionately in census tracts with the lowest poverty exposure. Families with children largely live in the census tracts with the highest poverty exposure, although there are sizable populations of families with children in census tracts with intermediate and lowest poverty exposures.

**iv. *Describe how the jurisdiction's and region's policies affect the ability of protected class groups to access low poverty areas.***

Data from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, in its *Housing Market Update* report for September 2017 and November 2017, indicates statewide trends of rising home prices, low rental vacancy, low availability of homes for purchase, and increasing rents. The City of Rochester's Planning Department has reported that much of the new housing development in the last three years has been higher-end housing (\$300,000 and up). Regionally, there has been a trend of lower income residents being priced out of the southern part of the Seacoast New Hampshire region, then housing costs rising in the northern regions.

In addition, the City of Rochester's Planning Department have identified problems within the current zoning ordinance. Density allowances can prevent multifamily, affordable housing developments from being financially feasible for housing developers. Consultations with regional housing developers and affordable housing non-profit agencies statewide have also indicated a lack of affordable housing incentive programs within the State of New Hampshire, which has led to poverty concentrations in the downtown region, where the housing stock is older, dilapidated, and lower cost.

**f. *Patterns in Disparities in Access to Opportunity***

**i. *Identify and discuss any overarching patterns of access to opportunity and exposure to adverse community factors based on race/ethnicity, national origin or familial status. Identify areas that experience an aggregate of poor access to opportunity and high exposure to adverse factors. Include how these patterns compare to patterns of segregation and R/ECAPs.***

There is largely even distribution of race/ethnicity, national origin, and family status among the school proficiency levels, with the exception of Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic, and multiracial residents living disproportionately in lower proficiency census tracts. All areas of the City of Rochester, as well as Strafford County, have close proximity to jobs. Regarding labor engagement, the central downtown, south, and southeastern parts of the city show lower levels than the northern, western, and eastern parts of the city, with a concentration of families with children in the lower-engagement census tracts. Racial and ethnic minorities, residents with foreign national origins, and families with children live largely in the areas of the city with higher levels of transit access. Asian/Pacific Islander residents and Hispanic residents, residents with a national origin from India, and families with children all disproportionately live in the census tracts with intermediate and highest poverty exposure. Households with children live disproportionately in the downtown, which has census tracts that have relatively lower environmental health quality than the outskirt regions of the city.

**2. *Additional Information***

**a. *Beyond the HUD-provided data, provide additional relevant information, if any, about disparities in access to opportunity in the jurisdiction and region affecting groups with other protected characteristics.***

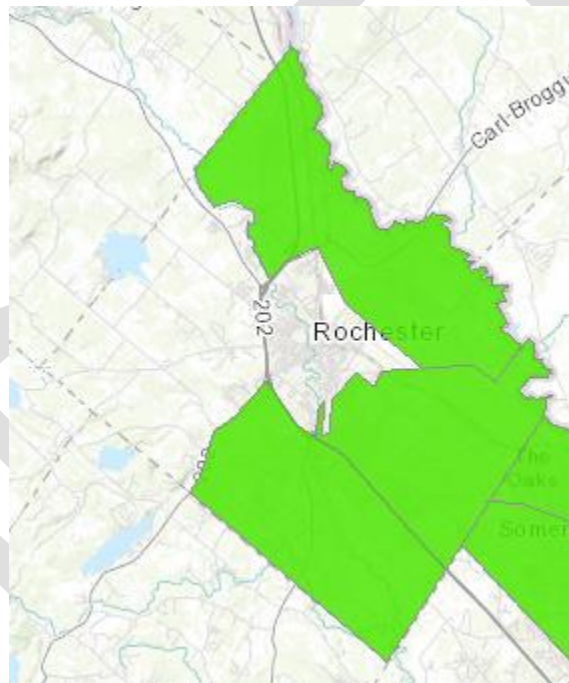
In addition to HUD data, state lead poisoning data has led the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services to designate the City of Rochester as one of eight "high risk" communities for lead poisoning issues, mostly due to the age and conditions of the housing stock which is dominant in the downtown target area. This ranking is supported by a 2012 Health Needs Assessment from the regional



Wentworth-Douglass Hospital which includes “physical environment” as one of the top 15 health needs in the Seacoast area.

Data from Strafford Regional Planning Commission's 2015 fair housing assessment found that "Dover and Rochester, the [Strafford County] region's largest municipalities, are comparable in both geographic size and total population" but while Dover had a minority population of 9.44%, Rochester had a minority population of only 4.58%. The report suggests that data indicates "Dover is more affordable [than Rochester] to minority renters and owners." This is concerning as, generally, rents and home prices are lower in the City of Rochester than the City of Rochester.

Recent data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Access Research Atlas, displayed in the map below, show there are areas of low food access in the northern, eastern, and southern areas of the city. These are also areas of the city that have disproportionate concentrations of racial/ethnic minorities, such as Asian/Pacific Islander residents and Hispanic residents. However, not all of these regions are lower-income; the southern region of the city, for example, has a higher median income than the rest of the city.



**Food Access Map of Rochester**  
(source: USDA Food Access Research Atlas)

- b. *The program participant may also describe other information relevant to its assessment of disparities in access to opportunity, including any activities aimed at improving access to opportunities for areas that may lack such access, or in promoting access to opportunity (e.g., proficient schools, employment opportunities, and transportation).***

The City of Rochester has made several efforts to approve access to opportunities for its residents. The Rochester Farmers Market was founded in 2016 with substantial assistance from the city's Office of Economic and Community Development. The city's Economic Development Specialist served on the steering committee for the market in its first two years, and the Community Development Coordinator helped the market draft several start-up grant

applications. In addition to providing a central, easily-accessible downtown location to purchase high-quality whole foods, the Rochester Farmers Market also has special programs that provide free or reduced-cost food to veterans and SNAP recipients.

The City of Rochester also provides rental assistance for low-income residents through Community Development Block Grant funding to several non-profit agencies specializing in this form of financial support. All of the recipients of rental assistance are low-income, and beginning in FY 2017-2018, some of the funding has been reserved specifically for residents with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities. The city's CDBG activities also disproportionately serve racial and ethnic minority residents; for example, as reported in the FY 2016-2017 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report to HUD, 14 of residents with CDBG funds were racial or ethnic minorities, compared to 4.6% of the overall population of the city.

The City of Rochester has also partnered with New Hampshire Housing Legal Assistance's Housing Justice Project to provide landlord education outreach services to Rochester landlords, especially landlords renting to low to moderate income tenants. The city most recently provided CDBG funding for this sort of outreach in FY 2015-2016, and the outreach was specifically targeted at educating landlords and other housing providers on the rights of tenants with disabilities (both physical and mental).

The City of Rochester has also partnered with the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST), the major public transportation provider for the region, on a number of initiatives aimed at increasing and improving transportation options for elderly residents, residents with disabilities, and lower-income residents. These efforts have included a Tri-City Volunteer Drivers Program (serving the neighboring cities of Rochester, Dover, and Somersworth) and a presentation on free and reduced cost transportation options presented by the COAST Community Transportation Manager to Rochester Housing Authority residents.

### **3. Contributing Factors of Disparities in Access to Opportunity**

*Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of disparities in access to opportunity.*

- Access to financial services

Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data for 2016 for all City of Rochester census tracts, provided by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, showed 649 individual loan denial records for primary applicants. Of these 649 records, there was one record from an American Indian/Alaska Native resident, nine records from Asian residents, one record from a Black or African-American/Hispanic resident, two records from Black or African-American residents, ten records from Hispanic or Latino residents, and 43 records in which the applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification. The remaining 578 records were of white non-Hispanic residents.

A search of this same record set for co-applicant race and ethnicity data showed nine Asian residents, one Black or African-American/Hispanic resident, three Black or African American residents, two Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander residents, 31 records in which the co-applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification, and 321 records for



which there was not a co-applicant. The remaining 282 records were of white non-Hispanic residents.

No reason for the loan denial was provided for any of the records.

For primary applicants, if one excludes the records where an applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification, 96.2% of the denied loan applicants were white non-Hispanic residents. For co-applicants, if one excludes the records where an applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification or where there was not a co-applicant, 94.9% of the denied loan co-applicants were white non-Hispanic residents. According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, the City of Rochester is 94.3% white (28,080 residents), so these loan denial rates seem to indicate that there is not discriminatory lending occurring, as the percentage of non-white residents who have received denials is roughly the same as the overall percentage of non-white residents within the city.

In addition, there is national-level data available on disparities in access to financial services. A 2012 report from the National Fair Housing Alliance, “Discriminatory Effects of Credit Scoring on Communities of Color,” found that “current credit scoring systems have a disparate impact on people and communities of color” and that “many credit scoring mechanisms include factors that do not just assess the risk characteristics of the borrower ... [but] also reflect the riskiness of the environment in which a consumer is utilizing credit as well as the riskiness of the types of product a consumer uses.”<sup>24</sup> The report also states that “[c]redit and other scoring mechanisms are being used by employers to evaluate job applicants, insurers to determine auto, life and homeowners insurance, and landlords to screen tenants,” which expands the disparities faced by communities of color in access to financial services.

A 2018 report from the Brookings Institution, “Supporting Mortgage Lending in Rural Communities,” found that “[t]he GSEs [Government Sponsored Enterprises] and Ginnie Mae continue to provide critical mortgage capital to low- and moderate-income borrowers, and borrowers of color” and that “FHA [Federal Housing Administration] continues to play an outsized role among borrowers of color in rural areas.”<sup>25</sup> This data is especially useful as New Hampshire is a predominately rural state.

- The availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation

American Community Survey data from 2012-2016 indicates that 3.7% of Rochester households do not have a personal vehicle and 18.1% of households have only one personal vehicle. The Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST) has four bus routes that run through the City of Rochester. These routes primarily pass through the main corridors of the city—NH Route 11, NH Route 125, and NH Route 108. Public input received at neighborhood ward meetings as well as at Rochester Housing Authority

<sup>24</sup> Rice L, Swesnik D, “Discriminatory Effects of Credit Scoring on Communities of Color,” National Fair Housing Alliance. June 2012. <<http://nationalfairhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/NFHA-credit-scoring-paper-for-Suffolk-NCLC-symposium-submitted-to-Suffolk-Law.pdf>>.

<sup>25</sup> Calhoun M, Feltner T, Smith P, “Supporting Mortgage Lending in Rural Communities,” The Brookings Institution. January 2018. <[https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/es\\_2018\\_01\\_10\\_rural\\_housing\\_report.pdf](https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/es_2018_01_10_rural_housing_report.pdf)>.

residents meetings has consistently expressed the need for more transportation services, especially services for elderly residents and residents with disabilities.

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) Wildcat Transit system also provides bus services regionally. In addition to COAST and UNH Wildcat, the Seacoast region has train transportation access with Amtrak stations in the City of Dover and the towns of Durham and Exeter. Charter bus services (to Boston and New York City) are available through C & J Bus Lines, which has bus stations located in the cities of Dover and Portsmouth.

HUD data, obtained and analyzed using the HUD AFFH Tool, indicates that there are high levels of transit access citywide. The central area of the city and the eastern area have slightly higher levels, however, while the southeastern portion of the city has slightly lower levels. Racial and ethnic minorities, residents with foreign national origins, and families with children live largely in the areas of the city with higher levels of transit access. There is not a negative disparity in opportunity to access public transportation for residents in protected classes.

- Lack of private investments in specific neighborhoods

Public input received at neighborhood ward meetings as well as consultations with non-profit agencies and local business organizations have indicated that there is a lack of private investment in the downtown Ward 4 residential neighborhood (Block Group 2, Census Tract 844) known as Frenchtown. Frenchtown is bordered by River Street, Gagne Street, Washington Street, and North Main Street.

This neighborhood is low-income with significant crime rates and drug activity rates. Much of the residential housing is owned by out of state property owners who do not maintain their properties in good condition. These factors deter potential developers from purchasing properties in this neighborhood or otherwise investing in the neighborhood.

- Lack of public investments in specific neighborhoods, including services or amenities

Most of the City of Rochester's investments, especially its CDBG investments, have been targeted to low-income downtown census tracts, as these areas of the city have the highest populations and greatest needs. Higher-income census tracts on the outer edges of the city have received less funding, and consultation with the Strafford Regional Planning Commission indicates that the East Rochester area of the city lacks a grocery store. In addition to CDBG funding, the low-income Frenchtown neighborhood, located in the downtown region, received substantial financial support during the city's 2009 Neighborhood Stabilization Program that renovated five dilapidated residential properties in the neighborhood.

The City of Rochester also has six state-designated Economic Revitalization Zones (ERZ) within the city, zones with "[v]acant land or structures previously used for industrial, commercial, or retail purposes but currently not so used due to demolition, age, obsolescence, deterioration, brownfields, relocation of the former occupant's operations, or cessation of operation resulting from unfavorable economic conditions either generally or in a specific economic sector."<sup>26</sup> The six ERZ areas are geographically distributed throughout the city and include the downtown, the former village of Gonic (southern

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<sup>26</sup> NH RSA 162-N. <<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/xii/162-n/162-n-mrg.htm>>.

Rochester), and the former village of East Rochester (north-northeastern Rochester). There is not a lack of public investment in any specific neighborhoods of the city.

- Lack of regional cooperation

The City of Rochester's Community Development Division has worked to enhance coordination between the Rochester Housing Authority, non-profit organizations providing housing and related services, community development staff in the neighboring cities of Dover and Portsmouth, and relevant Rochester departments such as the Welfare Office and Planning Department. The City of Rochester's Community Development Coordinator also engages in significant outreach and involvement in relevant community organizations, such as serving on the Greater Seacoast Coalition on Homelessness steering committee, serving on the board of directors of the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST), and active involvement with the Balance of State Continuum of Care. This has included attending an informational session in November 2017 on the Balance of State Continuum of Care's implementation of statewide coordinated entry for homeless services. There is not a lack of regional cooperation and, in fact, regional cooperation has been steadily increasing in recent years.

- Land use and zoning laws

In April of 2014, the City of Rochester updated the Chapter 42 of City of Rochester General Ordinances, which took ten years to complete. The Downtown Commercial District Zone has an average parcel size of 17,675 square feet, which would only allow for three dwelling units per parcel without seeking a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment under the 2014 ordinance. In early 2018, the ordinance was revised to lower the density limits to 500 sq. ft. per dwelling unit to allow for increased density within this zone, as the previous density regulations proved off-putting for developers who otherwise would be interested in investing in the downtown mixed-use buildings. Later in 2018, the Rochester Planning Department worked with the Community Development Division and the consultants at BendonAdams to perform a more in-depth analysis of downtown density and draft recommendations to further improve property owners' ability to develop downtown housing. A revised version of these recommendations was adopted by City Council in 2019.

These factors have led to disparate access to opportunity for lower-income residents, residents who rent (versus own) their housing, racial and ethnic minorities, and families with children, all of whom disproportionately live in the downtown region.

- Lending discrimination

According to Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HDMA) data for 2016, for primary Rochester applicants, if one excludes the records where an applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification, 96.2% of the denied loan applicants were white non-Hispanic residents. For co-applicants, if one excludes the records where an applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification or where there was not a co-applicant, 94.9% of the denied loan co-applicants were white non-Hispanic residents. According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, the City of Rochester is 94.3% white (28,080 residents), so these loan denial rates seem to indicate that there is not discriminatory lending occurring, as the percentage of non-white residents who have received denials is roughly the same as the overall percentage of non-white residents within the city.

- Location of employers

All areas of the City of Rochester, as well as Strafford County, have close proximity to jobs. American Community Survey data from 2012 to 2016 indicates that the vast majority of Rochester workers travel less than an hour to reach their place of employment (91.9%), and 54% of Rochester workers travel less than a half hour to reach their place of employment. The mean travel time to work according to this ACS data is 26.2 minutes. HUD data, obtained through the AFFH Tool, shows that job proximity is the same throughout all census tracts in the City of Rochester. There is not a disparity in access to opportunity as related to location of employers.

- Location of environmental health hazards

There are concentrations of Asian/Pacific Islander residents, Hispanic residents, and multiracial residents in census tracts identified by HUD as having higher environmental quality. There are concentrations of residents with a national origin of India in the northern part of the city and residents with a national origin of Canada in the eastern part of the city. All of these census tracts include the more rural southern and northern regions of the city.

However, the majority of households with children live in the more urban center of the city, which contains the census tracts that have relatively lower environmental health quality than the outskirt regions of the city. The disparity in health quality between these regions is fairly small, with all regions of the city ranking in between 30 and 60 on the 100 point scale of environmental health quality. Factors influencing this disparity likely include (1) the presence of more potential pollutants in this more urbanized area, including higher numbers of gas stations, auto repair shops, drycleaners, and other such businesses than in the more rural regions of the city and (2) the presence of lower quality low-income housing, which may contain code violations and health hazards such as lead paint.

- Location of proficient schools and school assignment policies

Racial and ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester disproportionately rent rather than own their housing, and rental housing (especially affordable rental housing) in the City of Rochester disproportionately is located in the downtown and immediate vicinity of downtown. Schools in the downtown are William Allen School, Chamberlain Street School, School Street School, and Maple Street Magnet School. Maple Street Magnet School enrollment is via application rather than residency; therefore, Maple Street Magnet School students live throughout the city.

National origin data and maps from HUD indicate a measurable population of residents originally from Canada in the east-central part of the city and from India in the north-central part of the city. Schools in the east-central part of the city are Chamberlain Street School and McClelland School. Schools in the north-central part of the city include East Rochester School and Nancy Loud School. Overall, there is equitable access to schools of similar proficiency, with the main exception being students enrolled at School Street School. The availability of the high-proficiency Maple Street Magnet School to students throughout the city somewhat offsets this.

The Rochester School Department policies related to enrollment include Admission of Nonresident Students (JECB),<sup>27</sup> Assignment of Students to Schools (JECC),<sup>28</sup> and Assignment of Students to Magnet Schools (JECC-1).<sup>29</sup> The Admission of Nonresident Students policy states, in part, that:

*the Superintendent or designee will review the applications and determine eligibility for admission to Spaulding High School based on a variety of factors, including ... [l]ikelihood of success ... In applying these selection criteria, the Rochester School District will not discriminate on the basis of any protected classification as identified in Policy AC (Nondiscrimination) or any classification protected by state or federal law.*

The Assignment of Students to Schools policy states that “[s]tudents shall be assigned to schools based upon their home address” with assignment zones “reviewed by the administration on an annual basis, and updated on the district’s website.” There are a few exceptions to the policy, including special needs of specifically classified students and class size limits. The Assignment of Students to Magnet Schools policy states, in part, that “requests for available slots will be accepted from February 1<sup>st</sup>” and if there are more requests for admission than slots available, “a lottery will be used for any open slots and a waiting list established.” Students with an older sibling already enrolled at Maple Street Magnet School do not have to participate in the lottery to also gain admission.

These are facially neutral and equitable policies, but due to geographic concentrations of certain racial and ethnic groups, groups of certain national origins, and families with children, these policies can potentially lead to inequitable results in school placements.

- Location and type of affordable housing

Non-public affordable housing is mainly comprised of duplex and multi-unit buildings built over fifty years ago, concentrated in the downtown area, with some other multi-unit apartment complexes located more toward the outskirts of the city. Public housing is spread throughout the City of Rochester, including near the downtown, in the former East Rochester village, and the former Gonic village. Available public housing ranges from small four-unit buildings at Wellsweep Acres to the large 72-unit building of Wyandotte Falls. Many of the units are intended for elderly residents and/or residents with disabilities, while the 60-unit Cold Spring Manor is available for families.

For the downtown region, much of the residential housing is owned by out of state property owners who do not maintain their properties in good condition. In addition, current density allowances in the downtown are considered far too low by many housing developers to make it profitable to purchase and develop multi-family buildings with affordable rents. As racial and ethnic minority households disproportionately rent rather than own their housing, and families with children live disproportionately in the downtown region, these factors potentially impact racial and ethnic minorities and families with children more than racial and ethnic majorities and households without children.

- Occupancy codes and restrictions

<sup>27</sup> <http://rochesterschools.com/Webmaster/policy/BookJ/JECB.htm>.

<sup>28</sup> <http://rochesterschools.com/Webmaster/policy/BookJ/JECC.htm>.

<sup>29</sup> <http://rochesterschools.com/Webmaster/policy/BookJ/JECC-1.htm>.

The Community Development Coordinator consulted with the City of Rochester's Office of Economic Development. This consultation indicated that the City's current fire safety codes have impacted the development of multi-family housing units. Such multi-family units are required to have sprinkler systems, as opposed to fire alarms, and building developers and property owners often find this cost-prohibitive. Given that this impacts multi-family housing but not single-family housing, these fire safety codes disproportionately impact the City of Rochester's affordable housing. Also, as racial and ethnic minority households disproportionately rent rather than own their housing, these factors potentially impact racial and ethnic minorities and families with children more than racial and ethnic majorities and households without children.

- Private discrimination

Anecdotal reports from several public service agencies that serve low-income residents suggest that family size has been a basis of discrimination within the City of Rochester, with larger families with children being turned away from rental housing by landlords. Consultation with the City of Manchester-based Organization for Refugee and Immigrant Success indicates that family size discrimination may disproportionately impact refugees and immigrants. Such discrimination may be underreported.

Data from the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project (<http://www.nhla.org/content/housing-16>), as well as the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights (<https://www.nh.gov/hrc/>), indicate that disability is by far the protected category with the most reports of discrimination within the City of Rochester. Consultation with the Housing Justice Project has indicated that many of the disability-based discrimination cases statewide are regarding individuals with mental disabilities, and this is likely true for the Rochester-specific data also.

Consultations with city departments, including the Welfare Office, Department of Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services, and Planning Department, have not indicated any city policies that may be influencing private discrimination. However, other consultations, such as with New Hampshire Legal Assistance, have indicated that city support for landlord education and outreach on non-discrimination laws and obligations would be helpful.

#### iv. Disproportionate Housing Needs

##### 1. Analysis

- Which groups (by race/ethnicity and family status) experience higher rates of housing cost burden, overcrowding, or substandard housing when compared to other groups? Which groups also experience higher rates of severe housing burdens when compared to other groups?*

Housing cost burdens above 30% of household income are a problem for all City residents, with a City-wide percentage of 38% facing this problem. (See Table 21 below, which uses 2007-2011 federal CHAS data.) The percentage of white residents with a housing cost burden above 30% of the household income is only slightly above this at 38.2%. Certain racial and ethnic minorities have far greater percentages, however, primarily Asian and American Indian residents. The computed rate for Hispanic residents (17.4%) excludes a large percentage of "no/negative income" residents and seems contradicted by other reports of a high poverty rate of 21% among Hispanic residents. It seems likely that Hispanic residents, as a category, also have a disproportionately high housing cost burden.

It is notable that, according to the 2007-2011 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data, the severe housing problems disproportionately affecting racial and ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester appear to be less than non-severe housing problems. The main exception seems to be for Hispanic residents who are at or under 30% of the area median income, as seen in the table below.

**0%-30% of Area Median Income**

<b>Severe Housing Problems*</b>	<b>Has one or more of four housing problems</b>	<b>Has none of the four housing problems</b>	<b>Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems</b>
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,125	475	85
White	1,020	450	85
Black / African American	4	0	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	10	25	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	55	0	0

**Data** 2007-2011 CHAS

**Source:**

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

- b. Which areas in the jurisdiction and region experience the greatest housing burdens? Which of these areas align with segregated areas, integrated areas, or R/ECAPs and what are the predominant race/ethnicity or national origin groups in such areas?**

Housing cost burdens above 30% of household income are a problem for all City residents, with a City-wide percentage of 38% facing this problem. The percentage of white residents with a housing cost burden above 30% of the household income is only slightly above this at 38.2%. Certain racial and ethnic minorities have far greater percentages, however, primarily Asian and American Indian residents. The computed rate for Hispanic residents (17.4%) excludes a large percentage of “no/negative income” residents and seems contradicted by other reports of a high poverty rate of 21% among Hispanic residents. It seems likely that Hispanic residents, as a category, also have a disproportionately high housing cost burden.

It is notable that, according to the 2007-2011 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data, the severe housing problems disproportionately affecting racial and ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester appear to be less than non-severe housing problems. The main exception seems to be for Hispanic residents who are at or under 30% of the area median income.

According to data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its *Fair Housing and Equity Assessment* report, there is a slight concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who rent in the center of the City (Wards 2 and 6), and there is a heavier concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who own their homes in the northwestern portion of the City (Wards 3 and 5).



Both these areas overlap, to large extent, the census tracts classified by HUD as 51% or greater low to moderate income.

Overall, the greater needs of specific racial or ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester seem to correlate strongly with economic/income status. Addressing the housing needs of low-income residents will address the needs of low-income racial and ethnic minorities. In addition, addressing the greater rates of poverty among specific racial and ethnic groups in the City indirectly will impact and reduce housing needs. Analysis of the potential barriers to home ownership for racial and ethnic minorities and approaches to reducing these barriers are also needed, especially as home ownership is a traditional anchor of wealth building for American families.

***c. Compare the needs of families with children for housing units with two and three or more bedrooms with the available existing housing stock in each category of publicly supported housing.***

The Rochester Housing Authority owns and manages several properties providing house to lower-income residents:

- Wellsweep Acres (Olde Farm Ln.) has 76 units of low-rent public housing for elderly residents and residents with disabilities.
- Wyandotte Falls (Bridge St.) has 72 units of low-rent public housing for elderly residents and residents with disabilities.
- Gonic (Felker St.) has 12 units of low-rent public housing for elderly residents and residents with disabilities.
- Magic Avenue (East Rochester) has 12 units of low-rent public housing for elderly residents and residents with disabilities.
- Cold Spring Manor (Emerson Ave.) Has 60 units of low-rent public housing for families.

In addition to these properties, there are four tax credit properties with which the Rochester Housing Authority is involved:

- Linscott Court Apartments (Columbus Ave.) has 58 units of family housing.
- Emerson Court (Emerson Ave.) has 12 units of family housing.
- Marsh View Housing (Brock St.) has 12 of housing for elderly residents.
- Arthur H. Nickless Jr. Housing (Glenwood Ave.) has 24 units of housing for elderly residents.

Consultations with organizations serving lower-income Rochester families, such as the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County and the SHARE Fund, have indicated that lower-income families with larger numbers of children have had difficulties in locating rental housing. This has been due to a combination of (1) lack of rental housing with adequate number of bedrooms and (2) reported discrimination against families with larger numbers of children. While these issues have related to private housing specifically, an increase in public housing for families could help alleviate these issues, especially given that public housing units for elderly residents/residents with disabilities currently outnumber public housing units for families.

***d. Describe the differences in rates of renter and owner occupied housing by race/ethnicity in the jurisdiction and region.***

As discussed in previous sections of analysis, current data indicates that racial/ethnic minorities disproportionately rent versus own their housing. It is likely that racial and ethnic minorities live in the heavily renter-occupied Rochester downtown, which has a large number of multiunit building, to a disproportionate degree than the outskirts of the city that has more single-family homes occupied by the homeowner. Data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission indicates that there is mostly even integration of racial and ethnic minority renters in the City of Rochester, with a slight concentration near the City's downtown (Wards 2 and 6). Unfortunately, available local and regional data does not provide a breakdown by race/ethnicity.

**2. Additional Information**

***a. Beyond the HUD-provided data, provide additional relevant information, if any, about disproportionate housing needs in the jurisdiction and region affecting groups with other protected characteristics.***

According to the *Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Fair Housing Analysis* drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. Hispanic/Latino residents also have the highest level of poverty (21%) of all races and ethnicities in the City. In addition, the City of Rochester has a relatively high percentage of residents with disabilities, especially children with disabilities. While racial and ethnic minorities do not appear to be overrepresented among the City's homeless population, based on the Annual Homeless Assessment Reports (AHAR) to Congress, people with disabilities (and especially those with mental health-related disabilities) are vastly overrepresented among those reported to be experiencing homelessness.

Anecdotal reports from several public service agencies that serve low-income residents suggest that family size has been a basis of discrimination within the City of Rochester, with larger families with children being turned away from rental housing by landlords. Data from the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project (<http://www.nhla.org/content/housing-16>), as well as the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights (<https://www.nh.gov/hrc/>), indicate that disability is by far the protected category with the most reports of discrimination. These reports do not include information on the nature of the disability, unfortunately (e.g., physical, developmental, behavioral).

In addition, the Stafford Regional Planning Commission's *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment* identified the City of Rochester's 75+ population as an "area of concern," which indicates segregation of this population. Other community needs assessments, such as the 2014 *Strafford County Community Assessment* published by the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County and the *Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, have indicated that the population of the City of Rochester increasingly will skew older over the next five years and beyond. This is in keeping with overall statewide trends, and the preference for New Hampshire's elderly population to "age in place."

***b. The program participant may also describe other information relevant to its assessment of disproportionate housing needs. For PHAs, such information may include a PHA's overriding housing needs analysis.***

The City of Rochester has a large number of single-family detached homes as well as a large number of manufactured homes, especially as compared to neighboring municipalities. The City of Rochester has eight manufactured home parks, by far the largest number in the Strafford County region. Identified demographic trends indicate that the City's population will be increasingly older, by proportion, and will desire smaller units of housing. In addition, a fair percentage of current housing is forty years or older, and much of this aging housing stock requires updates in heating and cooling systems as well as lead-based paint abatement.

There is a substantial quantity of subsidized housing in the City of Rochester, but the demand for affordable housing still outmatches the supply. This is true for both renters and homeowners, although owning an affordable home is especially a problem for extremely low-income residents. Consultations with City personnel and regional public service agencies indicate that home values and rents are expected to continue increase, as they have during the previous next five years. In addition, disproportionately high rental costs for four-bedroom units, identified through analysis of data provided by the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, indicate a need for more affordable family housing.

### **3. Contributing Factors of Disproportionate Housing Needs**

*Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of disproportionate housing needs.*

- ***The availability of affordable units in a range of sizes***

Barriers to affordable housing for the City of Rochester's residents continue to consist primarily of regional increases in rental rates, very low vacancy rates in the rental housing market, and preferences among real estate developers for higher-end market rate housing over affordable housing and workforce housing. The City of Rochester has addressed these affordability barriers through its ongoing partnerships with and financial support to regional public service agencies (such as the SHARE Fund, Community Partners, and the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County) to fund rental assistance to lower-income renters and weatherization assistance to lower-income homeowners.

