

Tizz E. H. Crowley, Ward One  
Robert Hayes, Ward Two  
Mary Lafontaine, Ward Three  
David Young, Ward Four



Leroy Walker, Ward Five  
Belinda Gerry, At Large  
Joshua Shea, At Large

Jonathan LaBonte, Mayor

## IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLVE 01-01222013

RESOLVED, that the Auburn City Council hereby supports a Portland North Passenger Transit Service Linking the Municipalities from Portland to Lewiston and Auburn.

WHEREAS, the City of Portland City Council on January 7, 2013 approved a joint resolution supporting a North Passenger Service linking the City of Portland to Lewiston and Auburn; and

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn would like to study and evaluate the feasibility of developing high-quality passenger transit service between Portland and Lewiston-Auburn; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing need for fast, economical and environmentally sound transit service between Portland, Lewiston, and Auburn, that will help employment, medical and entertainment opportunities within our neighboring regions; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities of both regions support the goal of reducing single-passenger vehicle trips and work toward developing transit service while utilizing existing transit corridors; and

WHEREAS, Maine DOT conducted the Portland North Project as part of a New Starts Federal Transportation Program in 2010, which focused on addressing congestion mitigation; in communities north of Portland; and

WHEREAS, Federal New Starts and Small Starts Transportation Programs have recently instituted new broader standards to achieve land use, economic development, environmental, congestion mitigation and economic opportunity goals; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities of Auburn, Portland, Lewiston and other municipalities within the region view this study as part of a broader collaboration where communities can assist each other in addressing commuting, employment and other sustainable practices that enhances the livability of all three communities, and

WHEREAS, the participating municipalities desire to work through the Portland region MPO, Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System (PACTS) and from the Lewiston-Auburn MPO, Androscoggin Transportation Resource Center (ATRC) to jointly conduct and manage the study for the municipalities and their constituents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the municipalities of Auburn, Portland and Lewiston hereby endorse this Resolution and look forward to working collaboratively toward seeking project funding and management through PACTS and ATRC and to work together on completing the feasibility evaluation of future high quality passenger commuter service between Portland and Lewiston, and Auburn; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED , that the Auburn City Council hereby directs the City Manager to take

whatever steps necessary to work with officials of PACTS, ARTC, and the municipalities of Portland, Lewiston and other communities within the region on seeking program funding to advance this project toward implementation.

Tizz E. H. Crowley, Ward One  
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Jonathan LaBonte, Mayor



**City of Lewiston**

27 Pine Street  
Lewiston, Maine 04240

**City of Auburn**

60 Court Street  
Auburn, Maine 04210



## IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLVE 02-05062013

#### **Expressing Support for the Initiative to Evaluate and Improve the Joint Economic Development Efforts of the Cities of Lewiston and Auburn.**

Whereas, concerns have been raised regarding the focus of the Twin Cities' economic development efforts and the extent to which they reflect the changing nature of the national and regional economy; and

Whereas, interest arose during a joint workshop of the City Councils to pursue shared investment in staff support for economic development in the downtown area as well as support for the creative economy in its broadest sense and a desire to pursue policies that enhance the region's ability to attract creative and talented individuals to Lewiston and Auburn as a means to foster economic growth and investment; and

Whereas, there remains a strong commitment to the legacy of Lewiston and Auburn as a manufacturing and transportation hubs and support for strengthening targeted efforts in those areas; and

Whereas, there has been a demand among local elected officials in both communities for enhancing their role in the economic development process, including regular discussion between peers on either side of the river, and how that role should be balanced with the involvement of other stakeholders, in order to maintain a high level of involvement from the private sector in Lewiston and Auburn; and

Whereas, these issues, along with the numerous public and private organizations that are involved in economic development in this region, have raised concerns regarding our overall joint economic development strategy, the efficiency of our current structure, and the extent to which the various agencies, including the respective City governments, are coordinating their efforts around areas of joint interest; and

Whereas, there is a desire to develop a focused economic development structure for Lewiston and Auburn; improve communication and coordination between the organizations and principals involved in providing economic development support services; and strengthen the knowledge and involvement of municipal elected officials from both Cities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCILS OF THE CITY OF AUBURN AND THE CITY OF LEWISTON THAT**

We support the effort to review, revise, and update the economic development structure currently in place in Lewiston and Auburn with the goal of implementing a broadly based, widely supported and focused joint economic development strategy, sustaining broadly based input from partners and businesses, increasing the knowledge and involvement of municipal elected officials in economic development efforts, and better coordinating and focusing the efforts and resources of the Cities and private sector partners on the areas identified as key to the economic future of the cities.

