

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Rodney Burdette (rebtrispport@gmail.com) on Friday, February 13, 2015 at 08:09:33

address: 579 Sagamore Ave,#46

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: We have been enjoying the land very much since we moved to the area hiking in the summer and snowshoeing in the winter. It is wonderful to have such a nice forest preserve so close by to get out in the woods for fresh air and exercize. This winter it is obvious to me that many people are using the property by the way the trails are set in the snow. It is a quiet contemplative area and it would be a shame to lose it. I would highly encourage making this parcel permanently placed in conservation.

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 65.175.204.229

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Beverly (Agardenartisan@gmail.com) on Friday, February 13, 2015 at 08:23:29

address: 579 Sagamore Ave

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: I recently moved to Portsmouth (within the last year) and as I was exploring the surrounding communities and a property to move to, I felt the greatest tug toward those with quiet walking trails for exercise and contemplation.

The Sagamore Creek trails have been some of the most beautiful trails I have walked. They have a few ups and downs; beautiful pools which freeze over in winter and look truly magical; views to the open water and the setting sun, and a place where I see little ones with parents; people with dogs; young teenagers together...all enjoying a walk in the woods. The trails are beautifully connected and offer a lot of discovery because they are not over-run with visitors or bikes etc. and remain a little bit wild.

I hope the town appreciates the restorative nature of such woodland places and does not build a large parking lot or big wide trails etc. taking away from the natural beauty and use of the site.
Thank you, Beverly

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 65.175.204.229

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Nancy & Brian Johnson (n_johnson81@comcast.net) on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 14:28:25

address: 81 Clinton St

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: We enjoy walking the trail up and over this piece of property. We especially value the vernal pools. We believe this is the only, or at least the primary, public place that vernal pools are found in Portsmouth. We think that the trails are well used, and are a good use of the property. But we think that signage on the fence that parking is allowed and signage to indicate where to enter the trail (at either end of the parking) would be helpful to newcomers.

Has the city considered a solar array on top of the cap? It is a south facing hillside, which should be ideal, and is already fenced. It would be great if the high school could utilize the electric power generated, either for inside the school for school operations, or for the athletic fields, depending on how much electricity is typically generated. The science teachers could incorporate a study of solar technology into their curriculum.

There also is supposed to be a pier that one could launch a canoe or kayak into Sagamore Creek from. I have been told the access road is by the Sagamore Bridge, but we have never been able to find it. Could it be signed better, and publicized? Possibly a map to it on the city website.

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 71.235.12.245

-----Original Message-----

From: John White [mailto:cstm2ns@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 11:41 PM

To: Copy Sent to City Email Folder; Eric Spear

Subject: Recreation suggestion

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by John White (cstm2ns@gmail.com) on Monday, March 30, 2015 at 22:41:15

address: 530 State St, Portsmouth, NH 03801

comments: Mr Eric Spears,

I am contacting you to make a recommendation for Portsmouth recreation. There is a fast growing sport called Disc Golf. It's been around for quite some time in one form or another, but it's really started growing tremendously over the past 5 years or so. I've been playing the sport for about 6-7 years. When I first started playing, friends and I could very easily get a round in without seeing more than a few players here and there. These days it's impossible to get a round in on the weekend without having a full course. New courses are popping up all over the place. Today I would guess there are more than twice as many courses in New Hampshire and Maine than there was when I started. There is still so many people that have never even heard of the sport which leaves opportunity to build awareness and give Portsmouth residents something new to offer at the same time. It's great exercise and a sport that anyone young, old, big, small, . can play and have fun.

Why Portsmouth? Because there is currently nothing offered in Portsmouth and I'm quite sure there is land and people capable of providing this sort of recreation. Also, there are lots of opportunities for local residents and students to put down their smart phones and web tablets long enough to get out and enjoy Portsmouth's environment. There is a public course in Dover NH at Bellamy Park. The course is constantly full of players and there has fairly recently (within the past year or so roughly) been opened a disc golf store on site. I've been told that the Dover High School uses the practice baskets at times during school hours for student, plus lots of students play on the course on their own time. It's a sport that the entire family can play so it's great for the local community. A good disc golf course would require anywhere from 15 - 25 acres of land. It has very little impact on the environment since there is little to no major excavation. The land, trees and terrain are what make up the course along with the addition of tee boxes and baskets.

