

The water and sanitary sewer infrastructure in the downtown area is currently not in a condition to accommodate significant increase in demands and flows. Based on interviews with City of Portsmouth Public Utilities Department staff, the area is currently being considered for an overhaul of the water and sewer infrastructure in the downtown area. A “Downtown Master Utility Plan” has been completed for the City which includes information regarding the conditions that currently exist and the recommended improvements necessary.

This report recognizes the potential for the following growth:

Residential	1700-2000 units	1,076 gallons per minute
Office	150,000-200,000 sf	125 gallons per minute
Hotel	100-150 rooms	40 gallons per minute
Retail	75,000-100,000 sf	65 gallons per minute
	Total	1,306 gallons per minute

Engineering plans for these improvements are currently under design by URS. These plans are titled, “Downtown Portsmouth Sewer and Water Rehabilitation Impact Zone 1”. The improvements are scheduled for two phases. The first phase of construction encompasses improvements in South St. north to High St. and from Crawford St. west to Court St. The second phase of improvements are from South St. north to High St. and from Court St. west to Washington St. A new Sanitary Sewer Pump Station is proposed as well as a 10” force main to connect the station to the existing force main in Effingham. The pump station would serve the entire new network and would be constructed first. A new network of gravity sewer is proposed in the engineering plans with piping ranging in size from 8” to 15”. In these plans include construction of a new network of water mains ranging in size from 8” to 16” are proposed. The utility improvements in Water St. are not shown for improvements in the URS plans.

The determination on the adequacy of that infrastructure cannot be made prior to accessing the Master Plan Study. We are currently in the process of trying to get a copy of the Utility Master Plan for further review of the assumptions and calculations included in that document. The approximated demands shown above do not represent an unachievable amount of new flow given the area over which it would occur. However, more detailed analysis will be necessary to determine specifically whether modifications need to be made to the engineering plans prior to construction. Once the demands shown in the Master Plan are examined, it can be determined if the proposed infrastructure is sufficient for the future growth identified in this report.