

Peirce Island Treatment Plant Part of “Wastewater 303” Presentation

April 21, 2010

FOR MORE

INFORMATION:

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- PORTSMOUTH – The public is invited to learn more about the city’s ongoing Wastewater Master Plan efforts and options under study for a new or upgraded wastewater treatment plant at a “Wastewater 303” session Tuesday, April 27, in the third of a continuing series of information sessions.

The meeting, entitled “Wastewater 303” as a follow-up to the previous “Wastewater 101” and “Wastewater 202” sessions, will be held at 6:30 p.m. next Tuesday in the Library’s Levenson Room. City staff and consultants will discuss the status of the Master Plan, as well as the types of treatment technologies necessary to meet current and future permit requirements.

The Master Plan study is now focusing on two options: retrofit the existing Peirce Island facility or expand the Pease Tradeport Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The meeting is designed to respond to questions regarding the options and the impacts of each on the community, as well as take public input prior to the June 1 submission of the draft Wastewater Master Plan to the Environmental Protection Agency and NH Department of Environmental Services.

The three-year Master Plan effort will identify and study feasible alternatives for secondary treatment of wastewater, and recommend a final plan to replace or upgrade the Peirce Island Treatment Plant that will protect valuable natural resources and comply with federal Clean Water Act regulations.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in April 2007 issued a permit requiring the City to implement a higher level of treatment than is currently being achieved at the Peirce Island facility. Next Tuesday’s meeting is part of the process to study alternatives and recommend final plans for wastewater treatment that will meet the needs of the community for the next several decades with the most sustainable, environmentally sound and cost-effective solution.

Additional information about the Wastewater Master Plan Project can be found at www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks.