

JOINT MEETING – COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE and
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

MAY 28, 2026

A joint meeting of the Committee on Infrastructure and Board of Public Works was held Wednesday, May 28, 2026 at 5:38 p.m. at 848 West Hollis Street and duly noticed in two places, including the City's website, in accordance with the requirements of RSA 91-A:2 II.

The roll call was taken with 8 members of the Board of Public Works Commissioners and Committee on Infrastructure present:

Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Paula Johnson
Commissioner Paul Shea
Commissioner June Lemen
Commissioner Matthew Gregg
Commissioner Manny Espitia
Mayor Jim Donchess

Members not in Attendance:

Alderwoman Vengerflutta Smith
Alderman-at-Large Alicia Gregg

Also in Attendance:

Tim Cummings, Administrative Services Director
Lisa Fauteux, Director Public Works
Joe Sullivan, LeftField

ROLL CALL

GENERAL INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Tim Cummings, Administrative Services Director

I don't have any this evening, Mr. Chairman.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 27, 2026 MEETING
MOTION CARRIED**

GENERAL PROGRESS UPDATE – DPW GARAGE PROJECT

- Project Status Update
- Design Update
- Overall Project Timeline/Look Ahead

Joe Sullivan, LeftField, Owners' Project Manager

Obviously, tonight I wanted to give you a quick update of the overall status, the tasks that we've completed over the last six to eight weeks, and just give you an overall view of how things are going with the project.

Overall, I wanted to provide just a site layout of you know the building and how it's evolving. I can tell you the architect, and all of their engineers, and consultants are working diligently to finalize the drawings. Right now, we've sent a 75% set of drawings to the estimator just to make sure that we're staying within our budget and our project needs. We've got those results back. There's always challenges. I mean, we're soliciting other costs associated with some other vendors to try to sharpen the pencils, but we're staying within our budget currently right now. The site itself is pretty complex. We went through a lot of permitting processes over the last six to eight weeks. We've gotten some approvals, which I'll give you them on the status updates as we move forward.

As you all remember if you haven't seen it in a while, the layout of the building, obviously, there's the admin. building in

the front portion of it. Then there's an addition that's going to be attaching the admin. building to the vehicle. You'll see the larger space in the middle is the vehicle storage and then the end furthest away from the bottom of the screen is the vehicle maintenance facility. All of that is within the parameter and the program that, you know, the Department of Division of Public Works has laid out and required to meet their program needs for the next 50 years.

A couple of elevations. They're working through some of the, you know, the final details associated with it. As I indicated very right from the beginning, we decided to go with a pre-engineered building between the addition to the admin. area. There's a pre-engineered building and then the vehicle maintenance to save costs. There's a lot of coordination happening right now between them because there's two different designers, two different engineers so we're making sure that everything's compatible, constructible, and as we move forward. But you can see it's going to be a very handsome, beautiful building for Nashua for a long time. This building is phenomenal and I think that the adjacent building is only going to complement it as we move forward.

There's some other elevations. You'll just from you can see where the vehicle maintenance is versus the pre-engineered and the vehicle storage.

So completed tasks. HKT, as I said, is working to the 100% drawings. They're looking to have them on or about June 18th, which is when those drawings will be sent over to this construction manager for final pricing. Harvey's is currently working through their cost estimate and the drawing progress of 5-1. The current construction costs remain within line with our original budget as I indicated. The project website is up and running. This will allow us to have a clear outlook on the project projects and transparency for the public.

The project successfully was granted an AOT alteration of terrain because I mean a lot of times the terminology and the narratives around that. I can't see the next one but Sanborn Head's been working diligently just for the - there's a lot of integration for the stormwater retention. They worked strategically with the team and we're in was you know we're one of the crucial parts to get it the approval through that.

Project team met with the State Fire Marshal for a preliminary review. We get some great comments back. That'll get incorporated into the last final design portion of it and they'll go through the Building Department and the Fire Marshal will go through a final review once things are a little closer. State Sewer Permit was submitted. Team's awaiting final confirmation on that. There was a few questions back and forth related to that.

Work has begun on the relocation of the training facility. The trees were cleared for the water line that needs to be put in and they're working closely with the Fire Department. Department of Public Works is working closely with them just for that reconfiguration and to make sure it's moved in time so it won't interrupt any of the sequence of construction.

Division Public Works continues to review due diligence for the functionality of the citywide car wash. We do have a wash center for the Department of Public Works, but we've also been working diligently on the auto car wash for all of the city. We met today with a group for the internal components. It was a lot of good, great information that we got from them. They're going to be doing a couple of site visits. I want to say South Portland just to see what they have one set up in there and it looks like it's going to a lot of the components will be accommodating for the facility that they're looking for.

We also looked at, you know, a question came from the Aldermen meeting about like looking at the possibility of getting some of the sequence of construction and possibly having it online for the beneficial benefits of the overall project and we're looking at that very closely. There's a lot of infrastructure that has to go in, and we don't want to have to put something in place and get it up and running, and then have to tear it up to redo it. So we're, you know, it's something that we're going to continue to look at to see if we can effectively improve the overall efficiency.

