

## CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR  
IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**

**May 24, 2017**

### **Portsmouth announces neighborhood meeting for review of Middle Street/Lafayette Road bike lanes**

PORTSMOUTH, NH – As the bike lane project for Middle Street / Lafayette Road gets closer to becoming a reality, the City is providing an opportunity for neighbors along the corridor to review the proposed design with City staff before the project goes in front of the Parking & Traffic Safety Committee for a vote in July. A neighborhood meeting on the proposed design is scheduled for June 8, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers.

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. After reviewing the designs, 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.

In October 2016, the City presented revised plans that included a combination of the bike lane designs originally proposed for this project with some modifications to preserve on-street parking in high-demand locations. Based on public input received at that time, the City conducted additional on-street parking counts to determine parking demand in the impacted areas. Those results will be reported on at the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting along with the current plans for the corridor. The City is planning to bring the final plan before the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee at the Committee's July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Parking &

Traffic Safety Committee makes recommendations to the City Council on matters impacting parking and traffic regulations in the City.

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>