

Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan

Pre-Bid Meeting

Portsmouth, NH







August 15, 2013

2005 Master Plan

GOAL: Provide for safe and convenient bicycle and pedestrian circulation throughout the City.

- Develop a city-wide bicycle and pedestrian plan
- Provide safe and sufficient parking facilities for bicycles
- Create a network of both shared and separated routes for safe cycling and walking.
- Increase public awareness and involvement in bicycle and pedestrian planning

Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan






-  Comprehensive approach
-  Identification of needs
-  Justification for improvements
-  Road map for implementing improvements
-  Guides funding and investments
-  Mechanism for evaluation and monitoring of improvements



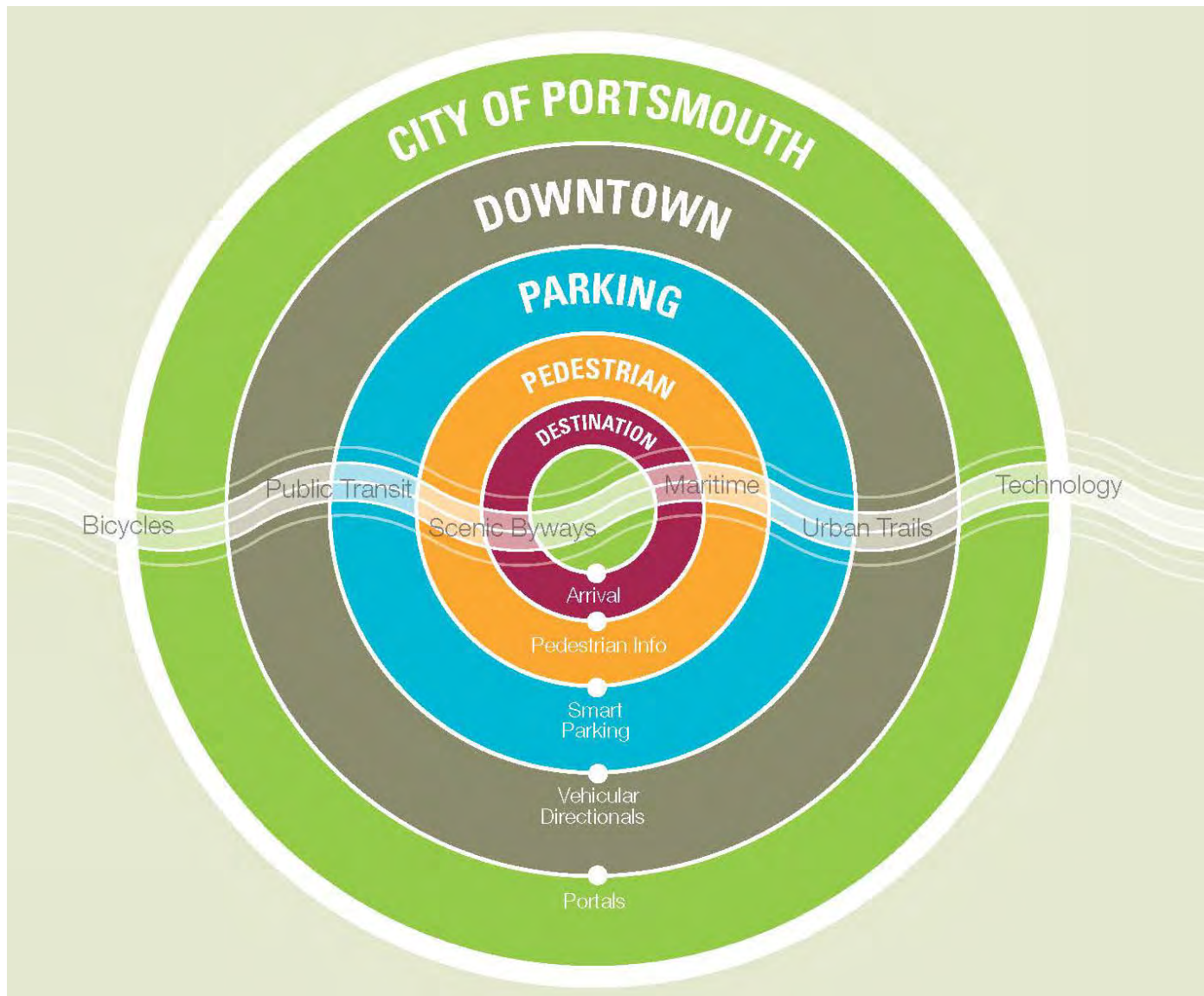
Related City Policies

- Planning Board
 - Site Plan Review Regulations amendments
 - Complete Streets policy statement
- City Council
 - Sidewalk policy
- Transportation Policy Committee
 - Report to City Council April 2013






Related City Initiatives

-  City-wide Wayfinding Plan
-  Bicycle and Walk Friendly Communities Designations
-  Safe Routes to School
-  Complete Streets
-  2015 Master Plan Update

Wayfinding










-  Recognizes communities
-  Promotes bicycle and pedestrian awareness
-  Provides technical assistance
-  Provides benchmarks
-  Inspires further action



Moving toward BFC & WFC designation

-  Adopt the BFC and WFC Action Plans
-  Create a Bicycle/ Pedestrian Master Plan
-  Adopt a Complete Streets Policy
-  Implement some “bricks and mortar” improvements
-  Continued participation in Safe Routes to School program



Bike Lanes and Route Markings



Shared Lane Markings (Sharrows)

- State St and Daniel St (planned)
- Scott Ave (planned)
