

## CITY COUNCIL E-MAILS

Received: March 3, 2022 (after 9:00 a.m.) – March 7, 2022 (before 4:30 p.m.)

### March 7, 2022 Council Meeting

#### New content:

**Submitted on Thu, 03/03/2022 - 18:31**

**Full Name**

Jeff Collins

**Email**

[jeffreycollins@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffreycollins@yahoo.com)

**Subject**

77 Meredith Way

**Address**

77 Meredith Way

**Message**

Hello Mayor Deaglan McEachern and Council Members,

We are asking that the City Council carefully consider every aspect of our application to un-merge our property at 77 Meredith Way. Please take the time to review all submitted documents and watch the February 17th Planning Board video. We hope you will base your decision on what is best for the Creek neighborhood.

Thank You,

Randi and Jeff Collins

**Please indicate if you would like your comment to be part of the public record for the upcoming City Council meeting.** Yes

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**Submitted on Sat, 03/05/2022 - 21:35**

**Full Name**

James Hewitt

**Email**

[samjakemax@aol.com](mailto:samjakemax@aol.com)

**Subject**

EV Charging Stations

**Address**

726 Middle Road

**Message**

Dear Mayor McEachern and City Councilors:

I understand at the March 7, 2022 City Council meeting, a motion will be made to add a last-minute project to the Planning Board's previously approved FY 2023-2028 Capital Improvement Plan. The project will be to add \$150,000.00 per year for the next 5 years for EV charging stations at unknown locations around Portsmouth.

I will remind you again that this proposal is nothing more than Trump-style corporate welfare to further enrich the world's greatest tax scofflaw, Elon Musk. (see Observer story below). Could this proposal also just be blatant political virtue signaling to score some votes? Perhaps as our former Assistant Mayor Splaine was so frequently fond of saying "It's time for a trip down memory lane". About one hundred ten years ago, Henry Ford, like Elon Musk today, revolutionized the transportation world with the internal combustion engine powered Model T. And just like Elon Musk, Henry Ford's invention was hailed as a godsend for the environment, for it eliminated the foul mixture of horse manure and horse urine that coated every American city street ankle deep, including Portsmouth.

In Portsmouth's FY 1912- 1917 CIP , was there \$150,000 per year to use taxpayers' money to publicly fund the construction of gasoline stations to help promote the use of environmentally friendly Model Ts?. No, there was not. John D. Rockefeller of Standard Oil saw the market, and raised capital, and constructed thousands of gasoline stations around the county. The same will happen EV chargers, just as KoGo is doing in Rochester in the article below.

In the next 5 years, Portsmouth is going to have to fund some huge capital improvement projects, such as a \$50 million dollar wastewater treatment plant at Pease, a \$40 million dollar police station, reconstruct of two NHDOT red listed bridges, \$2-10 million dollars for Maplewood Ave bridge and \$2 million for Cate Street Bridge, \$2.5 million for Peverly Hill Road, \$2.2 million for the skateboard park, \$1.6 million for Elwyn Park sidewalks to name a few. This City can't spare a dime on projects that aren't absolutely critical to keep the City running.

I suggest the EV charging CIP request be mailed with our compliments to the wealthiest man on earth at his new address: Elon Musk c/o Gigafactory Texas, 13101 Harold Green Road, Austin, Texas 78725

Regards,

Jim Hewitt

P.S. I checked the box to have this email be made part of the public record in the CC packet

We Need to Build More EV Chargers, but Where? (caranddriver.com)

<https://www.caranddriver.com/news/a36504484/ev-charging-infrastructure/>

<https://www.fosters.com/story/news/local/2022/01/12/kogo-wants-bring-electric-car-charging-stations-rochester-nh-evs/9159354002/>

<https://observer.com/2022/02/tesla-2021-federal-corporate-tax-elon-musk-personal-income/>

Please indicate if you would like your comment to be part of the public record for the upcoming City Council meeting. Yes

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**Submitted on Sun, 03/06/2022 - 17:01**

**Full Name**

Petra Huda

**Email**

[pahuda384@gmail.com](mailto:pahuda384@gmail.com)

**Subject**

Please properly post to the public, the subject of the March 7th, 2022 "anticipated non-public sessions"

**Address**

280 South St.

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

**Message**

Mayor & City Council members:

I request that you please properly post to the public, the subject of the March 7th, 2022 "anticipated non-public sessions" as required under: RSA 91-A:

-Which collective bargaining agreement are you discussing? (i.e. fire, police, school)

-What is the subject of the "consideration of legal advice" ? (i.e. McIntyre, DSA)

Also, in following #6 in your newly announced "City Council Goals" to continuously enhance City Council Best Practices to deliver a trusted, transparent, & responsive process", please advise if there will be a discussion, presentation or another format in which the questions put to you & staff from taxpayers like myself, during the CIP public hearing will be answered, before a vote is taken?

