

PORTSMOUTH
PARKING & TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M. – APRIL 5, 2018
CITY HALL – CONFERENCE ROOM A

ON-SITE COMMITTEE: Please meet on Tuesday, April 3rd at 8:00 A.M. in the upper parking lot at City Hall, 1 Junkins Avenue, to view the following location:

- Thaxter Road at Islington Street
-

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

V. PUBLIC COMMENT (15 MINUTES)

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Request to restrict parking along both sides of Thaxter Road within 150 feet of Islington Street, by Jesse Choquette. **Sample Motion: Move to have staff collect data, evaluate and report back with a recommendation.**

VII. OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

IX. INFORMATIONAL

- A. City public outreach process.
B. Quarterly accident report.
C. PTS open action items.
D. Vaughn Street parking and traffic restrictions during AC Hotel construction.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. July 5th PTS meeting is cancelled due to the Independence Day holiday.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Percentage of Fiscal Year Complete 58.33%
--

Totals Thru
February 28, 2018

FY 18

	Total	Budgeted	% of Budget
Parking Meter Fees	2,091,315.77	2,955,000.00	70.8%
Meter Space Rental	86,835.00	80,000.00	108.5%
Meter In Vehicle	78,416.56	95,000.00	82.5%
Parking Garage Revenue	1,618,233.82	2,400,000.00	67.4%
Garage Passes	928,737.00	1,350,000.00	68.8%
Pass Reinstatement	3,450.00	2,500.00	138.0%
Vaughan St Parking Facility	7,500.00	-	
Parking Violations	585,183.99	715,000.00	81.8%
Immobilization Administration Fee	12,150.00	15,000.00	81.0%
Summons Admin Fee	200.00	3,000.00	6.7%
Total FY 18 Parking	5,412,022.14	7,615,500.00	71.1%

	BUDGETED	
	5,203,195	68% Transfer to Parking Fund
	2,412,305	32% Funds Remaining in Gen Fund

VI.A. Request to restrict parking along both sides of Thaxter Road within 150 feet of Islington Street

From: Jesse Choquette [mailto:jvchoquette@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 12:09 PM
To: Eric B. Eby <ebeby@cityofportsmouth.com>
Subject: RE: Parking Question/Concern

Hello Eric,

I hope this message finds you well. I put together a couple of slides and photos in a powerpoint to support the proposed parking change on Thaxter Rd. I've attached that to this email. Please let me know if I should add any additional details or if you need any additional information. Thanks again for your help with this.

Jesse Choquette
(603) 828-5797

From: [Eric B. Eby](#)
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 1:32 PM
To: [Jesse Choquette](#)
Subject: RE: Parking Question/Concern

Jesse

Yes, any additional info or pictures you would like to submit would be helpful. It is a public meeting and your attendance to support the request is recommended but not required. The Committee will conduct a site visit two days prior to the meeting, then at the meeting either refer it to me for a report back and recommendation, or they could make a decision right then and there at the meeting.

Eric

From: Jesse Choquette [mailto:jvchoquette@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 3:08 PM
To: Eric B. Eby <ebeby@cityofportsmouth.com>
Cc: Dave Desfosses <djdesfosses@cityofportsmouth.com>
Subject: RE: Parking Question/Concern

Hello Eric and Dave,

Thank you very much for the quick responses. Eric, thank you for putting this on the agenda for the upcoming Parking and Traffic Safety Committee meeting. Would it be helpful for me to provide additional pictures or information for consideration by the committee? Also, is it a public meeting that I should attend, to lend support/explanation of the request? Thanks again for your help.

Jesse Choquette

17 Thaxter Rd
Portsmouth, NH 03801
(603) 828-5797

From: [Eric B. Eby](#)

Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 11:35 AM

To: [Jesse Choquette](#)

Cc: [Dave Desfosses](#)

Subject: RE: Parking Question/Concern

Jesse

To extend the NO Parking area further up Thaxter would require approval from the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee, as it would require an ordinance change. I can place it on the agenda for their next meeting on April 5.

