

**LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MAY 19, 2020**

SESSION WILL BE CONDUCTED REMOTELY AND MEMBERS WILL ONLY PARTICIPATE ELECTRONICALLY. THE MEETING CAN BE VIEWED ONLINE AT

<https://www.lewistonmaine.gov/2020cc>

Public Comment on any other item appearing on the agenda may be sent to publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov prior to or during the meeting, and all comments received will be forwarded to the City Council. People who would like to access the meeting by phone may contact (207)513-3021 for the access code.

6:00 p.m. Workshop

- A. Local Foods, Local Places Community Action Plan for Lewiston-Auburn

6:30p.m. Executive Session

- ES. Executive Session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, section 405(6) (c) to discuss an Economic Development issue of which the premature disclosure of the information would prejudice the competitive bargaining position of the City.

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Update on City Actions Regarding COVID-19 Pandemic Situation and City Reopening Plan

Acceptance of the minutes of the May 5, 2020 meeting.

Public Comment period – Any member of the public may make comments regarding issues pertaining to Lewiston City Government (3 minutes per speaker; maximum time for all comments is 15 minutes)

ALL ROLL CALL VOTES FOR THIS MEETING WILL BEGIN WITH THE COUNCILOR OF WARD 3.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Public Hearing & Final Passage for re-zoning the properties at 949 College Street, 2 East Merrill Rd, 4 East Merrill Rd, 6 East Merrill Rd, 8 East Merrill Rd, 10 East Merrill Rd and portions of 1 East Merrill Rd, 3 East Merrill Rd and 5 East Merrill Rd from the Rural Agriculture (RA) District to the Low-Density Residential (LDR) District.
2. Public Hearing and Order Directing Consolidation of Polling Locations for the July 14, 2020 State and Municipal Election.
3. Order, Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute a Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Lewiston and the Garcelon Cemetery Association.
4. Resolve, Authorizing the Acceptance of a Public Art Installation to be Located on City Owned Property in or Adjacent to the Lewiston Canal System.
5. Resolve, Authorizing Correcting an Assessing Error on the Property Owned by James Goupil at 56 Jenkins Street Involving the Homestead Exemption.
6. Resolve, Waiving Certain Fees and Policies Involving the Public Right of Way and

Municipally Owned Property and Establishing a Procedure to Allow for the Use of Private Parking Areas for the Purpose of Assisting Lewiston Organizations in Implementing Social Distancing.

7. Resolve, Asking the Governor of the State of Maine to Re-Open Androscoggin County.
8. Order, Authorizing Execution of Municipal Quitclaim Deeds for Real Estate located at 42 Raiche Street and 186 Bartlett Street.
9. Reports and Updates
10. Any other City Business Councilors or others may have relating to Lewiston City Government.

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP AGENDA
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020
6:00 PM

1. Local Foods, Local Places Community Action Plan for Lewiston-Auburn

In the Spring of 2019, the St. Mary's Nutrition Center received Technical Assistance through the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Local Foods, Local Places Program. The purpose of this program is to increase economic opportunities for local farmers and businesses; revitalize downtown streets and neighborhoods; and support better access to healthy, local food, especially among disadvantaged groups. With the guidance of the LFLP Technical Assistance Team, a local Steering Committee was formed and met quarterly to plan and convene a community-wide conversation and workshop. The two day event occurred on October 22 and 23, 2019 launching with a tour by the Steering Committee and Federal officials of local farms and food businesses in Auburn-Lewiston. Over 80 people across business, municipal, and agricultural sectors participated in the conversation and workshop. Together they envisioned and drafted the Lewiston-Auburn Local Foods Local Places Action Plan. Following the event the Steering Committee, along with additional interested community members, continued to meet on their own and via conference call with the Technical Assistance Team to finalize the plan, including fine-tuning the sixteen action steps. That plan has been completed and the Council has been asked to adopt it. See attached information. A full copy of the plan is available in the full City Council agenda packet on the City's website at:
<https://www.lewistonmaine.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=48&Type=Recent>

2. Executive Session – Economic Development

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF MAY 5, 2020

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6:30pm

SUBJECT:

Executive Session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, section 405 (6) (c) to discuss an Economic Development issue of which the premature disclosure of the information would prejudice the competitive bargaining position of the City.

INFORMATION:

The Maine State Statutes, Title 1, section 405, define the permissible grounds and subject matters of executive sessions for public meetings.

APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

State statutes define the purposes for entering into an executive session.

EAB/kmm

REQUESTED ACTION:

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To enter into an Executive Session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, section 405 (6) (c) to discuss an Economic Development issue of which the premature disclosure of the information would prejudice the competitive bargaining position of the City.

Local Foods, Local Places Community Action Plan for Lewiston-Auburn
Quick Reference Guide for Cities of Auburn and Lewiston
 May 2020

INTRODUCTION

Requested Actions of City Council, May 2020:

1. Adopt the Local Foods, Local Places (LFLP) Plan created by the community, and supported by the efforts of the LFLP Federal Technical Assistance Team and the LFLP Local Steering Committee.
2. Acknowledge that the LFLP Plan is in alignment with the Lewiston-Auburn Community Food Charter, and that investment into local food will result in increased food security and expansion of our local economy;
3. Encourage city residents, city officials, and locally based businesses and organizations to engage and help further the LFLP Action Plan's goals and actions.*

*Actions were envisioned to be adaptable based on changing community circumstances, in particular at this moment, COVID-19.

BACKGROUND

In the Spring of 2019, the St. Mary's Nutrition Center received Technical Assistance through the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Local Foods, Local Places Program. The purpose of this program is to increase economic opportunities for local farmers and businesses; revitalize downtown streets and neighborhoods; and support better access to healthy, local food, especially among disadvantaged groups. With the guidance of the LFLP Technical Assistance Team, a local Steering Committee was formed and met quarterly to plan and convene a community-wide conversation and workshop. The two day event occurred on October 22 and 23, 2019 launching with a tour by the Steering Committee and Federal officials of local farms and food businesses in Auburn-Lewiston. Over 80 people across business, municipal, and agricultural sectors participated in the conversation and workshop. Together they envisioned and drafted the Lewiston-Auburn Local Foods Local Places Action Plan. Following the event the Steering Committee, along with additional interested community members, continued to meet on their own and via conference call with the Technical Assistance Team to finalize the plan, including fine-tuning the sixteen action steps that — along with numerous individual, business, organizational, and municipal commitments — aim to fulfill the following goals:

1. Strengthen access to local food while expanding market opportunities and infrastructure for farm and food businesses.
2. Integrate local food and agriculture into city planning and economic development strategies.
3. Build food and agriculture as a defining brand for Lewiston-Auburn.
4. Increase equitable access, ownership, and preservation of land to grow food in Lewiston-Auburn.

The 'implementation phase' of the LFLP Action Plan is being coordinated by the Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn, working closely with a small coordinating team.

Attachments: Local Foods, Local Places Action Plan for Lewiston-Auburn

Local Foods, Local Places Community Action Plan for Lewiston-Auburn
Quick Reference Guide for Cities of Auburn and Lewiston
 May 2020

The following Actions in the LFLP Plan are where each city may have a unique role in the next 1-3 years.

Both Auburn & Lewiston

Action	Page #	Lead(s)**	Status
2.3 - Pass an urban agriculture ordinance in Lewiston and Auburn	18	Good Food Council of LA; Shelley Norton, AVCOG; Jesse Tannenbaum, Eli's Homestead	In early stages
2.4 - Develop a regional economic growth strategy to support agricultural production, processing, and distribution to grow the agriculture sector and bring new business and jobs (e.g. new farmers).	19	Shanna Cox and Scott Benson, LA Metro Chamber	In early stages

Auburn

Action	Page #	Leads	Status
2.2 - Ensure that food and farm sectors are represented as critical to and integrated in Auburn's 2020-2030 comprehensive plan. This includes crafting a robust and inclusive community engagement process to identify priorities.	17	Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn; Consultants hired by the City to Guide the Comprehensive Plan Process	Not yet started

Lewiston

Action	Page #	Leads	Status
2.1 - Pass the Food Sovereignty Act in Lewiston	16	Jesse Tannenbaum; Good Food Council of LA	In early stages
1.2 - Conduct a feasibility study to determine the potential of renovating the Lewiston Middle School Kitchen for job training and school- and community-wide meals that feature locally sourced ingredients.	11	<i>Lead Vacancy</i>	On hold

**Leads: Serve as a convener/champion of the Action Team (consisting of members of Supporting Cast listed in the LFLP Action Plan and possibly others) to move forward a specific Action in the Action Plan.



Community Action Plan for Lewiston-Auburn

LOCAL FOODS, LOCAL PLACES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

December 2019



For more information about Local Foods, Local Places visit:

<https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/local-foods-local-places>

Contact Information:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Project Contact: **John Foster**

Office of Community Revitalization

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW (MC 1807T)

Washington, DC 20460

Phone: (202) 566-2870

Email: Foster.John@epa.gov

Lewiston-Auburn Contact: **Sherie Blumenthal**

St. Mary's Nutrition Center

208 Bates Street

Lewiston, ME 04240

Phone: (207) 513-3848

Email: SBlumenthal@stmarysmaine.com

COMMUNITY STORY

The Androscoggin River anchors the landscape of Lewiston-Auburn and has been the central artery of this area from the earliest days of indigenous settlement. The Abenaki peoples, who were the first to live along the river, planted corn, beans, and squash in the fertile floodplain, and had a major settlement on Laurel Hill in what is now New Auburn. The name Androscoggin is an anglicized version of several Abenaki words meaning "river of rock shelters", in reference to the outcroppings of rocks where they caught and cleaned the Atlantic Salmon that once traveled upstream. The first European settlers moved into the area in 1770 and by 1795 incorporated the town of Lewiston, named for a Boston land proprietor and merchant Job Lewis.¹ Settlers began the process of constructing dams to harvest power from the waters of the Androscoggin. Canals supported grist, saw, and fulling mills. Officially incorporated in 1869, Auburn grew geographically into one of Maine's largest municipalities, and by the early twentieth century had grown into the fifth-largest center for shoe manufacturing in the United States. Most other economic activity centered on agriculture and the population remained small and widely dispersed, with population growth and mill construction of Lewiston Falls Village taking place on the Auburn side of the river.²

In the 40 years between 1830 and 1870, Lewiston grew into an industrial city with a diverse and multi-national population including many Irish and French Canadian immigrants.³ Bostonian businessmen Benjamin Bates and Alexander DeWitt arrived in Lewiston in the mid-1850s and would build important commercial and institutional anchors – the DeWitt Hotel and the Maine State Seminary, which would later become Bates College in 1864. The population grew with these developments as did the services required. St. Mary's, the first hospital, was established in 1889, and in the last years of the nineteenth century, Haymarket Square on Main Street in Lewiston was Central Maine's busiest market for agricultural items.



Figure 1 – Lewiston's Haymarket Square was the center of agricultural commerce in the late 1800s. Image credit: City of Lewiston/Courtesy of Robert R. Bedard



Figure 2 – Immigrant/refugee farmers have helped to sustain and grow Lewiston-Auburn's economy over the past two decades. Image credit: Greta Rybus/Courtesy of Cultivating Community

¹ Douglas I. Hodgkin. A Brief History of Lewiston. <https://www.lewistonmaine.gov/421/History-of-Lewiston>. Accessed from City of Lewiston Website on Dec. 3, 2019.

² Ibid.

³ Downtown Lewiston. <https://downtownlewiston.com/history/>. Accessed December 3, 2019.

The industrial exploitation of the Androscoggin took its toll on the region over the course the twentieth century. Pollution dampened the natural landscape and closure of the mills during the industrial decline caused economic hardship that the community has been working to overcome with several deliberate planning processes. The arrival of Somali immigrants in the 1990s marked a turning point for the “Twin Cities” of Lewiston-Auburn and helped to further positive change. During that period, a section of Lisbon Street alone counted over 30 Somali-owned stores and restaurants that were reutilizing previously vacant storefronts and breathing new life into downtown.⁴

Today, Lewiston-Auburn is the second largest metropolitan area in the State of Maine, with a combined population of over 59,000 in 2018 (source: census.gov). In addition to being home to several higher education institutions and world-class health facilities, its 2014 cultural plan objectives have helped it evolve to become a fine arts and cultural destination. Those who visit its many events and annual festivals can also enjoy breweries, restaurants, recreational activities along the river, and historical landmarks of the city.⁵

As revitalization continues, Lewiston-Auburn community champions have placed increased emphasis on revitalizing the downtowns on both sides of the river, utilized opportunities in the local food system and farming to advance economic growth, and helped new Americans achieve greater self-reliance. The food focus, particularly in Lewiston, made the Twin Cities a good match with the federal Local Foods, Local Places technical assistance program. In 2018, St. Mary’s Nutrition Center and community partners requested assistance for Lewiston-Auburn through Local Foods, Local Places to develop an action plan for building the local food system and creating a healthy, walkable, economically vibrant downtown. The goals of the Local Foods, Local Places program are to create:

⁴ Legacy Lewiston: City of Lewiston Comprehensive Plan.

https://www1.maine.gov/dacf/municipalplanning/comp_plans/Lewiston%202014.pdf

⁵ City of Lewiston. <https://www.lewistonmaine.gov/9/Visitors>. Accessed December 3, 2019.

Local Foods, Local Places Steering Committee

- Sherie Blumenthal, St. Mary's Nutrition Center
- Kirsten Walter, St. Mary's Nutrition Center
- Deb Burd, Covenant Health
- Francis Eanes, Bates College
- Jonah Fertig-Burd, Cooperative Development Institute and Celebration Tree Farm
- Sam Boss, Bates College
- Shanna Cox, Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
- Jim Hanna, Somali Bantu Community Association/Cumberland Food Security Council
- Omar Hassan, Cooperative Development Institute/New Roots Cooperative Farm
- Misty Parker, City of Lewiston
- Julia Harper, Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn

Figure 3 - Steering committee members.

- More economic opportunities for local farmers and businesses.
- Better access to healthy, local food, especially among disadvantaged groups.
- Revitalized downtowns, main streets, and neighborhoods.

The Local Foods, Local Places program is supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Northern Border Regional Commission. Lewiston-Auburn was one of 15 communities across the United States selected to participate in the program in 2019.

A Local Foods, Local Places steering committee formed in Lewiston-Auburn in preparation for this technical assistance award comprised of a variety of community partners (Figure 3). They were supported by a technical assistance team of consultants and multiple federal and state agency partners (Figure 4).

The Steering Committee decided to focus its technical assistance process on the goals to: strengthen access to local food while expanding market opportunities and infrastructure for farm and food businesses; integrate local food and agriculture into city planning and economic development strategies; build food and agriculture as a defining brand identity for Lewiston-Auburn; and increase equitable access, ownership, and preservation of land to grow food in Lewiston-Auburn. With these goals, the cities seek to ensure agriculture remains central to the local economy and to attract more people to visit, work, and live there, contributing to the vibrant, diverse fabric of the community.

The remainder of this report and appendices document the technical assistance engagement process, the workshop activities, and most importantly, the outcome: a community action plan to achieve Lewiston-Auburn's goals.

ENGAGEMENT

The technical assistance engagement process for Local Foods, Local Places has three phases, illustrated in Figure 5 below. The plan phase consists of three preparation conference calls with the steering committee and technical assistance team to clarify goals and arrange workshop logistics. The convene phase includes the effort's capstone event—a two-day workshop in the community. The act phase includes three follow-up conference calls to finalize a community action plan and strategize on how to maintain momentum generated during the workshop. The community workshop was held over a two-day period from October 22-23, 2019 and the activities for those days are described below. Workshop exercise results are summarized in **Appendix A**, workshop sign-in sheets are provided in **Appendix B**, a workshop photo album is provided in **Appendix C**, a data profile in **Appendix D**, funding resources in **Appendix E**, and general references in **Appendix F**.

Local Foods, Local Places Technical Assistance Team

- John Foster, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Community Revitalization
- Matt Chotkowski, USDA - FNS, Northeast Region
- Christine Beling, E U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1 (Boston)
- Jessica Sheeran, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Region 1
- Kara Norman, HUD, New England Regional Office (Boston)
- Kelsey Brown, HUD, Bangor Field Office
- Holly Fowler, Northbound Ventures (consultant)
- Jessica Dimmick, EPR (consultant)

Figure 4 - Technical assistance team.



Figure 5 - Local Foods, Local Places technical assistance process diagram.

COMMUNITY TOUR

In advance of the first community session on October 22nd, the local Steering Committee designed and led a tour of Lewiston-Auburn for the technical assistance team to see the cities' food-related businesses, markets, farms, industrial history, and downtown. The tour began at St. Mary's Nutrition Center on Bates Street in downtown Lewiston. The Nutrition Center brings people together to collectively imagine and build a just food system and healthy community. Programming includes community and school gardens; youth leadership development and job training; equitable food access initiatives; community cooking and education; and the largest food pantry in the region. The Nutrition Center supports approximately 20 gardens across Lewiston-Auburn, including several elementary and middle school gardens, and supplies approximately 200 community gardeners with seeds, seedlings, tools, instruction, and hands-on workshops. The accessible garden at the Nutrition Center is designed for learning, sharing, and gathering, and in the future plans to have a small outdoor kitchen to support additional cooking and nutrition educational programs.



Figure 6 – The St. Mary's Nutrition Center is a hub of health and nutrition resources for Lewiston-Auburn. Photo credit: Northbound Ventures

Following the garden tour, the group then traveled by shuttle van to the New Roots Cooperative Farm, owned and operated by four Somali Bantu farmers who came to Lewiston in the mid 2000s. The farmers are graduates of the New American Sustainable Agriculture Project (NASAP), a project of Cultivating Community

that provides technical and fiscal training to refugee and immigrant farmers. The farmers worked with the Cooperative Development Institute, Land for Good, Cultivating Community, and the Maine Farmland Trust to find the 30-acre land tract and obtain a lease with the option to purchase. The New Roots Cooperative Farm currently has 7.5 acres in production. The farm runs a CSA program, grows and distributes wholesale vegetables to food pantries, schools, and local restaurants, and sells produce at farmers markets. Hoop houses were recently built using funding from USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, a tractor was purchased through a Sharia-compliant loan from the Cooperative Fund of New England, and solar panels were installed with funding through the New England Grassroots Environment Fund.



Figure 7 – The community tour visits New Roots Cooperative Farm, a collaborative of four Somali farm families. Photo credit: Northbound Ventures

Tour members next traveled across the Androscoggin River into New Auburn and met Kathy Shaw, owner of Valley View Farm and 4 Season Farm Market on Mill Street, a small store offering a variety of fresh produce, fermented goods, dried herbs, soups, and other products from Ms. Shaw's own 75-acre farm and other farmers and producers. The store has a strong following and hopes to continue to grow, but lack of space for a commercial kitchen and difficulty to capture Mill Street's high-volume traffic are two potential challenges to its long-term growth.

Walking back over the Cedar Street bridge, the group entered the Bates Mill Complex, which consists of eight former mill buildings containing 1.3 million square feet of floor space on a 12-acre parcel. The City of Lewiston tax-acquired most of the complex in 1992 and sold it to local architect and developer Tom Platz in 1996. Platz redeveloped five of the buildings into adaptive re-use including housing units, offices, restaurants, and Baxter Brewing Company, the first craft brewery in New England to can all of its beers.

In the complex, the group visited E. Claire and Pastries, a bakery located in Mill #2, and met owner Emily Fournier who grew her home bakery into the space two years ago and has expanded her business to offer light breakfast and lunch in addition to the daily baked goods sold on site, wholesale, and catering. E. Claire and Pastries has partnerships with the Pub at Baxter Brewing Company and other local restaurants to provide baked goods for their menus.



Figure 8 – The community tour visits 4 Seasons Market that carries a broad selection of local produce and value-added product. Photo credit: Northbound Ventures

Walking along Chestnut Street, the group crossed over the Bates Mill canal and passed Lisbon Street, the historic main commercial street of Lewiston's downtown. The city used Community Development Block Group funds for redevelopment along Lisbon Street. Storefront vacancies have decreased since the mid 1990s, but several ground-floor spaces remain vacant.

The tour concluded at the Kennedy Park Farmers Market, a popular neighborhood market supported by Cultivating Community that provides market opportunities for beginner NASAP farmers and offers a wide selection of fresh produce, including crops unique to Africa. It also serves as a stop for the Good Food Bus, a mobile food market that brings fresh, local, and affordable produce to markets and neighborhoods in Lewiston-Auburn, and is operated by St. Mary's Nutrition Center with foundational support from Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation.

Appendix C has many more photos and additional details of the community tour.

VISION AND VALUES

Close to 80 residents, farmers, and other community stakeholders attended the first public session of the Local Foods, Local Places Lewiston-Auburn workshop on the evening of October 22nd. Kirsten Walter, Director of St. Mary's Nutrition Center, welcomed attendees and shared a short presentation placing the event in the context of other planning and engagement undertaken to date. She highlighted the long history of Lewiston's and Auburn's downtowns, the area's heritage of small-scale farming, the many assets and opportunities for food to support economic development, and community driven efforts towards growth that include the Lewiston Downtown Neighborhood Action Plan (2009), Community Food Assessment (2013), New Auburn Village Center Study (2014), L-A Regional Food Hub Feasibility Study (2015), L-A Community Food Charter (2016) and most recently the adoption of a Transformation Plan and occurrence of the L-A Region Farmland Access & Food Economy Conference.

After recognizing community partners in producing the workshop and full-room introductions, the technical assistance team gave a short presentation on the Local Foods, Local Places program including a recap of the afternoon's community tour. The team highlighted unique aspects of Lewiston-Auburn's local food system, specifically the amount of working agricultural land proximal to city centers. Equity was also stressed as a measure of ensuring the system's success in placemaking and improved healthy food access benefits all people who live there now, not just those who can afford to live there in the future. Demographic and regional data that provides baseline measurements of food access, health, and economic well-being about Lewiston-Auburn can be found in **Appendix D**.

Vision & Values

I want to help Lewiston-Auburn...

- To build a better community
- To be with community
- To reduce food insecurity
- To help make food accessible
- To minimize food waste
- To explore new market opportunities
- To learn and to listen
- To protect the important food and farming are important assets of Lewiston-Auburn
- To represent the farming community
- To help improve community health and nutrition
- To make L-A a food destination
- To build bridges for more collaboration

Figure 9 -- In a group exercise designed to capture the community's vision and values, participants shared their reasons for accepting an invitation from St. Mary's Nutrition Center to join the Local Food, Local Places workshop.

The primary purpose of the opening workshop session was to hear from residents and other stakeholders about their vision for Lewiston-Auburn, its food economy, and thoughts on the future location of the farmers market. The technical assistance team captured attendees' reasons for being at the workshop (Figure 9).

In a second group exercise, participants created local news headlines from the future, many of which envisioned new market channels for farmers to sell food grown in the city, solutions to food insecurity, construction of value-added production facilities, passage of the Food Sovereignty Act, and continued role of youth and immigrant /refugee farmers in building a thriving food economy. In a final group exercise, attendees surfaced ideas for what is needed to continue Lewiston-Auburn's trajectory of revitalization. The community's headlines and thoughtful list of potential needs is included with the results from all group workshop exercises in **Appendix A**.

ACTION PLANNING - DAY TWO

Case Studies

The second day of the workshop began with examples of strategies used by other communities to advance their food system and place-making initiatives. The technical assistance team shared examples of urban agriculture ordinances, market gardens, integration of food and farming into municipal planning documents, development of shared commercial kitchens and food processing facilities, and insights on scaling up production to meet wholesale and institutional demand. The facilitators also placed Lewiston-Auburn's initiatives in the context of the New England Food Vision, which calls for regional capacity to produce at least 50% of clean, fair, just, and accessible food by 2060. Lewiston-Auburn is already seen as a leader in developing creative, equitable approaches to advancing this ambitious goal and stakeholders across the region anticipate that it will continue to play a critical role.

Mapping Exercises

Next, on Day 2, workshop participants engaged in a group mapping exercise aimed at identifying different points in and around Lewiston-Auburn that represent revitalization needs and priorities on maps scaled to downtown and the region (Figure 11). The exercise asked participants to label immediate needs or quick fixes required, opportunities around infrastructure and food access (e.g., kitchens, unused or underutilized buildings, places for storage and refrigeration), opportunities to integrate food into city planning and economic development strategies, and land to grow food



Figure 10 – Workshop participants consider and discuss case studies and strategies from other communities. Image credit: Northbound Ventures



Figure 11 – Participants at the Lewiston-Auburn Local Foods, Local Places workshop use large scale maps to identify favorite places and opportunities for the food system. Image credit: Northbound Ventures

(e.g., farmland that needs permanent protection, underutilized or potential productive space). The results of the mapping are captured in **Appendix A**.

Action Planning

The action planning process during the workshop consisted of a few phases of work. First, there was a brainstorming session, where participants were asked to write down potential actions to help advance one or more goals. The next phase was a dot-voting exercise where participants were given a limited number of dots and were asked to vote on which actions either were most important or needed immediate attention. In the third phase, small working groups assessed this prioritization voting and fleshed out the details of the top two to five actions for each goal, such as its importance, timeframe, lead role, etc. In the final phase, each small working group reported back its progress and shared any questions they encountered. The tables that follow provide additional background information and detail for each goal and action.



Figure 12 – Workshop participants split into groups to draft action plans for each of the community’s goals. Image credit: Northbound Ventures

When reading the action plan, note that a “Lead” is not the person tasked with completing the action, but rather a community member that has agreed to ensure coordination is happening among the supporting cast on the action and that progress is happening in accordance with the timeline. Each action's "supporting cast" consists of individuals or organizations that may be involved actively, consulted, or just kept informed based on their interest, expertise, or overlapping initiatives. Resources may be what is needed to complete the action, but may not be needed long-term or at all. Overall, the action plan represents a snapshot of what emerged from the Local Foods, Local Places workshop as priorities for the next few years, and is anticipated to be a living document that changes and evolves as new information emerges and actions are realized.

ACTION PLAN

GOAL 1: Strengthen access to local food while expanding market opportunities and infrastructure for farm and food business.

The community has laid much of the initial groundwork for developing strategies and implementing activities focused on improving local fresh food access, such as through community gardens, farmers’ markets, a mobile market, and healthy nutrition incentives. Still, those living in the downtown of Lewiston and Auburn face barriers to access driven by several factors such as extremely high poverty rates; 87% of downtown Lewiston residents live below 200% of the federal poverty level and 64% of Auburn’s downtown residents are low-income. The poverty rate for Lewiston children under five years old is 48%, twice the state average, with the school system hosting the highest rate of children qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch in the state. There is some good news: A recent surge in young people pursuing farming in the area, immigrant farming projects,

and upstart food ventures in the city have created opportunities to increase the supply of local fresh produce that can improve access to healthy foods for children and populations in need. Filling in gaps in the existing local food system infrastructure, business training, and social and nutritional support services will facilitate expanded market opportunities.

Action 1.1: Conduct a feasibility study to determine the demand and need for a shared-use processing space, storage facility, and commercial kitchen.

<p>What this is and why it is important</p>	<p>Lewiston-Auburn’s farmers, growers and eaters could benefit from a space where fresh, locally grown food can be stored, processed and turned into value-added products. Small-scale and beginner farmers in the community have expressed the need for a place to store and process crops. Aspiring and existing small-scale food entrepreneurs, including farmers and non-farmers, have highlighted the lack of access to a licensed commercial kitchen space in Lewiston-Auburn to transform raw ingredients into prepared foods. A feasibility study would offer a chance to explore needs and assets such as potential sites, community stakeholders, investors, and market opportunities.</p>
<p>Measures of success</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Robust research on existing and similar models is conducted for benchmarking ● Purpose of the potential space is fully explored and defined ● Wide-ranging conversations are held with key stakeholders including farmers and food business owners ● Potential locations, key partners, and investors are identified ● Information from the feasibility study is adequate to inform a business plan ● Final study has considered the needs, assets, sequencing, and potential synergies identified in feasibility studies of actions 1.2 and 1.5
<p>Timeframe</p>	<p>8-12 months</p>
<p>Lead</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jonah Fertig-Burd, Community Development Institute ● Sherie Blumenthal, St. Mary’s Nutrition Center
<p>Supporting cast</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scott Benson and Shanna Cox, Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce ● Ben Daley, Chirp Creek Farm (Lisbon, Maine) ● Gerald Walsh, Knead ● Francis Eanes, Bates College for data analysis and surveying ● Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn ● Cultivating Community ● Community Food Champions, St. Mary’s Nutrition Center ● Misty Parker, Lincoln Jeffers, and Doug Greene, City of Lewiston ● Eric Cousins, City of Auburn ● Good Shepard Food Bank ● Josh Nagine, Lewiston Farmers’ Market, Androscoggin Land Trust ● Kathy Shaw, Valley View Farm ● Developers: Laura Redding, Developer’s Collaborative; Matthew Peters, Elysian Enterprises LLC ● Maine Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry ● Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments

<p>Needed resources and possible sources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Potential and current farmers and food producers ● Examples of similar Local Foods, Local Places community surveys that have been conducted ● Local Foods Promotion Program, Value-Added Producer Grant & other USDA Programs ● Funding/financing through Slow Money Maine ● Ron Batchner, Architect, United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service ● Financing from CEI (Coastal Enterprise Inc.) and or Cooperative Fund of New England ● The capacity and financial resources to distribute, conduct, and analyze the results of the survey ● Enhanced survey material ● Interpretation and translation services ● Grow L+A Study ● Bill Seretta, Fork Food Lab ● Coastal Enterprises, Inc (CEI) ● Bates Student Research support ● Ned Claxton & Troy Jackson, Maine State Senate ● Kim Finnerty, Auburn High School (share research from Whiting Farm) ● The Holyoke Food and Agriculture Innovation Center (HFAIC), Nuestras Raices
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Action 1.2: Conduct a feasibility study to determine the potential of renovating the Lewiston Middle School Kitchen for job training and school- and community-wide meals that feature locally sourced ingredients.

<p>What this is and why it is important</p>	<p>Many families and children in Androscoggin County are food insecure including a high percentage of students that attend Lewiston Middle School (LMS). Free breakfast and lunch are currently served, but no means of serving dinner or sending home food with students exists. Students have shared that the food provided could be fresher and better tasting. Partnerships with area gleaning programs, local farmers and Bates College lend the potential for more locally sourced, fresh food. LMS is an important hub of the community and has the potential to provide more fresh food and serve as a communal meal space but the school kitchen is ill-equipped to meet the aspirations of food service providers, faculty, and students. Additionally, the school district has identified a need for an expanded kitchen facility to support food-related job training (e.g. via the Lewiston Regional Tech Center). Renovating the LMS kitchen could feed more families with more fresh food while also providing needed job-training opportunities. A study must first be conducted in order to understand the potential of the LMS kitchen in serving this role.</p>
<p>Measures of success</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Robust research on existing other existing community meal sites is conducted ● District-wide conversations are held with key stakeholders including students, faculty, staff, parents, and community members ● Preliminary equipment and architectural needs assessment is done ● Potential funding opportunities are explored and identified ● Final study is in a form that can be readily used to apply for funding or support ● Final study has considered the needs, assets, sequencing, and potential synergies identified in feasibility studies of actions 1.1 and 1.5
<p>Timeframe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 8-12 months

Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alisa Roman, Director of Food Service Nutrition for Lewiston Public Schools
Supporting cast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Seniors Plus/ Meals on Wheels ● Lewiston Public Schools students, parents, superintendent, and facilities manager ● Lewiston Regional Technical Center students and staff ● Professional contractors and architects ● Good Shepard Food Bank ● Ron Adams, Maine Farm & Sea Cooperative ● St. Mary’s Nutrition Center ● Shanna Cox, LA Metro Chamber / LAEGC
Needed resources and possible sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lewiston Regional Technical Center ● Minneapolis Public Schools and other peers (Portland, Maine) ● Ron Batcher, Architect, United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service ● Serv Safe ● Students of Bates College ● Green Garden Bakery Youth Enterprise, Minneapolis ● Bill Seretta, Fork Food Lab ● Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI) ● Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments ● Mary LaFontaine, Lewiston Career Center ● Maine Department of Labor ● Lewiston Economic Development Office ● Cultivating Community ● Title I funds (U.S. Department of Education supplemental funding for districts with high poverty rates) ● New Ventures, Inc for job training, business plan development

Action 1.3: Identify and secure a year-round, indoor/outdoor, permanent location for the Lewiston Farmers Market that is walkable from downtown Lewiston-Auburn and holds the potential for growth and expansion.

What this is and why it is important	<p>In operation since 2004, the Lewiston Farmers’ Market offers farmers’ and producers a consistent, direct-to-consumer market venue, and visitors a chance to build community and shop for a wide variety of local foods and goods. In partnership with the St. Mary’s Nutrition Center, the farmers’ market operates equitable access programs helping food-insecure families put more fresh food on their table. Although a well-loved fixture in the community, the market has yet to obtain a year-round permanent location. Agreements with the City of Lewiston and partner agencies must be renewed each year, sometimes with uncertainty, to secure a space for the season. Each winter the market must move to an entirely different site. A centrally located, permanent spot for the farmers market would offer residents of Lewiston-Auburn year-round access to fresh, local food, deepen civic engagement, and foster connection across communities. Farmers would have access to more consistent sales revenue and greater customer retention and loyalty. A</p>
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	permanent space would also support the local economy as a whole; studies show that farmers markets increase traffic and sales to neighboring businesses.
Measures of success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consumer and vendor criteria for an ideal site are outlined ● Survey of potential locations is conducted, and connections made with potential partners ● Location is identified that meet the criteria ● Partnerships are honed and an agreement is reached with an optimal site
Timeframe	12-24 months ,depending on the readiness of the space
Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ben Daley, Lewiston Farmers Market steering committee ● Sherie Blumenthal, Lewiston Farmers’ Market Manager ● Joshua Nagine, Friends of the Market Coordinator
Supporting cast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lewiston Farmers’ Market Steering Committee and Market Association ● Lewiston Farmers’ Market customers ● Maine Federation of Farmers’ Markets ● Bates College (for insights on property) ● Shanna Cox, Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce ● Misty Parker, City of Lewiston Community and Economic Development ● Denis D’Auteuil, Deputy City Administrator ● Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn ● Kevin Bunker, Developers Cooperation (Laura Reading for introduction) ● Cultivating Community ● Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments ● Local property owners
Needed resources and possible sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Funding from Lewiston Farmers Market members and supporters ● Building and information options; Ron Batcher of USDA to assist with design ● Mapping and demographic insights ● Funding or donation of property ● Local Foods Promotion Program, Farmers Market Promotion Program ● Project for Public Spaces

Action 1.4: Build awareness and increase use of existing and emerging direct-to-consumer food-connection platforms.

What this is and why it is important	<p>There are a wide range of beneficial, online, direct-to-consumer food-connection platforms, such as Forager (www.goforager.com), that support food businesses and other buyers in learning what local food is available near them. Direct purchasing offered through these sites can increase profits for farmers and growers by keeping more money in their pockets, and ultimately, inside the community. For example, as a result of using applications such as Forager, the sales of Fresh Start Farms (part of Cultivating Community to the Rosemont and Portland Food Co-ops) have increased over the past three years, proving a strong track record of accessing local markets. However, despite their functionality and success, many farmers and buyers are unfamiliar with these platforms. Greater awareness of this and other apps have the potential to increase farmers' sales and consumption of fresh, local food for community members in Lewiston-</p>
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	Auburn. Event tabling, workshops, posters, electronic and written articles provide potential opportunities to disseminate information about potential platforms.
Measures of success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Outreach is conducted to farmers and producers with a focus on those that are from or operate in Lewiston-Auburn ● Conversations are held with promising local businesses and institutions ● Follow-up with users is conducted to assess success ● More farms and food businesses are using the app and sales have increased ● Increased diversity in customer base (schools, restaurants, small groceries) for area farmers
Timeframe	6 -12 months
Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jessica Woiderski, Food Hub Manager, Cultivating Community ● Sandy Alles, Wholesale Manager, Cultivating Community
Supporting cast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Forager ● Maeve McInnes, The Maine Course at Sodexo ● Central Maine Medical Center ● Ben Daley, Chirp Creek Farm Farms of Lewiston ● Kathy Shaw, Valley View Farm ● Jim Hannah, Cumberland County Food Security Council ● Maine Federation of Farmers' Markets ● Local grocers ● Coastal Enterprise Inc. ● Maine Organic and Growers Association
Needed resources and possible sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Marketing support from Forager ● Printed outreach materials ● Sandy Alles and others for outreach capacity ● Hannah Semler, Maine Gleaning Network and Farm Drop ● Carl Constanzi and Corey Dilts, Norway Chef-Farmers Collaborative ● Portland Food Co-op ● Lewiston-Auburn School District ● Maine Farm and Sea Cooperative ● Maine NETwork of Community Food Councils

Action 1.5: Conduct a feasibility study of a cooperatively run, low-cost, local foods store in the Tree Streets neighborhood.

What this is and why it is important	<p>Poverty and food insecurity in the Tree Streets neighborhood are some of the highest in the state. Up to half of households don't have access to a vehicle. The closest full-service grocery stores to downtown are more than a mile away and can be difficult to reach, particularly in Maine winters. Innovative models that provide healthy low-cost food while also fostering community engagement, and in some cases cooperative ownership, are being trialed and have seen success in other parts of the country. Local food access, emergency food providers and community driven agencies are already experimenting with components of these models. Some existing support for research into this model</p>
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	exists already. At the same time, Lewiston-Auburn has a community of farmers who live downtown and are looking to expand their markets while building a livelihood. To learn whether Lewiston could support such a store, there needs to be research into existing models, community listening, and the development of a business plan.
Measures of success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A robust series of listening sessions with multiple communities across downtown Lewiston have been held and summarized ● Conversations and planning sessions with key stakeholder involvement ● Thorough investigation into a number of similar programs, e.g., Daily Table, Bargain Grocer ● Compiled study that can be used to develop a business plan and secure funding ● Final study has considered the needs, assets, sequencing, and potential synergies identified in feasibility studies of actions 1.1 and 1.2
Timeframe	12 months
Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jonah Fertig-Burd, Cooperative Development Institute ● Sherie Blumenthal, St. Mary's Nutrition Center
Supporting cast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Joel Furrow, Root Cellar ● Somali Bantu Community Association ● New Roots Cooperative Farm ● Cultivating Community ● Good Shepherd Food Bank ● Misty Parker, Economic & Community Development and Lincoln Jeffers, Deputy City Administrator, City of Lewiston ● Trinity Jubilee Center ● Community Food Champions, St. Mary's Nutrition Center ● Neighborhood service agencies and religious institutions ● Healthy Androscoggin
Needed resources and possible sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Funding for feasibility study: USDA Rural Business Development Grant ● Physical location in the Tree Streets neighborhood ● Coastal Enterprises Inc. ● LA Metro Chamber ● Models: Daily Table, Bargain Grocery

Goal 2: Integrate local food and agriculture into city planning and economic development strategies.

Over the past decade, the cities of Lewiston and Auburn have completed several important planning processes including the Downtown Neighborhood Action Plan (2009), Community Food Assessment (2013), New Auburn Village Center Study (2014), Lewiston-Auburn Regional Food Hub Feasibility Study (2015), Lewiston-Auburn Community Food Charter (2016), and the Lewiston-Auburn Region Farmland Access & Food Economy Conference (2019). In light of a new cycle of municipal comprehensive planning beginning in Auburn, as well as a study of Auburn's agricultural zone and a downtown Lewiston Transformation Plan process that is moving to implementation, it is an important time to raise the profile of local food and agriculture and ensure that the food and agricultural sectors are at the table for downtown planning and economic development strategies.

