

Comment for March 27 MMC Expansion Meeting

Jenny MacKenzie <gabeat@msn.com>

Mar 27, 2018 1:17 PM

Posted in group: **Planning Board**

To Planning Board Members,

I have concerns about the closing of Congress Street during Phase I expansion of MMC and have the following suggestions -

- Traffic be alerted by flashing signage on 295, in the vicinity of Exit 4 or 5 that an alternate route should be sought (suggest taking Exit 4 or Exit 6).
- Traffic coming off the Veteran's Bridge should be directed towards St. John Street or Fore River Parkway (concern about increased traffic on Valley). Another flashing sign would be helpful here.
- Traffic coming in-town via outer Congress and Exit 5 should be diverted to Park Street via St. John Street. I would like to see "Local Traffic Only" signs at the corner of Valley/Congress and Gilman/Congress to prevent excessive traffic from filtering down Forest and Boynton Streets.
- Increased monitoring of on-street parking violations during Sea Dogs games.
- Suspension of the weekly overnight parking restrictions in the surrounding streets (St. John, Valley, A, C, D, Gilman, Boynton, Weymouth, Forest, Park, etc.)

In addition, I would like an update from MMC on the plans for baseline inspections of the home owner's and business foundation walls in the surrounding neighborhoods. I am especially concerned about the construction of the employee garage on St. John, the new entrance on Congress and demolition of the old garage which could adversely impact properties.

Thank you.

Jenny MacKenzie

8 A Street



Helen Donaldson <hcd@portlandmaine.gov>

Thank you! and follow up on the idea for the MMC garage

Emma Holder <pna@parksideneighborhood.org>

Thu, Jun 7, 2018 at 10:57 AM

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

Cc: Josef Kijewski <josef.kijewski@gmail.com>, hans breaux <hbreaux@me.com>, Tuck O'Brien <sgo@portlandmaine.gov>

Hi Nell,

Thanks for being part of the MMC meeting yesterday. It was heartening to have you there and to see some many folks around the table making this huge development move forward in an acceptable way.

I'd like to follow up on the idea I presented about the St. John st. X D Street "complete streets" striping near the proposed MMC garage. If the bike lane can be striped to merge with through-traffic at that intersection, it will get the bikes out of the right turn lane and avoid possible "right hook" injuries while allowing for smoother flow of motorists into the facility from St John st.

Would it be possible to ask the MMC-folk for another street-striping proposal with this in mind? As someone who rides 100% of the time, I can guarantee that cyclists would prefer not to be edged to the side of the road into the way of turning traffic.

AND - I am grateful that both sides of the street now contain bike lanes.

Please also consider a timed pedestrian walk light that gives pedestrians a 3-second head start before the traffic is allowed to move (as on St John X Park ave. under the trestle - it works really well.)

Thanks for all you and your team do for our fair city.

Cheers,

Emma

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Parkside Prez

207 415 7204

<http://parksideneighborhood.org>

MMC's New Employee Parking Garage

Laura Noddin <laura.noddin@maine.edu>

Jun 26, 2018 12:23 PM

Posted in group: **Planning and Urban Development**

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing in regard to the recent proposal to build MMC's new parking garage on St John Street. I have been a resident at 205 St John Street for the last two years (and hoping to stay for a third), and myself and my roommates rely on having on-street parking. My apartment building is 3 units, with 3 people per unit. Removing 13 parking spots from in front of our building would be incredibly inconvenient - as there are many other apartment buildings in this vicinity as well. Not to mention that these spots are nearly always filled -- if you drive around looking for a spot (say, during street cleaning) you will clearly see that the adjacent roads are filled with bumper to bumper parking as well.

I also believe that having on street parking available here is better for our local businesses. Take for example the Sea Dogs - many families opt for parking on this street to avoid the hassle of traffic. If we remove these street parking spots, we are essentially cutting off this part of Portland (and it's local businesses) to the public. From what I know about our city's values - I do not at all believe this is the right choice.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and I hope you carefully consider the cons before making a decision.

Best,
Laura Noddin
205 St John Street, Apt #3

MMC proposal for parking garage 222 St. John Street

Beth Prosser <bprosser1@gmail.com>

Jun 26, 2018 12:24 PM

Posted in group: **Planning and Urban Development**

Good Morning, please take this into consideration for the above-referenced proposal. Thanks very much!

