## Portsmouth Parking &Traffic Safety Committee

8:00 A.M. – November 3, 2016 City Hall – Eileen Dondero Foley City Council Chambers

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

Meeting House Hill Road

#### **AGENDA**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
- IV. FINANCIAL REPORT
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT (15 MINUTES)
- VI. PRESENTATIONS
  - Water Country traffic study update, by TEC.
  - Maplewood Avenue corridor improvement project, by GPI.

#### VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Meeting House Hill Road, request for one-way traffic flow, by Elaine Boucas.
- B. Greenleaf Avenue, request for truck restriction between Route 1 Bypass and Lafayette Road, by Linda Forisso-Corbly.

#### VIII. OLD BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

- A. 43 Whidden Street, report back on driveway permit application by Greg Mahanna.
- B. Echo Avenue, report back on neighborhood petition requesting signs to address speeding concerns.
- C. Parking space striping outside of downtown, report back.
- D. 15 minute parking spaces, report back on maximizing efficiency of their use.
- E. Bow Street and Market Street intersection, report back on request for police officer while Sarah Mildred Long Bridge is closed.

#### IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

#### X. INFORMATIONAL

- A. Neighborhood Traffic Calming program update:
  - 1. Elwyn Road sidewalk request
  - 2. Aldrich Road
  - 3. Radar speed signs
  - 4. Eliminating center lines on selected roads

#### XI. MISCELLANEOUS

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Parking Related Revenues

#### **Unaudited**

Percentage of Fiscal Year Complete

25.00%

**Totals Thru September 30, 2016** 

#### **FY 17**

Parking Meter Fees Meter Space Rental Meter In Vehicle Parking Garage Revenue Garage Passes Pass Reinstatemt Vaughan St Parking Facility Parking Violations Immobilization Administration Fee Summons Admin Fee

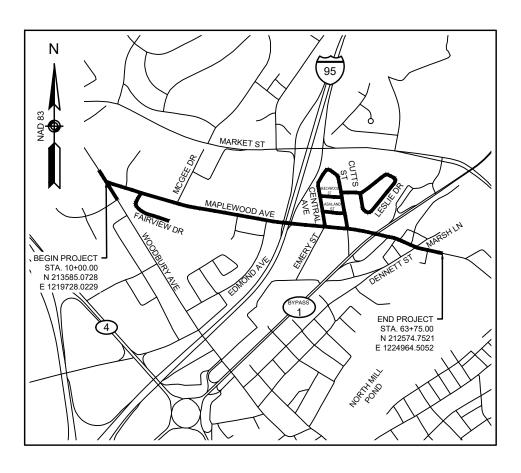
Total FY 17 Parking

FY 17		
TOTALS	BUDGETED	% of Budget
710,786	2,055,000	34.59%
36,798	70,000	52.57%
24,717	85,000	29.08%
642,908	2,125,000	30.25%
281,165	1,050,000	26.78%
810	2,500	32.40%
3,750	15,000	0.00%
198,662	715,000	27.78%
5,100	15,000	34.00%
175	3,000	5.83%
1,904,872	6,135,500	I 31.05%

BUDGETED (3,723,195) 61% Transfer to Parking Fund 2,412,305 39% Funds Remaining in Gen Fund

# IMPROVEMENTS TO MAPLEWOOD AVENUE & ADJACENT AREAS

### PRELIMINARY DESIGN SUBMISSION







Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.

