

CITY COUNCIL E-MAILS

ADDENDUM

Received: September 30, 2021 (after 9:00 a.m.) – October 4, 2021 (before 5:00 p.m.)

October 4, 2021 Council Meeting

New content:

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Scott Fales (sfales@hotmail.com) on Thursday, September 30, 2021 at 12:26:28

address: 151 Aldrich Road

comments: 30-Sep-2021

TO: Portsmouth City Council
Portsmouth Parking and Traffic Safety Committee
Subject: Aldrich Road Speed Hump

The new speed hump at the intersection of Aldrich Road and Boss Avenue is not a successful traffic calming feature and is actually contributing noise and vibration issues for residents in the immediate area, adversely affecting the quality of life. There are still many speeding vehicles on Aldrich Road that have no regard for the speed hump or their vehicles or for the safety of people in this neighborhood.

Commercial vehicles, some towing trailers, are traveling well over the posted speed limit as they fly over the speed hump with equipment bouncing around in their truck beds or on the trailers. I witnessed a port-a-potty almost tip off of a flatbed truck one day as it flew over the speed hump at 30 mph. I have personally cleaned up items on the street that have fallen from vehicles - bolts and other hardware, tie wraps, pieces of plastic car parts.

Trucks with multiple axles are a real problem. The house literally shakes when they speed over the feature. Several of my neighbors also report shaking as well. The noise from all of this traffic is becoming unbearable. The vehicles that do slow down for the speed hump are loudly accelerating on the other side. It is quite annoying.

The installation of one speed hump is not deterring speeders from using Aldrich Road as a cut through between Islington and Middle Streets. The original traffic calming plan called for three speed humps on Aldrich Road. I'm not so sure that adding two more is the answer.

I ask you to consider some other suggestions:

Make Aldrich Road a one-way street with traffic flowing from Islington Street to Middle Street.

Make Cass Street a one way street from Middle Street to Islington Street.

Use traffic calming features, chokers or chicanes, to narrow the width of Aldrich Road in strategic places.

Encourage residents to park on both sides of the street and not just in the bump outs. Inform residents that it's legal to do this.

Relocate the existing speed feedback device to the utility pole at the intersection of Boss Avenue (the device is partially blocked by a pair of young trees and parked vehicles). Consider replacing this device with one that flashes "SLOW DOWN" when the posted speed limit is violated.

Paint the word "SLOW" or "20 MPH" in the street at several places on Aldrich Road.

Adopt a "Twenty is Plenty" campaign and install signs on city streets that have a 20 mph speed limit.

Enforcement, enforcement, enforcement! If education and environmental changes are not solving the problem, then enforcement is the only answer! Give the police what they need to enforce speed laws.

Please make our streets safer!

Yours truly,
Scott Fales
151 Aldrich Road

includeInRecords: on

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by petar ramadanovic (petarr@unh.edu) on Friday, October 1, 2021 at 08:24:22

address: 393 UNION ST

comments: Hi Everyone,
Sorry to bother you with this but the indoor pool is still closed. you all had told us that it will open after the repairs are done. Now, the outgoing message at the pool says it will remain closed until social distancing ends. Most of us are vaccinated, please, open the pool. It is not reasonable to keep it closed.
Petar

includeInRecords: on

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Tom Morgan (tzm7@mac.com) on Sunday, October 3, 2021 at 10:11:37

address: 39 Richards Avenue

comments: Well, that was quite a story in the Herald's Oct 1 edition: "Portsmouth Planning Board hires attorney to represent it in front of another city board"

The part of the article that caught my attention was the following sentence: "Legg sent an email to his fellow Planning Board members following Tuesday night's Board of Adjustment meeting."

If the Herald's account is accurate, it would appear that Planning Board Chairman Legg engaged in direct communication (outside of a public meeting) with other Planning Board members, concerning a Planning Board applicant. Such communications are prohibited by NH RSA 91-A, a statute that is more commonly known as the Right to Know Law. This practice is unacceptable. Did any Planning Board members respond to Mr. Legg via email? Do other members of the City's land use boards engage in such communications? Has City staff advised them to refrain from doing so?

includeInRecords: on
