CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

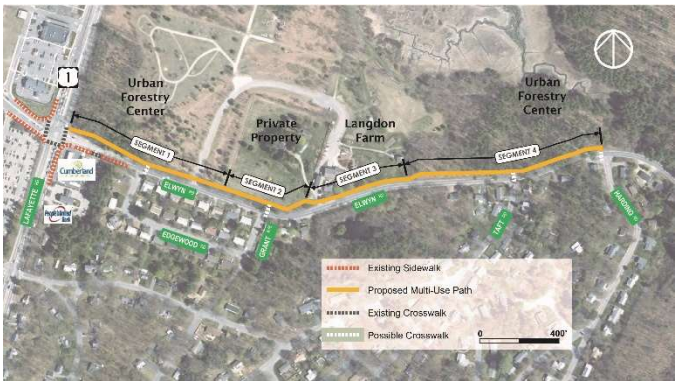
City Newsletter
Monday, September 13, 2021

DEADLINE TODAY: SEP 13 at 6 pm TO FILE FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN PORTSMOUTH -- For more information, click here. https://tinyurl.com/arjchzcw

TONIGHT: NEW FRANKLIN/JEWELS NEIGHBORHOOD SOUND BARRIERS SITE WALK WITH CITY COUNCIL -- MON SEP 13 at 5 pm. Meet at New Franklin School.

PORTSMOUTH CITYWIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE

TOMORROW: CITYWIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE WARD 2 FORUM, TUES SEP 14 at 6:30 pm -- In person at Portsmouth Middle School or via Zoom. For the Agenda and Zoom registration, click here. https://tinyurl.com/pbmrpctn



WED SEP 15 ELWYN ROAD SIDE PATH PROPOSED ACTION PUBLIC MEETING, 6 pm In person in City Hall Council Chambers or via Zoom. For the Zoom registration, click here: https://tinyurl.com/65zr2aba The purpose of the project is to add a multi-use side path for bicycles and pedestrians along Elwyn Road extending from Route 1 to Harding Road. The intent of the meeting is to collect input from the public, municipal officials, regulatory and resource agencies, and abutting property owners on their ideas and concerns relative to the alternatives considered and the proposed action selected. A review of the existing site conditions, design considerations, construction materials, and schedule will be followed by a question, answer, and comment period.



MOBILE VACCINE SITE WED SEP 15 IN MARKET SQ. 8 am - 1 pm. 3RD DOSE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR IMMUNOCOMPROMISED INDIVIDUALS -- The free vaccine site in Market Sq. (Pleasant St.) can provide the 3rd dose of Moderna or Pfizer to those who qualify as immunocompromised patients, *only*. **First and second doses of Moderna and Pfizer are always available, free and without an appointment, as is the Johnson & Johnson.** ALSO free vaccination site during Market Square Day on September 18, 9 am to 4 pm at the corner of Congress and Fleet Streets.

BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON HEALTH UPDATES POST-VACCINATION FAQs & MASKS IN CITY BUILDINGS – For the latest information on breakthrough infections and third doses of vaccine, click here: https://tinyurl.com/uurbmrse

PETER BRITZ NAMED INTERIM ACTING PLANNING DIRECTOR – City Manager Karen Conard has appointed Peter Britz as the Interim Acting Director of the Planning Department. Peter joined the Portsmouth Planning Department in 2000, as Environmental Planner for the City, having served as an environmental consultant working in NH and Massachusetts Peter joined the Portsmouth Planning Department in 2000 as Environmental Planner for the City, having served as an environmental consultant working in NH and Massachusetts. In 2008, with sustainability efforts becoming a priority for the City, he was named Sustainability Coordinator. In that role, his responsibilities include serving as Planning Department liaison to the Blue Ribbon Committee on Sustainable Practices, which is dedicated to improving residents' awareness of initiatives the City pursues as an Eco-Municipality.

From 1996 to 1999, he worked for Fishman Environmental Services in Portland, Oregon, as a coastal and natural resource planner. He holds a Master's degree in Marine Affairs from the University of Washington and a BA from Middlebury College in VT.

