CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

UPDATE from the City Manager for Monday, June 22, 2020

Governor Sununu's "Stay At Home" order has expired, replaced by "Safer At Home." For the full details on the Governor's Executive Orders, click here: http://www.nh.gov/covid19

PROJECT COOLAIR FOR SENIORS – The return of hot, humid weather is a reminder for those 60+ and anyone whose health is adversely affected by the heat to be prepared before an emergency develops. Often, those in need of air conditioning "do without" because they do not have the funds or know where to seek assistance. Through Project CoolAir, Area HomeCare https://areahomecare.org/index.php/programs/project-coolair/makes air conditioners available to low income, medically-challenged and 60+ residents in Rockingham County. Make arrangements now rather than waiting for a critical need to develop. For more information, contact Ellen Tully at City Hall:610-7267 or WFDept@cityofportsmouth.com

MONDAY, JUNE 22

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING, Monday, June 22 at 6:30 pm via Zoom. Continuation of June 15 meeting and Budget resolutions. For Agenda, Packet and Zoom registration instructions, click here. http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/agendas/2020/citycouncil/cc062220ag.pdf

UPDATED LIST OF OUTDOOR DINING, TAKEOUT AND RESTAURANTS PERMITTED FOR INDOOR DINING – For the list of restaurants offering takeout and/or that have received approval for various outdoor and/or indoor dining arrangements, click here. **Please note that not all plan to open immediately. Always check first, as many have specific reservations requirements.**
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/restaurants-takeout-outdoor-dining

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

CITIZEN RESPONSE TASK FORCE – FOUNDRY PLACE ROOFTOP SUBCOMMITTEE NEIGHBORHOOD Q&A, 5:30 pm by Zoom. Click here for Zoom registration details.
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/events/foundry-garage-rooftop-project-q

The Task Force and subgroups working on the two different areas are meeting almost daily with City staff including DPW, Planning, Health, Fire, Police, Inspections and the City Manager to facilitate functional plans. **DOWNTOWN BUSINESS OWNERS** who would like to participate in the planning, please send an email with your contact information to hotline@cityofportsmouth.com **The Downtown Streets sub-group plans to meet by Zoom on Thursday, June 18 at 2 pm.**

- **Public Realm Spaces for Restaurants** – Concepts for use of public spaces are being advanced in conjunction with Fire, Police, Building, Planning and DP. Public realm requests will be received through City's Viewpermit system (Sidewalk Café Application), pending additional Task Force decision-making. Restaurants and retail can go ahead and submit, approvals to follow. The use of these spaces is subject to City area service agreement insurance details and Health Department requirements for physical distancing. https://portsmouthnh.viewpointcloud.com/categories/1082/record-types/6431

- **For more information, visit the Citizen Response Task Force web page**, that provides the materials and resources the committee is using. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/citizen-response-

task-force All meetings are conducted publicly via zoom and are posted in advance on the City website homepage. To contact the Citizen Response Task Force, email via hotline@cityofportsmouth.com

CLIPPER STRONG FUND CARE PACKAGES -- The initial distribution is being planned to meet demand during this round on a first-come, first-served basis. **Portsmouth businesses should email hotline@cityofportsmouth.com to request a Clipper Strong Care Package and include their locations**. For more information on the Clipper Strong Fund, click here. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/clipper-strong-fund **Click here to make a Clipper Strong Fund tax deductible donation to support Portsmouth's small businesses**. 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**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

NEW SERVICES & NEW HOURS FROM THE LIBRARY -- Beginning Wednesday, the library will offer computer use and individual study space by appointment. Call the library's Reference Desk at (603) 766-1720 to sign up. Click here to learn more. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/appointments The library continues to offer curbside pickup for items placed on hold and for documents printed remotely for curbside pickup. Click here https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/curbside to learn how to place holds, submit print jobs and schedule a pickup time. **The library's hours will also change beginning Wednesday, June 24. It will be open 11 am to 7 pm Monday and Tuesday; 11 am to 5 pm Wednesday to Friday; and will be closed Saturday to Sunday.** Please note that the library building is not open to those without an appointment, and no library users will to be allowed to browse the library shelves at this time. Library staff is working hard to make these services available, and appreciates your support and patience!

BANFIELD ROAD WORK FOR GAS LINE, BETWEEN HERITAGE AVE & OCEAN ROAD – Alternating single lanes of traffic. Flaggers in place.

PORTSMOUTH RECREATION DEPARTMENT BOUTIQUE PROGRAMS FOR KIDS -- The Portsmouth Recreation Department will be offering a session of boutique programs this summer. Each program will run twice a week for six weeks, with a specific focus that allows for maximum social distancing. The programs are for Portsmouth residents only and are free of charge. Children will be kept in pods of eight, with a maximum of four pods per program. Physical distancing and hand sanitizing procedures will be in place, along with encouraging use of masks by participants. The programs include hiking and running clubs, multi-sport, kids' fitness, arts & crafts, Legos and more. Click here for the full program listing and schedule. www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation

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, Monday through Thursday, between 7 and 11 pm for the next 2 weeks. 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. 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
- **SIDE STREETS OFF PLEASANT:** Affecting Richmond and Livermore. Equipment staged, as before, on Edmunds.
- **PRESCOTT PARK DOCK RAILING replacement work continues.** The dock remains closed.

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. CVS on Lafayette Road in Hampton is now also accepting appointments for testing. 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

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 Advisory, here. The latest news is always at the top, in red.

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.