



City of Auburn, Maine

Office of Planning & Permitting

Eric Cousens, Director

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To: Auburn Planning Board
From: John Blais, Deputy Director
Re: Workshop on Discontinuance of Chestnut Street and Miller Street

Date: August 10th, 2022

PROPOSAL: City Staff is requesting the city to discontinue 250' +/- of Chestnut Street/Public Way, as a City Street, to provide a more robust site plan that puts youth safety playing outdoors at the pinnacle for total development of the new PAL Center (Updates Attached). The discontinuance of the "town way" will follow the Title 23, Part 3, Chapter 304 §3026-A, 1-6 as required and applies. Chestnut street was recorded as a named street in Council Records 11-350 (9/10/1923) & 11-485 (2/16/1925). The street has been designed to be discontinued to create pedestrian connectivity for Union Street Gully Park that will link 6.1 acres of the upper section to the 2.7 acres of the lower section without vehicular traffic for greater safety and more flexibility for the total buildout of the PAL building and the associated features surrounding the site development. Other associated tasks include providing continuance of public utilities as Title 23, Part 3, Chapter 304 §3026-A, (6) and identifying a portion (s) of that land to be converted to Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Property and other land to be converted out of LWCF property restricted areas.

City Staff is also requesting Miller Street will be realigned as part of the 186 Main Street project, which will be accomplished through the appropriate process that meets state statute following 23 M.R.S. § 3026-A as it applies to the City of Auburn. Site Plans will be available for the hearings.

At a future meeting, the planning board needs to provide a recommendation to council under Sec. 46-374 of City of Auburn Ordinances.

- I. **PLANNING BOARD ACTION/STAFF SUGGESTIONS:** Staff suggests a planning board discuss the proposals and recommend to staff to hold a two separate Public Hearing on for both discontinuance/realignment of Chestnut and Miller St. Staff then recommends that the Board forward a positive recommendation to the Council supporting the proposed changes on the September 12th planning board meeting.