MCINTYRE PROJECT SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE: The McIntyre Subcommittee met on September 8, 2021. This statement was provided by Councilor Peter Whelan, Subcommittee Chair: "This afternoon the McIntyre Project Subcommittee held a productive virtual meeting with the National Park Service. The Subcommittee presented the draft citizen community plan (which has not changed since it was approved by the City Council on May 4, 2021) and got valuable feedback from the National Park Service. This is the start of a collaborative process to arrive at a plan that meets the National Park Service standards."
For the presentation prepared for the National Park Service review click here:
https://tinyurl.com/55rpcfn8



MOSQUITO AND TICK SEASON! TAKE PRECAUTIONS -- The most effective prevention against mosquito or tick-borne illness is personal protection. Take these steps to protect yourself from mosquito bites:

- stay indoors during the peak times of dawn and dusk
- use insect repellent according to the manufacturer's instructions (especially when using repellents on children);
- wear long-sleeved, light-colored shirts and pants;
- treat your clothing and gear with repellent; and
- take steps to control mosquitoes indoors and outdoors by maintaining screens and eliminating standing water, to avoid unnecessary breeding of mosquitoes on your property.

PRO PORTSMOUTH MARKET SQUARE DAY RETURNS SAT SEP 18, 9 am to 4 pm. For more information, click here.
https://proportsmouth.org/events/market-square-day/ **PLEASE NOTE: The Market Square Day/10K Road Race parking ban will be in effect on Sat Sep 18 from 4 am to 7 pm.** For the map of affected streets, click here:
https://tinyurl.com/3jan4xbd

NEXT WEEK:

ADVANCE NOTICE: MEMORIAL BRIDGE WILL BE CLOSED FOR INSPECTION, TUES SEP 21, 6 am - 4 pm. (Rain date Sep 22.)

SAVE THE DATE: "TESTING FOR PEASE" PFAS STUDY LUNCH & LEARN VIA ZOOM, WED SEP 22, 12-12:45 PM – Hear from Andrea Amico, Testing for Pease and Portsmouth Safe Water Advisory Group (SWAG) chair; Dr. Laurel Schaider, PFAS-REACH study/Silent Spring Institute and SWAG member; and Tarah Somers, The Pease Study, CDC/ATSDR. Free and open to the public. All attendees entered in a raffle for an Amazon gift card. For the Zoom registration click here:
https://tinyurl.com/29nyb666 For more information email info@testingforpeace.com or visit
https://pfas-exchange.org/childrenstudy/



SAVE THE DATE! SKATEBOARD PARK PUBLIC INPUT MEETING SEP 22 at 6 PM -- In person or via Zoom. For Zoom registration, click here: https://tinyurl.com/4dwjxuhs

DPW CONSTRUCTION
For more information on construction projects in the city, visit the DPW page on the City website, then click on the Projects tab for a dropdown menu that links to an individual page for each project with updates, project background and an opt-in email list. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks

ISLINGTON STREET PROJECT -- **Columbia Street Area: occasional 15-minute water service interruptions** to connect buildings to the new water main. Residents will be notified in advance.

CHEVROLET AVE – Striping this week.



95 MECHANIC STREET SEAWALL RECONSTRUCTION – Small material deliveries throughout the week. Cofferdam sheeting is being installed with vibratory hammers, all day Monday to Friday. For more information and to subscribe to email updates on the project, click here: https://tinyurl.com/w48zy332

BANFIELD ROAD -- Culvert replacement, sidewalk and traffic calming: PConcrete sidewalk to be poured Tues between Heritage and Ocean Road. **Paving completed Fri:** Work this week to complete driveway aprons and place gravel on the shoulders of the section of Banfield from Peverly Hill Road to Constitution Ave. **A single-lane traffic pattern is in effect for both areas, with flaggers in the construction areas, on weekdays between 7 am and 5 pm.**

DENNETT STREET – Gas main replacement work continues. DPW will be able to complete their project when Unitil is finished, with project completion by the end of October.

