CITY COUNCIL E-MAILS June 7, 2021 Council Meeting

The following e-mails were received:

May 17, 2021 (after 5:00 p.m.) - June 3, 2021 (before 9:00 a.m.)

If you need further information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 610-7208.

From: <u>Derek Nadeau via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Cameras

Date: Monday, May 24, 2021 9:38:37 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Derek Nadeau (derek.a.nadeau@gmail.com) on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 08:38:34

address: 90 Fleet Street, 2-3

comments: Instead of wasting tons of money elsewhere, can we get some cameras downtown....

3 Scooter thefts, mine this morning, multiple car and pedestrian incidents and not a camera in sight. Even the Police officers I was just with will attest to how absurd it is that we don't have any traffic cameras.

This is simple stuff that I asked for years ago. Lets get it done please...

Call me 978-769-3762

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 73.149.72.124

From: <u>Elean Varney via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: City"s Lost charm

Date: Thursday, June 3, 2021 1:42:36 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Elean Varney (elean86@gmail.com) on Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 00:42:34

address: 88 HANSONVILLE RD

comments: I was wondering why you all keep insisting on putting up endless apartments downtown and ruining the once charming city it was? It seems all Portsmouth has become is just housing for rich people from Mass. Keep the charm in Portsmouth before its to late.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 73.69.44.233

From: <u>Dan Marchibroda via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Columbus Day & Indigenous People Day

Date: Saturday, May 22, 2021 4:36:01 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Dan Marchibroda (danmarch337@gmail.com) on Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 15:35:59

address: 84 Thaxter Road

comments: I am a proponent of keeping both Columbus Day and Indigenous People Day to appropriately acknowledge both. But, I believe you are way over stepping your authority if you vote to eliminate Columbus Day in favor of Indigenous People's Day. In fact, I will be disappointed if some of you are so small that you are unwilling to acknowledge both. Looking forward to seeing your vote.

Sincerely, Dan Marchibroda

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 24.61.223.173

From: William Davis via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Commemorative Holidays

Date: Monday, May 24, 2021 6:03:04 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by William Davis (billdavis13@yahoo.com) on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 05:03:02

address: 339 Bartlett Street

comments: Recognizing a person, group or event with a holiday by eliminating a previously recognized holiday for a person, group or event causes yet another dividing line in our already fractious society. All of the other possible choices are better in my opinion.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 55.35.65.22

From: <u>Jacob Bialeschki via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Crosswalks Dangerous

Date: Sunday, May 30, 2021 10:14:56 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jacob Bialeschki (Jbialeschki@hotmail.com) on Sunday, May 30, 2021 at 09:14:54

address: 152 Dennett Street Unit B

comments: Hi Team Portsmouth! Sending you all a note to PLEASE revert back to to the former way of the crosswalk lights. Where all 4 lanes are stopped for pedestrians. It is extremely dangerous to have pedestrians crossing at same time cars are turning in green lights. Im actually aware of the new system and still almost made the mistake of turning into pedestrians walking. I see "close calls" all the time by Jumpin' Jays and the new Bank Prov building. Thank you for listening. Best - Jacob

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 174.196.195.145

From: <u>Jason Walls via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: End all mask and distancing requirements **Date:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 2:04:51 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jason Walls (jason.sedley.walls@gmail.com) on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 13:04:49

address: 1113 Maplewood Ave

comments: Hi all,

I heard through the grapevine that the council may be considering ending the outdoor mandate but still requiring businesses and restaurants to mask and distance. I cannot convey enough how much it all needs to end as soon as possible. You're talking another 3 weeks during the prime business season of lowered capacity, costing millions of dollars city-wide. Not to mention the demoralized service people who have to navigate this landscape and haven't been able make face contact with customers or co-workers for over a year.

Not even NYC has an indoor mandate at this point.

Please, please end it completely and unequivocally. I'm begging you. Three weeks gains us nothing.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

ingage. Baomi

REMOTE ADDR: 72.65.101.149

From: dayna | Lapointe via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: end mask mandate

Date: Monday, May 24, 2021 10:32:09 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by dayna l Lapointe (daynalapointe609@yahoo.com) on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 21:32:07

address: 245 middle st

comments: hi i am dayna i live in portsmouth nh and this whole mask mandate is silly and crazy boston is ending there on saturday and maine ended there today so what are you waiting for take that offensive message down that hangs downtown please wear your mask we need to get back to normal living and let the businesses get back normal end this mask mandate june 1 please

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 73.234.6.127

From: dayna | Lapointe via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: end mask mandate

Date: Monday, May 24, 2021 10:48:11 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by dayna l Lapointe (daynalapointe609@yahoo.com) on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 21:48:08

address: 245 middle st

comments: my name is dayna i live in portsmouth nh and i feel that the mask mandate needs to end boston is ending there on saturday and maine ended there today this whole mask mandate is silly and crazy let us get back to our normal lives and let our business get back to normal take that offensive sign down in market square wear masks please end this mandate june 1 please

