

Washington Street Pump Station

Water and Sewer Rehabilitation Project Newsletter

Newsletter No. 1

January 2012

In The Flow

Department of
Public
Utilities

The City of Portsmouth Department of Public Utilities will soon begin construction of a Wastewater Pump Station on the vacant lot at the corner of Washington and County Street. This will be the first of several newsletters throughout the project to keep you updated on the work and what will be happening in the coming weeks. We hope the following information will help answer your most frequently asked questions.

Why is the pump station being constructed at this location?

The City developed a Downtown Master Utility plan in 2008 to guide the replacement of the water, wastewater, and storm water systems in the Downtown area. These facilities are some of the oldest in Portsmouth, with some of the pipes dating to the beginning of the 1900's. A new pump station is needed to collect and transfer wastewater to the Hampton Roads Sanitation District for treatment. Because of the generally flat terrain of Portsmouth, wastewater can only travel so far without being pumped, so service areas tend to be relatively small. This location is ideally situated within the service area.

What facilities will be at this site?

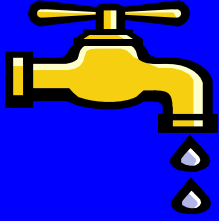
Most of the pump station pipes, pumps, etc. will be below ground and out of sight. There will be a small brick building above ground that has been designed to blend in with the other buildings in the area. What is not underground will be in this building. As with all of the pump stations in the City, they are controlled remotely and run automatically. Once operational, most people will not notice them as anything other than a small building. Once the construction of the pump station is complete, the remainder of the site will be transformed into a small park with benches and landscaping. A rendering of the building is on the next page. The brick color will be selected to best match the surrounding buildings.

What will the construction activity be like?

Construction will generally consist of excavation of the area under the building to install the collection area, pipes, etc. Because this area has a high groundwater table, the contractor will install well points to pump groundwater out of the construction area. This water will go into the storm drain system. Silt fencing and erosion and sediment control will be installed around the site to ensure no dirt or silt leaves the site. Once all of the concrete and below ground infrastructure is installed, only then will you start to see the building being constructed.

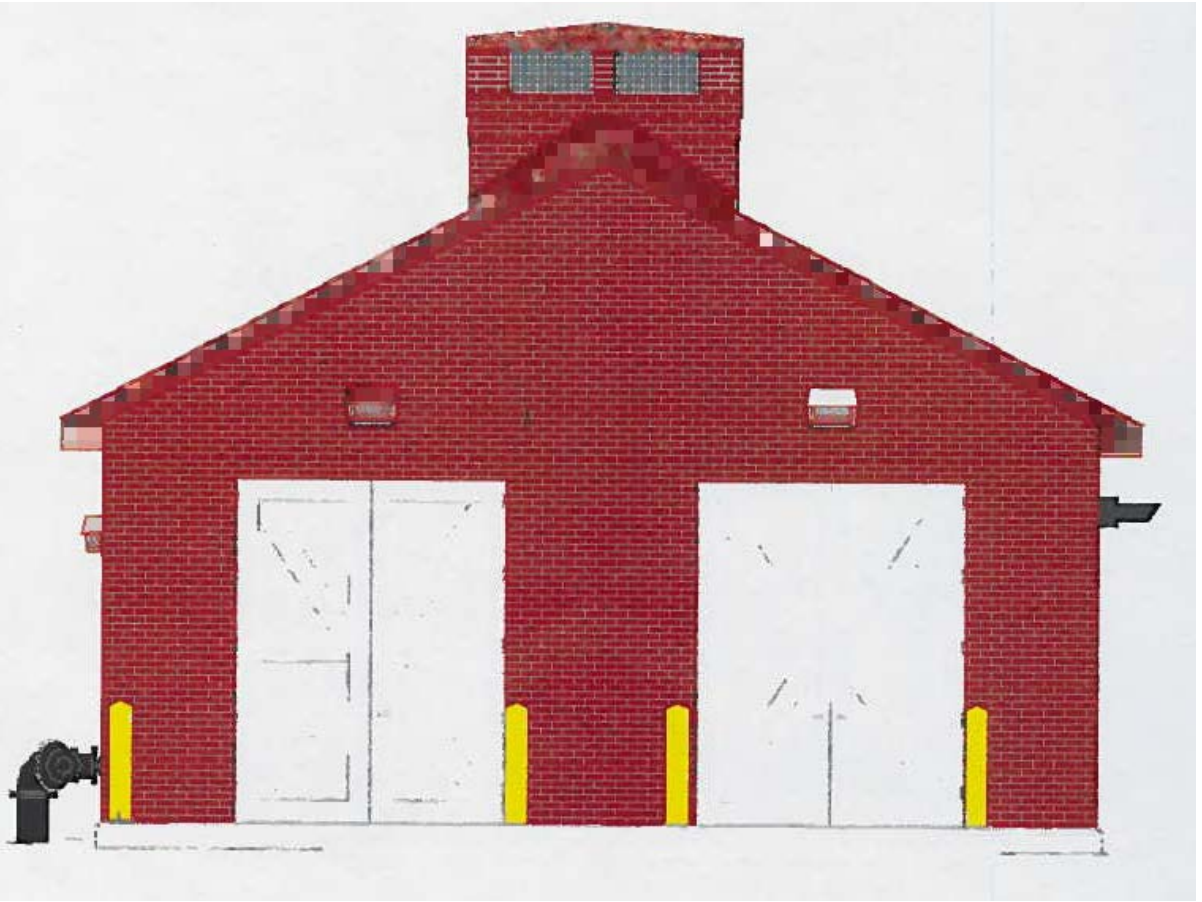
Unfortunately, construction of this magnitude can be disruptive. However, we will work very hard to minimize disruptions. Construction activity will be limited to Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 5:00pm. You will be notified should the work schedule change. We ask for your patience during this project. Throughout the construction period, the City will have inspectors on site to ensure the work is done efficiently and disruptions are kept to a minimum.





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Pump Station As Viewed From Washington Street

Will construction impact access or service delivery?

No. Your water and sewer service will continue as normal. Mail delivery, garbage collection, bus service, etc. will continue as scheduled. Construction activity will be generally confined to the site. The on-street parking adjacent to the site will be unavailable during construction, but the rest of the on-street parking on Washington Street will remain. You will continue to have normal access to your property during this time.

What is the construction schedule?

Currently this project is out to bid. Bids are due on January 31. We would expect to award the contract and have construction begin sometime in March. During the first 90 days of the contract, there will be some work in the street immediately in front of the site. The remainder of the work will take place on the site. Total construction time is anticipated to be 15 months.

General Questions about the Project?

Contact Erin K. Trimyer, P.E. with the City of Portsmouth Department of Public Utilities
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