We had a one of the things that we do just prior to getting a final price is that we're going to get a third-party estimator just to reconcile the estimates against the CM just to make sure that they compare apples to apples as well as we are on that end of it. Boat Engineering is the group that's doing the pre-engineered. They're working closely with HKT as I indicated for the final details for the final drawings.

The Department of Public Works has committed and will be engaged for the early package. As we all disclosed to the to this group earlier that they're committed to do a little bit of the early site package to reduce the overall cost. They're committed to do so and hopefully, we'll have all of that work prior to the construction beginning. Once funding is secured, final bidding and construction should start as early as late fall. That's all I have. Any questions?

Chairman O'Brien

Any questions?

Commissioner Gregg

It's tough.

Chairman O'Brien

Battlefield promotion.

Commissioner Gregg

Where's the website? I was trying to find it on the city.

Joe Sullivan, LeftField, Owners' Project Manager

It's if you go under the guide.

Lisa Fauteux, Director of Public Works

No, I was going to ask you this before but I couldn't find it either.

Joe Sullivan, LeftField, Owners' Project Manager

Okay, really. So there's a - we linked it. Oh, I'll double check it tomorrow but you can link it. It's it links to the city's website. So I'll figure that out.

Commissioner Gregg

Okay. Yeah, it'd be great.

Alderman Johnson

Thank you. Just one thing. When you send it the links to the Director and the Commissioner, could you just add it to the Board of Aldermen too please?

Joe Sullivan, LeftField, Owners' Project Manager

Absolutely.

Alderman Johnson

Especially the infrastructure component. Thank you very much.

Joe Sullivan, LeftField, Owners' Project Manager

Yep.

Commissioner Shea

Thank you very much. The car wash component is outside of the building. Is that correct?

Joe Sullivan, LeftField, Owners' Project Manager

That's correct. Standalone.

Commissioner Shea

So while I have it in my head at this moment, and it's probably not the right time to kind of do further research on it, we collect fees at the tipping house for all sorts of things. I have to wonder if that may be a potential revenue opportunity for the Division because...

Lisa Fauteux, Director of Public Works

No, I don't think so.

Commissioner Shea

You don't think so. Okay, I'm just throwing it out there.

Lisa Fauteux, Director of Public Works

Well it's because it's not part of where the public will be allowed. It's only going to be in an area where city...

Joe Sullivan, LeftField, Owners' Project Manager

Secured.

Lisa Fauteux, Director of Public Works

Yeah, it's going to be secured where city employees and...

Commissioner Shea

Understood.

Lisa Fauteux, Director of Public Works

..and then we would have to have somebody monitor it and, you know, that, yeah.

Commissioner Shea

Say no more.

Lisa Fauteux, Director of Public Works

But yeah, it's a good thought though.

Commissioner Shea

Yeah, just wanted to get it out. Thank you.

Chairman O'Brien

Any other questions? Anybody else? Okay because if not, I have one and probably directed to Director Cummings and to Ms. Fauteux.

We spend a lot of money because of the life expectancy of our trucks and I'm referring to the car wash to which some people out there that are just chopping probably at the bit to complain about it and they got a car wash. But I wonder if we can run some numbers or prepare something because once you start the construction at this particular phase if we look at a later date, the car wash is not going to get cheaper. Okay. It's the bargain basement prices is right now. So I just wonder if there's a way we can run some numbers to look at it, and the cost of replacement equipment, and to the cost of the construction, and to prove to the taxpayers maybe this is a practical decision to include it in the initial construction.

Lisa Fauteux, Director of Public Works

I know - I think a really important point to know Alderman O'Brien is that this will not only be used by Public Works, it'll be used by police, fire, and for all city vehicles. So it will be a huge value and I know every time that I see Chief Rourke he asks me about it. You know, so there are a lot of people that are very interested in this and so it'll be a benefit to the entire city not just Public Works.

Tim Cummings, Director of Public Works

Yes to follow on to what Director Fauteux said, I am certain we could put some numbers together to show how washing vehicles can preserve the life of the vehicle, particularly with the type of winters we have and the amount of salt usage that we have.

Chairman O'Brien

Right, particular vehicles, exactly they carry salt.

Tim Cummings, Director of Public Works

So we could, you know, get some. You know anything we would do would be an estimate, and be a projection, and a study but it would certainly help quantify it.

Commissioner Gregg

I just would also add that that was part of the Board of Aldermen presentation that we actually gave that was on the not specifically, we didn't break out the car wash I don't believe, but the actual maintenance costs of what we save as part of the garage was part of that initial meeting when the big presentation was given. So there was a percentage of, you know, keeping vehicles outside versus putting them inside, especially during harsh conditions. That was rolled up as part of those numbers.