MAPLEWOOD AVE --. Miscellaneous work on punchlist items will continue on an intermittent basis until the project has reached final completion at the end of September.

PLEASANT ST. – Prepare Melcher and Richmond for paving next week.

INTERESTED IN LOCAL COMMUNITY TV? COMMISSION VACANCY – The Cable Television and Communications Commission, is seeking Portsmouth residents as a regular member and an alternate. If you are interested in applying, please complete this application and submit it to the City Clerk's Office.

The following City Boards and Commissions also have vacancies:

- Building Code Board of Appeals, 1 regular member, pending submission of renewal application and 1 member qualified as an electrical engineer or master electrician
- Conservation Commission, 2 alternates
- Economic Development Commission, 4 regular members, pending submission of renewal applications
- Library Board of Trustees, 2 regular members, 1 pending submission of renewal application
- Historic District Commission, 1 alternate
- Parking and Traffic Safety Committee, 4 regular members, pending submission of renewal applications
- Planning Board, 1 alternate
- Sustainable Practices Blue Ribbon Committee is welcoming new members

PORTSMOUTH NH 400TH RESUMES PREPARATIONS FOR 2023 -- The Executive Team includes Managing Director Valerie Rochon, Community Engagement Officer Susan Labrie and City Manager Karen Conard, with City Finance, Legal and Public Information resources in support. The Executive Team is convening a Task Force to support the Portsmouth NH 400th and invites individuals, businesses and organizations who want to join the team to contact Valerie Rochon at hello@PortsmouthNH400.org

EMERGENCY RENTAL & UTILITIES ASSISTANCE – For more information on whether you qualify and how to apply for emergency funds available to renters in NH, click here: https://www.capnh.org/covid19 The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has also launched a new tool (https://tinyurl.com/4hawaxf4) that allows renters and landlords to find rental assistance programs in their area. Applications are handled through NH Community Action Partnership (CAP).



PROOF-OF-VACCINATIONS:
What should you do if you discover your vaccination is not recorded properly in the NH DHHS database? Or if you need more than your vaccination card because some travel destinations require the full record? Contact NHIIS (NH Immunization Information System) at 603-271-4028, by email at nhiis.support@dhhs.nh.gov or click here for the NH DHHS website https://tinyurl.com/rva3tphc for the immunization information system (NHIIS). On this site, you will be guided in selecting the correction forms for your PCP to verify your vaccine card, DOB, etc. You will need to get the form notarized and before sending it back to NHIIS. Once your record is corrected and you can request an official vaccine and immunization record. This record is the one that would be accepted when travelling if the vaccine card is not enough. For more answers to Frequently Asked Questions, click here (including US Health Dept/CDC guidance on booster shots).

FOR A LIST OF WALK-IN VACCINATION OPTIONS at hospitals and local pharmacy same-day sites, click here: https://tinyurl.com/kbvemrbk

I LOST MY PROOF-OF-VACCINATION CARD. NOW WHAT? All vaccination records are kept on file in the CDC National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) system. NH DHHS advises that you can replace a lost vaccination card in either of two ways:

1. Download and complete the vaccination card replacement request form here: https://tinyurl.com/4pj4chcz Note that the completed form MUST BE NOTARIZED before sending it back to NH DHHS.

2. If your healthcare provider has access to the NHIIS, ask him/her to print out the record directly from NHIIS.

For DHHS VACCINE FAQs, click here:
https://tinyurl.com/tkvaksnw

For Testing FAQs click here.
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/testing-faqs

For Ventilation FAQs click here.
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/ventilation-faqs

For more information, visit City's page on COVID-19: https://tinyurl.com/2ywcu6ab

CITY HALL FACEBOOK PAGE:
Like and follow us to get news as it's posted:
https://www.facebook.com/CityHallPortsmouthNH

Want to know more about what's happening in the City? Click on the QR code or link below to sign up for the City Newsletter and/or individual email lists for projects. https://tinyurl.com/y2p67par