- Dennett St, Junkins Ave, Marcy St, Pleasant St, Maplewood Ave, Middle St, Market St (future)



Bike Lanes


- Market Street Extension (existing)
- Maplewood Ave (existing)
- Memorial Bridge (planned)
- Sagamore Ave (planned)
- Peverly Hill Rd (planned)
- Lafayette / Middle Street (proposed)

Paths and Trails

- 🚲 Pease Multi-Use Trail (planned/funded)
- 🚲 Hampton Branch Rail Trail (proposed)



Infrastructure

 Bike parking (racks and storage)

 Bus shelters

 Sidewalks / Crosswalks



2010 Safe Routes to School Action Plan

■ Physical Improvements

- Signage and School Zone Improvements
- Sidewalks and Paths
- Bicycle Facilities

■ School-Specific Engineering Recommendations

- New Franklin Elementary School
- Portsmouth Middle School
- St. Patrick School
- Little Harbour Elementary School
- Dondero Elementary School

■ Education and Encouragement

- Walk Mount Washington Challenge
- Walk & Bike Across the State
- Walk & Bicycle to School Day
- Walking School Bus
- Suggested Route to School Maps
- Bicycle Rodeos
- Golden Sneaker Award



New Franklin School

North Mill Pond

St. Patrick School

Portsmouth Middle School

South Mill Pond

Little Harbour School

Portsmouth

Portsmouth High School

Prescott Park

Leary Field

Clough Field

Peirce Island

Shapleigh Island

Ladybug

Maine
New Hampshire

Grant Request Highlights

- Design and construct on-road bicycle route
- Coordinate walk / bike to school day activities
- Evaluate walk / bike to school habits
- Increase traffic safety enforcement
- Provide bicycle racks at schools
- Improve crosswalk safety
- Program coordination support

Evaluation Activities

 Bicycle / Pedestrian Counts

 Walkability / Bikability Checklists

Take a walk and use this checklist to rate your neighborhood's walkability.
How walkable is your community?

