
Details on intersection of St John and D Streets. What's wrong and how to fit it.

17 messages

moses sabina <mosessabina@yahoo.com>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 10:55 AM

To: "Jennifer L. McCarthy" <jmccarthy@mmc.org>, Liz Trice <liztrice@gmail.com>

Cc: Anne Pringle <oldmayor@maine.rr.com>, Ed Suslovic <esuslovic@gmail.com>, Alvah Davis <alvah.davis@gmail.com>, Brett Gabor <brett.gabor@gmail.com>, Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>, Lin <linparsons@maine.rr.com>, Melissa Sheehan <msheehan@mmc.org>, Peter Hall <spruceboy@maine.rr.com>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Tim McNamara <tionamara1@hotmail.com>, Emma Holder <president@parksideneighborhood.org>

Hello all. Following up with details on the intersection of D Street and St John as discussed in the zoom meeting last week. The main concern with the current intersection is a safety one. The intent of any changes made is not in order to reclaim lost parking spaces, though that might be a result.

1. What's wrong: Headed northbound on St John there are **three** traffic lights for **two** lanes of traffic. This is confusing.

How to fix it: Remove or cover the third unnecessary blinking yellow light for northbound St John St traffic.

2. What's wrong: Traffic headed northbound on St John as it comes through the intersection ALMOST ALWAYS (80-90% of the time) crosses over the double yellow lane striping into the oncoming turning lane.

How to fix it: The St John southbound left turn lane onto D St is rarely used. A designated turn lane there is unwarranted. Remove the left turn and change the lane striping and traffic lights. Maintain bike lanes, possibly reclaim a parking space or two. Aside from adjusting the traffic lights, this is a paint repair.

3. What's wrong: There are two blinking red lights for traffic on D St approaching the intersection. This is confusing because D St is a two way unstriped St; the two lights hang over both lanes which could cause it to be perceived as a one way St.

How to fix it: Remove one of the blinking red lights for D St traffic approaching the intersection.

Thanks for reading. Looking forward to the safety improvements. -Moses

Jeremiah Bartlett <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 11:02 AM

To: Christopher Branch <cbranch@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Dan Mirabile <dmirabile@portlandmaine.gov>

Bcc: hcd@portlandmaine.gov

We do intend to make some slight adjustments here as per direction from the City Council and parking changes, but nothing significant. This largely gets back to the problems with the forecast "need" for a signal by MMC versus what is

out there, and we continue to wait on MMC for what they intend to do here.

This being said, all signal heads placed are in compliance with MUTCD regulations. There's just no traffic here, the signal is on flash, and people aren't really treating it as a true signalized intersection, as a result.

Jeremiah J. Bartlett, PE, PTOE
Transportation Systems Engineer
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212 Canco Road, Suite B
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jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov
(207) 874-8891

On Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 10:57 AM Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov> wrote:

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--

Jon P. Jennings
City Manager
City of Portland
389 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-8689 Office
jjp@portlandmaine.gov
www.portlandmaine.gov

Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Jeremiah Bartlett <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 11:59 AM

I will follow up with Moses and the group on this.

I apologize that this has been such a pain. Ultimately, we should have just had them install stop signs on D/the exit and then deal with monitoring as a condition. I think Tom and all were just so certain that it would trip thresholds eventually.

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--

Nell Donaldson
City of Portland Planning Division
(207) 874-8723
hcd@portlandmaine.gov

Jeremiah Bartlett <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>
To: "Donaldson, Helen" <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 12:01 PM

FYI - Dan forwarded my response to Jon.

Jeremiah J. Bartlett, PE, PTOE
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dan Mirabile** <dmirabile@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 12:00 PM

Subject: Fwd: Details on intersection of St John and D Streets. What's wrong and how to fit it.

To: Jon Jennings <jjp@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Christopher Branch <cbranch@portlandmaine.gov>, Bartlett, Jeremiah <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>

Jon,
Please see the response below from Jeremiahh

Daniel C. Mirabile, Deputy Director
City of Portland, Department of Public Works
212 Canco Road
Portland, Maine 04103

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Jeremiah Bartlett <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 12:02 PM

In all fairness, nobody anticipated what happened this year, which could have long-term impacts on the intersection operations.

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Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Jeremiah Bartlett <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 12:13 PM

Thanks for making me feel better.

I just feel like this is the gift that keeps on giving.

Any idea about restriping? I wonder about getting rid of the SB left at the very least?

