



**City of Biddeford
Policy Committee**

September 30, 2024 at 6:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers & Zoom

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Or call in by phone: +1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 966 8966 7893

Passcode:763439

1. Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adjustment(s) to Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
 - 4.a Policy Committee Minutes 8-26-24
5. Discussion/Review
 - 5.a 2024.146 Amend/ Part II: Code of Ordinances, Chapter 42 Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article IV Specific Street Regulations, Sec. 42-90(a) No Parking - Lester B. Orcutt Blvd
 - 5.b Discussion Public Art Policy
6. Adjourn

CITY OF BIDDEFORD, MAINE

Policy Committee

August 26, 2024 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Councilor Norman Belanger, Chairperson. Council President Liam LaFountain and Jake Pierson present. Councilor Roger Beaupre and Renee O'Neil were excused.

5.a. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Committee voted 3-0 to recommend to the City Council to change City Code 42-92(a) as follows: *Parking will be limited at the following locations in the specified manner: Orchard Street parking on the odd-numbered side of the street only, beginning at Elm Street intersection, 1069 ft. + westerly to intersection of May Street.* The motion was made by Councilor LaFountain and seconded by Mr. Pierson.

5.b. The Committee voted 3-0 to recommend to the City Council to change City Code 42-90(a) as follows by adding *Lester B. Orcutt Boulevard, odd-numbered side, from the intersection of Ocean Avenue westerly to approximately 340' before the intersection of First Street.* The motion was made by Councilor LaFountain and seconded by Mr. Pierson.

5.c. Following the discussion of the new proposed ordinance and addressing concerns caused by the two year non-staggered terms of the City Council, the Committee voted 3-0 to amend the proposed ordinance, as follows:

Changing the first sentence in section 5.1 of the proposed ordinance to read *The City Council adopt a strategic plan detailing the operational use of the Opioid Use Settlement Fund revenues on a biennial basis, with said adoption to be completed no later than November 30 of the even numbered years.*

The motion was made by Councilor LaFountain and seconded by Mr. Pierson.

The Committee voted 3-0 to recommend to the City Council to adopt the new ordinance as amended. The motion was made by Councilor LaFountain and seconded by Mr. Pierson.

5.d. The Committee voted 3-0 to recommend to the City Council to change the charges for disposal of the recycling center as follows:

- Demo: first yard to be \$5.00 instead of free
- Car tires: \$3.00 per tire instead of 4 free and then \$5.00 per tire
- Couch: \$10.00 per instead of free
- TV and Computers: \$5.00 per item instead of free

The motion was made by Councilor LaFountain and seconded by Mr. Pierson.

In addition, the Committee voted 3-0 to recommend to the City Council to change the street opening permit to \$425.00 instead of \$30.00.

The motion was made by Councilor LaFountain and seconded by Mr. Pierson.

The Committee voted 3-0 to recommend to the City Council to implement a recycling center sticker system that would be a voluntary option to the current system with a target date of October 1, 2024. The motion was made by Mr. Pierson and seconded by Councilor LaFountain.

Councilor LaFountain asked for a report regarding the risk of firefighting foam within the City.

The Committee adjourned at 6:43 PM with a 3-0 vote. The motion was made by Mr. Pierson and seconded by Councilor LaFountain.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Bennett
City Manager



Policy Committee

Meeting September 30, 2024

Date:

Meeting 6:00 PM

Time:

Agenda 5.a

Item No:

Item 2024.146 Amend/ Part II: Code of Ordinances, Chapter 42 Motor Vehicles and

Description: Traffic, Article IV Specific Street Regulations, Sec. 42-90(a) No Parking - Lester B. Orcutt Blvd

Submitted

By:

Supporting Information/Documentation:

2024.146 Ordinance Ch 42 Order

Key Terms:

Executive Summary:

This item reflects a request to add parking restrictions on Lester B. Orcutt Blvd to eliminate parking on the odd-numbered side of the street from the intersection with Ocean Ave westerly to approximately 340 feet before the intersection of First Street. An affirmative vote on this item will advance the amendment to the City Council for review and adoption.