There is very little cost involved in building a disc golf course and much less to maintain. Most courses are in the woods with a mixture of walking path (lots of trees) to open field shots. Minimal clearing if any would be required depending on the property used. There are 18 holes which would require a tee box for each one. This means 18 cement (or rubber) tee pads (roughly 4 feet by 8 feet) permanently installed. Of course the main elements to the course are the baskets. 18 quality steel disc golf baskets

will need to be installed. This is generally done by mounting a steel shaft into a small hole in the ground (cemented in). The basket then slides into the shaft and lock in place. Some courses install alternate locations for the holes so the baskets can be moved (A and B) locations to mix things up from time to time or for certain events. A good course has tee signs for each hole which show the number of the hole and a basic map of the hole along with information such as the distance and the par for the hole. That's it. There are other things that make an even better course but are not required to get started. This would be things such as a lost and found drop-box, a stand or board of sorts that has the course map and information about the course, a practice basket location, seating (benches) at each hole, trash cans and recycle bins for each hole, etc... If the opportunity arose it would be nice to have a building that can be used as a pro-shop where players can buy or rent disc golf supplies, arrange local events, perhaps purchase snacks and drinks, and a bathroom.

Disc Golf is extremely affordable which is one thing that helps draw people into giving it a try and falling in love with the sport. Bellamy Park Disc Golf is free since it's a town park. Most places that are not a public park course charge green fees of \$5 per round or \$8 for the day, which is still very affordable for anyone wanting to get out and have some fun for the day.

The disc golf community is a great group of people. Most of the work that was done at Bellamy Park in Dover was done by volunteers. It would be a great opportunity for Portsmouth to get involved while the sport is just starting to explode. I am heavily involved with local sports from playing to refereeing in the NHSSC. I have a heavy dedication to the sport of disc golf. I can assure you that being as involved as I am with the Portsmouth sports and recreation community, a disc golf course would be heavily used by people not looking to have to travel outside of Portsmouth to play.

If this is something the town of Portsmouth wants to pursue I would love to help in any way possible. I feel as though I have a lot to offer when it comes to course design, and have contacts with people that have done the design for local courses.

Here are some links to some of the things I talked about in this message.

This is a link to a guide on how many acres should be used when building/designing a disc golf course. Having a course that falls in around the "Average (61) / Blue tee" range would be great. More on the Average to Scattered side than Corridor. Which is why having 15 - 25 acres would be perfect.

http://www.pdga.com/files/AcreageChart_0.pdf

This is a link to Bellamy Park Disc Golf in Dover, NH.

<http://bellamyparkdiscgolf.weebly.com/index.html>

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,
John White
cstm2ns@gmail.com
[207-432-3158](tel:207-432-3158)

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 67.189.232.217

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jennifer Sawyer <granjen2003@yahoo.com>
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore <dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Date: April 10, 2015 at 9:06:57 AM EDT
Subject: Jones property use

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jennifer Sawyer (granjen2003@yahoo.com) on Friday, April 10, 2015 at 08:06:57

address: 579 Sagamore Ave

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: I would like to see these acres retained as a Nature Preserve... School use/ cross country running /is good use... Portsmouth needs to retain open space...

Thank you for your time.. Sincerely, Jennifer Sawyer

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 107.3.14.253

Begin forwarded message:

From: Paul Houlares <pthoulares@comcast.net>
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore
<dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Date: April 12, 2015 at 2:52:17 PM EDT
Subject: Sagamore Creek

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by
Paul Houlares (pthoulares@comcast.net) on Sunday, April 12, 2015 at 13:52:17

company: City Resident

address: 65 Jones Ave.

city: Portsmouth

state: N.H.

zip: 03801

comments: That parcel of land should be left as is for passive recreation.If a suitable site can be located for a kayak/canoe launch point would be ideal.Maybe a deal could be worked out with the Elks for that purpose.The trails could be maintained & improved so that bikers,walkers,hikers,dog walkers,all could use the trails at the same time.This is one very peaceful place owned by the city that is not over developed.Let it stay that way.

