

Complete Streets Committee
Meeting Agenda

Date: 6pm, Wednesday, 11/28/18

Location: Executive Conference Room, Lewiston City Hall

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

Agenda Items

1. Welcome and Updates
 - a. Report back on Auburn Presentation
 - b. Boys and Girls Club Crosswalk Update
 - c. Report on Safe Walker Forum in Lewiston
2. Meeting Minutes 10/24/18
3. **MOTION** to appoint Katie Boss, of Healthy Androscoggin, as the Public Health Representative on the Complete Streets Committee.
4. Peace Bridge Color Selection
5. Minot Avenue Sidewalk - Discussion requested
6. 1048 Turner Street
7. Beaver Road in Auburn request for Chicanes (see attached)
8. Next Meeting December 26th? (or prefer Dec 19th?) at Lewiston City Hall
9. Adjourn

From: ward1auburn@yahoo.com <ward1auburn@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, October 26, 2018 1:34 PM

Subject: Residential speed

Hello,

As we all know vehicles are a lot different then years past. They are faster, quicker, more powerful, more nimble and more efficient than before. This has created a problem as everyone has become an amateur Dale Earnhardt. Intentioned or distracted none the less, speeding is a huge problem. You can see A.P.D or public works has put radar signs out across various places to help the space cadets that do not realize their speed. However; more frequent than not, I follow people that accelerate to and through these signs as if it's a joke.

I live on Beaver road. It links Dillingham and Maple hill roads. Beaver road is approximately 1/2-2/3 of a mile. It's very rural (no lines, few signs). Everyone walks, a ton of dogs and wildlife and because we all have large lots, there are kids and they walk a fair distance to the other neighborhood kids. Beaver road has a big dog leg as well as a sharp hill on it both making speed and vision non friends. Speed here is a consistent problem. The new and used car dealers bring and encourage prospective buyers to drive here and make the loop around the lake. When you try out a car, you try out a car. No explanation likely required. We have traffic cutting through heading to Turner. Our area has become a traffic staple of people escaping Center street (rte4). The speed on our short narrow quiet road has been a problem for the 15 years we have lived here. I went out and bought a Bushnell radar gun to make sure I'm not crazy. I've clocked people from my yard traveling towards the stop sign (approximately 150yards). The fastest 62mph and the average of too fast about 55mph. When we are home, you can hear 3-5 cars per hour accelerating east towards the sharp hill they cannot see over or west toward the stop sign 150 yards away way too eagerly and way too fast. It's gotta stop

My family has travelled to Halifax N.S many times. We have noticed several neighborhood roadways used to link main arteries that obviously had speed issues. They installed chicanes. Just 10 minutes ago I was outside with my dog getting the mail. Two trucks (custom woodworking) both newer white Chevys with matching logo trailers came by at no less than 45 and accelerating towards the hill. These chicanes when built properly do not allow you to race around. They narrow the road and force you to turn around the curbing so one car passes at a time and you must slow down or will damage your vehicle on the curb. They are extremely effective in Halifax. They are also a snowy climate so they can be plowed etc. This is a cheap alternative to policing that will kill the speed on Beaver, and Lake streets. I would come and speak if need be or have the residents here sign a paper in agreement. Everyone here is sick of the speeding and we have to do something. You can put the chicane in between my two drives and I'll even maintain the grass. Please consider. Thanks, Mike

Response From Angela King of BCM:

Craig, this is something we hear about almost everyday from people. I wrote a [Maine Voices piece](#) published last September about speeding. Recently [another Maine Voices article](#) on the road conditions in Maine was published. So this is really an issue of great concern around the state.

Chicanes are a proven effective measure to calm traffic. Another solution is automated traffic enforcement which is currently prohibited in Maine. The National Transportation Safety Board has actually called for states to use speed and red light cameras more because of how effective they are in

slowing people down, and told the ten states that prohibit them, Maine is one of those states, to get rid of the ban.

There is a group in Castine, C.R.A.S.H.(Concerned Residents Advocating for Safer Highways) that reached out to me, and I have been in touch with the state senator from this district who is now working on legislation to allow speed cameras in that specific area. BCM had been discussing legislation to get rid of the statewide prohibition, framing it as an issue that should be under local control, towns and cities deciding if they want to use them. Also that it would assist law enforcement because they are stretched thin in the state, especially in rural areas. Last March when I brought this issue up to Angus King at the National Bike Summit, he thought that getting rid of the statewide prohibition of automated traffic enforcement would be a hard sell in Maine.

Anyway, just thought I'd let you know of that legislative initiative on the speeding front.