



L-A Bicycle Pedestrian Committee Agenda

Lewiston City Hall

Wednesday, March 22nd, 2017

5:00pm – 6:30pm

5:00pm – Introductions

5:05pm – Acceptance of Minutes from Bike Ped Meeting held on 2/22/17

5:05pm – Lisbon-Lewiston Rail-to-Trail

- 1) Review background (see attached)
- 2) Does this committee wish to play an active role in moving this forward?
- 3) Who can be the lead person and primary point of contact for project?
 - Experience with trail projects
 - Able to make longterm commitment
 - Connected with local community and/or Greenway
- 4) What organization can be primary sponsor for this effort?
- 5) Who from City of Lewiston can be primary liaison for this project at this stage?
 - Planning or Community and Econ Development?
- 6) Item 4 + 5 must be established before we broaden outreach on this effort
- 7) Who else should we involve in the coalition?
 - a) Who should be contacted in Lisbon?
 - b) Who can help facilitate direct communication with Pan-Am? (once ready)
 - c) Who should we contact within Snowmobiling community?
 - d) Others?
- 8) Next Steps
 - a) Who is going to outreach to potential leaders for this project?
 - b) Who can plan next Rail-to-Trail meeting outside of bike ped?
 - c) Who can get this project into the LCIP?

6:00pm – Design Review for Lake Street, Auburn

Lisbon-Lewiston Rail-to-Trail Background Info

The Lisbon-Lewiston Rail Trail project began as an idea in Lewiston-Auburn through planning work conducted by the Androscoggin Land Trust. The Rail Trail was identified as a priority project due to its ability to complete a section of the East Coast Greenway, the potential for creating a significant stretch of trail through negotiation with only one primary landowner, and the ability to form a multi-use trail connecting L-A to Lisbon, and potentially continuing on to connect all the way to Brunswick. The proposed route from Lewiston to Lisbon is approximately 13 miles and would utilize the rail line currently owned by Pan Am. In 2013, a work group was created to move forward the effort, and it included participation from staff and volunteers in Lisbon, Lewiston, Auburn, the East Coast Greenway, and the Androscoggin Land Trust. It also included members of local snowmobile clubs. In 2014, the councils of Lisbon, Lewiston, and Auburn all passed resolutions in support of the project. While there was much enthusiasm for the project, the effort seemed to fizzle out. This was mostly due to an unclear line of communication with Pan-Am about what scenarios they were willing to entertain for conversion of the tracks to a multi-use trail. The workgroup itself seemed to be under-resourced, with no single leader driving the process and helping to retain and share all of the information with workgroup members in a manner that moved things forward.

Lewiston councilors and Mayor have recently expressed a continuing interest in seeing this project succeed. This would require creating a new work group with 1) a **designated project leader** with experience in trail development 2) consistent town and municipal **staff liaisons**, and 3) a **primary sponsor organization** to shepard the process.