Eric

Eric B. Eby, P.E.
Parking and Transportation Engineer
Department of Public Works
City of Portsmouth
680 Peverly Hill Road
Portsmouth, NH 03801
(603) 766-1415
Cell 603-828-6695

-----Original Message-----

From: Jesse Choquette [<mailto:jvchoquette@comcast.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 1:38 PM

To: Dave Desfosses

Subject: Parking Question/Concern

Good Afternoon David,

I hope this message finds you well. I'm writing to express concern and request a change to the parking zone on Thaxter Rd, near the corner of Islington St. I've attached a picture for reference. Currently, the parking zone starts approximately 15 ft back from the corner of Islington St., on both sides of the Thaxter Rd. When cars are parked here, it creates a bottleneck making it difficult for 2 cars 2 pass through, particularly when turning onto Thaxter Rd. My request is the the no parking zone be extended at least 150ft back from the corner, to eliminate the bottleneck.

May I please request your help addressing this concern or can you point me in the right direction?

Thanks in advance for your help.



THAXTER ROAD PARKING ZONE SHIFT

Proposed by Jesse Choquette
17 Thaxter Road



Proposed Parking Shift:

- Have Parking Zone in both directions begin at least 150ft from corner of Islington St.



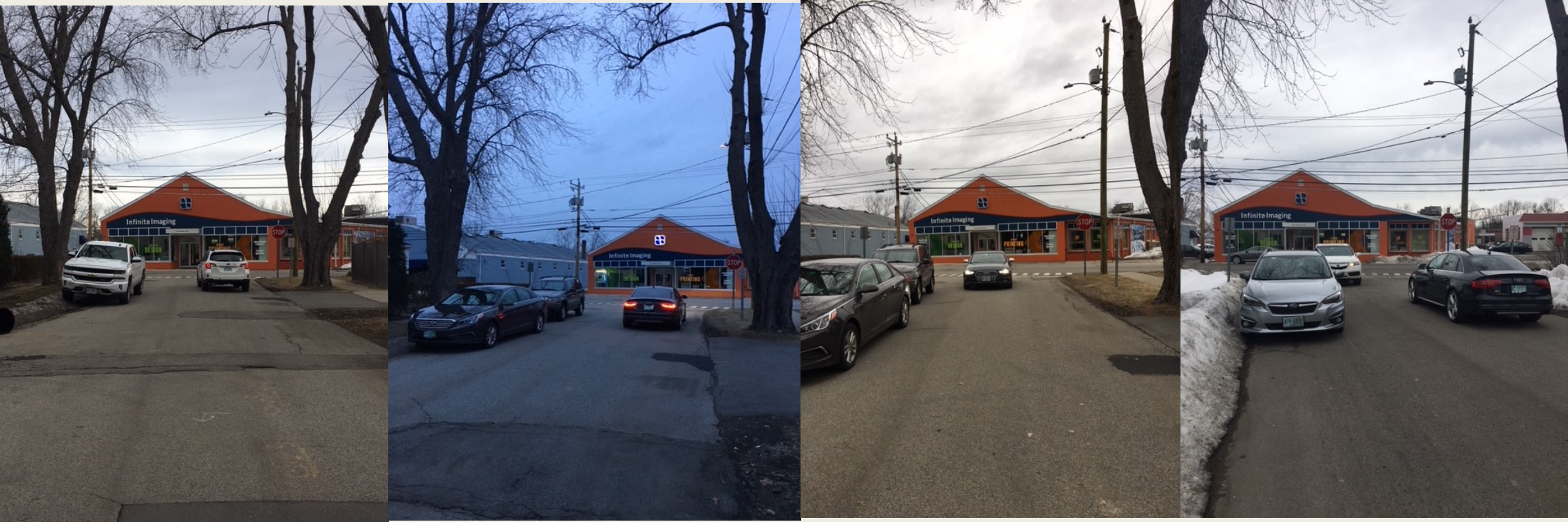
Reasons Shift is Necessary

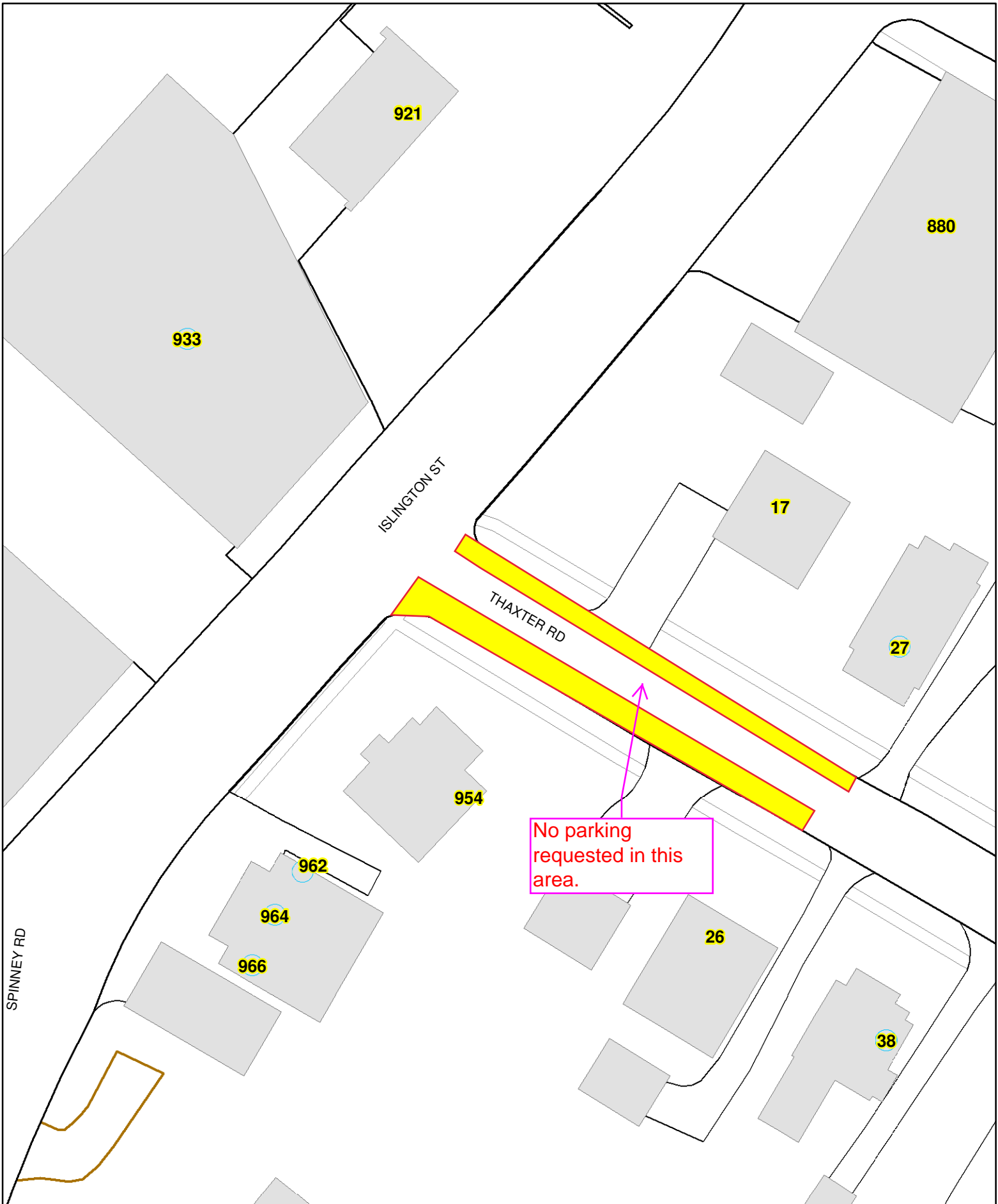
- Thaxter is too narrow at Islington St. corner for passage when vehicles are parked near corner on either (both) side(s) of street, in current parking zones.
- Wider safety vehicles like Firetrucks and Ambulances have difficult time accessing Thaxter neighborhood with vehicles parked in current parking zones.
- Wide municipal vehicles like trash trucks and plows have difficult time accessing Thaxter neighborhood with vehicles parked in current parking zones.
- Bottleneck creates potential for accidents on both Islington St and Thaxter Rd

Justification for proposed parking shift

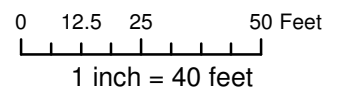
- By shifting “Parking zone” back from the corner, you will create unrestricted access to Thaxter neighborhood for Emergency, Municipal and Civilian traffic
- Unmetered Parking is available on Islington St
- Parking on Thaxter will still be available, outside of extended “No Parking” zone
- Majority of residential homes in Thaxter neighborhood have off street parking
- Bottleneck will be avoided with full width of Thaxter Rd. available

Pictures of Bottleneck at Corner of Thaxter and Islington





VI.A. Request to restrict parking along both sides of Thaxter Road within 150 feet of Islington Street.



