

City of
Portsmouth
Department of Public Works



MEMORANDUM

TO: Parking and Traffic Safety Committee and Staff
Chairman, Brad Lown
Member, Ted Gray
Member, Harold Whitehouse
Member, Ronald Cypher
Member, Shari Donnermeyer
Alternate Member, Mary Lou McElwain
City Manager, John Bohenko
Deputy Fire Chief, James Heinz
Police Captain, Frank Warchol

FROM: Peter H. Rice, Director of Public Works 

DATE: August 25, 2016

SUBJECT: PTS Action Item Status

The September 1, 2016, Parking and Traffic Safety Committee meeting has been cancelled due to staffing conflicts and a lack of emergent action items.

A brief summary of the status of current action items are noted below:

Islington St/Albany St Temporary Crosswalk: The City is working on finalizing the design for the Islington Street Corridor pilot crosswalk that will be installed on Islington Street near the intersection with Albany Street. Materials have been ordered and installation is expected to be completed in September. The trial period will be for 30-days and the City will collect traffic data and pedestrian counts in order to evaluate whether or not a permanent crosswalk would be feasible at that location.

Bike Corrals: The City staff continue to monitor use of the on-street bike parking (bicycle corrals) that were installed this year in two locations in the downtown. Both locations have been heavily used and staff has been asked to explore additional locations for bicycle corrals to consider for next season. A report back will be provided to the Committee later this year.

Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program: At the June PTS meeting, a preliminary presentation was provided to the PTS Committee regarding a variety of traffic calming measures that the City staff are considering in the development of a neighborhood traffic calming guidance program. Recently, staff have been asked to consider elimination of double yellow center lines on slow speed neighborhood streets as a means for calming traffic. Staff will be reporting back and seeking the PTS Committee members input on the proposed traffic calming program at a future meeting.

Motorcycle and Moped Parking: A test space has been located in front of Breaking New Grounds at 14 Market Square for motorcycle and moped parking. Work is being scheduled to install signage and stripping to convert one vehicle parking space into four spaces. After investigating, we learned no cement pad is required, and we can proceed with installation soon.

15-minute Parking Spaces: Staff is researching the relevance of 15-minute parking in our existing and future pay structures. Technologies that we are currently testing allow for 15-minute meters to be zoned for different rates after the related businesses close.

Water Country Traffic Study: Staff has been collecting Water Country traffic data throughout the summer. This data will be used to update the Water Country traffic model. A public meeting will be scheduled to review the findings once the data has been compiled and the traffic model is updated.

The next PTS meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2016.