

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



City Newsletter
Monday, June 6, 2022

TONIGHT CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 7 pm in City Hall Council Chambers and via Zoom. <https://tinyurl.com/4pmbdbzd>

PORTSMOUTH RECYCLING CENTER NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT CARD PREPAYMENT OF FEES FOR BULKY ITEMS FOR DROP-OFF OR PICK-UP Call 603.427.1530

SEPTEMBER PRIMARY FILING PERIOD ENDS FRI JUN 10 – The City Clerk is now accepting filings for the **September 13, 2022 State Primary Election from State Representative candidates, as well as from candidates for Delegate to the Republican State Convention** (only these offices are filed with the City Clerk in Portsmouth). Pursuant to RSA 652:20, the Office of the City Clerk will be open on the last day of the filing period, FRI JUN 10, 3-5 PM to accept filings in person by the candidate. All other City Offices will be closed, as usual for a Friday afternoon. The Office of the City Clerk will be open for candidate filings only.



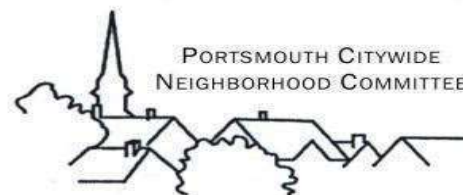
RECREATIONAL NEEDS SURVEY STILL SEEKING YOUR INPUT! – Complete the survey and become part of the plan: <https://tinyurl.com/bdfuzk7s>
To learn more about the project and how you can participate, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/bdh2d6>



PRESCOTT PARK MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE UPDATE MEETING WED JUN 8 at 4:30 pm in City Hall Conference Room A and via Zoom. Go to the meeting notice and Zoom registration: <https://tinyurl.com/3kmpdfh9>



FUN(D) RAISER FOR SKATEPARK LIGHTING! THURS JUN 9, 6-10 PM at 3S ARTSPACE. For tickets: <https://tinyurl.com/3ehvyh9k>



CITYWIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE WARD 5 FORUM WED JUN 8 in City Hall Conference Room A. For the Meeting Notice: <https://tinyurl.com/4k8nwawa>

HANOVER GARAGE RENOVATION PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING THURS JUN 9 at 6:30 pm in City Hall Council Chambers and via Zoom. For the Meeting Notice and Zoom registration: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8h9st9>

**NH BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
ROUND TABLE IN PORTSMOUTH JUN 14, 1-
2:30 PM** – At Great Bay Community College, to
shape the BIA public policy priorities for 2023.
Roundtables are being held across the state. To
register for the free program and for more
information about this and other locations:
<https://www.biaofnh.com/roundtables/>



**45th MARKET SQUARE DAY AND ROAD RACE
RETURN! SAT JUN 11, 9 am to 4 pm** -- Streets
closed due to the Festival will be posted with regard to
parking restrictions. Any vehicles parked on the
streets closed as part of the Festival will be towed at
the owner's expense. **Surrounding streets will be
closed to on-street parking from 4 am through
6 pm on Market Square Day.** Special parking
rates for the **Foundry Garage: flat rate \$3
between 6 am and 4 pm on Sat. Jun 4.** Hanover
Garage – regular hourly rates apply. Metered parking
is enforced on Market Square Day, from 9am – 8pm.
For full details:
[https://proportsmouth.org/events/market-square-
day/](https://proportsmouth.org/events/market-square-day/)

WALK-UP VACCINES – Available at the corner
of Fleet and Congress Streets on Market
Square Day. **9 am – 4 pm.** All three vaccines and
booster doses available, free, for those age 5+.

CONSTRUCTION WORK THIS WEEK: For
information about each of the seasonal DPW projects
now underway, click on the drop down Projects menu
on the DPW page on the City website.

**REVISED TRAFFIC PATTERN ON FLEET
STREET-- ONE-WAY traffic from Congress to
Hanover WITH RESTORED ACCESS to the
Hanover garage from Hanover Street.** Effective
through Nov 27. All Fleet Street businesses are open
and sidewalks are open to pedestrians.

SOUTH STREET WORK THURS JUN 9–
Curbing installation, weather-permitting (may extend
to Fri Jun 10). Prep detail in place on Tues Jun 7.

**EVERSOURCE PROJECT WORK IN LADD ST -
- Work hours are 7 am to 5 pm, Monday**

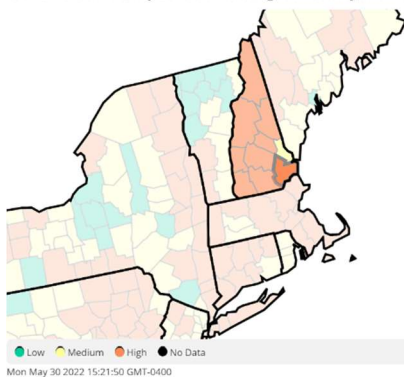
**through Friday. The work limits traffic on
High and Ladd Streets between Congress and
Market Street.** Flaggers will be on-site throughout
all phases of the work to aid vehicle and pedestrian
travel and to assure access to all business. **The on-
site project contacts are:** For Eversource: Nick
Kosko, 603-842-0416; for the City of Portsmouth,
DPW: Marc Batchelder, 603-498-8449. Go to
[Eversource Project.](#)