Alderman Dowd

Yeah, it was part of the business case analysis, which was great and really proved the responsibility of the city to actually go forward with this project. I think we ought to stop calling it a car wash - a vehicle wash before people think that we're, you know, washing everybody in the city's cars. It's a vehicle wash and I think the business case analysis, the savings will far outweigh the cost. And by the way the only way you could make money on this is if you had our surrounding towns pay to have their trucks washed. I don't know if we'll have enough leeway and time to do that. So that's probably something that can be thought of downstream if availability brings itself about.

Chairman O'Brien

Okay. Anyone else?

Commissioner Shea

And I would add, perhaps, that the amount of time that it takes for Nashua Fire to clean trucks, and the amount of time that it takes for our staff to clean trucks, and Nashua Police would be very difficult to quantify. So I - it's a very worthwhile discussion that we're having to demonstrate the value. I don't know that it's necessary to go further and do a numbers - like run the numbers on it. So that's my feeling on that.

Alderman Johnson

Thank you. I don't have a problem running the numbers because I was not on the Board when this whole decision was made, and this really is in my Ward, and I'm watching, you know, the amount of traffic that it's going to add, and I'm one of these numbers people that I want to make sure if we're talking 40 somewhat that million dollars and then the bottom line is going to be 54, I guess, at the end when it's all totaled up, I'd like to see the numbers. I'd like to see it all because, again, I was not on this Board when this whole decision was made and I think a lot of people would like to see it. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Gregg

This was a - I don't know. I don't remember if you were on it or not. I don't think you were but this was one of the most thorough just want to kind of revisit that those that time in which we went through a pretty significant cost analysis for this particular project, but it was a relatively thorough presentation that was given to the Board. So it's available publicly. So I will try to find that link specifically for you because it was a very long, thorough presentation that broke down almost everything - where the cost savings are, why we would actually go ahead and do this from a literally from a bottom line analysis. So I'll try to find that for you.

Alderman Johnson

Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

Joe Sullivan, LeftField, Owners' Project Manager

Chairman O'Brien, I just like want to put a little clarity into it. The car wash was...

Chairman O'Brien

No.

Joe Sullivan, LeftField, Owners' Project Manager

...the city wash center was never part of the original budget of this project. We always carried that number separately. So I just wanted to put clarity into that. You know, we're carrying it within the overall cost of the project itself but it's always been separate.

Chairman O'Brien

And duly noted. Thank you for that clarification. Again my only point is, it's not going to get any cheaper if we decide to go with the vehicle wash station or whatever, you know. I don't think we'd get so politically correct on it.

Joe Sullivan, LeftField, Owners' Project Manager

City wash center. That's my new term.

Chairman O'Brien

But the thing is, again, it's not going to get any cheaper. Once the hole gets filled in, it's going to cost you more to dig it again. So looking at the practical side.

Alderman Dowd

And just one other thing in having a ton of experience with Harvey Construction and doing their costing, when we did the McCarthy School and we got the green sheet of everything they're going to have to expend money on, which was multiple 11 by 17 pages, I would say 98% of all of them were green. Meaning they came in under cost. So there may be after that original estimate of cost, there may be savings that could go towards this project.

Chairman O'Brien

Point well taken.

Commissioner Shea

I would just further clarify on my point that it's not about the quantification being information that's not important. It's more so about - because it is important to understand that there's some value in having equipment that is present to do a job. My point was more so about the difficulty in actually getting a real number that would be actionable in that it would require surveying the different city departments, running an analysis on the staffing that is involved in cleaning of the vehicles, and putting all of those numbers together in terms of staff time and things of that nature. So it's not about the principle of the importance of being mindful of spending and where the value is, it's more so about being mindful of the practical considerations around actually getting the numbers and having them be meaningful numbers that we can look at and further guide our decision.

Alderman Johnson

Thank you. An estimate is good.

Joe Sullivan, LeftField, Owners' Project Manager

Okay.

Chairman O'Brien

Okay. Anything else? We'll move along to the next item.

DPW GARAGE PROJECT - APPROVAL OF INVOICES

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD TO APPROVE LEFTFIELD SERVICES THROUGH APRIL 30, 2026 - #191005 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,300; HKT ARCHITECTS, INC., SERVICES THROUGH APRIL 30, 2026 - #0009-022442 IN THE

AMOUNT OF \$135,007.08; AND HARVEY CONSTRUCTION – BODE EQUIPMENT APPLICATION #1 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,000.00

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Johnson

I just want to say thank you to Mr. Sullivan for giving us an itemized – everything itemized here because at least you know what you're voting on now. So I did thank him when I saw him coming. Thank you very much.

MOTION CARRIED

DPW GARAGE PROJECT – APPROVAL OF CONTRACT/PROPOSALS/AMENDMENTS - None

OTHER EXPENDITURES FOR APPROVAL - None

OLD BUSINESS

- PFAS Report

Chairman O'Brien

I think that's coming in amendment to the agenda. So anybody else have anything that should be brought to the attention of this Joint Committee? Seeing not, I'll look to since I almost forgot her, Alderman Lemon.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LEMON TO ADJOURN

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 6:01p.m.

Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Acting Committee Clerk