

## CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR  
IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**

**August 26, 2016**

### **City of Portsmouth awards Peirce Island Wastewater Facility upgrade project to Methuen Construction**

PORTSMOUTH, NH – The City Manager has awarded a contract to Methuen Construction Company, Inc. of Salem, New Hampshire, to begin construction of the Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade project. This upgrade project is the single largest capital project in the City's history. The project cost is \$72.79 million and is scheduled to take four years to complete. The project will improve the treatment system to include secondary level treatment and nitrogen removal and is required by a legal order from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The Contract with Methuen Construction Company, Inc. requires work to begin September 1, 2016. The first few weeks of construction will be a slow start with the majority of the contractor's work being done at the office, not on site. Work on-site will begin slowly with mobilization of equipment and materials later in the month of September. The first on-site construction activities will include the installation of traffic signage followed by the installation of pedestrian fencing on Mechanic Street and on Peirce Island towards the end of the month. The exact date of the Peirce Island closure (past the City's Outdoor Pool) will be closed to the public will be announced in the near future, but is still pending final schedule by the Contractor. It is expected this will occur in the middle to end of September.

As the project progresses, residents and businesses are encouraged to visit [www.portsmouthwastewater.com](http://www.portsmouthwastewater.com) for the most up to date schedule and project information. A construction web page for this project has been developed and can be viewed at <http://www.portsmouthwastewater.com/piupgrade.html>. This site will provide updates regarding

construction schedules, traffic updates and other information that may impact neighborhoods, businesses and visitors to the Island. Additional outreach includes monthly public meetings with City staff, the Contractor and other officials involved in the project that will be held every third Wednesday at 11 a.m. in the Council Chambers – September 21<sup>st</sup>, October 19<sup>th</sup>, November 16<sup>th</sup> and December 21<sup>st</sup> for the year 2016 – to ensure that citizens are informed; these meetings will be broadcasted and available on the City’s YouTube channel ([www.youtube.com/cityofportsmouth](http://www.youtube.com/cityofportsmouth)) as well.

“After many years of planning, design and an exhaustive public process, we are looking forward to beginning this project,” said City Manager John Bohenko. “I am confident that the new plant will serve the City well and have a positive impact for the environment for the foreseeable future.”

For more information, please contact Donald Song, Project Manager, at 610-7305 or [dsong@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:dsong@cityofportsmouth.com).