Thank you

Please indicate if you would like your comment to be part of the public record for the upcoming City Council meeting. Yes

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**Submitted on Sun, 03/06/2022 - 20:15**

**Full Name**

Brooke Sokolnicki

**Email**

[brookesokolnicki@gmail.com](mailto:brookesokolnicki@gmail.com)

**Subject**

Elwyn Park Sidewalks

**Address**

25 Harrison Ave

**Message**

As an Elwyn Park resident of close to 10 years, I fully support the need for sidewalks on the proposed streets. As a parent of a child who walks to Dondero Elementary School, I can speak first hand of our experience. My daughter crosses McKinley to take the path to school through the playground. She takes the path to avoid walking down Van Buren on her way to school due to the large volume of cars. She would rather cross McKinley herself then risk a car hitting her as she walks to school using the painted walking path where one slip of the wheel could cause serious harm. Van Buren is not wide enough for pedestrian traffic on both sides of the street plus cars driving to and from school without proper sidewalks. The painted walkway was a nice attempt but it is not enough. Cars park directly in the painted pathway, it is even more narrow in the winter months with snow on the road and just plain unsafe for our Elwyn Park families.

Sidewalks would benefit all school age families who walk to Dondero Elementary School or older children who take the bus to the middle or high school. Sidewalks would also be a nice addition for adults who walk their kids to school as not only would they benefit from a safer walk to school, but also the return trip home. Finally, sidewalks would also be beneficial for any resident who chooses to use the main roads for any type of physical activity such as walking or jogging where they would be able to have the safety of separation from motor vehicles. Van Buren and McKinley are especially busy with cars driving in both directions. If sidewalks were added, I know I would safer for my family and the other residents of Elwyn Park.

Thank you for your consideration.

Please indicate if you would like your comment to be part of the public record for the upcoming City Council meeting. Yes

**Submitted on Mon, 03/07/2022 - 11:59**

**Full Name**

Jannice Hodges

**Email**

[jannicehodges@gmail.com](mailto:jannicehodges@gmail.com)

**Subject**

Elwyn Park CIP

**Address**

35 Harrison Ave

**Message**

City Council –

Thank you for considering getting the Elwyn Park CIP for traffic calming back on track again to proceed in 2023. The City hired a consulting firm who presented years ago now, and showed that sidewalks, as well as in street measures would decrease speed and keep our children and walkers safer.

In the consulting firms presentation there were pictures of the streets considered for these measures, and in these pictures we saw things like cars parked in the walking/biking lanes designated with paint on the streets. When cars are parked in these lanes (there is no where else to park in the street) our kids are forced to ride their bikes or walk into the street with traffic. We need sidewalks to get them up and out of the road. This morning on our way to school there was a car parked in the walking/biking lane, and it happens often.

I have two children, one of whom is old enough to ride bikes around the neighborhood on his own, and one who isn't quite old enough to ride alone yet. Both attend Dondero and have friends who live in the neighborhood who's houses we ride to. We have to cross McKinley when going most places in Elwyn Park, or cross Taft where there are no crosswalks. I have witnessed drivers speeding down McKinley, not stopping at the stop signs, and not stopping at the crosswalks when we are attempting to cross. We really need more measures as presented by the consulting company to help our kids navigate safely around the neighborhood.

More and more drivers are distracted over time, and without sidewalks are kids are forced into the road which creates a very unsafe situation. On the average day at school dismissal there are 70 students who walk or bike home, as well as many of their parents who come to pick them up. There are 80 students who are dismissed to cars, who are driving down the same roads as the walkers/bikers, as well as the busses. That is a lot of traffic all in the same small area, and we really need to keep them safe.

More than just sidewalks are needed though. There are speed limit signs when you first enter Elwyn Park at all of the entrances, but none once you are inside the neighborhood. There is one school sign, right outside the school entrance on Van Buren, but nothing approaching the school. Every school in Portsmouth except for ours has multiple signs, flashing lights at crosswalks, speed limit signs, etc. Why not ours? We need to get things like these set up here temporarily while we wait for the CIP work to start, and the CIP work needs to include permanent items as well.

We have a lot of kids who live in the neighborhood, and we need to keep them safe. The Woodlands has sidewalks, and it doesn't take anything away from the appearance of the neighborhood. Please consider moving the Elwyn Park CIP funding planning back to 2023 to help our neighborhood.

Thank you

Jannice

**Please indicate if you would like your comment to be part of the public record for the upcoming City Council meeting.** Yes

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