Map prepared by Portsmouth Department of Public Works



City of Portsmouth



MEMORANDUM

TO: City Manager John Bohenko

FROM: Nancy Colbert Puff
Deputy City Manager

Brenna Woodman
Public Information Officer

DATE: February 27, 2018

SUBJECT: Report Back on Civic Engagement

Next Steps in Civic Engagement

In response to Councilor Pearson's request regarding increased modes of communication between the City and its residents, City staff has summarized ongoing efforts in improving communication and introducing new avenues to connect with the community. With many digital upgrades made over the past year (detailed below), the next steps in the City's public outreach process will be to keep Portsmouth's "neighborhood feeling" alive and encourage the community to remain engaged in City activity. The City will continue to work with our neighborhood associations to enhance their participation in community-building opportunities as well.

This can include the:

- continuation of Ward-specific meetings and formation of Ward-specific webpages where residents can better track what's occurring specific to where they live;
- increased online public input portals on specific projects;
- increased online surveys on various hot topics and a dedicated "hot topics" section on the website; and new use of real-time public input preference voting from both local and remote locations

We are also analyzing available resources, capacity and strategies to maintain additional social media profiles, such as an all-encompassing City of Portsmouth Facebook page, to share important news and events, as well as broadcasting meetings virtually through social media when it differs from a regularly-recorded City meeting/outside of City Hall. Some additional ideas include a monthly podcast or social media videos featuring interviews with City staff and/or the Mayor, and increased polls/surveys through social media.

Digital & Mobile-Friendly Avenues

New Website: The City's new website, unveiled in the fall of 2017, is now a mobile-friendly site that not only offers a fresh look for users, but added content and faster access to the information they need. The City's I.T. Department worked with Bowst (a local company) and Acquia (based in Boston) in creating the new website on the Drupal 8 platform.

Meetings and Community Events Calendars & Online Newsroom: New and improved features include the City's Municipal Meetings Calendar that is designed to better flag meetings that are important to our residents. It not only showcases all up-and-coming City municipal meetings, but it allows you to add meetings to your own personal calendar and filter meetings by specific City boards and dates as well. The City also maintains a separate

Community Events Calendar that details City Council-approved events. The online newsroom features the same filtering capabilities in which residents can view the latest news by subject and/or department.

You Tube: Citizens can also watch a wide variety of meetings on our YouTube Channel. This channel includes recorded meetings, and streams meetings live in high definition. Meetings of various topic/boards are also organized as Playlists so viewers can easily navigate meetings of interest.

Click N' Fix & Zagster Mobile Apps: In addition to the mobile-friendly website, the City offers mobile applications for specific services. The Portsmouth Click N' Fix app enables citizens to request public works maintenance service/non-emergency service issues only. After a request is submitted, a resident can follow the status of their request. The City's Zagster bike share program also includes a mobile app that allows for a resident to locate and use a bicycle.

Neighborhood Engagement

Neighborhood Watch Areas: Through the Portsmouth Click N' Fix application, citizens can make maintenance requests but can also view other community requests throughout the City through the online portal or mobile app. The City has created numerous Neighborhood Watch Areas for those interested in monitoring reports specific to where they live and interacting with fellow neighbors.

Electronic Newsletters & "Opt-In" Functionality: While the City's website and homepage is continuously updated, a bi-weekly electronic newsletter is also sent out to those who subscribe to assist with highlighting important news and meetings. Certain City projects also offer residents the option to opt in to receive emails specific to that project and/or submit input on the project, such as the McIntyre redevelopment, Islington Street Gateway and Maplewood Avenue reconstruction. This was done as well for Prescott Park Master Plan development, Vaughan-Worth-Bridge Committee plan feedback and more.

Real-time Alerts: In the instance of snow storm emergencies and associated parking ban impacts, the City uses a CodeRED to send alerts out to residents who subscribe to receive text and/or email alerts of announcements in real-time. This service can also be utilized for other citywide emergencies. Also: see below "real time" *Twitter feeds.

Social Media Summary

The below lists summarizes all social media profiles for various City departments.

- Department of Public Works: Twitter @PortsmouthDPW
- Downtown Parking: Twitter @ParkPortsmouth
- Fire: *Twitter @PortsmouthNHFD, Facebook
- Library: Twitter @PortsmouthLibNH, Facebook, Instagram
- Planning Department: Twitter @PlanPortsmouth
- Police: Twitter @PortsmouthNHPD, Facebook, Instagram
- Recreation Department: Twitter @PortsmouthRec
- Wastewater: *Twitter @PortsmouthCSOs

*Sends automated alerts (from Dispatch and sewer measuring devices) to make the public aware of reported occurrences in real-time.

