

## CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



# City Newsletter

## Monday, November 15, 2021

**MON NOV 15 CITY COUNCIL MEETING, 7 pm INCLUDES NH DOT PRESENTATION ON SOUND BARRIERS** -- In person in City Hall Council Chambers or via Zoom. For the full City Council Meeting Agenda and Zoom registration, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/ytrdwks4>

The purpose of the NHDOT portion of the public meeting is to provide the Portsmouth City Council with an overview of the results of the NHDOT's Type I and Type II highway traffic noise impact and abatement assessments along Interstate 95 and the Spaulding Turnpike in Portsmouth, NH.

**WED NOV 17 CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION ON PFAS AND TURF ATHLETIC FIELD, 6:30 PM** -- In person in City Hall Council Chambers or via Zoom. For the full City Council Meeting Agenda and Zoom registration, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/3vnx5fwh>

**THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON**

Thursday, November 18  
11:30AM  
Portsmouth Senior Center  
125 Cottage Street

In person, hot turkey lunch served.  
\$5.00

Reservations Required: 603-610-4433  
[bsullivan@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:bsullivan@cityofportsmouth.com)

## THANKSGIVING MEALS:

**FREE 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Portsmouth Rotary Thanksgiving Dinner**, Thurs **Nov 25**, 11 am – 12:30 pm. **Pick up or delivery only. Due to COVID-19, there is no sit down dinner. St. Nicholas Greek Church** (40 Andrew Jarvis Dr., adjacent to Portsmouth High School) **MASKS REQUIRED**. The event is FREE and open to all individuals, children and families. Call **603-205-1233** or email [rotarythanksgiving@gmail.com](mailto:rotarythanksgiving@gmail.com)

**Senior Activity Center Thanksgiving Lunch**, Thurs **Nov 18**, **11:30 am. In-person hot turkey lunch, \$5.** Reservations required. Call 603-610-4433 or email [bsullivan@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:bsullivan@cityofportsmouth.com)

## WEEKLY FREE LUNCH REMINDERS:

- **Middle Street Baptist Church** – Seacoast Community Lunch serves brown bag takeout lunches from the parking lot of the church (18 Court St.) from 12 noon to 1 pm on Wednesdays. For more information call 603-436-2337 or email [lunch@middle.st](mailto:lunch@middle.st)
- **St. John's Church** -- During the COVID-19 pandemic, Common Table offers a bag lunch pickup in the St. John's parking lot (100 Chapel St.) from 12 noon to 1 pm on Thursdays. Bathrooms are available to guests at this time.

**ALLIANCE FOR GREATER GOOD "SHARE THE WARMTH" COLLECTING NEW HATS, MITTENS, GLOVES, SCARVES FOR GATHER FAMILIES** -- Purchased or handmade NEW items can be dropped off **through Nov 17** at the Senior Activity Center (125 Cottage St.) or YMCA (555 Peverly Hill Rd.) in Portsmouth. For more information, [click here](#) or email the Alliance for Greater Good at [alliance.greatergood@gmail.com](mailto:alliance.greatergood@gmail.com).



**REC DEPT COLLECTING FOR CROSS ROADS HOUSE WISH LIST** – During the holiday season, Cross Roads House presents each adult resident with a gift bag (families are sponsored separately). Help fill these gift bags by donating items from the wish list. Drop off new Wish List donations at any Rec Dept facility by Dec 10. For the Wish List, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/ccd6r97p>



**SAFE WATER ADVISORY GROUP MEETING, MON NOV 22 AT 6:30 PM** -- In person in City Hall Conference Room A or via Zoom. For the Agenda and Zoom registration, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/p8fkj77u>



**WATCH THE NEW "THINK BLUE" STORMWATER VIDEO, "Falling Leaves" (sic)** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vp5lwUNVzoA>

Either mulch the fallen leaves to add nutrients to your lawn, or bag them for curbside pickup by DPW. Leaves clog storm drains, can cause flooding in heavy rains and pollute the watershed by using up oxygen and contributing to algae growth. To learn more about protecting the watershed and how you can "Think Blue," [click here](#).



**SEVEN NEW LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES INSTALLED IN PORTSMOUTH NEIGHBORHOODS** -- The Portsmouth Public Library has teamed up with local Teen Advisory Board

Member, 17-year-old volunteer and prospective Eagle Scout, Loreley Godfrey (pictured above with the Little Free Library at PMAC) who was searching for a challenging and rewarding Eagle Scout project that would bring joy to the community. For the past year, the library has worked closely with Godfrey to fundraise, collect book donations, purchase materials, and construct and finish the Little Free Library structures. **Seven Little Free Libraries are now installed at Osprey Landing, Gosling Meadows, the Senior Activity Center, Community Campus, Greenleaf Recreation Center, The Pines and Arbor View Apartments, and Portsmouth Music & Arts Center.** In addition, library staff also steward two indoor book swaps, at Gather and Cross Roads House. No library card is necessary, and nothing needs to be returned. Residents can simply visit the box and take a book or leave a book.



