CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

UPDATE from the City Manager for Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Governor Sununu's "Stay At Home 2.0" order and guidelines remain in effect through May 31, 2020. Phased Business Reopening began with retail on May 11 and outdoor dining May 18. For the full list of and links to the Governor's Executive Orders, click here:
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-05/GovOrders%202020.05.21.pdf

APPLY BY END OF TODAY FOR CITIZEN RESPONSE TASK FORCE -- Assistant Mayor Jim Splaine and Councilor Deaglan McEachern proposed the formation of Portsmouth Citizen Response Task Force. In their guest editorial outlining the idea, https://www.seacoastonline.com/opinion/20200515/guest-view-covid-19-establishing-portsmouth-citizen-response-task-force they suggested the Task Force would help in three ways: 1. Expand the information available to city staff; 2. Improve the adoption and adherence of proposed policies, and; 3. De-politicize what should be a factual-based discussion." The Councilors approved the motion unanimously. The Task Force of nineteen members selected by the Mayor will include representatives of the business community, restaurant owners and managers, non-profit organizations from the arts community and health services, citizens, members of the Economic Development Commission, health care professionals, and city staff members including the City Manager and Health Officer. For the application, click here. **Email completed form to klbarnaby@cityofportsmouth.com. Deadline to apply is May 26, 2020.**
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-05/REV%20Citizens%20Task%20Force%20Application.pdf

VIRTUAL MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Tuesday, May 26 at 6:45 pm School Board. For Agenda and zoom registration information, click here. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1t1hwpKaGBNA5qPD_SPrLbeLTGIJF2mSn/view

Tuesday, May 26 at 6:30 pm Police Commission. For Agenda and zoom registration information, click here. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/police/events/police-commission-15

Tuesday, May 26 at 7 pm ZBA. For Agenda and zoom registration information, click here. http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/agendas/2020/boa/05-26-2020_BOA_AG.pdf

Wednesday, May 27 at 6 pm Recreation Board. For Agenda and zoom registration information, click here. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/events/recreation-board-meeting-0

Thursday, May 28 at 6:30 pm City Council Work Session on FY21 Budget. For Agenda and zoom registration information, click here. Watch for the Agenda and zoom registration instructions.
For the FY21 Budget, click here http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/finance/fy21/FY21ProposedBudget.pdf
For the interactive guide to the FY21 Budget, click here.
http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/finance/fy21/FY21BudgetLinkTutorial.pdf

UPDATED LIST OF OUTDOOR DINING RESTAURANTS -- The Business Reopening Work Group, with ongoing input from individual restaurateurs and retail business owners, has detailed a preliminary set of working guidelines designed to translate the Governor's outlines into fair and practical steps to re-open Portsmouth for outdoor dining. As of this afternoon, the following 43 restaurants had received approval for various outdoor dining arrangements, though not all plan to open immediately. **Always check first, as many have specific reservations requirements.**

BG's Boathouse
Bibimbap, LLC (dba Street)
Botanica
Bratskellar/Dinnerhorn
BRGR Bar
Café Nostimo
Colby's Breakfast & Lunch
Cornerstone West End
Dough Craft Pizza
Earth Eagle Brewings
Elephantine Bakery
Five Guys Burgers & Fries
Geno's Chowder and Sandwich Shop
Great Rhythm Brewing Company
Hebert's Restaurant
Jittos
Lazy Jacks
Liars Bench Beer Co.
Loaded Question
Luigi's West End Pizzeria
Martingale Wharf LLC
MoJo's BBQ
Mombo Restaurant
Ninety-Nine Restaurant
Paddy's American Grille
Popovers
Portsmouth Brewery
Portsmouth Gas Light Co.
Portsmouth Lodge of Elks 97
Raleigh Wine Bar + Eatery
River House
Rooftop @ Envio
Roundabout Diner
Rudi's
Surf Restaurant
The Beach Plum
The District
The kitchen eatery
The Oar House
The Shanty
Vida Cantina
West End Pizzeria
Wing-itz

The group is working with three different subgroups:

- **Restaurants already permitted for outdoor dining** should submit their outdoor seating arrangements and compliance with the new public health guidelines checklist to the Health Department. Click here for details. (https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/portsmouth-health-department-guidelines-related-outdoor-dining-during-covid-19-emergency)
- **Restaurants seeking to offer outdoor dining on private property not already permitted** must receive a Building Permit from the Building Inspection. This one permit incorporates both Fire and Health

Department review, the checklist and outdoor seating arrangement plan. For the Viewpoint portal application, click here. https://portsmouthnh.viewpointcloud.com/categories/1071/record-types/6408)

- **Restaurants requesting new outdoor dining use of space in the public realm**. The Work Group is also in discussions with restaurants and others examining other proposals for additional outdoor dining, and will report to City Council at their June 1 meeting for further discussion.