Parking & Traffic Safety Committee Quarterly Accident Report

Quarter	Dates	Type	Location	Notes
1st Qtr 2018	12/22/17 to 3/15/18	Pedestrian	Middle Rd	Pedestrian was shoveling close to the roadway on Middle Rd. Pedestrian's forearm was struck by the side mirror of a vehicle.
		Pedestrian	Lang Rd	Pedestrian was walking along Lang Road and darted to the other side of the road unexpectedly. Pedestrian was hit at low speed by an oncoming car.
		Pedestrian	Congress St	Pedestrian was walking down Congress on the southerly side of the sidewalk from Maplewood towards the Music Hall. Sidewalk was crowded and the pedestrian was late to a show at the Music Hall. Pedestrian attempted to navigate around a light pole on the side closest to the street and was struck with a side mirror of a vehicle.
4th Qtr 2017	9/21/17 to 12/21/17	Bicycle	Heritage @ Lafayette	Bicyclist ran into side of car. Cyclist was travelling against the flow of traffic.
		Pedestrian	PHR Parking Lot	Person was backing up. Pedestrian in blind spot, ran over.
		Pedestrian	Across from Cross Roads	Dark stretch of road. Didn't see person crossing. Not in crosswalk.
		Pedestrian	Bypass North @ Greenleaf	Juvenile not in a crosswalk and ran across the intersection.
		Pedestrian	Walmart	Drive backing - vision obscured - bumped pedestrian.
		Pedestrian	Arthur Brady Dr	Pedestrian did not use the crosswalk which was about 50 feet up the street. Poorly lit area.
3rd Qtr 2017	6/21/17 to 9/20/17	Bicycle	Maplewood @ Cutts	Bicyclist turned into vehicle.
		Bicycle	Scott Ave	Bicyclist turned into vehicle.
		Pedestrian	Market Basket parking lot	Patron was loading groceries into her car, vehicle got too close and ran over her foot.
		Pedestrian	area of 526 Islington St	Driver parked his car, opened his door and stepped into the lane of traffic without looking.
		Pedestrian	Middle @ Court	Subject in a wheelchair was bumped in a crosswalk by a vehicle and knocked over. Driver cited.
2nd Qtr 2017	3/21/17 - 6/20/17	Pedestrian	McDonald's parking lot	Juvenile was bumped as vehicle was backing up.
		Pedestrian	Market Basket parking lot	Vehicle bumped a cart being pushed by a patron. The patron was knocked to the ground.
1st Qtr 2017	12/24/16 - 3/20/17	Pedestrian	The Hill	Pedestrian accident occurred on The Hill by the Blue Mermaid. Valet driver failed to clear snow from the windshield of a patron's car and was attempting to move it from a spot on High Street on to Garden Way when he struck a pedestrian crossing the roadway. No injuries & driver cited.
2016	6 months	Pedestrian	5	
		Bicycle	3	

Number of accidents Portsmouth Police Department responded to by year, month			
2018	January	124	2017 Yearly Total: 1154
	February	76	
	March		
	April		
	May		
	June		
	July		
	August		
	September		
	October		
	November		
	December		
Total to Date		200	

Data provided by the Portsmouth Police Department.

