

HB 2026 - FINAL VERSION

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2026 SESSION

26-3252
05/07

HOUSE BILL

2026

AN ACT relative to the state 10-year transportation improvement plan; relative to toll rate adjustments and periodic toll reviews for the New Hampshire turnpike system to support the 2027-2036 ten-year transportation plan; and relative to reconstruction of the Gregg Mill Road Bridge in the town of New Boston.

SPONSORS: Rep. Milz, Rock. 13; Rep. Cloutier, Sull. 6

COMMITTEE: Public Works and Highways

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

- I. Adopts the state 10-year transportation plan for 2027-2036.
- II. Provides for toll rate adjustments at specified turnpike plazas to support projects in the 2027-2036 10-year transportation plan.
- III. Provides for periodic toll adjustments tied to the New Hampshire department of transportation's projected inflation index as part of the statewide transportation improvement program.
- IV. Authorizes the transfer of certain land acquired by the state under the land conservation investment program to the town of New Boston for the purpose of reconstructing the Gregg Mill Road Bridge.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT relative to the state 10-year transportation improvement plan; relative to toll rate adjustments and periodic toll reviews for the New Hampshire turnpike system to support the 2027-2036 ten-year transportation plan; and relative to reconstruction of the Gregg Mill Road Bridge in the town of New Boston.

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

1 1 State 10-Year Transportation Improvement Plan. The legislature hereby adopts the plan known as
2 the "State of New Hampshire Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan 2027-2036" submitted by the
3 governor to the legislature pursuant to RSA 228:99 and RSA 240, with the following revisions, and
4 encourages expeditious implementation of the projects shown therein.

5 2 Albany; Project Added. The project named Albany project number 45469, operational and safety
6 improvements at the intersection of NH 16, Wildwood Road and NH 113, shall be included in the 2027-
7 2036 10-year transportation improvements plan with \$6,824,313, and construction in 2033.

8 3 Tolls. Amend RSA 237:9 to read as follows:

9 *1.* The commissioner of transportation, with the approval of the governor and council, shall
10 establish toll rates and other charges for use of the New Hampshire turnpike system or any part of the
11 right-of-way and other property acquired in connection therewith. The governor and council shall approve
12 or reject the commissioner's proposed toll rates and other charges within 90 days of receiving them. The
13 tolls collected shall be deposited with the state treasurer who shall keep the same in a separate account
14 to be used exclusively for purposes of the New Hampshire turnpike system including, without limitation,
15 the operating expenses, construction, reconstruction, and maintenance of the New Hampshire turnpike
16 system. All operating expenses and maintenance costs shall be paid from said account. From the
17 balance remaining after the payment of operating expenses and maintenance costs, there shall be paid
18 the interest and principal on the bonds issued to finance the system. No part of such revenues shall, by
19 transfer of funds or otherwise, be diverted to any other purpose whatsoever. Fourteen days previous to
20 the time any interest or principal is payable, on any general obligation bonds issued to finance the system,
21 the state treasurer shall examine the existing balance and, except as otherwise provided in RSA 237:10, if
22 such balance is insufficient to make the payment, then he *or she* shall notify the governor who shall
23 immediately draw his *or her* warrant on the highway fund to cover any deficit and if the funds in both of the
24 above accounts are insufficient, the governor shall draw his *or her* warrant upon the state's general fund
25 to the amount necessary to meet the payments. Any funds paid out from the state's highway fund or
26 general fund for the above purposes shall be reimbursed from the collection of tolls as soon as such funds
27 are available. Any funds that have been or may be expended for any portion of the system by the
28 department of transportation shall be repaid to said department when, in the opinion of the governor and
29 council, sufficient funds are available. Any excess income may be used for further system extensions in

accordance with RSA 237:5, II(m). No provision of this chapter shall constitute a covenant with bondholders with respect to the charging, collection or disposition of tolls.