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 73.234.6.127

From: <u>Dan Marchibroda via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: End the Mask Mandate - Update

Date: Monday, May 24, 2021 9:49:07 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Dan Marchibroda (danmarch@live.com) on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 08:49:05

address: 84 Thaxter Road

comments: Hello PCC...It sure was a beautiful weekend. It was nice to see everyone downtown enjoying the fine weather. I am sure you know 95% of the people in our crowded streets had no masks on. As I stated in my submission Friday, I would encourage you to end the mask mandate immediately due to our high vaccination rates combined with the dramatic fall in infections across the country. It would be cool if you demonstrate some level of agility and move quicker in decision making as the scientific facts are evolving quickly.

So now my specific request is that the mask mandate be removed in schools for the July 6-July 29 summer school sessions. As you likely know, the students who are required to attend summer school often have learning challenges which make school very difficult for them. These challenges are exacerbated by having to wear masks at their learning desks and around school. Breathing one's own carbon dioxide throughout the day does not help a student remain alert and receptive to the days lessons...particularly if they have a learning challenge. It is difficult enough for students to have to spend their summer vacation in school 4 hours a day, 4 days a week, for 4 weeks and it would be cruel to force them to wear a mask during this time.

One last follow up item, Jim Splaine reached out to me to better understand why I called him an ass in my last submission. I explained via email that it was due to his provocative social media posts on a local right wing site regarding the mask mandate. I felt these type of social media attacks and behaviors were inappropriate from our prior president, and are also inappropriate from our local elected officials. Therefore I called him an ass, much like I am sure people view me as an ass for some of my social media posts and communications.

| ncerely, Dan |
|--------------------|
| cludeInRecords: on |
| gage: Submit |
| |

REMOTE ADDR: 24.61.223.173

From: <u>Dan Marchibroda via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: END the Mask Mandate

Date: Saturday, May 22, 2021 4:25:00 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Dan Marchibroda (danmarch@live.com) on Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 15:24:58

address: 84 Thaxter Road

comments: Hi City Council...It is time to end the silly mask mandate so we can carry on with our lives in a normal way. All the towns around us are no longer wearing them so we are leaving Portsmouth to eat and shop elsewhere where the state and local governments are less oppressive and at least follow the lead of our Governor or the CDC.

Of particular interest is ending the Portsmouth School mask mandate after this JOKE of a year of education. My son has been on an IEP for the past 7 years and this year was an absolute disaster for him. Now he is required to go to school for the summer and if he has to wear a mask at his learning desk I am going to be fucking pissed and loud about it. We let people dine in crowded restaurants with no masks on, but our kids have to wear them in school? Who do you really care about...Tourists or the children of our citizens? Many of you virtuously believe you are saving lives, but in reality you have harmed the mental health and well being of our children (and citizens) and set them back a year with this stupid mandate and remote learning.

Looking forward to seeing who votes which way because it will influence how I vote this year if any of you choose to run again. Of course, I wont vote for Splaine anyway because he is an ass.

I'm done with masks regardless

Most Sincerely, Dan Marchibroda

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 24.61.223.173

From: William Saunders via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: End the mask ordinance!

Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 7:05:32 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by

William Saunders (bksaunders98@yahoo.com) on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 06:05:29

address: 40 Beechstone #1

comments: Almost all towns and states anywhere near us have ended the ordinance. It's only causing confusion. I feel sorry for the staff at Wal Mart. NH has lifted, Wal Mart has lifted, but staff still has to "enforce" Portsmouth's ordinance. People are rude and confused. NH and all surrounding states are at 70% for at least 1 shot of vaccine. Enough is enough.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 73.4.23.148

From: Rich Dipentima via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Face Covering order

Date: Thursday, May 27, 2021 11:32:51 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Rich Dipentima (rdipentima@gmail.com) on Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 10:32:49

address: 16 Dunlin Way

comments: Dear Council Members:

I am requesting that you support the City Health Officer and the Covid-19 Blue Ribbon Health Committee's recommendation that the indoor portion of the current Face Covering Ordinance be continued through June 30. The Health Officer and the BRC have given serious consideration to the data and the current Covid-19 situation in making our recommendation, and we feel strongly that indoor face coverings in public places should be continued.

We agree that the need for outside face coverings can be suspended prior to June 30. Requiring only indoor face covering will not add any confusion to the situation, and is in compliance with CDC guidelines. The most confusing part of the current face covering ordinance is that which applies to outdoor activities, not indoor. Eliminating the outdoor face covering portion of the ordinance will reduce confusion. The indoor face covering requirement is very clear and straight forward, a face covering is required in all indoor public settings, except when eating and drinking. People clearly understand that requirement.

It is clear that indoor transmission of the Covid-19 virus is still a treat and continues to take place. Allowing an additional three weeks to the indoor face covering requirement will allow more people to become fully vaccinated, especially our younger service industry workers.