Meeting Date: 04/05/2018

PTS OPEN ACTION ITEMS

PTS Meeting Date	Action Item	Vote	Next Step / Report Back Date
2/1/2018	Request to eliminate 2-hour time limit on Islington Street between Cornwall Street and Rockingham Street, by Islington Green Condo Association	VOTED to table the action item until the new parking garage is operational.	Tabled until new parking garage is operational
2/1/2018	Request to remove meters and parking spaces on north side of State Street between Middle Street and 487 State Street, by Steve Bergeron	Staff will report back in 90 days (May 2018) on intersection improvements at Middle Street and State Street as requested by the Chairman.	May 3, 2018
2/1/2018	Request to change parking meter zone designation on Portwalk Place, by Portwalk	VOTED to table the action item to change parking meter zone designation on Portwalk Place until the new parking garage is operational or as part of the overall Parking Division budget process.	Tabled until new parking garage is operational
12/17/2017	Request for NO PARKING near 30 Brewster Street, by Kelly Hurd	2/1/18 VOTED to table action item until road construction is finished & report back in July 2018 12/17/17 VOTED to have staff collect data, evaluate, and report back.	July 5, 2018
12/17/2017	Request for 15-minute space at 33 Deer Street (associated with this action item)	VOTED to review 15-minute spaces to determine the appropriate length of time for short-term spaces.	Will be using traffic cameras to monitor parking when weather permits
11/2/2017	Concerns regarding traffic not yielding to pedestrians in crosswalk on Middle Road at Essex Avenue, by Peter Nelsen	12/7/17 VOTED to increase the visibility of the crosswalk by repainting and lengthening the existing 6 ft. stripes to 8 ft. to make it appear larger to approaching motorists. 11/2/17 VOTED to have staff collect data, evaluate & report back at the next meeting.	when weather permits (2018 project)
10/5/2017	Request to eliminate access to Echo Avenue from Spaulding Turnpike, by Charles McMahon	2/1/18 - VOTED to schedule public meeting 11/30/17 - Neighborhood Meeting - sent notice to members 10/5/17 VOTED to have staff work with neighborhood, to determine desirability and report back with next steps in process. 10/6/17 - Echo Ave action item by Dave Palumbo	Public Meeting Scheduled March 22nd @ Library
9/7/2017	Request for crosswalk on Grafton Drive at Sherburne Road	10/5/17 - VOTED to have City staff work with PDA to implement pedestrian crossing at intersection of Grafton Drive and Sherburne Road. 9/7/17 VOTED to have staff collect data, evaluate, and report back with a recommendation at next month's meeting. (October Meeting)	Pending PDA funding for project
7/6/2017	Crosswalk on Middle Street & Miller Ave - traffic signals and right on red / wants conditions improved soon (requested by Committee member)	Informational Section of Agenda	Monitoring with traffic camera
4/6/2017	Request for Valet Service license on Pleasant Street near Court Street	VOTED to direct staff to report back at a future meeting.	On hold pending site development
1/5/2017	Rick Chellman Presentation	VOTED staff to report back on recommendations presented by Mr. Chellman at a later date.	Reviewing recommendations to implement
7/7/2016	Petition by White Heron Tea for permanent crosswalk on Islington Street at Albany Street, referred by City Council	2/2/17. Report back on temporary crosswalk and bump-out on Islington Street at Albany Street – VOTED to table the action item until a summertime survey, defined as June, July and August, is completed. The temporary crosswalk and bump-out would be reinstalled and data would be gathered using traffic cameras during June, July and August. 10/6/16 - VOTED to extend pilot program until 10.31.2016 7/7/16 VOTE 6-3, to approve a 30-day pilot project to study impacts of a temporary crosswalk, bump-out and signage on Islington Street at Albany Street.	Collect data on crosswalk when weather permits
5/5/2016	Rock Street, request to include in Residential Parking Zone	VOTED to table action item until comprehensive residential parking program is implemented.	Residential parking program

PTS OPEN ACTION ITEMS

PTS Meeting Date	Action Item	Vote	Next Step / Report Back Date
2/1/2018	Request for NO PARKING on both sides of Langdon Street, north of McDonough Street, by Beth Moreau	VOTED to prohibit parking along the west side of Langdon Street, north of McDonough Street.	2018 Omnibus
12/17/2017	Request for 15-minute space at 33 Deer Street, by NH iPhone Repair	VOTED to approve the request for a 15-minute space at 33 Deer Street.	2018 Omnibus
12/17/2017	Request for NO PARKING on Dennett Street at Hunters Hill Avenue, by Cheryl Coviello	2/1/18 VOTED to restrict parking on Dennett St within 60' of the south side of Hunters Hill Ave. 12/17/17 VOTED to have staff collect data, evaluate, and report back at the next meeting.	2018 Omnibus
9/7/2017	Request to restrict parking on the corners of Vaughn Street	VOTED to restrict parking on the inside corner of Vaughn Street 150' from Maplewood Avenue, and on the inside corner of Raynes Avenue 200' from Maplewood Avenue.	2018 Omnibus
7/6/2017	Request for NO PARKING areas on Mechanic Street	VOTED to approve NO PARKING areas as proposed on Mechanic Street between Peirce Island Road and Gates Street, and between Gardner Street and Hunking Street.	2018 Omnibus
6/1/2017	Clarification of overtime parking definition	VOTED to modify City ordinances to require a vehicle to move at least 500 feet from their original parking space, once they have reached the designated time limit.	2018 Omnibus