STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Executive Council

CHRISTOPHER C. PAPPAS
EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR
DISTRICT FOUR



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TO: All Fourth District Cities and Towns **FROM:** Executive Councilor Christopher C. Pappas

DATE: March 23, 2016

The Governor and Executive Council met on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 in the Executive Council Chamber at the State House, Concord, NH and considered an agenda of approximately 85 items.

The next scheduled Governor and Executive Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Executive Council Chamber at the State House Concord, NH.

The Executive Council convened today at 10 am at the State House. Here's an overview of the Council meeting, focusing on issues with both statewide and District 4 significance:

District 4 Nominations

The Governor nominated Dr. David Coursin of Northwood to the Medical Review Subcommittee.

District 4 Confirmations

The Council confirmed Glenn Normandeau as Executive Director of Fish & Game; Victoria Cimino of Manchester as Director of Travel and Tourism; Jennifer Logsdon of Manchester to the Juvenile Parole Board; Andrea Lewy of Nottingham to the Current Use Advisory Board; Annette Escalante of Bedford to the Board of Licensing for Drug and Alcohol Professionals; and Justice Tina Nadeau of Lee as Chief Justice of the Superior Court (the chief justice has a five year term). A vote was not yet taken on the confirmation of Senator Jerry Little as Commissioner of Banking.

Mount Sunapee Expansion Plan

The Council tabled a plan to extend the lease agreement for and permit an expansion of the Mount Sunapee ski area. The Council will hold a public information session on the proposal on Wednesday, March 30 at 2 pm at the State House with Commissioner Jeff Rose. The plan could come up for a vote at the next Council meeting on April 6.

Women's Prison Contract Amendment

The Council approved a major amendment with Gilbane Building Company that finalizes the construction contract for the new women's prison. The amendment will cover the cost of all necessary design modifications and brings the final price tag for construction to \$45.5 million. The facility is slated to be completed in late 2017.

State House Dome Repairs

The Council approved another \$382,000 for repairs to the State House. The additional funds were needed to provide structural stability during extensive renovations that include the re-guilding of the dome.

Substance Abuse Treatment Contracts

The Council approved contracts totaling \$11.5 million for substance abuse treatment and recovery services. The money is a mix of state and federal funds for fourteen providers across the state.

Mt. Washington Cog Railway Loan

The Council approved a \$1.8 million loan with the Mt. Washington Railway for the construction of a new locomotive and passenger coach as well as improvements at the summit transfer station. The loan will be paid back over the next 20 years and is important to upgrade a major White Mountains tourist attraction.

Hooksett Police Subgrant

The Council approved a sub grant to the Hooksett Police Department for \$40,000 to support drug taskforce operations. The money is made available as part of the state's 2016 Regional Drug Task Force appropriation.

Today's complete agenda is available <u>here</u>, along with the minutes and audio recording. The next G&C meeting will be held Wednesday, April 6, at 10 am at the State House. Stay tuned for future updates, and please don't hesitate to contact me with your thoughts or concerns.

The Executive Council welcomes public input on nominations that are brought forward by the Governor for consideration and confirmation.

If you have interest in serving on any of the 300+ State Boards or Commissions please send a letter of interest along with a resume, to Catherine George in care of the Governor's office and a copy to Executive Councilor Pappas.

Please feel free to contact me with concerns or support for any of the above individuals or any other issues you might have.

A listing of the Boards and Commissions, along with the qualifications required, can be found at http://www.sos.nh.gov/redbook/index.htm.