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 24.61.223.95

Begin forwarded message:

From: Margot Doering <mdoering@mindspring.com>
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore
<dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Date: April 11, 2015 at 10:13:08 AM EDT
Subject: Dogs

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by
Margot Doering (mdoering@mindspring.com) on Saturday, April 11, 2015 at 09:13:08

address: 300 Jones Ave

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801-5581

comments: I know the committee is not tasked with specific ideas for the parcel. But I've been thinking about dogs. I doubt it will ever be possible to prohibit dogs entirely and be able to enforce it given the size of the property. The worst dog offense that needs to be addressed is dogs running off leash. This activity causes the most harm to the habitat and the mutual enjoyment of all. However, it seems that most dog owners I encountered with their dogs at the Urban Forestry Center tried to explain or excuse letting their dogs off leash because the dogs needed to run. Now I would say, if you don't have enough property to let your dog run, you should not own one, but that never gets anywhere! So how about taking away the excuse people have for letting the dogs run around the woods, hurting plants, wildlife and making a mess by setting aside a dedicated area where they are free to run. And I mean really run. Of the 10 acre landfill cap, how about setting aside a full acre of grass and trees on the edge of the cap which is fenced and acts as a very large dog park? Maybe divide the area in two so that one half can be closed to rest while the other is in use. The park by the south mill pond has been a great success, but is small (which allows for easy policing of dog poo). I think anyone walking through the woods at Sagamore Creek seeing a dog being let off leash would have an easier time redirecting the dog/owner to the dog habitat versus only being able to tell them that they are breaking the rules. They certainly never listened to me when I tried to correct their behavior at the Forestry Center.

With regard to making "fun" space, check out this video about re-wilding space and engaging

children in play. I love the earth mounds and other natural play spaces. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZjbUoVBUug>

Cheers, Margot

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 73.149.72.10

Begin forwarded message:

From: Shaun Rafferty <glencar019@aol.com>
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore <dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Date: May 4, 2015 at 4:55:37 PM EDT
Subject: Sagamore Creek Land -Passive Use

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Shaun Rafferty (glencar019@aol.com) on Monday, May 4, 2015 at 15:55:37

address: 1157 South Street

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments:

The Pines
Sagamore Creek Land

As a young boy, I played in The Pines adjacent to Sagamore Creek. As a high school student, I ran cross country races through these woods. As an adult, during all seasons of the year, I have walked and jogged through this beautiful area.

The Pines should not be destroyed by further development, as have so many other areas of our historic city. The Pines are a wonderful community resource and should not be utilized for recreation fields or any other form of development. They should be used exclusively for passive educational and recreational purposes. No permanent structures should be erected in this area.

My definition of passive activities would include bird watching, kite flying, walking, jogging, mountain biking, snow shoeing, sledding, skiing and tobogganing. It would also include picnicking in the large field and using this beautiful field as an amphitheater for periodic outdoor entertainment activities.

Some of the passive recreational activities that have taken place at The Pines in the past are

noted below.

On January 5, 1924 the Portsmouth Herald reported that architect Wallace Dibble of the Spaulding Company was preparing plans for the toboggan chute at the Pines. The newspaper also noted that \$1,072.00 has been donated for the chute by the community.