**GIVE THE GIFT OF EDUCATION! CITY WEBSITE NOW ABLE TO ACCEPT TAX-DEDUCTIBL DONATIONS TO THE 5 PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS** – To make a donation to any of the Portsmouth Community Scholarship Funds – open to all Portsmouth residents, not just Portsmouth High School students -- through the secure donation portal on the City website, **click on the “Make a Donation” button in the middle of the CityofPortsmouth.com homepage, or go directly to <https://tinyurl.com/zrw55zbw> and select the scholarship fund you wish to support.** For more information about the scholarships, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/2xcze3ff>

**COAST BUS SERVICE CHANGES STARTED SAT NOV 13** -- The following bus routes are temporarily suspended:

- Route 14 (between the Rochester P&R/ Portsmouth Mon-Sat)
- Route 33 (continuation of 4:30pm run suspension Mon-Sat)
- Route 34 (multiple am and pm runs Mon-Sat)



- Route 40 (continuation of current suspensions)
- Route 43 (continuation of current suspensions)
- Route 44 (one pm run Mon-Fri)

Service will be resumed on the following routes:

- Route 12 (all previously suspended runs)
- Route 13 (all previously suspended runs)
- Route 33 (6:30pm run)  
For more information, visit:  
[www.coastbus.org/upcomingservicechanges](http://www.coastbus.org/upcomingservicechanges)

**WORK FOR THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH!**  
To review job postings and benefits, [click here](#).

**For example, one of the current job openings is: *Parking & Transportation Engineer*.** This person participates in division level management and administration of the DPW's Parking and Transportation Division including assessing traffic flow, traffic safety, transportation and parking services, and working to improve operations, implement policies and procedures, direct work activities and supervise personnel. The City offers a generous compensation and benefits package that includes retirement, generous paid time off including vacation, holidays, medical & dental insurance, flexible spending account, professional development, career growth, longevity incentives, and more! For details and to apply, click here:  
<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/hr/work>

**FREE COVID-19 TESTING SITE AT FOX RUN MALL IN NEWINGTON** – Open 7 days a week, 9 am to 3 pm in the old Sears store You receive a personalized QR code when you register and can check your results in 48 hours.

**CDC APPROVES PFIZER COVID-19 VACCINE FOR CHILDREN AGED 5-11.**  
<https://tinyurl.com/5d29muh5> For additional locations where this pediatric vaccine is available. [click here](#).



**VACCINE CLINICS WED NOV 17 & 24 AT SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER, 8 AM–3 PM.** Enter through the back assembly hall door. **All vaccines available, at no charge, including Pfizer pediatric vaccine for 5-11 year-olds.** No appointment needed! Address is 125 Cottage Street.

Primary Doses for Pfizer (2-doses), Moderna (2-doses), and J&J (1-dose). 3<sup>rd</sup> Doses for Pfizer and Moderna for persons who are moderately to severely immunocompromised and BOOSTER doses available. Eligible individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose. For more information, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/3bnsfsw> **For boosters, be sure to bring your vaccination card and an ID.** Note: COAST Bus Trolley Route #40 stops at the Senior Activity Center.

**BOOSTERS FOR HOMEBOUND INDIVIDUALS** – People who are homebound and need a booster shot, or their first round of vaccinations, can call On-Site Medical Services, the company contracted by NH to provide homebound boosters, at [603-338-9292](tel:603-338-9292) or book an appointment online at the On-Site Medical website: <https://www.on-sitemedservices.com/>

**DPW CONSTRUCTION** – For more information on construction projects in the city, visit the DPW page on the City website, then click on the Projects tab for a dropdown menu that links to an individual page for each project with updates, project background and an opt-in email list.  
<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks>

**BIKE LANE BOLLARDS & BIKE RACKS BEING REMOVED**– DPW is preparing the streets and sidewalks to facilitate snow removal. Metal picnic tables placed downtown last winter will remain.

**ISLINGTON STREET PROJECT**  
Work this week includes: **East Side - Albany Street to Dover Street:** Sign installation, restoration of loam and seed areas, driveway and brick work; **Columbia Street Area:** Driveway work. Plus miscellaneous clean up in preparation for winter in all project areas. No water service interruptions expected. For more information and to subscribe to weekly updates, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/hb4wn9s>

**95 MECHANIC STREET SEAWALL RECONSTRUCTION** – Concrete pouring this week. For more information and to subscribe to email updates on the project, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/w48zy332>

**BANFIELD ROAD** – Speed tables for traffic calming and three-way stop signs at Heritage Ave. and Constitution intersections now installed.

