

Complete Streets Committee
November 2020 Meeting Minutes

Date: 6pm, 11/25/2020

Location: Zoom

Committee Members Present: Craig Saddlemire, Chair (Lewiston), Jeremiah Bartlett, Vice Chair (Auburn), David Das, Secretary (Auburn), Roger Fuller (Lewiston), Bob Rand (Lewiston), Larry Pelletier (Auburn), Joshua Daigle (Auburn)

Staff: Doug Greene, George Peterson, Jim Ward, Kris Bennett

Community Members: Paul Jacques (BCM), Jonathan LaBonte (L-A RR Co; Rail-Trails Sub-committee of Maine Trails Coalition)

1) Approval of Minutes of meeting of 10/28/2020. Motion by Larry Pelletier, second by Jeremiah Bartlett. Unanimous

2) Jonathan Labonte (L-A RR Company Board member):

- Overview of possibility of Rail Trail to Lisbon: the 12 mile line from Cedar St (Lewiston) to Lisbon (Worumbo Mill) is owned by PanAm. A feasibility study for trail conversion exists; not a public document. PanAm not interested in selling; perhaps a lease agreement. PanAm undergoing change of ownership. Lease agreement would require an entity to hold the license – perhaps City of Lewiston.
Comments: Doug Greene – new Public Works director a Rail Trail advocate; perhaps some movement.
Bob Rand – possible ties to East Coast Greenway.
Craig Saddlemire: role of Complete Streets Committee? Local endorsement? Should it be a standing agenda item?

3) Separated Multi-Use Path Network:

- Jim Ward discussed the use of GIS sketch tool to identify possible routes.
- Craig Saddlemire suggested a GIS tutorial for committee members.
- Doug Greene: bring Auburn into the conversation.
- Bob Rand: the importance of connectivity; how to bridge Russell, Sabattus, Main, Lisbon Streets.
- A standing agenda item?

4) Franklin Pasture Mountain Bike Trail:

- Jim Ward provided overview of trail construction behind Connors Elementary. Completion date of Spring 2021. Sledding park to be established in area.

5) Merrow Road (Kris Bennett):

- Merrow road redesign from Hotel Road to Minot Ave. Currently 23' wide; proposing 11' lanes, 2' shoulders. Looking to redesign hill with no sight lines. Comment by Paul Jacques: a significant cut through road; will serve to keep traffic off of Fletcher Road.

6) Lewiston projects (George Peterson):

- Sabattus St intersections at Oak St and Howe St.: ADA upgrades; installation of rapid flashing beacons.
- Pedestrian connectivity from Lisbon St to Riverwalk. Planning RFP to be issued.
- East Avenue: proposed 2-way center lane between Webster and Sabattus and Sabattus and Russell. Need DOT waiver.

7) Route 4 Redesign (Kris Bennett):

- Overview of project. DOT still taking comments. Buffered multi-use path on Lake Auburn side. Comment by Jeremiah Bartlett: concern with vehicular speed – plan encourages speed; the possibility of bike-ped paths around Lake Auburn.

8) Lown Bridge Bike Lane: restriping in Spring to correct mistake.

9) Adjourn: 7:35. Next meeting: January 27, 2021.