Action 2.1: Pass the Food Sovereignty Act in Lewiston.	
What this is and why it is important	In 2017, the State of Maine passed a first-in-the-nation food sovereignty law, An Act To Recognize Local Control Regarding Food Systems (Sec. 1. 7-A MRSA §101, sub-§2-B), ⁶ which allows exemptions to state licensing and inspection requirements for direct-to-consumer sales of locally grown food, if a municipality chooses to allow it. Adopting the act, as Auburn and other Maine cities have already done, would give the city of Lewiston more autonomy in overseeing the distribution channels of local foods. Passage of the act requires support from the community and city council, which may warrant dedicated outreach to secure (e.g., letter writing campaign, presentations in city council meetings). The act would allow improve residents’ access to local food and build momentum and support for buying local foods. It would also remove barriers for purchasing directly from farmers and producers and encourage the entry of growers and food-related entrepreneurs. Additionally, the measure would help Lewiston and Auburn align their local food efforts.
Measures of success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A comprehensive review of other local food sovereignty acts is completed ● Conversations with area farmers are held and feedback is gathered ● A Food Sovereignty Act is collectively drafted and presented to City Council ● Lewiston City Council passes Food Sovereignty Act
Timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6 months ● 1 – 2 months to prepare ● 1 month to pass through council process and garner support
Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn ● Jesse Tannenbaum, Eli’s Homestead
Supporting cast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● David Hediger, Director of Planning and Code, City of Lewiston ● Denis D’Auteuil, Deputy City Administrator, City of Lewiston ● Misty Parker, Economic and Community Development, City of Lewiston ● Francis Eanes, Bates College/Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn ● Local farmers, particularly those that live and sell in Androscoggin county ● Food for Maine’s Future ● Representative Craig Hickman ● Citizens of Lewiston
Needed resources and possible sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Support from Heather Rettburg, Food for Maine’s Future ● Craig Hickman, Maine State House Representative and farmer ● Maine Network of Community Food Councils ● Maine Federation of Farmers’ Market

⁶ State of Maine. <https://legislature.maine.gov/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0242&item=6&snum=128>. Accessed November 19, 2019.

Action 2.2: Ensure that food and farm sectors are represented as critical to and integrated in Auburn’s 2020-2030 comprehensive plan. This includes crafting a robust and inclusive community engagement process to identify priorities.

<p>What this is and why it is important</p>	<p>A new Comprehensive Plan that includes goals related to increased food access and supporting food production, including actionable strategies and funding, is in the process of being developed in Auburn. As this process continues, it is important that language is written into the Comprehensive Plan that explicitly links to food and agricultural priorities. These include but are not limited to: concrete implementation steps promoting farmers’ markets to increase access to healthy food; adopting zoning definitions that protect farmland and benchmarks and standards for accessing healthy fod (e.g, “50 percent of households will live within 1/2 mile of a farmers’ market, grocery store, or other healthy food retail option”); recognizing the needs of underserved communities and those with disproportionately worse health outcomes; providing model/best-practice ideas to support health goals. This will require working with public health staff and other advocates to tailor model language to suit Auburn's context.</p>
<p>Measures of success</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community process for integrating the knowledge and values of residents, City staff, public health staff, community-based advocates, planners, and experts/consultants, is completed. This process will be robust and inclusive, and will include but not be limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create a long-term vision for land use in Auburn that promotes local agriculture while protecting precious natural resources, such as Lake Auburn and other local watersheds; ○ Develop strategies and tools for assessing the impact of recent ordinance changes to Auburn’s AGRP zone • A New Comprehensive Plan that includes goals related to increased food access and supporting food production, including actionable strategies and funding, is adopted with language that explicitly links to concrete implementation and/or provides benchmarks and standards.
<p>Timeframe</p>	<p>Up to 2 years</p>
<p>Lead</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn • Consultants hired by the City to Guide the Comprehensive Plan Process

Supporting cast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Auburn City Council and Mayor ● Auburn Planning Boar ● Auburn City Staff ● Auburn Conservation Commission ● Auburn Agriculture Committee ● Auburn Committee on Age-Friendly Community ● Auburn School Committee, and school-based groups ● Lewiston- Auburn Food Pantries ● Auburn Community Gardens Initiative Team: St. Mary’s Nutrition Center, UMaine Cooperative Extension ● LA Farm to School Workgroup ● Auburn Police Activities League (PAL) Center ● Good Shepherd Food Bank ● Healthy Androscoggin ● Lewiston-Auburn Farmers & Food Producers, ● Lewiston and Auburn Farmers’ Market Vendors ● Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments, Planning including Regional Transportation Planning ● Complete Streets Committee ● Francis Eanes, Bates College
Needed resources and possible sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Funders: for Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn to support additional staff time and lead the advocacy effort, and for support of additional engagement and information-gathering activities ● Auburn Citizen Advisory Committee: Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) ● Reference: LA Food Charter, 'Food Access Planning Guide' for Comp Planning produced in 2016 by the Minnesota Food Charter Network ● Venues & Outreach: Auburn Library, Auburn Senior Community Center, Auburn Schools, AL YMCA, Hilton Garden Inn, Auburn Restaurants/Pubs, Auburn Housing Authority, Auburn Communications & Recreation Department, Auburn Faith-Based Communities, Auburn Business Association, LA Metro Chamber, Community Concepts, United New Auburn Association ● Auburn Planning Department Staff ● Maine Municipal Planning Assistance Program ● Maine Farmland Trust ● Maine Network of Community Food Councils ● Community Food Champions, St. Mary’s Nutrition Center, and funding for the Community Food Champions to support staff time

Action 2.3: Pass an urban agriculture ordinance in Lewiston and Auburn.

What this is and why it is important	<p>An urban agriculture ordinance that allows for all types of farming and capitalizes on the limited resource of land would promote small-scale local agriculture within the community. In turn, the resulting expansion of local agricultural output would increase knowledge of, appreciation for, and access to healthy local foods. Farming as an occupation also promotes self-sufficiency and builds a sense of community, which can be</p>
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	especially helpful to recent immigrant farmers trying to adjust to a whole host of new business and cultural norms. This would also makes it easier for people seeking to subsistence farm and grow food for their families and community. Cities such as Sommerville, MA instituted an ordinance that can serve as a model.
Measures of success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comprehensive review of model ordinances is conducted • Conversations with area farmers are held and feedback is gathered • Communication around an ordinance is established with both Cities • Ordinance for each City is collectively drafted • Urban agriculture ordinance is presented and passed in both Lewiston and Auburn. • Process has considered the needs, assets, sequencing, and potential synergies identified in action 2.1
Timeframe	6-8 months
Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesse Tannenbaum, Eli’s Homestead • Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn • Shelly Norton, Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments
Supporting cast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Food Champions • Francis Eanes, Bates College/Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn • Lewiston Healthy Neighborhoods • Auburn Agriculture Committee • City of Auburn municipal staff • City of Lewiston municipal staff • St. Mary’s Nutrition Center • Maine Network of Community Food Councils
Needed resources and possible sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial support from the Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn to support staff time • City of Portland • Somerville Urban Ag Ordinance • Maine Federation of Farmers Markets

Action 2.4: Develop a regional economic growth strategy to support agricultural production, processing, and distribution to grow the agriculture sector and bring new business and jobs (e.g. new farmers).

What this is and why it is important	The farm and food sectors require a higher level of support and have traditionally been left out of local economic development strategies. For other ‘Local Foods, Local Places’ goals to be successful, food and farm businesses must be supported as critical and integrated to the region’s success. In order to foster this support, there must be a shared vision and roadmap to success. There must also be readiness and coordination to apply for grants at the proper time. Timing is also opportune, as the LA Metro Chamber will be building new Regional Growth Strategy in 2020, and the Chamber is supportive of this Action, and has expertise and additional capacity to lead.
Measures of success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Economic Growth Strategy is adopted by the Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, City of Auburn, City of Lewiston, and other partners • Programs and strategies are in place, such as a revolving loan program that can be used to apply for infrastructure funding

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More food and agriculture businesses are thriving • Job creation
Timeframe	Up to 2 years from now
Lead	Shanna Cox, Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
Supporting cast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments • Economic development staff in Lewiston & Auburn • Dina Jackson, Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments • Farmers/business owners • Cooperative Development Institute • Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn • Steph Gilbert, Maine Department of Agriculture • Maine Department of Community and Economic Development
Needed resources and possible sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time and people • Support from councils to direct staff effort • Paid experts/consultants • Coastal Enterprises Inc. (CEI) • New Ventures, Inc for job training, business plan development • Grants

Goal 3: Build food and agriculture as a defining brand for Lewiston-Auburn.

Once a booming mill town, Lewiston-Auburn has faced several challenges that mirror other post-industrial communities in New England: loss of jobs, a declining population base, extreme generational poverty and food insecurity, a depleted and polluted Androscoggin River (once listed as among the ten most polluted waterways in America)⁷, minimal greenspace in the urban core, distressed housing contributing to high childhood lead poisoning rates⁸, and vacant mills, storefronts, and lots. These challenges have been compounded by a history of community planning that prioritized commercial and industrial development outside of downtown, with minimal resident engagement, and indifference towards poorer residents living downtown. But in the last fifteen years, Lewiston-Auburn has changed significantly with new housing construction, renovation of historic structures, the addition of three farmers markets, approximately 20 community and school gardens, new restaurants, and more immigrant grocers and other small businesses filling previously empty storefronts. The difference is very visible on streets such as Lisbon Street in Lewiston, once considered the heart of commerce that had lost its commercial shine during years of stagnation. Without a doubt, local foods are playing a role in some of the renaissance of downtown through increased local demand and by attracting regional visitors who are now able to experience downtown as a food destination.

⁷ Natural Resource Council of Maine. <https://www.nrcm.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/shockingstatementsandroscoggin.pdf>. Accessed November 19, 2019.

⁸ Lewiston Auburn Lead Program. http://lewistonauburnlead.org/wordpress/?page_id=8. Accessed November 19, 2019.

Action 3.1: Craft a Request for Proposal (RFP) and hire a consultant to co-create a local foods/ag brand identity for Lewiston-Auburn. Ensure the proposal selected encompasses a community-driven process to create the brand.