Detailed Review:

Members of the City Council have requested review of parking on Lester B. Orcutt Boulevard in Biddeford Pool. Parking in the area is routinely observed to be congested with multiple complaints per year by residents and visitors related to pedestrian safety. The request is to eliminate parking on the odd-numbered side of the street from the intersection of Ocean Avenue westerly to approximately 340' before the intersection of First Street. See the yellow line marked on the aerial map.



This change, if approved in the form presented, will require an ordinance amendment to Chapter 42-Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article IV-Specific Street Regulations, Sec. 42-90(a) No Parking.

Funding Source:

N/A

Staff Recommendation:

This is a policy decision. Staff is not opposed to the requested change to eliminate parking on the odd-numbered side of the boulevard as requested. A draft of the Order is attached for review and if this item is approved it will be advanced to City Council for adoption in the form presented.

City of Biddeford



2024.146

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL...SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

BE IT ORDERED, that Part II: Code of Ordinances, Chapter 42 Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article IV Specific Street Regulations, Sec. 42-90(a) No Parking, be amended by adding or deleting text as follow, Lester B. Orcutt Boulevard, odd numbered side, from the intersection of Ocean Avenue westerly to approximately 340' before the intersection of First Street.

Attest by: _____

Proposal for Yarn Bombing to Promote Mental Health Awareness

Title: “Stitching Hope: A Yarn Bombing Initiative for Mental Health Awareness”

Introduction

Mental health is a crucial aspect of overall well-being, yet it remains a topic surrounded by stigma and misunderstanding. Our community initiative, “Stitching Hope,” aims to use yarn bombing—an art form of covering public objects with knitted or crocheted fabric—as a medium to spark conversations, promote mental health awareness, and provide comfort to individuals experiencing mental health challenges. This proposal outlines the plan for this vibrant, engaging, and supportive project.

Objectives

1. **Raise Awareness:** Use yarn bombing to draw attention to mental health issues, educate the public, and reduce stigma.
2. **Foster Community Support:** Encourage community involvement and dialogue surrounding mental health.
3. **Provide Comfort:** Create a visually comforting and supportive environment for individuals experiencing mental health struggles.
4. **Promote Local Art:** Showcase local artists and craftspersons, highlighting their contributions to community well-being.

Project Description

“Stitching Hope” will transform public spaces into colorful, comforting havens through the art of yarn bombing. We plan to cover select community landmarks, namely lamp posts, with intricately designed knitted or crocheted pieces that convey messages of hope, support, and solidarity.

Key Components

1. **Design and Theme:** Collaborate with local artists, mental health professionals, and community members to develop designs that reflect themes of hope, resilience, and mental health awareness. The designs will feature uplifting messages, comforting patterns, and symbols of support.
2. **Community Workshops:** Host workshops to teach community members how to knit or crochet and involve them in the creation process. These workshops will also serve as platforms for discussing mental health and fostering a supportive community network.
3. **Installation:** Coordinate with local authorities and property owners to gain permission for the installation of yarn bombing pieces. The installations will be strategically placed on the light poles going down Main Street to maximize visibility and impact. The installation will take place during the month of May which is Mental Health Awareness month.

4. **Awareness Campaign:** Launch a campaign to promote the project through social media, local media outlets, and community events. The campaign will include informational content about mental health, the significance of yarn bombing, and ways for individuals to seek help.
5. **Ongoing Support:** Partner with mental health organizations to provide resources and information at installation sites. These resources will be accessible to individuals who may need immediate support or guidance.

Evaluation

The success of the “Stitching Hope” initiative will be evaluated based on:

- **Community Engagement:** Attendance at workshops and feedback from participants.
- **Visibility and Reach:** Media coverage and social media engagement.
- **Impact:** Observations and feedback on the comfort and support provided by the installations.

Conclusion

“Stitching Hope” presents a unique opportunity to blend art and mental health advocacy in a way that is both visually appealing and deeply meaningful. By transforming public spaces into vibrant, supportive environments, we hope to inspire conversations, offer comfort, and foster a stronger, more empathetic community. We seek your support in bringing this initiative to life and making a positive impact on mental health awareness in our community.

Contact Information

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Sew What?! Fiber Arts
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Thank you for considering this proposal. We look forward to the possibility of working together to promote mental health and create a more supportive community.