Location of walk **Rating Scale:** 1 2 3 4 5 6
awful many some good very good excellent
problems problems

1. Did you have room to walk?

Yes Some problems:

- Sidewalks or paths started and stopped
- Sidewalks were broken or cracked
- Sidewalks were blocked with poles, signs, shrubbery, dumpsters, etc.
- No sidewalks, paths, or shoulders
- Too much traffic
- Something else _____

Rating: (circle one) _____ **Locations of problems:** _____
1 2 3 4 5 6

4. Was it easy to follow safety rules? Could you and your child...

Yes No

- Cross at crosswalks or where you could see and be seen by drivers?
- Stop and look left, right and then left again before crossing streets?
- Walk on sidewalks or shoulders facing traffic where there were no sidewalks?
- Cross with the light?

Rating: (circle one) _____ **Locations of problems:** _____
1 2 3 4 5 6

2. Was it easy to cross streets?

Yes Some problems:

- Road was too wide
- Traffic signals made us wait too long or did not give us enough time to cross
- Needed striped crosswalks or traffic signals
- Parked cars blocked our view of traffic
- Trees or plants blocked our view of traffic
- Needed curb ramps or ramps needed repair
- Something else _____

Rating: (circle one) _____ **Locations of problems:** _____
1 2 3 4 5 6

5. Was your walk pleasant?

Yes Some problems:

- Needed more grass, flowers, or trees
- Scary dogs
- Scary people
- Not well lighted
- Dirty, lots of litter or trash
- Dirty air due to automobile exhaust
- Something else _____

Rating: (circle one) _____ **Locations of problems:** _____
1 2 3 4 5 6

3. Did drivers behave well?

Yes Some problems: Drivers ...

- Backed out of driveways without looking
- Did not yield to people crossing the street
- Turned into people crossing the street
- Drove too fast
- Sped up to make it through traffic lights or drove through traffic lights?
- Something else _____





Rating: (circle one) _____ **Locations of problems:** _____
1 2 3 4 5 6

How does your neighborhood stack up? Add up your ratings and decide.

1. _____	26-30	Celebrate! You have a great neighborhood for walking.
2. _____	21-25	Celebrate a little. Your neighborhood is pretty good.
3. _____	16-20	Okay, but it needs work.
4. _____	11-15	It needs lots of work. You deserve better than that.
5. _____	5-10	It's a disaster for walking!
Total: _____		





Now that you've identified the problems, go to the next page to find out how to fix them.

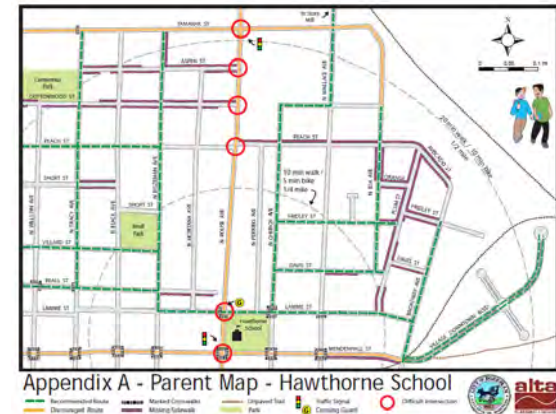
Education

-  Walk and Bike to School Days
-  Web presence
-  National conference
-  Program coordination



Encouragement

-  SRTS Maps
-  Walk Mount Washington Challenge
-  Bike Rally and Rodeo
-  Give-aways / incentives



MY CHILD WALKED UP
MT. WASHINGTON
(ON HER WAY TO SCHOOL!)

Enforcement and Safety

Common Unsafe Road User Behaviors

Road User	Behavior
Drivers	Speeding
	Failing to yield to students walking or biking, especially students in crosswalks
	Running red lights or stop signs
	Passing stopped school buses
	Parking or stopping in crosswalks
	Stopping in a bus zone (drop-off and pick-up)
	Dropping off or picking up students in the street rather than adjacent to the curb
	Drivers letting students walk between parked cars
	Violating school drop-off and pick-up procedures
Pedestrians	Not following directions of the crossing guard or signals
	Not looking left, right then left before crossing the street
	Crossing the street at an undesirable location
	Darting out between parked motor vehicles
	Wearing dark clothes when there is poor lighting
Bicyclists	Riding into traffic without looking left, right then left again
	Riding against traffic rather than with the traffic flow
	Turning left without looking and signaling
	Not obeying traffic signs or signals
	Riding out from a driveway or between parked vehicles
	Not wearing a bike helmet
Not being visible at night when riding in the road	