There is little downside to continuing the indoor face covering requirement for an additional 3 weeks. While we all are anxious to get back to normal, we still must do what is necessary to protect our community. I urge you to support those who you have appointed to make these difficult recommendations based on science and public health expertise and experience.

| Thank you. | |
|---------------------|--|
| Rich DiPentima | |
| ncludeInRecords: on | |
| Engage: Submit | |
| | |

REMOTE_ADDR: 71.168.72.174

From: Kate McMahon via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Face Mask Mandate

Date: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 6:36:57 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Kate McMahon (klmcmahon1@gmail.com) on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 17:36:55

address: Taft Road

comments: Dear City Councilors,

I am writing to you, ahead of this evening's meeting regarding the mask mandate, with a plea: please consider lifting the mandate for outdoor public spaces, but leave it in place for indoor public spaces.

I DO NOT support lifting the mask mandate for INDOOR public settings because of the following:

- the CDC states clearly that the degree to which vaccinated individuals are protected against variants is not yet known

-the CDC also clearly states that the degree to which being vaccinated stops virus transmission it is not yet known

-the CDC clearly states that the highest risk for virus transmission is indoors

- Over half of NH residents still aren't fully vaccinated, and the summer will see tourists come from many areas (some of which have an even lower vaccination rate)
- -the city health officer, Kim McNamara, has stated that she supports keeping the mask mandate in place for indoor public spaces (shouldn't we be listening to our HEALTH office??)
- and perhaps most importantly, children under 12 are not yet eligible for the vaccine

It would be reckless and irresponsible to lift the mask mandate for indoor settings when some of our most precious members of the city are not yet eligible for the protection provided by the vaccine. As a mother of two young children (2 & 5 years old), it is frightening to think that all indoor spaces might become very unsafe for my kids, and the rest of the kids in Portsmouth. I won't be going to the malls any time soon, but I do rely on grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations/convenience stores, libraries, doctors offices, dentists, schools, and other essential places. Parents need to be able to go to those places and not worry that they're going to bring home the virus (or variant) to their kids. They also need to be able to bring their kids into those places feeling confident that every precaution is being taken to keep them safe. If you lift the mask mandate and allow anyone (vaccinated or not) to enter these spaces without a mask, everyone under the age of 12 will n!

ot be safe (keeping in mind that there will be kids, particularly those under 4, that will not be able to wear a mask in these settings).

We're certainly close to being able to safely lift mask mandates in all settings, but we're not there yet. Not until every member of society is eligible for the vaccine, and not until there is sufficient scientific data regarding the vaccine and it's protection against variants and transmission in general.

There's a freedom in not wearing a mask anymore, sure. Arguably, there's a much greater freedom in being able to take your kid to the grocery store to get items for dinner without worrying that someone who chose not to be vaccinated is going to infect them.

Thank you for considering this plea.

| Sincerely, Kate McMahon |
|----------------------------|
| includeInRecords: on |
| Engage: Submit |
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REMOTE_ADDR: 66.31.224.144

From: Beth S. Margeson via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Face Mask Ordinance

Date: Monday, May 31, 2021 2:55:47 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Beth S. Margeson (bmargeson@myfairpoint.net) on Monday, May 31, 2021 at 13:55:44

address: 24 Marcy Street

comments: Mayor and Councilors,

Please do not repeal the face mask ordinance. If it is repealed on June 7 that means from June 8 until June 17, Portsmouth's students will be attending school without the protection of face masks.

The high school held vaccination clinics for students aged 16 and 17 on April 19 and May 14. A second vaccination clinic was held at the high school for younger students to receive their first dose on May 27, the second clinic is scheduled for the last day of school on June 17.

I do not know if the middle school held clinics for its students. Children aged 12 to 15 years were recently approved for vaccination. Children under the age of 12 remain unvaccinated and may not be eligible until September or October of this year.

The CDC guidelines are quite clear that face masks are not required for small groups when each individual is vaccinated. By June 8, a significant number of Portsmouth's school population will not be vaccinated yet the face mask requirement will be eliminated before then.

If Covid begins to spread and students need to stay out of school either due to illness or the need to quarantine, this will create yet another disruption in a year full of them for students. Please keep public health safeguards in place long enough for students to finish out the year with some semblance of normality, not to mention protecting their health.