On January 7, 1924, after a heavy snow fall, many were enjoying Portsmouth's "winter playgrounds" at the Pines. Some were utilizing improvised ski jumps while others were snow shoeing. All were anticipating the toboggan chute, which would be built in the near future. (January 7, 1924, Portsmouth Herald)

On January 8, 1924 the Portsmouth Herald noted that a \$990.85 contract to build the toboggan chute at the Pines was awarded by the privately financed Winter Sports Association to William C. Philbrick. This chute would be removed at the end of the winter season. "The toboggan chute will certainly give speed, for it will have a starting platform 20 feet above the highest point in the Pines and you will take a drop of about 70 feet nearly straight away, then speed through a 250 foot trough at the estimated rate of 40 miles an hour, and then through a snowbanked chute to the end of the field. The chute will be iced and can be used as long as the weather is cold no matter whether the snow lasts or not."

On January 10, 1924 the Portsmouth Herald reported that the toboggan chute at the Pines is scheduled to be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. week days and from 12 noon to 10 p.m. on Sundays. As a matter of safety at all times an attendant who will be in charge of the platform and tilting table. There will be no charge to use the facility, however a number of toboggans will be available for rental. Any money collected from these rentals will be used to pay the attendants and for other operating expenses. For the convenience of those who own their own toboggans, a storage room will be available under the chute. A small building currently in the McDonough Street factory lot will soon be moved to the Pines. Once relocated this building will contain a rest room and will be overseen by a caterer who will sell coffee, hot dogs, etc. near the toboggan chute.

On Sunday January 13, 1924, during the afternoon, more than 1,000 people were enjoying the winter sports at the Pines. In the evening flood lights brightened the area. Some people were skating on the two frozen ponds adjacent to the Pines. Others were tobogganing and sledding, although the toboggan chute is still being fully prepared. (January 14, 1924, Portsmouth Herald)

On Saturday February 2, 1924 the toboggan chute at the Pines was opened for the first time to the public.

On February 4, 1924 the Portsmouth Herald noted:

"The chute ... was iced during the afternoon and the toboggans take it at express train speed, giving everybody a thrill. It worked perfectly and at times the toboggans were being sent off the tilt table at the rate of four a minute. ...

The remainder of the ground was being used for coasting and skiing and both of the ski runs were being used.... The younger children were mostly on sleds and were having a wonderful time. ...

At night the entire field was flooded with lights and it made a very animated picture, especially the toboggan chute."

On February 9, 1924 the Portsmouth Herald noted that a spectator at the Pines "is struck by the way the little fellows are mastering the use of skis. There have been two small jumps erected, one a matter of a foot or more at the take-off and the other one of four or more feet and the little fellows as a rule scorn the use of the small take-off and use the larger one....in a few years there will be some real jumpers, for one of the plans for the next year at the Pines is a real ski jump."

On February 25, 1924 the Portsmouth Herald reported:" The Pines is the center of attraction in Portsmouth just now and the big toboggan chute ...is busy practically every hour of the day and

evening. The chute is 250 feet long and is built at an angle to assure a speed of 45 miles an hour. The toboggan chute provides sport for young and old alike and attendants are ever present to minimize the chance of accidents.”

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 66.31.225.176

Begin forwarded message:

From: Gary Lowe <lowegary@gmail.com>
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore <dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Date: May 5, 2015 at 9:38:31 AM EDT
Subject: Sagamore Creek Land Development

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Gary Lowe (lowegary@gmail.com) on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 08:38:31

company: Resident

address: 105 South St.

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: Dear committee members,
I value the current use of this land: natural forest with hiking paths. I use it all the time and it saves energy because I don't have to drive out of town to get that NH woodsy feel to my exercise/nature walks. My wife shares this feeling.

As far as a solar energy installation goes, it's far less expensive to put them on top of a building such as city hall, the middle school, the high school than it is to build them stand alone on a piece of land. The code required structural footings are exorbitant to install. Please consider doing it on our many buildings.

Thank you,

Gary Lowe, former solar design engineer at GTE Sylvania, Salem, MA

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 74.220.236.46

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Linda Cunningham " <Lunarsolinda@comcast.net>
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore
<dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Date: May 5, 2015 at 9:36:06 AM EDT
Subject: Sagamore creek land

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by
Linda Cunningham (Lunarsolinda@comcast.net) on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 08:36:06

address: 579 Sagamore Ave.