Engineers, Architects, Planners, Construction Engineers & Inspectors

21 Daniel Street, Second Floor, Portsmouth, NH 03801

Tel: (603) 891-2213 Fax: (978) 658-3044

http://www.gpinet.com



MAPLEWOOD AVENUE & ADJACENT AREAS PROJECT OVERVIEW, SHEET 1 OF 3





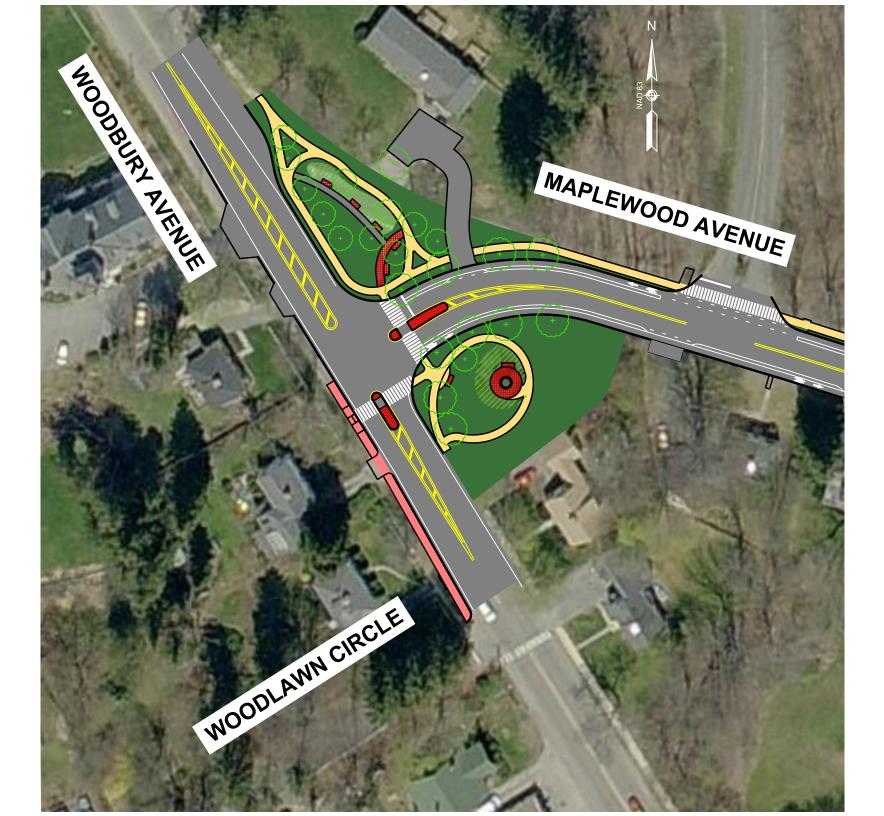
MAPLEWOOD AVENUE & ADJACENT AREAS PROJECT OVERVIEW, SHEET 2 OF 3





