



Caitlin Cameron <ccameron@portlandmaine.gov>

Input regarding Application ID # 2017-245

kathleen shafer <kashafer@mac.com>

Fri, Nov 24, 2017 at 4:48 PM

To: ccameron@portlandmaine.gov

I received notice as a resident near the six story 128 room hotel proposed at Middle/India/Fore Streets. It's great to see continued investment and development in this neighborhood.

Since this is a large development here, I would like to provide input on 3 topics that have become increasingly challenging for local residents: Parking, Traffic, and Green Space.

*I believe this development is providing for its own parking rather than consuming nearby public parking resources, which is positive. If that plan changes, as has occurred with other nearby developments, a further diminishing of local parking would be detrimental to the neighborhood.

*The Middle and India St intersection is already a safety issue for both pedestrians and vehicles traveling on Middle Street due to the lack of stop signs or signals for the India St traffic. This intersection needs to have traffic management to allow for safe 4-way traffic flow and heavy pedestrian use. Also the visibility for cars traveling on Middle Street, and stopped at that intersection, is poor due to parked cars close to the intersection.

*Nearby residents with dogs are seeing a rapid disappearance of green space which is becoming a challenge for livability in this section of Portland with pets. Even trees planted along the neighborhood sidewalks in front of the new developments have grates at their bases instead of grass or dirt. The land between Fore/India/Middle is one of the few grass areas remaining in the immediate couple of blocks that is not only beneficial for pet owners, but also used by residents and visitors as an open space to enjoy a sunny day. Will the existing open grass areas be affected by this development? If so, can some landscape features be incorporated into this plan with some grass or dirt that helps keeps the neighborhood "resident and pet friendly"?

Thanks
Kathy Shafer