<p>What this is and why it is important</p>	<p>Efforts to support area food producers and catalyze the local foods economy would be united and amplified under a well-crafted, authentic, local foods/ag brand identity for the greater Lewiston-Auburn area. A community-driven process to determine the brand would be vital to the brand’s success. This new brand is also important to help reframe prevailing negative narratives about LA; a positive local foods story could serve to lift the area as a whole. The process is suggested to include aggregation of existing market research in LA, research on other successful local foods brand identities for other municipalities/counties/regions, an inventory of local food assets and gaps (such as local halal processor), and new market research on the perceptions, preferences, and food acquisition patterns of LA consumers. The brand identity is suggested to be followed by developing and implementing a marketing plan to ensure its success (see action 3.2).</p>
<p>Measures of success</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● RFP is created. ● Consultant is vetted and hired. ● At least 200 diverse community members, including farmers, engage in the process of building the brand.
<p>Timeframe</p>	<p>12-18 months</p>
<p>Lead</p>	<p>Lewiston Auburn Metro Chamber Good Food Council of Lewiston Auburn</p>
<p>Supporting cast</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Local Foods, Local Places Steering Committee ● Cultivating Community Fresh Start Farms staff ● Community Food Champions, St. Mary’s Nutrition Center ● Adult Education Program in Lewiston & Auburn ● LA Food Pantries & Soup Kitchens ● Bates College and University of Southern Maine to support research ● Lewiston Auburn Farmers Markets, and Lewiston Auburn Area Farmers ● Kathy Shaw, Valley View Farm
<p>Needed resources and possible sources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Funding to support the Good Food Council in co-leading this action, to hire a consultant, and for stipends for community time, travel, transportation, and interpretation to participate in focus groups. ● Time/human capital ● Outreach/Marketing resources ● Local Media (Sun Journal, etc.) ● Venues/space ● Local food ● Steph Gilbert, Maine Department of Agriculture ● Local foods retailers (e.g., Axis, Hannaford Supermarkets, etc.) ● Museum L/A ● Consult with Maine Dept of Agriculture regarding Get Real, Get Maine ● Existing research: Lewiston Farmers Market survey and community gardeners, L/A Arts Cultural Arts Plan, Auburn Sports Tourism Study, Grow L+A Food Hub Feasibility

	Study (2015_, Commercial Kitchen Research by Bates College (2015_, Community Food Assessment 2013, Past general marketing plans for LA: LA Chamber, the Cities of Lewiston and Auburn.
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3.2: Develop and implement a marketing strategy/plan for the new local foods/ag brand identity for LA that includes a ‘buy local foods’ campaign that will support local food producers, increase the availability of and access to local foods, and support the local economy as a whole.

What this is and why it is important	A newly-created LA local foods/ag brand will require a realistic and well-crafted marketing strategy to be implemented that includes a “Buy Local Foods” campaign component to ensure it is successful in instilling community pride in locally produced foods, increasing sales of local foods, and supporting food-related tourism. Local producers have pointed to the need for increasing education about the importance of purchasing local and how to do so. The strategy is suggested to include events for different audiences, (e.g., debunking food myths about low- and high-cost food, Multicultural Food Fest). Slogan idea: “Real food for real people”
Measures of success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Marketing plan is produced with measurable S.M.A.R.T. goals and is assessed at regular points. ● Brand is launched. ● Comparison of local food sales yearly or at other time-based increments ● Compare survey benchmarks of consumer behavior pre/post plan ● Positive feedback from community groups
Timeframe	1-2 years
Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Good Food Council of Lewiston Auburn ● Shanna Cox and Scott Benson, Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
Supporting cast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Downtown Lewiston Association ● Sam Boss and Stephanie Kelly-Romano, Bates College ● Dina Jackson, Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments ● Cultivating Community ● Steph Gilbert, Maine Department of Agriculture ● City of Lewiston and City of Auburn Departments of Economic Development and Communications ● Joshua Nagine, Lewiston Farmers’ Market
Needed resources and possible sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Funders: Local Foods Program USDA, Elmina B. Sewall Foundation, Betterment Foundation, Kresge Foundation ● Museum L/A ● Consultant with food-specific marketing knowledge

Goal 4: Increase equitable access, ownership, and preservation of land to grow food in Lewiston-Auburn.

Agricultural land is diminishing globally and in the next 15 years, American Farmland Trust predicts one-third of the United States’ farmland will change hands as farmers and ranchers age out of the occupation without a clear successor. In Maine alone, over 400,000 acres of farmland, representing nearly one-third of the state’s current land in farms, will change hands this decade as many of Maine’s farmland owners age and retire⁹. With so much at stake with the loss of agricultural land to development pressures, New England launched a regional food system strategy in 2011, the New England Food Vision, that targets producing at least 50% of New England’s food within the region by 2060. Lewiston-Auburn has an important role to play in this food system resiliency strategy and is unique in that it is the only place in Maine where the average farmer age is actually getting younger. Also, over 40% of Auburn’s land mass (20,000 acres) is zoned for agricultural use and has been protected from development for the last 60 plus years¹⁰. However, there is still risk of harmful policy shifts and development pressure without proper planning and preservation. A review and modernization of the Agriculture and Resource Protection Zone has begun with critical decisions anticipated in 2019-2020. Increasing equitable access, ownership, and preservation of land to grow food is fundamental to Lewiston-Auburn’s future and a sustainable New England food system.

Action 4.1a: Assist New Roots Cooperative Farm, the Somali Bantu Community Association, and other potential farmland seekers to purchase and secure farmland.

4.1b: Record process of securing land so it may be used by other land seekers.

<p>What this is and why it is important</p>	<p>New Roots Cooperative Farm (NRCF) and the Somali Bantu Community Association (SBCA) are actively seeking to secure and purchase land. NRCF has a lease on their land but must purchase this land by 2021. Both groups of farmers provide produce to a number of markets in Lewiston-Auburn as well as local food pantries. The ownership and security of farmland will help connect the Somali Bantu farmers to their home country, preserve their culture and support food security for their families and community. This farmland will generate economic growth and infrastructure while simultaneously promoting environmental stewardship. Furthermore, there are 8 or more refugee farmers graduating from Cultivating Community in the next 2 years who are looking for land as well as other newly transplanted beginner farmers who hope to secure property. Working with NRCF and SBCA to undergo a process of securing land will be beneficial in terms of providing farmers with land security while also yielding important learning, identifying opportunities, and securing relationships for other fledgling farmers. The success of this process should help others that want to do the same in the future.</p>
<p>Measures of success</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Relationships with land holders developed as needed and as land is secured ● Fundraising plan developed and executed where appropriate ● Land purchased or fair and equitable lease terms arranged where purchase is not an option <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minimum 5-year lease and/or lease with an option to purchase

⁹ Maine Farmland Trust. <https://www.maineFarmlandtrust.org/about/>. Accessed November 19, 2019.

¹⁰ City of Auburn, Maine. <http://www.auburnmaine.gov/pages/government/agriculture-and-resource-protection-zoning-district-auburn-maine>. Accessed November 19, 2019.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Process debriefed and recorded with outside support in order to provide other area farmers with a resource to help secure land
Timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New Roots Cooperative Farm (NRCF): land purchase started by 2021 ● NRCF: Start process of land purchase November of 2019 ● Somali Bantu Community Association (SBCA): process has started ● SBCA: Needs to be secured by 2022 ● SBCA: land and farm decisions made by 2020
Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SBCA: Muhidin Ilbah, Ashley Bahlkow, Jim Hanna ● NRCF: Batula Ismail, Seynab Ali, Jabril Abdi, Mohamed Abukar ● Omar Hassan, Jonah Fertig-Burd, Cooperative Development Institute ● Hussein Muktar, Cultivating Community
Supporting cast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ian Mc Sweeney, Agrarian Trust ● Erica Buswell, Maine Farmland Trust ● American Farmland Trust ● Ethan Miller, Land in Common ● Abby Sadauckas, Land for Good ● Bonnie Rukin, Slow Money Maine ● Francis Eanes, Bates College/Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn ● Androscoggin Land Trust
Needed resources and possible sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Farmers who wants to lease or sell land ● New Roots: \$55,000 for land ● New Roots: \$15,000 for drilling a well ● New Roots: \$15,000 for a greenhouse ● SBCA: \$300,000 for land and infrastructure ● Operational and TA funding ● USDA NRCS ● Cooperative Fund of New England ● Slow Money Maine ● Maine Harvest Federal Credit Union ● Bates College or USM students to support capturing and recording process

Action 4.2: Develop a local land fund that provides land loans and grants that are specifically interest-free loans.

<p>What this is and why it is important</p>	<p>The land loans and grants that are available to farmers in the state of Maine nearly always come with interest. Farmers of low income or with poor credit have difficulty securing these loans. Farmers who are Muslim or of other faith-based traditions that prohibit usury are unable to take advantage of these funding opportunities. A culturally appropriate, Sharia-compliant loan fund would support a wide range of groups in obtaining funding to secure land and support a more robust, equitable local food system.</p>
<p>Measures of success</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Listening sessions held with target farmers held to determine needs and preferences for loans ● Key funders identified and secured ● More funding and financing sources that provide Sharia financing are created ● More money goes to more farmers in Lewiston-Auburn ● Navigators and connectors to resources ● More communication between funders and lenders
<p>Timeframe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Established in 4-5 years ● Some of this work has started ● More of this work is happening in the next year
<p>Lead</p>	<p>Jonah Fertig-Burd, Cooperative Development Institute</p>
<p>Supporting cast</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bonnie Rukin, Slow Money Maine ● Deborah Hawkins, Cooperative Fund of New England ● John Scribner, Coastal Enterprises, Inc. ● Jen Hogan, Community Credit Union ● Shanna Cox, Lewiston-Auburn Chamber of Commerce ● Laress Wilkins Lawrence, Elmina B. Sewall Foundation ● Claude Rwanganje, Prosperity Maine ● Somali Bantu Community Association ● Cooperative Development Institute ● Bill Toomey, Maine Farmland Trust ● Ian McSweeney, Agrarian Trust ● Land for Good ● Land in Common ● Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn ● United States Department of Agriculture ● Scott Budde, Maine Harvest Federal Credit Union ● Gene Ardito, cPort Credit Union ● Karem Durdag, GWI
<p>Needed resources and possible sources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research about good practices ● People with knowledge about financing ● Convener/leader ● Good storyteller ● Money ● Financial counselor ● University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Action 4.3: Increase awareness among landowners and land seekers about organizations that support land access, land transfer, land preservation, and land justice.