**Passage on 5/6/2013, 6-1 (Councilor Walker opposed).**

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Joshua Shea, At Large

Jonathan LaBonte, Mayor

## IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLVE 03-05132013

***Expressing the Opposition of the City Council of the City of Auburn to Proposals to Shift the Burden off Funding State Government to the Property Tax and Property Tax Payer.***

**WHEREAS**, the State Administration has submitted a proposed budget for the coming biennium that will shift the funding state government to the property tax by eliminating or significantly modifying longstanding revenue sharing and property tax relief programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal to suspend municipal revenue sharing would result in a \$2.4 million revenue loss to the City of Auburn and, representing 6.4% of the City's general fund operating budget and \$1.19 on the property tax rate; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal to redirect the excise tax on tractor trailers, despite the presence of Maine's largest dry goods port within our City limits, is estimated to reduce City revenue available for road construction by an additional \$300,000 or \$0.14 cents on the tax rate; and

**WHEREAS**, eliminating the homestead exemption in FY 15 for those under 65 will increase taxes for no longer qualifying residents by \$196 on the net median home value in that year if the City's tax rate remains unchanged, representing a tax increase of over 6.67% for most of those losing the exemption; and

**WHEREAS**, low and moderate income residents under the age of 65 who now qualify for the state property tax circuit breaker program will no longer qualify for it in the coming budget year; and

**WHEREAS**, starting in the second year of the biennium, the business equipment tax reimbursement program (BETR), under which businesses are fully reimbursed for property taxes paid on certain business equipment, will be eliminated with most qualifying property transferred to the business equipment tax exemption program (BETE). Under this program, the City will be reimbursed by the State for 60% of the taxes due; and

**WHEREAS**, the elimination of the business equipment tax reimbursement (BETR) and the modification to the business equipment tax exemption (BETE) will have a significant impact on the City's commercial taxpayers, many of whom make-up the economic engine for the State of Maine, providing jobs and good paying salaries and benefits. The elimination of the BETR program will adversely impact the retail sector, a sector who will not qualify under the BETE program. Additionally, all businesses within the BETR program will experience an 18 month void in State reimbursement until those businesses qualify for BETE program funds; and

**WHEREAS**, further staffing and expenditure reductions of the magnitude to remove or mitigate these losses, without financial support to implement shared service or consolidation efforts, would undermine the City's ability to provide local public services;

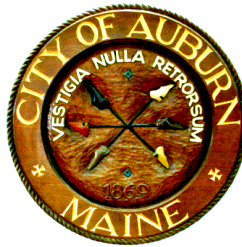
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBURN**, that the City Council hereby expresses its strong opposition to provisions included in the recently proposed state

budget that would shift the burden of funding state government to the property tax and property taxpayer. These proposals, even if consolidation efforts were pursued, would lead to an increase in property taxes in Auburn, taxes which often are unrelated to the ability of property owners to pay, or require further service reductions. And while consolidation efforts, even if fully implemented at the start of the new fiscal year, would not be sufficient to replace revenue sharing, the City Council does stand ready to discuss how state incentives could advance those opportunities;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Clerk is directed to provide copies of this RESOLVE to the members of the Legislature representing the City of Auburn, members of the Appropriations and Taxation Committees, the Governor, the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate and the Legislative leadership.

Passage on 5/13/2013, 6-0-1 (Councilor Crowley was out of the room during the vote).

Tizz E. H. Crowley, Ward One  
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Jonathan LaBonte, Mayor

## IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLVE 03-05202013

RESOLVED, that the following be, and hereby is the Annual Appropriation and Revenue Resolve of the City of Auburn for the fiscal year 2013-2014, which includes the amounts appropriated herein and revenues from all sources beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014.

