Chestnut Street Streetscape Improvement

A proposed Music Hall/City of Portsmouth Collaboration

A presentation for Parking, Traffic, & Safety
The review process timetable

- *Let’s Talk About the Chestnut St. Streetscape Project* public forum at The Music Hall Loft. May 12 (~40 in attendance)

- **Art-Speak** - Convening Project Planning Committee to review the public art component of the Arch (May/June 2016)

- **Parking and Traffic Safety** - review proposal for parking and traffic safety issues (meeting: June 2 8am, City Hall)

- **Trees and Greenery** - review and obtain input on plant selections (meeting: June 8, 7:30am City Hall)

- **Historic District Commission** - Work session to provide feedback on the proposal (June 8, 6:30pm City Hall)

- **City Manager** to Report back to City Council on Art-Speak referral and project reviews (TBD)
UTILITY POLE RESTRICTS TURNING OF BUSES AND EMERGENCY VEHICLES
Difficult sidewalks and access
The Music Hall as a partner with the City seeks to make the street more inviting to all users by

- A 50/50 partnership with the City for the streetscape
- $400,000 for the street improvements funded by The Music Hall
- $400,000 from the City’s Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) & The Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) funds
- additionally, **The Music Hall will fund** a “Wayfinding Arch” to connect the African Burying Ground and Vaughan Mall to the Northern Tier
PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CONNECTOR EXTENDING TO BURYING GROUND

A SEPARATE PROJECT
A partnership creates an elegant solution

- Pedestrian-friendly street that allows for patron drop off and loading at The Music Hall and a corridor to the African Burying Ground
- No impact to existing loading zones or parking spaces
- Improved access for emergency vehicles and school buses on Chestnut St.
- Safe and aesthetically aligned with proposed improvements on Congress St., including improved crosswalk
- Wayfinding Arch creates visibility to city treasures and builds on city history of archways and historic doorways
- Will meet the City’s Master Plan goals of increasing the number of community gathering areas downtown
Work with designers, engineers, and City

These street plans have been under discussion between the City and The Music Hall for at least eight years, included in multiple Capital Improvement Plans with detailed plans and designs

- local firm, Altus Engineering – Civil Engineer
- local firm, JSN Associates, Inc. – Structural Engineer
- local firm, Terra Firma Landscape Architecture – Designer
- Lewiston, Maine firm, NeoKraft – Archway Builder
Meets the City’s Master Plan goals of increasing the number of community gathering areas downtown.
A Wayfinding Arch

- Creates focal point
- Makes two of the city’s most important historical treasures visible
- Echoes the City’s history of arches
Historic Arches of Portsmouth

Portsmouth Athenaeum

Portsmouth Athenaeum

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