NEW: DEADLINE JUNE 1 FOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION, 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR -- If your child will be 5 years old on or before September 30, 2020, they will be eligible to register for the 2020-2021 school year. Click here https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/kindergarten-registration-and-new-student-enrollment to launch the online registration system. (Please note: the online registration system is not supported to work with smart phones at this time.) If you have any questions, need assistance or run into technical problems filling out the registration, please send an email to Michael Parr (District Database Manager) mparr@sau52.org. For Kindergarten questions, please contact the school:

- Dondero – Ms. Karen Riley (603) 436-2231
- New Franklin – Ms. Kim Kumph (603) 436-0910
- Little Harbour – Ms. Joy Workman-Mueller (603) 436-1708

NEW: CELEBRATE-A-SENIOR -- Shower the graduating Class of 2020 with some extra love this year, for all that they have been through, and all that they have missed out on! Seniors have filled out a short form describing themselves and their interests, with things like; snacks they like, future plans, local places they like to eat, activities they enjoy, etc. Now, community members can anonymously "Celebrate-A-Senior" (or two, or five, or more) by creating and donating a gift basket/bag/package based on their interests. Or make a donation by check, payable to Celebration Graduation and mail to Christine Groleau, Attn: Celebration Graduation, 30 Oakwood Drive, Portsmouth NH 03801

1. Go to the website at: https://www.phs-celebrate-a-senior.com/
2. Choose one or more seniors and receive their interest form(s).
3. Put together a goody basket based on the form and return it to Portsmouth High School during one of these times:
    - Saturday, May 30, 8 -11 am
    - Monday, June 1, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm and 5-7 pm
    - Wednesday, June 3, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm and 5-7 pm
    - Friday, June 5, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm and 5-7 pm
    - Saturday, June 6, 8-11 am

FACE MASK DRIVE CONTINUES! Drop-off or Pick-up Donations of Cloth Masks for Seniors: Thurs May 28, 1-2 pm -- The City of Portsmouth Senior Services is collecting and distributing donated homemade masks to seniors and other individuals in need throughout the community. All donations should be brought to the Community Campus tennis court parking lot. Drive up and leave the masks in the box. Brinn Sullivan, Senior Services Supervisor will be on site to collect them. Contact 603-767-2697 to coordinate or if you have any questions. If these times do not work, please call. All homemade masks will be washed before being distributed. **If you need a cloth face mask, homemade masks can be mailed to those who could not attend the Distribution Drives.** Please email or call Brinn Sullivan, Senior Services Manager, and she will mail you a mask. 603-767-2697. bsullivan@cityofportsmouth.com **For more information on cloth face masks and how to wear them, click here.**

DEADLINE MAY 29 TO APPLY FOR GOVERNOR SUNUNU'S MAIN STREET RELIEF PROGRAM – For information, click here. Emergency financial relief to New Hampshire small for-profit businesses due to the economic disruption caused by COVID-19. **The prequalifying form** (click here) **with the required information must be filed by May 29th.** https://new-hampshire.secure.force.com/support/GOV_GOFERR_Business_Survey The fund will be administered by the Department of Revenue. In order to be eligible, a business must have its principal place of business in New Hampshire and must have generated less than $20 million in revenue during the 2019 tax year. **Every eligible New Hampshire small business desiring relief must submit the prequalification form with all required information by May 29, 2020.**

MONDAY, JUNE 1 CITY HALL REOPENING -- City Hall will reopen to the public for appointments and walk-ins on Monday, June 1. When it opens, City Hall will be limited to 50 percent occupancy. Walk-ins will be greeted at the front door, with new protocols in place, which include:

- Visitors will be required to wear a cloth mask while in City Hall.
- Masks will be provided if the visitor does not bring one.
- If the department the visitor wants to visit is already at capacity, that person will be asked to wait in a physical-distancing queue in the Portsmouth Room, adjacent to City Council Chambers.

