

## CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



**October 8, 2021**

### **City of Portsmouth Receives National Project Excellence Award from Water Environment Federation**

Portsmouth, New Hampshire – The Water Environment Federation (WEF), a national nonprofit association that provides technical education and training for water quality professionals nationwide, has selected the City of Portsmouth Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Facility upgrade for an Annual Project Excellence Award.

Portsmouth was one of just three municipalities to receive a 2021 Project Excellence Award, along with Metro Denver and Longmont CO. The award is based on a review of municipal water quality projects around the country, based on the following criteria:

- Complexity of the water sector problem or situation addressed;
- Future value to the water sector;
- Innovation, originality, and creativity in solutions;
- Sustainability considerations (environmental, social, and economic);
- Meeting the owning agency's needs related to budget, schedule, project quality and/or cost effectiveness;
- Contribution to the well-being of people and communities

In announcing the Project Excellence Award that was presented to the City of Portsmouth, its project engineering consultant AECOM and the project contractor, Methuen Construction, WEF president said, “WEF's annual Project Excellence Award pays tribute to excellence and innovation in the execution of projects and programs in the water sector. The Peirce Island WWTF Upgrade sustainably upgraded an operating water resource recovery facility on an island with limited access and extensive archaeological and recreational resources located in historic downtown Portsmouth NH. The team delivered a successful project on schedule with increased capacity, secondary treatment, and total nitrogen removal.”

Department of Public Works Director Peter Rice commented, “The Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Facility upgrade was the largest project in the City’s history, supported by the largest State Revolving Fund low-cost loan ever made, and completed under year-round weather conditions and without interruption to the continued operation of the existing treatment facility. City residents should be proud that this state-of-the-art facility is getting national attention for accomplishing our mutual goal of improving the environment by significantly increasing the level of wastewater treatment provided at the facility, resulting in improved effluent discharged to the Piscataqua River.”

**About WEF:**

The Water Environment Federation is a nonprofit association that provides technical education and training for thousands of water quality professionals who clean water and return it safely to the environment. WEF members have proudly protected public health, served their local communities and supported clean water worldwide since 1928.