Specifically, the focus on the aging demographics of New Hampshire generally and the Seacoast region specifically. Much of the recent housing development in the City of Rochester has been smaller one-bedroom and two-bedroom units, and the Rochester Housing Authority currently has more smaller units intended for elderly residents and residents with disabilities than it does larger units for families. Disproportionately high rental costs for four-bedroom units, identified through analysis of data provided by the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, also indicate a need for more affordable family housing.

- ***Displacement of residents due to economic pressures***

Consultations with Strafford Regional Planning Commission, Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, and the City of Rochester's Planning Department have all indicated a long-term regional pattern of increasing housing costs. This has started in the southern part of the Seacoast region, especially the City of Portsmouth, and has slowly worked its way north. This has resulted in residents being priced out of Portsmouth first and then the City of Dover. This has led to a migration of low to moderate income residents moving into the northern regions of Strafford

County, especially the City of Rochester, which has lower housing costs than does Portsmouth or Dover.

The City of Rochester is uniquely positioned within the county and area. It is in between the more urban southern areas of the Seacoast and the more rural northern areas. It is the farthest northern municipality that receives public transit services, and it also houses the N.H. local Department of Health and Human Services district office that oversees various benefits programs such as SNAP and TANF. For these reasons, Rochester exists in a “sweet spot” between affordability and access to services, which means that Rochester has seen an influx of homeless and lower-income residents from the southern regions of the Seacoast area and that these residents are unlikely to migrate further north.

- ***Lack of private investments in specific neighborhoods***

Public input received at neighborhood ward meetings as well as consultations with non-profit agencies and local business organizations have indicated that there is a lack of private investment in the downtown Ward 4 residential neighborhood (Block Group 2, Census Tract 844) known as Frenchtown. This neighborhood is low-income with significant crime rates and drug activity rates. Much of the residential housing is owned by out of state property owners who do not maintain their properties in good condition, and this neighborhood was the focus of the City of Rochester’s 2009 Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

- ***Lack of public investments in specific neighborhoods, including services or amenities***

Most of the City of Rochester’s investments, especially its CDBG investments, have been targeted to lower-income downtown census tracts, as these areas of the city have the highest populations and greatest needs. Higher-income census tracts on the outer edges of the city have received less funding, and consultation with the Strafford Regional Planning Commission indicates that the East Rochester area of the city lacks a grocery store.

- ***Land use and zoning laws***

In April of 2014, the City of Rochester updated the Chapter 42 of City of Rochester General Ordinances, which took ten years to complete. The Downtown Commercial District Zone has an average parcel size of 17,675 square feet, which would only allow for three dwelling units per parcel without seeking a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment under the 2014 ordinance. In early 2018, the ordinance was revised to lower the density limits to 500 sq. ft. per dwelling unit to allow for increased density within this zone, as the previous density regulations proved off-putting for developers who otherwise would be interested in investing in the downtown mixed-use buildings. Later in 2018, the Rochester Planning Department worked with the Community Development Division and the consultants at BendonAdams to perform a more in-depth analysis of downtown density and draft recommendations to further improve property owners’ ability to develop downtown housing. A revised version of the draft recommendations was approved by City Council in 2019.

- ***Lending discrimination***

According to Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HDMA) data for 2016, for primary Rochester applicants, if one excludes the records where an applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification, 96.2% of the denied loan applicants were white non-Hispanic residents. For co-

applicants, if one excludes the records where an applicant did not provide race or ethnicity identification or where there was not a co-applicant, 94.9% of the denied loan co-applicants were white non-Hispanic residents. According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009-2013 American Community Survey, the City of Rochester is 94.3% white (28,080 residents), so these loan denial rates seem to indicate that there is not discriminatory lending occurring, as the percentage of non-white residents who have received denials is roughly the same as the overall percentage of non-white residents within the city.

## **C. Disability and Access Analysis**

### **1. Population Profile**

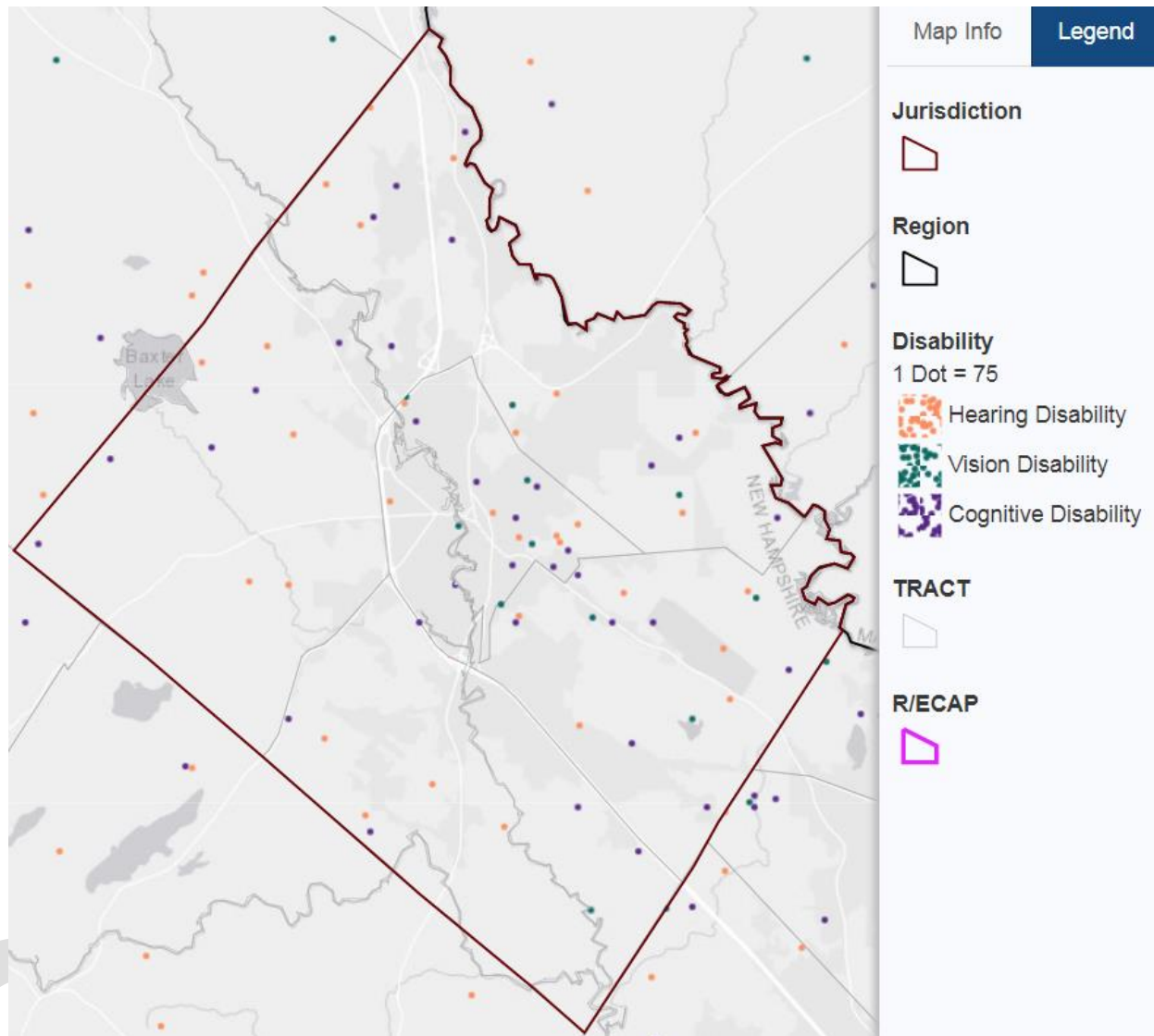
#### ***a. How are persons with disabilities geographically dispersed or concentrated in the jurisdiction and region, including R/ECAPs and other segregated areas identified in previous sections?***

As shown in the maps below, in subsection b, there is large geographical dispersal of residents with disabilities throughout the City of Rochester. There is a slight concentration in the city's downtown area. This slight concentration is likely due to the greater availability of public transit in the downtown, as Route 2 of the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation runs along Route 108/S. Main Street/Wakefield Street.

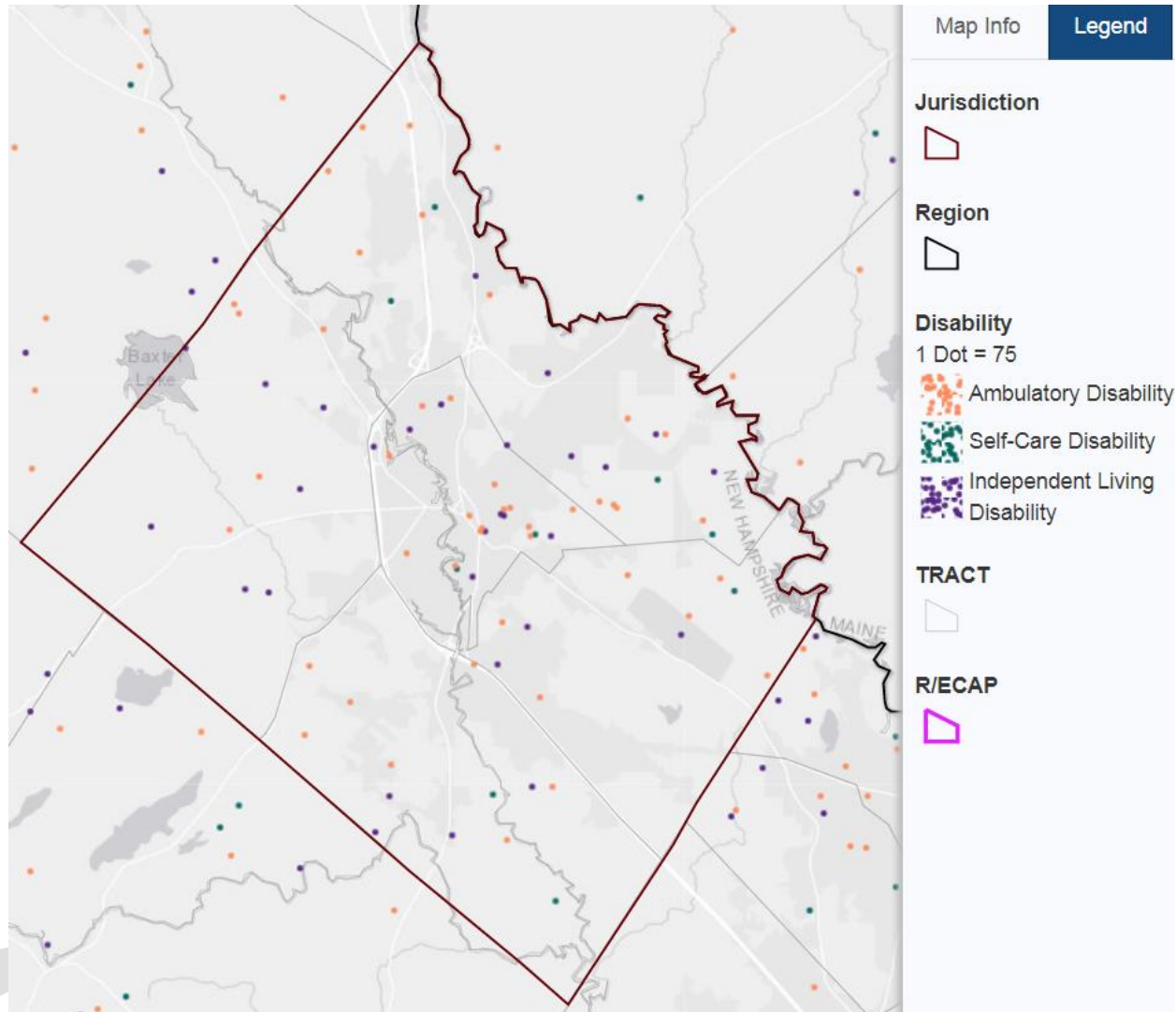
There are no R/ECAPs located in the City of Rochester.

#### ***b. Describe whether these geographic patterns vary for persons with each type of disability or for persons with disabilities in different age ranges.***

As shown in the maps below, there is large geographical dispersal of residents with disabilities throughout the City of Rochester. There is a slight concentration in the city's downtown area, especially of residents with cognitive disabilities. Otherwise, there are no notable geographic patterns for various disability types or age ranges. What is notable is that the City of Rochester has a much greater number of residents with disabilities in the adult and elderly age ranges than minor residents with disabilities.

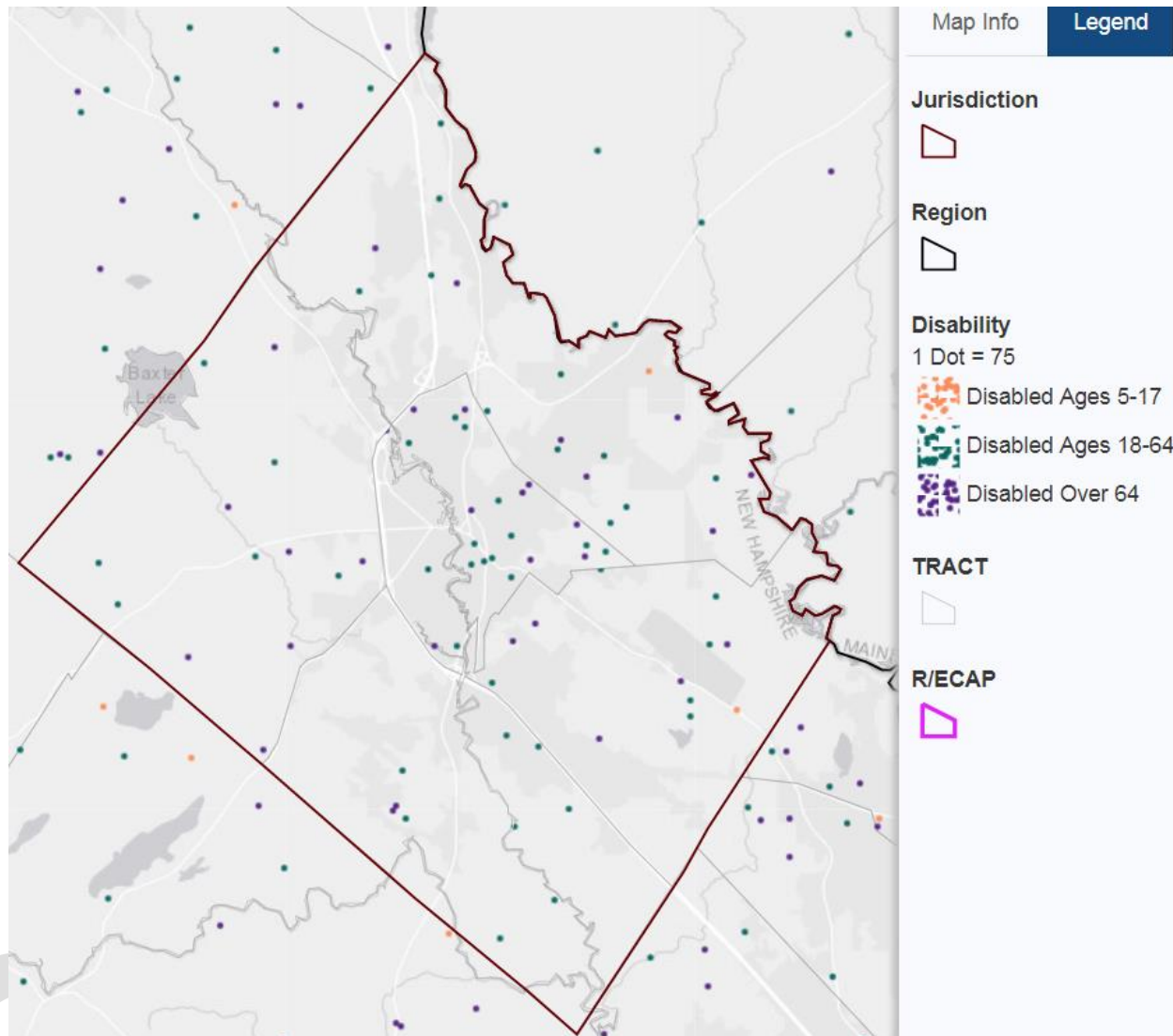


**Disability by Type: Hearing, Vision, and Cognitive Disability**



**Disability by Type: Ambulatory, Self-Care, and Independent Living Disability**





**Disability by Age**

## 2. Housing Accessibility

- a. Describe whether the jurisdiction and region have sufficient affordable, accessible housing in a range of unit sizes.**

Consultation with the New Hampshire Disability Rights Center, as well as local social service providers, have indicated affordability and accessibility issues for many residents with disabilities, especially residents reliant on SSI or SSDI. The New Hampshire Disability Rights Center reports that a large number of their clients are housing burdened (that is, spending more than 30% of their total income on housing costs).

A significant factor in lack of accessibility is the age of the housing stock in the City of Rochester and the wider Seacoast region. Of all 13,694 housing units within the City of Rochester, only 133 units were built in 2010 or later. The

majority of available housing within the city (7,593 units) was built prior to 1980, and a significant percentage (3,783 units) was built prior to 1950. This aged and aging housing stock, built prior to Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, often presents accessibility issues for residents with mobility-related disabilities. This can include stairs without chairlifts, bathrooms without grab bars, and hallways and doorways without adequate clearance room for wheelchair users.

Total number of housing units	13,694
Number of pre-1970 occupied housing units	5,992
Number of pre-1970 owner-occupied housing units	2,928
Number of pre-1970 vacant rental housing units	73
Total number of pre-1970 housing units	6,114
Percentage of pre-1970 housing units	44.6%
Percentage of occupied pre-1970 housing units	97.7%
Source and date of data	2016-2010 and 2011-2015 American Community Survey; New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority 2016 Vacancy Rate by County ( <a href="http://nhhousingdata.nhhfa.org/diveport#page=a0022">http://nhhousingdata.nhhfa.org/diveport#page=a0022</a> ; <a href="http://www.nhhfa.org/assets/pdf/2016_Rent_Survey_vacancy_rates.pdf">http://www.nhhfa.org/assets/pdf/2016_Rent_Survey_vacancy_rates.pdf</a> )

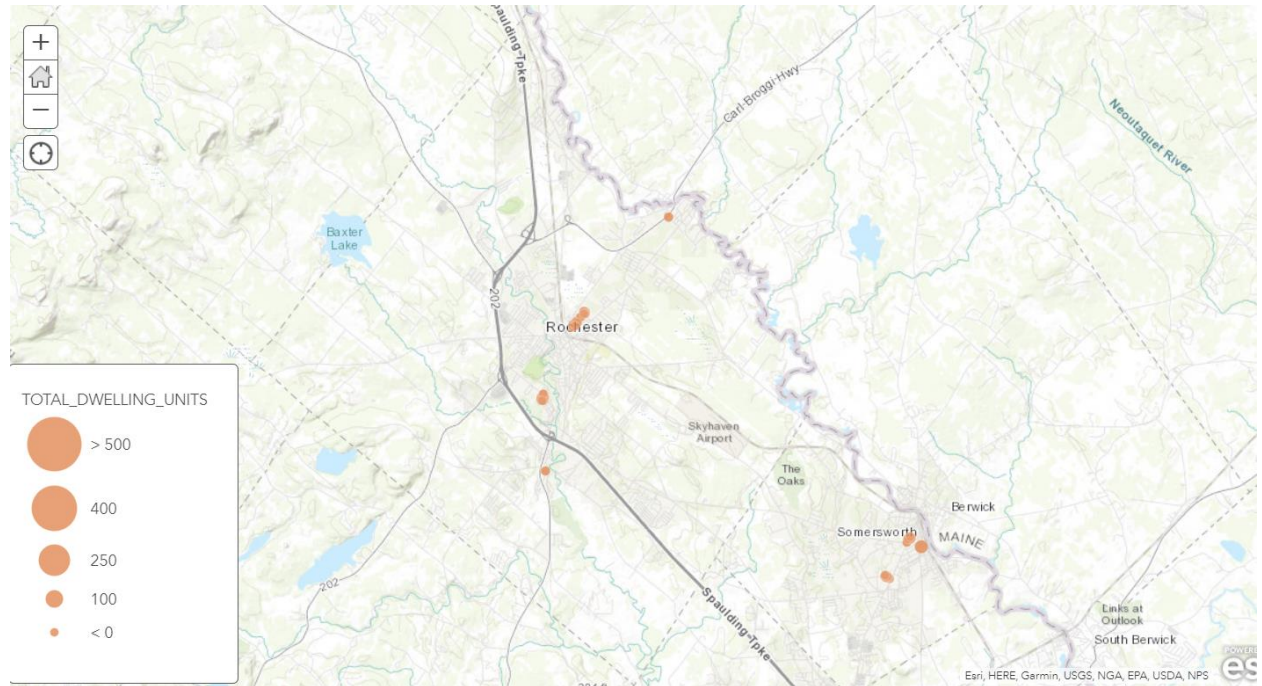
Another accessibility concern, identified through consultation with the New Hampshire Disability Rights Center, is public transportation. Many residents with disabilities rely on public transportation to access employment, essentials such as grocery stores, and medical care. Consultations at the neighborhood ward meetings with residents have indicated a desire for expanded public transportation availability, especially for elderly residents and residents with disabilities. However, financial constraints and reduced state funding for public transit mean that current bus routes are unlikely to expand.

**b. Describe the areas where affordable accessible housing units are located. Do they align with R/ECAPs or other areas that are segregated?**

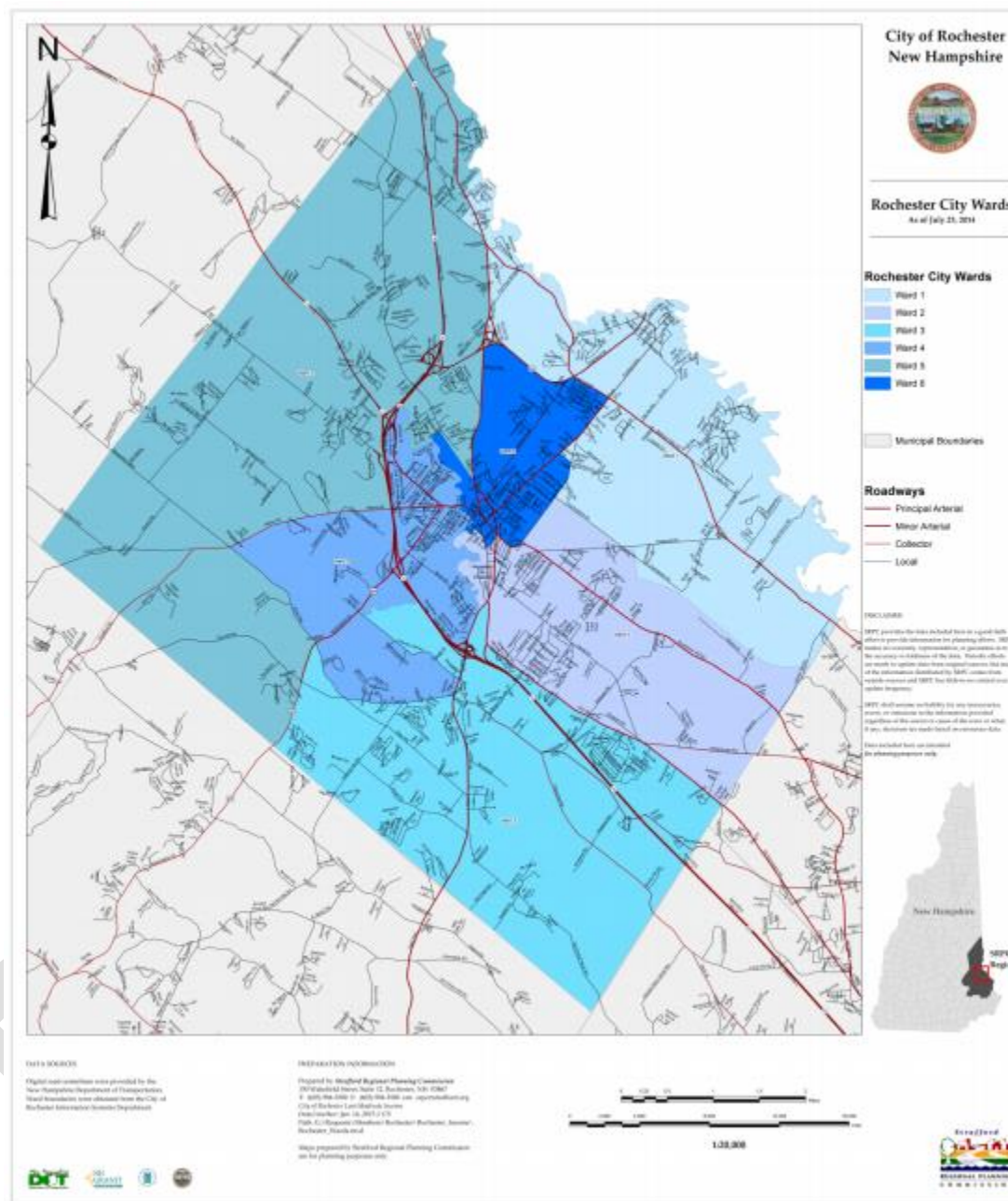
The below maps, showing Rochester Housing Authority buildings, was created using HUD data through ArcGIS. The Rochester Housing Authority's housing is disproportionately aimed at serving elderly residents and residents with disabilities, so this data is being used as a proxy for more general data on affordable accessible housing as it is the closest data available.

According to data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its 2015 report, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, there was mostly even integration of racial and ethnic minority renters in the City of Rochester, with a slight concentration near the City's downtown

(Wards 2 and 6). In contrast, there was a heavy concentration of racial and minority homeowners in the City's northwestern region (Wards 3 and 5), indicating segregation. This same report also identified the City of Rochester's 75+ population as an "area of concern," which indicates segregation of this population.



**Map of Rochester Public Housing Buildings by Dwelling Unit Number**  
(source: ArcGIS)





The Rochester Housing Authority's housing is disproportionately aimed at serving elderly residents and residents with disabilities. Most RHA buildings are located in or near the city's downtown region, which has the most access to public transportation, grocery stores, and other services.

### **3. Integration of Persons with Disabilities Living in Institutions and Other Segregated Settings**

#### **a. *To what extent do persons with disabilities in or from the jurisdiction or region reside in segregated or integrated settings?***

State-level data from the National Council on Disability indicates that there are no persons with developmental disabilities or intellectual disabilities residing in large state institutions.<sup>30</sup> Segregated settings include local assisted living facilities within the City of Rochester, such as Rochester Manor (<https://www.genesishcc.com/rochester>), and Rochester Housing Authority has housing complexes specifically for elderly residents and residents with disabilities. However, these housing situations differ significantly from institutionalized settings in that residents enter them voluntarily and have full or near-full access to the wider community.

In addition, according to 2016 ACS data, there are about 5,015 residents with disabilities living in the City of Rochester, which is about 17% of the overall population of the city. The number of residents in assisted living facilities and RHA housing for elderly residents/residents with disabilities measures only in the hundreds, which means that the majority of residents with disabilities in the City of Rochester are living in integrated settings.

#### **b. *Describe the range of options for persons with disabilities to access affordable housing and supportive services.***

The Rochester Housing Authority's housing is disproportionately aimed at serving elderly residents and residents with disabilities. There are also assisted living facilities available in the city, such as Rochester Manor, as well as a multitude of supportive services provided by a variety of non-profit agencies. Such supportive services include Community Partners, which provides behavioral health services; Tri-City Co-op, which provides peer-to-peer mental health supports; and the Homemakers and Cornerstone VNA, which provide home medical care and other related services. The City of Rochester also has the Monarch School of New England, which serves students with physical, developmental or other disabilities who are aged 5-21, and the Seacoast Learning Center, which serves students with dyslexia.

However, according to data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its 2015 report, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, there was identified segregation of Rochester's

<sup>30</sup> "Institutions: Definitions, Populations, and Trends," National Council on Disability, Sept. 2012. <<https://ncd.gov/publications/2012/Sept192012/Institutions>>.

75+ population. Unfortunately, the report provides analysis at the municipal level and does not provide a breakdown of census tract demographics.

#### **4. Disparities in Access to Opportunity**

***a. To what extent are persons with disabilities able to access the following? Identify major barriers faced concerning:***

**i. Government services and facilities**

All major public buildings (including but not limited to City Hall, City Hall Annex, Rochester Public Library, Rochester Police Station, and Rochester Community Center) are accessible for wheelchair users. Accessibility includes wheelchair ramps, door buttons, and grab bars in restrooms inside the buildings. All of these buildings are also accessible via bus routes serviced by the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST). COAST buses can be lowered to allow entry for wheelchair users and other riders with mobility-related disabilities, and COAST also provides ADA paratransit services.

Public hearing notices published by the City of Rochester also include instructions that residents with disabilities should contact the City Clerk's Office with any accommodations requests prior to public hearings so that residents with disabilities may fully participate in hearings.

In addition, the City of Rochester has used its CDBG funding for accessibility upgrades in a number of public facilities. Within the last five years, this has included installation of handicap-accessible front doors at the Rochester Public Library, renovation of a wheelchair ramp at Tri-City Co-op, and replacement of an elevator at Community Partners.

**ii. Public infrastructure (e.g., sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian signals)**

While the downtown core of the City of Rochester has good distribution of sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian signals, etc., this becomes decreasingly true as one moves away from the more urban downtown area to the more rural outskirts of the city. These areas often have higher speed limits, few to no sidewalks, and few to no pedestrian crossings. Public input sessions conducted as part of CDBG Annual Action Plan public consultation have indicated that a lack of sidewalks especially have a negative impact on residents who use wheelchairs and other mobility aids.

**iii. Transportation**

Public input and consultations with a range of non-profit agencies have indicated transportation gaps in the Seacoast region. Due to financial concerns and low ridership, COAST has reduced or eliminated routes to the northern, more rural areas of Strafford County. COAST data and other consultations also indicate increasing and undermet needs for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit and demand response services, which are generally more expensive than fixed-route service.

