

June 11, 2024

Karen S. Conard City Manager City of Portsmouth 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, NH 03801

Re: Haven Court Changes

Dear Karen:

One Market Square, LLC., holds title to property located at 1 Congress Street and 10 High Street which is delineated on the City of Portsmouth Tax Map 117 as Lot 14. This property includes Haven Court going from High Street down Haven Court to a certain parcel of land owned by the City of Portsmouth. Attached is a survey from Haley Ward depicting Haven Court.

We are planning to remove the "hill portion" of Haven Court and connect High Street with Fleet Street for an easy to walk, handicap accessible and safe for pedestrian connection. Making Haven Court handicap accessible also creates a safer walking surface in the winter and aids with removing snow, removing trash, and installing and maintaining underground utilities and transformers. Lowering the elevation of Haven Court also allows a new retail storefront to be installed in the brick wall of JJ Newberry thereby creating street level retail space which will connect the retail experience with Fleet Street and High Street and bring to life Haven Court. The capital cost to reconfigure Haven Court, create a retail storefront and all the public improvements will be paid for by One Market Square, LLC., with no cost to the City of Portsmouth.

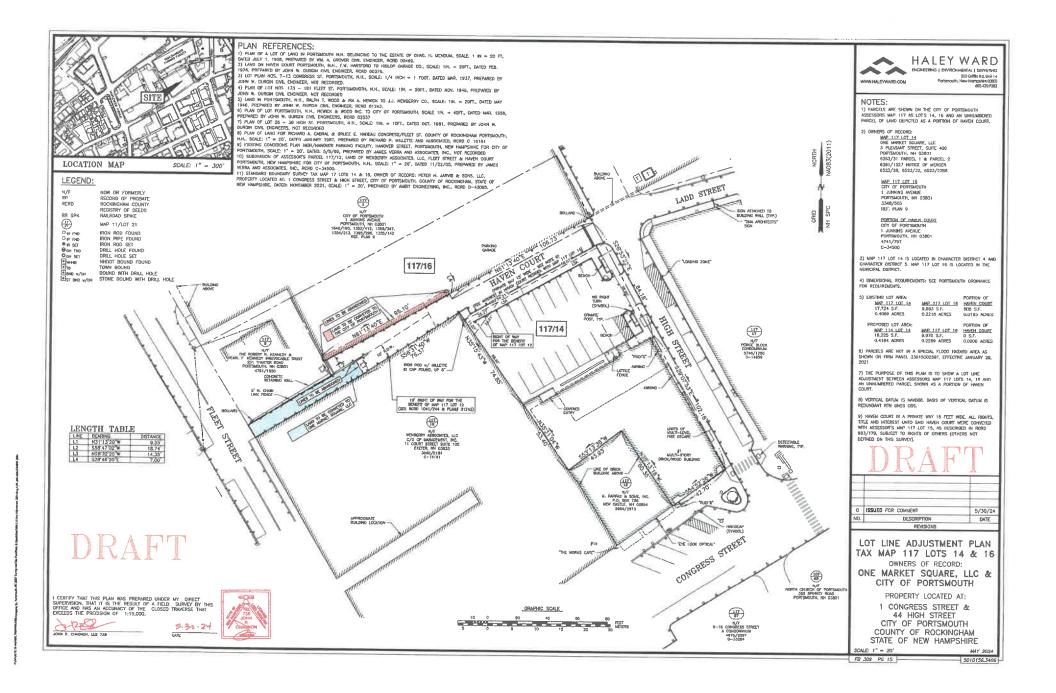
On April 10, 2024, One Market Square, LLC., entered into a binding Purchase & Sale Agreement to acquire the JJ Newberry property from Wenberry Associates, LLC. While completing due diligence on the JJ Newberry parcel, we discovered the High Hanover Parking Garage has been built onto land owned by One Market Square. This encroachment of the High Hanover Parking Garage is depicted on the attached Boundary Survey from Haley Ward Engineering dated January 25, 2024.

In order to cure the encroachment of the High Hanover Parking Garage and create common ownership for Haven Court and cure a faulty land subdivision of the referenced 808 square feet of land to the City and for One Market Square paying for all capital improvements and ongoing maintenance we request the City of Portsmouth approve the land transfer's as depicted on the Haley Ward Boundary Survey. In addition, we would convey to the City public access easements and utility easements over the entirety of Haven Court connecting Fleet Street to High Street.

Therefore, what we propose is to engage in a land swap which would provide both parties with clean title and provide meaningful public access to the entirety of Haven Court.

Sincerely.

Mark A. McNabb President





CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

City Hall, 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801 tmccourt@cityofportsmouth.com (603) 610-7204

Trevor P. McCourt Deputy City Attorney

Date: June 11, 2024

To: Karen S. Conard, City Manager

From: Trevor P. McCourt, Deputy City Attorney

Re: Agenda Item – Haven Court Land Swap

Mark McNabb, principal of One Market Square, LLC ("One Market Square"), has approached the City regarding a potential land swap in the area of Haven Court. This proposed transfer would provide the City with a deed to a portion of the High Hanover Garage which is encroaching on private property. In exchange, One Market Square in requesting the City convey a parcel of land adjacent to Fleet Street, which would provide One Market Square with title to the entirety of Haven Court. This would facilitate improvements to the entirety to Haven Court, as described in the letter from Mark McNabb.

The City and One Market Square have entered into a certain agreement (the "Agreement") regarding proposed improvements to Haven Court, High Street and Ladd Street at One Market Square's expense. One Market Square now proposes to amend that agreement by proposing a land swap. One Market Square has described its proposed transaction in a letter from Mark McNabb to the City Manager, which is included in the agenda packet. The land to be exchanged is also depicted on a survey plan prepared by Haley Ward, included in the City Council Agenda packet. The proposed land transfers are described as follows:

- The City would convey the land shown on the plan as "Land to be conveyed to One Market Square, LLC" to One Market Square.
- One Market square would convey to the City the land shown on the plan as "Land to be conveyed to the City of Portsmouth" to the City.
- One Market Square would convey to the City a public access easement and a utility easement over the entirety of Haven Court.
- One Market Square would be responsible for affecting the improvements to Haven Court, as described in the letter from One Market Square, at its sole cost and expense.
- The remaining terms of the Agreement with One Market Square would remain in full force and effect.

The specific details of this proposed transaction still need to be finalized. Therefore, at this time the Legal Department recommends the City Council refer this request to the Planning Board for a recommendation regarding the transfer of City Property. When this request returns to the City Council, the Legal Department anticipates including a more detailed proposal for City Council consideration.

Proposed Motion: Move to refer the letter from One Market Square, LLC dated June 11, 2024 and the proposed land transfers described in that letter to the Planning Board for a report back.

cc: Kelli L. Barnaby, City Clerk Suzanne M. Woodland, Deputy City Manager/Regulatory Counsel Susan G. Morrell, City Attorney Jessica S. Griffin, Assistant to the City Manager