



L-A Bicycle Pedestrian Committee Agenda
Community Conference Room
Auburn City Hall
December 11th, 2013
5:00pm – 6:00pm

Members: Craig Saddleire, Bob Rand, Jeremiah Bartlett, Sherie Blumenthal

Staff: Ryan Barnes, Gary Johnson, Ed Barrett, Bill Webster (Superintendent)

5:00pm – Intro, Updates, Minutes Approval

Craig - MDOT Surveyed intersections around Veterans Bridge

Bob – Attended presentation by MDOT about transit and busses. Also on BCM board.
Going to do reception at Rainbow.

Rick – Attended webinar on complete streets.

Jeremiah – Portland is working on complete streets handbook. It's not moving much.

Craig made a motion to approve the minutes of the Nov 13th, 2013 meeting. Jeremiah seconds (4-0).

5:10 – Safe Routes to Schools

Bill Webster (Superintendent, Lewiston Schools) said that a difference in generations today is that kids don't have same level of outdoor experience. Promoting walking and biking is even more of a challenge than ever. Obesity levels are high. Bill is interested in a process where we can encourage walking and biking. We need crossing guards and promoting walk and bike to school days. Supports to have those happen are significant. Geiger is far away. Sidewalk stops long before intersection of Montello and College. East Avenue is an ocean that people can't cross safely. Webster is very busy too. Even Farwell has lots of through traffic. Longley is the only school in Maine without bussing. There is a perception that its not safe to walk to school. Families are demanding a bus stops in front of their door. Brunswick and Ellsworth have very nice multi-use paths. Until a community identifies a place where people can walk and bike away from traffic, it's hard to get people used to a mixed environment. A path from Simard Payne Park to the boat landing is what this area needs. Ed said there is a plan for a route along the river. It would be cool to see something that continues from Thorncrag. Bob said he wants to improve access to walking to schools for kids. The fact that kids have to take a bus just to cross East Ave is silly. Ed said it would be cool to look at where people want to go and look at how we connect those together. The distance kids are required to walk continues to be lowered for safety reasons. More students don't have bikes. There are safety programs that the police run, varies from school to school. Do we look at the big picture or do it in at a global scale. McMahon school – Sabattus is a major impediment.

Farwell and middle school both offer good opportunities that should be looked at more closely. Longley has potential too. Montello challenges are that its a very bizarre school district. The section between Central and East Ave. Do we have survey info from parents that asks them about bike ped travel? Bob suggested that a bike bus could be a cool program. Ed said that a challenge today is that they don't want kids to go alone. An adult supervisor would be very helpful.

5:30pm – Lisbon Street

Lisbon St (Cedar to Main) mill and fill – funded for FY14 (see Downtown Circulation Study)

- Bike Lane
- Single Vehicle Lane One-way (vs. two-way)
- Remove Traffic Lights**
- Maintain sidewalk widths
- Redirect large trucks
- Mid-street bumpouts**
- Comp Plan**
- Bike Racks**

Intersections were studied and modeled on Lisbon Street. Model showed that removal of lights with stop signs for Ash and Pine had best traffic flow. The 4-way stop sign had the worst traffic flow. Staff's conclusion doesn't think its a good idea to take out the signals because of the problem with sight distances. Not ideal for pedestrians because traffic speeds will pick up. Sherie offered a personal experience when someone ran a yellow light. Jeremiah said he can model a single approach lane versus turn lanes. Ed said it seems to work well now. Traffic actually goes below the speed limit on Lisbon. Stop lights give time for parallel parking. Committee is okay with keeping traffic lights. Jeremiah asked if we can reduce lane approaches. We will look at reducing mid-street bumpouts to reduce size and add some more on-street parking. Public process will be long. Construction for Lisbon will probably be Summer 2015.

Summary:

5:50pm – Next meeting

5:55pm – Adjourn

Craig makes Motion to Adjourn, Sherie seconds, motion passes (4-0).