





ACEC NH 2023 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS **Entry Category: Special Projects** 

> Title: West End Yards Submitting Firm: Fuss & O'Neill, Inc **Project Owner: Torrington Properties**









## West End Yards Portsmouth, NH

A Public-Private-Partnership that Transformed an Underutilized Area that Created Residential and Green Space

Just on the outskirts of downtown Portsmouth, the "West End" neighborhood had yearned for redevelopment, as blighted, underutilized properties, and unique roadway designs causing traffic issues existed in the area. A Public-Private-Partnership (P3) between the City of Portsmouth and Torrington Properties allowed the City to realize the connection of Route 1 Bypass to Bartlett Street providing truck access to the users in the area, allowing for the segregation of truck traffic form the surrounding residential neighborhood, add a bike lane connection from downtown to Route 1 Bypass and future rail trail that continues down Borthwick Avenue, and take ownership of Hodgson Brook along the northern project boundary and improve the stream buffer through impervious surface removal and implementation of stormwater treatment practices where none had previously existed.

Through this partnership, Torrington was able to redevelop an underutilized commercial property previously occupied by the Frank Jones Center, turning it into 250 apartments across two buildings (including 27 workforce housing units), 23 townhomes, and 44,000 square feet of retail, office, hospitality, and commercial space, all while providing parking and outdoor amenities for residents and users. The transportation connections, stormwater improvements, traffic benefits, along with the economic ramifications for the City, was realized through continued collaboration from all parties involved, and has revitalized this area of Portsmouth.