

Re: 1 Congress St
Meeting: TAC 12/06/22

Dear Technical Advisory Committee,

12/02/22

Very short, 4 pictures at the end makes it seem longer.

Drainage:

Reviewing the drainage reports is always a difficult task, definitely not in most people's wheel house! From a novice perspective, looking at the **two photos of proposed and existing (below)**, Haven Court seems much **wider**. The proposed **angle** of the Haven Court is much flatter, which seems like this would greatly affect how the water on the street moves, especially being bricks(which hold water) instead of asphalt. It also appears to angle toward the parking garage. Will some of that water sit on this pedestrian way, it likely will be in the shade most of the day?

Safety and Fire:

There seem to be little or no conversations about *the shown non-ADA stairs* which will encourage people to carry children in baby carriages up and down them and eliminates those with walking disability to use them. It is **proposed as a public way**. If an arched building can be built in the middle of downtown ADA compliant ramps can be as well. **H5-35 from HDC(08/03/22) pg 19 (below)** shows Haven Court to ramp up to the Newberry's and having steps going down to Gilley's (**L0-6 TAC 12/06/22 below**). HDC link: https://files.cityofportsmouth.com/agendas/2022/hdc/August+03%2C+2022/CongressSt_1_HDC_PH_080322.pdf

Were a homeowner to add a ramp they would have to meet ADA compliance. This is a public way, were something to happen on Congress St during a parade or any of the MANY events downtown this way should be ADA accessible as it is now, were the jersey barriers removed. The angle was changed to allow the building to go right up to the Haven Ct., were that changed the ramp could remain, better a steeper angle which is grandfathered than a set of steps with no away around once at the top. **A spiral ramp could be there using less space and still providing ADA access. Doesn't this need a separate public and City Council meeting?**

Thank you for your consideration of these thoughts.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Bratter

159 McDonough St, property owner

PB-A7 pg 131 Proposed Haven Court View



Existing Haven Court View



L0-6 Page 137 Proposed steps from Gilley's side



LIGHT POST ARCH CONCEPT
SCALE: NTS

HDC 08/03/22 H5-35 Haven Court Side

