

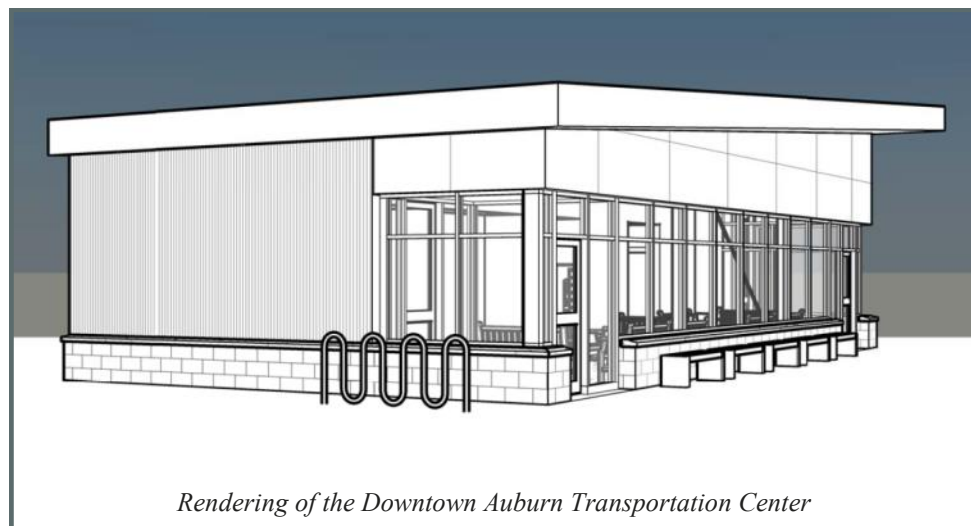
## citylinkNews



Since 2009, **citylink** has experienced an annual increase in ridership. FY15 saw a 12% increase in ridership over FY14, transporting 424,652 passenger trips. The Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee (LATC) has stabilized its bus fleet over the last few years by purchasing five used transit buses in 2014 and 2015 with local funds. The

addition of the buses to the transit fleet has improved service reliability especially during the winter months. In addition to improving service reliability, LATC through the Androscoggin Transportation Resource Center contracted with Main Street Connections to conduct a fixed route study update. The study is to be completed by June 2016.

LATC, the City of Auburn and the Maine Department of Transportation have been working together to build the Downtown Auburn Transportation Center (DATC) in Great Falls Plaza in Auburn. The project design was completed by Casco Bay Engineering (Portland) and Harriman Associates (Auburn). Construction of the Downtown Auburn Transportation Center went out to bid in August 2015 and was awarded to Benchmark Construction (Westbrook). The anticipated completion of the project is July 2016. The project is funded by the Federal Transit Administration, City of Auburn and the Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee.



Rendering of the Downtown Auburn Transportation Center

### LATC Committee

#### Phil Nadeau, Chair

Deputy  
Administrator,  
Lewiston

#### Belinda Gerry

Citizen At Large,  
Lewiston

#### Lucy Bisson

Citizen, Lewiston

#### Joline Beam

Councilor, Lewiston

#### Ernestine Gilbert

Councilor, Auburn

#### Denis D'Auteuil

Assistant City  
Manager, Auburn

#### Karen Veillieux

Admin. Assist.,  
Auburn

[www.purplebus.org](http://www.purplebus.org)

### ATRC Staff

#### Jennifer Williams, P.E.

MPO Director

#### Jason Ready, P.E.

Engineer/Planner

#### Joan Walton, AICP

Transportation  
Planner  
AVCOG

#### Marsha Bennett

Transit Planner

## Androscoggin Transportation Resource Center ATRC

Androscoggin Transportation Resource Center (ATRC) is the organization designated by the federal government to carry out transportation planning in the greater Lewiston-Auburn area. The ATRC area includes Auburn, Lewiston, Lisbon and a portion of Sabattus. The ATRC is responsible for Federal Highway and Federal Transit Administration planning and programming. It is also responsible for ensuring that the general public has the opportunity to participate in the planning and project funding decision processes.

With recent changes from MaineDOT, every year the ATRC prepares a Transportation Investment Program (TIP) that prioritizes area transportation projects for Federal, State and local funding. It also sponsors and conducts studies, through its biennial Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), to assist in the transportation planning process.

ATRC is governed by a Policy Committee and Technical Committee. The members of the committees are drawn from municipal officials (both elected and appointed) of the member communities, AVCOG, Maine Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, Federal Highway Administration and Maine Turnpike Authority. In addition, there are non-voting members on both committees such as the Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee (LATC), and the Auburn-Lewiston Municipal Airport.