<p>What this is and why it is important</p>	<p>Lewiston-Auburn is rooted in a farming heritage and contains vast farmland with prime agricultural soils. Many existing farm owners will be considering retirement in the next 5-10 years and much of this land will be poised to change hands. At the same time, the Lewiston-Auburn region is home to a growing body of farmers who are seeking to secure land and establish viable farm- and food-producing businesses. A number of organizations in the state are working to connect farmland seekers to landowners and build a supportive entrepreneurial ecosystem for the growth of the farm and food economy. A subset also specializes in the brokering of land transfers and land conservation. Landowners and land seekers however, are unaware of these organizations or services. Awareness-building events, such as LA Region Farmland Access & Food Economy Conference, and other outreach efforts serve to foster key relationships and increase the likelihood that land will remain in the agricultural sector.</p>
<p>Measures of success</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Outline of awareness-building events, outreach and relationship building efforts compiled ● Multiple events/activities pursued and completed over the timeframe ● Increased number of landowners seeking to transfer ● Increased number of successful transfers that occur and keep land in the agricultural sector or subsistence farming ● Increased number of farmland acres preserved
<p>Timeframe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3-5 years ● This has started already ● LA Region Farmland Access & Food Economy Conference (March of 2019)
<p>Lead</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn
<p>Supporting cast</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ethan Miller, Land in Common ● New England Farmers of Color network ● Lewiston-Auburn Economic Development and Planning Department ● Somali Bantu Community Association ● Cooperative Development Institute ● Maine Farmland Trust ● Agrarian Trust ● Land for Good ● Land in Common ● Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn ● United States Department of Agriculture ● Farmer and community ambassadors ● Bates College
<p>Needed resources and possible sources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● People, time and knowledge ● Funding for events: \$5,000 - \$10,000 ● Outreach material, translation and interpretation, mailings ● Cooperative Development Institute Cultivating Community have funding ● Bates College student outreach

Action 4.4: Create sustainable land access for subsistence farmers and gardeners who seek to grow food for their families and community.

<p>What this is and why it is important</p>	<p>There are close to ten community gardens across Lewiston-Auburn supporting approximately 200 households in growing food. The majority of these gardens occur on land that has not been definitely secured and rely on renewing arrangements every few years with a range of municipalities and organizations. Similarly, there are community members, particularly from the Somali-Bantu community, who are currently or seeking to subsistence farm but do not have secure, reliable access to land. Subsistence farming and gardening can help people escape the hectic lifestyle of the city, learn about where food comes from, support cultural preservation and create a connection to home. In terms of health, land access for farming can increase food security, access to healthy food, connection with others, and exercise. It is important that pathways to setting aside, securing and preserving land specifically for the activities of farming and gardening be pursued.</p>
<p>Measures of success</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strategies to create sustainable access to land are assessed ● Potential sites that can be purchased, gifted or leased long term are identified ● Opportunities to secure land is pursued ● Land, ideally close to the urban core of Lewiston-Auburn, is secured ● Number of households gardening and/or subsistence farming increases
<p>Timeframe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Currently happening ● Land secured by 2022
<p>Lead</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Somali Bantu Community Association ● Sherie Blumenthal, St. Mary’s Nutrition Center
<p>Supporting cast</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cultivating Community ● Land in Common Community Land Trust ● Androscoggin Land Trust ● Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn ● Francis Eanes, Bates College/Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn
<p>Needed resources and possible sources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Flexible funding for rent, tilling and land prep, equipment, and support staff ● Farmer funds ● University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners ● Volunteers

IMPLEMENTATION AND NEXT STEPS

The steering committee held three calls in the weeks following the workshop to share progress updates, review the community action plan for clarity and accuracy, and discuss outreach strategies for maintaining momentum and stakeholder engagement in the process. Announcements and activities since the workshop include:

- Kirsten Walters submitted a couple of grants on behalf of St. Mary's Nutrition Center that highlight elements of the action plan.
- City of Auburn's work to change their Ag Zone. The City Council passed changes to the Ag Zone, including the establishment of an Agricultural Committee charged with supporting food and Agriculture in the city. This committee represents an opportunity, audience, and potential partner for aspects of this plan, particularly actions related to farmland.
- Maine Farmland Trust launched a formal collaborative to find farmland for the Somali Bantu farmer community. New Roots is planning out their work around land purchase.
- Good Shepard Food Bank has some funding available through the Community Based Strategies to End Hunger, a pool of \$30,000 to address root causes of hunger. GSFB released a request for proposals to several communities, including Lewiston, which would be a good opportunity for collaboration for several of the strategies in the action plan.
- St. Mary's Nutrition Center won a grant from the Quimby Foundation. This \$24,000 general operating request seeks to expand equitable food access efforts for people of low-income with a focus on families and immigrants/refugees. Priority strategies will result in expanded garden access, increased awareness and utilization of local food access.
- Good Shepard Food Bank is part of a team that won a grant to develop vegetable freezing capability. This potentially adds processing capacity and channels into the region.
- Maine Network of Community Food Councils is working on knitting together local food networks up to a state network.
- Steering committee members reached out to various farmers to review the draft action plan.
- Jesse Tannebaum, Farmer, followed up with local legislators about food sovereignty; and
- Kathy Shaw, owner of Valley View Farm and the 4 Season Farm Market (Mill Street, New Auburn) announced that she intended to close the market at the end of 2019, but hopes there will be a future market or a farm stand in the same or another location (e.g. on farm).

APPENDICES

- Appendix A – Workshop Exercise Results
- Appendix B – Workshop Sign-in Sheets
- Appendix C – Workshop Photo Album
- Appendix D – Community Data Profile
- Appendix E – Funding Resources
- Appendix F – References

Appendix A:

Workshop Exercise Results

The community meeting on October 22nd kicked off with two group exercises to capture the essence of how workshop participants feel about the Lewiston-Auburn community and local food. Before the group exercises, the facilitator asked each workshop participant to introduce themselves and in one to two words describe what brought them here today. Below are the responses captured as each person read their response to the rest of the room.

Why I am Here:

- St. Mary's Nutrition Center
- To build a better community
- To be with community
- To reduce food insecurity
- To help make food accessible
- To minimize food waste
- To explore new market opportunities
- To learn and to listen
- Because food and farming are important assets of Lewiston-Auburn to be protected
- To represent the farming community
- To help improve community health and nutrition
- To make L-A a food destination
- To build bridges for more collaboration
- I work here and I have a love of food
- I work in the community
- Hope
- To learn about the community and to support the community
- To see how the community can grow and to support the food program
- To be a part of this beautiful community and part of this gathering
- I love this community
- To make interconnections
- To hear new opportunities
- To be good neighbors
- To learn more about what I can do to help
- To have access to food
- For good food!

Headlines from the Future

The technical assistance team led a visioning and values group exercise during the October 22nd community meeting, which asked participants to write an aspirational headline from the future. The headline would appear on the front page of the local newspaper in 3-5 years and answer the questions: *What's happened? What is the impact? What made it possible?*

- "Lewiston Auburn schools purchase 40% local food! Student interest, farm partnerships, and dynamic menus cultivate adventurous eaters and thriving farmers!"
- "Fall Harvest Festival Attracts Thousands"
 - Impact:
 - Money into L/A
 - Better reputation/pride
 - Highlighting diversity/common interests
 - What made it happen:
 - Co-planning with non-profits, farms, and businesses

- Youth planning!
 - Successful farms fueled by community support and government investment
- “L/A’s Thriving Food Economy Serves as Model for the Rest of the Country”
 - Investment
 - Leadership
 - Community working together
- “More restaurants buying local food”
 - Impact: Local farms sell more; Local economy is stimulated
 - How? Major branding; More businesses using Forager
- “Kennedy Park & Good Food Bus expanded “
 - Impact: more people get fresh food; farmers sell more produce; more low income customers get access to doubling EBT & WIC
- “Local resident opens state’s largest public market offering local food from 75% local farmers in 30 mile area and greatest diversity of offerings”
- “Population grows by 5,000 new residents with new housing to support them”
- “Lewiston hospitals and nursing homes serve 100% local food”
- “Former summer youth gardener (at the St Mary’s Nutrition Center) adds to food business district in downtown L/A”
- “All food grown in the area is being used and not wasted.”
 - Farmers, schools, food pantries, soup kitchens all cooperating to use and get food to all people. The impact is no waste; very little food insecurity; healthier population
- “Lewiston is Maine’s #1 foodie destination says Food & Wine Magazine. “
 - Impact: job creation; opportunities for all who live, work, and play here
 - What made it possible? Combined, focused efforts
- “Grand Opening of Marché L/A Draws Throngs.”
 - New marketplace of local food vendors, makers, food trucks, etc. opens in old mill.
 - New place to sell/buy, connect, launch business, incubate coops, build community.
 - Local Food HUB
- “Lewiston-Auburn ranked among top places nationally to grow and sell food locally.”
 - Food Sovereignty Act breaks barriers to allow for production and value-added goods without restrictions from licensing.
 - Demand from local food businesses and retailers helps.
 - Revitalization of downtown spaces draws investment and increases economic opportunity
- “Lewiston Public Schools increase use of locally-sourced foods”
 - Impact: Healthier foods; benefits to local economy
 - Made Possible By: Improved coordination between local food groups and LPS
- “L-A is a booming agricultural center in Maine, rivalling Unity and Norway. Food security has increased. There is a diverse vibrant community that is growing. The clear vision shared by community leaders, businesses, and residents made it happen. “

- “Lewiston-Auburn becomes hub of Maine Agriculture through a community driven effort, bringing a whole new energy to the local economy.”
- “Immigrant/Refugee Farmers providing 50% of produce to grocery stores and institutions in Lewiston/Auburn as part of boom in immigrant-owned businesses.”
- “L/A sets new mark for cooperative farmland ownership.”
 - Impact: More land owned and farmed cooperatively than anywhere else; more young/ new/ beginning/ immigrant/ refugee/ veteran farmers growing food for themselves and markets than at any time.
- “Lewiston-Auburn schools drive youth resurgence in farming/food production.”
- “Lewiston-Auburn unifies as one municipality. Eliminates excess spending. Opens affordable new developments. Offers local funding to mom & pop businesses and New Mainers, creating 2,000 new jobs focused on local development.”
- “New commercial kitchen opens downtown. Impact: Fledgling businesses thrive. Seed money kick-started it, happening in multi-use space.”
- “Lewiston-Auburn economic development chose to support food businesses as a major pillar of their strategy.”
- “L-A is Maine’s official come-back kid”
 - Transformation Plan actions in full swing.
 - Local farms increasing
 - Mill buildings filled up
 - More local food and farm businesses
 - School gardens and institutions buying
- “Five new refugee-owned farms in Lewiston-Auburn”
 - What happened – Farmers who wanted to start farming got the resources to make it happen
 - Impact – Good food, economic security/ food security increased for New Mainers; Lewiston-Auburn becoming a food hub in Maine
 - What made it possible – Options: Part of a green New Deal to fund local sustainable agriculture and promote racial justice; funded by USDA to support immigrant refugee farmers and farmers of color (who were historically discriminated against by USDA); a community land trust allowed farmers to have long term access to the land; Maine government develops Sharia compliant loan option to support New Americans who want to open businesses; community fundraising
- “Lewiston-Auburn: A Model of Inclusive Flourishing”
 - By all measures – housing, food, education, employment, healthcare, household income, arts & culture, environmental sustainability – L/A has transformed into Maine’s premier place to live and work.
 - Built on a racially inclusive and integrated planning and implementation process, L/A has seen dramatic improvements in quality of life while maintaining a robust commitment to diversity and equity.