I do not understand the rush to repeal the mask ordinance in general. Why call a special meeting to ensure that it gets repealed 23 days before it expires naturally? If anything, I would hope that the council would extend it through the summer months until the city reaches conditions that indicate it is safe to do without it.

| espectfully, | |
|--------------------|--|
| eth S. Margeson | |
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| cludeInRecords: on | |
| ngage: Submit | |
| | |

REMOTE ADDR: 72.71.240.188

From: <u>Timothy Colson via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Keep Mask mandate

Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 10:13:12 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by

Timothy Colson (Timothyjcolson@gmail.com) on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 21:13:09

address: 112 state street, Portsmouth, nh

comments: I am in favor of keeping the mask mandate until all ages can receive vaccine and have time to do so.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 174.255.65.157

From: Gabe DiSaverio via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Mask Mandate & Columbus Day

Date: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 6:14:33 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Gabe DiSaverio (gabe@thespicyshark.com) on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 05:14:31

address: 9 Falkland Place

comments: Hello All,

This is Gabe DiSaverio, Portsmouth resident and local business owner. I'm not sure it's too late for these 2 topics, but I wanted to write that I am in favor of following the CDC, State of NH, and most other NH towns in eliminating the mask mandate. I also understand that there is a petition to completely eliminate the name Columbus Day and make it only Indigenous People Day. Although I have no problem with the change that was already made to honor both, I am not on board with this movement to eliminate all parts of US history and cancelling the name Columbus Day all together. With respect, Gabe.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 66.31.224.179

From: SCOTT HOWARD BORNSTEIN via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Mask Mandate Addendum

Date: Monday, May 24, 2021 6:46:45 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by SCOTT HOWARD BORNSTEIN (WERSCORAJA@YAHOO.COM) on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 17:46:43

address: 42 Squid St

comments: Councilors- I wrote to you previously so I won't take much more time. In regards to the mandate and listening to Kim McNamara at the BRC on Arts... I would only add, for your consideration that walk-in vaccinations are available throughout our city, the demand is not there, and those who are going to be vaccinated have done so or are in the process. Also, in giving numbers as a percentage, it is inaccurate to include people ages 6mo-12 years since they are not eligible. The percentage that matters is the percent of eligible people who have been or are in the process. We have no fair measurement of those who can not or will not participate, but the opportunity for them remains in many places at their will. Thanks one last time. SHB

includeInRecords: on
Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 66.30.229.136

From: Scott via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Mask Mandate Revisited

Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 6:19:20 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Scott (werscoraja@yahoo.com) on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 17:19:18

address: 42 Squid St

comments: Via Zoom, Council members, I watched the brief meeting held on 6/1, regarding masks. I want to counter some points. First, a Council member recently said publicly that "we draw people from all over the world". True. Without the signage, information in hotels and other means, most of these guests do not know we even have the mandate. So who are we punishing but our own? During the meeting a point was raised about teens. Two responses; Nobody is stopping these teens from masking, but more importantly, if businesses are going to rely on our kids to compensate for the lack of J-1 Visas, it is their responsibility to protect the kids by requiring masks of their patrons, not the city's. If and when these youth get vaccinated is neither the city's business, nor responsibility. These decisions do, and should, belong to the families. There was a thread I tagged some of you in after the meeting on June 1. In that thread alone there were no less than 22 comments fr!

om our own people (The post is on a Portsmouth page) who ventured to other communities over the holiday weekend rather than deal with our mandate. So really, what is hurting the city and its businesses more, having the mandate, or not? I urge the Council to repeal the mandate, effective at the conclusion of the meeting on 6/7, and announce the change publicly, including the ability of businesses to call for their own requirement, with city support and enforcement and that businesses from our WalMart and Pease employers to our smallest establishments be informed post haste. I thank you for your time and service.

includeInRecords: on
Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 66.30.229.136

From: andrew bagley via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Mask Mandate

Date: Monday, May 24, 2021 7:20:34 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by andrew bagley (abagley21@gmail.com) on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 18:20:32

address: 40 Chauncey Stret

comments: Dear Honorable Mayor, Assistant Mayor and City Council,

We should follow the science, it's time to lift the mask mandate.

Best regards, Andrew Bagley

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 72.65.104.110

From: SCOTT HOWARD BORNSTEIN via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Mask Mandate

Date: Sunday, May 23, 2021 3:28:48 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by SCOTT HOWARD BORNSTEIN (WERSCORAJA@YAHOO.COM) on Sunday, May 23, 2021 at 14:28:46

address: 42 Squid St

comments: To the Honorable City Council; I write today to voice the opinion of one family, and I do not pretend to speak for everyone, though I do feel many agree, it is beyond time to conclude our city's mask mandate.

Beyond the massive number of epidemiologists, scientists and leaders who have reached the same conclusion, the results in other states, cities and towns near and far over the past 2 months, combined with our success in Portsmouth, and the ever increasing vaccination rate all point to a conclusion to this temporary rule.

As I shopped today, with my family, in Newington, I made the decision to go there because a mask was not required for those of us who are vaccinated. In our case we also went through 3 1/2 months of COVID, and only extreme and excessive preparedness got us through it. Like you, we've all been on a terrible journey, and like any journey, it is time to conclude.