The estimated aggregate amount of non-property tax revenue is \$32,149,630 with a municipal revenue budget of \$10,580,337 and a School Department revenue budget of \$21,569,293.

The aggregate appropriation for the City of Auburn is \$73,679,861, with a municipal budget of \$33,976,585 County budget of \$2,029,513 and a School Department budget of \$38,378,278 which received School Committee approval on May 1, 2013, and school budget approved at the May 20, 2013 Council Meeting pursuant to the School Budget Validation vote on June 11, 2013, in accordance with Maine Revised Statues, Title 20-A § 1486 and based on the budget submitted to the Auburn City Council on April 1, 2013, by the City Manager, and notification was posted on the City of Auburn website on May 14, 2013 that a public hearing would be held on May 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. and said hearing having been held on that date, and as amended by the City Council, the same is hereby appropriated for the fiscal year 2013-2014 beginning July 1, 2013 for the lawful expenditures of the City of Auburn and the County of Androscoggin taxes, and said amounts are declared not to be in excess of the estimated revenue from taxation and sources other than taxation for the fiscal year of 2013-2014.

### SCHOOL BUDGET ARTICLES

1. That \$15,085,352.00 be authorized to be expended for Regular Instruction;
2. That \$7,578,977.00 be authorized to be expended for Special Education;
3. That \$-0- be authorized to be expended for Career and Technical Education;
4. That \$669,705.00 be authorized to be expended for Other Instruction;
5. That \$4,647,621.00 be authorized to be expended for Student and Staff Support;
6. That \$856,570.00 be authorized to be expended for System Administration;
7. That \$1,276,113.00 be authorized to be expended for School Administration;
8. That \$1,497,391.00 be authorized to be expended for Transportation and Buses;
9. That \$3,679,410.00 be authorized to be expended for Facilities Maintenance;
10. That \$2,671,986.00 be authorized to be expended for Debt Service and Other Commitments;
11. That \$0 be authorized to be expended for All Other Expenditures;

12. That \$35,016,307.00 be appropriated for the total cost of funding public education from Pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and that \$15,372,907.00 be raised as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688;

***Explanation:** The city's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.*

13. That \$1,510,971.00 be raised and appropriated for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the city's legislative body for non-state-funded school construction projects, non-state-funded portions of school construction projects and minor capital projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the city's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-kindergarten to grade 12;

***Explanation:** Non-state-funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on the city's long-term debt for major capital school construction projects and minor capital renovation projects that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the voters or other legislative body.*

14. That \$0.00 be raised and appropriated in additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690;

***Explanation:** The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the municipality's local contributions to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state-funded debt service that will help achieve the school department budget for education programs.*

15. That the school committee be authorized to expend \$37,963,125.00 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014 from the city's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, fund balances, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools;

16. That the City of Auburn appropriate \$373,357.00 for adult education and raise \$183,311.00 as the local share, with authorization to expend any additional incidental or miscellaneous receipts in the interest for the well-being of the adult education program;

17. That the City of Auburn raise and appropriate \$41,796.00 for the services of Community Services-Crossing Guards.

18. That in addition to amount approved in the preceding articles, the school committee be authorized to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council deems it necessary to adopt a budget which exceeds the percent increase of the Consumer Price Index Urban as of December 31, 2012, and hereby waives the provisions of Section 2-485 of the City Code of Ordinances.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this budget reflects anticipated intergovernmental revenues from the State of Maine in accordance with existing law; that the budget proposed by the Governor recommends elimination of municipal revenue sharing and the reduction of other municipal support programs; that this may result in a loss of up to \$4,000,000 in revenues; and that such loss would require significant reductions in municipal appropriations and unsustainable reductions in municipal services. In the event that the final adopted state budget affects municipal revenues, the total Fiscal Year 2014 tax commitment is hereby additionally increased in an amount equal to the reductions in such state revenues up to a maximum of \$4.0 million. Further, within sixty (60) days of the adoption of the state budget, the City Council shall determine the proportion of this additional tax commitment that shall be offset by reductions in the various General Fund expenditure accounts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to direct staff to align all work planning and policies of the city and partnering agencies (including LATC, AVCOG, and ATRC) to ensure that any plans for passenger rail involve locating in Auburn's downtown as a priority over any previous or alternative locations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that included in the Police Department budget are \$3,293 worth of expenditures for the PAL Center utilities, and that this will be the last year that expenditures for the PAL Center will be included in this budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Beach will not open for swimming this year until there is one calendar month of clean water tests at the beach.