In addition, the Community Development Coordinator and Rochester Housing Authority staff also met in-person with Rochester Housing Authority residents on November 11, 2015. Many residents in attendance were elderly and/or residents with disabilities. The discussion centered on the need for more transportation accessibility and options, as well as other concerns. Subsequent meetings between RHA residents and COAST community outreach staff indicated that some of this need may be addressed through providing the public with more familiarity with the many existing transportation programs and options.

iv. Proficient schools and educational programs

As discussed in previous sections, racial and ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester disproportionately rent rather than own their housing, and rental housing (especially affordable rental housing) in the City of Rochester disproportionately is located in the downtown and immediate vicinity of downtown. Schools in the downtown are William Allen School, Chamberlain Street School, School Street School, and Maple Street Magnet School. Maple Street Magnet School enrollment is via application rather than residency; therefore, Maple Street Magnet School students live throughout the city. The downtown area is also where most public housing is located.

National origin data and maps from HUD indicate a measurable population of residents originally from Canada in the east-central part of the city and from India in the north-central part of the city. Schools in the east-central part of the city are Chamberlain Street School and McClelland School. Schools in the north-central part of the city include East Rochester School and Nancy Loud School. Overall, there is equitable access to schools of similar proficiency, with the main exception being students enrolled at School Street School. The availability of the high-proficiency Maple Street Magnet School to students throughout the city somewhat offsets this.

In addition to this data, it is worth noting that all of the Rochester elementary schools have higher percentages of students with disabilities (in the range of 17-30% for most of the schools) than the state average of 18%.

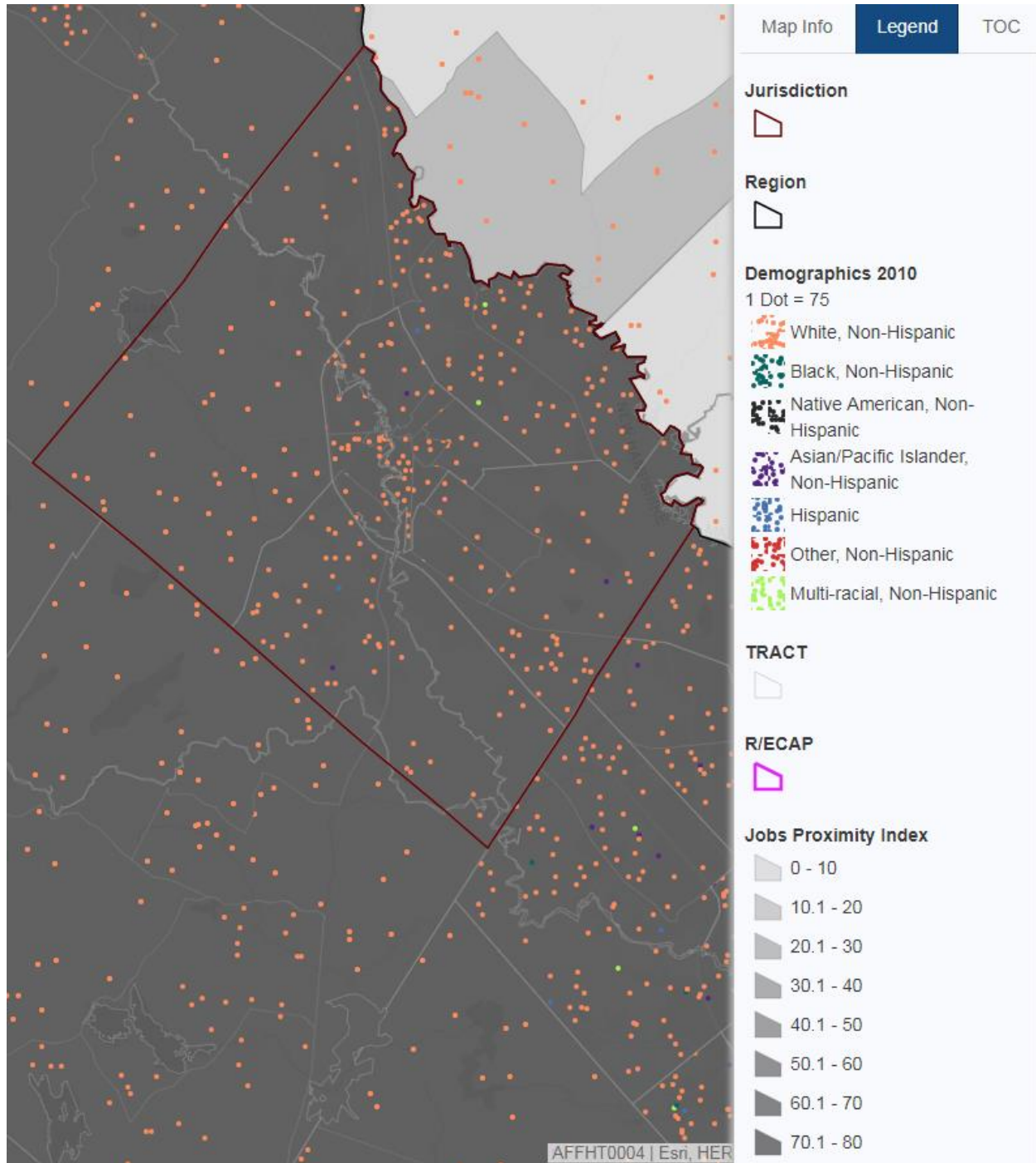
There have been some accessibility issues with some schools, mostly due to the age of the school buildings. The City of Rochester's CDBG program has paid for replacement of elevators and chairlifts at Spaulding High School as well as the installation of a chairlift at Maple Street Magnet School. It is likely that other buildings, that were built prior to accessibility requirements or that have aging elevators or other accessibility improvements, will also need renovations to existing accessibility improvements or the installation of accessibility improvements.

v. Jobs

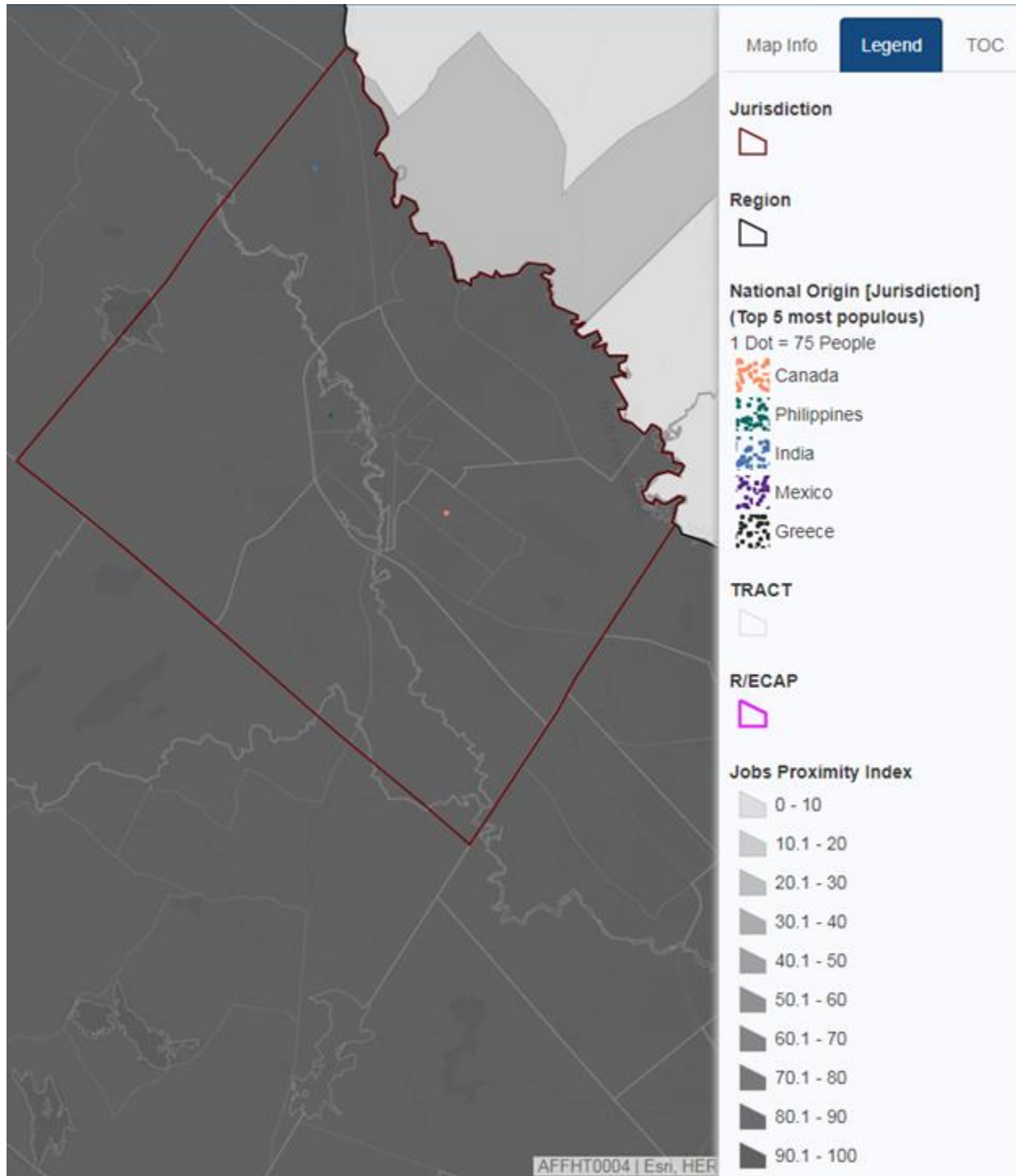
All areas of the City of Rochester, as well as Strafford County, have close proximity to jobs. American Community Survey data from 2012 to 2016 indicates that the vast majority of Rochester workers travel less than an hour to reach their place of employment (91.9%), and 54% of Rochester workers travel less than a half hour to reach their place of employment. The mean travel time to work according to this ACS data is 26.2 minutes.

HUD data, obtained through the AFFH Tool, shows that job proximity is the same throughout all census tracts in the City of Rochester.

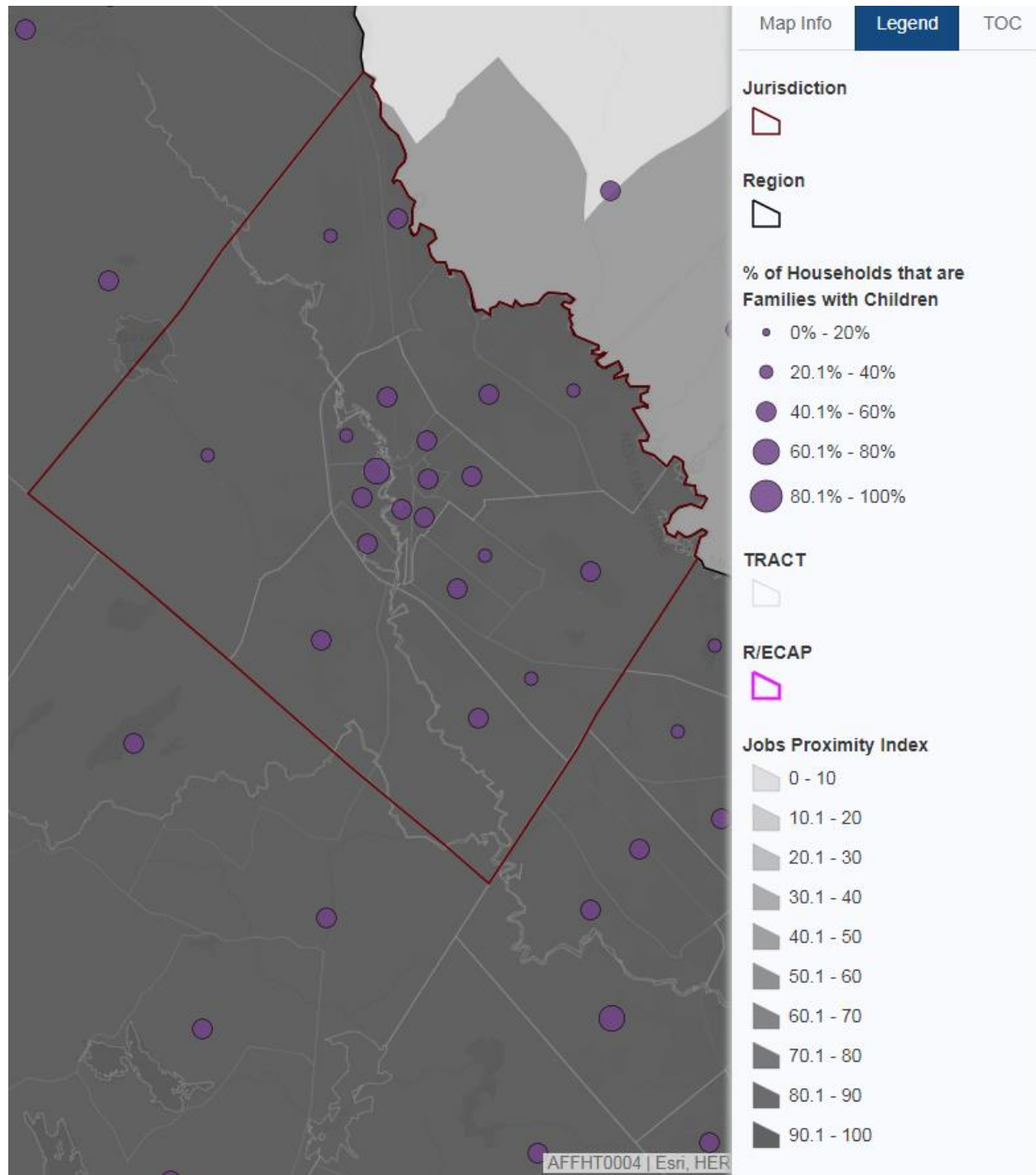




**Job Proximity by Race/Ethnicity**



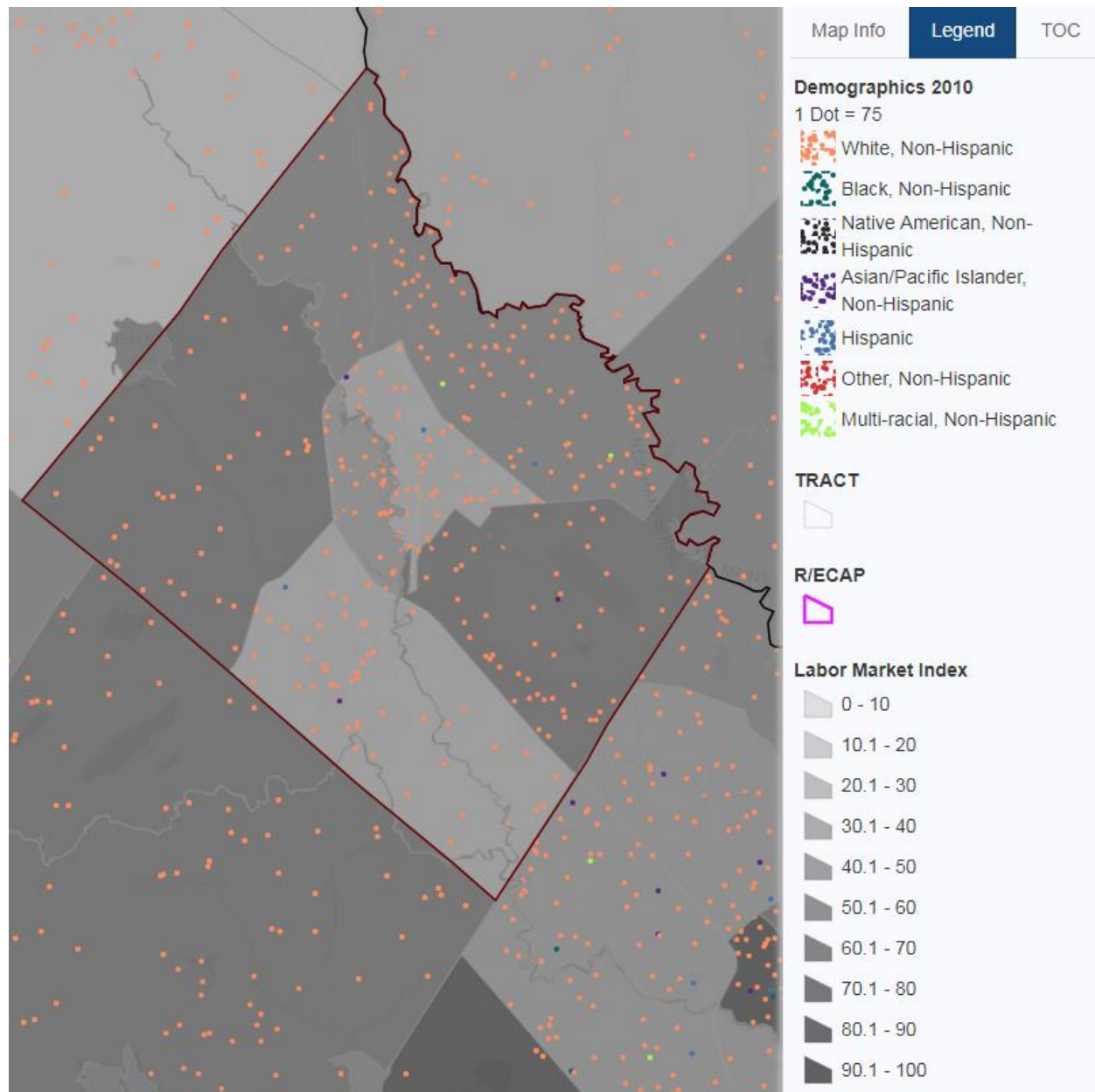
**Job Proximity by National Origin**



**Job Proximity by Family Size**

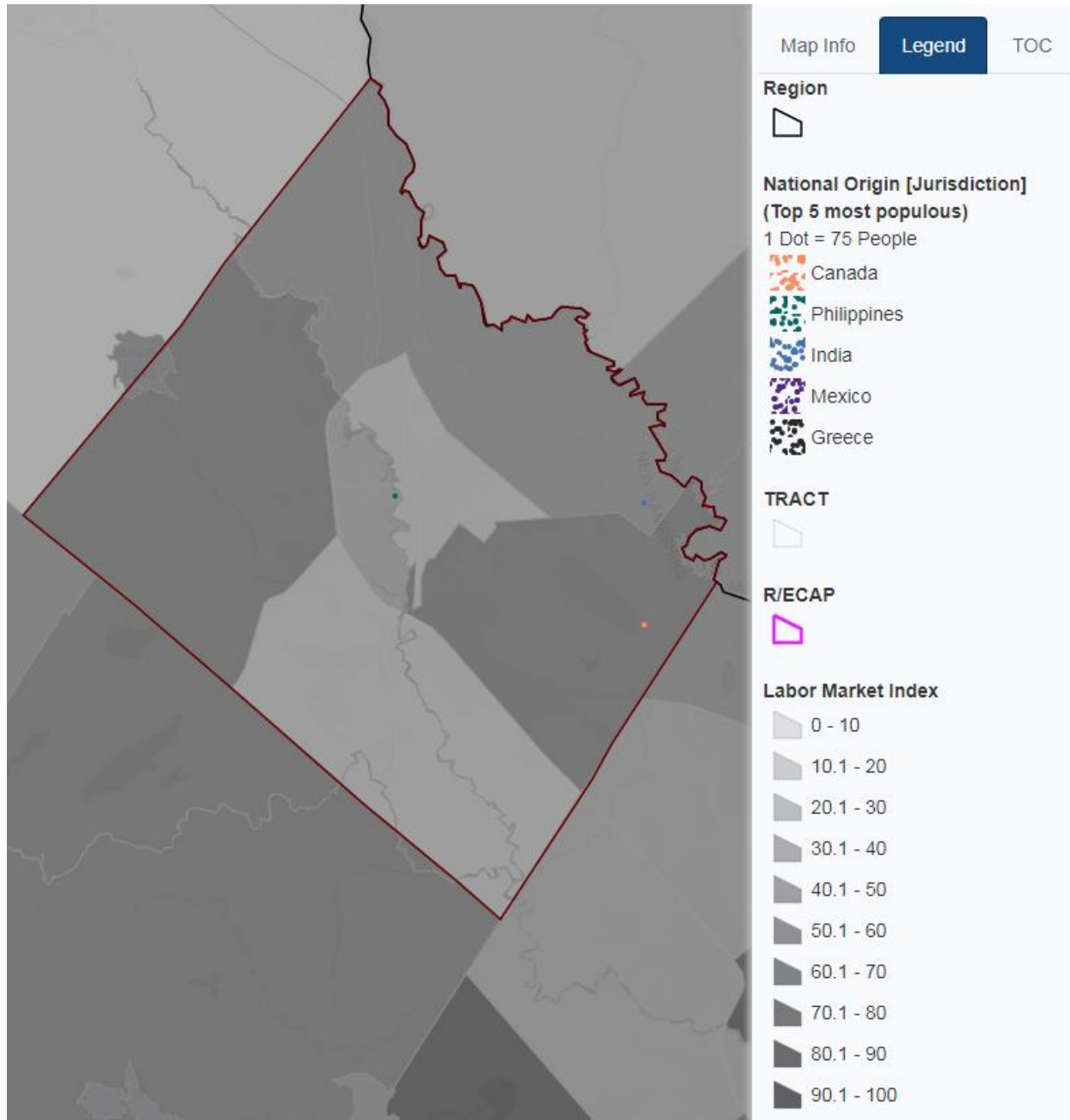
Labor market index data is not as homogenous as job proximity data, however. As seen on the maps below, created using the HUD AFFH Tool, darker areas indicate higher levels of labor engagement, while lighter areas indicate lower levels of labor engagement. No areas of the city are either at the highest or lowest levels, but there are disparities, with the central (downtown) and south-southeastern parts of the city showing lower levels than the northern, western, and eastern parts of the city. As discussed in previous subsections, there is large geographical dispersal of residents with disabilities throughout the

City of Rochester. There is a slight concentration in the city's downtown area, especially of residents with cognitive disabilities.

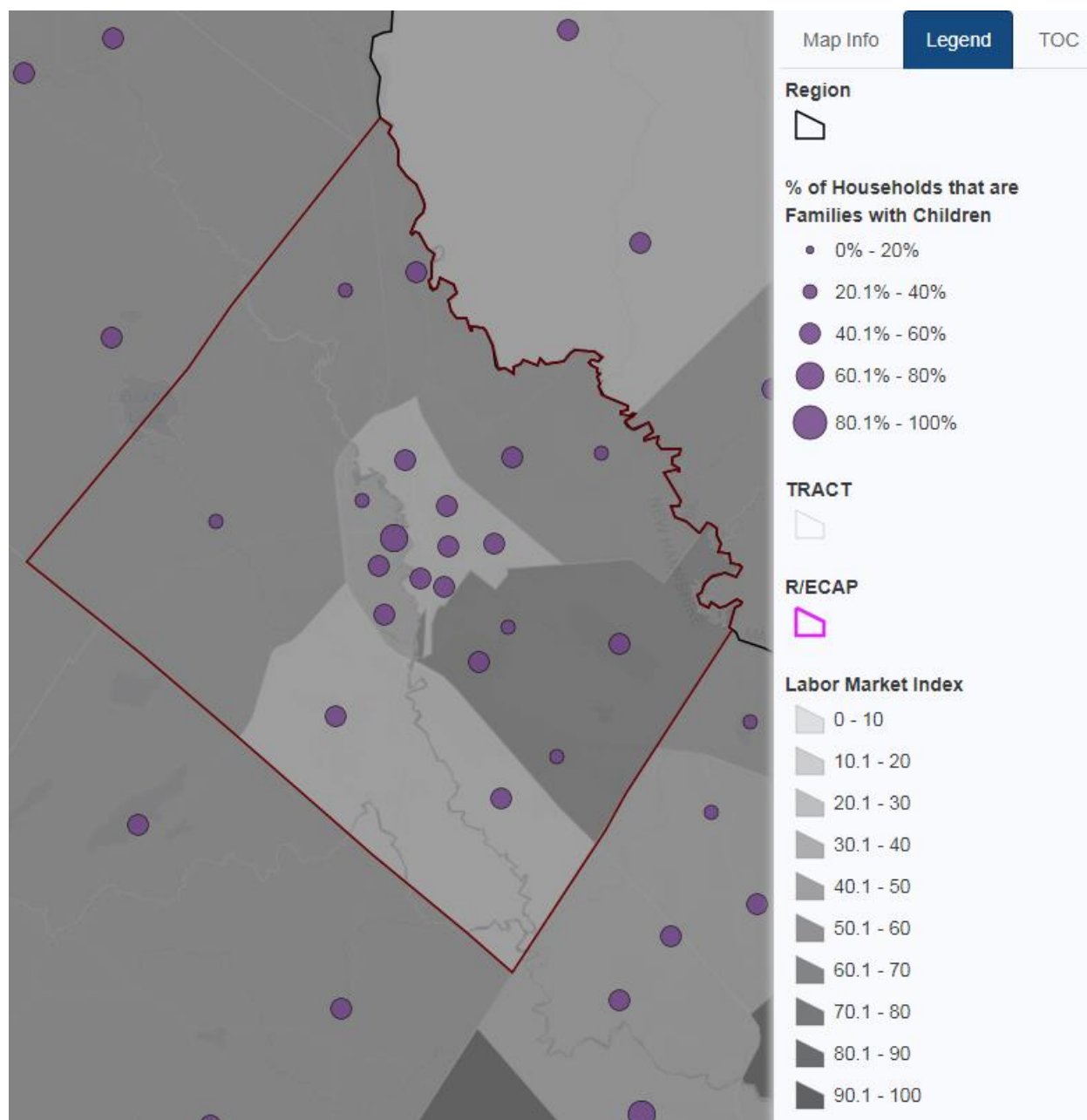


**Labor Market Index by Race/Ethnicity**





**Labor Market Index by National Origin**



**Labor Market Index by Family Size**

- b. Describe the processes that exist in the jurisdiction and region for persons with disabilities to request and obtain reasonable accommodations and accessibility modifications to address the barriers discussed above.***

The City of Rochester prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as other federally recognized categories, in its official employee policies.<sup>31</sup> The City of Rochester's zoning ordinance provides that the Zoning Board of Adjustments "may grant a variance ... when reasonable accommodations are necessary to allow a person or persons with a recognized

<sup>31</sup> <https://www.rochesternh.net/city-manager/pages/employee-policies-procedures>.

physical disability to reside in or regularly use the premises.”<sup>32</sup> Also, in FY 2015-2016, the city’s CDBG program funded a handicap accessibility improvements microgrants program. This program provided funding for accessibility improvements for low- to moderate-income Rochester residents.<sup>33</sup>

In addition, the city offers assessment exemptions and tax credits for many residents. This includes assessment exemptions for elderly residents and residents with disabilities<sup>34</sup> as well as tax credits for veterans,<sup>35</sup> including a tax credit for veterans with disabilities related to their service<sup>36</sup> and property tax exemptions for certain disabled veterans.<sup>37</sup>

***c. Describe any difficulties in achieving homeownership experienced by persons with disabilities and by persons with different types of disabilities.***

Consultation with the New Hampshire Disability Rights Center, as well as local social service providers, have indicated affordability and accessibility issues for many residents with disabilities, especially residents reliant on SSI or SSDI. The New Hampshire Disability Rights Center reports that a large number of their clients are housing burdened (that is, spending more than 30% of their total income on housing costs).

A significant factor in lack of accessibility is the age of the housing stock in the City of Rochester and the wider Seacoast region. Of all 13,694 housing units within the City of Rochester, only 133 units were built in 2010 or later. The majority of available housing within the city (7,593 units) was built prior to 1980, and a significant percentage (3,783 units) was built prior to 1950. This aged and aging housing stock, built prior to Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, often presents accessibility issues for residents with mobility-related disabilities. This can include stairs without chairlifts, bathrooms without grab bars, and hallways and doorways without adequate clearance room for wheelchair users.

The City of Rochester has undertaken several programs to help make accessibility improvements more affordable for homeowners with disabilities. These have included the assessing exemptions, tax credits, and handicap accessibility improvements microgrants programs discussed in the prior subsection.

## **5. Disproportionate Housing Needs**

***a. Describe any disproportionate housing needs experienced by persons with disabilities and by persons with certain types of disabilities.***

Consultation with the New Hampshire Disability Rights Center, as well as local social service providers, have indicated affordability and accessibility issues for many residents with disabilities, especially residents reliant on SSI or SSDI. The New Hampshire Disability Rights Center reports that a large number of their clients are housing burdened (that is, spending more than 30% of their total income on housing costs).

<sup>32</sup> Ch 42.4.2, City of Rochester ordinances. <<https://www.ecode360.com/documents/RO2619/RO2619-042.pdf>>

<sup>33</sup> [https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/file/file/final\\_fy\\_2015\\_2016\\_annual\\_action\\_plan\\_-\\_website\\_version\\_0.pdf](https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/file/file/final_fy_2015_2016_annual_action_plan_-_website_version_0.pdf).

<sup>34</sup> [https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/uploads/disabled\\_qualifications\\_checklist\\_1.pdf](https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/uploads/disabled_qualifications_checklist_1.pdf).

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.rochesternh.net/assessing/pages/veteran-tax-credits>.

<sup>36</sup> [https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/imce/u883/disabled\\_vet.jpg](https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/imce/u883/disabled_vet.jpg).

<sup>37</sup> <https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/file/file/72-36a.pdf>.



A significant factor in lack of accessibility is the age of the housing stock in the City of Rochester and the wider Seacoast region. Of all 13,694 housing units within the City of Rochester, only 133 units were built in 2010 or later. The majority of available housing within the city (7,593 units) was built prior to 1980, and a significant percentage (3,783 units) was built prior to 1950. This aged and aging housing stock, built prior to Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, often presents accessibility issues for residents with mobility-related disabilities. This can include stairs without chairlifts, bathrooms without grab bars, and hallways and doorways without adequate clearance room for wheelchair users.