Knowing personally that there are people who have, and will venture to other locations for the Memorial Day weekend and other trips, solely because they're tired of this mandate and are welcoming, as we are, any place, business, restaurant, or community where we can breathe the fresh air again, view the smiles of others, and still feel and actually be safe, is not something we should ever have to ask for. Yet the mandate was necessary, and had my complete support as the Asst Mayor made his efforts to begin this hard task.

As our neighboring communities, states, businesses, restaurants and other venues proceed well ahead of us, and give new life to their communities, we sit falling behind, failing the city when it needs us most. It is time for Portsmouth to reemerge, healthy, safe, strong and forward thinking once again.

| I thank you for your time. |
|-------------------------------|
| Scott H Bornstein, Portsmouth |
| includeInRecords: on |
| Engage: Submit |
| |

REMOTE ADDR: 66.30.229.136

From: <u>Daniel Roberge via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Mask Mandate

Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 2:38:33 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Daniel Roberge (danielroberge87@gmail.com) on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 13:38:31

address: 1001 Islington st, Apartment 22

comments: I know there is a outpouring from what seems to be a select group of individuals who continually just say follow the science but the science still dosen't have a plan for those who can't be vaccinated or those with young children. I myself am Immunocompromised and even though i have my first shot I am still Highly at risk for a more Severe case of Covid-19. There are thousands of residents who are in the same boat not just here but across the entire state and seaboard. The service industry is getting abused is another poor argument maybe Individuals shouldn't be abusive to workers in general and that needs to be addressed across the board. But by dropping the mandate your opening everyone who still wears a mask for whatever to those same abuses. Even right now online in both city of Portsmouth groups hate and untrue statements are being made towards those choosing to play it safe. With tourist season readily approaching we are facing a dire time of citizens from less vaccinated states coming and going through our city at high volumes and we can't assume everyone who is unvaccinated will stay masked even though the CDC is still recommending indoor masking and social distancing in situations where unvaccinated people may be. More people will feel pressured to not wear one and put our community's most vulnerable at risk. Please think about the individuals who still don't have a choice if they wear one but don't want to face the scrutiny of wearing one so they no longer feel ok to go out again.

Thank you again for your time on the matter.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 71.233.82.201

From: <u>Joan Jacobs via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Mask ordinance

Date: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 11:27:33 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Joan Jacobs (jsjsjacobs@gmail.com) on Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 10:27:31

address: 579 Sagamore Ave #20

comments: I oppose a proposed action by the Council to terminate the mask mandate for Portsmouth. I can't understand why the council would not honor the recommendation of the City Health Officer.

The CDC recent guidance never said no one needs to wear a mask! People who have not been vaccinated, those under 12 years of age (too young to qualify for the shot), and people with compromised immune systems must continue to wear masks indoors and social distance. The perceived popular rush to prematurely eliminate the city mask mandate will once again place local businesses in the position of enforcing public health measures with no back up from our municipality.

thank you for your consideration

Joan Jacobs, MPH

The current ordinance will expire in 35 days! I observe the Council's tendency to tinker with it's own laws--the ill conceived plan to postpone implementation of elimination of single use plastic bags. It makes me wonder how seriously the council takes it's job--enacting laws based on the best evidence and allow them to work to work.

includeInRecords: on
Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 66.31.225.54

From: patty oneil via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Mask ordinance

Date: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 4:35:57 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by patty oneil (peoneil@me.com) on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 15:35:55

address: Brewery Lane Portsmouth

comments: Mr. Mayor and City Councilors,

it's time, rescind the mask mandate today. Do something positive here, and turn it over now. There's no need to drag this out - look around town, the mask wearers are few and far between. Restaurants and retail are asking but not "mandating" that masks be worn. Don't make them the mask police. Quite frankly the strident anti-vaxers won't be wearing a mask, so let's stop trying to protect people who don't care.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 73.38.243.207

From: Wade Graham via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Masks

Date: Monday, May 24, 2021 10:58:25 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Wade Graham (Grahamnh@comcast.net) on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 09:58:22

address: 8 Pine Street

comments: End the madness, and drop this mask mandate. June 30th is way too late, and not needed, especially for an area with so little covid cases. Stop it.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 73.149.191.144

From: <u>Jacqueline Cali-Pitts via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Meeting

Date: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 11:13:43 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jacqueline Cali-Pitts (cali0917@aol.com) on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 10:13:42

address: 40 Bedford Way

comments: I asked for a meeting with the Pierce Island committee and the recreation board and to date this not happened, unless it was a private meeting. Cuzin Richard agreed to facilitate this and it has not happened to date. It is my understanding that the island is in the jurisdiction of the Rec Board who then reports to the city council and the final say belongs to the council to place. date The recreation board has been sidestepped on many issues lately why?

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 75.68.180.157

From: <u>Jon Dickinson via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: More Evidence the Mask Mandate Should be Ended

Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 12:17:32 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jon Dickinson (jon3425@gmail.com) on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 11:17:30

address: 220 Walker Bungalow Rd

comments: Council,

The CDC estimates that one third of Americans have had COVID. 50% were asymptomatic and not represented in the statistics of people who had the virus.