II. Notwithstanding paragraph I, RSA 237:24, and any other provision of law to the contrary, to support the turnpike projects included in the 2027-2036 ten year transportation plan and to cover associated operating expenses and maintenance costs for the central New Hampshire turnpike, the eastern New Hampshire turnpike, and the New Hampshire turnpike system, the toll rates for all cash transactions and for vehicles using the New Hampshire electronic toll system not listed on a funded New Hampshire E-Z Pass account shall be increased based on the toll plaza and vehicle classification. For purposes of this section, "class" shall mean the classification of vehicles by type, height, number of axles, and dual tires established by the commissioner of transportation in rules adopted under RSA 541-A. Beginning January 1, 2027, the toll rates shall be as follows:

(a) Hooksett Main:

(1) Class 1: \$2.00

(2) Class 2: \$2.25

(3) Class 3: \$2.50

(4) Class 4: \$2.75

(5) Class 5: \$4.00

(6) Class 6: \$4.50

(7) Class 7: \$5.00

(8) Class 8: \$5.50

(9) Class 9: \$6.00

(10) Class 10: \$6.50

(11) Class 11: \$7.00

(12) Class 12: \$7.50

(b) Hooksett Ramp:

(1) Class 1: \$1.00

(2) Class 2: \$1.25

(3) Class 3: \$1.50

(4) Class 4: \$1.75

(5) Class 5: \$2.00

(6) Class 6: \$2.50

(7) Class 7: \$3.00

(8) Class 8: \$3.50

(9) Class 9: \$4.00

(10) Class 10: \$4.50

(11) Class 11: \$5.00

(12) Class 12: \$5.50

(c) Bedford Main:

(1) Class 1: \$2.00

(2) Class 2: \$2.25

1 (3) Class 3: \$2.50

2 (4) Class 4: \$2.75

3 (5) Class 5: \$4.00

4 (6) Class 6: \$4.50

5 (7) Class 7: \$5.00

6 (8) Class 8: \$5.50

7 (9) Class 9: \$6.00

8 (10) Class 10: \$6.50

9 (11) Class 11: \$7.00

10 (12) Class 12: \$7.50

11 (d) Hampton Main:

12 (1) Class 1: \$4.00

13 (2) Class 2: \$4.25

14 (3) Class 3: \$4.50

15 (4) Class 4: \$4.75

16 (5) Class 5: \$8.00

17 (6) Class 6: \$8.50

18 (7) Class 7: \$9.00

19 (8) Class 8: \$9.50

20 (9) Class 9: \$10.00

21 (10) Class 10: \$10.50

22 (11) Class 11: \$11.00

23 (12) Class 12: \$11.50

24 (e) Hampton Side:

25 (1) Class 1: \$1.50

26 (2) Class 2: \$1.75

27 (3) Class 3: \$2.00

28 (4) Class 4: \$2.25

29 (5) Class 5: \$3.00

30 (6) Class 6: \$3.50

31 (7) Class 7: \$4.00

32 (8) Class 8: \$4.50

33 (9) Class 9: \$5.00

34 (10) Class 10: \$5.50

35 (11) Class 11: \$6.00

36 (12) Class 12: \$6.50

37 (f) Dover:

38 (1) Class 1: \$1.50

39 (2) Class 2: \$1.75

40 (3) Class 3: \$2.00

- (4) Class 4: \$2.25
- (5) Class 5: \$3.00
- (6) Class 6: \$3.50
- (7) Class 7: \$4.00
- (8) Class 8: \$4.50
- (9) Class 9: \$5.00
- (10) Class 10: \$5.50
- (11) Class 11: \$6.00
- (12) Class 12: \$6.50

(g) Rochester:

- (1) Class 1: \$1.50
- (2) Class 2: \$1.75
- (3) Class 3: \$2.00
- (4) Class 4: \$2.25
- (5) Class 5: \$3.00
- (6) Class 6: \$3.50
- (7) Class 7: \$4.00
- (8) Class 8: \$4.50
- (9) Class 9: \$5.00
- (10) Class 10: \$5.50
- (11) Class 11: \$6.00
- (12) Class 12: \$6.50

III. Notwithstanding paragraph I, RSA 237:24, and any other provision of law to the contrary, the toll rates for vehicles listed on a funded New Hampshire E-Z Pass account using the New Hampshire electronic toll collection shall be based on toll plaza and vehicle classification, where "class" has the same meaning as in paragraph II. Beginning January 1, 2027, the minimum toll rates shall be as follows:

(a) Hooksett Main:

- (1) Class 1: \$0.70
- (2) Class 2: \$0.88
- (3) Class 3: \$1.05
- (4) Class 4: \$1.23
- (5) Class 5: \$1.80
- (6) Class 6: \$2.25
- (7) Class 7: \$2.70
- (8) Class 8: \$3.15
- (9) Class 9: \$3.60
- (10) Class 10: \$4.05
- (11) Class 11: \$4.50
- (12) Class 12: \$4.95

(b) Hooksett Ramp:

(1) Class 1: \$0.35

(2) Class 2: \$0.53

(3) Class 3: \$0.70

(4) Class 4: \$0.88

(5) Class 5: \$0.90

(6) Class 6: \$1.35

(7) Class 7: \$1.80

(8) Class 8: \$2.25

(9) Class 9: \$2.70

(10) Class 10: \$3.15

(11) Class 11: \$3.60

(12) Class 12: \$4.05

(c) Bedford Main:

(1) Class 1: \$0.70

(2) Class 2: \$0.88

(3) Class 3: \$1.05

(4) Class 4: \$1.23

(5) Class 5: \$1.80

(6) Class 6: \$2.25

(7) Class 7: \$2.70

(8) Class 8: \$3.15

(9) Class 9: \$3.60

(10) Class 10: \$4.05

(11) Class 11: \$4.50

(12) Class 12: \$4.95

(d) Hampton Main:

(1) Class 1: \$1.40

(2) Class 2: \$1.58

(3) Class 3: \$1.75

(4) Class 4: \$1.93

(5) Class 5: \$3.60

(6) Class 6: \$4.05

(7) Class 7: \$4.50

(8) Class 8: \$4.95

(9) Class 9: \$5.40

(10) Class 10: \$5.85

(11) Class 11: \$6.30

(12) Class 12: \$6.75

(e) Hampton Side:

(1) Class 1: \$0.53

- (2) Class 2: \$0.70
- (3) Class 3: \$0.88
- (4) Class 4: \$1.05
- (5) Class 5: \$1.35
- (6) Class 6: \$1.80
- (7) Class 7: \$2.25
- (8) Class 8: \$2.70
- (9) Class 9: \$3.15
- (10) Class 10: \$3.60
- (11) Class 11: \$4.05
- (12) Class 12: \$4.50

(f) Dover:

- (1) Class 1: \$0.53
- (2) Class 2: \$0.70
- (3) Class 3: \$0.88
- (4) Class 4: \$1.05
- (5) Class 5: \$1.35
- (6) Class 6: \$1.80
- (7) Class 7: \$2.25
- (8) Class 8: \$2.70
- (9) Class 9: \$3.15
- (10) Class 10: \$3.60
- (11) Class 11: \$4.05
- (12) Class 12: \$4.50

(g) Rochester:

- (1) Class 1: \$0.53
- (2) Class 2: \$0.70
- (3) Class 3: \$0.88
- (4) Class 4: \$1.05
- (5) Class 5: \$1.35
- (6) Class 6: \$1.80
- (7) Class 7: \$2.25
- (8) Class 8: \$2.70
- (9) Class 9: \$3.15
- (10) Class 10: \$3.60
- (11) Class 11: \$4.05
- (12) Class 12: \$4.50

4 Agency Directive; Department of Transportation; New Hampshire E-Z Pass Transponder.
Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for a period of 210 days, beginning December 1, 2026, the
department of transportation shall issue, at no cost, a New Hampshire E-Z Pass transponder to anyone

1 who opens or currently maintains a funded New Hampshire E-Z Pass account, if so requested by the new
2 or current New Hampshire E-Z Pass holder.

3 5 Repeal. RSA 237:11, V, relative to the E-Z Pass discount on established tolls on any of the New
4 Hampshire turnpike system, is repealed.

5 6 Manchester I-293 Projects Added.