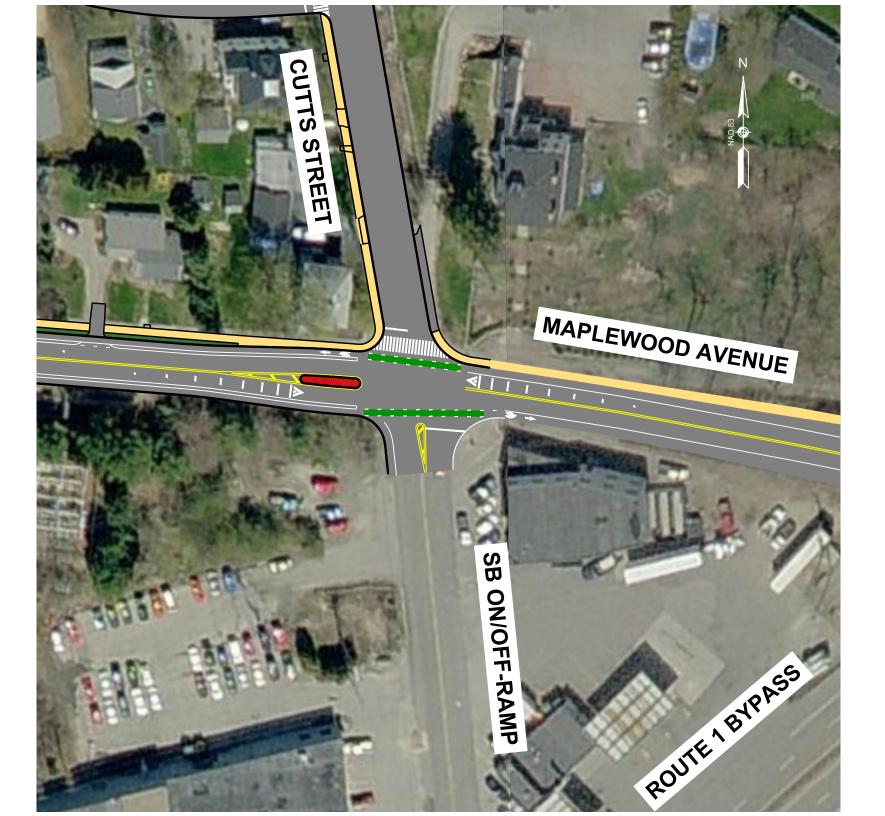
MAPLEWOOD AVENUE & ADJACENT AREAS PROJECT OVERVIEW, SHEET 3 OF 3

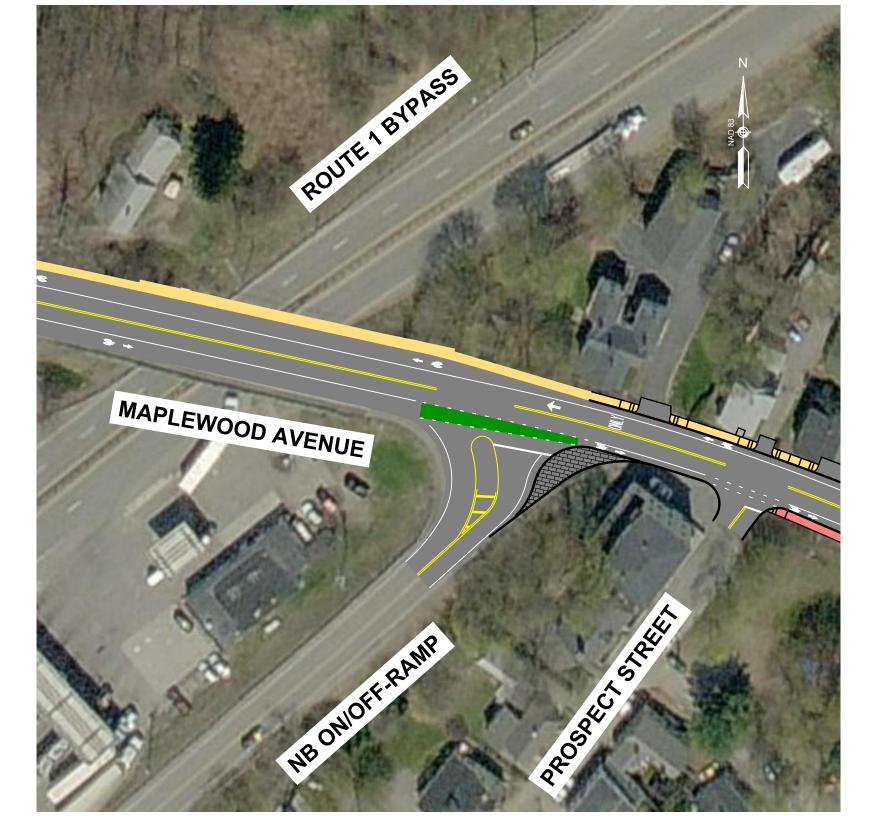


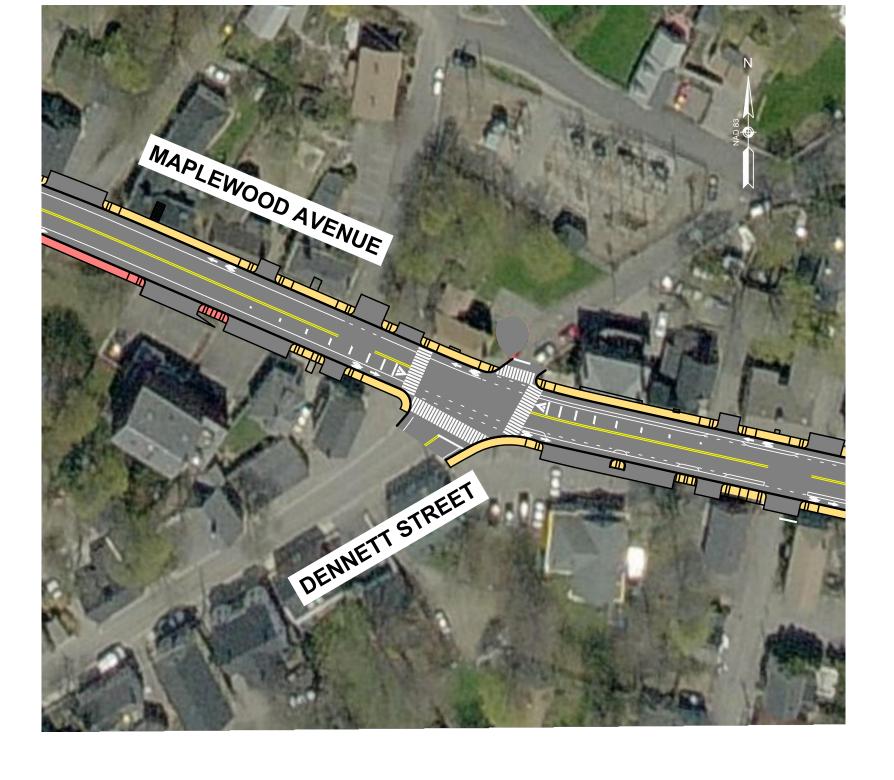
















#### VIII.A. 43 Whidden Street

### City of Portsmouth

Department of Public Works



**MEMORANDUM** 

TO:

John P. Bohenko, City Manager

FROM:

Eric Eby, P.E., Parking and Transportation Engineer

DATE:

October 26, 2016

SUBJECT:

43 Whidden Street Driveway Permit Application

DPW staff has reviewed the request for a driveway permit to the residence at 43 Whidden Street. The requested driveway location is narrow, approximately 11 feet wide, and will require vehicles to back in or out of the property, with limited sight lines, and a utility pole is located at the corner of the driveway. However, the driveway is located at the end of a dead-end street so there will be no passing traffic on the street. The neighbor abutting the proposed driveway was present at the Committee's site visit and did not voice an objection. Therefore, it is recommended that the driveway permit be granted.

However, it is important to note that even if the Committee votes to approve the driveway permit, the applicant must still provide evidence to the City's Planning Department that the provision of a parking area on his property will not cause the site to violate any zoning requirements such as open space. In this zone, the open space requirement is 25 percent of the lot size. It would appear that the parking area could reduce the open space area on the lot to less than 25 percent.

# City of Portsmouth

Department of Public Works



#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

John P. Bohenko, City Manager

FROM:

Eric Eby, P.E., Parking and Transportation Engineer

DATE:

October 26, 2016

SUBJECT:

Echo Avenue Neighborhood Concerns

DPW staff has reviewed the request for signage and other measures to improve the safety and reduce the speed of traffic on Echo Avenue between the Spaulding Turnpike and Woodbury Avenue. Echo Avenue is used by vehicles exiting from the Turnpike and is a narrow roadway with limited sight lines, no sidewalks and several pedestrians and wheelchair users. Betty's Dream, a facility providing apartments for 24 physically handicapped residents, is located off of Woodlawn Circle in the Echo Avenue neighborhood. The posted speed limit on Echo Avenue is 20 mph and truck traffic is prohibited. A double yellow center line separate directional traffic on the roadway. There is no direct access onto the Turnpike from Echo Avenue but it is possible for vehicles to travel through the Portsmouth Ford site to access Brady Avenue and then the Turnpike.

A traffic study was recently conducted by the proponent of the proposed residential development at the end of Echo Avenue. The study included peak hour traffic volume counts, but not daily counts or vehicle speed data. The Portsmouth Police department recently installed their radar speed feedback sign on Echo Avenue near the Woodbury Avenue end of the roadway, which helps to slow speeds by alerting drivers to their actual speed. The DPW will place a traffic recorder on the roadway after the police remove their speed sign to record both daily traffic and vehicle speeds.