In addition, consultations with a number of agencies and organizations (including the Great Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness, Community Partners, and regional homeless shelters) have indicated that chronic homelessness is experienced disproportionately by residents with mental illnesses and/or substance use disorders. This is confirmed by data from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority that states that of those adults receiving shelter in a homeless shelter, 23% reported a physical disability and 33% reported a mental health disability, whereas only about 13% of the overall state population is comprised of residents with disabilities.<sup>38</sup> To address the needs of these specific subpopulations, consultations have indicated a need for more permanent supportive housing and local in-patient treatment facilities for substance use disorder.

## 6. Additional Information

- a. Beyond the HUD-provided data, provide additional relevant information, if any, about disability and access issues in the jurisdiction and region affecting groups with other protected characteristics.*

In addition to HUD-provided data, the above analyses related to disability and access issues also relied on data from New Hampshire Legal Assistance's Housing Justice Project, the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights, and the Strafford Regional Planning Commission's Fair Housing and Equity Assessment. The above analyses also incorporated consultations conducted with a number of disability organizations, including the New Hampshire Disability Rights Center (<http://www.drcnh.org>), Community Partners (<https://www.communitypartnersnh.org>), and Tri-City Consumers' Action Cooperative (<http://www.tricitycoop.org>).

- b. The program participant may also describe other information relevant to its assessment of disability and access issues.*

N/A.

## 7. Disability and Access Issues Contributing Factors

*Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of disability and access issues and the fair housing issues, which are Segregation, RECAPs, Disparities in Access to Opportunity, and Disproportionate Housing Needs. For each*

<sup>38</sup> "2016-2020 Consolidated Plan," New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. <<https://www.nhhfa.org/assets/pdf/2016conplan.pdf>>.

*contributing factor, note which fair housing issue(s) the selected contributing factor relates to.*

- ***Access to proficient schools for persons with disabilities***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Overall, there are not disparities in access to opportunity (such as access to jobs or public housing), but there are disparities in access to opportunities based on building and infrastructure accessibility (such as older school buildings that are not fully accessible). These areas are analyzed in depth in previous subsections. Data and consultations do indicate that there are disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities.

There have been some accessibility issues with some schools, mostly due to the age of the school buildings. The City of Rochester's CDBG program has paid for replacement of elevators and chairlifts at Spaulding High School as well as the installation of a chairlift at Maple Street Magnet School. It is likely that other buildings, that were built prior to accessibility requirements or that have aging elevators or other accessibility improvements, will also need renovations to existing accessibility improvements or the installation of accessibility improvements.

The City of Rochester also has the Monarch School of New England, which serves students with physical, developmental or other disabilities who are aged 5-21, and the Seacoast Learning Center, which serves students with dyslexia.

- ***Access to publicly supported housing for persons with disabilities***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Overall, there are not disparities in access to opportunity (such as access to jobs or public housing), but there are disparities in access to opportunities based on building and infrastructure accessibility (such as older school buildings that are not fully accessible). These areas are analyzed in depth in previous subsections. Data and consultations do indicate that there are disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities.

The Rochester Housing Authority's housing is disproportionately aimed at serving elderly residents and residents with disabilities. Most of RHA's buildings are located in or near the downtown region, which is where there is the best access to public transportation, grocery stores, and other services.

- ***Access to transportation for persons with disabilities***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Overall, there are not disparities in access to opportunity (such as access to jobs or public housing), but there are disparities in access to opportunities based on building and infrastructure accessibility (such as older school buildings that are not fully accessible). These areas are analyzed in depth in previous subsections. Data and consultations do indicate that there are disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities.

Public input and consultations with a range of non-profit agencies have indicated transportation gaps in the Seacoast region. Due to financial concerns and low ridership, COAST has reduced or eliminated routes to the northern, more rural areas of Strafford County. COAST data and other consultations also indicate increasing and undermet needs for Americans with Disabilities Act

(ADA) paratransit and demand response services, which are generally more expensive than fixed-route service.

In addition, the Community Development Coordinator and Rochester Housing Authority staff also met in-person with Rochester Housing Authority residents on November 11, 2015. Many residents in attendance were elderly and/or residents with disabilities. The discussion centered on the need for more transportation accessibility and options, as well as other concerns. Subsequent meetings between RHA residents and COAST community outreach staff indicated that some of this need may be addressed through providing the public with more familiarity with the many existing transportation programs and options.

- ***Inaccessible government facilities or services***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Overall, there are not disparities in access to opportunity (such as access to jobs or public housing), but there are disparities in access to opportunities based on building and infrastructure accessibility (such as older school buildings that are not fully accessible). These areas are analyzed in depth in previous subsections. Data and consultations do indicate that there are disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities.

All major public buildings (including but not limited to City Hall, City Hall Annex, Rochester Public Library, Rochester Police Station, and Rochester Community Center) are accessible for wheelchair users. Accessibility includes wheelchair ramps, door buttons, and grab bars in restrooms inside the buildings. All of these buildings are also accessible via bus routes serviced by the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST). COAST buses can be lowered to allow entry for wheelchair users and other riders with mobility-related disabilities, and COAST also provides ADA paratransit services.

- ***Inaccessible sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, or other infrastructure***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Overall, there are not disparities in access to opportunity (such as access to jobs or public housing), but there are disparities in access to opportunities based on building and infrastructure accessibility (such as older school buildings that are not fully accessible). These areas are analyzed in depth in previous subsections. Data and consultations do indicate that there are disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities.

While the downtown core of the City of Rochester has good distribution of sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian signals, etc., this becomes decreasingly true as one moves away from the more urban downtown area to the more rural outskirts of the city. These areas often have higher speed limits, few to no sidewalks, and few to no pedestrian crossings. Public input sessions conducted as part of CDBG Annual Action Plan public consultation have indicated that a lack of sidewalks especially have a negative impact on residents who use wheelchairs and other mobility aids.

- ***Lack of affordable in-home or community-based supportive services***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Overall, there are not disparities in access to opportunity, as there are many in-home

and community-based supportive services available to Rochester residents. Data and consultations do indicate that there are disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities.

The Rochester Housing Authority's housing is disproportionately aimed at serving elderly residents and residents with disabilities. There are also assisted living facilities available in the city, such as Rochester Manor, as well as a multitude of supportive services provided by a variety of non-profit agencies. Such supportive services include Community Partners, which provides behavioral health services; Tri-City Co-op, which provides peer-to-peer mental health supports; and the Homemakers and Cornerstone VNA, which provide home medical care and other related services. The City of Rochester also has the Monarch School of New England, which serves students with physical, developmental or other disabilities who are aged 5-21, and the Seacoast Learning Center, which serves students with dyslexia.

However, according to data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its 2015 report, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, there was identified segregation of Rochester's 75+ population. Unfortunately, the report provides analysis only at the municipal level and does not provide a breakdown of census tract demographics.

- ***Lack of affordable, accessible housing in range of unit sizes***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Data and consultations do indicate that there are disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities, as well as access to opportunity given a lack of affordable, accessible housing.

Consultation with the New Hampshire Disability Rights Center, as well as local social service providers, have indicated affordability and accessibility issues for many residents with disabilities, especially residents reliant on SSI or SSDI. The New Hampshire Disability Rights Center reports that a large number of their clients are housing burdened (that is, spending more than 30% of their total income on housing costs).

A significant factor in lack of accessibility is the age of the housing stock in the City of Rochester and the wider Seacoast region. Of all 13,694 housing units within the City of Rochester, only 133 units were built in 2010 or later. The majority of available housing within the city (7,593 units) was built prior to 1980, and a significant percentage (3,783 units) was built prior to 1950. This aged and aging housing stock, built prior to Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, often presents accessibility issues for residents with mobility-related disabilities. This can include stairs without chairlifts, bathrooms without grab bars, and hallways and doorways without adequate clearance room for wheelchair users.

Another accessibility concern, identified through consultation with the New Hampshire Disability Rights Center, is public transportation. Many residents with disabilities rely on public transportation to access employment, essentials such as grocery stores, and medical care. Consultations at the neighborhood ward meetings with residents have indicated a desire for expanded public transportation availability, especially for elderly residents and residents with disabilities. However, financial constraints and reduced state funding for public transit mean that current bus routes are unlikely to expand.

- ***Lack of affordable, integrated housing for individuals who need supportive services***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Data and consultations do not indicate that there are a lack of access to opportunity or disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities in this area.

State-level data from the National Council on Disability indicates that there are no persons with developmental disabilities or intellectual disabilities residing in large state institutions. Segregated settings include local assisted living facilities within the City of Rochester, such as Rochester Manor (<https://www.genesishcc.com/rochester>), and Rochester Housing Authority has housing complexes specifically for elderly residents and residents with disabilities. However, these housing situations differ significantly from institutionalized settings in that residents enter them voluntarily and have full or near-full access to the wider community.

In addition, according to 2016 ACS data, there are about 5,015 residents with disabilities living in the City of Rochester, which is about 17% of the overall population of the city. The number of residents in assisted living facilities and RHA housing for elderly residents/residents with disabilities measures only in the hundreds, which means that the majority of residents with disabilities in the City of Rochester are living in integrated settings.

- ***Lack of assistance for housing accessibility modifications***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Data and consultations do not indicate that there are a lack of access to opportunity or disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities in this area.

The City of Rochester prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as other federally recognized categories, in its official employee policies.<sup>39</sup> The City of Rochester's zoning ordinance provides that the Zoning Board of Adjustments "may grant a variance ... when reasonable accommodations are necessary to allow a person or persons with a recognized physical disability to reside in or regularly use the premises."<sup>40</sup> Also, in FY 2015-2016, the city's CDBG program funded a handicap accessibility improvements microgrants program. This program provided funding for accessibility improvements for low- to moderate-income Rochester residents.<sup>41</sup> Non-governmental resources include the Community Toolbox (<http://www.commttoolbox.org/>), which provides small home repairs and renovations in the Seacoast New Hampshire region, and Granite State Independent Living's Accessibility Pilot Program (<https://www.gsil.org/new-accessibility-pilot-program-homeowners-disabilities/>).

In addition, the City of Rochester offers assessment exemptions and tax credits for many residents. This includes assessment exemptions for elderly residents and residents with disabilities<sup>42</sup> as well as tax credits for veterans,<sup>43</sup> including a tax credit for veterans with disabilities related to their service<sup>44</sup> and property tax exemptions for certain disabled veterans.<sup>45</sup>

<sup>39</sup> <https://www.rochesternh.net/city-manager/pages/employee-policies-procedures>.

<sup>40</sup> Ch 42.4.2, City of Rochester ordinances. <<https://www.ecode360.com/documents/RO2619/RO2619-042.pdf>>

<sup>41</sup> [https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/file/file/final\\_fy\\_2015\\_2016\\_annual\\_action\\_plan\\_-\\_website\\_version\\_0.pdf](https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/file/file/final_fy_2015_2016_annual_action_plan_-_website_version_0.pdf).

<sup>42</sup> [https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/uploads/disabled\\_qualifications\\_checklist\\_1.pdf](https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/uploads/disabled_qualifications_checklist_1.pdf).

<sup>43</sup> <https://www.rochesternh.net/assessing/pages/veteran-tax-credits>.

<sup>44</sup> [https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/imce/u883/disabled\\_vet.jpg](https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/imce/u883/disabled_vet.jpg).

<sup>45</sup> <https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/file/file/72-36a.pdf>.

- ***Lack of assistance for transitioning from institutional settings to integrated housing***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Data and consultations do not indicate that there are a lack of access to opportunity or disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities in this area.

State-level data from the National Council on Disability indicates that there are no persons with developmental disabilities or intellectual disabilities residing in large state institutions. Segregated settings include local assisted living facilities within the City of Rochester, such as Rochester Manor (<https://www.genesishcc.com/rochester>), and Rochester Housing Authority has housing complexes specifically for elderly residents and residents with disabilities. However, these housing situations differ significantly from institutionalized settings in that residents enter them voluntarily and have full or near-full access to the wider community.

In addition, according to 2016 ACS data, there are about 5,015 residents with disabilities living in the City of Rochester, which is about 17% of the overall population of the city. The number of residents in assisted living facilities and RHA housing for elderly residents/residents with disabilities measures only in the hundreds, which means that the majority of residents with disabilities in the City of Rochester are living in integrated settings.

For those residents who are in segregated settings and wish to transition to integrated housing, there are regional supports to help residents do so. Tri-City Consumers' Action Co-Operative provides peer-to-peer mental health supportive services, and Community Partners operates a rental assistance program that pairs financial support with ongoing case management.

- ***Land use and zoning laws***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Data and consultations do not indicate that there are a lack of access to opportunity or disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities in this area.

The City of Rochester's zoning ordinance provides that the Zoning Board of Adjustments "may grant a variance ... when reasonable accommodations are necessary to allow a person or persons with a recognized physical disability to reside in or regularly use the premises."<sup>46</sup> Also, in FY 2015-2016, the city's CDBG program funded a handicap accessibility improvements microgrants program. This program provided funding for accessibility improvements for low- to moderate-income Rochester residents.<sup>47</sup> In addition, the City of Rochester offers assessment exemptions and tax credits for many residents. This includes assessment exemptions for elderly residents and residents with disabilities<sup>48</sup> as well as tax credits for veterans,<sup>49</sup> including a tax credit for veterans with disabilities related to their service<sup>50</sup> and property tax exemptions for certain disabled veterans.<sup>51</sup>

<sup>46</sup> Ch 42.4.2, City of Rochester ordinances. <<https://www.ecode360.com/documents/RO2619/RO2619-042.pdf>>

<sup>47</sup> [https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/file/file/final\\_fy\\_2015\\_2016\\_annual\\_action\\_plan\\_-\\_website\\_version\\_0.pdf](https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/file/file/final_fy_2015_2016_annual_action_plan_-_website_version_0.pdf).

<sup>48</sup> [https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/uploads/disabled\\_qualifications\\_checklist\\_1.pdf](https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/uploads/disabled_qualifications_checklist_1.pdf).

<sup>49</sup> <https://www.rochesternh.net/assessing/pages/veteran-tax-credits>.

<sup>50</sup> [https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/imce/u883/disabled\\_vet.jpg](https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/imce/u883/disabled_vet.jpg).

<sup>51</sup> <https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/file/file/72-36a.pdf>.

Also, in April of 2014, the City of Rochester updated the Chapter 42 of City of Rochester General Ordinances, which took ten years to complete. The Downtown Commercial District Zone has an average parcel size of 17,675 square feet, which would only allow for three dwelling units per parcel without seeking a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment under the 2014 ordinance. In early 2018, the ordinance was revised to lower the density limits to 500 sq. ft. per dwelling unit to allow for increased density within this zone, as the previous density regulations proved off-putting for developers who otherwise would be interested in investing in the downtown mixed-use buildings. Later in 2018, the Rochester Planning Department worked with the Community Development Division and the consultants at BendonAdams to perform a more in-depth analysis of downtown density and draft recommendations to further improve property owners' ability to develop downtown housing. A revised version of these recommendations was adopted by City Council in 2019.

- ***Lending discrimination***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Data and consultations indicate that there are a lack of access to opportunity and disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities in this area.

Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data for 2016 for all City of Rochester census tracts, provided by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, was reviewed in-depth in earlier subsections. The rate of denials for home loans seemed proportionate for both white residents and racial/ethnic minority residents of the city. The HMDA data does not provide demographic information on loan applicants' disability status, unfortunately.

Data from the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project (<http://www.nhla.org/content/housing-16>), as well as the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights (<https://www.nh.gov/hrc/>), indicate that disability is by far the protected category with the most reports of discrimination. These reports do not include information on the nature of the disability, unfortunately (e.g., physical, developmental, behavioral). Consultation with the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project indicates that many of the housing discrimination cases based on disability discrimination involve rental residents rather than home-owning residents, but this may reflect the lower income of New Hampshire Legal Assistance clients.

- ***Location of accessible housing***

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Data and consultations indicate that there are a lack of access to opportunity and disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities in this area, as affordable downtown housing in the City of Rochester is disproportionately comprised of older housing that is more likely to have accessibility issues.

A significant factor in lack of accessibility is the age of the housing stock in the City of Rochester and the wider Seacoast region. Of all 13,694 housing units within the City of Rochester, only 133 units were built in 2010 or later. The majority of available housing within the city (7,593 units) was built prior to 1980, and a significant percentage (3,783 units) was built prior to 1950. This aged and aging housing stock, built prior to Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, often presents accessibility issues for residents with



mobility-related disabilities. This can include stairs without chairlifts, bathrooms without grab bars, and hallways and doorways without adequate clearance room for wheelchair users.

Consultations with regional housing developers and affordable housing non-profit agencies statewide have also indicated a lack of affordable housing incentive programs within the State of New Hampshire, which has led to poverty concentrations in the downtown region, where the housing stock is older, dilapidated, and lower cost.

- ***Occupancy codes and restrictions***

Both HUD data and other data indicate there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Data and consultations indicate that there is a lack of access to opportunity and disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities in this area. Most of these needs relate to the costs of upgrading older and more affordable housing to meet current codes.

For example, the Amazon Park neighborhood is located on the eastern outskirts of the city and is comprised of low-income manufactured housing, travel trailers, campers, etc. Community Partners, which provides behavioral health services, has many clients who reside within Amazon Park. The City of Rochester and the owners of Amazon Park were engaged in litigation related to the park throughout 2017 and 2018, with the city expressing life safety and building safety code concerns with the housing units within the park.<sup>52</sup> The State Supreme Court ruled that Amazon Park may be operated as a year-round permanent residential park but that all housing units must meet the City of Rochester's fire and life safety codes and building codes.

Consultations with housing developers, non-profit social service agencies, and others indicate that this problem extends beyond just Amazon Park to other older and/or dilapidated housing within the city. The costs for bringing these buildings up to code, especially if they have been neglected for some time period, can be prohibitive for the buildings' owners. Offsetting these barriers, there is New Hampshire's accessory dwelling units law, which was enacted in 2017.<sup>53</sup> The law requires New Hampshire municipalities to "allow accessory dwelling units as a matter of right or by either conditional use permit pursuant to RSA 674:21 or by special exception, in all zoning districts that permit single-family dwellings."

- ***Regulatory barriers to providing housing and supportive services for persons with disabilities***

Both HUD data and other data indicate there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Data and consultations indicate that there is not a lack of access to opportunity or disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities in this area.

There are not direct regulatory barriers to providing housing and supportive services for persons with disabilities, but consultations with city staff and non-profit agencies such as Community Action Partnership of Strafford County indicate that the need to obtain zoning variances can negatively impact the ability to construct housing for residents with disabilities. In addition, as discussed in previous sections, density limitations can affect housing developers' ability to construct affordable housing in the downtown region.

<sup>52</sup> Early B, "Rochester: Amazon Park trailers unsuitable for year-round residents," *Foster's Daily Democrat*. <<http://www.seacoastonline.com/news/20170423/rochester-amazon-park-trailers-unsuitable-for-year-round-residences>>.

<sup>53</sup> NH RSA 674:71-72. <<https://www.nh.gov/osi/planning/resources/documents/accessory-dwelling-units-law.pdf>>.

- *State or local laws, policies, or practices that discourage individuals with disabilities from being placed in or living in apartments, family homes, and other integrated settings*

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs for residents with disabilities. Data and consultations indicate that there is a history of lack of access to opportunity or disproportionate housing needs for residents with disabilities in this area, and likely these concerns are continuing.

The 2015 *Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice*, prepared by New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority and New Hampshire Legal Assistance, provides an overview of several New Hampshire court cases of recent years. In *Amanda D. v. Hassan*, filed in 2012 by the New Hampshire Disability Rights Center and joined by the U.S. Department of Justice, the case was based on state institutionalization practices, which the plaintiff asserts were unlawful discrimination against persons with mental illness. An agreement between the parties was reached in 2014, which requires the provision of community-based mental health services, employment support services, and supportive housing. As discussed in previous subsections, the need for more community-based mental health services, employment support services, and supportive housing for residents with mental illness and other disabilities continue both locally and regionally.

#### **D. Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Analysis**

1. *List and summarize any of the following that have not been resolved: a charge or letter of finding from HUD concerning a violation of a civil rights-related law, a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a violation of a state or local fair housing law, a letter of findings issued by or lawsuit filed or joined by the Department of Justice alleging a pattern or practice or systemic violation of a fair housing or civil rights law, or a claim under the False Claims Act related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, or civil rights generally, including an alleged failure to affirmatively further fair housing.*

N/A. There are no unresolved findings.

2. *Describe any state or local fair housing laws. What characteristics are protected under each law?*

New Hampshire RSA 354-A prohibits discrimination in employment, public accommodations, and the sale or rental of housing or commercial property, because of age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability or national origin.<sup>54</sup>

3. *Identify any local and regional agencies and organizations that provide fair housing information, outreach, and enforcement, including their capacity and the resources available to them.*

New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights

<sup>54</sup> New Hampshire RSA 354-A. <<http://gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/nhtoc/nhtoc-xxxi-354-a.htm>>.

The New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights (<https://www.nh.gov/hrc>) is a state government department and is vested under RSA 354-A with the responsibility to “receive, investigate and pass upon complaints alleging violations of this chapter” which covers employment, housing, and public accommodations discrimination. The commission’s website provides an overview of the state statute and associated rules, discrimination data, commission decisions, instructions on how to file a complaint with the commission, and links to other federal and state human rights resources. There are also subsections on pregnancy discrimination and disability discrimination specifically but not the other categories of protection (age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, or national origin).

According to the 2015 state AI, all state-based housing discrimination cases must be lodged with the Commission for Human Rights initially. Complainants may file a complaint by telephone, fax, mail, online, or in person at the commission’s offices. The website has a specific complaint form for housing and commercial property discrimination complaints.<sup>55</sup>

#### New Hampshire Legal Assistance

New Hampshire Legal Assistance (<http://www.nhla.org>) is a statewide legal services agency serving low-income residents of New Hampshire. The agency has offices in Berlin, Claremont, Concord, Manchester, and Portsmouth. NHLA’s Housing Justice Project promotes helps individuals and families who are either currently without shelter or are at imminent risk of becoming homeless. The Housing Justice Project handles cases such as Section 8 or public housing issues, mortgage foreclosure, property tax issues, mobile home park issues, fair Housing/housing discrimination complaints, and housing accessibility issues for persons with mobility disabilities.

The Fair Housing Project provides civil legal aid to assist clients with disabilities when they need to obtain accommodations in housing situations, defends clients facing unlawful evictions, and files discrimination complaints with administrative agencies or in court. In addition to individual representation, the Fair Housing Project engages in systemic advocacy by providing training throughout the state on fair housing topics and by advocating for changes in laws, ordinances and policies that have a negative impact on protected class members.

#### New Hampshire Disability Rights Center

The New Hampshire Disability Rights Center (<http://www.drcnh.org/>) is New Hampshire's designated protection and advocacy agency and authorized by federal statute “to pursue legal, administrative and other appropriate remedies” on behalf of individuals with disabilities. The DRC is a statewide organization independent from state government or service providers. DRC provides information, referral, advice, legal representation, and advocacy to individuals with disabilities on a wide range of disability-related problems. DRC's authority includes access to facilities to conduct monitoring activities, including site visits and speaking with residents of the facility.

The Disability Rights Center has a specific page on housing issues at <http://www.drcnh.org/IssueAreas/housing.html>. The page provides a “know your rights”

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<sup>55</sup> <https://www.nh.gov/hrc/documents/housing.pdf>.

overview, fair housing information, information on emotional support animals, and resources section including both legal and financial services.

Seacoast Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

The Seacoast NAACP (<http://www.seacoastnaacp.com/>) is a local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, one of the oldest civil rights organizations in the nation. Its mission is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and discrimination. The Seacoast chapter's website includes a section on legal issues, which provides a discrimination complaint form and information on filing complaints with the NAACP.

***Additional Information***

During the FY 2015-2016 program year, Rochester CDBG funds paid for a landlord-tenant law "know your rights" workshop hosted by New Hampshire Legal Assistance's Housing Justice Project staff. This workshop provided an important resource to the Rochester community, and several important connections between landlords, tenants, city staff, and legal assistance staff were made during the workshop. In subsequent years, Rochester Community Development staff has attended NHLA fair housing trainings and encouraged the NHLA to apply for additional CDBG funding.

In addition, Community Development staff has drafted and posted a fair housing webpage to the city's Community Development website. This page, which can be found online at <http://www.rochesternh.net/community-development-division/pages/fair-housing>, provides links to the texts of the federal Fair Housing Act and New Hampshire state anti-discrimination protections, to several HUD fair housing resources, to HUD housing demographics data for the city, and to the websites of the New Hampshire Legal Assistance's Housing Justice Project, New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights, and National Fair Housing Alliance.

**4. Fair Housing Enforcement, Outreach Capacity, and Resources Contributing Factors**

*Consider the listed factors and any other factors affecting the jurisdiction and region. Identify factors that significantly create, contribute to, perpetuate, or increase the severity of fair housing enforcement, outreach capacity, and resources and the fair housing issues, which are Segregation, RECAPs, Disparities in Access to Opportunity, and Disproportionate Housing Needs. For each significant contributing factor, note which fair housing issue(s) the selected contributing factor impacts.*

- ***Lack of local private fair housing outreach and enforcement***

The primary source of fair housing outreach and enforcement for the state of New Hampshire is New Hampshire Legal Assistance's Housing Justice Project. New Hampshire Legal Assistance (<http://www.nhla.org>) is a statewide legal services agency serving low-income residents of New Hampshire. The Housing Justice Project handles cases such as Section 8 or public housing issues, mortgage foreclosure, property tax issues, mobile home park issues, fair Housing/housing discrimination complaints, and housing accessibility issues for persons with mobility disabilities.

The Fair Housing Project provides civil legal aid to assist clients with disabilities when they need to obtain accommodations in housing situations, defends clients facing unlawful evictions, and files discrimination complaints with administrative agencies or in court. In addition to individual representation, the Fair Housing Project engages in systemic advocacy by providing training throughout the state on fair housing topics and by advocating for changes in laws, ordinances and policies that have a negative impact on protected class members.

In addition to NHLA, there is the New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights. This government department is vested under RSA 354-A with the responsibility to “receive, investigate and pass upon complaints alleging violations of this chapter” which covers employment, housing, and public accommodations discrimination. According to the 2015 state AI, all state-based housing discrimination cases must be lodged with the Commission for Human Rights initially. Complainants may file a complaint by telephone, fax, mail, online, or in person at the commission’s offices. The website has a specific complaint form for housing and commercial property discrimination complaints.

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs within the City of Rochester. Data and consultations indicate that there is not a disparity in access to opportunity or disproportionate housing needs. However, given the constraints of financial resources and staff availability, the NHLA Housing Justice Project is unable to provide assistance to all potential clients who contact them or to do non-targeted monitoring in as wide a geographical region as would be ideal. The New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights has an administrative staff of four persons and an investigative staff of four additional persons, as well as seven appointed commissioners, and this seems adequate for the state.

- ***Lack of local public fair housing enforcement***

The primary source of fair housing outreach and enforcement for the state of New Hampshire is New Hampshire Legal Assistance’s Housing Justice Project. New Hampshire Legal Assistance (<http://www.nhla.org>) is a statewide legal services agency serving low-income residents of New Hampshire. The Housing Justice Project handles cases such as Section 8 or public housing issues, mortgage foreclosure, property tax issues, mobile home park issues, fair Housing/housing discrimination complaints, and housing accessibility issues for persons with mobility disabilities.

The Fair Housing Project provides civil legal aid to assist clients with disabilities when they need to obtain accommodations in housing situations, defends clients facing unlawful evictions, and files discrimination complaints with administrative agencies or in court. In addition to individual representation, the Fair Housing Project engages in systemic advocacy by providing training throughout the state on fair housing topics and by advocating for changes in laws, ordinances and policies that have a negative impact on protected class members.

In addition to NHLA, there is the New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights. This government department is vested under RSA 354-A with the responsibility to “receive, investigate and pass upon complaints alleging violations of this chapter” which covers employment, housing, and public accommodations discrimination. According to the 2015 state AI, all state-based housing discrimination cases must be lodged with the Commission for Human Rights initially. Complainants may file a complaint by telephone, fax, mail, online, or in person at the commission’s offices. The website has a specific complaint form for housing and commercial property discrimination complaints.

Public housing is also monitored for fair housing compliance by HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity ([https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/fair\\_housing\\_equal\\_opp](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp)). The website for HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity provides information on how to file a housing complaint and specifies seeking housing assistance as an area of enforcement. The website provides the complaint form in both English and Spanish, and there are subsections on assistance for persons with disabilities and for persons with limited English proficiency.

Both HUD data and other data indicates there is not segregation or R/ECAPs within the City of Rochester. Data and consultations indicate that there is not a disparity in access to opportunity or disproportionate housing needs. However, given the constraints of financial resources and staff availability, the NHLA Housing Justice Project is unable to provide assistance to all potential clients who contact them or to do non-targeted monitoring in as wide a geographical region as would be ideal. The New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights has an administrative staff of four persons and an investigative staff of four additional persons, as well as seven appointed commissioners, and this seems adequate for the state.

- ***Lack of resources for fair housing agencies and organizations***

Given the constraints of financial resources and staff availability, the NHLA Housing Justice Project is unable to provide assistance to all potential clients who contact them or to do non-targeted monitoring in as wide a geographical region as would be ideal. The New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights has an administrative staff of four persons and an investigative staff of four additional persons, as well as seven appointed commissioners, and this seems adequate for the state.

- ***Lack of state or local fair housing laws***

The State of New Hampshire, under RSA 354-A, prohibits discrimination in the sale or rental of housing (as well as other areas) based on age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability, or national origin. The City of Rochester does not have a municipal-level fair housing ordinance but explicitly follows RSA 354-A as well as all federal anti-discrimination laws.

## V. Fair Housing Goals and Priorities

1. *For each fair housing issue, prioritize the identified contributing factors. Justify the prioritization of the contributing factors that will be addressed by the goals set below in Question 2. Give the highest priority to those factors that limit or deny fair housing choice or access to opportunity, or negatively impact fair housing or civil rights compliance.*

### Goal #1: Increase Access to Quality Affordable Housing

One of the most common housing problems, identified across multiple consultations, is the lack of adequately affordable housing. Average income has not kept pace with average rental costs; as a result, many Rochester residents spend well over 30% of their income on housing. According to calculations from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, less than 10% of the housing units in Strafford County are affordable to half of the renting households.

