PUBLIC MEETING HISTORICAL RESOURCE IMPACT MITIGATION PEIRCE ISLAND WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

AUGUST 17, 2016 6:30 P.M. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL 1 JUNKINS AVENUE PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801

The City of Portsmouth, New Hampshire ("City") is upgrading its Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Facility (Peirce Island WWTF) in order to meet the requirements of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit issued on April 1, 2007 for the facility. The upgrade will require the partial demolition of the Sludge Processing Building (c. 1963) which is a contributing building to the proposed National Register Portsmouth Downtown Historic District. As required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in consultation with the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Officer (NHSHPO) has determined that the partial demolition of the Sludge Processing Building constitutes an "Adverse Effect" under the National Historic Preservation Act. The City and the EPA have consulted with NHSHPO to outline potential mitigation measures to address the adverse impact.

The purpose of this meeting is to outline the proposed mitigation measures and to solicit public comment. The proposed mitigation measures include:

- Documenting the Sludge Processing Building by the completion of New Hampshire Historic Property Documentation prior to demolition and providing,
- Developing a report examining the historic evolution of wastewater treatment in the City starting with the construction of the "brick box" infrastructure originally laid by and for the Frank Jones Brewery to the present,
- New or revised signage on Peirce Island to describe the Peirce Island WWTF's historical significance, and
- A protocol for reporting potential adverse effects on historic resources during construction of the WWTF upgrade.

These potential mitigation measures are further defined in a draft Memorandum of Agreement that can be found at <u>www.portsmouthwastewater.com</u>.

The public will be given an opportunity to comment at the meeting. For those who would prefer to submit written comments, they may be submitted to the City by 5 p.m. on August 19, 2016. Written comments may be mailed to Don Song, P.E., Department of Public Works, 680 Peverly Hill Rd., Portsmouth, NH 03801 or sent electronically to him at dsong@cityofportsmouth.com.