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## Notes of 2/15 MMC Site Plan Review Meeting (CMP/Detours)

1 message

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Jean Fraser <jf@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Feb 22, 2018 at 1:05 PM

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Hello all

Key points from the 2/15/18 Site Plan Review meeting with MMC:

*(Please let me know if I have missed anything important; note that these are intended as an "aid de memoir" and not as formal minutes)*

### **Congress Street Closure and associated detours/emergency access (based on the revised docs and plans attached to this e-mail from Gorrill-Palmer)**

Updates from Gorrill-Palmer re traffic detours and associated signage and signals, assuming no alternative to a Congress Street closure (see below- third item):

- RD of GP had developed the option with Boynton one-way inbound, based on feedback from earlier meeting
- Outlined the "three-layer" approach:
  - Signage via variable message signs outside central Portland to encourage different routes into the City
  - Barricades at Congress/St Johns and at Weymouth/Congress to re-route the bulk of traffic
  - Local traffic may use Forest/Boynton inbound
- Outlined the changes needed for each of these (see plans) eg signal at Weymouth/Park (actuated); removal of parking in addition to signage; change ped to concurrent crossing in some places (but RD thought signal timing otherwise OK)
- Key concerns (need more analysis and discussion):
  - Police particularly concerned re the safety of retaining central lane at Congress/St John - rather see it removed even though a number of cars going straight ahead

- Need for information/maps to MMC patients and visitors and employees
  - suggest use online data providers to flag closures
- Need to look closely at impact on peds at signals, especially during ball games and other events
- Consider impacts on residents and businesses of some routes and semi-closures
  - Introduce Boynton as one-way working a couple of weeks in advance
- Access to visitors garage during Congress closure (see plan)
  - Via employee garage, channeled and flaggers as needed
  - 200 employees moving out of the employee garage to make up for loss of 2 levels in visitor garage during construction
- Emergency Routes (see plan)
  - Clarified that access via Gilman only secondary and only when the "green" route is closed
  - Attendees stressed need for communication and decision-making chart
  - Agreed that from now on there would be smaller follow up meetings as necessary to resolve details
  - Agreed there needed to be monitoring and heavy contractor presence during first few weeks and may need to tweak these plans
- METRO - MMC to meet with them once plan firmed up
- DPW noted that the condition of the streets being used for deliveries and detours may require some action in advance eg partial paving - DPW to advise MMC re this after a more detailed site visit - need to avoid delays to the proposed schedule

**CMP - East Tower and Visitor Garage (based on revised CMP as attached from Turners)**

- Congress St closure anticipated May 7 to June 28 for the installation of precast beams for overbuild of the visitors garage - weather biggest factor
- Turner summarized the revisions to CMP, which included facilitating the ambulance access, adding delivery routes
- Reviewers questioned the proposal to route steel deliveries (from North, June 4 to June 28, starting at 5am) along Washington Ave and Congress
  - City staff advised route should avoid Washington completely due to planned construction work
  - Route must avoid downtown Portland and Congress
  - Keep delivery vehicles on I295 longer - maybe I295 to Forest /Park ? Deering; maybe Fore River Parkway
  - Turners will speak to the trucking company again and get back to us
- Police stressed need for ongoing monitoring and process for making changes to delivery and detour routes after closure starts
- Concern re pedestrian route along Congress by construction area
  - Need ADA ramp
  - Need 9ft for crossing
  - Ensure entire sidewalk available

- Look at conflicts for peds crossing Weymouth at Congress - need to address
  - Gilman crosswalk needs to be ADA compliant
- Timetable (based on SO (Tuck) discussions with MMC and City Communication Directors)
  - - Need for early completion of telephone tree communication structure/contacts to be circulated within about 2 weeks and to be tested ahead by local and regional responders
  - - In week after 2/27 PB meeting need schedule that includes lead time and actions
  - - Early prep of handouts for employees and visitors plus early website info important

### **Third Part Review of Constructability**

- Kleinfelders consultancy (Jim Wentworth) has been engaged by city to provide independent review of the constructability issues for the East Tower and Visitors Garage, as there was concern regarding the closure of Congress Street (for at least 8 weeks) and whether that closure was essential in view of its impacts
- JW outlined what had gone into the review and amplified on the review Memo (see FINAL REVIEW MEMO attached for details) outlining the pros and cons of a range of construction options
- JW noted that public safety was a key factor as was the need to use this size of crane which requires a long straight area for assembly
- Kleinfelders professional view was that their analysis supported the choice of the proposed option, though they recommended penalties and other disincentives in the contract for going beyond the identified closure time
- Discussion regarding the work schedule for the garage - potentially possible to increase from 5 days/week to 6 or 7- but then the noise etc from construction would also be for more days
- A 6 day working week with a later start on Saturday may be best compromise and potentially could shorten the closure by a few days depending on weather

*Next Meeting:*

### **NO MEETING FEBRUARY 22**

**March 1 Meeting:** am holding a meeting slot and room 209 is reserved (and all following thursdays at 9am) but no agenda yet- will in part depend on issues raised at the PB Workshop on Feb 27th

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City of Portland*

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**3 attachments**



**GP Traffic Analysis of detours & traffic management 2.14.18.pdf**  
4469K



**CM Plan February 13.pdf**  
10844K



**Kleinfelder MMC -Constructability Review Memo 2-21-2018.pdf**  
144K