Source: Safe Routes to School Guide, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, www.saferoutesinfo.org/ Accessed December 28, 2007

Engineering / Infrastructure

 Bicycle route

 Bicycle racks

 Pedestrian crosswalk signs



City of Portsmouth, NH
Rockingham County
December, 2012

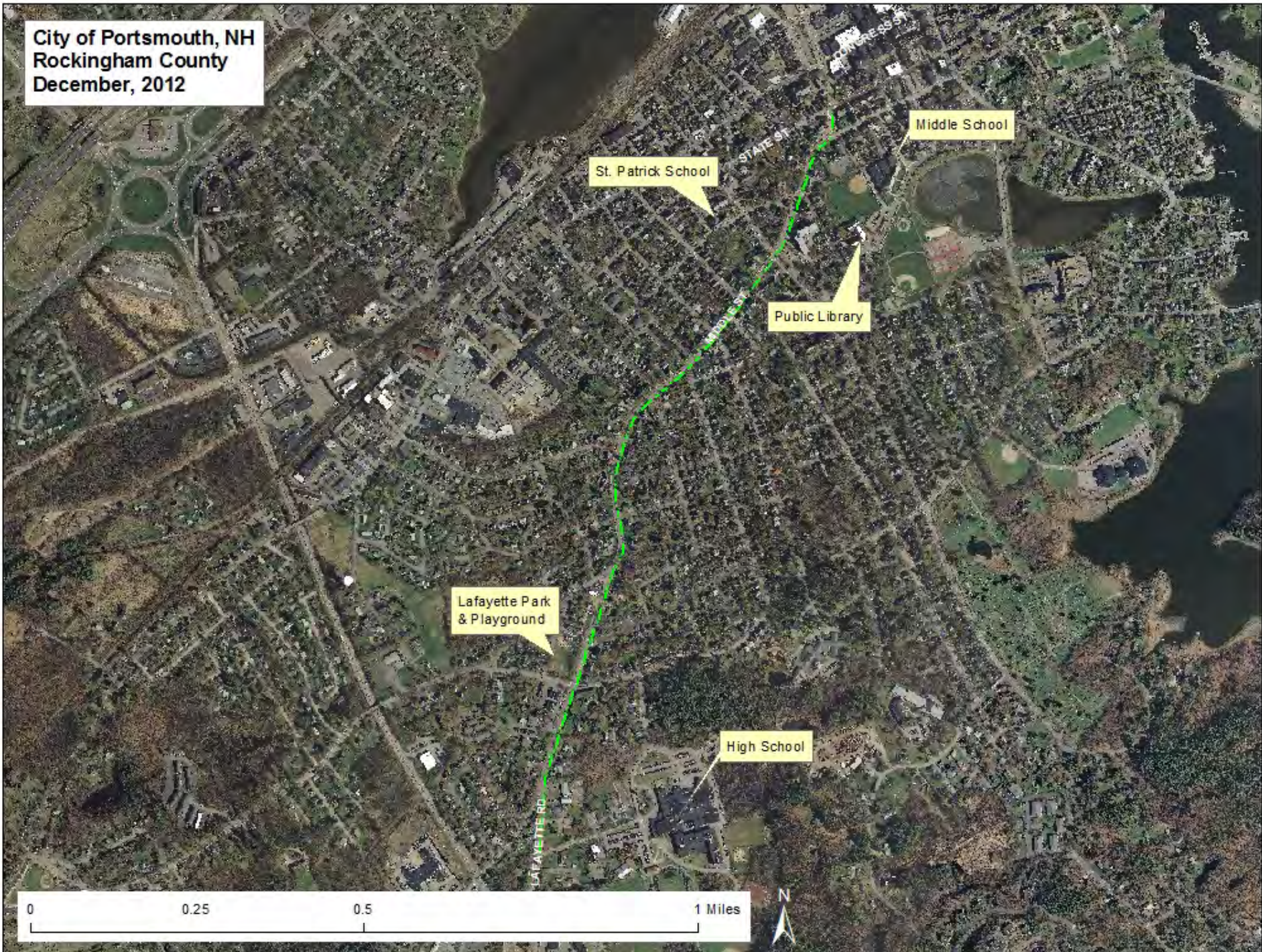
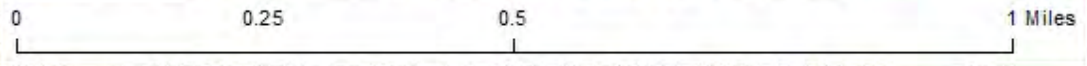
St. Patrick School