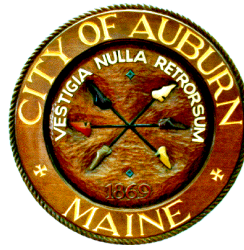
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager shall propose and have established by the Auburn City Council a contract with LAEGC for services to be provided to the City of Auburn for economic development to occur within 5 months of the fiscal year with the consequence being the elimination of funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council, under the Authority of the City Charter of the City of Auburn, will set the School Department maximum tax commitment based upon the School Budget to be adopted July 1, 2013 by the City Council.

**Passage of first reading on 06/03/2013, 4-3 (Councilor Young absent, Councilors Gerry, Crowley and Hayes were opposed and the Mayor voted in support breaking the tie vote).  
Passage of the second and final reading on 6/24/2013, 4-2 (Councilor Young absent, Councilors Gerry and Crowley opposed).**



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Jonathan LaBonte, Mayor

## IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLVE 04-06032013

RESOLVED, that the Auburn City Council hereby recognize and support, in consideration of the health , safety, and well being of those who live, work, visit, or transit though the City of Auburn;

THAT it is in the best interest of the community for the Auburn Fire Department to develop an operational plan for the delivery of a full service Emergency Medical Services program that is supported by the City Council and in accordance with Section 20-31 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Auburn;

THAT such a program will reflect best practices in the pre-hospital care field, be adequately staffed and equipped therefore increasing and enhancing service to the community with a goal of providing such service in a revenue neutral manner where possible;

THAT the Auburn Fire Department will utilize its existing facilities that are strategically located, and its personnel that are trained and equipped to provide Advanced Life Support emergency medical services within the community, and;

THAT such a plan will be prepared and presented before Council within 60 days of this RESOLVE for discussion and consideration.

Passage on 7/15/2013, 6-1 (Councilor Hayes opposed).

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## IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLVE 05-07012013

RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Auburn, per City Charter Section 8.7 A, makes a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$110,000, to account for an increase in the State Revenue Sharing, per revised estimates received from the State. An appropriation of \$20,000 from the Police Outside Jobs special revenue account and a transfer in expenditure, per Charter Section 8.7 D of \$35,000 from Police cruisers. The expenditures authorized will be;

- \$120,000 for Fire Department overtime
- \$25,000 for Public Works Curbside Recycling
- \$20,000 for Special Events



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Jonathan LaBonte, Mayor

## IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLVE 06-007152013

**RESOLVED**, that the City Council hereby authorizes the application for and Acceptance of a Grant from the Northern Border Regional Commission

**Whereas**, the Northern Border Regional Commission is now accepting applications for grants that will award \$1.2 million for eligible projects aimed at improving the economies within a thirty-six county region in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York; and

**Whereas**, Androscoggin County is an area eligible for such grants; and

**Whereas**, Lewiston and Auburn, in conjunction with the Androscoggin Land Trust, have developed a plan for the installation of wayfinding and heritage signage throughout each community designed to provide directions and information for area visitors and to enhance the tourism and arts and culture based industries in our area; and

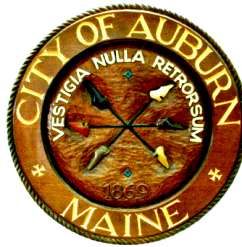
**Whereas**, this plan includes detailed plans indicating potential locations for such signage and plans for its construction and installation; and

**Whereas**, as a result, this project is shovel ready and can be quickly implemented;

**Now, therefore, be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Auburn that**

Application for an acceptance of a grant for wayfaring and heritage signage from the Northern Border Regional Commission is hereby authorized, such grant to be in conjunction with the City of Lewiston and the Androscoggin Land Trust.

