
Citizen Response Task Force

Established by City Council on May 18, 2020



Task Force Charge:

1. To recommend to the City management and City Council on decisions related to COVID-19 that affect the business community and organizations in addressing the needs of re-opening, within the confines of health care advisories.
2. To discuss, identify, and then educate Portsmouth businesses and the public about “best practices” and approaches as they re-open, based on health care advisories.
3. To consider further recommendations for the business community for addressing the needs of health care safety.
4. To consider guidelines and enforcement for the wearing of masks by all who work in and visit our businesses.
5. To include and work with citizen and business interests in as inclusive way as possible to provide recommendations and schedules for addressing the needs for protecting the health of our citizens, visitors, and employees.
6. To review the financial impact of the pandemic on businesses in Portsmouth, and provide recommendations for response.

Governance:

The Chair of the Portsmouth Citizen Response Task Force shall be chosen from among the members who have been appointed by the Mayor. To keep the Portsmouth Citizen Response Task Force as non-political as possible, no elected official may be a member. The group will remain in operation until December 31, 2020, and may be reestablished prior to that time.

Meetings:

1. The Portsmouth Citizen Response Task Force may hold public meetings to hear from members of the community.
2. The Portsmouth Citizen Response Task Force may meet with agencies or boards of neighboring communities and the state for advice.
3. All meetings of the Portsmouth Citizen Response Task Force shall be public at all times.
4. The Portsmouth Citizen Response Task Force may call on other Portsmouth City Government staff members for assistance and advice.

Reporting:

The City Council requested that a member of the Committee provide an updated report at each Council meeting.