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: I have been a frequent walked in the Jones Ave. woods for almost 12 years in all four seasons since I am a neighbor of the wooded land. It is the one last relatively untouched place in Portsmouth to be in nature and the only one still free of poison ivy.

Please consider making this land a Nature Preserve in perpetuity so that we stop considering so called uses for this land. It is occupied by animals and plants and natural beauty. That should be its only use now and forever.

It is also used by the track team and other runners so in addition to those of us who seek the quiet peace of nature, it serves the school. Please - that should be enough. Make it a preserve in perpetuity so we never revisit the question of use again.

Thank you.

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 107.3.15.133

Begin forwarded message:

From: Karen Andersen <karenandersen4@gmail.com>
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore
<dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Date: May 6, 2015 at 8:52:37 PM EDT
Subject: Sagamore Creek Land

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by
Karen Andersen (karenandersen4@gmail.com) on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 19:52:37

address: 401 State St, P207

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: I wholeheartedly support and applaud the Draft Vision and Guidelines for Sagamore
Creek land developed by the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee to keep this land as passive
recreation. It is the perfect place to keep a place for the general population of Portsmouth to
enjoy the natural beauty of the area. There are a lot of other places that playing fields could go,
to benefit a certain part of the population. This would benefit all -- and encourage fitness & a
respect for our natural settings. Thank you for a job well done!!

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 50.169.180.242

Begin forwarded message:

From: Iain Moodie <beaninportsmouth@gmail.com>
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore <dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Date: May 6, 2015 at 7:34:18 PM EDT
Subject: Sagamore Creek Property

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Iain Moodie (beaninportsmouth@gmail.com) on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 18:34:18

company: volunteer trash removal club

address: 14 Mt Vernon St

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: I would like to add a little input, The current situation with the property is mostly agreeable to everyone that I discuss the topic with. Its open for wildlife, free for kids to play in, dog walkers enjoy this as one of the last places without set rules for behavior, relying on good manners and a sence of right and wrong that governing bodies seem to think is abscent from the general public. Might I add that although you have been charged with working out a plan for public use, that no decision is a decision in itself, Please leave the woods alone, they are getting along fine without your help. there is no way back after development is happened. I know that this small town has got a "city" designation but we do not have to cover the whole place in parking lots and playing fields. if something absolutly has to happen to the property make it closed to the public so our wildlife has a free place along the coastal corridor within which to exist.

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 50.169.22.38

Begin forwarded message:

From: Keith Wilkinson <kwilk.works@gmail.com>
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore <dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Date: May 6, 2015 at 8:46:13 PM EDT
Subject: Draft comment

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Keith Wilkinson (kwilk.works@gmail.com) on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 19:46:13

company: Citizen

address: 62 Winter Street

city: Portsmouth

comments: I reviewed the draft. The results appear well balanced and well thought out. Thank you for the good work.

As a future enhancement opportunity, of connecting the community's natural areas, I think a pedestrian bridge between the subject plot and the urban forestry center should be considered. Thanks.

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 70.192.34.211

Begin forwarded message:

From: Nancy Andrews <Nancy1969@comcast.net>
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore
<dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Date: May 6, 2015 at 10:50:05 PM EDT
Subject: Sagamore Land Use Draft

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by
Nancy Andrews (Nancy1969@comcast.net) on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 21:50:05

company: Resident 161 Sagamore Ave

address: 161Sagamore Avenue

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: I've reviewed the committee's draft use recommendations for the Sagamore Land. I especially support that the draft does not support the use of the land for ballfields. This is some of our last open, passive recreation space in our city. As a senior citizen I appreciate the opportunity to walk in a wooded area where there are vernal pools, trees, open space. And walking/bike trails. Please do not turn any of this land into ballfields. Thank you for your consideration of these comments. Nancy Andrews. (unfortunately I cannot attend the public hearing)

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 71.233.80.254

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by James Sparrell (jimsparrell@gmail.com) on Thursday, May 7, 2015 at 16:50:51

company: Portsmouth School Dept.

