



Position	Senior Planner
Posting Date	1/1/2025
Category	Full Time
Benefits	Yes
Salary	\$65,000 to \$85,000

Job Description

SENIOR PLANNER

About Us:

The **North Country Council** is a community-focused organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for Coös, Grafton, and Carroll Counties residents. As a Regional Planning Commission and Economic Development District, The Council works collaboratively with municipalities, businesses, and community stakeholders to drive sustainable growth, economic development, and rural planning across the North Country region. We are committed to addressing the region's challenges and leveraging opportunities to foster lasting, community-driven change.

Our forward-thinking team works across various sectors, delivering innovative solutions that promote sustainable growth, enhance community livability, and support economic vitality. By focusing on rural development, transportation, and regional planning, we aim to shape a prosperous future for the communities we serve. The North Country Council's dedicated professionals are passionate about positively impacting and creating a stronger, more vibrant region.

Role Overview:

As a **Senior Planner**, you will play a key leadership role in shaping the future of **land use** and **community development** in the North Country. You will manage a variety of planning projects, from **zoning updates** to large-scale **regional development strategies**, ensuring they align with both **local needs** and broader **regional objectives**. Your work will directly impact how towns and cities plan for **growth**, manage **resources**, and promote **sustainability**.

This is an excellent opportunity for a skilled planner who is technically proficient and enjoys **collaborating with diverse community stakeholders**. The ideal candidate will thrive in a dynamic, hands-on environment and can manage multiple projects while keeping the community's best interests at the forefront.

Key Responsibilities:

- **Lead Land Use Projects:** Take charge of multifaceted land use projects that address both immediate and long-term planning needs, ensuring alignment with **local and regional goals** for **sustainable growth**.
- **Collaborate with Stakeholders:** Work closely with **local officials, municipal boards, community organizations**, and other stakeholders to design and implement land use strategies that serve the public interest.
- **Provide Technical Guidance:** Advise on **zoning, land development regulations, and conservation efforts**, ensuring planning initiatives are compliant with local and regional standards.

- **Community Engagement:** Facilitate **public hearings, meetings, and workshops**, providing a platform for **residents** and stakeholders to engage with the planning process, share their perspectives, and help inform decision-making.
- **Conduct Research and Analysis:** Lead **research efforts** to support planning initiatives, providing **in-depth analysis** and insights based on **best practices, data**, and trends in land use, zoning, and environmental impacts.
- **Prepare Reports and Presentations:** Develop **comprehensive reports, GIS maps, and visual aids** to communicate planning findings, proposals, and recommendations to municipal boards, elected officials, and the public.
- **Evaluate and Update Regulations:** Assess existing **land use regulations**, propose updates as needed, and ensure the implementation of **new legislation** is considered in local planning processes.

Key Skills & Experience:

- **Expertise in Land Use Planning:** In-depth knowledge of **zoning laws, land use regulations, municipal planning processes, and sustainable development principles**.
- **Strong Communication Skills:** Ability to convey **complex technical concepts** in clear, accessible terms to diverse audiences, including **community members, local officials, and stakeholders**.
- **Leadership and Project Management:** Experience **leading teams** and managing projects, **budgets, and timelines**. Proven ability to oversee multiple projects simultaneously while maintaining high standards of quality and efficiency.
- **GIS Proficiency:** Experience using **GIS software** to create **visual aids**, such as maps, charts, and graphs, for planning reports and presentations.
- **Collaboration and Relationship Building:** Strong **interpersonal skills**, with a focus on **building and maintaining relationships** with **community organizations, local governments, and other key stakeholders**.
- **Passion for Sustainability:** Deep commitment to **sustainable development** and a vision for creating **communities** that thrive for generations to come.

Qualifications:

- **Education:** **Bachelor's degree** in urban or rural planning, community development, or a related field. A **master's degree in planning** or a related field is preferred.
- **Experience:** A minimum of **5 years** of progressively responsible experience in planning, with experience in **land use, zoning, and regional development**.
- **Certifications:** Certification such as the **American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)** is preferred.
- **Project Management Experience:** Demonstrated ability to **manage multiple projects**, including overseeing **budgets, timelines, and team coordination**.
- **Driver's License:** A **valid driver's license** is required, as the role will involve **travel** throughout the region.

Why Join Us?

At the North Country Council, you'll be part of a passionate and close-knit team that values **creativity, collaboration, and community engagement**. Your work will have a **lasting impact** on the North Country region, as you'll be helping to shape the planning and development processes that affect real communities.

We offer a **dynamic and varied work environment** with opportunities for **professional development**, as well as a chance to contribute to the **sustainability and long-term growth** of one of New Hampshire's most beautiful and vibrant regions.

In addition to working on exciting planning projects, we offer a competitive salary range of **\$65,000 to \$85,000** depending on experience and a comprehensive benefits package that includes:

- **Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance**—with generous employer contributions.
- **Life Insurance and Short-Term/Long-Term Disability Insurance** at no cost to you.
- **Paid Time Off**, including holidays, sick days, and vacation time that increases with tenure.
- **Opportunities for professional development** and continuing education.

Location and Travel:

The role is based in **Littleton, NH**, with travel required throughout the three counties (Coös, Grafton, and Carroll), as well as occasional trips further south. You must be flexible, as some evening and weekend work will be required to attend meetings or facilitate events. Working remotely is an option, with some days being in office days.

How to Apply:

If you are excited about the opportunity to make a tangible impact on the future of the North Country region, we would love to hear from you.

To apply, please send your resume and a cover letter detailing your qualifications and interest in the position to **Michelle Moren-Grey, Executive Director**, at mmoren@nccouncil.org. Please use the subject line **"Senior Planner"**.

This position is open until filled, and we encourage you to apply as soon as possible. The North Country Council is an equal-opportunity employer, and we welcome applications from all qualified candidates.