

Press Release for Immediate Distribution

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EAST AUBURN NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY GROUP ESTABLISHED

AUBURN, ME. – The City of Auburn is announcing the establishment of an East Auburn Neighborhood Advisory group and has begun seeking willing community volunteers to support that effort. Whether you live, work or play in the East Auburn Area, the City needs your involvement in how to address Lake Auburn watershed challenges, transportation issues and recreational opportunities while sustaining and improving the livability of the neighborhood. East Auburn has it all: a strong sense of neighborhood, a great school, access to Lake Auburn and the Androscoggin River.

Building on the feedback from Community Conversations last fall, strengthening neighborhoods has been identified as critical to community development. While separate processes will emerge for other Auburn neighborhoods during this year, the number of known potential opportunities for investment and challenges facing the East Auburn Village make starting here logical

With engineering planning for improvements to State Route 4, proposed enhanced access to the Androscoggin River, park planning for the former Municipal Outlet Beach (often referred to now as Lake Grove Park), and important protection measures needed for the public drinking water supply at Lake Auburn, stakeholder input and involvement in identifying all of the opportunities and challenges within the neighborhood will be critical to ensure that the neighborhood is strengthened and supported.

"East Auburn is one of many villages within Auburn that define quality of life in the community," states Mayor Jonathan LaBonte. "If this community is going to grow and attract people, families and investment, then the voices of the neighborhoods need to be empowered to guide our direction. I'm pleased that we are able to link multiple proposed planning efforts, typically done in silos, into a connected effort that supports the neighborhood."

If you have an interest in East Auburn and are willing to help advise elected officials on transportation issues, drinking water protection, repurposing Outlet Park, recreational access, future land use potential, growing property values and any other issues facing the neighborhood then please consider volunteering to be a part of the East Auburn Neighborhood Advisory Group. The Group will meet 1-2 times per month for 12-14 months to draft a plan that articulates what the neighborhood wants to be in the future and what improvements will be required to get there. To express your interest please fill out a volunteer application on the *Boards and Committees* section of the City website at www.auburnmaine.gov by June 6, 2014 and write in East Auburn Neighborhood for the committee you would like to serve on.

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