address: 125 South Street

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: I support this land being preserved for natural uses, particularly birdwatching. I visited the Jones Ave. landfill on 6/21/2012 and found two nesting pairs of bobolinks - probably the only ones in Portsmouth. Unfortunately the fields were being mowed and the nests were destroyed, since they nest in the grass. I shared the info with Peter Britz, as well as NH Audubon mowing guidelines. Unfortunately since then the fields have been mowed even earlier, rather than later, and this destroys the bobolink habitat. All this to say that even preserving the land for birding requires some mindful planning and coordination. It might be possible to manage it in a win-win way for biking, dog walking, and public recreation, as well as for birds. I do co-lead an after school birding group for kids, so would like to see this area preserved.

Thanks for your work on this project!

Engage: Submit

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jennifer Varney <j_chenelle@hotmail.com>
Date: May 7, 2015 at 12:23:27 PM EDT
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore
<dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Subject: Traffic Concerns

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by
Jennifer Varney (j_chenelle@hotmail.com) on Thursday, May 7, 2015 at 11:23:27

company: Resident

address: 8 Lens Ave

city: Portsmouth

state: New Hampshire

zip: 03801

comments: As a resident of this neighborhood my biggest concern with the development of this land is traffic. I have two small children and one of the reasons we chose this neighborhood is that all the streets (with the exception of Marne) have no outlet. However, this does not stop people from trying to cut through our neighborhood and my street. This has been really noticeable lately with the construction going on in the area. I realize construction is temporary but it has given a glimpse of what the area would be like with increased traffic. The traffic to and from the Elks club has increased over the last few years. On nights and weekends Jones ave is dangerous (Peak hours for the Elks and likely for this proposed public use area). People don't obey the speed limits and often try cutting through Versaille or Lens ave to get back to Sagamore not realizing these are no outlet streets. Often times people coming from the Elks are coming from functions or the bar, bot

h of which serve alcohol. I'd be concerned if this land was opened up to the public that this traffic would have a marked increase. Thus increasing the dangers to myself and my family. I would look to the city to propose a traffic mitigation and control plan. I would also like to know how speed restrictions would be enforced? Additionally would the city increase the signage for the side streets so people coming from the land and the Elks would know the side streets have no outlet. Currently signage only exists coming into Jones ave and not out. I would attend tonight but I have family obligations, like keeping my children safe when happy hour at the Elks lets out. If this proposal goes through then I will need to do the same at sunset when the public use area empties!

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 50.205.42.115

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Shaun Rafferty (glencar019@aol.com) on Thursday, May 7, 2015 at 13:48:08

company: Sagamore Creek Committee

address: 1157 South Street

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: As a boy growing up in Portsmouth, I played ball in the yards of my neighbors, at the South Playgrounds and in the athletic fields next to our neighborhood schools. In the winter I went sledding on Union Street from South Street to Lincoln Ave, which was blocked off by the city for the safety of the hundreds who flew down that hill on their sleds. I also skated on the three ponds in the Pines, which is the wooded area between South Street hill and Sagamore Creek.

Today the expanded Middle School has led to the loss of a field adjacent to that school, a dog park has also taken over former open space at the South Playgrounds, a sewerage treatment plant, which may increase in size, now occupies part of Pierce Island, most of the neighborhood yards, which with the owner's permission, we used as playing fields now have houses built on them, Union Street and other streets formerly used for sledding are no longer available and one of the ponds at the Pines is now part of Edgewood Centre Nursing Home.

The Portsmouth Recreation Board has recently said that Portsmouth has not added a recreational field to our city's inventory in over 35 years. This is a disgrace. Every neighborhood should have a recreational field for its residents.

Portsmouth clearly needs more active recreational areas such as playing fields, and other athletic facilities.

However Portsmouth also needs to protect its few remaining wood lands, open spaces and passive recreational areas.

As a young boy I also played in the Pines, as a high school student I ran cross country races through these woods and as an adult during all seasons of the year I walked and jogged through this beautiful area.