Tizz E. H. Crowley, Ward One  
Robert Hayes, Ward Two  
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Jonathan LaBonte, Mayor

## IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLVE 06-007152013

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**Whereas**, Lewiston and Auburn, in conjunction with the Androscoggin Land Trust, have developed a plan for the installation of wayfinding and heritage signage throughout each community designed to provide directions and information for area visitors and to enhance the tourism and arts and culture based industries in our area; and

**Whereas**, this plan includes detailed plans indicating potential locations for such signage and plans for its construction and installation; and

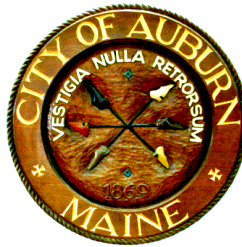
**Whereas**, as a result, this project is shovel ready and can be quickly implemented;

**Now, therefore, be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Auburn that**

Application for an acceptance of a grant for wayfaring and heritage signage from the Northern Border Regional Commission is hereby authorized, such grant to be in conjunction with the City of Lewiston and the Androscoggin Land Trust.

Passage on 7/15/2013, 6-0-1, Councilor Shea  
was out of the room during this vote.

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Jonathan LaBonte, Mayor

## IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLVE 07-10072013

**RESOLVE, Calling Upon the Lewiston-Auburn Transportation Committee to Call Upon the Maine Department of Transportation to Assist Actively in Monitoring the Performance of the Contract Between the Lewiston-Auburn Transportation Committee and Western Maine Transportation Systems, Inc., for the “Citylink” Bus Service to Assure That Existing Violations of Maintenance and Safety Standards Are Promptly Cured and That There Is Effective Oversight of the Citylink System in Future.**

**WHEREAS**, the cities of Auburn and Lewiston entered an interlocal agreement in 1998 to create the Lewiston-Auburn Transportation Committee (LATC) for the purpose of receiving federal grant assistance and overseeing the operation of transportation systems within Lewiston and Auburn and to provide for adequate and efficient mass transit for the Lewiston-Auburn area; and

**WHEREAS**, the LATC has contracted with Western Maine Transportation Service, Inc., (WMTS) to provide for the implementation, operation, and maintenance of a public transit system to LATC’s satisfaction under an agreement titled “Agreement for Operation and Maintenance, LATC of Androscoggin County, Public Transit Services,” dated June 20, 2008, (the 2008 Agreement); and

**WHEREAS**, under the 2008 Agreement WMTS has been operating the bus service known as “Citylink” in and about the two cities; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2008 Agreement, which expired September 30, 2013, was recently extended through DATE by vote of the LATC Board of Directors, thus continuing the services of WMTS to provide the Citylink bus service; and

**WHEREAS**, LATC has contracted with the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG) to act as the agent of LATC in contracting with WMTS, monitoring the performance of the 2008 Agreement, and soliciting proposals for continued provision of city bus services beyond the expiration of the 2008 Agreement on September 30, 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, the Maine Department of Transportation (Maine DOT) requested a review of the operation by WMTS of four transit services by WMTS (including Citylink) be conducted by Merwin Vehicle Consulting, Inc., (Merwin) with particular reference to Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, Parts 393 and 396, state motor vehicle laws, and other applicable maintenance and safety requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, Merwin’s inspections and reviews, conducted over a two month period during April and May 2013, resulted in a report dated June 18, 2013, to the Maine DOT finding nine violations of the Part 396 regulations and eight violations of the Part 393 Regulations related to the accuracy and integrity of fleet maintenance records, vehicle inspection and maintenance, and safety; and

**WHEREAS**, Merwin also made ten recommendations for actions WMTS must take to correct the violations that were found, which recommendations have been endorsed by Maine DOT; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 26, 2013, Maine DOT reported these findings to the U. S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, (US DOT) which has overall oversight as the agency providing grant funds to purchase the buses in the fleet, and on July 24, 2013, the US DOT Regional Administrator wrote that US DOT, “concur with the ten recommendations in the report and agrees with MEDOT’s interest to see that these recommendations get implemented by WMTS immediately;” and