Appointments are still recommended. Priority will be given to seniors and immune-impaired residents for appointments.

NEW: PARKING CLERK'S OFFICE MOVING TO FOUNDRY PLACE GARAGE ON JUNE 1 – In keeping with City Hall physical-distancing protocols when it reopens to the public, the Parking Clerk's office will move to Foundry Place Garage to help avoid congestion at City Hall. As of June 1st, 2020, all *in-person* Parking Clerk services will be handled at Foundry Place Garage. Parking services payments can still be made by mail or through the City's website at https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/parkportsmouth/pay-or-appeal-parking-tickets For convenience, those visiting the Parking Clerk's office at Foundry Place Garage can use the designated 30-minute parking spaces near the traffic circle on Foundry Place or park in the garage, at no charge. Those parking in the garage will have their tickets validated for 30 minutes to cover parking charges incurred during their visit to the Clerk's office. For more information, visit https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/parkportsmouth

PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY RETURNS JUNE 1 & CURBSIDE PICKUP JUNE 8 -- Starting **June 1, you will be able to return materials** to Portsmouth Public Library! Starting June 8, the library will offering curbside pickup by appointment. These services will be offered within reduced hours. Please click here https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/curbside for more information and guidelines.

ClipperStrong.org NOW LIVE– Click here to make a Clipper Strong Fund tax deductible donation. **Donations by check may be mailed to the Clipper Strong Fund c/o Coastal Economic Development Corporation, 4 Merrill Industrial Drive, Suite 201, Hampton NH 03842. https://www.clipperstrong.org**

DEADLINE JUNE 2 TO MAKE PARTY AFFILIATION CHANGES -- In accordance with Section 18 of Executive Order 2020-04 as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05 and 2020-08, **to change political party affiliation a voter must complete this application, sign it in front of a witness, and mail it by the deadline to the City Clerk's Office, 1 Junkins Avenue, Portsmouth, NH 03801. http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/files/cityclerk/partyaff-form.pdf** Due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, the New Hampshire Secretary of State has provided guidance on additional provisions for voters in upcoming elections. For the Secretary of State's memo, click here. The State Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. Party affiliation changes WILL NOT be accepted after June 2, 2020. **https://www.governor.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt336/files/documents/20200410-absentee-voting.pdf**

ASSISTANCE RESOURCES UPDATE

- **GATHER, our local food pantry,** hours are Mon, Tues, Wed: 10 am – 3 pm at 210 West Road #3 in Portsmouth. Thurs: *Closed*. Fri: 9am-1pm at Community Campus, 100 Campus Drive in Portsmouth. **: Open-Air Market for laid-off workers, Thursdays 10 am to 3 pm** at Community Campus, 100 Campus Drive in Portsmouth. Food donations always welcome.

- **Operation Blessings** d**rive-up food pantry** at 600a Lafayette Rd. Wed-Fri, 10am to 4pm, for Portsmouth residents only. For more information, please call 603-430-8561. **Senior mobile food pantry** to the residents of the Portsmouth area, ages 62 and up, Mon-Sat 10am-4pm. Anyone who is interested please contact Tammy Joslyn at 603-988-2671. **Operation Blessings clothing and household item donations site reopened Wednesday, May 20. Showers formerly offered by Operation Blessings are now available at the YMCA on Peverly Hill Road.**

- **Meals on Wheels** makes deliveries to Portsmouth seniors on Monday, Wednesday and Friday with the extra meals for Tuesday and Thursday included in the delivery. Additionally, they will continue to deliver extra shelf-stable food and frozen meals, just in case. New customers are still being accepted, so please call 603-431-0561 to complete an application over the phone.

- **The Portsmouth School Department daily lunches, continues Monday through Friday through June for local schoolchildren**. See the schedule for pickup and drop-off, **here**. The School Department is also working with End 68 Hours of Hunger to supply weekend meals to food-insecure children.