The Pines must not be destroyed by further development, as have other areas of our historic city. The Pines are a marvelous community resource and must not be utilized for any form of development including playing fields. This area should be used exclusively for passive educational and recreational purposes and no permanent structures should be built here. My definition of passive activities would include bird watching, kite flying, walking, sledding, skiing and tobogganing. It would also include using the beautiful field as an amphitheater for a few carefully selected outdoor entertainment activities. The Pines must be protected for every resident of our city.

A city that intends to build a new \$23.2 million towering six story 600 space public parking garage can clearly give its residents more recreational fields and also preserve for them and their descendants our precious woodlands and open spaces, which offer us refreshing revelations of Nature's gifts.

The quality of life of the residents of our city and that of their children and grandchildren must be protected. I would beg our city government to protect the Pines and give our residents playing fields at some other location. We can and must do both.

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 66.31.225.176

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Brian Beakey (bbeak83@hotmail.com) on Friday, May 8, 2015 at 09:33:44

address: 512 Broad Street

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: As a resident on Broad Street south of South Street, I can be seen almost daily on the recreational paths on the Sagamore Creek land. I often run the paths, or walk my dogs there in the morning, or snowshoe the area in the winter. The passive recreational area that exists now is truly one of Portsmouth's treasures. It's unique serenity and quiet atmosphere away from ballfields, concert venues, and traffic is precious and should be preserved at all cost. I can understand the desire to make more community members aware of what we have; possibly adding walking/biking path signs to the location would help. At the same time, when I hear talk of changing the area to one which would include busy traffic patterns, parking lots, deforestation, and noise, I cant' help but feel sadness for our town. Please consider and value what we already have. You don't know what you've got 'til its gone.

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 71.255.156.50

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jamie and Gary Garneau (jkgcats@comcast.net) on Friday, May 8, 2015 at 06:38:03

address: 517 Broad St

city: Portsmouth

state: NN

zip: 03801

comments: Unable to attend last nights meeting, we are writing with concerns about the Sagamore Creek land development. With is overwhelming development of our beautiful city these past years, its nice to have quiet open space, the only real space left. We do not support more playing fields on this area. Keep it the way it is so we can continue to enjoy the beauty, tranquility and peacefulness the space provides.

We also request that entrance to the area be limited to the high school area. Broad St (since it was redone about 14 years ago) has become a very high traffic speed zone. We are a residential, family neighborhood with a lot of children and its become a dangerous street.

Please keep the one space left in this overdeveloped town the way it is.

Thank you very much,

Respectfully,

Jamie and Gary Garneau

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 64.140.244.2

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Harold Clemens (hvclemens@comcast.net) on Friday, May 8, 2015 at 10:01:29

address: 41 Taft Rd

comments: Hello Eric

I was at the public input meeting last night and was going to speak towards the end of the discussion but did not, and would like to express a few thoughts here.

To begin, I support the draft vision and guidelines presented, and appreciate the time which the committee has invested in this.

A few points:

1. My preference would be for additional parking to remain by the street - the short walk in on the paved road is pretty and affords an easy stroll for people with difficulty walking or even in a wheel chair.
2. I have a dog and he adds to my enjoyment being out doors, but I keep him on a leash. If dogs are allowed to run free on Sagamore, I would suggest following the example of Wagon Hill in Durham, and allowing it for a few hours in the morning.
3. No motorized vehicles (trail motorcycles or ATV) allowed.
4. I kayak the creek, and at best a launch area there would only work a few hours each side of high tide, and I don't think it would be worth the effort.
5. To me the Urban Forestry and the Sagamore land each enhance the other, and I hope they remain that way.
6. No golf.....

