STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
STATE HOUSE ANNEX
25 CAPITOL STREET, ROOM 234
CONCORD, NH 03301

Rulemaking Notice Form

Notice Number: 2026-34

Rule Number: Tra 501, Tra 502, and Tra 503

1. **Agency:** Department of Transportation
   7 Hazen Drive - PO Box 483
   Concord, NH 03302-0483

2. **RSA Authority:** RSA 234:5, RSA 235:14; RSA 541-A:16, I(b)

3. **Federal Authority:** 42 USC 4601-4655; 49 CFR 24.304

4. **Action(s):** Readopt w/Amendment

5. **Short Title:** Construction Aid and Relocation Services

6. **(a) Summary of what the rule says and of any proposed amendments including whether the rule implements a state statute for the first time:**

   Tra 501 and Tra 502 are being readopted with amendment, and set forth the procedures and criteria for a municipality to qualify for State financial contribution towards a road or bridge repair/replacement. The amendments update the references and standard guides to specify current editions.

   Tra 503 is being readopted with amendment to establish a uniform process for persons displaced as a direct result of department programs or projects. Relocation assistance is intended to minimize the hardship of displaced persons. The amendment reflects that that the maximum reestablishment payment under 49 CFR 24.304 has increased from $10,000 to $33,200, which has no actual effect because state law, RSA 124-A:3, I(d), sets the maximum payment at $100,000.

   The rules are set to expire 2-22-26, but are subject to extension pursuant to RSA 541-A:14-a.

6. **(b) Brief description of the groups affected:**

Tra 501 and Tra 502 will affect each municipality that applies for State Bridge Aid and/or State Highway Aid.

Tra 503 will affect each person who is displaced by a department program or project, and applies for relocation assistance.

6. **(c) Specific section or sections of state statute or federal statute or regulation which the rule is intended to implement:**

RULE	STATUTE
Tra 501.01	RSA 234:5
Tra 501.02	RSA 234:2; RSA 234:5
Tra 501.03	RSA 234:5
Tra 501.04	RSA 234:2 - 4; RSA 266:18-b
Tra 501.05	RSA 234:5
Tra 501.06	RSA 234:5; RSA 234:12
Tra 501.07 (specific paragraphs implementing specific statutes are listed below)	RSA 234:5; RSA 234:12; RSA 234:14
Tra 501.07(e)-(f)	RSA 234:6
Tra 501.08-Tra 501.11	RSA 21-I:22; RSA 234:5
Tra 501.12	RSA 228:4, RSA 228:4-a; RSA 234:15
Tra 501.13 (specific paragraphs implementing specific statutes are listed below)	RSA 234:10; RSA 234:10-a, RSA 234:11; RSA 234:18
Tra 501.13(d)	RSA 234:16
Tra 501.13(f)	RSA 234:17
Tra 501.14	RSA 21-I:22; RSA 234:5
Tra 501.15	RSA 234:5; RSA 234:15
Tra 502.01-Tra 502.12	RSA 235:14
Tra 502.13 (specific paragraphs implementing specific statutes are listed below)	RSA 235:15
Tra 502.13(a)	RSA 235:15; RSA 235:21
Tra 502.13(e)	RSA 235:17
Tra 502.14-Tra 502.15	RSA 235:14
Tra 503.01	RSA 124-A:1; RSA124-A:14; 42 USC Sections 4601-4655; 49 CFR Part 24; RSA 498-A
Tra 503.02	RSA 21-L:1; RSA 541-A:29, II; RSA 541-A:31

7. **Contact person for copies and questions including requests to accommodate persons with disabilities:**

Name: Steve LaBonte	**Title:** Chief of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Address: 7 Hazen Drive - PO Box 483 Concord, NH 03302-0483	**Phone Number:** (603) 271-1698
	FAX Number: (603) 271-3914
	Email: stephen.g.labonte@dot.nh.gov

8. **Deadline for submission of materials in writing or, if practicable for the agency, in the electronic format specified:**

   Thursday, March 5, 2026

   _ **Fax**
   X **Email** stephen.g.labonte@dot.nh.gov
   _ **Other**

9. **Public hearing scheduled for:**
   Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026
   Time: 10:30 AM
   Place: NH Dept. of Transportation

   7 Hazen Drive, Room 112/113
   Concord, NH 03301

   Electronic Access, if applicable: N/A

10. **Fiscal Impact Statement (Prepared by Legislative Budget Assistant):**

    FIS #: 25:305, dated: 2025-12-11

    1. Comparison of the costs of the proposed rule(s) to the existing rule(s):

    There is no difference in costs when comparing the proposed rules to the existing rules.

    2. Cite the Federal mandate. Identify the impact on state funds:

    No federal mandate, no impact on state funds.

    3. Cost and benefits of the proposed rule(s):

    In 2024, 49 CFR 24.304 was amended to increase the maximum re-establishment payment to $33,200. The proposed amendment to Tra 503.01, (b), reflects this change. There is no cost or benefit attributable to this proposal.

A. To State general or State special funds:

None.

B. To State citizens and political subdivisions:

None.

C. To independently owned businesses:

None.

11. **Statement Relative to Part I, Article 28-a of the N.H. Constitution:**

These rules do not mandate or assign any new, expanded, or modified programs or responsibility to any political subdivision in such a way as to necessitate additional local expenditures by the political subdivision. Municipalities opt to participate in the programs set forth in Tra 501 and Tra 502. Municipalities do not participate in the process established under Tra 503. These rules do not violate Part 1, Article 28-a of the NH Constitution.