

TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH

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February 13, 2025

Steve Contente Town Administrator Town of Bristol 10 Court Street Bristol, RI 02809

Subject: Establishment of an Interlocal Cooperation Commission on Prudence Island Ferry Parking

Dear Steve,

As we previously discussed in our phone call this week, I am writing to inform you that at the request of Robin Weber and the Bristol Parking Workgroup, the Portsmouth Town Council is supporting the establishment of an Interlocal Cooperation Commission with the Town of Bristol to study and explore solutions to the ongoing concerns regarding parking for Prudence Island ferry users in Bristol.

The Town Council recognizes Prudence Island residents rely on ferry access as a critical transportation lifeline, and the issue of parking near the ferry landing continues to be a concern for island residents. The Council believes a collaborative effort between Portsmouth and Bristol—along with appropriate stakeholders—may help facilitate discussions and identify feasible solutions that serve the interests of all parties involved.

We understand parking management and zoning decisions are within the purview of the Town of Bristol, and we do not seek to interfere with Bristol's municipal authority. Rather, this commission would provide a structured forum for discussion, allowing representatives from both towns, Prudence Island residents, and other stakeholders to work toward practical, mutually agreeable solutions.

To that end, Portsmouth invites the Town of Bristol's participation in the formation of this Interlocal Cooperation Commission. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you or your designee at your earliest convenience to discuss the next steps in this process.

Please let me know if or how you would like to proceed. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working together toward a cooperative and constructive outcome.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Rainer, Jacobs Town Administrator Town of Portsmouth