Lastly, the relative lack of public housing availability is a problem for the City. Consultation with the Rochester Housing Authority has indicated that the current wait list for housing is somewhere around five years long. In addition, according to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, many of the assisted rental housing units produced under subsidized housing programs are no longer available.

Quality affordable housing will be increased through a variety of approaches, including but not limited to rental assistance program support for lower-income residents, housing rehabilitation funding targeted to lower-income homeowners, educational and vocational assistance aimed at increasing lower-income residents' income levels, and pursuing opportunity to construct more public housing units or convert existing housing to public housing.

### Goal #2: Increase Home Ownership Opportunities for Ethnic and Racial Minorities

According to data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its 2015 report, *Local Solutions for the Strafford Region: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, there is a slight concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who rent in the center of the City (Wards 2 and 6), and there is a heavier concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who own their homes in the northwestern portion of the City (Wards 3 and 5). Both these areas overlap, to large extent, the census tracts classified by HUD as 51% or greater low to moderate income.

Home ownership opportunities for ethnic and racial minorities will be increased through a combination of initiatives, including Fair Housing Act educational outreach to local lending institutions; providing information on low-income home ownership resources to regional organizations dedicated to protecting the rights of racial and ethnic minority populations; and partnering with fair housing organizations, such as the New Hampshire Legal Assistance's Housing Justice Project, to address discrimination complaints related to mortgages and home buying.

### Goal #3: Reduce Housing Discrimination Against Residents with Disabilities

The City of Rochester has a relatively high percentage of residents with disabilities, especially children with disabilities. Based on federal AHAR reports, people with disabilities (and especially those with mental health-related disabilities) are vastly overrepresented among those reported to be experiencing homelessness. Data from the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project (<http://www.nhla.org/content/housing-16>), as well as the New Hampshire Commission on



Human Rights (<https://www.nh.gov/hrc/>), indicate that disability is by far the protected category with the most reports of discrimination. These reports do not include information on the nature of the disability, unfortunately (*e.g.*, physical, developmental, behavioral).

Focusing on disability as a protected class, therefore, makes sense in terms of maximizing impact of limited resources. Reducing discrimination will include a broad range of approaches, including supporting rental assistance programs with case management specifically for residents with disabilities, supporting behavioral health general supportive services, and support substance use disorder treatment and recovery services (as there are high levels of coincidence between behavioral health issues and substance use disorders). The City of Rochester will also partner with the Rochester Housing Authority to address any accessibility issues in the city's public housing stock and to identify and pursue opportunities to create more accessible public housing units.

#### Goal #4: Landlord Education and Outreach on Fair Housing Issues and Protected Categories

According to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Fair Housing Analysis drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. These same reports also indicate that a greater percentage of renter households (48% of all renters) in the Strafford County region have a high housing cost burden (30% or more of income) than do owner households (33% of all owners). In addition, these analyses have found that senior occupancy of rental units should increase, as more elderly residents reach age 75+ and seek smaller living spaces located closer to services and amenities.

Anecdotal reports from several public service agencies that serve low-income residents suggest that family size has been a basis of discrimination within the City of Rochester, with larger families with children being turned away from rental housing by landlords. Both "familial status" and "marital status" are protected categories under New Hampshire RSA 354-A.

Given that especially vulnerable populations, including protected classes such as racial and ethnic minorities and persons with disabilities, disproportionately rent versus own their housing, a goal focusing on improving housing equity specifically for renting households will be set. This will be accomplished through education and outreach on fair housing principles and the protections afforded by the Fair Housing Act, targeted to local landlords and property managers; partnering with fair housing organizations, such as the New Hampshire Legal Assistance's Housing Justice Project, to address discrimination complaints related to rental housing and to organize housing discrimination testing activities; and rental assistance focusing on low-income residents and/or residents with disabilities, to increase access to quality, affordable rental housing. The City of Rochester and the Rochester Housing Authority will also partner to conduct landlord education and outreach specifically focused on landlords who accept Section 8 vouchers.

## ***July Department Reports:***

- 8.1 Assessor's Office P. 145**
- 8.2 Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services P. 147**
- 8.3 City Clerk's Office P. 157**
- 8.4 Department of Public Works      Not Available**
- 8.5 Economic & Community Development P. 159**
- 8.6 Finance Office P. 171**
- 8.7 Planning & Development Department P. 177**
- 8.8 Recreation & Arena P. 181**
- 8.9 Rochester Fire Department P. 183**
- 8.10 Rochester Police Department P. 187**
- 8.11 Rochester Public Library P. 207**
- 8.12 Tax Collector's Office P. 209**
- 8.13 Welfare Department P. 211**

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City Clerk's Office

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## City of Rochester, New Hampshire

Assessor's Office

19 Wakefield Street

Rochester, New Hampshire 03867-1915

(603) 332-5109

Email: [assessor@rochester.net](mailto:assessor@rochester.net)

Web Site: [www.rochesternh.net](http://www.rochesternh.net)

August 13, 2019

To: City Manager/Council

From: Theresa Hervey, Assessing

**Subject: July Council Report**

Revenue Received/Collection Warrants issued:

Land Use Change Tax	\$12,500.00
Property Record Cards & Copy Revenue	\$ 10.00

- Darcy Freer obtained a certificate of completion for taking IAAO Course 400 – Assessment Administration the week of July 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>.

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City Clerk's Office

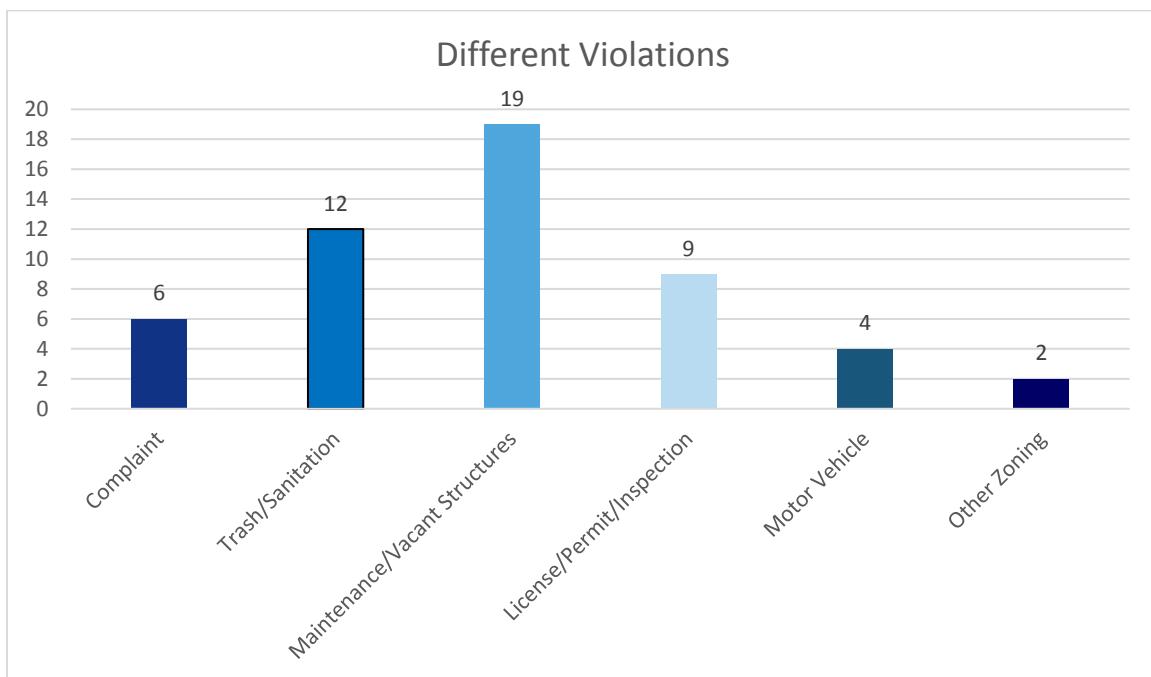
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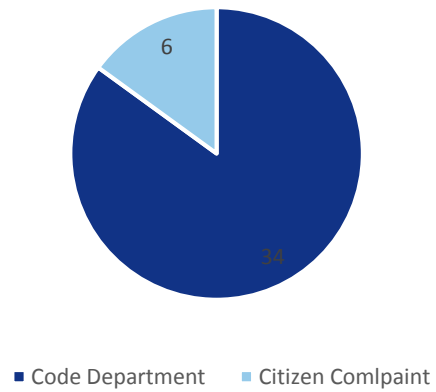
# July 2019 Code Compliance

## Monthly Report

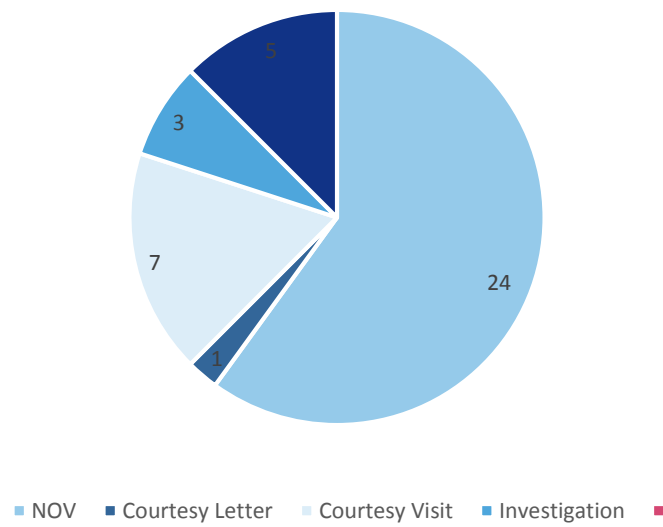
For the month of July, Code Compliance dealt with 40 properties with a total of 52 documented compliance or zoning issues. As well as removal of 37 snipe signs. All property owners in these cases have been notified and received Notice of Violations, Citations or Courtesy Visits asking for them to bring their property into compliance. Of these 40 properties, 15 of them have been brought into compliance with 25 still pending. Of the 10 properties with pending issues from June, 6 have been closed and brought into compliance.



Origin of Violation

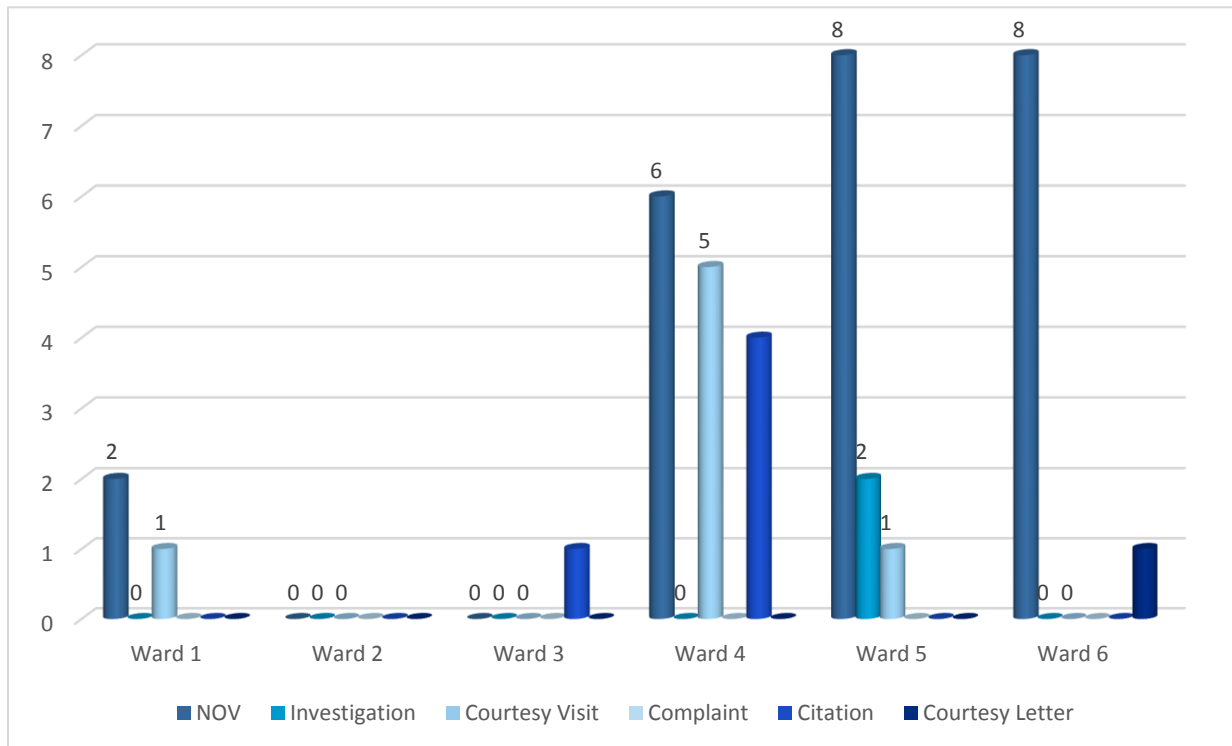


Type of Correspondence





## Breakdown by Ward's



Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Devine

Compliance Officer

These are examples of abandoned properties Building, Zoning, and Licensing has dealt with and had success with recently.

7 Tingley St

Before



After



7 McDuffee St

Before



After



710 Columbus Ave

Before



After



# End of Month Council Report

8/15/19

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council of the City of Rochester, the following is a summary of the revenue collected and the activities performed by the Department of Building, Zoning and Licensing Services for the month of July 2019 with the fiscal Year to Date

The following data is subject to adjustment & revision pending further review and analysis as well as year-end closing adjustments.

## Department Revenue

Permit Type	July 2019	Year to Date
Building Permits	\$30,004.00	\$30,004.00
Electrical Permits	\$2,064.00	\$2,064.00
Gas Permits	\$0.00	\$0.00
Plumbing Permits	\$713.00	\$713.00
Zoning Permits	\$788.00	\$788.00
FireSuppression Permits	\$0.00	\$0.00
FireAlarm Permits	\$245.00	\$348.00
Sprinkler Permits	\$525.00	\$708.00
Mechanical Permits	\$2,233.00	\$2,233.00
Food_Milk Licenses	\$1,390.00	\$1,390.00
Taxi Licenses	\$20.00	\$20.00
General Licenses	\$320.00	\$320.00
<b>Net Revenue</b>	<b>\$38,302.00</b>	<b>\$38,588.00</b>

# End of Month Council Report

8/15/19

## Building Permit Detail

New Permits		July 2019		Fiscal Year to Date	
Permit Type	Permit For	Permits Issued	Estimated Construction Value	Permits Issued	Estimated Construction Value
Building Permits	Addition - Non-Residential	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	Addition - Residential	1	\$15,000.00	1	\$15,000.00
	Alteration - Residential	7	\$563,961.00	7	\$563,961.00
	Alterations- Non Residential	2	\$180,000.00	2	\$180,000.00
	Apartment	5	\$2,555,000.00	5	\$2,555,000.00
	Barn	1	\$25,000.00	1	\$25,000.00
	Building - Non-Residential	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	Condo	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	Deck	8	\$24,251.00	8	\$24,251.00
	Demolition	4	\$23,840.00	4	\$23,840.00
	Fence	8	\$49,995.35	8	\$49,995.35
	Footing/ Foundation	5	\$0.00	5	\$0.00
	Garage	2	\$35,000.00	2	\$35,000.00
	Manufactured Home	1	\$80,000.00	1	\$80,000.00
	New Home	5	\$710,000.00	5	\$710,000.00
	Other	2	\$27,000.00	2	\$27,000.00
	Pool - Above Ground	2	\$7,640.00	2	\$7,640.00
	Pool - In Ground	2	\$35,000.00	2	\$35,000.00
	Repair/Replace - Non-Residential	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	Repair/Replace - Residential	3	\$61,900.00	3	\$61,900.00
	Roofing	9	\$78,599.00	9	\$78,599.00
	Shed	9	\$27,435.00	9	\$27,435.00
	Siding	1	\$2,748.92	1	\$2,748.92
	Sign	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	Windows	1	\$15,000.00	1	\$15,000.00
Electrical Permits	Electrical Underground	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	Generator	2	\$18,600.00	2	\$18,600.00
	Low Voltage	1	\$2,000.00	1	\$2,000.00
	Meters	2	\$8,000.00	2	\$8,000.00
	Service	4	\$8,627.99	4	\$8,627.99
	Solar Electric System	3	\$37,105.00	3	\$37,105.00
	Temp Service	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00

# End of Month Council Report

	Wiring	26	\$139,214.99	26	8/15/19 \$139,214.99
FireAlarm Permits	Fire Alarm Permit	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
FireSuppression Permits	Fixed Fire Suppression System	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Mechanical Permits	Air Conditioning	8	\$101,843.00	8	\$101,843.00
	Furnace/Boiler	6	\$25,985.00	6	\$25,985.00
	Gas Line	5	\$4,950.00	5	\$4,950.00
	Gas Piping	4	\$28,000.00	4	\$28,000.00
	Heating	3	\$8,000.00	3	\$8,000.00
	Hot Water Heater	1	\$1,232.00	1	\$1,232.00
	Mechanical Underground	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	Other	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	Pressure Testing	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	Propane Tank	15	\$8,250.00	15	\$8,250.00
	Sheet Metal Work	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	Tank Installation	7	\$30,250.00	7	\$30,250.00
	Ventilation	1	\$6,466.00	1	\$6,466.00
Plumbing Permits	Plumbing	14	\$73,200.00	14	\$73,200.00
	Water Heater	1	\$2,889.00	1	\$2,889.00
Sprinkler Permits	Fire Sprinkler Systems	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
	<b>Total Permit Issued</b>	181	\$5,021,983.25	181	\$5,021,983.25



# City of Rochester, New Hampshire

## Department of Building, Zoning & Licensing Services

### ZONING MONTHLY REPORT - JULY 2019

#### Motion to Rehear:

**2019-07** One80 Solar, LLC, applicant seeks a *Variance* from table 18-D of the City Zoning Ordinance to permit a photovoltaic power station for the generation and distribution of electricity in the Agricultural zone.

**Location:** 68 Flagg Road, Rochester, NH 03867, MLB 0262-0058-0000 in the Agricultural Zone.

**2019-06** One80 Solar, LLC, applicant seeks a *Variance* from table 19-A of the City Zoning Ordinance to permit a subdivision of the parcel that creates two lots in which neither have the minimum 150' of frontage required in the Agricultural zoning district.

**Location:** 68 Flagg Road, Rochester, NH 03867, MLB 0262-0058-0000 in the Agricultural Zone.

*Variances were denied*

**Z-19-11** Krzysztof Kozlowski applicant seeks a *Variance* from table 19-A of the City Zoning Ordinance to permit a duplex on a lot that id 6,098 square feet where 9,000 square feet is required.

**Location:** 7 Academy Street, Rochester, NH 03867, MLB 0125-0099-0000 in the R2 Zone.

*Variance was denied*

**2019-13** Thomas Demchak applicant seeks a Variance from section 20.2(P)(1,2,&3) of the Zoning Ordinance to permit a commercial stable where none of the following requirements will be met:

- i. 1. The minimum lot size required shall be 5 acres.
- ii. 2. The side and rear setbacks for structures housing horses shall be 100 feet from any property line.
- iii. 3. Any storage areas for manure shall be set back at least 200 feet from any lot lines. Manure must be handled according to best management practices.

**Location:** 72 Crown Point Rd, Rochester, NH 03867, MLB 0235-0050-0000 in the Agricultural Zone.

**2019-14** Thomas Demchak applicant seeks a Variance from section 23.2(A)(3)(E) of the Zoning Ordinance to permit the keeping of less than ten horses as an accessory use to a residence where the following requirements will not be met:

- i. The activity is not carried out as a business;
- ii. A lot in the AG District is at least 3 gross acres;
- iii. A lot in all other districts is at least 2 gross acres;
- iv. There is an additional ¼ acre of land beyond the minimum specified in iii. and iv, above, for each animal kept beyond the first one;
- v. No area or structure for the housing, stabling, storage of manure/animal waste, or feeding of animals shall be located within 100 feet of any property line;
- vi. Handling of manure/animal waste must follow best management practices and not be a nuisance

for neighbors;

**vii.** No animals shall be pastured within 25 feet of any side or rear property line except where the abutting property owner consents to a reduced setback.

**Location:** 72 Crown Point Rd, Rochester, NH 03867, MLB 0235-0050-0000 in the Agricultural Zone.

**2019-15** Thomas Demchak applicant seeks a *Variance* from section 23(b)(E) of the Zoning Ordinance. The section does not exist and we have not heard from the representative regarding the clarification of this.

**Location:** 72 Crown Point Rd, Rochester, NH 03867, MLB 0235-0050-0000 in the Agricultural Zone.

*Variances were postponed*

New Cases:

**2019-18** Ronald Dubois applicant seeks a *Variance* from table 19-A of the Zoning Ordinance to permit a storage shed that encroaches on the 10' setback requirement.

**Location:** 1 Adelia St, Rochester, NH 03867, MLB 0122-0022-0000 in the R1 Zone

*Variance was approved*

**2019-19** Waste Management of NH applicant seeks a *Variance* from table 18-D of the Zoning Ordinance to permit and continue a use defined as a "truck terminal" in the agricultural zone.

**Location:** 214 Rochester Neck Rd, Rochester, NH 03867, MLB 0268-0002-0000 in the Agricultural Zone

*Variance was postponed*



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City Clerk's Office

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City Clerk's Office  
 City Hall - First Floor  
 31 Wakefield Street, Room 105  
 ROCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03867-1917  
 (603) 332-2130 - Fax (603) 509-1915  
 Web Site: <http://www.rochesternh.net>



## City Clerk's Report July 2019

### Vital Statistics

As reported in the revenue chart below, the City Clerk's staff issued 276 initial copies of vital records, and 208 subsequent copies of vital records in the month of July. The City Clerk's staff issued 26 Marriage Licenses.

The New Hampshire Division of Vital Records Administration generated the following report of statistics for the City of Rochester:

- 20 births were reported in Rochester during the month of July, 5 of these children were born to Rochester residents.
- 33 resident deaths were reported in Rochester.
- 8 couples celebrated their wedding ceremonies in Rochester during the month of July.

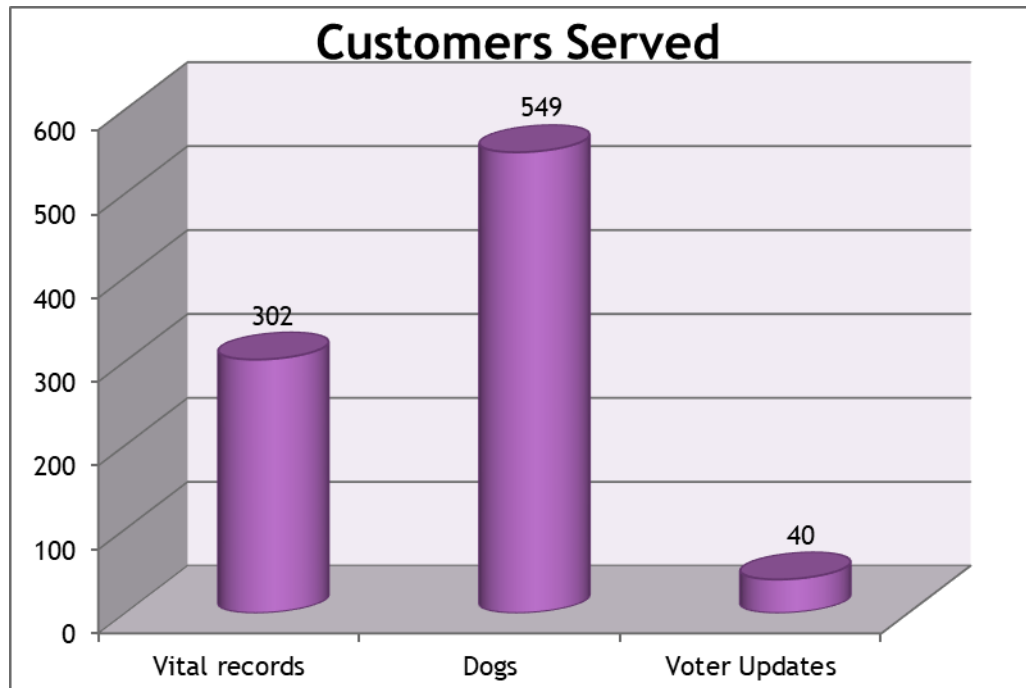
### Revenue – Vital Records/Marriage Licenses

	2018		2019	
	State	City	State	City
Initial/Subsequent copies:	\$3,115	\$2,842	\$3,248	\$2,972
Marriage Licenses:	\$1,720	\$280	\$1,118	\$182
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,835</b>	<b>\$3,122</b>	<b>\$4,366</b>	<b>\$3,154</b>

### Dog Licensing

The City Clerk's office licensed 549 dogs during the month of July. There were \$9,025 in Civil Forfeiture fees collected.

Per NH RSA 466:1, all dogs in the state of New Hampshire must be licensed by April 30 of each year. On July 17, the animal control officer issued the civil forfeitures for all dogs still unlicensed at that time. There were 1,332 civil forfeitures issued in 2019.

**Customers Served during the month of July 2019****Voter registration summary by party as of July 31, 2019:**

Ward	Democrats	Republicans	Undeclared	Totals
1	1,056	1,156	1,482	3,694
2	975	1,107	1,669	3,751
3	1,034	1,207	1,407	3,648
4	851	796	1,693	3,340
5	948	1,123	1,467	3,538
6	1,016	823	1,288	3,127
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>5,880</b>	<b>6,212</b>	<b>9,006</b>	<b>21,098</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Givara  
Deputy City Clerk

# Economic & Community Development



7/31/2019

MANAGEMENT REPORT



*Economic Development Report, Written by Jennifer Murphy Aubin*

*Community Development Report, Written by Julian Long*



## OFFICE OF ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MICHAEL SCALA, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### JOB LOAN + FINANCING TOOLS

Director Scala, Specialist Marsh and Coordinator Long visited with JOB Loan recipient, Flexographic Print Solutions, toured the facility with owner, Mark Lalonde. Additionally, Scala met with representatives from local lending partners at Profile and HRCU to discuss expanded lending options for Rochester businesses. Director Scala continues to work on the details of expanding resources and responsibilities of the REDC as the Industrial Development Agency for the city.

### DOWNTOWN OUTREACH – BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION

Director Scala, along with Specialist Marsh and REDC members met with a number of local downtown and area business owners to discuss strategy, needs, and the status of their enterprises.

### REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

Director Scala attended a business roundtable in Dover with Senator Shaheen to discuss businesses concerns, along with workforce development and housing topics, in the Seacoast Region.

### OPPORTUNITY ZONES

Director Scala, CM Cox, Attorney O'Rourke, and Director Campbell met with Keller Williams Commercial Services to discuss a possible Opportunity Zone project involving City land at 13 Sawyer Avenue.

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Director Scala attending IEDC training in Baltimore as part of the CEcD certification process to become a certified economic developer.

### NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Director Scala continues to work with a prospective buyer for the East Rochester Fire House located at 19 Main Street. Director Scala and Specialist Marsh are assisting Portsmouth area business to explore options to relocate to Rochester. Director Scala, CM Cox, Director Nourse, City Engineer Bezanson, Attorney O'Rourke and Deputy Sullivan are working with Index Packaging in their relocation to the GSBP.

## WAY FINDING

Director Scala and Specialist continue to develop Wayfinding strategy for downtown signage project and an implementation plan.

JENN MARSH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

## WAY FINDING UPDATE

Specialist Marsh and Director Scala are working on a presentation for City Council Workshop meeting on August 20<sup>th</sup>.

## ROCHESTER MAIN STREET

For the second year in a row, Main Street co-hosted the fireworks with the Department of Recreation, drawing thousands of participants coming to see the festivities.

**Save the Dates:** Upcoming events include Pride Day Saturday, August 24 from 12-3 and Porch Fest Sunday, September 29 from 12-5.

## NEW MEETING TIME - ROCHESTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The committee requested to move the meeting time from the evening to the morning. The new meeting time will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month from 8:00-9:30 AM in the Cocheco Conference Room, City Hall Annex.

## BUSINESS INCENTIVES - RSA 79E APPLICATION

The Economic Development Department received two 79E applications in June and July. The first application is for 22 South Main Street, with the project moving through the July Community Development Committee, Finance Committee and Historic District Committee. The second application is for 73-77 North Main Street, with plans to go before the August Community Development Committee, Finance Committee and Historic District Committee meetings.

## JOB LOAN ACTIVITY

The City received a JOB Loan application from Back Hill Brewery, the brewery opening in October at the Gonic Mill. The request is for \$45,000 and the committee will meet to review application packet at the beginning of August. At the end of June, the balance in the JOB Loan fund was \$53,395.47, which does not include the July payments from the nine active JOB Loans.

JENNIFER MURPHY AUBIN, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

## GRANITE RIDGE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT - RT.11 BUILD OUT ANALYSIS

Executive Aubin is working with BCM Consulting LLC to update the Granite Ridge Development District TIF plan to including a housing needs assessment. Drafts of the plan are in the review process, with a training for staff planned for August on the new updates.

## CENSUS DATE – COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE OUTREACH

### DEEP DIVE: Can Retailers Break Up With the Mall?

"The historical model was: build a mall, tons of traffic, expensive rent and make it up in low conversion but highly productive traffic," GAP Inc., CEO Art Peck, said.

"The secret in the industry today is that traffic in many of these malls is not nearly as productive as it once was. The formula doesn't work."

E-commerce is a factor, pinching sales that would once have gone to stores. (Though some retailers note that brick-and-mortar stores can contribute to digital sales.)

Demographics also have an impact. Gen Xers and millennials have stuck with city living or moved to closer-in suburbs when they do move out, according to Neisen Kasdin, managing partner at Akerman's Miami office and former mayor of Miami Beach.