**HYDRANT FLUSHING CONTINUES ONE MORE WEEK** -- The flushing takes place at various locations, Mon through Thurs, between 7 am and 11

pm. Flushing locations are indicated by the presence of DPW Water Division vehicles with flashing lights. When flushing is occurring, the Water Division recommends that customers refrain from washing laundry to avoid potential discoloration of clothing. After flushing has occurred, customers can check their water clarity by running cold water to flush their plumbing systems. While flushing can result in discoloration in tap water, the water remains safe to drink. If the discoloration persists, customers should report the issue using the DPW Click 'n Fix system: <https://tinyurl.com/29h9f99c>

### **REGISTER NOW FOR REC DEPARTMENT TRIP TO SEE BOSTON BALLET NUTCRACKER NOV 26.**

\$138 per person. Depart Senior Activity Center at 10:30 am and stop for lunch at Prince Pizza + Pasta. Travel in a coach bus complete with wifi and bathrooms. Attend 1:30 pm show. Return to Portsmouth, 6 pm. Reservations required: call 603-610-4433. Payment is expected at time of registration; cash, check, credit card. Price includes orchestra level ticket, transportation, lunch, tax + tip for both restaurant and bus driver. This trip is recommended for ages 12+ and the Boston Opera House requires all attendees to show proof of vaccination or a recent negative COVID-19 test. The bus company requires, per Federal law, that masks be worn at all times on the bus.



**CITY PHASING OUT EASYPARK PROGRAM – ENDS DEC 31, 2021** -- EasyParkUSA has already discontinued the sale of new devices, although existing customers will be able to continue to use their devices in any participating New Hampshire city, and use up any remaining balance on their accounts, until December 31, 2021. At that time, all accounts will be closed and no further service fees will be charged. Instead of EasyPark, the City's Parking Division encourages subscribers to sign up for the ParkMobile smartphone app, that gives them more convenience and flexibility. Portsmouth EasyPark users who are residents may apply for the resident discount with ParkMobile. For more information: <https://tinyurl.com/t29zj2yk>

### **EMERGENCY RENTAL & UTILITIES ASSISTANCE** – The [NH Emergency Rental](#)

**Assistance Program** (NHERAP) provides funds to renters who cannot pay their rent and utilities during the pandemic. The program works with tenants and landlords. Program changes as of October 1, 2021:

- Households may qualify for assistance for past-due and future rent and utility payments for a period not to exceed 18 months.
- At least one person in the household must have qualified for unemployment benefits, had their income reduced, had significant costs, or had other financial hardship during the pandemic. Certain income requirements must be met.

#### **WHAT THE PROGRAM COVERS**

- Past-due rent including reasonable late and legal fees.
- Three months of future rent payments if needed for housing stability.
- Utilities, such as electricity, home heating costs, water, sewer, trash.
- Other housing-related costs such as internet and relocation expenses (including rental application fees, utility hook-up fees, and security deposits).
- Households may qualify for utility assistance even if they do not receive or need rental assistance.

For more information on whether you qualify and how to apply for emergency funds available to renters in NH, click here: <https://www.capnh.org/covid19> The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has also launched a tool (click here: <https://tinyurl.com/4hawaxf4>) that allows renters and landlords to find rental assistance programs in their area. Applications are handled through NH Community Action Partnership (CAP).



**POST-VACCINATION FAQs** – For the latest information on breakthrough infections and third doses of vaccine, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/uurbmrse>

**VACCINE DEVELOPMENT BACKGROUND** – For more information on how the COVID-19 vaccines were developed, tested and approved, click here. <https://tinyurl.com/3yhreymk>

**PROOF-OF-VACCINATIONS: What should you do if you discover your vaccination is not recorded properly in the NH DHHS database? Or if you need more than your vaccination card because some travel destinations require the full record?** Contact NHIIS (NH Immunization Information System) at 603-271-4028, by email at [nhiis.support@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:nhiis.support@dhhs.nh.gov) or click here for the NH DHHS website <https://tinyurl.com/rva3tphc> for the immunization information system (NHIIS). On this site, select the correction forms for your PCP to verify your vaccine card, DOB, etc. You will need to get the form notarized and before sending it back to NHIIS. Once your record is corrected, you can request an official vaccine and immunization record. This record is the one that would be accepted when travelling if the vaccine card is not enough. For more answers to Frequently Asked Questions, [click here](#). **FOR A LIST OF WALK-IN VACCINATION OPTIONS** at hospitals and local pharmacy same-day sites, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/kbvemrbk>



**I LOST MY PROOF-OF-VACCINATION CARD. NOW WHAT?** All vaccination records are kept on file in the CDC National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) system. NH DHHS advises that you can replace a lost vaccination card in either of two ways:

1. Download and complete the vaccination card replacement request form here: <https://tinyurl.com/4pj4chcz> Note that the completed form MUST BE NOTARIZED before sending it back to NH DHHS.
2. If your healthcare provider has access to the NHIIS, ask him/her to print out the record directly from NHIIS.

**For DHHS VACCINE FAQs, click here:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/tkvaksnw>

**For Testing FAQs click here.**  
<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/testing-faqs>

**For Ventilation FAQs click here.**  
<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/ventilation-faqs>

**For more information, visit** City's page on COVID-19: <https://tinyurl.com/2ywcu6ab>

**CITY HALL FACEBOOK PAGE:**  
**Like and follow us to get news as it's posted:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/CityHallPortsmouthNH>

**Want to know more about what's happening in the City?** Click on the QR code or link below to sign up for the City Newsletter and/or individual email lists for projects. <https://tinyurl.com/y2p67par>