

CITY COUNCIL E-MAILS

ADDENDUM

Received: July 8, 2021 (after 9:00 a.m.) – July 12 2021 (before 5:00 p.m.)

July 12, 2021 Council Meeting

New content:

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Robin Husslage ([rhusslage@hotmail.com](mailto:rhusslage@hotmail.com)) on Sunday, July 11, 2021 at 18:24:32

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address: 27 Rock Street

comments: Dear Mayor and City Councilors,

Neighborhood Parking Programs are created in an effort to provide relief for residents whose neighborhoods are impacted by nearby commercial and mixed-use districts while encouraging alternative parking for workers and visitors and providing increased revenue for the City of Portsmouth. Instituting a Neighborhood Parking Program is new for Portsmouth but these types of parking programs are found in nearly every large town and city across the United States. Determining the best mix of rules and regulations that works for the Islington Creek Neighborhood can only be found by trying a pilot program which is rolled out with an easy feedback loop so the program can quickly and easily be tweaked until we find what works. Our neighborhood needs a solution, so please let's take the next step, Portsmouth...so Islington Creek residents who are bearing the brunt of our city's growth can get some relief and have a fighting chance of finding a parking spot near their homes.

Thanks in advance for supporting the residents of Islington Creek to help the City increase its parking revenue while making our neighborhood more livable.

With regards,  
Robin Husslage  
27 Rock Street  
includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Matthew Glenn ([matthglenn@gmail.com](mailto:matthglenn@gmail.com)) on Monday, July 12, 2021 at 10:52:47

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address: 34 Harrison

comments: Dear Mayor and Councilors,

I'm very glad to read that several of you will now support a multi-use path on Peverly Hill Road, acknowledging the need for people outside of cars to use the road safely. While that single multi-use path would support the connectivity I've been asking for, I still have concerns about revisiting a plan that has gone through so much neighborhood input and compromise over the years.

It's a mistake to say we haven't yet explored a single multi-use path without a sidewalk. That was one of three complete streets options considered in June and July of 2016-- see the presentation here:

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2021-02/21-0217%20Public%20Meeting%20%28004%29.pdf>

Just one side path was discussed again in 2019, and again earlier this year. The problem raised by many people on the other side of the road is that with just a path on the west side, they would have to cross busy traffic, maybe twice, to use it. Nobody spoke against this idea of one path at the recent meeting because it wasn't on the table.

Several of you continue to say you won't support the "taking of someone's land", but in fact none of the nine property owners who would need to give a permanent easement have expressed any public opposition to the project. What I heard at the last meeting was exactly one resident asking for a "sidewalk only", and exactly one asking for a "multi-use path only". Neither is impacted directly, as the project would be completely on city property in front of their homes. Many Peverly Hill residents spoke in support of the current design, including one who would be giving up a large permanent easement. So why focus on that one or two asking for something else?

Finally, it may be worth considering 8 feet vs 10 feet in spots, but I would prefer not to meddle at that level of detail with a design created by a professional engineering firm based on national best practices. I also don't see why it is necessary, unless property owners at a few specific locations request it. If you do in fact have consensus among PH residents, nearby neighbors, and design professionals that 8 feet is sufficient and safe, then I'm happy to see it move forward, but right now I'm concerned about a speedy bike rider passing a parent with a stroller on a narrower path.

So again, I'm thrilled that Mayor Becksted and Councilors Trace and Huda have come around to supporting non-motorized users of the road. Thank you so much. I would just remind you that to begin construction in 2023, city staff had asked the council to schedule a public necessity hearing for June 7th, now long past. Please schedule that hearing without further delay, as we have a plan on the table right now that has been thoroughly vetted, is full of compromise, and that most Peverly Hill residents and nearby neighbors support.

Sincerely,  
Matthew Glenn  
includeInRecords: on