### FOR MORE:

<https://www.retaildive.com/news/can-retailers-break-up-with-the-mall/559450/>

Executive Aubin is the point of contact for the 2020 Census Campaign and working with Nicole McKenzie, Census Regional Coordinator, forming a Rochester Complete Count Committee to engage local and regional stakeholders to get the information in the field. According to historical data, sections of Rochester have low census survey response rates, which has direct impact of future funding available on the concentration of services needed, from social services to business development loans and grants. If there is an underrepresentation, it has adverse impact for the community as a whole, with less funding available for projects.

Executive Aubin met with staff at Great Bay at Rochester, (formerly Great Bay ATAC) to discuss the Census Complete Count Committee mission.

**Save the Date:** Complete Count Committee Kick Off: Tuesday, September 17, 9 AM – 10 AM, at Great Bay at Rochester.

## FITNESS COURT

Working closely with Deputy Sullivan, Executive Aubin is preparing a budget analysis and presentation to the August Finance Committee for two possible plans for the National Fitness Court Project:

1. Fitness Court installation in FY 20, seeking a supplemental appropriation to fund the project this year, which coincides with DPW Director Nourse's playground upgrades; or,
2. Seek funding for FY 21, possibly accessing CDBG funding for the equipment, along with leveraging additional sponsors.

Fosters interviewed Executive Aubin regarding the upcoming Fitness Court project. "Because we have such a keen athletic and hiking population, I think it will be very well received and it dovetails nicely if it were to go to the Common," said Aubin, highlighting that the Common already a popular spot for outdoor workouts and walking. "(However,) it's a good quality of life initiative that will be another draw to Rochester regardless of where (the Commons or Hanson Pines) it goes."

<https://www.fosters.com/news/20190723/rochester-fitness-court-project-gets-30k-grant>

## COMMUNICATIONS

Fosters interviewed Executive Aubin to recognize the downtown revitalization efforts afoot by local businesses.



"The City of Rochester is thrilled with the proactive, engaged local leadership of the downtown business community, we are mindful that they have businesses to run and so we are here to help connect resources, coordinate meetings, to listen and to make sure these actions get the spotlight they deserve."



<https://www.fosters.com/news/20190730/rochester-downtown-businesses-look-to-rise-up>

Executive Aubin wrote several press releases and marketed the upcoming 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts Awards, including designing this year's flyer.

JULIAN LONG, CDBG COORDINATOR & GRANTS MANAGER

## COORDINATOR REPORT

Prepared by the Community Development Coordinator

June-July 2019

## CDBG PROGRAM

FY 2019 Subrecipient Site Monitoring Visits: The Community Development Coordinator has met with all FY 2019 CDBG subrecipients to discuss program performance and to review program files. Except for the Rochester Housing Authority, all subrecipients have met or exceeded their goals for FY 2019.

Rochester Housing Authority – Charles St. Permanent Supportive Housing Project: In the subrecipient site visit with RHA to discuss the postponed Charles St. permanent supportive housing project, RHA suggested that density allowances similar to those implemented for the downtown district would assist in reducing project costs.

Community Partners: As discussed in the May 2019 report, Community Partners' rental assistance reported no clients served and no CDBG funds expended for both quarter 2 and quarter 3 of FY 2019. During the end of year site monitoring for Community Partners, Community Partners reported that it has served 7 clients in quarter 4 (to serve a total of 10 clients during FY 2019, which was its set goal) and has expended all but approximately \$60 of its remaining grant funds. The Community Development Coordinator will continue to hold quarterly meetings with Community Partners throughout FY 2020 to ensure timely expenditure of funds and service to clients.

Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires the City of Rochester, as part of its CDBG planning and reporting, to address impediments to fair housing within the city. The new HUD rule requiring a more comprehensive Analysis of Fair Housing (AFH), subject to HUD review and approval, has been indefinitely suspended, leaving the previous process of preparing an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing in place. The Community Development Coordinator has adapted prior work on the AFH into an updated Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing for the City of Rochester. The draft Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing is attached to this report.

**FY 2020 Requests for Additional Funding:** The Community Action Partnership of Strafford County (CAP) is seeking state CDBG funds to support an emergency winter homeless shelter, and the NH Community Development Finance Authority has asked CAP whether Dover and Rochester CDBG funding will be included in the project. CAP is requesting either unexpended FY 19 funds for this project or, alternately, to reallocate some of its FY 20 weatherization project funds for this project. In addition, the Homeless Center for Strafford County has expressed interest in requesting an additional \$3,000 to pay for the required Phase I environmental survey for their land purchase, and My Friend's Place is possibly interested in requesting funds to help pay for its back-up generator project which is anticipated to exceed its Dover funding allocation. Currently, the amount of unexpended FY 19 funded anticipated to be available for FY 20 reallocation is \$5,673.

**FY 2020 Environmental Reviews:** The Community Development Coordinator has continued to work on the environmental reviews for FY 20 construction projects. A considerable amount of time has been spent on the reviews for the Riverwalk Committee's proposed kayak/canoe launch project and the Homeless Center for Strafford County's land purchase, as they are more complex than the reviews for the other projects.

**FY 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan:** The Community Development Coordinator has continued the consultation and drafting processes for the FY 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan. The plan will be due concurrent with the FY 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan in May 2021.

**NH Community of Action for Lead Safety:** The first statewide meeting was held in late May. The City of Rochester's delegation included the Community Development Coordinator, Community Action Partnership for Strafford County, and the Strafford County Public Health Network. Discussion included the suggestion to approach Strafford County to discuss the possibility of sharing resources and implementing a countywide program. The next community-level Rochester meeting will be held in July.

**2018 Municipal Leadership Award:** At the Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast's 2019 awards dinner, the coalition awarded its 2018 Municipal Leadership Award to the City of Rochester in honor of its work for the downtown housing workshop. The Community Development Coordinator attended the awards dinner to accept on behalf of the city.

## NON-CDBG GRANT ACTIVITIES

**Economic Development Administration Grant:** The Community Development Coordinator has finalized and submitted the six-year report for the city's EDA grant. EDA grant funds have been used to improve water/sewer infrastructure for Market Basket and Stonewall Kitchen in the north area of the city. The final, nine-year report will be due in July 2022.

**City Hall Annex:** The City Hall Annex lost its cupola during severe winds in February. The cupola was replaced in late June. The Community Development Coordinator has provided photographs of the new cupola and an update to the Land & Community Heritage Program (LCHIP), as required by the LCHIP grant.

**NH Recreational Trails Program Grant:** The Riverwalk Committee has been conducting fundraising to pay for an archaeological survey that the NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources has required before construction on the footbridge project may proceed. The survey and construction must be completed by December 2019.

## OTHER ITEMS

Home for All Landlord Outreach Event: The Community Development Coordinator worked with coalition leadership to plan a property owner outreach event for June that focused on the new Family Unification Program voucher opportunities. The program seeks to help families that are at risk of being separated due to lack of housing, as well as former foster youth ages 18 to 21. *Foster's Daily Democrat* provided coverage on the event at <https://www.fosters.com/news/20190612/teens-call-on-landlords-to-help-reduce-youth-homelessness>.

2020 Census: The Community Development Coordinator has met with Planning Department staff and Strafford Regional Planning Commission staff to discuss the 2020 Census and proposed tract changes for 2020. Due to population increases in two current tracts, the proposed changes would split these two current tracts. The current tracts and proposed new tracts are included as attachments to this report.

Public and Affordable Housing Research Corporation: The Public and Affordable Housing Research Corporation has a number of housing reports and data available on its website at <https://www.housingcenter.com/research/research-reports/>. The agency's "Strategies to Expand the Stock of Affordable Homes" is attached to this report.

## REPORT ATTACHMENTS

- Complaint and Response Re: Riverwalk Committee Canoe/Kayak Launch
- Draft FY 2019 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report – **electronic only** – [https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/uploads/fy\\_18-19\\_rochester\\_caper\\_v1.pdf](https://www.rochesternh.net/sites/rochesternh/files/uploads/fy_18-19_rochester_caper_v1.pdf)
- 79 E Application – 73-77 North Main St. – **electronic only**
- JOB Loan Program Report – FY 2019, Q4
- "Aging and Declining Populations in Northern New England: Is There a Role for Immigration?", New England Public Policy Center, Regional Brief (July 2019) – **electronic only** - <https://www.bostonfed.org/publications/new-england-public-policy-center-regional-briefs/2019/aging-and-declining-populations-in-northern-new-england.aspx>

Summary of Job Loan Principal Balances												
As of JUNE 30, 2019												
Recipient Name	Loan Amount	Original Interest %	Original Term Months	Original Loan Date	Final Payment MO/YR	Pmts Up To Date ?	FY18 FYE Principal		FY19 Principal Collected	FY19 Jun-19 Principal Bal	FY19 Payment Amount	Notes
							Date	Balance				
Active Job Loans												
Distinctive Forest Creations	\$30,000	5.06%	60	Nov-05	04/12/12	Yes	06/30/2018	\$12,558.91	\$2,960.00	\$9,598.91	\$100.00	no int since Jun 2014, @ \$260 per month will be paid off Jul 2022
Blue Oasis	\$50,000	2.44%	120	Apr-10	05/12/20	Yes	06/30/2018	\$10,549.92	\$5,443.06	\$5,106.86	\$469.99	
Country Tire & Service Center	\$40,000	2.44%	84	Aug-11	07/12/18	Yes	06/30/2018	\$517.14	\$517.14	\$0.00	\$0.00	Paid in full 07/12/2018
KW Thompson Tool Company	\$70,000	2.44%	84	Oct-12	09/12/19	Yes	06/30/2018	\$13,391.61	\$10,680.59	\$2,711.02	\$907.37	
KW Thompson Tool Co Inc	\$50,000	4.13%	60	May-19	05/12/24	Yes			\$723.66	\$49,276.34	\$924.18	Payments begin 6/12/19
P1T2	\$50,000	2.81%	84	Feb-17	03/12/24	Yes	06/30/2018	\$31,348.31	\$3,249.59	\$28,098.72	\$340.80	Payments begin April-17
Rochester Eye Care	\$60,000	2.62%	240	Feb-16	03/12/36	Yes	06/30/2018	\$54,708.92	\$2,453.48	\$52,255.44	\$321.46	Payments begin April-16
Seacoast Gymnastics	\$30,000	2.63%	84	Mar-16	09/15/23	Yes	06/30/2018	\$23,008.07	\$4,141.83	\$18,866.24	\$391.35	Payments begin Oct-16
White Birch Ammo	\$75,000	3.19%	84	Oct-17	11/12/24	Yes	06/30/2018	\$74,133.37	\$10,580.94	\$63,552.43	\$1,065.86	Principal payments begin 6/12/18
Flexographic Print Solutions LLC	\$75,000	3.56%	84	May-18	06/12/25	Yes	06/30/2018	\$75,000.00	\$9,489.34	\$65,510.66	\$1,011.92	Payments begin 7/12/18
Totals								\$295,216.25	\$50,239.63	\$294,976.62	\$5,532.93	
Grand Total								\$295,216.25	\$50,239.63	\$294,976.62		

## June 30, 2019 Cash-Balance

**\$53,835.49** Citizens Bank Balance including INT on Account  
**-\$440.02** MUNIS INT on account due to IDIS - PAID CHECK # 185927 440.02 7/15/19

Available to Lend	<u><b>\$53,395.47</b></u>
CDBG Grant Funds Reallocated	<u><b>\$0.00</b></u>
Grand Total Available to Lend	<u><u><b>\$53,395.47</b></u></u>

Heath Gauthier  
4 Pink St  
Rochester NH 03867  
603-332-8689

To whom this may concern,

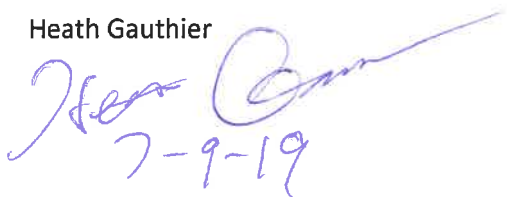
Per 24 CFR Part 58 Section 58.76, I am writing to object to the City of Rochester's release of Community Development Block Grant funds for the Riverwalk Committee Canoe and Kayak Launch. 10 Hillsdale Rd, Rochester NH, 03867

No study was preformed and residents including abutters petition was never included in the HUD application. Also not included in the application any forms of mitigation for proposed parking lot which lies within the 200 foot Extended Shoreline Protection Act.

Proposed launch is on the Cocheco River which is under the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers and as July 08, 2019 has no knowledge of this project nor has issued the required permitting.

A copy of this will be mailed to the City of Rochester on July 10<sup>th</sup>,2019.

Heath Gauthier





## City of Rochester, New Hampshire

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

31 Wakefield Street • Rochester, NH 03867

(603) 335-7599

[www.RochesterNH.net](http://www.RochesterNH.net)

July 16, 2019

### VIA EMAIL ONLY

Heath Gauthier

Email: [heathcrunch@myfairpoint.ent](mailto:heathcrunch@myfairpoint.ent)

Re: City of Rochester Riverwalk

Dear Mr. Gauthier,

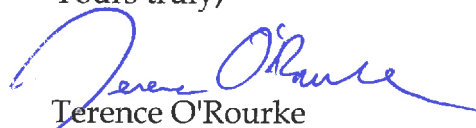
Thank you for contacting the City of Rochester with your concerns. I believe there have been a few misunderstandings regarding the Riverwalk Committee's kayak launch project. As part of the environmental review process for the project, two public notices (an early notice and final notice) were published in *Foster's Daily Democrat*. These public notices were also forwarded via email to several agencies who might be interested in reviewing the project, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. None of these agencies provided comments or expressed concerns regarding the project.

The only comments received, through a separate step of the environmental review, were from New Hampshire Fish and Game, requiring certain time limits on construction and annual installation of the seasonal launch. New Hampshire Fish and Game has been assured that the City of Rochester would comply with these requirements.

The Riverwalk Committee held a public meeting to discuss the proposed project and other aspects of the Riverwalk development before Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds were allocated to the project. In addition, during the FY 20 CDBG annual action plan drafting and adoption process, two formal public hearings were held, as well as a public comments period, prior to adoption of the plan. There were no comments received at any public hearings or during the public comments period objecting to the proposed kayak launch project. In addition, requests for more outdoor recreational resources are common at the ward meetings at which more informal input is received on CDBG action plans. The City of Rochester is also aware, however, that not all residents are in favor of the project and has evaluated the concerns raised about the project before allocating CDBG funds to it.

As the City of Rochester has followed the necessary procedures for conducting its environmental review for the kayak launch project and has gathered public input on the project, the City plans to proceed with the request for the release of CDBG funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development at the end of the public comment period.

Yours truly,



Terence O'Rourke  
City Attorney

Cc: Blaine Cox, City Manager

Julian L. Long, Community Development Coordinator



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left blank...*

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City Clerk's Office

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# FINANCE COMMITTEE

## Agenda Item

8/15/19

**Agenda Item Name:** Monthly Financial Statements Summary – as of July 2019.

For the full detail report, click here: [July 2019 Financial Detail Report](#)

**Name of Person Submitting Item:** Mark Sullivan Deputy Finance Director

**E-mail Address:** mark.sullivan@rochesternh.net

**Meeting Date Requested:** August 13, 2019

### **Issue Summary Statement**

July -19 is the first month of FY20. The summary reports are attached.

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mark|CITY OF ROCHESTER  
|YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT|P 1  
|glytdbud

## FOR 2020 01

	ORIGINAL ESTIM REV	ESTIM REV ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL YTD REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
<hr/> 1000 GENERAL FUND <hr/>						
11031 CITY CLERK REVENUE	105,920	0	105,920	11,982.81	93,937.19	11.3%
11051 ASSESSORS REVENUES	0	0	0	10.00	-10.00	100.0%
11061 BUSINESS OFFICE REVENUE	350,000	0	350,000	.00	350,000.00	.0%
11062 BUSINESS OFFICE REVENUE	1,000	0	1,000	.00	1,000.00	.0%
11071 TAX COLLECTOR REVENUE	32,271,384	0	32,271,384	14,223,859.43	18,047,524.57	44.1%
11081 GENERAL OVERHEAD REVENUE	4,080,748	9,966	4,090,714	15,005.62	4,075,708.38	.4%
11082 GENERAL OVERHEAD REVENUE	1,548,683	0	1,548,683	.00	1,548,683.00	.0%
11101 PLANNING	16,250	0	16,250	8,690.60	7,559.40	53.5%
11201 REV LEGAL OFFICE	50,000	0	50,000	150.00	49,850.00	.3%
12011 POLICE CITY REVENUE	325,400	0	325,400	12,175.35	313,224.65	3.7%
12021 FIRE CITY REVENUE	25,500	0	25,500	296.00	25,204.00	1.2%
12022 FIRE STATE REVENUE	41,812	0	41,812	.00	41,812.00	.0%
12031 DISPATCH CENTER	60,290	0	60,290	.00	60,290.00	.0%
12041 CODE ENFORCEMENT REVENUE	394,175	0	394,175	38,602.00	355,573.00	9.8%
13011 PUBLIC WORKS REVENUE	33,700	0	33,700	860.51	32,839.49	2.6%
13012 STATE HIGHWAY SUBSIDY	634,612	0	634,612	194,752.64	439,859.36	30.7%
14011 WELFARE REVENUE	2,500	0	2,500	.00	2,500.00	.0%
14021 RECREATION REVENUE	120,000	0	120,000	74,515.70	45,484.30	62.1%
14031 LIBRARY REVENUE	14,200	0	14,200	843.45	13,356.55	5.9%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	40,076,174	9,966	40,086,140	14,581,744.11	25,504,395.89	36.4%
<hr/> 5001 WATER ENTERPRISE FUND <hr/>						
510001 WATER WORKS REVENUE	6,607,310	0	6,607,310	387,210.43	6,220,099.57	5.9%
TOTAL WATER ENTERPRISE FUND	6,607,310	0	6,607,310	387,210.43	6,220,099.57	5.9%
<hr/> 5002 SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND <hr/>						
520001 SEWER WORKS REVENUE	8,017,640	0	8,017,640	351,964.14	7,665,675.86	4.4%
520002 SEWER WORKS REVENUE	411,989	0	411,989	.00	411,989.00	.0%
TOTAL SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND	8,429,629	0	8,429,629	351,964.14	8,077,664.86	4.2%
<hr/> 5003 ARENA ENTERPRISE FUND <hr/>						

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 |CITY OF ROCHESTER  
 |YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

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FOR 2020 01

	ORIGINAL ESTIM REV	ESTIM REV ADJSTMTS	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL YTD REVENUE	REMAINING REVENUE	PCT COLL
530001 ARENA REVENUE	402,865	0	402,865	.00	402,865.00	.0%
TOTAL ARENA ENTERPRISE FUND	402,865	0	402,865	.00	402,865.00	.0%
6000 COMMUNITY CENTER SP REV FUND						
600001 COMMUNITY CENTER REVENUE	861,466	0	861,466	57,789.58	803,676.42	6.7%
TOTAL COMMUNITY CENTER SP REV FUND	861,466	0	861,466	57,789.58	803,676.42	6.7%
GRAND TOTAL	56,377,444	9,966	56,387,410	15,378,708.26	41,008,701.74	27.3%

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Mark Sullivan \*\*

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|YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT|P 1  
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FOR 2020 01

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
1000 GENERAL FUND							
11000051 CITY MANAGER	470,894	0	470,894	29,261.65	51,700.06	389,932.29	17.2%
11012351 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	510,030	0	510,030	67,146.42	35,824.72	407,058.86	20.2%
11020050 IT SERVICES	797,462	0	797,462	64,072.94	80,613.52	652,775.54	18.1%
11030051 CITY CLERK	334,803	0	334,803	24,231.61	13,095.55	297,475.84	11.1%
11040050 ELECTIONS	54,479	0	54,479	224.70	3,011.00	51,243.30	5.9%
11050070 ASSESSORS	569,498	0	569,498	52,073.33	13,106.83	504,317.84	11.4%
11060051 BUSINESS OFFICE	543,461	0	543,461	67,302.17	2,735.49	473,423.34	12.9%
11063151 HUMAN RESOURCES	213,071	10,000	223,071	15,665.18	34,048.34	173,357.48	22.3%
11070070 TAX COLLECTOR	382,295	0	382,295	45,647.68	5,198.56	331,448.76	13.3%
11080050 GENERAL OVERHEAD	1,021,733	-10,000	1,011,733	38,687.03	195,715.75	777,330.22	23.2%
11090050 PB CITY WIDE 50	668,503	0	668,503	56,163.93	3,849.84	608,489.23	9.0%
11090051 PB CITY HALL 51	66,066	0	66,066	3,079.98	47,965.45	15,020.57	77.3%
11090052 PB OPERA HOUSE 52	48,551	0	48,551	2,831.16	32,843.96	12,875.88	73.5%
11090054 PB CENTRAL FIRE 54	10,979	0	10,979	3,027.25	5,121.75	2,830.00	74.2%
11090055 PB GONIC FIRE 55	10,594	0	10,594	1,777.25	5,604.25	3,212.50	69.7%
11090056 PB LIBRARY 56	18,893	0	18,893	3,495.00	12,249.50	3,148.50	83.3%
11090057 PB DPW GARAGE 57	11,874	0	11,874	2,337.25	7,866.75	1,670.00	85.9%
11090059 PB ER FIRE STATION 59	775	0	775	.00	325.00	450.00	41.9%
11090061 PB HISTORICAL MUSEUM 61	1,520	0	1,520	.00	997.00	523.00	65.6%
11090063 PB HANSON POOL 63	5,100	0	5,100	974.47	435.33	3,690.20	27.6%
11090064 PB GONIC POOL 64	2,900	0	2,900	494.57	185.33	2,220.10	23.4%
11090065 PB EAST ROCHESTER POOL 65	2,600	0	2,600	494.55	185.34	1,920.11	26.1%
11090068 PB GROUNDS 68	12,160	0	12,160	444.19	-135.00	11,850.81	2.5%
11090069 PB DOWNTOWN 69	17,000	0	17,000	.00	2,233.60	14,766.40	13.1%
11090070 PB REVENUE BUILDING 70	22,331	0	22,331	2,020.87	16,927.63	3,382.50	84.9%
11090071 PB PLAYGROUNDS 71	3,000	0	3,000	.00	.00	3,000.00	.0%
11090075 PB NEW POLICE STATION	24,252	0	24,252	2,856.93	11,879.30	9,515.77	60.8%
11090077 PB ANNEX	4,260	0	4,260	.00	2,178.00	2,082.00	51.1%
11102051 PLANNING	433,139	0	433,139	28,869.02	19,196.00	385,073.98	11.1%
11200051 LEGAL OFFICE	597,718	0	597,718	35,521.50	6,906.01	555,290.49	7.1%
12010053 PD ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	1,976,055	0	1,976,055	216,450.50	122,039.93	1,637,564.57	17.1%
12012453 PD PATROL SERVICES	4,951,564	0	4,951,564	319,453.55	.00	4,632,110.45	6.5%
12012553 PD SUPPORT SERVICES	425,815	0	425,815	28,869.54	.00	396,945.46	6.8%
12020054 FIRE DEPARTMENT	4,669,781	0	4,669,781	350,530.89	35,519.86	4,283,730.25	8.3%
12020055 FIRE DEPT 55 GONIC SUBSTAT	28,735	0	28,735	559.85	.00	28,175.15	1.9%
12020754 CALL FIRE	31,373	0	31,373	.00	.00	31,373.00	.0%
12023354 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	41,812	0	41,812	.00	.00	41,812.00	.0%
12030153 DISPATCH CENTER	882,328	0	882,328	61,892.15	19,252.99	801,182.86	9.2%
12040051 CODE ENFORCEMENT	606,553	0	606,553	46,310.68	1,204.00	559,038.32	7.8%
12050050 AMBULANCE	61,832	0	61,832	.00	.00	61,832.00	.0%

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**CITY OF ROCHESTER**  
**YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT**
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**FOR 2020 01**

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
13010057 PUBLIC WORKS	2,301,219	0	2,301,219	178,518.21	13,832.74	2,108,868.05	8.4%
13010957 WINTER MAINTENANCE	518,492	0	518,492	.00	.00	518,492.00	.0%
13020050 CITY LIGHTS	218,000	0	218,000	52.99	90,627.01	127,320.00	41.6%
14010051 WELFARE	469,070	0	469,070	33,030.67	5,584.89	430,454.44	8.2%
14022072 RECREATION ADMINISTRATION	650,242	0	650,242	49,134.10	5,755.84	595,352.06	8.4%
14022150 RECREATION PLAYGROUNDS/CAM	98,951	0	98,951	34,562.74	2,042.76	62,345.50	37.0%
14022250 RECREATION POOLS	83,588	0	83,588	25,797.76	5,429.34	52,360.90	37.4%
14030056 LIBRARY	1,299,148	0	1,299,148	133,481.19	85,321.72	1,080,345.09	16.8%
15000051 COUNTY TAX	6,610,000	0	6,610,000	.00	.00	6,610,000.00	.0%
17010051 TRANSFERS/PAYMENTS DEBT SV	4,159,335	0	4,159,335	371,174.67	.00	3,788,160.33	8.9%
17030050 OVERLAY	92,000	0	92,000	.00	.00	92,000.00	.0%
17040051 TRANSFER TO CIP & OTHER FU	3,040,340	9,966	3,050,306	9,966.00	.00	3,040,340.00	.3%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	40,076,174	9,966	40,086,140	2,408,486.12	998,475.94	36,679,177.94	8.5%
5001 WATER ENTERPRISE FUND							
51601057 WATER WORKS EXPENSE	5,294,828	0	5,294,828	207,274.51	65,786.86	5,021,766.63	5.2%
51601073 WATER TREATMENT PLANT	1,250,396	0	1,250,396	50,357.74	158,768.75	1,041,269.51	16.7%
51601570 WATER REVENUE OFFICE	62,086	0	62,086	5,283.68	51.37	56,750.95	8.6%
TOTAL WATER ENTERPRISE FUND	6,607,310	0	6,607,310	262,915.93	224,606.98	6,119,787.09	7.4%
5002 SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND							
52602057 SEWER WORKS EXPENSE	4,513,071	0	4,513,071	1,352,144.93	20,394.18	3,140,531.89	30.4%
52602074 SEWER TREATMENT PLANT	3,855,328	0	3,855,328	89,270.94	289,095.73	3,476,961.33	9.8%
52602470 SEWER REVENUE OFFICE	61,230	0	61,230	5,235.93	51.38	55,942.69	8.6%
TOTAL SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND	8,429,629	0	8,429,629	1,446,651.80	309,541.29	6,673,435.91	20.8%
5003 ARENA ENTERPRISE FUND							
53603060 ARENA EXPENSE	402,865	0	402,865	27,082.16	41,947.02	333,835.82	17.1%
TOTAL ARENA ENTERPRISE FUND	402,865	0	402,865	27,082.16	41,947.02	333,835.82	17.1%
6000 COMMUNITY CENTER SP REV FUND							

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FOR 2020 01

6000	COMMUNITY CENTER SP REV FUND	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
6070572	COMMUNITY CENTER EXPENSE	861,466	0	861,466	65,656.93	196,110.48	599,698.59	30.4%
	TOTAL COMMUNITY CENTER SP REV FUND	861,466	0	861,466	65,656.93	196,110.48	599,698.59	30.4%
	GRAND TOTAL	56,377,444	9,966	56,387,410	4,210,792.94	1,770,681.71	50,405,935.35	10.6%

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Mark Sullivan \*\*





Planning Board  
Conservation Commission  
Historic District Commission  
Arts & Culture Commission

**Planning & Development Department**  
**City Hall Annex**  
**33 Wakefield Street**  
**ROCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03867-1917**  
**(603) 335-1338 - Fax (603) 330-0023**  
**Web Site: <http://www.rochesternh.net>**

## **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT FOR JULY 2019**

The Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and Historic District Commission (HDC) all held their regular meetings in July. The Arts & Culture Commission did not meet in July. You will find the summaries of the agendas and discussions further down in this report. As is customary in the summer, the Planning Board did not hold workshop meeting in July.

The Planning & Development Department remains extremely busy in general with many meetings with citizens, developers, applicants, and the processing of applications. The Department received five (5) new applications for the August Planning Board meeting. We will have a very busy meeting in August. In addition to the five (5) new applications, we have one (1) continued application. In addition, we continued working with our consultants, VHB, on the Transportation Master Plan and held the second public meeting in July. The Downtown Master Plan Steering Committee also met with the consultants for the Downtown Master Plan Chapter. I also participated in the monthly meeting of the Leadership Committee for the Economic Development Division of the American Planning Association, which I am a member. I attended the monthly COAST Board meeting now that I am the representative for the City. Staff also participated in the TRG meetings, pre-construction meetings, Minor Site Plan Review meeting, and the Metropolitan Planning Organization's Technical Advisory Committee (MPO TAC) monthly meeting. We received three (3) Special Downtown applications that we are processing. It is good to see interest in development in the downtown. We also worked on a Zoning Amendment for the Downtown Commercial District for allowing housing on the first floor in certain instances. That amendment will be going to City Council in August. City staff met with representatives from NHDES on the Highfield Commons development and the issues revolving around the amount of work being done in relation to the permits they have (or don't have). Seth Creighton attended a Complete Streets Work Group meeting; there is a section of Route 108 that is part of a State complete streets project.

As I reported in my last monthly report, Michelle Mears, our Senior Planner, had a baby girl in June and everyone is happy and healthy. While Michelle is out on maternity leave we have brought in a planning consultant two days a week to fill in for her. The temporary position is being filled by Elizabeth (Liz) Durfee. If you see a stranger in Michelle's office that will be Liz. Please say hello to her if you see her.