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Jeremiah Bartlett <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 12:16 PM

C Street will be going to two-way just as soon as Traffic Ops can deal with it. At that point, it does beg the question as to whether the left turn lane is needed, but that is even more work for Traffic Ops, which is a skeleton crew for some time right now.

Do we have anything that can continue to tie MMC to this? Performance guarantees or something?

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Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Jeremiah Bartlett <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 12:19 PM

They still don't have a final CO yet. And we have several monitoring conditions and will have the PG for a year after that CO.

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Jeremiah Bartlett <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 12:25 PM

Hmmm...

Jeremiah J. Bartlett, PE, PTOE
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Jennifer L. McCarthy <JMccarthy@mmc.org> Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 1:09 PM
To: moses sabina <mosessabina@yahoo.com>, Liz Trice <liztrice@gmail.com>, Walter Pochebit <POCHEW@mmc.org>, "Gagnon, Dominic" <Dominic.Gagnon@colliers.com>
Cc: Anne Pringle <oldmayor@maine.rr.com>, Ed Suslovic <esuslovic@gmail.com>, Alvah Davis <alvah.davis@gmail.com>, Brett Gabor <brett.gabor@gmail.com>, Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>, Lin <linparsons@maine.rr.com>, Melissa Sheehan <MSheehan@mmc.org>, Peter Hall <spruceboy@maine.rr.com>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Tim McNamara <tionamara1@hotmail.com>, Emma Holder <president@parksideneighborhood.org>

Thank you, Moses. I have copied Walter and Dominic who can best weigh in.

Jennifer McCarthy, FACHE

Chief Operating Officer

Maine Medical Center

JMccarthy@mmc.org

207-662-4524 office



From: moses sabina <mosessabina@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:55 AM
To: Jennifer L. McCarthy <JMccarthy@mmc.org>; Liz Trice <liztrice@gmail.com>
Cc: Anne Pringle <oldmayor@maine.rr.com>; Ed Suslovic <esuslovic@gmail.com>; Alvah Davis <alvah.davis@gmail.com>; Brett Gabor <brett.gabor@gmail.com>; Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>; Lin <linparsons@maine.rr.com>; Melissa Sheehan <MSheehan@mmc.org>; Peter Hall <spruceboy@maine.rr.com>; Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>; Tim McNamara <tionamara1@hotmail.com>; Emma Holder <president@parksideneighborhood.org>
Subject: Details on intersection of St John and D Streets. What's wrong and how to fit it.

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Gagnon, Dominic <Dominic.Gagnon@colliers.com>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 1:50 PM

To: "Jennifer L. McCarthy" <JMcCarthy@mmc.org>, moses sabina <mosessabina@yahoo.com>, Liz Trice <liztrice@gmail.com>, Walter Pochebit <POCHEW@mmc.org>

Cc: Anne Pringle <oldmayor@maine.rr.com>, Ed Suslovic <esuslovic@gmail.com>, Alvah Davis <alvah.davis@gmail.com>, Brett Gabor <brett.gabor@gmail.com>, Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>, Lin <linparsons@maine.rr.com>, Melissa Sheehan <MSheehan@mmc.org>, Peter Hall <spruceboy@maine.rr.com>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>, Tim McNamara <tionamara1@hotmail.com>, Emma Holder <president@parksideneighborhood.org>, "Alexander M. Green" <AGreen@mainehealth.org>

Hello,

My apologies as the reference to last week's Zoom meeting does not add to my knowledge having not participated. So perhaps some of this has been shared already.

I need to be clear that I am not a traffic engineer or expert on this matter, but did see an extensive process leading to the solution that was approved by the city and constructed by MMC's contractor. Having seen this unfold through numerous and extensive meetings with the city, their traffic team, DPW, a couple of 3rd party traffic engineers, etc. this intersection was designed to meet standards as requested addressing safety concerns presented in these meetings.

As for any current assessment of the intersection... it is challenging to determine the efficiency at this time as the parking garage has not been fully occupied and COVID-19 has led to incredibly low volumes throughout the region. As you note, the left turn lane southbound is not used as frequently as one would think, but this is likely the result of the lighter traffic in the area and the reduced occupancy at this time. From my perspective, if the city felt additional improvements were needed, it would seem this should only occur after evaluating this post-occupancy (full occupancy) and post-Covid 19.

Best regards,

Dominic R. Gagnon

Senior Vice President

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Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Jeremiah Bartlett <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 2:49 PM

How much would you hold out of the performance guarantee on this?

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Jeremiah Bartlett <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>

Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 3:26 PM

Well... if they had to go to a radically different setup, such as a HAWK, it could be \$100,000 or so. Hard to say for sure without a detailed analysis.

