

Complete Streets Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, 10/23/24, 5pm

Location: Lewiston DPW, 103 Adams Avenue

Committee Officials Present: Jeremiah Bartlett, Chair (Auburn), Bob Rand, Vice Chair (Lewiston), Paul Josephson, Secretary (Auburn)

Committee Members Present: Katherine Truitt (Lewiston/Auburn-see # 7) Heather Barnett (Auburn), John Rucculo (Auburn - new member, arrived 5:55 with notice to Chair)

Others Present: Brad Pineau (ARTC), Larry Allen (ARTC), Kris Bennett (City of Auburn), Kevin Gagne (Director of LPW), Paul Niehoff (City of Lewiston),

Committee Members Not in Attendance: Josh Nagine (Lewiston), Odivio Mariano (Lewiston)

Agenda Items

Note: Due to lack of quorum at the start of the meeting, agenda items were not addressed in order.

1. Welcome/Check-In

2. Approval of August 2024 Meeting Notes: Katherine Truitt notified of language/grammar error. Heather Barnett motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Bob Rand. After vote, motion passes.

3. Public Comment

- No public present
- Katherine Truitt shared public comment received prior to the meeting: Resident near train tracks in Auburn - Quiet Crossing supported.
 - City staff note tracks have been upgraded recently for potential of increased train speed. This could lead to an increase in the sound, though a decrease in the length of the noise in any particular location.

4. Updates on Safe Streets for All (SS4A)

- ARTC received each city's draft safety action plans, 100+ pages each. Will continue to be drafted, with more of a summary, potentially story map and public presentation, etc. End of March target close out.

5. Updates on Continental Mill TMP/Offsites

- DOT involved. Queue and lane width concerns, but is improvement from past. Recommendation?
- Entrance now changed to Oxford St., leading to better exiting towards Auburn, but extending left turn lane from Oxford St. Crosswalk then to be moved towards the river. Committee suggests taking further study and discussion, particularly for concern of lack

of cycling safety at the current Lincoln and Cedar intersection. At the development, internal and external bike parking are included in the plan.

6. Updates on SLA/RUAC/Casco Bay Trail

- When asked about any updates to the matter going to Council, Auburn staff stated there was nothing new taking place on this matter.
- Numerous barriers, not much progress known by those present. No local updates. Cumberland's recent vote to postpone a vote to support the trail is another barrier. (see https://www.cumberlandmaine.com/sites/g/files/vyhlif9216/f/minutes/minutes_09-23-24.pdf). The City of Portland is concerned with track removal.

7. Complete Streets Committee Attendance with VOTE

- Regarding potential of zoom attendance. Per Auburn City staff, this would not be approved for committee members.
- Ordinance and policy reviewed. 3 absences in a row can be declared a vacancy. Chair brought forward discussion of declaring two vacancies for Lewiston for repeated absences without notification or request to be excused.
- Katherine Truitt motion to declare two vacancies for Lewiston based on the attendance policy. Heather Barnett seconded the motion. Vote - Passes.
 - Vacancies declared for the Lewiston seats held prior by Josh Nagine and Odivio Mariano.
 - Chair and Paul Niehoff to inform Lewiston city staff.
- Katherine Truitt recently moved from Lewiston to Auburn. Per communication from Auburn City Clerk, understanding is that Katherine will be a committee member from Auburn moving forward.
- Discussion of number of seats and vacancies per ordinance.
- After inquiry from the Chair, notice that current Auburn member Paul Josephson is an employee of the Maine Center for Disease Control & Prevention – Division of Public Health Systems.
- Motion to declare Paul Josephson the Public Health and Wellness Representative on the Committee by Heather Barnett. Katherine Truitt seconds. Vote passes.

8. Other Updates as Needed (Optional)

- Brad Pineau- DOT Urban partnership initiative. 3 million available, split 4 ways, 50/50 match. Short window for deadline, Nov 1. Wasn't clear prior that 2025 funding was available.
- Urban Partnership Initiative, MOU, MPO - metropolitan planning organization. MOU approved by policy committee, not signed yet. Metro Planning Area Map not finalized, though minimal changes to our area.
- Lewiston master transportation plan. Audit recently, walked Canal, St and downtown with a regional traffic engineer in attendance. Transportation survey to follow. City will review SS4A to try not to duplicate questions. Riverfront development plan, 2 way bike lane, Main to Cedar. Demo project? Would require a lot of planning, City Public Works,

City Council, DOT approval. Good audit, several issues seen, with pedestrians and vehicle traffic.

- Bridging the Gaps plan. One recommendation per town, Lewiston bike path Simard to Gaslight Park. Auburn, Lake Auburn boat launch to Park Ave. Some work completed, some of Turner St. not completed.
- Lewiston taking suggestions for bike rack locations. Lisbon St. recommended.

9. Adjourn 6:21

Next Meeting (January 22, 2024) to be held in Lewiston @ 103 Adams Ave.

- Expectation of one year of meetings in Lewiston