Middle School

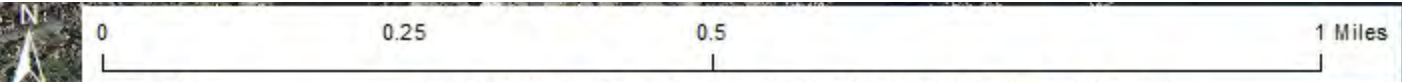
Public Library

Lafayette Park
& Playground

High School



City of Portsmouth, NH
Rockingham County
December, 2012



Complete Streets

Complete Streets are safe, comfortable, and convenient for travel for everyone, regardless of age or ability – motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transportation riders.



Related Projects

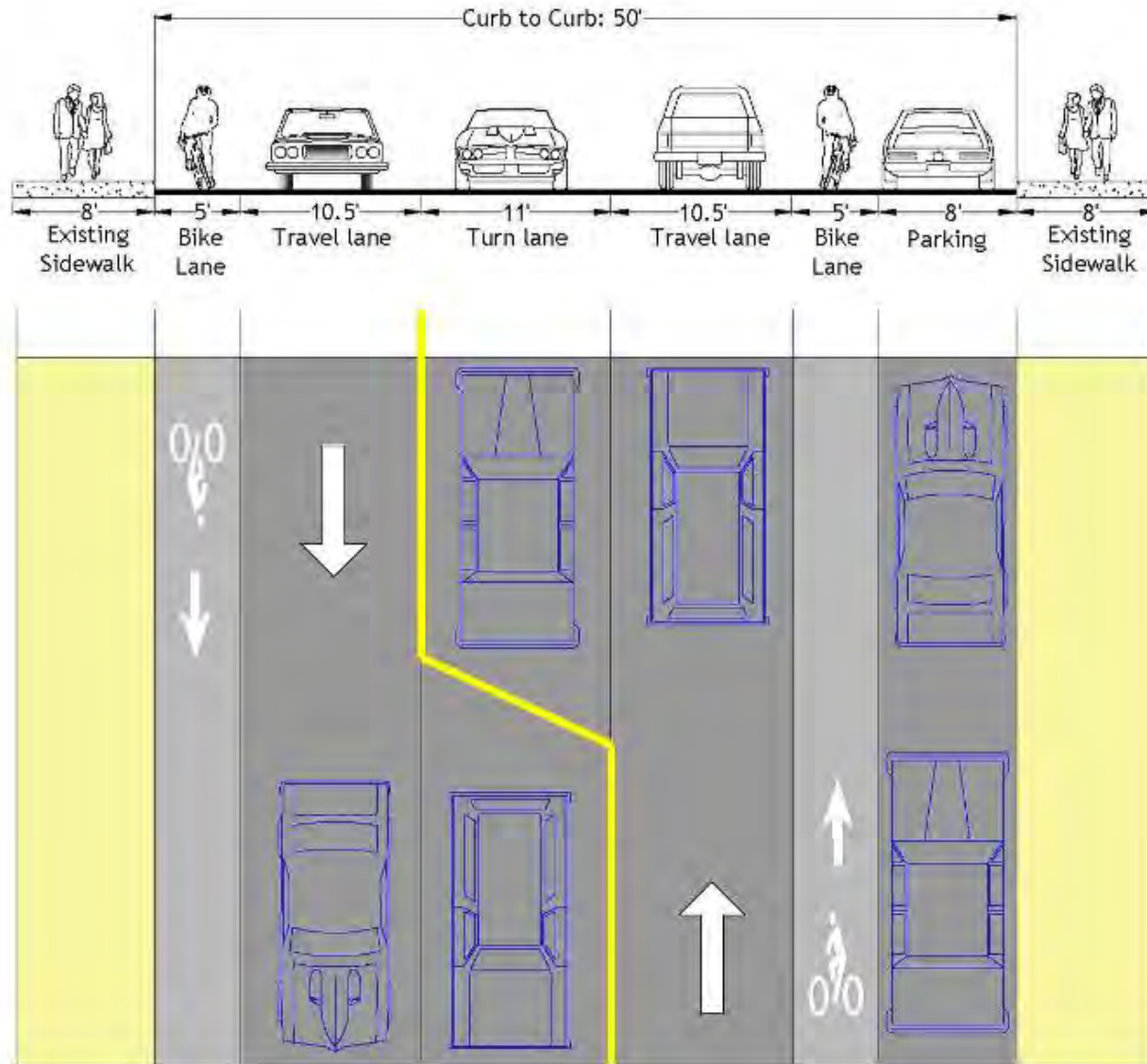
- Daniel Street (2013)
- State Street (2009-2011)
- Islington Street Streetscape Study (2008-2009)
- Maplewood Avenue Feasibility Study (2013)
- Market Street Gateway (2013)
- Sagamore Avenue (2013-2014)



