

## Complete Streets Committee

### Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 6pm, Wednesday, 6/27/18

**Location:** Community Meeting Room, Auburn City Hall

**Committee Members Present:** Craig Saddlemire, Chair (Lewiston), Jeremiah Bartlett, Vice Chair (Auburn), David Das, (Auburn), Jim Lysen (Lewiston), Dana Staples (Auburn), Bob Rand (Lewiston), Larry Pelletier (Auburn)

**Staff Present:** Kris Bennett, Eric Cousens

**Guests:** Paul Jacques, Jennifer Williams (ATRC)

### Minutes

- 1) Introductions and Updates
  - a. Craig - participated as a presenter on a webinar hosted by BCM about complete streets policy in Maine.
  - b. Jeremiah - Park Ave protected bike lanes project is going well. Would like to present it to this committee in August.
  - c. Jim - There were some traffic detour challenges around Mountain Ave and Ware but they are being addressed.
  - d. Paul - The Flashing Speed limit signs seem to be really effective. Minot Ave, near Coleman. Can we add some more to key locations around town?
  - e. Larry - No crosswalk on 2nd St in front of Boys and Girls Club. Kids run across street and its dangerous. Could a Neighborhood Challenge Grant address this? Yes, Boys and Girls club could partner with our committee for such a grant. Also, an aging friendly group is working to address challenges for people using wheelchairs. Many get stuck on the road if they are trying to go far and run out of electricity. Could there be charging stations around town? Like at bus shelters?
  - f. Kris - Auburn Pedestrian Forum report is due in 90 days.
- 2) **MOTION** by Larry to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 5/23/18, Jeremiah seconds. Motion passed (6-0-1).
- 3) **MOTION** by Craig to elect David Das as Secretary for the committee, second by Jim. Motion passed (6-1-0).
- 4) ATRC Updates - ATRC is leaning about quiet zones. One study costs \$10,000. Environmental review requires quiet zone study. The Rail to Trail project is supposedly in the hands of the LA Railroad Company. ATRC is installing new signal management software (last upgraded in 2000). Craig would like to have periodic reports from ATRC that compare speeding, crash reports, and other measurements of traffic safety system wide to changes in traffic volume and state and national trends, as way to assess whether our overall transportation system is improving with regards to safety. It was noted that there was vocal opposition to improving the sidewalk connection at Minot and Western, but it is still moving forward because it is very necessary. The Court Street Study will include section from Minot/Union to the bridge. It will include traffic, parking, transit, high volume, high speeds, downtown. It will consider lane reconfiguration. It

will not begin with a conclusion, but rather assess the system as it operates now and make real predictions about how changes can impact the system. This includes how flow across bridge affects Lewiston. There is a high crash rate in this area, so safety is of concern. There was discussion as to the extent to which Economic Development concerns can be addressed in the study. Eric Cousens will be involved, but the FHWA funding does not allow economic development to be studied directly, as this is a traffic study. However, the study will assess safety for vulnerable users, such as pedestrians, as well as opportunities for on-street parking and other traffic calming measures. If we make sure the study emphasizes improving the walkability of this area, then it should produce the conditions for better social and economic outcomes as well. This study should also look at pedestrian activity around the railroad, and how the tracks are used as a crosswalk.

- 5) YMCA mid block crosswalk is waiting to be redesigned after results of Court-Harris are reviewed, wondering if it can be included in Court St study.
- 6) Adams Ave - will include a new creative crosswalk with sea turtles.
- 7) Lake Street - Jeremiah has submitted feedback to Kris. 2 driveways are separated by crosswalk, cars end up blocking sidewalk. Jeremiah expressed disappointment that this project did not include esplanade in certain places. There were also utility poles left in the sidewalk.
- 8) New Auburn Master Plan - No updates for this project. It will include historic bells. It will promote form-based and mixed-use development. It will relocate parking behind buildings so that it is hidden from view on Broad.
- 9) There is no meeting in July. Next meeting is in Lewiston City Hall on August 22nd.
- 10) **MOTION** by Jim to adjourn, second by Jeremiah. Motion passed (7-0).