Those with asymptomatic symptoms have some immunity to COVID. Further, they require only one shot for full immunity.

Taking that into consideration, a much higher number of people are both fully, and partially immune than is being reported.

A growing number of people, including myself, are flouting the mandate, and encouraging others to do the same. An increasing number of businesses are also ignoring the mandate.

It's in the best interest of the City to have a mandate in place that conflicts with science and it can no longer enforce.

If the city were to fine people or businesses for not wearing masks, when the position of the CDC and State both say it's not necessary, it would be embarrassing for the city and council, and most likely lead to legal action.

Please end the mandate ASAP.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 71.232.208.39

From: <u>James A Hewitt via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: New Police Station

Date: Saturday, May 29, 2021 3:29:24 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by James A Hewitt (samjakemax@aol.com) on Saturday, May 29, 2021 at 14:29:21

address: 726 Middle Road

comments: Dear Mayor Becksted and City Councilors:

I just returned from lunch at La Festa in Dover with the fam. Delish. While there I noticed Dover's new police station / parking garage combo that was built a few years back. Then I thought Portsmouth could do the same, though more spread out over time.

I understand City Hall's latest projections of when Foundry will have the same occupancy rates as the High / Hanover garage will be in the year 3015. I also understand that white elephant continues to bleed the People of Portsmouth white with an operating loss in the \$80,000 to \$100,000 per month range.

The City might as well put all that unused flex space and unused internal space next to it to good use as the new police station. The area of the flex space and vacant internal area is about 240 ft by 60 ft, or 14,500 +/- square feet. Additional space if needed could be attached to the south end of the garage. It's a perfect solution...close to downtown, no property acquisition costs, and plenty of glorious free parking.

| igage. Submit |
|--------------------|
| ngage: Submit |
| cludeInRecords: on |
| m Hewitt |
| egards, |

REMOTE ADDR: 66.31.1.195

From: Peter B. Harris via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Parking availability and fines

Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 8:53:26 AM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Peter B. Harris (peterbharris@gmail.com) on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 07:53:23

address: 46 Manning St, Portsmouth

comments: I'm very disappointed in the vote and decision to increase fines. The council is increasing punishment to a problem that they are permitting to worsen.

Doubling fines is excessive and impacts residents in an city with decrasing access to park and neighborhoods with increased pressure to parking spots from non residents and downtown workers..

Meanwhile the planning department is pushing approvals of building apartments with inadequate parking and to direct the boards to vote to override ordinances for required parking limits.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 174.249.34.5

From: <u>Dave Pepson via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Pls End Mask Mandate

Date: Sunday, May 23, 2021 1:47:44 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Dave Pepson (dpepson@comcast.net) on Sunday, May 23, 2021 at 12:47:42

address: 7 Portwalk Place Unit 1401

comments: To City Councilors:

I write to Strongly Urge that the Council votes to END any and all Mask Requirements IMMEDIATELY!! The current June 30th deadline is TOTALLY ARBITRARY -- with No Technical Basis. This is an ANTI-Science based deadline.

Anyone in NH who wants a vaccine can get one with no wait!!

While waiting will have no positive impact, it will continue to adversely impact Business and DIVIDE the community!!

Please show that Portsmouth is an enlightened, modern community that makes FACT BASED Decisions -- with no intent to support any Political Agenda!! Please Vote to end the Mask Requirement.

Thank You very much for considering my comments!!

Dave Pepson

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 73.38.242.142

From: <u>James A Hewitt via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Portsmouth Affordable Housing **Date:** Sunday, May 23, 2021 9:24:27 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by James A Hewitt (samjakemax@aol.com) on Sunday, May 23, 2021 at 20:24:25

address: 726 Middle Road

comments: Dear Mayor Becksted and City Councilors:

I understand from Article VIII of Chapter 9 of City Ordinances that the boarding houses on Cabot Street and Hanover Street need to be re-licensed every year. Has this been done in 2020? Also, does the City have plans to acquire these properties so they do not suffer the same fate as the affordable housing massacre at 21 Brewster Street?

ORDINANCE (cityofportsmouth.com)

http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/files/cityclerk/ordinances/Chapter9.pdf

Another important preemptive step that can be taken now is to have the City take steps to be sure Portsmouth's last two boarding houses to not turn into unaffordable housing like 21 Brewster St did, as described below. The PHA should be in discussions with the owners now so when they go up for sale, the PHA will be ready to save from the wrecking ball.

Thanks

Jim Hewitt

----Original Message----

From: Rebecca Perkins <rebeccaforportsmouth@gmail.com>

To: JAH <samjakemax@aol.com> Sent: Tue, May 9, 2017 7:08 am Subject: Re: Portsmouth Housing

Jim-

Thanks for your email. As you can always assume, many thoughtful people put time and effort into 21 Brewster. Brian Hogan was unwilling to sell for a price that would pencil for most of the parties who would have been interested in keeping the affordable component. Obviously I'm not at liberty to mention specific parties, but you can rest assured that it was thoroughly vetted to try and keep that property as affordable housing. Mark McNally is the only party who was able to make something work with what Brian was asking.