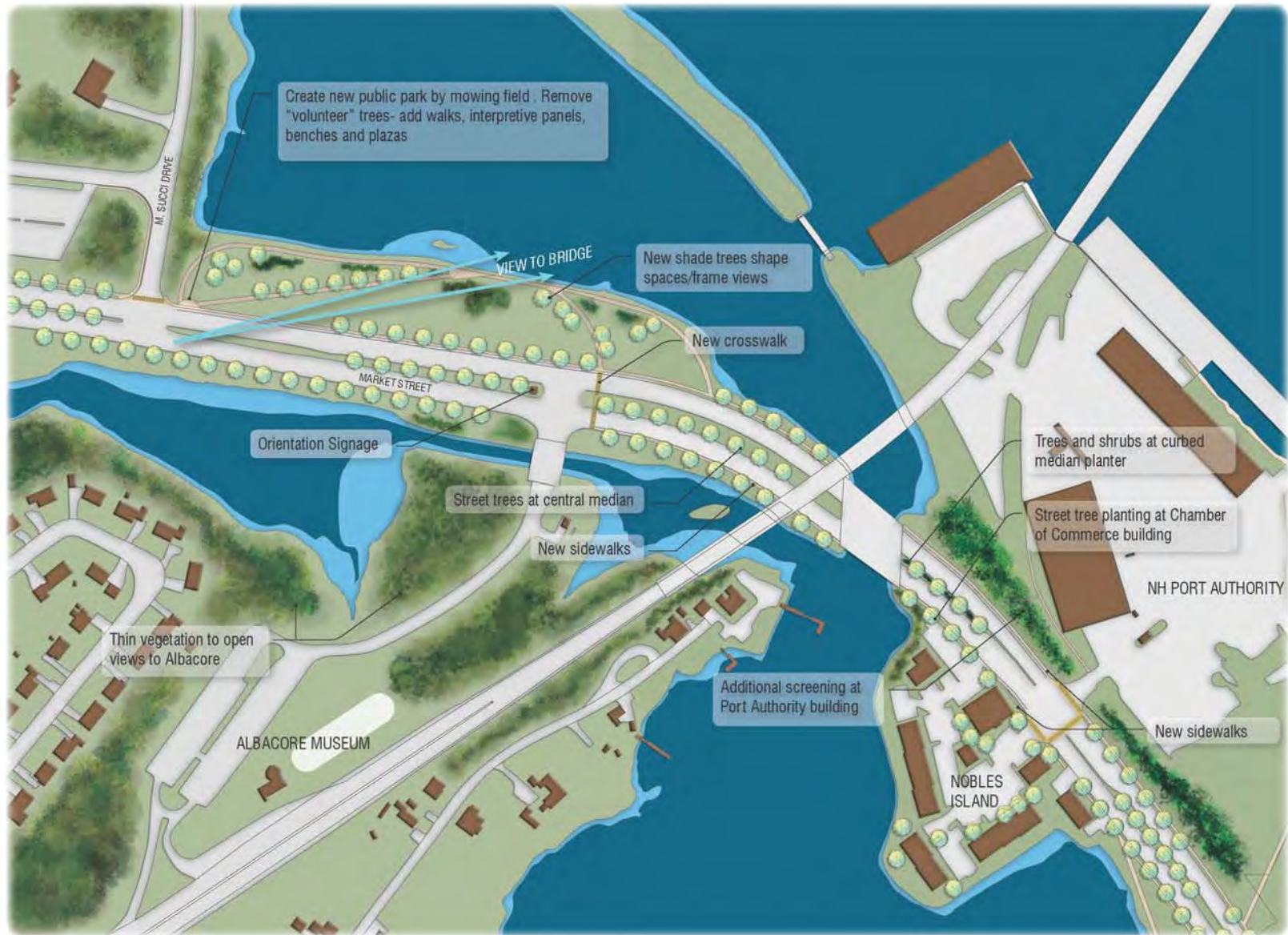
Islington Street Corridor Study



Maplewood Ave "Road Diet"



