

CITY COUNCIL E-MAILS

ADDENDUM

Received: November 13, 2020 (after 9:00 a.m. – November 16, 2020 (4:00 p.m.)

November 16, 2020 Council Meeting

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Evan McDermod ([emcdermod@gmail.com](mailto:emcdermod@gmail.com)) on Saturday, November 14, 2020 at 10:39:44

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address: 1205 Islington Street

comments: Good morning!

I hope this finds you all well. I feel called to share an example of mainstream misinformation that I am finding in regards to some of the ways COVID-19 spreads. CBS news released a study citing on types of businesses that spread COVID most rapidly. One that I would like to highlight is gyms. In this article, they do not cite their sources and what kind of studies they did to come to this conclusion. Feel free to read it for yourself.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-superspreader-events-venues-include-restaurants-gyms-hotels/?linkId=104410821&ftag=CNM-00-10aab7e&linkId=104433648>

Multiple studies have actually shown gyms to be one of the areas with the lowest rates of transmission amongst businesses. In a European study conducted by King Juan Carlos University and AWRC-Sheffield Hallam University, they found the rate of infection to be .78 per 100,000 people. There were 487 cases from a total of 62 MILLION cases. Feel free to read this study. I have other studies showing similar data if you would like them, but feel free to give this a reading.

<https://www.europeactive.eu/news/safeactive-study-%E2%80%93-preliminary-results-showing-extremely-low-levels-covid-19-risk-fitness-clubs>

I send this as I find the mainstream narrative tending to not be actively looking for ways to increase the health of the general public. We know that the mental health crisis has skyrocketed during this pandemic, and one of the most essential ways to combat mental stress is through releasing it by physical activity. I hope that if there is a "recommendation" to close fitness facilities, you keep in mind that they need to be deemed as an essential service. Multiple studies are proving that they are in fact safe, and we need to find ways for people to be boosting their immune systems in this time.

Thanks for your time! Have a great weekend!

Be well,  
Evan McDermod  
includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Mary McElwain ([ml259@comcast.net](mailto:ml259@comcast.net)) on Sunday, November 15, 2020 at 16:55:16

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address: 259 South Street

comments: From the plans presented in the packet for 11/16 meeting , this is one complicated traffic plan for who knows how long ! The restaurants and businesses in downtown have been greatly affected for nine months by Covid 19. This holiday time is crucial to the survival of small businesses. At the very least the disruption caused by this project should be delayed until after the first of the year. Many of the small businesses have been in Portsmouth for decades, are locally owned and need our continued support. Have all the business owners been notified ?

I also wonder why this parking and traffic plan wasn't brought before Parking and Traffic Committee for our review. The Pleasant St plan for this project did come before PTS.

Why wasn't this significant part of the building construction reviewed BEFORE all building permits were granted. Why is it up for review now when the project is well under way?

Please carefully review this plan. The impact on the city is large.

Thank you.

Mary Lou McElwain

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Kevin Dwyer ([dwyersportsmouth@gmail.com](mailto:dwyersportsmouth@gmail.com)) on Monday, November 16, 2020 at 13:12:43

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address: 96 Bridge Street

comments: To the Mayor and City Council,

I would like to express my gratitude for extending outdoor dining through the month of November. Due to this extension my business, Dwyer's Pub, was able to generate enough money to pay rent this past weekend exclusively because of continued outdoor dining.

I would like to ask for another month's extension through December. December is one of the year's best months for our industry and with Covid continuing to spike it will be a challenging month with indoor alone. It is an important month to help us survive through a tough winter. Not only for restaurant owners, but for employees as well.

I understand that the issue of snow removal could start to be a relevant issue in December, and I would love the opportunity to work with the City and DPW to come up with solutions - solutions that won't cost the City one extra penny!

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Christine and Stephan Mayeux ([Bridgestreetbistrot@comcast.net](mailto:Bridgestreetbistrot@comcast.net)) on Monday, November 16, 2020 at 14:19:14

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address: 64 bridge Street Portsmouth

comments: Good afternoon,

I am writing a quick note requesting that you continue to make available sidewalk/public space seating on a case by case basis pending approval from the DPW for clear access of roadways for snow removal. In our circumstance, we have had a "dress rehearsal" with the first snowfall and feel confident that we are able to quickly and easily remove all street barriers to allow for full plowing and sanding access.

With increasing infection rates in New Hampshire, and around the country, it seems to make sense to leave a mechanism in place for businesses to be able to continue service should indoor dining/sales be banned temporarily again.

Thank you for considering extending the time period for public space seating/sales at least through December 31st.

Sincerely,

Christine and Stephan Mayeux

(Owners and Portsmouth Property Taxpayers) Bridge Street Bistrot

64 Bridge Street

Portsmouth

603-430-9301

includeInRecords: on