### ATRC Policy Committee Voting Members

#### Ed Barrett, Chair

City Administrator,  
Lewiston

#### Robert Thompson, Vice Chair

Executive Director,  
AVCOG

#### Denis D'Auteuil

Dir. Of Public Services,  
Auburn

#### Diane Barnes

Town Manager,  
Lisbon

#### Anthony Ward

Town Manager,  
Sabattus

#### David Jones

Public Works Director,  
Lewiston

#### Howard Kroll

City Manager,  
Auburn

#### Duane Scott

Outreach Div. Director  
MaineDOT

#### Tracey Steuber

Econ. Dev. Director,  
Lisbon

#### Sara Zografos

Maine Turnpike  
Authority



Androscoggin Transportation Resource Center (ATRC)

125 Manley Road - Auburn, Maine 04210

(207) 783-9186 · [www.atrcmpo.org](http://www.atrcmpo.org)



**ATRC Technical  
Committee Voting  
Members**

**Dan Goyette, P.E.**  
Chair  
City Engineer, Auburn

**Ryan Leighton**  
Vice Chair  
Town Engineer, Lisbon

**Gerry Audibert, P.E.**  
MaineDOT

**Megan Bates**  
Deputy Director of Public  
Works,  
Lewiston

**Elwood Beal**  
PW Operations Manager,  
Lisbon

**Richard Burnham, P.E.**  
City Engineer,  
Lewiston

**Eric Cousens**  
City Planner,  
Auburn

**Gary Labonte**  
Public Works Foreman,  
Sabattus

**Joan Walton, AICP**  
AVCOG

**Sara Zografos**  
Maine Turnpike Authority

**Activities and Studies**

ATRC staff have been working closely with City of Auburn staff to evaluate recommendations for future Route 4 projects and to outline steps to implement projects to improve the safety along the Route 4 corridor near Lake Auburn. The Policy Committee has funded projects which will change the lane patterns on Route 4 and make lane improvements at two intersections for safety.

A consultant has been selected for a *Complete Streets* study for Lewiston and Auburn. Using the existing Lew/Aub Bike/Ped Committee, with members appointed by both communities, the project will look at improving roadways for all users. The study will look at specific corridors in the cities that ATRC has previously identified as deficient for bicycle and pedestrian uses, create a *Best Management Practices* manual that will guide future implementation of the Complete Streets ordinances adopted by each city, and then apply practically what was gathered through the process to determine a solution to crossing Main Street in Lewiston from the Androscoggin Greenway to Simard-Payne Park. The study has a project completion date of June, 2016.

**Things to look for in 2016**

- Expansion and upgrades to the Traffic Signal Management System
- Long -Range Transportation Plan
- New Bus Station in Auburn
- Short Range Transit Study Update
- Complete Streets Study & BMP

**Long-Range Planning**

**Transportation Safety Planning** — AVCOG advocates for member municipalities with the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) regarding transportation safety issues. The High Crash Location (HCL) at the Routes 2/4 & 156 intersection in Wilton was reconstructed in 2015 and the HCL at the Routes 11 & 26 intersection in Mechanic Falls and Poland is scheduled for reconstruction in 2016. AVCOG continues to monitor other HCLs in the region.

**Grant Opportunities** – AVCOG notified member municipalities about several grant opportunities from MaineDOT, including free solar-operated Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) to increase the visibility of crosswalks, and free road signs promoting the 3-foot separation requirement between motor vehicles and bicycles. Nearly one dozen AVCOG communities received RRFBs and five communities expressed interest in receiving the 3-foot signs.

**Active Transportation Planning** – AVCOG has

partnered with the Healthy Maine Partnerships and taken an active role in providing technical assistance to Active Communities Environment Teams (ACETs) in Norway/Paris, Rumford/Mexico and Oxford County with a goal to increase opportunities for physical activity of residents. The Norway/Paris ACET established an indoor winter walking program at the Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, sponsored a downtown bike event, and assisted MSAD 17 with establishment of a downtown (cont.)



Norway Walking School Bus to Guy E. Rowe Elementary School. The Rumford/Mexico ACET is engaged in the planning process for a new non-motorized bridge across the Swift River in Rumford which will connect public schools, recreation facilities, athletic fields, and trails in downtown Rumford and downtown Mexico. The Oxford County ACET created *Oxford County Moves*, an online educational campaign aimed at promoting “better walking”, “better biking” and “safer driving” throughout Oxford County ([www.oxfordcountymoves.org](http://www.oxfordcountymoves.org)).

**Traffic Signal Management System**



The Traffic Signal Management System (TSMS) continues to improve and expand. As turning movement count data is collected from signalized intersections using automated collection hardware and existing on-street vehicle detection, improved timing plans for both corridors and individual intersections can be created. Staff has also worked to improve signal timing on Court Street and Sabattus Street.

A safety project to upgrade the signals on outer Sabattus Street and downtown Lewiston will connect back into the ATRC TSMS server this summer. Staff will work with MaineDOT’s consultants to ensure that the corridors operate successfully once completed. The traffic signal coordination allows for continuous flow on the corridors during peak hours. The intersections will connect using a fiber optic cable. The controller hardware and bicycle/vehicle detection will be upgraded with other various ADA improvements.