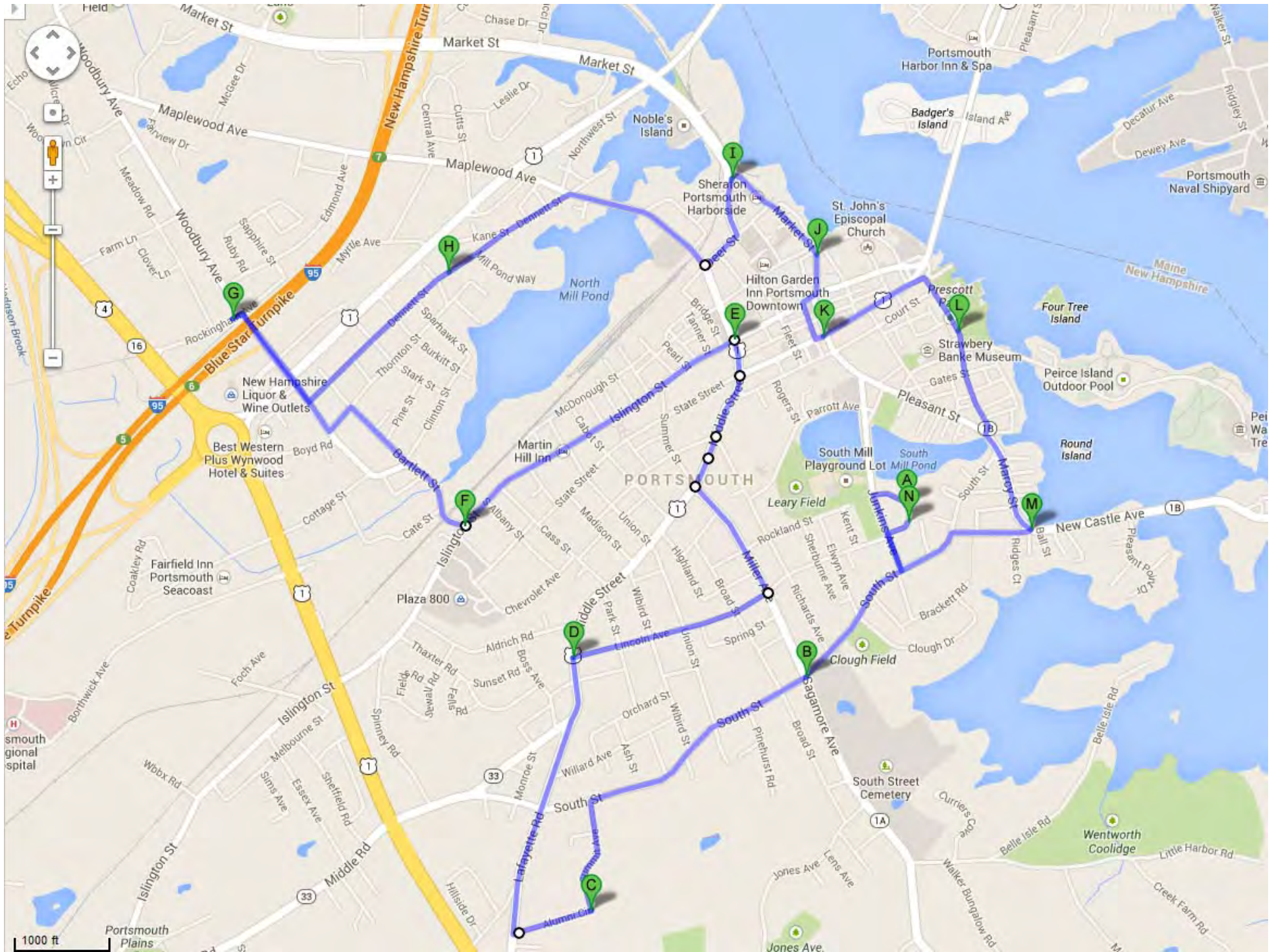
MARKET STREET CENTRAL



Complete Streets

Complete Streets Policy

- Commitment to following nationally recognized street design standards and reference best practices in street management
- Draft Policy included in Transportation Policy Report



1000 ft

Portsmouth Plains

PORTSMOUTH

Maine New Hampshire

Wentworth Coolidge

South Street Cemetery

Clough Field

Leary Field

South Mill Playground Lot

Strawbery Banke Museum

Hilton Garden Inn Portsmouth Downtown

Portsmouth Harbor Inn & Spa

Best Western Plus Wynwood Hotel & Suites

New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets

Fairfield Inn Portsmouth Seacoast

Maplewood Ave

Market St

Middle Rd

Islington St

South St

Islington St

Islington St

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Map Key Locations

- A. City Hall – anticipated replacement of bike rack at front door in early fall
- B. Sagamore Ave – planned improvements from South St down to Sagamore Bridge will include bicycle and pedestrian accommodations (roadway design not yet complete), bridge work to begin this fall
- C. High School – bike racks will be replaced this fall, planned bike lane and/or sharrows planned from Lafayette Rd north to Middle St and into downtown
- D. Lincoln Ave – proposed as “bicycle boulevard” in Safe Routes to School Action Plan
- E. Islington / Middle / Maplewood intersection – complex and high traffic location, timing of lights can be long, high pedestrian usage, Maplewood Ave “Road Diet” Feasibility Study is reviewing this section between intersection and Deer St
- F. Islington St Corridor – narrow and lots of congestion, Islington Street Corridor Study recommended streetscape improvements
- G. Rockingham Ave – start of off-road bike path to Pease
- H. Dennett St and Maplewood Ave – bike route signed along Dennett, bike lane along portion of Maplewood
- I. Market St – Gateway Corridor Study is starting, expected to coincide with bike / ped master plan, study area extends to Exit 7 off I-95
- J. Market St – one-way only, one of the primary entry points to Market Sq
- K. State St – planned sharrows from Pleasant St to Marcy St
- L. Marcy St – designated East Coast Greenway route
- M. New Castle Ave intersection – East Coast Greenway continues on Route 1B towards New Castle, New Castle Ave is a highly traveled bike and ped route, narrow roadway
- N. City Hall