

## CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR  
IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**

**September 27, 2016**

### **Portsmouth announces next steps for development of Middle Street/Lafayette Road bike lanes**

PORTSMOUTH, NH – The City’s bike lane project for Middle Street / Lafayette Road is getting closer to becoming a reality. Juliet Walker, Assistant Planning Director, will be before the City's Parking & Traffic Safety Committee on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at 8 a.m. in City Council Chambers to present the detailed plans for the proposed bicycle route.

Earlier in 2015, the City’s project consultant, Greenman-Pederson, Inc., 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 of 2015, 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.

Last September, the City demonstrated some of the proposed bike lane designs at three different locations along the corridor. Members of the public came out to test the bike lanes at the four-hour demonstration event and also provided input at the subsequent public meeting. The plans that will be presented in early October include a combination of the bike lane designs originally proposed for this project with some modifications to preserve on-street parking in high-demand locations.

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.

For more information on this project:

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