

PORTSMOUTH



PRESS RELEASE

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Blue Ribbon Committee on the Prescott Park Master Plan Announces Initial Input Opportunities

PORTSMOUTH, NH – The Mayor’s Blue Ribbon Committee on the Prescott Park Master Plan is announcing several dates for upcoming meetings related to the Prescott Park Master Plan. “The Committee is committed to ensuring broad participation across the City in the master planning process for this invaluable public space,” said Portsmouth City Councilor Chris Dwyer. “We are really asking residents to be aspirational and to share their ideas about the future for the Park.”

Councilor Chris Dwyer is chairing the Committee, which was appointed earlier this year. She emphasized there will be many public input opportunities associated with this project. “We are in the data gathering stage and want to collect as much input from the public as possible.”

There are three key events that will anchor this early phase of the project:

1. **A kick-off event for the Prescott Park Master Plan will be held in the Park on Sunday, June 12th.** The kick-off will be held twice on the same day, at 12:30 p.m. and again at 2:30 p.m. “We are having the kick-off take place at two different times, but the information will be the same; we wanted to give people the option of choosing the best time for their schedule,” said Dwyer. The kick-off will include a presentation by Weston & Sampson, the firm retained by the City for the Master Plan project. The presentation at each session will be followed by inviting attendees to move throughout the Park with aerial maps, clipboards and cameras in hand to record their ideas

about what is possible for the Park's future. "We will invite attendees to take pictures and send them to the team as another way of communicating ideas," said Chair Dwyer.

2. An evening **Public Input Session will be held at Portsmouth City Hall on Wednesday, June 22nd at 6:30 p.m.** This meeting will include the kick-off presentation by Weston & Sampson, a public input session, and some initial reporting out of the ideas received from the June 12th kick-off event.
3. A **"Park Presence Day" will be held on Saturday June 25th.** At this event, the Weston & Sampson team will be in the Park to speak with members of the Committee to review the project goals, existing conditions information and to gather input and ideas from residents about the Park's future.

In the coming weeks, members of the Weston & Sampson team will be at various venues, helping spread the word about these series of events. Weston & Sampson will have postcards advertising the upcoming events as well as aerial photos and comment cards on:

- Saturday June 4th at 10:00 a.m. at Plains Ball Field at Plains Avenue;
- Saturday June 4th at 11:30 a.m. at the Chowder Festival in Prescott Park;
- Saturday June 11th at 10:00 a.m. at Hislop Park Little League off of Preble Way in the Atlantic Heights Neighborhood; and
- Saturday June 11th at the City of Portsmouth Market Square Day Booth at Penhallow and Daniel Streets.

Additional Opportunities to Engage with the Project

"As the project moves forward, we will be adding additional opportunities including more input sessions and park presence days," said Dwyer. In addition, members of the public can use the City's website to subscribe to updates about the project as well as submit their comments via a public comment form.

Information about these events will be posted to the website for the Blue Ribbon Committee:

<http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/PrescottParkMasterPlan.html>