

Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>

MMC Garage Preliminary Traffic Comments

Tom Errico <thomas.errico@tylin.com>

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To: Helen Donaldson < HCD@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Keith Gray <kgray@portlandmaine.gov>, Jeremiah Bartlett <JBartlett@portlandmaine.gov>, Bruce Hyman

shyman@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jeff Tarling (JST@portlandmaine.gov)" <JST@portlandmaine.gov>

Hi Nell – I have conducted an initial review of the application materials and offer the following preliminary traffic comments.

- The parking garage has a number of spaces that do not meet the City's dimensional standards for size. The applicant should request a formal waiver with supporting documentation.
- The garage plans should include dimensions for parking aisle widths.
- A traffic signal is proposed at the St. John Street/D Street/Garage Driveway location. I support the installation of a traffic signal given vehicle volume conditions and anticipate pedestrian movements. I would note that the applicant is responsible for development of design plans and equipment specifications for review and approval by the City. All costs associated with the installation of the traffic signal is the responsibility of the applicant.
- The general layout of the St. John Street/D Street/Garage Driveway intersection is generally acceptable. It should be noted that the City is currently reviewing bicycle facility recommendations and final direction will be provided in the future. Some initial comments are provided below:
 - The number of pavement marking arrows is excessive and should meet either City of MaineDOT standards (they may be for traffic flow reasons). I would suggest the through lane arrows be eliminated on St. John Street.
 - A crosswalk on the St. John Street southerly approach shall be provided.
 - o I continue to review the garage approach as it relates to providing a three-lane section with a reversible center lane and traffic control design elements.
- The applicant has provided a traffic evaluation and my initial comments are noted below:
 - o I have requested the Synchro traffic model for review.
 - I have requested the traffic count data collection reports for review.
 - o I find the methods used to estimate traffic volumes associated with the garage to be reasonable. I would note that additional review is required. The evaluation notes that a broader review of the area transportation system and parking garage will occur during Phase 3 of MMC's expansion.
 - From a vehicle capacity perspective, I would recommend a shared through/right shared lane configuration on the southbound St. John Street approach.
 - Some of the intersection level of service conclusions seem better than actual field conditions. I would suggest the applicant field confirm intersection delays and queues.
- The applicant should provide information on the provision of temporary parking conditions for both MMC and 222 St. John Street during construction activities.
- The sidewalk from St. John Street to the rear of 222 St. John Street should be ADA compliant and continuous.
- The applicant should provide a parking analysis for the parking demand and supply condition for 222 St. John Street.
- I would suggest a crosswalk be provided across the 222 St. John Street driveway.

- The median refuge island on Valley Street needs to be a minimum width of 6-feet to meet ADA requirements. The ramp configuration on the west side should be revised to eliminate the flare condition. Warning signs may be required and direction will be provided in the future.
- It is my assumption that Bruce Hyman will provide comments as it relates to sidewalk design conditions for the entire project.

Please note that these are initial comments and additional clarifying and new comments are likely. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Best regards,

Thomas A. Errico, PE Senior Associate Traffic Engineering Director TY-LIN INTERNATIONAL 12 Northbrook Drive Falmouth, ME 04105 +1.207.781.4721 main +1.207.347.4354 direct +1.207.400.0719 mobile +1.207.781.4753 fax thomas.errico@tylin.com Visit us online at www.tylin.com Twitter | Facebook | LinkedIn | Google+

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