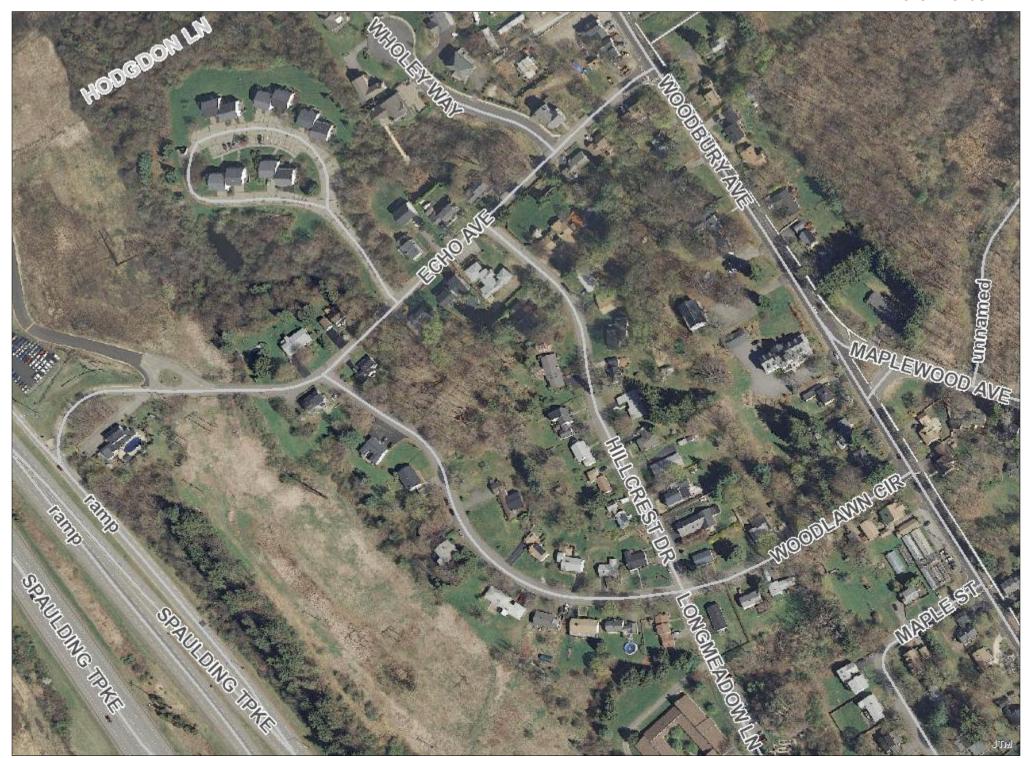
Based on observations during a site visit to the neighborhood, existing speed limit signs and truck exclusion signs are limited to the end of the road near the Turnpike. No signs indicating the presence of pedestrians or wheelchairs are present. It is recommended that the DPW replace the existing signs with new signs meeting current size and retro-reflectivity standards, as well as installing additional speed limit and truck exclusion signs at the Woodbury Avenue end of the roadway. Wheelchair warning signs should also be installed at both ends of the roadway as well as near the intersection with Woodlawn Circle. Curve warning signs and chevron signs should also be installed along the roadway near the curve at the intersection with Woodlawn Circle. Vegetation and branches were recently cut back along the roadway by DPW crews to improve sight lines at the curve, and will be monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure visibility is maintained. Sidewalks along one or both sides of Echo Avenue, which could improve safety for pedestrians and wheelchair users, would likely require easements from each landowner, as the current width of

Echo Avenue pavement and layout is very narrow and the necessary width for a sidewalk is not available on either side.

The request to send notice to the GPS companies to direct motorists not to use Echo Avenue when destined to the shopping areas on Woodbury Avenue would not be productive. The GPS routing systems use a time and distance algorithm to determine their recommended travel routes. As long as a road is open to the public, the GPS services will include it in their routing directions. However, based on a conversation with NHDOT officials, it may be possible to replace the Echo Avenue sign on the Turnpike with a Local Traffic Only sign, to help discourage retail users from choosing to travel on Echo Avenue.

The DPW has also used traffic video cameras to observe pedestrian crossings from Woodlawn Circle across Woodbury Avenue. As part of the proposed improvements to the Maplewood Avenue and Woodbury Avenue intersection included in the Maplewood Avenue corridor improvement project, new sidewalks, crosswalks and crossing treatments are proposed that will improve the safety of pedestrians crossing Woodbury Avenue from the Echo Avenue neighborhood.

The DPW will work to implement the recommended improvements, and if the proposed residential development at the Turnpike end of the road is approved, will work to ensure that the safety of the roadway and the neighborhood is preserved and enhanced.



VIII.C. Parking space striping

# City of Portsmouth

Department of Public Works



#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

John P. Bohenko, City Manager

FROM:

Eric Eby, P.E., Parking and Transportation Engineer 44

DATE:

October 26, 2016

SUBJECT:

Parking Space Striping Outside of Downtown Area

DPW staff has reviewed the request to stripe all on-street parking spaces located outside of the downtown area. The level of effort required to stripe all on-street spaces would exceed the current manpower capabilities of the DPW and would require an increase in materials and manpower to maintain the painted spaces going forward. It is recommended that the DPW review specific requests for parking space striping on a case by case basis, and implement the striping where it will improve public safety, traffic flow or operations.

As an example, the DPW recently received a request from residents of Langdon Street to remedy a parking situation that was impeding the ability of residents to exit from their driveway. DPW crews striped the legal parking space on Langdon Street as well as the areas where parking is not allowed within 20 feet of the intersection with Islington Street. The resulting striping provides positive guidance to motorists as to the proper location to park that will not block the driveway and will improve safety for pedestrians crossing Langdon Street at Islington Street.

The area of McDonough Street and the side streets off of Islington Street present many situations similar to this. The DPW will continue to work with residents on a case by case basis to identify areas where parking within 20 feet of an intersection is restricting the ability of larger vehicles, particularly emergency vehicles, to navigate the streets in this and other neighborhoods.