

## CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR  
IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**

**March 16, 2017**

### **Crews collecting borings along Islington Street beginning next week**

PORTSMOUTH, NH – Beginning Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, crews will be taking borings on Islington Street, starting at Spinney Street and progressing up the corridor towards Maplewood Avenue, throughout the week. These measures are part of the design work for the Islington Street Corridor project.

The goal of the Islington Street Corridor project is to create a "complete street" that will include improvements to the streetscape, traffic signals, utilities, bicycle/pedestrian facilities, transit and vehicular roadway. The streetscape improvements may include curb extensions and planted curb bump-outs, reduced curb cuts, crosswalk design, sidewalks, marked bus pull-over areas, pedestrian amenities, re-aligned and improved intersections and other traffic calming measures.

Borings are samples of underground materials under the roadway, providing information on the subsurface features so that the relocation of underground utilities can be verified and the design plans can be finalized with a more accurate estimation of the costs involved. They are conducted using a drilling rig on the back of a truck. The drill cuts a circular core, approximately a foot in diameter, out of the pavement and then samples are taken at three foot increments down to a depth of about 12 feet. The hole is then backfilled and the crew moves on to the next location.

During this week-long work, crews will have signage, cones and police details to assist with identifying work locations of that day and managing traffic. Drivers can anticipate narrowing of street lanes and restricted on-street parking at the various drilling locations.

Actual construction of the first phase of the Islington Street project is anticipated to occur in later 2018. For questions, please contact Eric Eby at [eeby@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:eeby@cityofportsmouth.com).