- **Cross Roads House, emergency shelter had to cancel its annual fundraiser** which usually brings in $400,000 in donations to support the population it serves. For more information about how you can help, including their Wish List, click here. https://www.crossroadshouse.org/want-to-help/

- **"STAY CONNECTED NH" INITIATIVE** from the NH Financial Exploitation Specialist Team is an outreach campaign regarding elder exploitation abuse, neglect, and/or scams. Portsmouth Police Department Community Outreach Coordinator Detective Rochelle Jones recommends the resources on this website and says it is an easy to navigate tool for seniors, their loved ones, law enforcement, agencies, and any citizen in need of guidance. www.stayconnectednh.org

TESTING: The NH Department of Health & Human Services is now coordinating COVID-19 testing appointments at one of the several testing clinics established throughout the state, for anyone who calls. That testing coordinating office phone number is 603-271-5980. For FAQs about testing in New Hampshire, click here. https://www.nh.gov/covid19/resources-guidance/testing-guidance.htm In addition, the Rite-Aid at 1390 Lafayette Road in Portsmouth is providing free by-appointment testing for COVID-19 to anyone age 18 or over. For more information, click here. https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/services/covid-19-testing

COAST BUS SERVICE RESUMED -- COAST has resumed fixed route bus services (Routes 1, 2, 6, 40, 41, 100-103) and Route 7 On Demand, as staffing allows. Passengers should restrict use to essential transportation needs (work, groceries or medical needs) and are also encouraged to wear face masks. Drivers sit behind clear barriers and have their own protective gear. For more information, click here. https://coastbus.org/COVID-19

DPW PROJECTS THIS WEEK. For the latest on individual projects, click here and then on the Projects tab. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks

- **WATER LINE FLUSHING --** The Water Division has begun the twice-annual, routine flushing of the City's fire hydrants and 190 miles of water mains to remove sediment buildup. The work is ongoing for the next six to eight weeks, Monday through Thursday, between 7 and 11 pm. The flushing operation covers both public and private hydrants in Portsmouth, New Castle, Rye, Greenland and Newington. Crews open select fire hydrants, releasing water with enough velocity to carry sediment out of the pipes. While flushing can result in discolorations to tap water, customers can use cold water to flush their lines and the water remains safe to drink. If the discoloration persists, customers should contact the Water Division though the Click 'n Fix system to ensure prompt response.
- **ISLINGTON STREET** detour is in place for one-way, inbound/easterly traffic between the bridge over the Bypass to Aldrich Road and outbound/westerly traffic, detoured down Aldrich. Sewer and sidewalk work on the Aldrich this week. For map, click here. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/islington-street-corridor-reconstruction-project
- **MARKET STREET & KEARSARGE WAY BRIDGES:** Final landscaping and other details are being completed on the Market Street gateway park. Kearsarge Way Bridge is being reduced to one lane, with alternating traffic directed by temporary traffic signals. Market Street between the Sarah Long Bridge and the Noble's Island traffic signal is being reduced to one lane in each direction. For the full presentation on the project, click here. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBTsRp4Pemo
- **CITY HALL PARKING LOT AND DRIVEWAY REPAVING – Both driveways and the upper parking lot are affected so Mount Vernon Street may fee occasional two-way traffic from the Police Department.**
- **CORPORATE DRIVE AT PEASE:** Road work this week.
- **DEER STREET/BRIDGE STREET:** Water and sewer pipe work nearing completion. Electric work and lighting is up next.
- **SIDE STREETS OFF PLEASANT –** Affecting Richmond and Livermore. Equipment staged, as before, on Edmunds.
- **BOW STREET REPAVING & SIDEWALK WORK:** Daniel Street to Chapel Street will be closed to through-traffic and no parking will be allowed in that section. A flagger will be in place to direct traffic around the Penhallow Street detour. The rest of Bow St. is unaffected.

- **MAPLEWOOD AVE DETOUR NOW IN PLACE.** Click here for details. Work has resumed for the season. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-05/2020-05-18%20-%20Maplewood%20Detour.pdf
- **PRESCOTT PARK DOCK RAILING replacement work continues.** The dock remains closed.

Instead of repeating the long list of COVID-related resources each day, you can now find them all collected on one City website page! Click here. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/covid-19-resources

Sign up for the Daily Advisory, here. The latest news is always at the top, in red.

STAY SAFE! STAY AT HOME! DO NOT CONGREGATE

For answers to other questions about the City's response to COVID-19, please email: hotline@cityofportsmouth.com

For more information, visit City's page on COVID-19.