



## L-A Bicycle Pedestrian Committee Minutes

Auburn City Hall

September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016

5:00pm – 6:30pm

Members Present: Craig Saddlemire, David Das, William Steinbock, Bob Rand, Jeremiah Bartlett, Chrissy Adamowicz

Staff: Ed Barrett, Kris Bennett, Rick Burnham

Guests: Roger Fuller, Samantha Herr

Intro, Updates

William – Many reports of people of being clipped by cars near Chestnut and Mill St. Maybe a crosswalk sign that slows cars down. Rick said visibility is very bad there. Rick said they will look at street lights there. Dave Jones is talking about it with Rick. A rapid flashing beacon would need to be next year, funding-wise.

Bob – Completed application for bicyclists to join the parade of lights, November 26<sup>th</sup> at around 5pm, when it gets dark.

Ed – Last night workshop regarding lane reassignment for Sabattus Street. Most people were opposed to it. Council was split on it. It will come back to council on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Objections were over convergence lanes, left hand turns, etc. MDOT is doing pavement project out there next year, and they are willing to restripe if we want to do that. Putting in flashing beacons near depot, Park Street parking garage, near Kaplan on Lisbon, and near Harley Davidson.

Roger – Running for the legislature and interested in what we're up to.

Jeremiah – Surprised by Sabattus push-back. Craig asked why it went to council before the committee offering a recommendation. Ed said it probably should have, but the turnaround time for a decision from DOT was very short.

Chrissy – Walk to school day is October 5<sup>th</sup>. Farwell and Walton will participate. Healthy Androscoggin found some money to make a complete streets mural. It will be under the Centreville garage.

Sam – New advocate for BCM. Interested to learn what we're working on and is happy to support our work. Currently planning the next training for community spokes.

## Minutes

Motion by Jeremiah to accept minutes from meeting held on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016, seconded by Chrissy. Motion passed (6-0).

Lake Street Reconstruction – Court to Gamage. Looking to have public meeting this fall. Currently has sidewalks on both sides and tight parking. Jeremiah said there is some continuity issues with it. It varies in grade, which is tough for bikes. Section near court is a mess. Existing lane widths are not clearly defined. Biggest parking demand is near church. General pavement width varies. There are many kids there. There are speeding issues. Not sure if speed is posted. Hill has blindspots. Likely construction of summer 2017. It can be a nice street. Lighting could be better. Some similar treatments that Hampshire is receiving could be good. Check out busy intersections and see what can be done. Will intersection at court be changed? It's open for discussion. Can angles be changed to help pedestrians more? It could be T-ed off. Chrissy was saying a parallel multi-modal path could be really good. If you didn't have bike lanes and subtracted the sidewalk, you might have room for multi-modal path. Kris will work on these ideas and also use our new best practices manual to present the street and describe what type of thoroughfare it is, what features are recommended, and what appears to actually work.

## Sabattus Street Lane Reduction

Proposal to reduce Sabattus to three lanes – two lanes with center turn lane - from Old Greene to Grove, where it goes to two-lane. Traffic signals would be coordinated. Road shoulder of 4-5'. Only one traffic light in the section at North Temple. Biggest problem intersection is rideout. It's a high crash location, speed problem. Sidewalk is right against the curb. Average speed might be over 40mph, despite 35mph limit. Many curb cuts. Staff thinks the proposal will work, DOT supports it. Community credit union is still willing to pay local share for the project, they own the land. General concern from business community was about left hand turns. It should be easier because traffic lanes will be less to cross. MDOT wants council approval for lane-reductions.

Motion by Jeremiah Bartlett to support staff's recommendation to reduce the proposed segment of Sabattus Street to 3 lanes, because it is clearly a design that improves safety, access, and traffic flow for all users, seconded by Bob. Motion passed (6-0).

Jeremiah is willing to submit some testimony on behalf of the committee. Bob can attend and can maybe be pressured to speak.

## 3-Foot Rule Signs

DOT has signs and is willing to help identify the sites for them. Bob is following up with Christine Wing from Maine Cycling Club, Rick will also follow up about these signs, Kris will also reach out to DOT. Patrick Adams is the person at DOT to connect with.

## Lisbon Street Sharrows

Motion by Bob to recommend staff to locate the sharrow in the center of the travel lane on Lisbon Street, to allow cyclists to be the most visible, and most easily access destinations along its length, and establish prevailing speeds in a manner that is consistent and compatible with urban vibrancy, seconded by Chrissy. Motion passed (6-0).

Motion to adjourn by David, seconded by William. Motion passed (6-0).