Beth Prosser

Eliminating 13 parking spaces used by tenants, homeowners and businesses just isn't nice or neighborly. Unless I'm mistaken, it has not been reported in the newspaper that this new plan eliminates parking spaces and adds a street light at the D Street intersection with St. John Street.

I can appreciate Matt Wickenheiser's statement: "the goal is to consolidate parking into one spot, where employees can quickly and easily find a parking space, grab a shuttle and get to work." What about people who live and work directly across from this proposed private garage? What about landlords who have rentals and don't have off-street parking? Many of these people work late into the evening or early morning. Can they not easily find a parking space and go to work or home safely and easily?

I'm a landlord and own a business directly across the street. Employees park on St. John Street as do tenants and homeowners. Valley Street parking spots are usually always full and D Street is limited to 3 spaces on one side and 2-3 on the other side with limited one hour parking. With a proposed sidewalk and a street light at this intersection, parking may certainly become even more limited or possibly eliminated.

Jeff Sanders stated "This new plan meets the needs of our employees and addresses our neighbors' concerns." Taking away these parking spots do not mesh with this neighborhood as part of Portland's "institutional overlay zone." How will he meet MMC's neighbors' concerns by taking away much needed street parking?

It seems to me that for MMC's 2,450 spaced proposed parking garage, current street parking should not be eliminated. Will MMC give up 13 first floor spots in their garage in exchange for the ones they want to take away from the city residents in this neighborhood?

Concern with elimination of 13 on-street parking spaces with regards to the MMC Employee Parking Garage Project on St. John Street

DC Heald <deborah.heald@gmail.com>

Jun 26, 2018 4:51 PM

Posted in group: **Planning and Urban Development**

Dear Planning Board Members,
Last night MMC held a neighborhood meeting at MMC's Dana Center to share the plans for the new Employee Parking Garage on St. John St.

This was the first time property owners adjacent to and near the D Street and St. John Street intersection learned of the addition of a traffic light there and the elimination of 13 on-street parking spaces (northbound side of St. John just before and after where D Street intersects with St. John).

When property owners asked about the 13 parking space eliminations, MMC, and others said they assessed/studied that area of the neighborhood and concluded that the elimination of the on-street parking would not have any negative impact.

As it turns out, this assumption by MMC and others, is incorrect. It does have a negative impact.

Property owners have asked MMC to revisit this concern and to work with them to find a way or ways to remediate the impact of this decrease in on-street parking in front of their properties.

Most sincerely,
Deborah Heald (resident/property owner)
213 St. John Street

Maine Med submits Phase 2 site plan for 2,450-space parking garage

Flexon, Dana <Dana.Flexon@consolidated.com>

Jun 27, 2018 1:01 PM

Posted in group: **Planning Board**

Good afternoon

I am writing to you to express my concern over Maine Med's proposed plan for a new 2,450-space parking garage to be built on Saint John Street in Portland. I currently reside on Saint John Street with my husband and 18 month old. Street parking is currently extremely limited. With the construction of the new garage, there will be a loss of at least thirteen parking places. Does the city have plans to replace the parking spots with safe and convenient spaces for the residents? I totally understand the need for safe and convenient parking for Maine Med employees but as a resident, I also need safe and convenient parking. What are the plans?

Thanks

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St John St Parking

Gregory Durgin <GWDurgin@mmc.org>

Jun 28, 2018 4:48 AM

Posted in group: **Planning and Urban Development**

To whom it may concern,

I have recently learned that there are plans to eliminate 13 street parking spaces on St. John St as a part of the Maine Medical Center employee parking garage construction. Many of these spaces are currently used by myself and other residents of Portland as a part of daily life, and their loss would be a massive one. As I'm sure you are aware, parking within Portland particularly during the winter, is difficult enough with the scant spaces that exist and further removing parking is not going to help this issue for locals. Eliminating these parking spaces is also damaging to local business as it limits accessibility to those businesses. This is, for obvious reasons, undesirable.

I hope that if the parking garage proposal is approved, it can go forward without eliminating these crucial parking spaces. As residents of Portland, we also require parking and if no other alternative is afforded it will cause undue hardship and difficulty. Please take into consideration the needs of the residents and businesses of Portland that are not Maine Medical Center.

Regards,

Greg Durgin

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