Thanks, Rebecca

Rebecca Perkins, Esq. City Councilor

City of Portsmouth, NH (603) 793-1076

From: JAH <samjakemax@aol.com> Sent: Saturday, May 6, 2017 4:59:40 PM

To: cdwyer@rmcres.com; ericspearportsmouth@gmail.com; asstmayorjimsplaine@gmail.com;

Joshuaddenton@hotmail.com; jcyr@joshuacyr.com; lown@nhtrialattorneys.com; votenancypearson@gmail.com;

rebeccaforportsmouth@gmail.com Subject: Re: Portsmouth Housing

Dear Mayor Blalock and City Councilors

Press reports of Portsmouth's affordable housing crisis that once denominated the news cycle appear to have gone silent lately. I see the 35 units of once affordable housing at 21 Brewster Street are well on their way to becoming 6 chichi condos that likely only Portsmouth's 1 percenters can afford. Destroying affordable housing to create more unaffordable housing I don't think is something Portsmouth's Housing advocates would like to repeat.

Thankfully, there is still time not to repeat this preventable folly again. 278 Cabot Street and 350-352 Hanover Street currently offer 12 units each of affordable housing in the \$ 135 / week range. Just as night follows day, these properties will be sold one day. And just as day follows night, a developer will convert them into more chichi unaffordable housing.

I would encourage the Portsmouth Housing Committee to be proactive and explore what activities Portsmouth can take now to ensure these West end, existing, permitted, down town, affordable housing units do not suffer the same fate as 21 Brewster St.

| hank you |
|---------------------|
| im Hewitt |
| ncludeInRecords: on |
| ingage: Submit |
| |

REMOTE ADDR: 66.31.1.195

From: Louis Lange via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Portsmouth"s Mask mandate

Date: Sunday, May 23, 2021 4:53:48 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Louis Lange (lou.lange@yahoo.com) on Sunday, May 23, 2021 at 15:53:46

address: 5 Freedom Circle, Apt. 13 Portsmouth, NH

comments: I have been trying my best to keep up with updates regarding the mask mandate. Are there plans to extend it beyond June 30?

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 71.232.209.91

From: <u>David and Ellie Sanderson via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Principle Group proposal

Date: Monday, May 17, 2021 5:41:30 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by David and Ellie Sanderson (davelsan@comcast.net) on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 16:41:28

address: 248 Spinney Rd.

comments: Both of us strongly urge all of the council members to vote in the affirmative on the Principle Group's proposal for the McIntyre redevelopment. We understand that this is not the last word, but we strongly hope that the council will take this initial step. Ellie and Dave Sanderson

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 66.30.231.170

From: <u>Elizabeth Dinan via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: public meetings

Date: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 7:04:44 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Elizabeth Dinan (dinanroom@gmail.com) on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 18:04:42

address: Portsmouth

comments: Good evening councilors, Thank you all for your dedicated service.

I assume you all know the Fire Commission does not live stream or record its meetings so the interested public can view its important business. Thank you for considering a change to this atypical practice.

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 24.61.221.217

From: <u>David Kinney via FormMail.com</u>

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Rats

Date: Thursday, May 20, 2021 2:23:05 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by David Kinney (dave23703@yahoo.com) on Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 13:23:03

address: 337 Thornton St

comments: Deaglan,

I had talked to you previously about the rat issue in our neighborhood. Nothing appears to have come from it. The issue is now very severe in the Creek Neighborhood. This is most likely do to the amount of construction going on everywhere. I have had animal control and the health department come visit to try and help with the problem, and another neighbor is now paying for an exterminator for his property. I have personally now spent hundreds of dollars on traps trying to keep them off my property. As a home owner, as well as a parent and pet owner, I am very concerned with diseases that can affect us, our kids or our pets that are being spread by these rodents. My goal is to see if the city could get an ordinance (or similar) in place that would require any future permitting that involved ground disturbances, would also require the owner to have an exterminator come in to eliminate rodents on property prior to digging. What would be the best way to have this done? Who do I!

need to talk to? This is a yearly problem that occurs when the construction escalates each spring and all the rodents get displaced. I foresee this problem getting worse when the north pond condos are built.

Feel free to give me a call, email or come by to discuss

Dave Kinney

includeInRecords: on

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 72.65.102.111

From: Rudy Burke via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Support to CONTINUE mask mandate

Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 3:53:28 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Rudy Burke (rudy.burke@gmail.com) on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 14:53:26

address: 176 Breakfast Hill Road, greenland

comments: Although all of us are still dealing with the minor inconvenience of masks and mask fatigue.. we need to continue wearing masks at every opportunity to both protect others who cannot vaccinate AND to protect ourselves from possible vaccine resistant Covid mutations until our new case counts are zero.

