

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



PRESS RELEASE

**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

**Contact: Juliet Walker
Planning Department**

603-610-7296

September 10, 2015

Bike Lane Demonstrations and Public Meeting set for the Middle Street/Lafayette Road Corridor

PORTSMOUTH, NH – The City of Portsmouth will be providing a public preview of proposed bicycle lanes on Route 1 later this month. On Saturday, September 26th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., City staff will be setting up temporary demonstrations of the proposed bike lanes, buffers and on-street parking arrangements at three different points along the corridor, which extends along Route 1 (Lafayette Road/Middle Street) from Andrew Jarvis Drive to Islington/Congress Street.

“The intent of this event is to allow people to see how the proposed lanes will look and feel on location, and we are also hoping they take the opportunity to try them out for themselves,” said Juliet Walker, Transportation Planner for the City. “We hope it will be helpful for people in addition to being a fun event.” People are invited to walk or bike to the area, where different demonstrations will be located along Route 1 between Mendum Avenue and Lincoln Avenue, Lincoln Avenue and Aldrich Road, and Cass Street and Wibird Street.

The following week, a public meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 30th, at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers where the City’s consulting engineering team, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., will outline detailed plans of the proposed bicycle route. There will also be additional opportunities for public input.

The need for safer passageway along Route 1 was identified in the City’s [Safe Routes to School Action Plan](#) in 2010 and the recently completed City [Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan](#). The project, which received funding from a NHDOT Safe Routes to School Grant, will extend from the

High School to the downtown and is intended to create a safer and more convenient path for those traveling by bike or foot to the schools, Library and more.

Earlier this year, GPI developed three alternative design concepts which included a two-way cycle track on one side of the road, a combination of buffered and protected bike lanes, or more traditional bike lanes. In April, the City Council supported advancing the combination of buffered and protected bicycle lanes as the preferred alternative with an acknowledgement that this was only preliminary at this stage and that any final designs would need further public vetting and a recommendation from the Parking & Traffic Safety Committee.

For more information on this project, please visit:

- <http://planportsmouth.com/middle-lafayette-bike-ped.html>
- Subscribe to project notifications: <http://goo.gl/AFGGTY>