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Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>
To: "Gagnon, Dominic" <Dominic.Gagnon@colliers.com>

Wed, Jul 15, 2020 at 6:36 AM

Cc: "Alexander M. Green" <AGreen@mainehealth.org>, Alvah Davis <alvah.davis@gmail.com>, Anne Pringle <oldmayor@maine.rr.com>, Brett Gabor <brett.gabor@gmail.com>, Ed Suslovic <esuslovic@gmail.com>, Emma Holder <president@parksideneighborhood.org>, Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jennifer L. McCarthy" <JMcCarthy@mmc.org>, Lin <linparsons@maine.rr.com>, Liz Trice <liztrice@gmail.com>, Melissa Sheehan <MSheehan@mmc.org>, Peter Hall <spruceboy@maine.rr.com>, Tim McNamara <tionamara1@hotmail.com>, Walter Pochebit <POCHEW@mmc.org>, moses sabina <mosessabina@yahoo.com>

Thanks Moses. I have also asked staff to take a quick look as well. If I remember correctly, our initial plan last fall was to take a look in the spring, but Covid had other plans. Thanks for the reminder.

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--

-Spencer Thibodeau City Councilor, District 2 207-650-2147 Sent from Gmail Mobile

Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>
To: Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Jul 15, 2020 at 9:19 AM

Cc: "Gagnon, Dominic" <Dominic.Gagnon@colliers.com>, "Alexander M. Green" <AGreen@mainehealth.org>, Alvah Davis <alvah.davis@gmail.com>, Anne Pringle <oldmayor@maine.rr.com>, Brett Gabor <brett.gabor@gmail.com>, Ed Suslovic <esuslovic@gmail.com>, Emma Holder <president@parksideneighborhood.org>, "Jennifer L. McCarthy" <JMcCarthy@mmc.org>, Lin <linparsons@maine.rr.com>, Liz Trice <liztrice@gmail.com>, Melissa Sheehan <MSheehan@mmc.org>, Peter Hall <spruceboy@maine.rr.com>, Tim McNamara <tionamara1@hotmail.com>, Walter Pochebit <POCHEW@mmc.org>, moses sabina <mosessabina@yahoo.com>

Yes, I spoke with Jeremiah Bartlett about this at length yesterday, as well as with Moses, so can provide some update from here.

The intersection was constructed as shown in the plans, and the signalheads were installed per MUTCD guidelines, assuming that the intersection would meet signal warrants and be signalized following full occupancy of the garage (as this is what the traffic analysis projected). Full occupancy hasn't occurred yet (and on top of this, as Dominic mentioned, traffic volumes all over the city are low right now), so signal warrants are not currently being met. MMC is working on analyzing volumes and projections at the intersection now and will evaluate post-occupancy to see if a signal is or will be

warranted in the future. In the meantime, however, this intersection is essentially designed for signalization but operating on flash.

DPW will be making slight adjustments to the intersection per the striping plan reviewed last fall, and C Street will be converted to two-way as well. They are hoping to get to this work shortly.

I'm happy to talk about this more at the next NAC meeting if that's helpful.

Nell

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Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Jul 15, 2020 at 9:21 AM

To: Jodie Keene <JKEENE@portlandmaine.gov>, Jeremiah Bartlett <jbartlett@portlandmaine.gov>

This would be a painful conversation with them. But we will make sure that we keep enough out of the PG.

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Jennifer L. McCarthy <JMccarthy@mmc.org>

Wed, Jul 15, 2020 at 11:11 AM

To: Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>, Spencer Thibodeau <sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: "Gagnon, Dominic" <Dominic.Gagnon@colliers.com>, "Alexander M. Green" <AGreen@mainehealth.org>, Alvah Davis <alvah.davis@gmail.com>, Anne Pringle <oldmayor@maine.rr.com>, Brett Gabor <brett.gabor@gmail.com>, Ed Suslovic <esuslovic@gmail.com>, Emma Holder <president@parksideneighborhood.org>, Lin <linparsons@maine.rr.com>, Liz Trice <liztrice@gmail.com>, Melissa Sheehan <MSheehan@mmc.org>, Peter Hall <spruceboy@maine.rr.com>, Tim McNamara <tiamamara1@hotmail.com>, Walter Pochebit <POCHEW@mmc.org>, moses sabina <mosessabina@yahoo.com>

Thanks, Nell.

We understand this is an important topic and are happy to talk through at our next meeting..

Jennifer McCarthy, FACHE

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