Sustainability Fellowship
Municipal Greenhouse Gas Inventory
City of Portsmouth – Planning Department
Portsmouth, NH

About the Sustainability Fellows Program:
UNH Sustainability Fellowships pair exceptional students from across the U.S. with municipal, educational, corporate, and non-profit partners in New England to work on transformative sustainability initiatives each summer. Sustainability Fellows undertake challenging projects that are designed to create an immediate impact, offer a quality learning experience, and foster meaningful collaboration. Fellows work on-site with their mentors at partner organizations for 10 weeks, supported by a network of Fellows, partners, alumni, and the UNH Team. Graduate students, exceptional undergraduate students, and recent graduates from any accredited college or university are eligible to apply.

A detailed description of one Fellowship follows. To learn more about the other Fellowships offered this year, and for application instructions, see: www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows.

About the Fellowship:
The City of Portsmouth has a longstanding commitment to sustainability. The City became an Eco-Municipality in 2005 and has committed to building only green municipal buildings of which it has completed a LEED Silver Library, Fire Station, and Water Treatment Plan and a Collaborative for High Performance Schools certified Middle School. The City has been tracking its greenhouse gas emissions using a tool from the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives or ICLEI which it has been a member of since 2006 when we conducted our first Greenhouse gas emissions inventory. The City also completed an inventory in 2012 and the selected fellow will be responsible for completing the third inventory based calculating emissions for 2018. The inventory will be compared to past studies to assess how well the City has been doing in reducing its Greenhouse gas emissions.

Outcomes:
The primary goal is to understand the City of Portsmouth’s current greenhouse gas emissions in the context of past inventories. The project should be able to inform the City as to whether it is making improvements, staying the same, or increasing greenhouse gas emissions. The anticipated outcome of the fellow’s work would be a completed 2018 inventory and a comparison to past inventories done in a form that can be replicated in the future so that comparisons can be made and greenhouse gas emission reduction
Fellows are expected to:

- development opportunities, and presentations coordinated by UNHSI. Specifically,
- Fellows are expected to be primarily dedicated to their assigned projects throughout the summer, and also participate in a variety of networking activities, professional development opportunities, and presentations coordinated by UNHSI. Specifically,

Impact:
The fellow will gain experience in the operations of municipal government and the role of different departments in the context of their greenhouse gas emissions. The fellow will be working in the Planning Department to undertake the study. They will learn about day to day planning activities and overall sustainability planning in the City and the region. The fellow will gain skills in data collection and presentation as well as an understanding of the intensity of specific municipal and city sectors creation of greenhouse gas emissions. The fellow will be responsible for the creation of a report which will detail the greenhouse gas emissions of the City of Portsmouth. This report will include the background information necessary to collect the data and also require the fellow to present the information in a useable format in the form of tables, charts and other graphics to City staff in an understandable way both in the writing of the report and verbally.

The fellow’s work will have a direct impact on the City in providing a very the detailed study needed to assess the City’s sustainability performance. The metric of greenhouse gas emissions is one of the most powerful ways to understand the performance of a municipality in making progress towards a more sustainable community. In addition, the Greenhouse Gas emissions will provide some measure of the success the City is having in the role it plays in meeting the Paris accord’s commitment to greenhouse gas emissions which the City has committed to working towards.

Desired Qualifications:
- Understanding of greenhouse gas emissions and basic climate science.
- Strong data analysis skills, and an ability to master new software programs quickly.
- Proficiency with Excel and Word.
- Strong verbal/written communication and interview skills.
- Experience with stakeholder engagement.

Work Location: Portsmouth City Hall, 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, The fellow will be housed in the Planning Department but the work will require spending time collecting data at a number of other departments including but not limited to the Department of Public Works, the Finance Department and the School Department.

Mentor: Peter Britz, Environmental Planner / Sustainability Coordinator

Compensation: $6500 summer stipend
(taxable and paid on a two-week payroll cycle over the course of the fellowship term)

Expectations:
Fellows are expected to be primarily dedicated to their assigned projects throughout the summer, and also participate in a variety of networking activities, professional development opportunities, and presentations coordinated by UNHSI. Specifically, Fellows are expected to:
• Attend a mandatory orientation at UNH prior to the start of the fellowship term, **May 28-30, 2019.** (Travel scholarships may be available for students traveling from outside New England.)

• Work full-time on-site at the partner organization for 10 weeks, for a total of 400 hours, **June 3 - August 16, 2019** (an eleven-week period, allowing for one week off, as mutually agreed upon with supervisor).

• Complete a fellowship project according to the work plan (with adjustments as necessary).

• Participate in weekly webinars or advisory group meetings.

• Present work at mid-term and final poster sessions at UNH on **July 12 and August 9.** (Travel support available.)

• Engage in additional professional development, networking, and advisory activities as offered.

• Provide and receive feedback at the end of the fellowship.

**Apply by February 7** at [www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows](http://www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows).

**Questions** may be addressed to [megan.carney@unh.edu](mailto:megan.carney@unh.edu).