

Vaughan Mall Blue Ribbon Committee
Meeting Notes
September 20, 2019
Site Visit to Vaughan Mall

Members Present: Doug Roberts, City Councilor; Nancy Pearson, City Councilor; Ned Reynolds, City Councilor; Bryan Murphy; Peter Vandermark; Ellen Fineberg

Absent: Sam Winebaum

Staff: Peter Rice, Public Works Director; Jacob Levenson, Solid Waste Sustainability Coordinator; Nancy Carmer, Economic Development Manager; James Dumont, Foreman

Site Walk - A site walk was conducted beginning at Congress Street and progressing to Hanover Street with frequent stops along the way to discuss existing conditions as well as opportunities and constraints for improvements.

Peter Rice reiterated that the future utilities upgrades below the surface as required by EPA stormwater consent decree will necessitate removal of some of the larger trees within the planters. Options for an interim landscaping plan to minimize the impact of tree removal, such as planters was discussed.

During the site visit the committee discussed existing conditions in the mall and potential maintenance or relocation of site features including:

- Removal of the public art sculpture in the planter near Congress St.
- Tree lights or up-lighting (within dark sky limitations guidelines)
- Removal and replacement of the wooden recycling and trash barrels including salvage of the decorative tiles made by Portsmouth students (DPW can do this)
- Relocation and cleaning of the post office boxes and the stagecoach monument
- Pavement washing (DPW can do this) and possible repair or concrete surface (outsourced)
- Removal and replacement of bike racks (DPW has some racks that can be substituted)
- Replacement of pole light heads (TBD)
- Relocation of trash/recycling barrels at Hanover Street closer to the edge of the mall (DPW can do this)
- Maintenance or replacement of the directional signs with a more contemporary model

The committee discussed how to proceed with solicitation of design services for improvements to the mall and how to maximize input from the committee regarding desired work that the committee has discussed at prior meetings. This discussion will be continued at a meeting on September 27th.

Next meeting – September 27, 2019 at 8 AM in Conference Room A at City Hall.

Adjournment – The meeting ended at 9:15 AM.