6 I. The project named Manchester Project #16099A, to reconstruct and widen Exit 6 on I-293 in
7 Manchester, shall be added to the 2027-2036 10-year transportation improvement plan with
8 \$146,888,734.

9 II. The project named Manchester Project #16099B, to reconstruct and widen Exit 7 on I-293 in
10 Manchester, shall be added to the 2027-2036 10-year transportation improvement plan with \$74,902,494.

11 7 Bow-Concord Project Added. The project named Bow-Concord Project # 13742: Interstate 93
12 widening from south of Interstate 89 to Merrimack River Bridge shall be added to the 2027-2036 10-year
13 transportation improvement plan with \$285,849,979.

14 8 Projects Added. The following projects shall be added to the 2027 - 2036 10-year transportation
15 improvement plan with \$68,547,475:

16 I. Randolph Project: Installation of left-turn lane for US 2 eastbound traffic at Randolph Hill Road
17 and left-turn lane for US 2 westbound traffic at Raycrest Drive.

18 II. Enfield Project: Construct a roundabout to address road skew/offset, reduce conflict points,
19 reduce pedestrian crossing length and number, promote lower speeds and traffic calming, support
20 operational efficiency, and improve multi-modal safety.

21 III. Plymouth Project: Improve sight distance and provide bicycle and pedestrian access on US 3.

22 IV. Marlborough Project: Stormwater and Pedestrian Infrastructure Improvements.

23 V. Hillsborough Project: Henniker Street Improvements.

24 VI. Madbury Project: Intersection safety improvements to NH 9 and French Cross Road
25 intersection.

26 VII. Hooksett Project: Intersection Improvements at I-93 Exit 11 and Hackett Hill Road.

27 VIII. Plaistow Project: NH 121 A (Main Street) and North Avenue intersection improvements.

28 IX. Nashua Project: Ledge Street improvements, reconstructing approximately 200 feet of Canal
29 retaining wall, approximately 475 feet of guardrail, and approximately 1,000' of sidewalk.

30 X. Dover-Somersworth-Rochester Project # 29604: Complete streets improvements on NH 108
31 from Indian Brook Road to Innovation Drive.

32 XI. Dunbarton Project # 43535: Improvements to the intersection of NH 113. NH 77 and Jewett
33 Road.

34 9 New Boston; Gregg Mill Road Bridge; Land Transfer.

35 I. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, and in the interest of public safety
36 and welfare, the following interests in land acquired by the state under the land conservation investment
37 program, recorded at Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds Book 5446, Page 855, shall be transferred to
38 the town of New Boston for the purpose of reconstructing the Gregg Mill Road Bridge:

39 (a) A permanent slope and structure easement of approximately 1,550 square feet on the
40 parcel identified on the Town of New Boston Tax Map as Map 6, Lot 12-1.

1 (b) A permanent slope and structure easement of approximately 750 square feet and a
2 temporary construction easement of approximately 1,290 square feet expiring one year from project
3 completion on the parcel identified on the Town of New Boston Tax Map as Map 6, Lot 13.

4 II. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the department of natural and
5 cultural resources and the town of New Boston may agree to additional transfers under a signed
6 memorandum of agreement that are necessary to ensure the Gregg Mill Road Bridge is reconstructed.
7 The council on resources and development, established under RSA 162-C, shall be notified of any
8 additional transfers within 60 days of execution.

9 III. Compensation due to the state shall be the full fair market value of the interests transferred
10 under paragraphs I and II, as determined by an appraisal completed by an appraiser licensed in the state
11 of New Hampshire and approved by the department of natural and cultural resources. The appraisal shall
12 also be reviewed by the department in determining just compensation for such acquisitions. Alternative
13 compensation in the form of replacement land may be accepted provided all parties owning an interest in
14 the property agree to such terms. Any monetary compensation shall be deposited in the land
15 conservation endowment fund administered by the council on resources and development pursuant to
16 RSA 162-C:7 and used for the purposes of the land conservation investment program.

17 10 Effective Date.

18 I. Section 4 of this act shall take effect December 1, 2026.

19 II. Sections 3 and 5 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

20 III. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

21
22 VETOED July 10, 2026