Thanks

Harold Clemens

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 67.189.239.33

Begin forwarded message:

From: Marcy Stearns <marcy@rtstearns.com>
Date: May 8, 2015 at 1:19:32 PM EDT
To: webmaster <webmaster@cityofportsmouth.com>, David Moore <dmoore@cityofportsmouth.com>
Subject: Sagamore Creek Land

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Marcy Stearns (marcy@rtstearns.com) on Friday, May 8, 2015 at 12:19:32

address: 545 Broad Street

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: I strongly disagree that the city should develop this land. Portsmouth doesn't have much undeveloped land left. There's already a tremendous amount of traffic (ie: speeders!) down Broad St & Jones Ave. Much of this traffic cuts through Broad to go to the Nursing Home or The Elks Club. We have a lot of children on this Street. Some of this land is already used by walkers (w/ or w/out dogs), bikers, runners and the high school. Portsmouth is a small city and trying to "keep up" with other, larger cities by providing more recreational space is not more important than having a little natural habitat left. In my opinion, this will become another project for tax payers to pay for maintaining, cleaning, etc. I don't feel it's crucial enough for the City to develop this land, compared to other projects that are currently going on or will be necessary to do.

Thank you for reading this comment,
Marcy Stearns~

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 174.63.67.102

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Shirley Reed (outaboutred@me.com) on Saturday, May 9, 2015 at 07:34:12

address: 512 Broad St

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: As A Portsmouth Resident I take great pride in my City. I am more than concerned about the proposal to develop the Sagamore conservation land. The Definition of Conservation is to "Protect and Guard", why is this such a difficult thing to do, once it's developed and gone, it is gone. Do we really want to loose such a great asset? Do we already forget the history of this land?

The land in it current state:

"Natural walking/running trails, Developed woods,natural shoreline and habitat for some of the local wildlife"

Has far greater value to this city and for that matter the earth, then pushing to alter and start developing it into groomed fertilized ball fields. I heard one of the committee members compare Portsmouth to Dover stating we don't have as many playing fields as Dover. Shame shame, last I checked I do not want to live in Dover nor Convert Portsmouth to a town like Dover(no negative connotations against Dover, there is a reason I moved to Portsmouth and not Dover). There are enough areas in Portsmouth(international trade port for one) already developed to place ball fields if the town truly feels that is the only recreational means, really is there anything wrong with promoting Nature, running and outdoor wildlife to children as recreation(which the sagamore area currently promotes) or does it all need to be competitive sports played on man made fields. Why do we feel the need to Develop every last bit of land? Mother Nature has already provided the most invaluable landsca

pe service over on the sagamore conservation land, we can only ruin this by developing this area. Lets preserve the natural habitat shorelie and trail system we already have and focus our attention as a City to promote other diverse recreation.

Proud City resident

Shirley Reed

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 24.61.223.174

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Mary Jane Beckwith () on Friday, May 8, 2015 at 16:26:56

address: 440 Jones Ave

city: Portsmouth, NH

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: As an abutter to this property for over 20 yrs, I can attest to its diverse wildlife and plantlife, some of the latter quite sensitive. It is indeed one of the last green places left in this city, perhaps the only relatively untouched one. If your vision is truly to protect and preserve this priceless natural area, then you cannot, in the next breath, consider paving sections of it for parking and access roads to encourage vehicular traffic, mountain bikes to destroy the woodland paths and increased foot traffic. What will be lost cannot be regained. Please don't let your good intentions make you short-sighted as to how crowds of people actually behave. I took a walk through this morning and in a brief 1/2 hour picked up 2 bags of trash, though I'm sure most people know that there is a law against littering. Please don't destroy this lovely spot by trying to "improve" it.

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 73.149.75.110

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Genevieve Aichele (gen@nhtheatreproject.org) on Sunday, May 17, 2015 at 11:57:37

company: NH Theatre Project

address: 47 Orchard Street

city: Portsmouth

state: NH

zip: 03801

comments: Hello, I have been a resident of Portsmouth since 1977 and I also work here. Like many others, I often walk at Sagamore Creek and treasure having these quiet woodlands in our beautiful city. I see other hikers, bikers, photographers, writers, and student athletes who all use it on a regular basis. Please do not develop this land! Once it becomes playing fields, the woodlands will be lost forever. Thank you.

Engage: Submit

REMOTE_ADDR: 74.220.236.153