A mask mandate does not impact a business's traffic or it's ability to do business. YES...we can modify some of the business unfriendly aspects of a mandate such as restricted hours and capacity limitations...but requiring masks is still an important safety measure to protect those still vulnerable in our population.

Sure June 30 is an arbitrary date, but pulling the date IN will not magically open up tourism and businesses EXACTLY as leaving the mask mandate in place will also not magically IMPAIR tourism and businesses.

The science says we are on the CUSP of ending the pandemic, but WE ARE NOT THERE. Just because the loudest voices are making shutting down the mask mandate seem the will of the people does not change the science.

Please keep safe those who have not yet been able to get vaccinated, those who are unable to receive a vaccination, and those who foolishly refuse a vaccination.

Be leaders led by science, not followers who are led by those with the biggest grievance.

includeInRecords: on
Engage: Submit

REMOTE ADDR: 73.167.243.109

From: James A Hewitt via FormMail.com

To: Mayor Becksted; CC - Splaine; cc McEachern; CC-Peter Whelan; CC - Cliff Lazenby; CC - Kennedy; CC - Huda;

CC-John Tabor; CC-Paige Trace; City Council; CityCouncil Clerk

Subject: Workforce Housing Massacre

Date: Thursday, May 27, 2021 4:29:11 PM

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by James A Hewitt (samjakemax@aol.com) on Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 15:29:09

address: 726 Middle Road

comments: To:deaglan.mceachern@gmail.com + 8 more Details

Oh, and by the by, word on the street is Emperor Bohenko traded 54, 2-BR, 800 SF, \$1,440 / mo. workforce apartments at West End Yards for the connector road and the de rigueur 10 ft wide multi-use path without obtaining consent from the People as represented by their 9 proxies on the City Council. Sounds out of character to me, though.

Regards,

Jim Hewitt

---- Forwarded Message -----

From: JAH <samjakemax@aol.com>

To: deaglan.mceachern@gmail.com <deaglan.mceachern@gmail.com>; asstmayorjimsplaine@gmail.com

<asstmayorjimsplaine@gmail.com>; jtraceantiques@me.com <jtraceantiques@me.com>;
mayorbecksted@gmail.com <mayorbecksted@gmail.com>; esthersmarina@gmail.com

<esthersmarina@gmail.com>; Shavanopah@yahoo.com <shavanopah@yahoo.com>; Pawhelan@comcast.net

<pawhelan@comcast.net>; jktabor@gmail.com <jktabor@gmail.com>; lazenbyforportsmouth@gmail.com

<lazenbyforportsmouth@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021, 11:17:30 PM EDT Subject: Cate Street Bridge over Hodgson Brook

Dear Mayor Becksted and City Councilors:

I just wanted to make you aware that as per below, Chief Germain has confirmed that none of his emergency equipment can cross the subject bridge. (Its rated at 6,000 pounds when standard state and local bridges are rated at 100,000 pounds) Kindly keep this fact in mind when after Hodgson Way opens later this summer, it will create a short cut to downtown from Borthwick Ave to Islington St. Some have predicted this short cut will cause a south bound Route 1 By-Pass traffic queue waiting to turn left onto Hodgson Way to routinely back up across the Cottage / Coakley intersection, creating gridlock. The remedy is to remove the traffic signal and place a median across the Coakley / Cottage intersection (making these intersections right in, right out only) and the creation of the Coakley / Borthwick connector. (see attached CIP project that was once scheduled for FY 21 and is now scheduled for FY 26)

Therefore if (when) this happens, the only way Portsmouth emergency vehicles can get to Portsmouth Hospital from a large section of the West End is to cross the Cate Street bridge to Hodgson Way to Borthwick Ave. I suggest you keep this scenario in mind when prioritizing CIP projects for Cate Street Bridge Replacement and the Coakley / Borthwick Connector.

Regards,

Jim Hewitt

| Todd A. Germain (tagermain@cityofportsmouth.comTo:you Detail |
|---|
| Jim, |
| That is correct. |
| Todd Germain Fire Chief |
| Portsmouth Fire Department 170 Court St Portsmouth NH 03801 |
| Business (603) 427-1515 Cell (603) 502-3435 |
| Please excuse any typos. Sent from my iPhone |
| On May 26, 2021, at 4:37 PM, JAH <samjakemax@aol.com> wrote:</samjakemax@aol.com> |
| |
| Dear Chief Germain: |
| I was hoping you can confirm that none of your ambulances or fire fighting trucks can cross the subject bridge as they all weigh more than the posted bridge weight limit of 6,000 lbs. |
| Thanks |
| Jim Hewitt |
| includeInRecords: on |
| Engage: Submit |
| REMOTE_ADDR: 66.31.1.195 |
| |