**WHEREAS**, on September 10, 2013, Maine DOT issued these findings and the recommendations of Maine DOT and US DOT in writing to LATC for appropriate action; and

**WHEREAS**, to the best knowledge of the Auburn City Council, although WMTS has taken some action on the recommendations of Maine DOT and US DOT those recommendations have not yet been fully implemented by LATC and WMTS; and

**WHEREAS**, the Auburn city Council understands that LATC intends to engage the services of a consulting firm from California, Halsey King and Associates, Inc., to perform another review similar to that already done by Merwin for the Maine DOT, and to report its findings within another thirty days, at an estimated cost of more than \$24,000; and

**WHEREAS**, these facts demonstrate that WMTS has been and remains in breach of its obligations under the 2008 Agreement as recently renewed by LATCS under the guidance of AVCOG; and

**WHEREAS**, these facts raise substantial concerns about the efficiency and safety of the Citylink transit service as operated by WMTS under the oversight of LATC and AVCOG that need to be addressed immediately and effectively; and

**WHEREAS**, in the judgment of the Auburn City Council it would be in the best interests of Auburn, Lewiston, LATC, and the public for the Maine DOT, which has the requisite objectivity and expertise, to be asked to assist the cities and LATC in the continued investigation of the operations and practices of WMTS with respect to the Citylink system, review and audit the findings of the Halsey King study, examine the effectiveness of the existing arrangements with AVCOG, and assist the LATC in developing a plan for the safe and efficient operation of the Citylink system in the future,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it **RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Auburn that we call upon the Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee to call upon the Maine Department of Transportation to assist in the administration and enforcement of the contract with Western Maine Transportation Systems, Inc., to review and audit the findings of Halsey King and Associates, Inc., and to assist actively in monitoring the compliance of WMTS with the findings and plan of remediation, as it may be modified upon recommendation of the Maine DOT.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the Maine Department of Transportation also be asked to assist the cities and LATC in the effective oversight and administration of the transportation system in the future, including reviewing existing administrative arrangements between LATC and AVCOG, and to make recommendations with respect to future contracts for administrative and transportation (fleet maintenance) services.

Passage on 10/7/2013, 5-1 (Councilor Gerry opposed, Councilor Crowley absent).



**Cities of Lewiston and Auburn, Maine Joint  
City Council Resolve  
November 12, 2013**

**RESOLVE 08-11122013**

**Resolve, To Authorize the Re-purposing of the Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee  
(LATC) Capital Reserve Funding**

Whereas, the LATC was established by the City Councils of Lewiston and Auburn on September 10, 1976; and

Whereas, the LATCs primary mission over the last 39 years has been to provide dependable, on-time fixed transit services to the residents of Lewiston and Auburn; and

Whereas, reductions in federal and state transit funding have required all Maine fixed transit services to purchase lower cost and quality transit busses which have resulted in ongoing repairs and downtime which have been compounded by difficulties associated with parts availability; and

Whereas, sixty percent of the LATC fleet is dependent on two Thomas/SLF busses that have recently been permanently removed from operations and four Blue Bird busses that continue to be plagued by ongoing mechanical problems and parts availability; and

Whereas, LATC will no longer be able to leverage a number of Western Maine Transportation Service (WMTS) owned busses that must be reassigned to contractual coverage for the Sunday River and Sugarloaf areas; and

Whereas, the combination of WMTS bus inventory reductions coupled with the questionable dependability of Blue Bird busses will require the LATC to look at a number of operational options to keep all seven bus routes fully covered which shall include, but will not be limited to short term bus leasing, used bus purchasing, existing bus rebuilds and mid-life overhauls;

**Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the Joint City Councils of the Cities of Lewiston and Auburn that**

in the face of an uncertain future regarding the prospects for new transit bus funding, the Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee is authorized to immediately re-purpose existing and future capital reserve funding to pursue the most cost effective options to include, but not be limited to repairing, leasing, rebuilding, overhauling, and purchasing used or new busses that will help to reestablish levels of service dependability and quality that are desired by the residents and City Councils of Lewiston and Auburn.

Passage on 11/12/2013, Lewiston 6-0 (Councilor Desjardins absente), Auburn 6-0 (Councilor Shea absent).