**APPLICATIONS REVIEWED BY THE PLANNING BOARD**

**Safran, 85 Innovation Drive** (by Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.) Extension request to meet precedent condition for an approved site plan and Conditional Use Permit for an additional 109 parking spaces. Case# 242 – 6 – I – 19 **EXTENSION**

**Dorothy Thone, 92 Chesley Hill Road** (by Jason Pohopek) Extension request to meet precedent conditions for an approved 2-Lot subdivision and lot line revision. Case# 246 – 24 – R1 – 18 **EXTENSION**

**TSB Properties, LLC, 124 Milton Road** (by Berry Surveying & Engineering) Site plan and conditional use permit to construct six new self-storage units and one commercial unit. Case# 210 – 32 – HC – 19 **APPROVED**

**SL Sweet Properties, LLC, Betts Road** (by Berry Surveying & Engineering) Subdivision of one lot into three lots via the Porkchop subdivision standards. Case# 204 – 34 – A – 19 **APPROVED**

**Lilac Community LP, 41 Tebbetts Road** (by Norway Plains Assoc.) 3-Lot subdivision. Case# 253 – 83 – A – 19 **APPROVED**

**201 Storage, LLC, 201 Highland Street** (by Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.) Site plan to replace a 2,800 sf one-story storage structure with a 18,126 sf two-story storage structure, and remove 600 sf of an existing one-story storage structure. Case# 106 – 3 – NMU – 19 **APPROVED**

**Nantucket Beadboard, 109 Chestnut Hill Road** (by Norway Plains Assoc.) Site plan and conditional use permit to construct a 10,000 s.f. light manufacturing & materials storage building. **NO ACTION TAKEN**

**Real Estate Advisors, Inc., 24 Jeremiah Lane** (by Berry Surveying & Engineering) Amendment to an approved subdivision to change from 53-lots to 54-lots and change from 72 units to 74 units. **NO ACTION TAKEN**

**Kelmar Investment, LLC, Betts Road & Cross Road** (by Berry Surveying & Engineering) Conceptual amendment to an approved subdivision. **CONCEPTUAL**

**APPLICATIONS REVIEWED BY THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**The following matters were discussed:**

1. **Minutes:** Review Meeting Minutes of June 26, 2019
2. **Conservation Overlay District:**
  - a) Kenneth & Ingrid Pheonix, 8 Norway Plains Road 3-Lot subdivision; Tax Map 222 Lot 63. Wetland buffer impacts proposed.

- b) Index Packaging, Innovation Drive, Site Plan to build new industrial facility. Tax Map 256 Lot 5. Wetland and wetland buffer impacts proposed.
- c) Waste Management of NH, 214 Rochester Neck Road Site plan for expansion of container storage area. Tax Map 268-2. Wetland and wetland buffer impacts proposed.

### 3. NH Department of Environmental Services (NH DES) Applications:

- a) Glenn Davids Integrity Auto, Inc., 415 North Main Street Site plan to add 3 service bays and continue with car sales. Tax Map 114-4&5. NH DES Shoreland Permit Application.

### 4. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber / Intent to Excavate:

- a) Notice of Intent to Cut - Tax Map 140-73, Old Dover Rd

**5. Discussion:** Status of Volunteer River Assessment Program (water quality monitoring of Cocheco River): A Commission member has established two monitoring locations on the Cocheco River and has been processing samples at each spot.

**6. New Business:** a) A member shared a NH Envirothon pamphlet and told the Commission the Farmers Market is doing well; and spoke about the successful conservation of 2,000 acre in New Durham. b) A member said that a house has been built at the bottom of Blue Job Mountain and saw many new No Trespassing signs to the sides of the hiking trail and asked if anyone knew why, or how much of the mountain was private, none of the Commission members knew.

### 7. Reports:

- a) Technical Review Group.
- b) Planning Board.

### 8. Old Business: None.

**9. Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II(d):** Discussion of acquisition of real property and/or recent site walks and LACE sheets.

## APPLICATIONS REVIEWED BY THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

**Dawn & Ray McGill, 86 Wakefield Street** Certificate of Approval for exterior paint. Case# HDC 116 – 160 – DTC – 19 **APPROVED**

**Make Rochester Great, 76 North Main Street** Certificate of Approval to allow a mural design. Case# HDC 121 – 369 – DTC – 19 **APPROVED**

**TMS Architects, 22 South Main Street** Certificate of Approval for rehabilitation of the existing building. Case# HDC 120 – 363 – DTC – 19 **FURTHER REVIEW NEEDED**

## **ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION ACTIVITIES**

The Arts and Culture Commission did not meet for the month of July.

Respectfully submitted,  
James B. Campbell,  
*Director of Planning & Development*

# Memorandum

**To:** Blaine Cox, City Manager  
Mayor McCarley  
Members of the City Council

**From:** Lauren Krans, Recreation & Arena  
**Date:** August 13, 2019  
**Re:** July 2019 Report

## July 2019

Adult Volleyball	129
Advanced Senior Fitness	27
Concert on the Common	266
Hiking with Heather	18
Public Swim HP Pool	1368
Public Swim: ER Pool	626
Public Swim: Gonic Pool	471
Senior Aqua Zumba	76
Senior Art Class	32
Senior Cookout	59
Senior Dance Lessons	16
Senior Power Hour	127
Senior Swim	129
Summer Camp	150
Swim Lessons: Level 1+	145
Swim Lessons: Toddler	23
Teen Travel Camp	29
<b>July Total</b>	<b>3691</b>

## 3<sup>rd</sup> of July Fireworks

The Fireworks Festival was another huge success! Hundreds of families enjoyed the food, activities and magnificent fireworks display. The Recreation Department is honored to be a key player in the planning of this event and looks forward to next year's celebration. Director Bowlen has already held a debrief and has begun the planning process for 2020.

## Community Center Building Rules

With input from our staff, customers, the Recreation & Arena Advisory Commission and the city's legal team, we have created a set of building rules that we feel will help maintain a safe, positive environment at the Community Center. The categories of these rules (Be Respectful, Be Safe, Be Responsible) are the same ones used by the Rochester School District and our camp programs. We love the idea of this consistent, positive theme across the City. These rules have been printed on large, cheerful signage for all building visitors to see.

## Encouraging Self Directed Activities

In our constant pursuit of Master Plan goals, we continue to encourage community members to engage in self-directed recreational activities. With our summer camp program utilizing the gymnasium as a rain location, our popular Pickleball program has moved outside to the tennis courts. This active, independent group of community members 50+ organizes their own games and meeting times. They will return to inside play during the fall/winter.

Public Swim continues to be a popular offering. Our team of lifeguards, pool attendants and aquatics facility staff has done a great job to make sure the pools are safe, clean and orderly. In July our team saw over 2,465 swimmers with very minimal incidents or problems.

To show off and encourage use of the many outdoor recreation spaces in Rochester, our yoga instructor Heather has been leading guided hikes. In July, 18 people joined Heather for tours of Squamagogic and Pickering Ponds. We're hopefully that this program will help community members explore and return to the beautiful trails and parks throughout our city!

## Looking Ahead

Our department is always planning ahead! Our Fall Newsletter (September, October, November, December) has been published and includes information on ice skating, youth basketball, adult floor hockey (new!) and more! In September we will resume our Community Coffee (Community Center Tenant meetings) as well as our Rec & Arena Advisory Commission meetings.



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City Clerk's Office

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# ROCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT

**MARK E. KLOSE**  
CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT



37 Wakefield Street

Rochester NH, 03867  
[www.rochfd.org](http://www.rochfd.org)

Tel (603) 335-7545

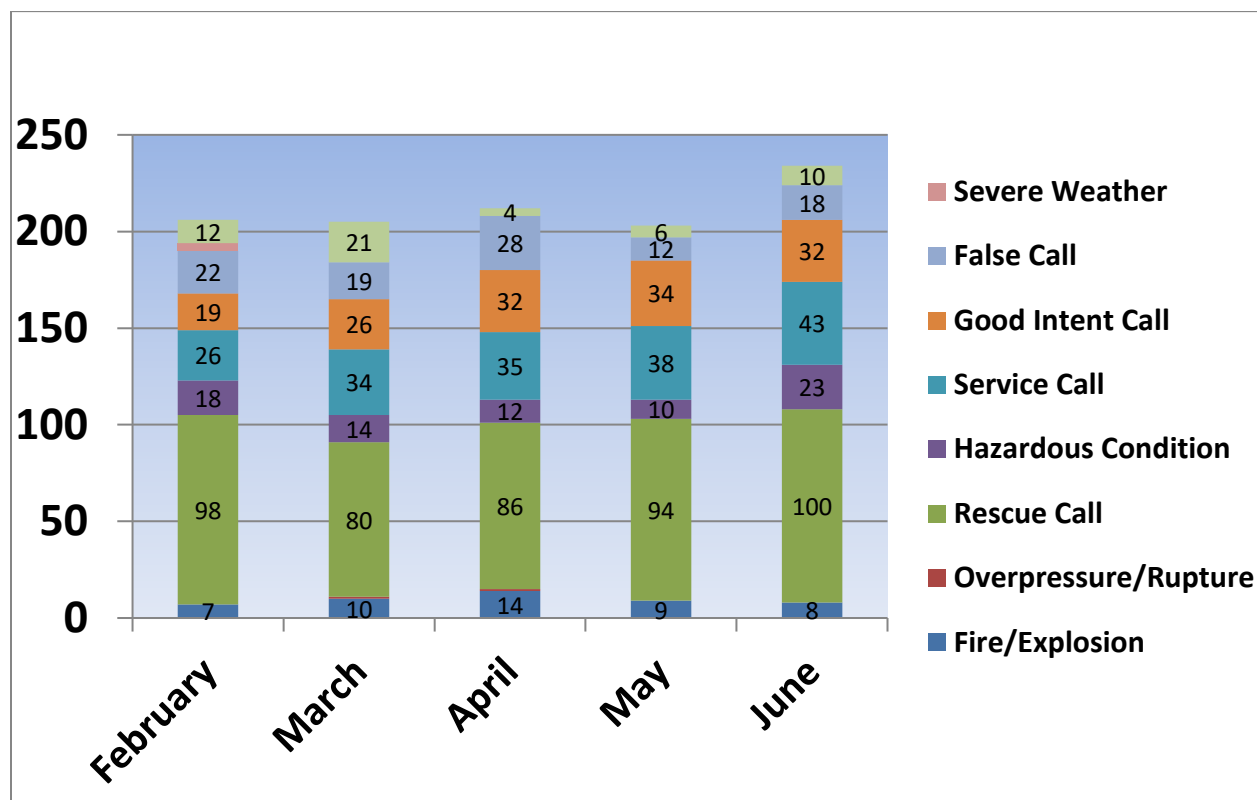
To: Blaine Cox, City Manager

From: Tim Wilder, Assistant Fire Chief

Date: August 8, 2019

Ref: Monthly Report for July 2019

On behalf of the Rochester Fire Department, I am pleased to provide you with the following report. The report serves as a summary of the activities, incidents, projects and programs underway within the department.



The above graph shows our runs for Fiscal Year 2020 with July's data shown individually with their respective totals. For the month of June there were **234** calls for service. Rochester Fire responded to a total of **2759** calls for Fiscal Year 2019.



**FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS**

Managed shift coverage assignments

Managed and organized equipment and supply purchases as needed

Fire Department members spent 1.5 hours each Friday mentoring a student from the Monarch School

Managed apparatus repairs as needed

**TRAINING DIVISION**

In-Service training was also completed for the shifts. Total number of hours completed in the month of July were 24. Total IMC Training Hours for July were 247.5

New Firefighter Administrative Week – C. Hickman (42 hours)

Participated in Promotional Oral Board for Pease Fire Department

All members attended two hours of Propane Emergencies and FD response conducted by Eastern Propane

All members participated in two hours of in-service training for ResQJacks

**DEPARTMENT INFORMATION:**

Administration completed necessary shift transfers to equal out shifts to help with overtime.

- 3 Shifts at 9 Firefighters (1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant and 7 Firefighters)
- 1 Shift at 8 Firefighters (1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant and 6 Firefighters[B Shift])
- Manning Station 1 and Gonic Station

The Fire Apparatus Committee continues to work on the new engine with Eastern Fire Apparatus and Toyne

**PERSONNEL:**

Members of the department continue to attend advanced firefighter courses and leadership classes.

We have two members on active duty military assignments and one member on TAD.

FF Laferte is deployed on active duty with the United States Air Force

FF Taatjes is out on medical TAD

FF Berry is deployed on active duty with the United States Marine Corps

We hired a new firefighter, Colin Hickman, who joins us from Pease Fire Department and was a member of the Rochester Fire Department Call Force. FF Hickman began on July 15.

**RESPONSE ACTIVITY:**

July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Rochester – Structure Fire. Engine 5, Ladder 1, Engine 3, Chief 1, Chief 2, Chief 3 and Chief 5 responded to the scene. Arrived on scene to find a passerby with a garden hose on a small fire on the front porch. Fire was nearly extinguished upon arrival. Lt Wheeler checked the building, found an occupant and evacuated. No

extension found under the porch. Engine 3 and Ladder 1 crews ventilated the building. Chief 2 investigated. Once complete, all apparatus returned to their stations.

July 5<sup>th</sup> – Sanford – Structure Fire. Engine 7 and Truck 1 responded to Sanford, Maine for a structure fire. Once on scene, crews were assigned to pull the ceiling on the fire floor and chase any fire they found. Crews worked until bottles needed to be filled and left the building. As bottles were being swapped, all crews were released to return to the City as there was a working car fire with extension to a structure.

July 5<sup>th</sup> – Rochester – Vehicle Fire. Engine 3 was dispatched for a smoke investigation near Exit 13. While en route, Engine 3 was advised of an explosion at Walnut Street. Heavy smoke was seen from Brock Street and a First Alarm was sounded due to lack of personnel in the City (crews still in Sanford). Chief 2 responded and found a pick-up truck fully involved with an exposure problem. Engine 5 responded to the scene with 2 off duty Firefighters. Strafford Fire was continued, all other mutual aid was canceled. Fire is under investigation by Chief 2. There were three exposures involved, an additional vehicle, tent storage and a shed. Once all duties were complete, all apparatus returned to their stations.

July 6<sup>th</sup> – Sanford – Structure Fire. Truck 1 responded to Sanford for a Second Alarm structure fire. Once on scene, the crew was assigned to do a secondary search on floors 2 and 3 of an exposure building. The crews were also tasked with extinguishing some fire in the attic. The crew worked together until air was low and swapped out, went to rehab. After all tasks were complete, crews were released from the scene and returned to the City.

July 10<sup>th</sup> – Rochester – Vehicle Fire. Engine 5 and Rescue 1 responded to Hussey Street for a Waste Management Vehicle on fire. Once on scene, crews found a Waste Management employee on top of the truck attempting to put a fire out in the hopper with a dry chemical extinguisher. There was a power line draped across the truck as well, the line still had power and was live. Fire ordered the employee off the top of the vehicle. RPD arrived on scene to secure the street. Fire requested Eversource to the scene. Eversource arrived and cut power to the line. Once power was cut, Fire extinguished the fire.

July 17<sup>th</sup> – Rochester – Vehicle into a house. Engine 5 and Rescue 1 responded. Crews arrived on scene to find a single vehicle into a home with heavy damage. Retired AC Peters was on scene, who advised the crews of a situational update. Upon investigation, it was determined that heavy structural damage occurred to the A side and AB corner of the home. No injuries occurred from the accident. Code Enforcement was called to the scene and had Engine 5 fix a strong back into place to support the roof of the porch that had been compromised. Chief 4 stayed on scene.

July 19<sup>th</sup> – Rochester – Structure Fire. Engine 5, Engine 3 and Engine 7 responded to Cleo Circle for a building fire. Fire was located on the D end of the A side in the area of the deck and entry door. Crews began to extinguish fire. Berwick Fire responded and assisted with overhaul. Somersworth and Dover Fire covered Central and Gonic Stations. Chief 3 arrived on scene to investigate. Once complete, all apparatus returned to quarters.

Respectfully submitted,

*Tim Wilder*

Tim Wilder, Assistant Fire Chief

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City Clerk's Office

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PAUL R. TOUSSAINT  
*Chief of Police*

## ROCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

23 WAKEFIELD STREET  
ROCHESTER NH, 03867-1933

BUSINESS (603) 330-7127  
FAX (603) 330-7159  
[www.rochesterpd.org](http://www.rochesterpd.org)  
*"Dedication, Pride, Integrity"*

POLICE COMMISSION

DEREK J. PETERS  
*Chairman*  
DAVID R. STEVENS  
*Vice Chairman*  
LISA M. STANLEY  
*Commissioner*



August 13, 2019

TO: City Manager Blaine Cox

RE: Monthly Report – July 2019

**OPERATIONS:** Wards 2, 3 and 6 met this period. There were no officers available to attend the Ward 2 meeting. Discussions included forming a neighborhood watch, concerns of trespassing and homelessness, and transient population using an abandoned house for toileting, loitering and drugs, unattended children at school playground, traffic issues particularly speeding, a review of the comp stat report, the fireworks ordinance, abandoned vehicles and drug information.

The investigations bureau had 34 cases sent up from patrol for review or investigation. There are currently 49 cases assigned. There were 20 cases presented to the Grand Jury all with true bills. There were five detective call outs (1 completed suicide, 1 robbery/theft, 1 road rage reported as a shooting, a weapons offense and 1 overdose death.). There were also four polygraphs and three backgrounds underway. There were 433 pieces of evidence logged in, 105 items returned to owners and an additional 115 pieces destroyed.

**CEO/ COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER:** Off. Danie has returned to CEO duties. Some of his activity this period includes: He is working on the bicycle theft spree, conducted proactive enforcement downtown using the mountain bikes, foot beats and cruiser patrols. Went to both Manchester and Nashua to learn more about their community policing units. Attended a community meeting on Hillsdale Drive regarding the river access and kayak/canoe launch.

**COMP STAT:** Traffic stops dipped this period, attributed to an increase in calls for service (250 more than the prior month, as well as an increase in property crime.) Accidents were up, attributed to driver inattention. Property crimes increased in all categories except vandalism. Thefts *from* motor vehicles increased significantly. Unlocked cars make for an easy target. There has also been a spree of stolen bicycles throughout the City. While drug events decreased compared to the prior month, it is still a significant issue in the city.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** We have issued conditional offers for the open positions in dispatch. The position of Communications Supervisor was filled with a former full time Specialist. Four dispatchers attended a training with the Emergency Dispatch Association to learn more about police departments

using run cards like the fire department does. This pre-set up list is used during major mutual aid calls includes information for automatic notifications and activations.

**DIVERSION:** Nicole is working diligently on planning for National Night Out set for August 5 5:30-8:30 at the Rochester Commons. We are adding new partners every day. Staff continues to work with the County's 3-year strategic plans for the continuum of care to ensure law enforcement representation and connections to the Governor's task forces. Teen Travel camp has an engaged group of teens. Officer Bilodeau has been an excellent mentor for the youth.

**EMD USE:** Display and Deploy: Two  
Display Only: One

**FINANCIAL/PURCHASING:** Due to savings in salaries and benefits from open positions, we will return approximately \$546,000 to the general fund. We bid out for backline and front line cruisers. The backline cruiser bid was open July 3. The low bid was Arundel Ford. We continue to work on the online crime reporting software project and are meeting with various vendors who offer this service. We are still wear testing different models of the external vest carrier.

**FORFEITURE SPENDING:** None

**HIRING:** We held first and second interviews for the communications supervisor. We have offered the position to a former full time specialist, Keri Devine. Our crime analyst resigned due to relocating out of state. This is a position embedded with the Department, employed by Lexis Nexis. They have hired our current evidence technician for the vacancy. We will be posting for the evidence technician job. Officers Miller, Flathers and Root will start on August 5. We still have four open police positions and will hold a PT test as part of the hiring process on August 10.

**HOUSING:** Calls remain steady. There were 22 police related calls. Food was recently stolen from a freezer in the community room at Wellsweep. Officer Blair is investigating this. Officer Funk changed up his shift covering some evening shifts to deter thefts from vehicles, bike thefts and break-ins. There were eight background checks completed for prospective tenants.

**PROSECUTION - ADULT:** There were 277 cases with 330 charges. There were 93 guilty pleas, 73 not guilty, 29 cases nol prossed and 23 cases continued. There were 79 who failed to appear, 22 found guilty by the court, 7 cases dismissed by the court and 4 cases placed on file.

**PROSECUTION - JUVENILE:** Juvenile prosecution had 42 petitions. There were 11 arraignments (4 set for trial, 2 resolved by plea, 5 rescheduled). There were 4 review hearings, 6 violation hearings, 1 emergency placement hearings. 11 trials resolved by plea. Additionally Lt. Gould completed 5 investigations (complaint and warrant) for bail jumping. She also completed 11 investigations for Truancy.

**RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION:** At the July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, Lt. Bossi discussed the recent increase in bicycle thefts; seeking information from property owners of tenants with an

increased number of bicycles. He spoke about recent drug use types seen such as “spice and molly.”

**SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS:** Both Officer Jackson and Officer Porfido were assigned to patrol during school break. They are looking forward to getting back into the schools in late August.

**TRAINING:** All recruit officers are on track with training to graduate from the Academy, or for release to solo patrol. Other training this period included recertification for firearms and taser instructor and advanced roadside impairment driving enforcement.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul R. Toussaint  
Chief of Police

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City Clerk's Office

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# Rochester Police Department June 2019 Comp Stat Report

8/15/19



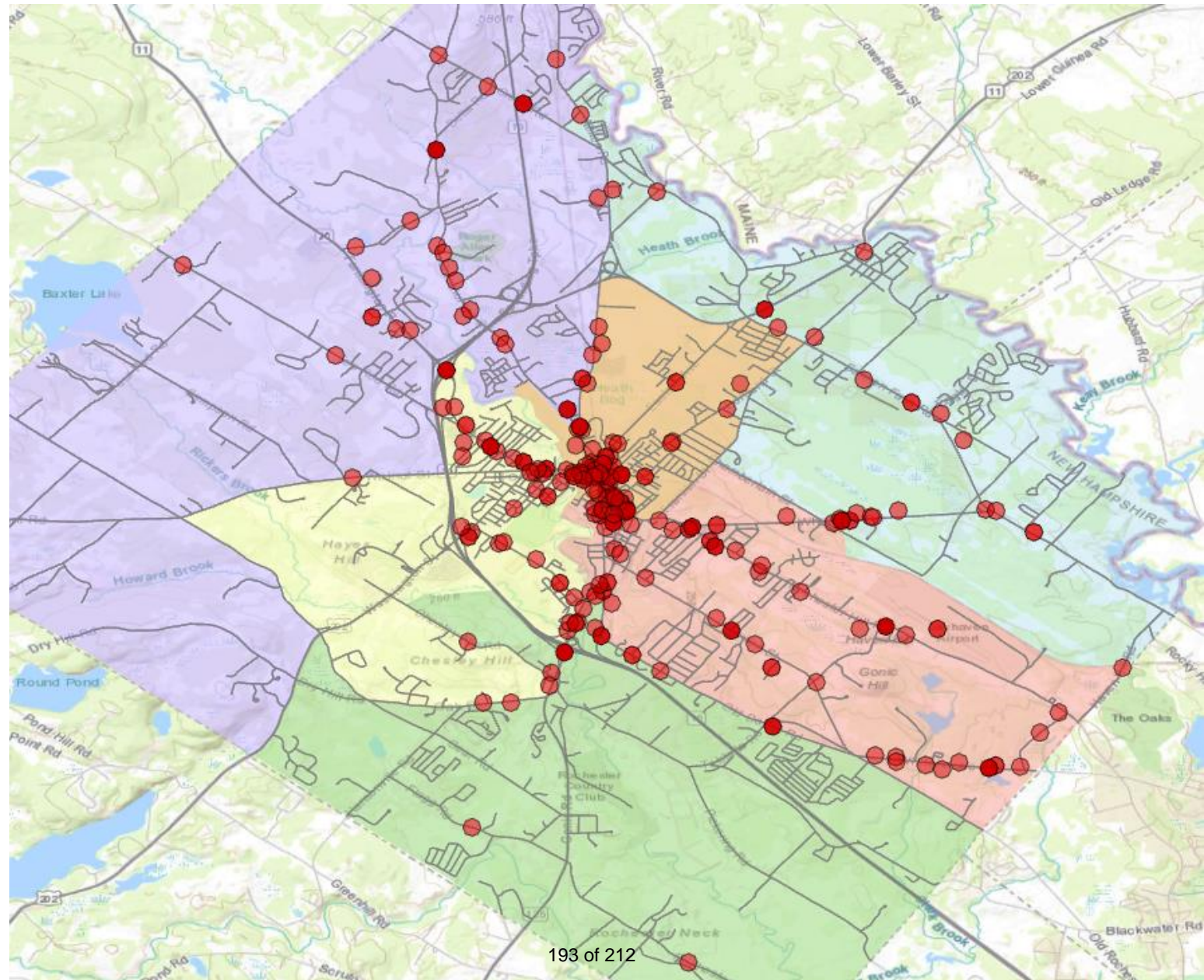
# June 2019 Field Activities

Specific Crimes	Jun-19	Jun-18	% Change	May-19	% Change	Apr-19	YTD 19	YTD 18	% Change	YTD 17
Traffic Stops	323	752	-57%	458	-29%	496	2636	5431	-51%	4033
Arrests from Stops	17	26	-35%	10	70%	30	117	193	-39%	154
Summons	18	53	-66%	11	64%	24	106	346	-69%	244
Warnings	273	639	-57%	418	-35%	418	2312	4725	-51%	3535
No Action	14	25	-44%	13	8%	21	88	140	-37%	97
Accidents	105	92	14%	70	50%	61	460	509	-10%	568
Summons from ACs	3	2	50%	1	200%	1	11	15	-27%	14
Arrests from ACs	6	2	200%	6	0%	5	29	31	-6%	34
Field Interviews	12	19	-37%	7	71%	11	49	59	-17%	95
DWI	11	9	22%	5	120%	9	42	41	2%	49
<i>Narcotics</i>	3	4	-25%	2	50%	0	12	10	20%	18
<i>Alcohol</i>	8	5	60%	3	167%	9	30	31	-3%	31
DWI from Accidents	3	1	200%	3	0%	3	11	10	10%	17



# June 2019 Traffic Stops and Drug Locations

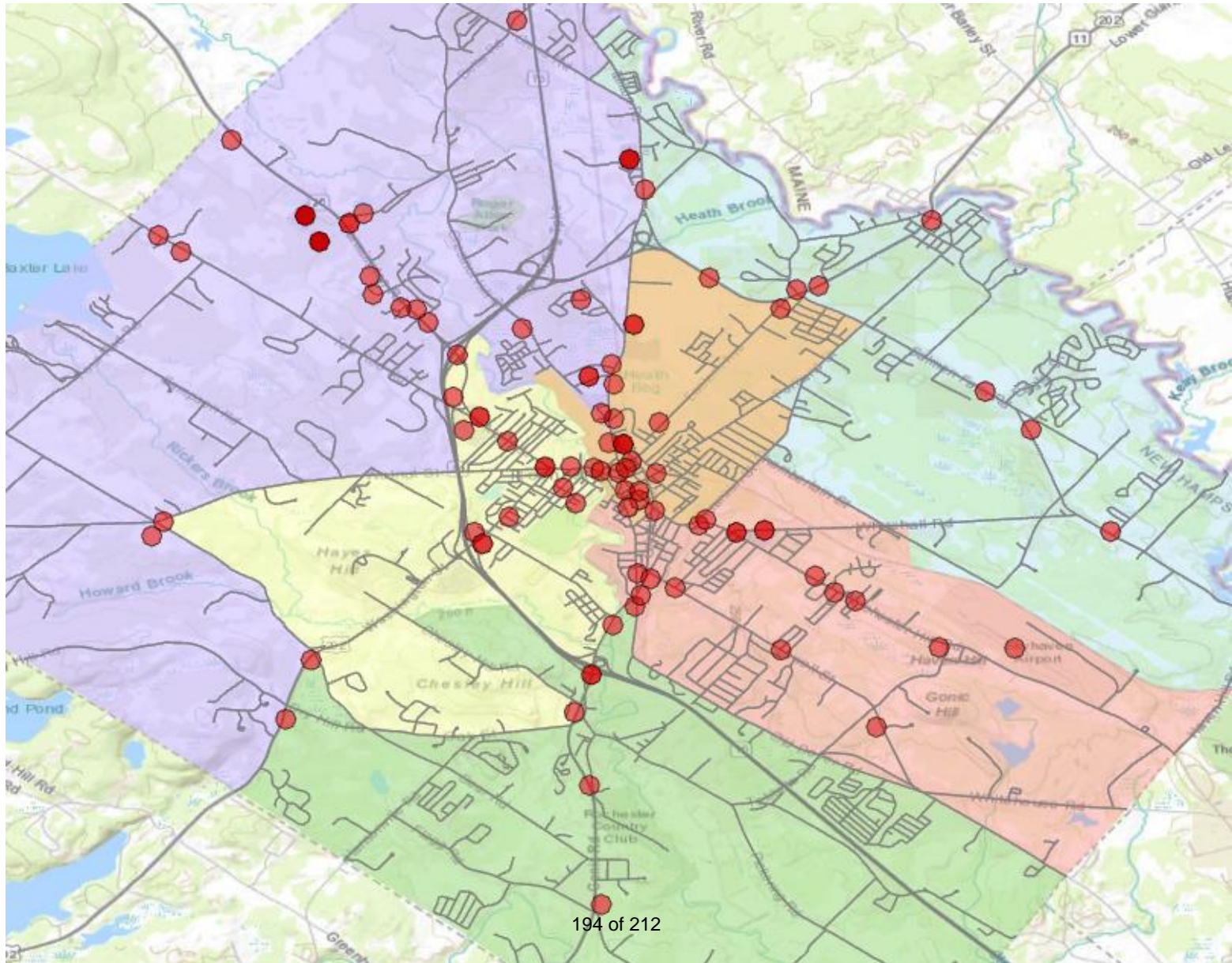
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# June 2019 Accidents