PENHALLOW STREET – Rescheduled setting
of the Eversource electric pole at Sheafe St.
**this week, weather-permitting. PENHALLOW
CLOSED between Custom House Lane and
Daniel St. on WED Jun 8 and THURS Jun 9 for
the delivery of drywall.** 4-hour window each day
and reopened once unloading is complete. Masonry
work, framing and exterior elements of the building
continue as does work in the west alley and south
alley, preparing for fountain foundations and
hardscape. Sidewalk brick repair on Daniel Street
continues. **DANIEL & PENHALLOW
BUSINESSES ARE OPEN. Pedestrian access
maintained.**

**LONGMEADOW ROAD NEARING
COMPLETION** -- Binder paving and curbing
**this week in preparation for opening the new
road on Jun 20.**

**SAGAMORE AVE SEWER EXTENSION
PROJECT** -- Impacting Sagamore Avenue, Shaw
Road, Cliff Road and Walker Bungalow Road.
Excavation work starts on Sagamore Ave., continuing
onto the other streets as work advances. During
construction travel on the streets will be limited,
intermittently, to a single lane of alternating one-way
travel Mon-Fri between 7 am and 6 pm. Go to the
[Sagamore Ave. Project page](#) for more information on
this project and to subscribe to regular
communications about the project.

**MARCY STREET-NEW CASTLE AVE GAS LINE
REPLACEMENT** – Unital gas company work
continues to replace the gas main, all the gas services
under the road and all of the main tie ins to the side
streets (Pray, Partridge, Holmes, Walden and
Humphreys).



CDC GUIDANCE ON ASSESSING COMMUNITY RISK: ROCKINGHAM COUNTY LISTED AS “HIGH” -- CDC recommends using its online tool -- [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) based on hospital beds being used, hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area. **The City Manager encourages the use of masks indoors in City facilities. Please note that masks are still required in the Portsmouth Public Library.**

CDC RECOMMENDS BOOSTER FOR CHILDREN 5-11 – Following FDA Emergency Use Authorization on May 17, the CDC on May 19 recommended a booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for children ages 5 to 11. Children in this age group who received their last dose at least five months earlier are eligible to receive the additional doses immediately.

CDC GUIDANCE ON OPTIONAL SECOND BOOSTER -- On March 30, 2022 The CDC updated their [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#) to allow for a 2nd booster dose in certain persons:

- Persons 12 or older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised may choose to receive a 2nd mRNA booster at least 4 months after their 1st booster
- All persons 50 years of age or older may choose to receive a 2nd mRNA booster at least 4 months after their 1st booster. The **second booster is recommended for those age 60+**
- Persons 18-49 years of age who received the J&J COVID-19 vaccine for both their primary series and 1st booster may receive a 2nd mRNA booster at least 4 months after their J&J booster.

FDA LIMITS USE OF J&J VACCINE -- Due to the ongoing risk of rare but serious blood clots. The problem occurs in the first two weeks after vaccination. Under the new FDA instructions, J&J's vaccine could still be given to people who had a severe allergic reaction to one of the other vaccines and can't

receive an additional dose. J&J's shot could also be an option for people who refuse to receive the mRNA vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna, and therefore would otherwise remain unvaccinated.

FREE TEST KITS BY MAIL -- Order free at-home COVID-19 tests from the Federal government website: <https://www.covidtests.gov/> which also offers 'how to test' instructions. **NH SOURCES FOR FREE AT-HOME TESTING KITS** – To order a free kit, visit: <https://learn.vaulthealth.com/nh/>

BOOSTERS FOR HOMEBOUND INDIVIDUALS – Call On-Site Medical Services, the company contracted by NH to provide homebound boosters, at [603-338-9292](tel:603-338-9292).

WEEKLY FREE LUNCH REMINDERS:

- **Middle Street Baptist Church** – Seacoast Community Lunch brown bag lunches from the parking lot (18 Court St.), 12 noon to 1 pm on Wednesdays. For more information call 603-436-2337 or email lunch@middle.st
- **St. John's Church** -- Common Table bag lunch pickup in the St. John's parking lot (100 Chapel St.) Thurs, 12 noon to 1 pm.

GATHER COMMUNITY MARKET, FRIDAYS, 10 am – 1 pm – A FREE food market for all. No paperwork. No ID. No one is ever turned away. Located at the NH National Guard building, 801 McGee Drive in Portsmouth.



PORTSMOUTH NH 400 PHOTO CONTEST! PNH400 is now accepting submissions from Portsmouth-based photographers so the calendar showcases the best local talent, professional and amateur. There are thirteen prizes – feature placement of the winners' images in the printed calendar. One photograph per month plus a cover image will be selected. The calendar will also include the dates of all signature PNH400 events and special observances, along with fun historical facts and figures. *For submission details and the online form, [click here](#).* **The Submission Deadline is June 30, 2022. PORTSMOUTH NH 400 ACCEPTING OFFICIAL PROGRAM PARTNER APPLICATIONS** – Organizations, groups and anyone planning a Portsmouth NH 400 celebration program, project or event is invited to submit an

Official Program Partner Application.

*<https://tinyurl.com/mw5664bm>

Learn more, get involved, volunteer, donate!

For more details, visit:

<https://www.PortsmouthNH400.org>

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).

PORTSMOUTH STANDS WITH UKRAINE

There are many recognized relief agencies responding to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. You might consider one of these:

<https://tinyurl.com/2mtsejuh>

RECENTLY UPDATED:

- **DAILY LIFE DURING COVID-19** -- <https://tinyurl.com/2m463dne>
- **VACCINATION FAQs**, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/4smxnj7>

- **TESTING FAQs**, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/57vhfbhx>
- **COVID-19 TREATMENT FAQs**, [click here](#)



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

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 link below to sign up for the City Newsletter and/or individual email lists for projects. <https://tinyurl.com/y2p67par>