

City of  
Portsmouth  
Department of Public Works



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Parking and Traffic Safety Committee and Staff  
Chairman, Brad Lown  
Member, Ted Gray  
Member, Harold Whitehouse  
Member, Ronald Cypher  
Member, Shari Donnermeyer  
Alternate Member, Mary Lou McElwain  
Deputy City Manager, Nancy Colbert Puff  
Deputy Fire Chief, James Heinz  
Police Captain, Frank Warchol  
Director of Public Works, Peter H. Rice

FROM: Eric B. Eby, P. E., Parking and Transportation Engineer *EE*

DATE: February 23, 2017

SUBJECT: PTS Action Item Status

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The March 2, 2017, Parking and Traffic Safety Committee meeting has been cancelled due to a lack of emergent action items. A brief summary of the status of current action items are noted below:

Motorcycle Parking: As a test, one vehicular parking space was converted to four motorcycle parking spaces on Pleasant Street in front of Breaking New Grounds for the months of September and October, 2016. A report back on the usage and recommendations will be provided at an upcoming PTS meeting.

Motorcycle and Moped Parking Ordinances: Staff is working on drafting ordinances to formalize the current practices related to the parking of motorcycles and mopeds. Current practice allows mopeds to park on sidewalks, and for multiple motorcycles to park in a single on-street parking space with only one paying for parking. Staff will present proposed ordinances at an upcoming PTS meeting.

Bicycle Ordinances: Staff presented proposed changes to the ordinances pertaining to bicycles in October 2015, to bring them into compliance with current state laws and City practices. PTS voted to recommend the changes, and the City Council approved them. The revised ordinances will be included in the annual omnibus of ordinance changes this summer along with the proposed motorcycle and moped ordinances.

Bartlett Street at Thornton Street: At the October PTS meeting, a concern regarding STOP sign compliance at this intersection was discussed. Staff has collected traffic data at this location as well as several others in this neighborhood, and a report back on recommendations for traffic flow, intersection control and traffic calming measures will be provided at a future PTS meeting.

Middle Street Bike Lane Project: This project is now in the final design stages and a presentation will be made to the PTS Committee this spring. The presentation will provide more information on parking demand, supply, and proposed changes. Staff will be looking for a PTS Committee endorsement of the design, to bring to City Council.

Annual Downtown Parking Utilization Study: John Burke is finalizing his report on the findings and recommendations of the annual downtown parking utilization study. When the report is final, we will have him make a presentation to the PTS Committee.

Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program: At the November PTS meeting, a presentation was provided to the PTS Committee regarding a variety of traffic calming measures that the City staff are considering in the development of a neighborhood traffic calming guidance program. Staff is working to develop a public request form and to get the program information on the City's Transportation website.

Rick Chellman Parking Suggestions: At the January PTS meeting, Rick Chellman made a presentation on ways to add on-street parking spaces in the downtown area. Staff will review the new suggestions and report back on their feasibility at a later date.

Bicycle Riding Restrictions in City Parks: This item was referred to PTS by the City Council. Staff is reviewing existing ordinances and will be making a report back on recommendations at a later date.

The next PTS Committee meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2017.