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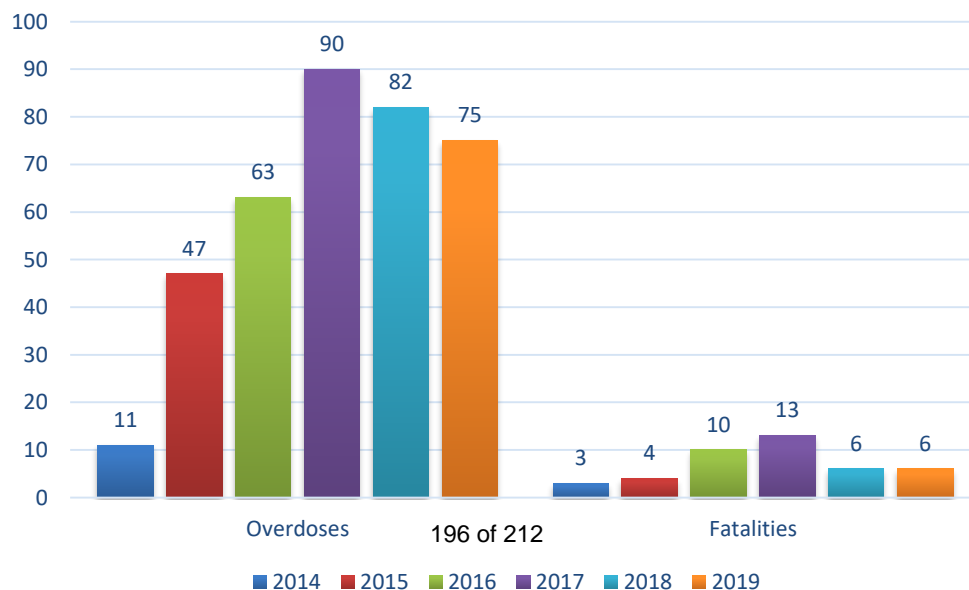


# June 2019 Property Crimes

All Incident Reports												
Specific Crimes	Jun-19	Jun-18	% Change	May-19	% Change	Apr-19	YTD 19	YTD 18	% Change	YTD 2019 Closure Rate	YTD 2018 Closure Rate	YTD 17
Burglary	11	9	22%	7	57%	15	50	47	6%	20%	17%	44
Shoplifting	13	24	-46%	12	8%	17	121	137	-12%	103%	91%	153
Theft from a Building	13	10	30%	8	63%	14	80	97	-18%	21%	9%	112
Theft from M/V (including Parts)	34	5	580%	19	79%	14	95	52	83%	6%	2%	100
All Other Theft	21	14	50%	9	133%	9	58	58	0%	7%	9%	75
M/V Theft	4	5	-20%	0	0%	2	19	15	27%	32%	27%	14
Vandalism	31	29	7%	39	-21%	33	179	185	-3%	44%	37%	209
<b>Total Property</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>663</b>
Arrests												
Specific Crimes	Jun-19	Jun-18	% Change	May-19	% Change	Apr-19	YTD 19	YTD 18	% Change			YTD 17
Burglary	2	2	0%	0	0%	1	10	8	25%			6
Shoplifting	14	22	-36%	11	27%	20	125	125	0%			100
Theft from a Building	0	1	-100%	6	-100%	1	17	9	89%			14
Theft from M/V (including Parts)	1	0	0%	0	0%	3	6	1	500%			8
All Other Theft	2	4	-50%	1	100%	0	4	5	-20%			7
M/V Theft	3	0	0%	1	200%	0	6	4	50%			2
Vandalism	19	10	90%	14	36%	13	79	68	16%			63
<b>Total Property</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>12%</b>			<b>194</b>

# June 2019 Drug Offenses

All Incident Reports												
Specific Crimes	Jun-19	Jun-18	% Change	May-19	% Change	Apr-19	YTD 19	YTD 18	% Change	YTD 2019 Closure Rate	YTD 2018 Closure Rate	YTD 17
Possession	16	10	60%	11	45%	12	72	72	0%	85%	94%	111
Drug Events	34	N/A	N/A	40	-15%	14	127	N/A	N/A			N/A
Overdoses	13	15	-13%	25	-48%	5	75	82	-9%			90
Fatal	0	0	0%	2	-100%	3	6	6	0%			13
Total Drug	50	25		51	-2%	26	199	154				214
Arrests												
Specific Crimes	Jun-19	Jun-18	% Change	May-19	% Change	Apr-19	YTD 19	YTD 18	% Change			YTD 17
Possession	13	9	44%	9	44%	8	61	68	-10%			105



# June 2019 Violent Crimes

All Incident Reports												
Specific Crimes	Jun-19	Jun-18	% Change	May-19	% Change	Apr-19	YTD 19	YTD 18	% Change	YTD 2019 Closure Rate	YTD 2018 Closure Rate	YTD 17
Homicide	0	1	N/A	0	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0%	0%	0
Robbery	1	2	-50%	1	0%	0	4	10	-60%	75%	50%	18
Aggravated Assault	8	3	167%	10	-20%	5	36	37	-3%	58%	54%	34
<i>from DV*</i>	2	1	100%	4	-50%	0	11	17	-35%	73%	71%	10
Simple Assault	43	43	0%	32	34%	28	197	243	-19%	63%	50%	239
<i>from DV*</i>	25	22	14%	21	19%	11	100	119	-16%	70%	69%	113
<b>Total Violent</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>-18%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>291</b>
Arrests												
Specific Crimes	Jun-19	Jun-18	% Change	May-19	% Change	Apr-19	YTD 19	YTD 18	% Change			YTD 17
Homicide	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	1	1	0	N/A			0
Robbery	0	1	-100%	0	0%	0	3	5	-40%			7
Aggravated Assault	6	1	500%	5	20%	3	21	20	5%			16
<i>from DV*</i>	1	0	0%	4	-75%	0	8	12	-33%			8
Simple Assault	29	22	32%	23	26%	8	125	122	2%			99
<i>from DV*</i>	18	12	50%	13	38%	5	70	82	-15%			61
<b>Total Violent</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>2%</b>			<b>122</b>



# June 2019 Threshold

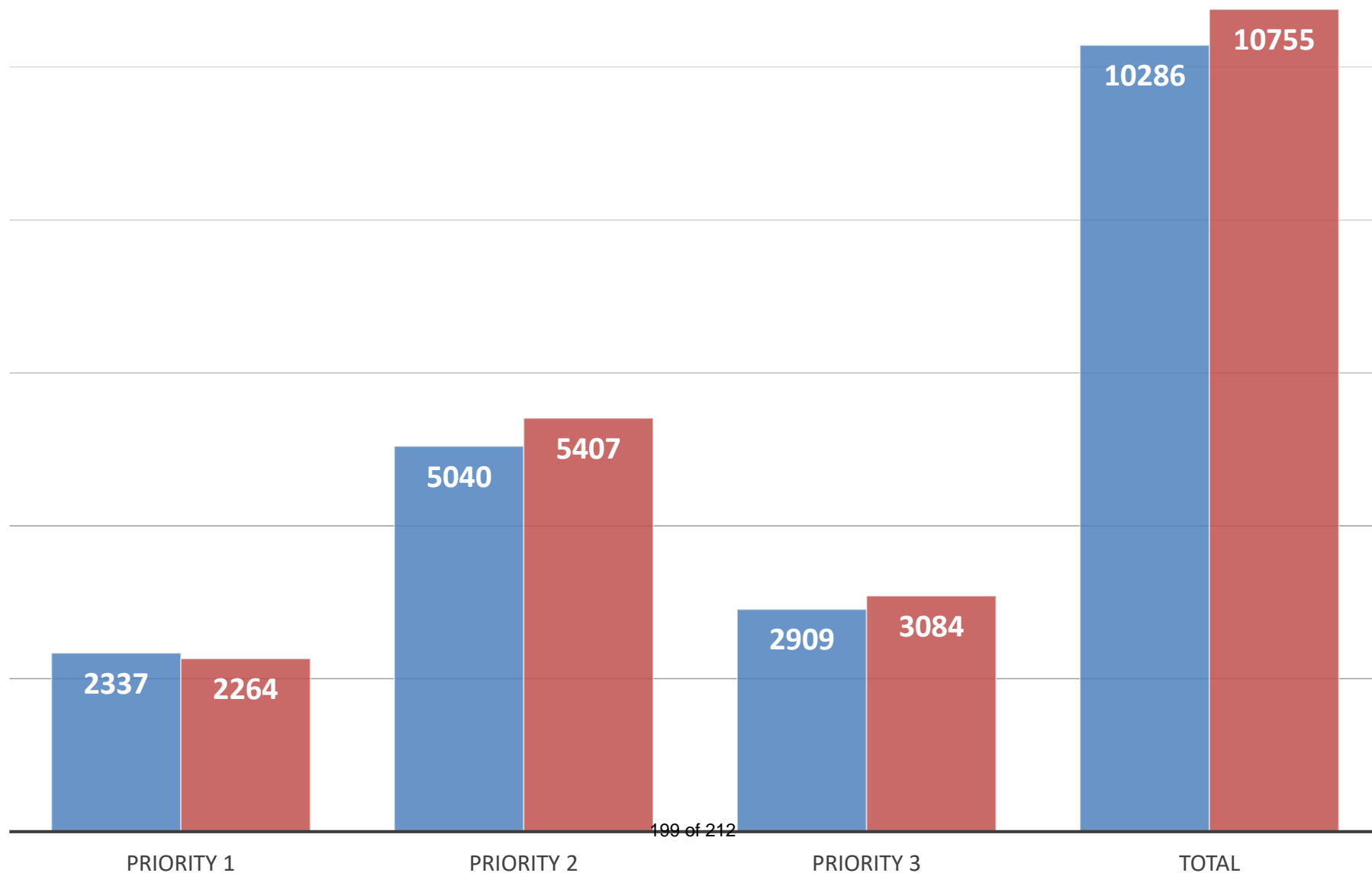
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Crime	Monthly Average	Normal Range	Current Month	Activity Level
Accidents	86	71-100	104	Moderately High
Traffic Stop	804	470-1138	323	Moderately Low
DWI	7	4-10	11	Moderately High
Robbery	2	0-3	1	Normal
Aggravated Assault	6	3-9	8	Normal
Simple Assault	39	31-48	43	Normal
Burglary	9	6-13	11	Normal
Shoplifting	25	18-32	13	Moderately Low
Theft from Building	18	11-25	13	Normal
Theft from MV	16	7-24	34	Very High
MV Theft	3	0-5	4	Normal
Vandalism	35	27-44	31	Normal
Possession	16	10-22	16	Normal
Crime	Monthly Average	Normal Range	Current Month	Activity Level
Violent	47	37-57	52	Normal
Property	122	94-151	127	Normal

# Calls for Service 2018 v 2019

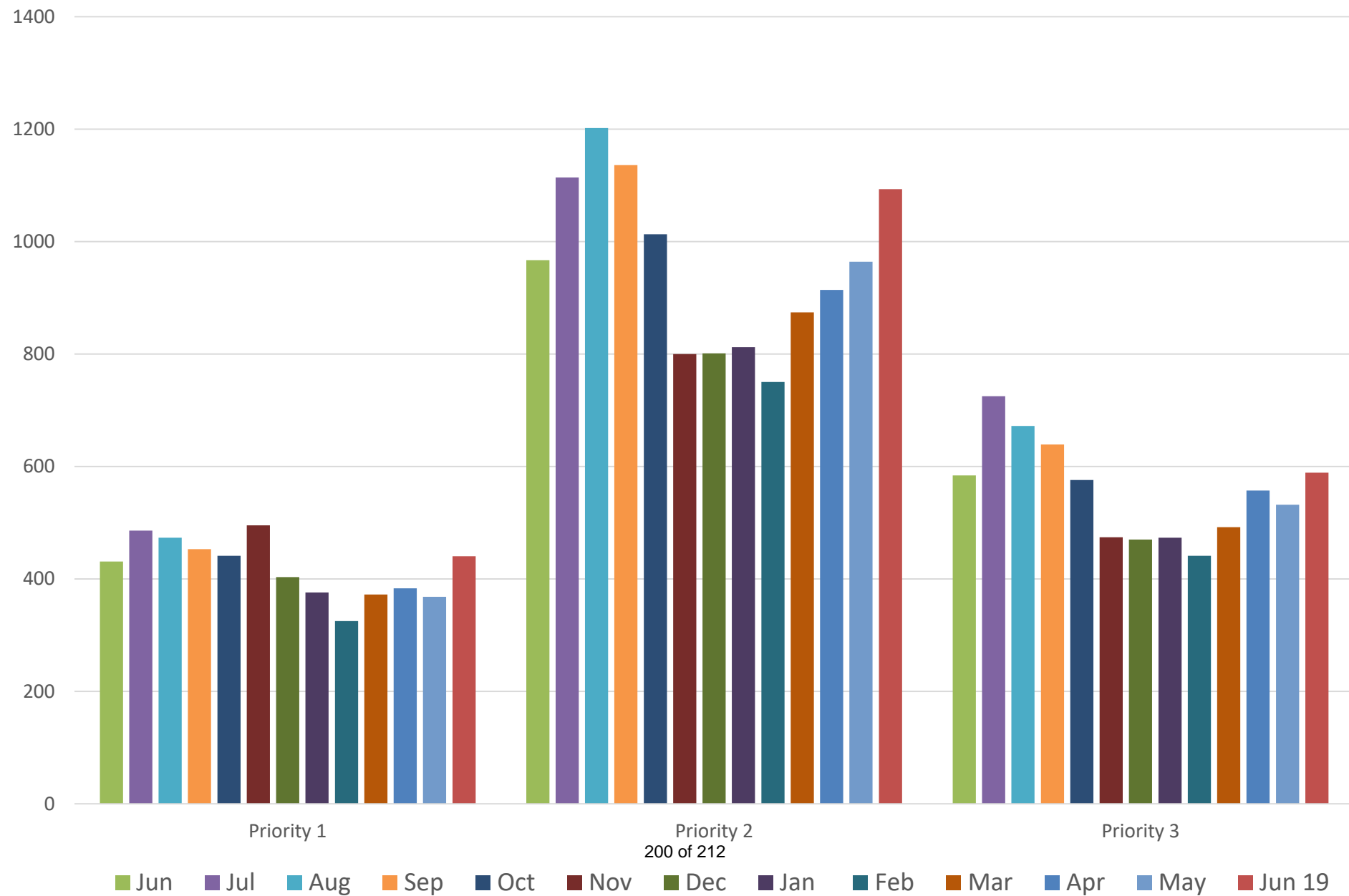
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■ YTD 2018 ■ YTD 2019



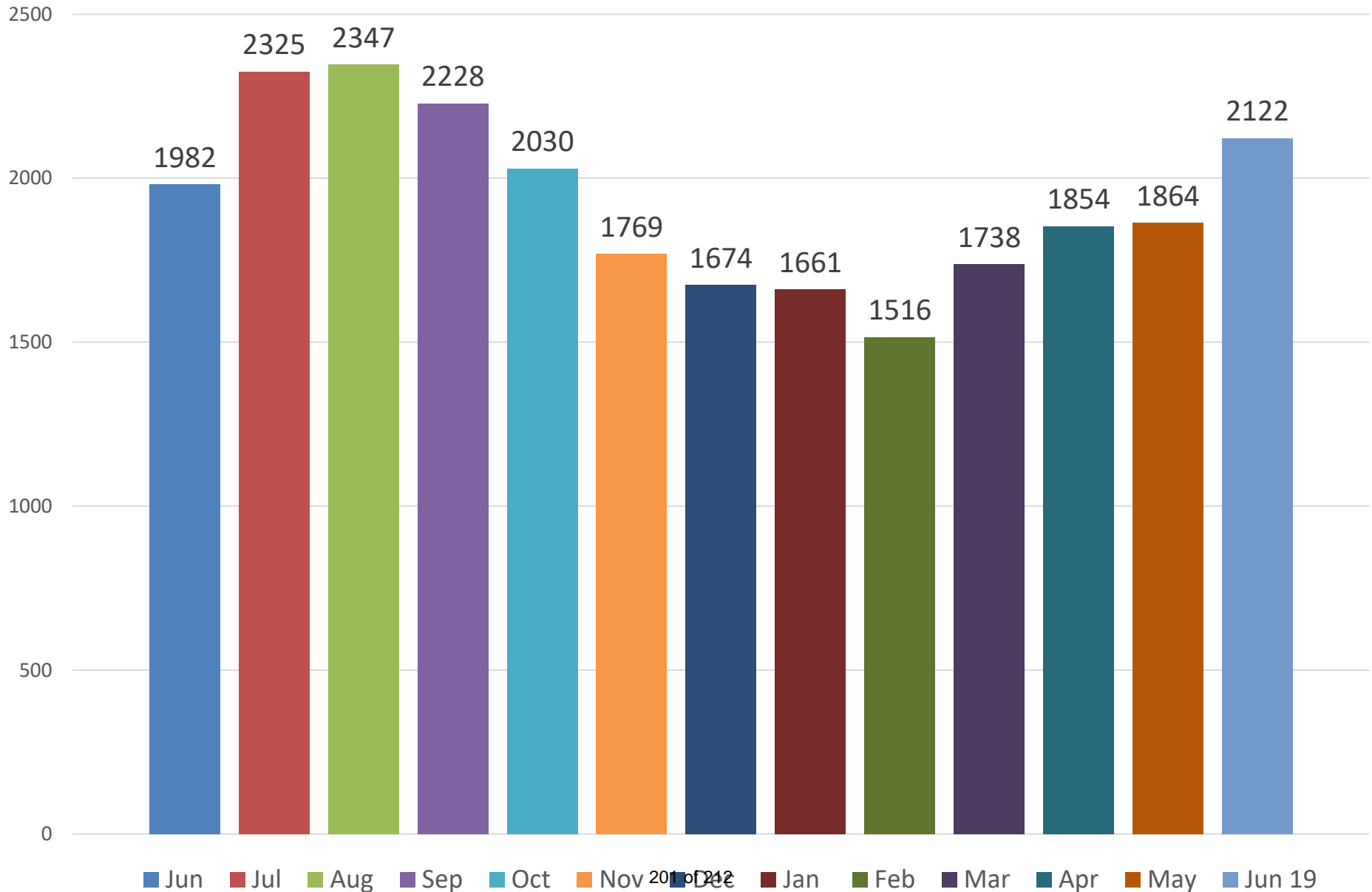
# YTD Calls for Service 2018 v 2019

8/15/19



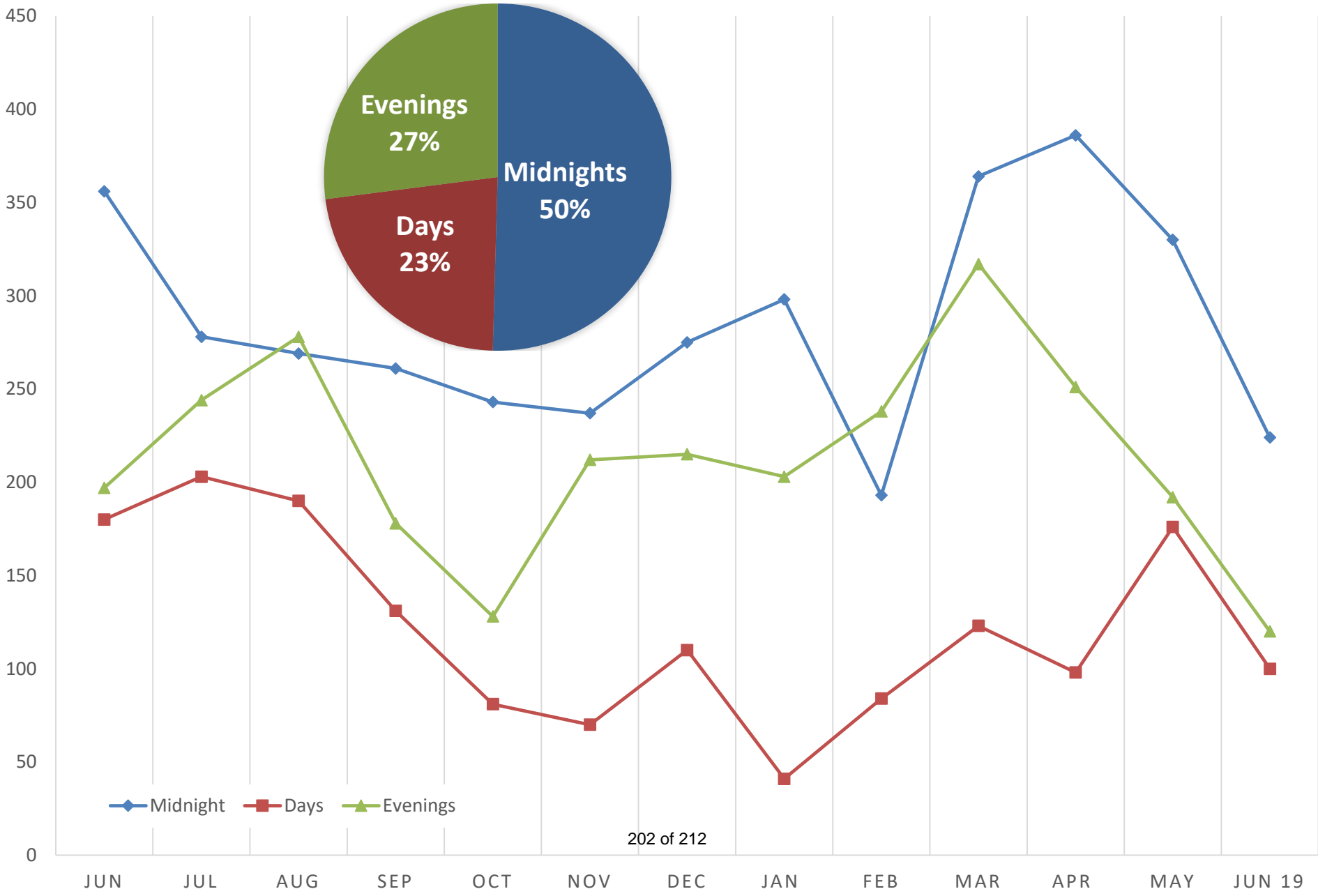
# YTD Calls for Service Total 2018 v 2019

8/15/19



# June 2019 Proactive Hours

8/15/19



# 2019 Response Time

	2018 YTD	2019 YTD	Percent Change	2017 YTD	Percent Change
Priority 1	14.86	17.74	19%	15.52	14%
Priority 2	45.59	56.4	24%	53.93	5%
Priority 3	71.96	81.21	13%	80.74	1%

**DV COMPSTAT**  
**June 2019**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>2/1/19 – 2/28/19</b>	<b>3/1/19 – 3/31/19</b>	<b>4/1/18 – 4/30/18</b>	<b>5/1/19– 5/31/19</b>	<b>6/1/19– 6/30/19</b>	<b>Prior Verbal (PV)</b>	<b>YTD 2019</b>	<b>PV YTD</b>	<b>YTD 2018</b>
<b>Misdemeanor Arrests</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Felony Arrests</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Verbal Cases</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>		<b>106</b>		<b>124</b>
<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>238</b>

**2019 FJC Clients**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>
New Clients	2	4	3	3	6	10
Unique Clients	15	19	20	18	26	27
Rochester Residents					8	10
	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>
New Clients						
Unique Clients						
Rochester Residents						

**2018 FJC Clients**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>
New Clients	13 (13)	18 (17)	6 (19)	6 (21)	8 (24)	5 (12)
	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>
New Clients	2 (16)	5 (25)	2 (13)	3 (22)	2(17)	5 (10)

\*\*\*FJC stats now represent new clients and unique clients\*\*\*

(Unique clients are those that have active case management and new clients are excluded from that number)





Leaders never use the word failure.  
They look upon setbacks as learning  
experiences.

BRIAN TRACY

BRIANTRACY.COM

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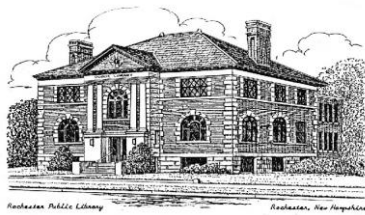
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City Clerk's Office

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**Rochester Public Library**  
**65 South Main St.**  
**Rochester, NH 03867**

8/15/19  
Main Desk: (603) 332-1428  
Reference: 335-7550  
Children's: 335-7549  
Fax: 335-7582  
[www.rpl.lib.nh.us](http://www.rpl.lib.nh.us)

## **MONTHLY REPORT**

### **July 2019**

There were a total of 17,761 items circulated with 15,460 people visiting the library in the month of July. One hundred forty-five patrons used the library's Internet computers for 467 hours. Current number of patron registrations is 39,210. Interlibrary loan activity included 94 materials borrowed from other libraries and 222 loaned to other libraries.

The month of July was full of fun Summer Reading Program activities. The Children's Room transformed into a jungle adventure full of interesting creatures related to the "Read on the Wild side!" theme for this year's Summer Reading Program. There were snakes, monkeys, a sloth and elephant with lily pads to hop on and a jungle camp to explore.

Over 360 children signed up for this year's Summer Reading Program. Four Hundred twenty-four children participated in four craft programs available for those 2 and older including "Color Changing Chameleon", "Sloth Bracelets", "Tropical Butterflies" and a "Felted Snake". Over sixty children attended two "Stories Under the Stars" programs. These evening story programs were for children 3-7 held next to the Children's Room jungle camp with "Wild Side" stories, songs and treats to bring home. A "Jungle Adventure" puzzle-solving program inspired by the Escape Room experience created smiles and a sense of accomplishment for older children grades 3-5.

Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup> the Children's Room was please to host the Boston Museum of Science and their program "The Science of Magic". This presentation investigated the science behind the "Magic" of classic magic tricks like snatching a tablecloth out from under items without disturbing them!

Monday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> the Children's Room welcomed Wildlife Encounters. Two hundred eighty-six children and adults enjoyed meeting a variety of the creatures you may encounter locally and a few that would be at home in a "Wild Side" jungle environment.

In addition to the print versions of available books, 313 of our library patrons downloaded 1,659 e-books to media devices through the library's web site this month. The RPL website also enabled 57 patrons access to the Mango Languages, Chilton, and Legal Forms databases along with 294 digital downloads from Hoopla.

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City Clerk's Office

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**City of Rochester Tax Collector's Office**  
**July 31, 2019**

Tax Year		Annual Warrant	Collected		Uncollected	
			Amount	%	Amount	%
2019	Semi Annual	32,520,503	30,334,449.78	93.28%	2,186,053.22	6.72%
2018	Warrant	63,834,824	62,740,817.03	98.29%	1,094,006.97	1.71%
2017		60,524,791	59,964,514.55	99.07%	560,276.45	0.93%
2016		58,196,003	57,922,059.06	99.53%	273,943.94	0.47%
2015		56,938,119	56,792,652.60	99.74%	145,466.40	0.26%
2014		55,068,779	54,978,287.67	99.84%	90,491.33	0.16%
2013		53,324,262	53,251,501.09	99.86%	72,760.91	0.14%
2012		50,952,912	50,910,265.21	99.92%	42,646.79	0.08%
2011		48,856,892	48,817,789.72	99.92%	39,102.28	0.08%
2010		47,308,832	47,275,644.57	99.93%	33,187.43	0.07%
2009		46,898,827	46,869,038.61	99.94%	29,788.39	0.06%
2008		46,522,769	46,505,442.89	99.96%	17,326.11	0.04%
2007		42,964,450	42,949,974.64	99.97%	14,475.36	0.03%
2006		40,794,160	40,784,880.95	99.98%	9,279.05	0.02%
2005		38,024,453	38,017,087.20	99.98%	7,365.80	0.02%
2004		36,065,496	36,057,439.13	99.98%	8,056.87	0.02%
2003		33,310,579	33,305,001.65	99.98%	5,577.35	0.02%
2002		29,725,878	29,720,692.63	99.98%	5,185.37	0.02%
2001		26,943,136	26,937,802.91	99.98%	5,333.09	0.02%
2000		25,415,248	25,411,043.45	99.98%	4,204.55	0.02%
1999		22,973,308	22,969,992.33	99.99%	3,315.67	0.01%
1998		30,592,529	30,587,901.82	99.98%	4,627.18	0.02%
1997		29,835,914	29,831,457.52	99.99%	4,456.48	0.01%
1996		27,726,424	27,722,073.99	99.98%	4,350.01	0.02%
1995		27,712,029	27,709,191.61	99.99%	2,837.39	0.01%
1994		26,989,803	26,987,206.62	99.99%	2,596.38	0.01%
1993		25,611,050	25,608,622.48	99.99%	2,427.52	0.01%
1992		24,746,736	24,744,940.64	99.99%	1,795.36	0.01%
1991		24,296,285	24,294,507.32	99.99%	1,777.68	0.01%
					<b>4,672,711.33</b>	

Tax Collector  
Doreen Jones, CTC

CSS Count FY 20		
Month	Total \$\$	# of Payments
July	\$ 832,265.53	656
Aug		
Sept		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		
Jan		
Feb		
Mar		
Apr		
May		
June		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 832,265.53</b>	<b>656</b>

Doreen Jones, CTC  
Tax Collector

# Rochester, New Hampshire

## Inter office Memorandum

**TO:** Blaine Cox  
City Manager

**FROM:** Todd M. Marsh  
Director of Welfare

**SUBJECT:** Analysis of Direct Assistance for July 2019.

**DATE:** August 8, 2019

This office reported 227 formal interview notes for the month.

Voucher amounts issued were as follows:

	<u>35</u> <u>Families</u> <i>10 new</i>	<u>36</u> <u>Single</u> <i>10 new</i>
Burial .....	00.00	1,175.00
Dental .....	00.00	00.00
Electricity .....	987.96	70.56
Food.....	.00	00.00
Fuel heating .....	0.00	00.00
Mortgage .....	.00	00.00
Prescriptions .....	223.03	00.00
Rent .....	5,276.00	6,690.00
Temporary Housing.....	1,583.00	2,335.00
Transportation .....	<u>218.00</u>	<u>99.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,287.99</b>	<b>\$10,369.56</b>

This represents an average cost per case/family of \$236.79 and case/Individual of \$288.04 for this month.

Total vouchers issued: \$18,657.55

There was an increase of \$5,736.43 in assistance issued this month compared to June 2018. There was an decrease of \$607.29 in vouchers issued this month compared to last month.

We received reimbursements from the Interim Assistance Program SSI, State Medicaid and Personal Reimbursements totaling \$157.98

### NOTES

Increasing rental rates and insufficient homeless shelter capacity has resulted in higher rental assistance costs and increased temporary housing assistance (motels) until transitions to permanent housing or available homeless shelters. The Welfare Department continues to minimize the increases.



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City Clerk's Office

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