- “Lewiston-Auburn Feeds the Community and the State Through Cooperation & Inclusion”
 - Farms increase
 - Infrastructure Grows for Processing and Aggregation
 - Food security and access increases
 - Ownership Expands
 - Cooperation & Collaboration were key
- “Farm growth surrounding Lewiston-Auburn supports thriving community connection and health through cooperation”
 - Farmers supported: immigrant farmers, young farmers, subsistence farmers, CSAs, cooperative farms
 - These farms supply local stores and restaurants
 - How: grants, donations to community groups tied to food access, farming, and land trusts, due to thriving markets connections
- “Lewiston looks within to lead shift to DGI investment in community and education model.”
 - Environmental and sustainable focus of development improved quality of life and desirability of region.
 - Created new educational and artistic partnerships and increased current resident ownership.
 - Strengthened our city and lifted up opportunity and perception.
 - Repeated demonstrated success
 - Created an avenue for traditional investment vehicles and entrepreneurs in concert with the community
- “Lewiston school lunches completely local”
 - All school lunches are prepared using local ingredients (barring oils and spices)
 - Children eating more balanced and wholesome meals
 - Local farmers seeing more food put to use
 - Made possible through school and agriculture partnerships.
- “Lewiston-Auburn Community Kitchen Powers Small Business Boom”
- “LA opens indoor year-round market.”
 - Regional destination enlivens downtown day and night.
 - Lisbon Street shopfronts are full and businesses have wider hours
 - Greater access to market share fuels a wide range of businesses and b. models
 - Wide partnership web
 - Private investment
 - Leveraging grants for façade and building rehab
 - Development of local currency
- “Value-Added Food Processing Plant Opens in Former Bates Mill”
 - Impact:
 - 75 new jobs – with projection of an additional 50 job potential

- Allows local farmers to have local production facility
 - Brings new business opportunities
 - Local business-institutions and City planners working toward and common goal
- “Lewiston racists give in, stop being racist.”
- “Food processing plant opens in Bates Mill – Employs 500”
 - Impact – Local foods process for easy ___ by institutions, schools, daycares; Increased tax base; Employment
 - Made possible by: Plan detailing potential investors, corporate consumers, start up funding from private and government
 - Need Help With: Ideas from similar communities w/ similar assets; Ways to
- “Celebrate the 1st Anniversary of the Isukan Restaurant!”
 - Supported by all community members
 - Helped to expand farm to supply
 - Buying from other farms
- “Isukan welcomes its next generation to support both the farm and the new restaurant.”
 - Liveable wage & sales to support it
 - Building community by sharing the work
- “Organic Food Taking Place”
 - More farms can be open in next coming years “Lewiston and Auburn”
 - Impact: Healthy community, healthy country
 - What made it happen: Connection between the community “L/A” and love for food.
- “Youth run farm (WOW)!!!”
 - An international farm ran by youth from Lewiston and Auburn.
 - It’s reducing poverty/hunger because of cheaper prices
 - Youth empowerment
 - #spreadtheword

Our Community Needs...

The technical assistance team led a second exercise during the October 22nd community meeting, which asked participants to complete the sentence *Our community needs...*

- MORE LAND!
- More local farms in L-A
- More farmers and trade-skilled workers
- Change-makers and innovators
- A land broker between aging land-owners and younger land seekers
- Money, donations, and fundraising to buy more land for farming
- Help to learn how to sell more crops

- Business planning and best practices to scale up agriculture
- Expansion with instruction into animal crops
- Cross-cultural community building and healing around food
- Value added commercial kitchens
- Promotion and awareness-building of farms, food businesses, and agritourism
- A full-time coordinator position focused on strategic partnerships and project management for local food
- To overcome zoning challenges and allow neighborhood businesses, farm-stands, and family farming uses
- Collaboration amongst anchor institutions to leverage purchasing power and investment dollars

Mapping Exercise

On the morning of day two, October 23rd, the workshop conducted a mapping exercise designed to get ideas generated pre-action planning. Participants were asked to place a dot by category, number that dot and label it on a legend. Four maps on the following pages show the results of the exercise, followed by the legend. The dot categories by color were as follows:

RED: Needs immediate help or attention, quick fixes

BLUE: Opportunities around infrastructure and food access

YELLOW: Opportunities around food integration with city planning and economic development strategies

GREEN: Opportunities around land to grow food

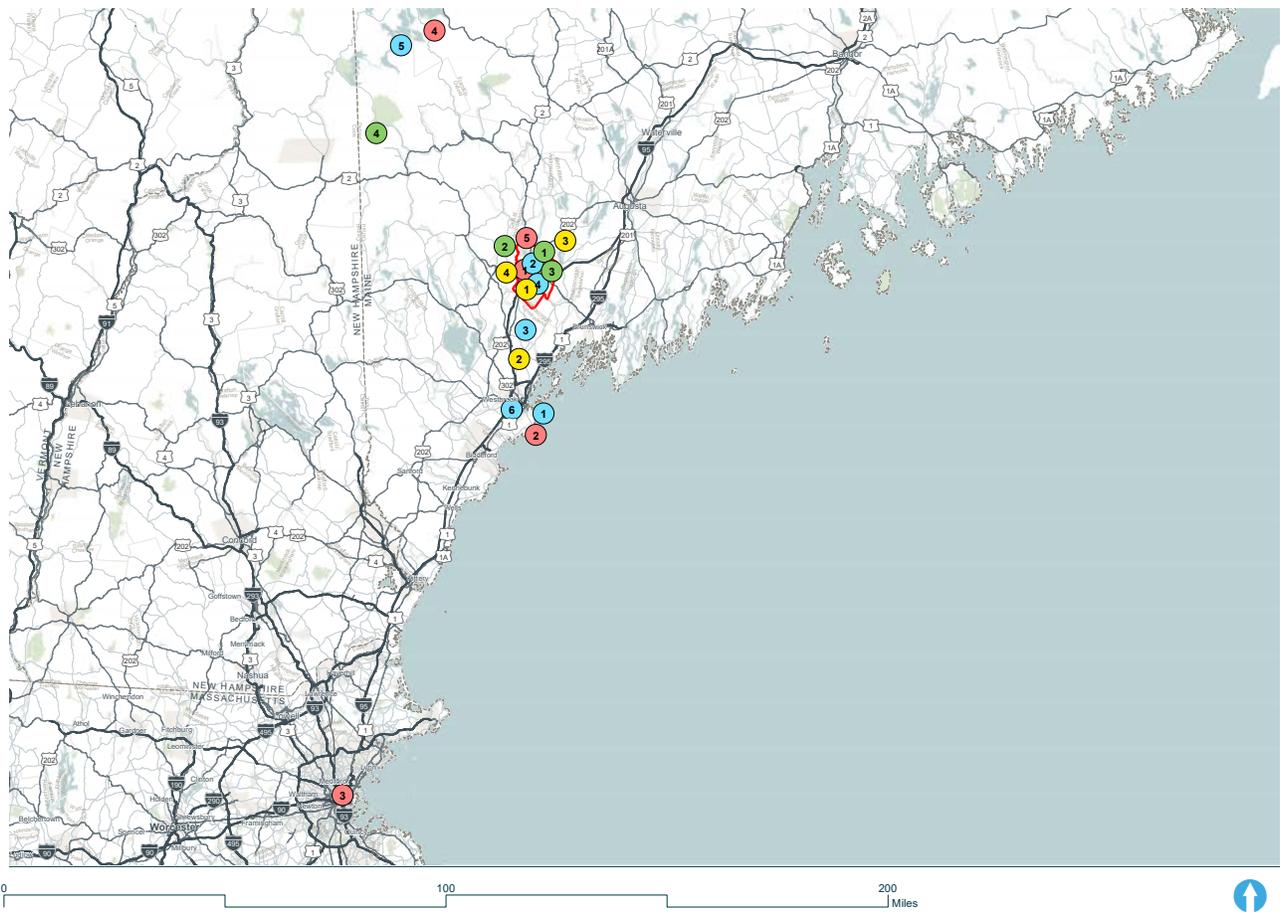
Dot Comment Key (Regional)

Dot Comment

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1 | Matchmaking for age-ing or departing farmers to those who desire to grow |
| 2 | Connect immigrant farmers + cultural foods to cultural business + cultural food market |
| 3 | Connect immigrant farmers + cultural foods to cultural business + cultural food market |
| 4 | Connect immigrant farmers + cultural foods to cultural business + cultural food market |
| 5 | Expand Agri-tourism & create more supports for farms (marketing) |
| 1 | MITC + Ocean gateway - food & EU shipping, international part |
| 2 | GOOD SHE. Food Bank Storage |
| 3 | Pinelands Farms - creamery, value add |
| 4 | Intermodal Rail - Air - Ground transport |
| 5 | Opportunity to connect food + aquaculture food product to Canada |
| 6 | Opportunity to connect food + aquaculture food product to Canada |
| 1 | Ag land in L-A |

- 2 Regional Ag land beyond LA borders
- 3 Include Agri-tourism in our asset inventory
- 4 Parks should be used to grow food, green = parks
- 1 Rail - commuter planning efforts
- 2 Incubator of livestock business - opportunity to expand business to market
- 3 Auburn Ag zone planning - opportunity: policy to support combined Ag production & growing
- 4 Include Agri-tourism in policy + zoning

LOCAL FOODS, LOCAL PLACES | LEWISTON-AUBURN, ME (REGION)

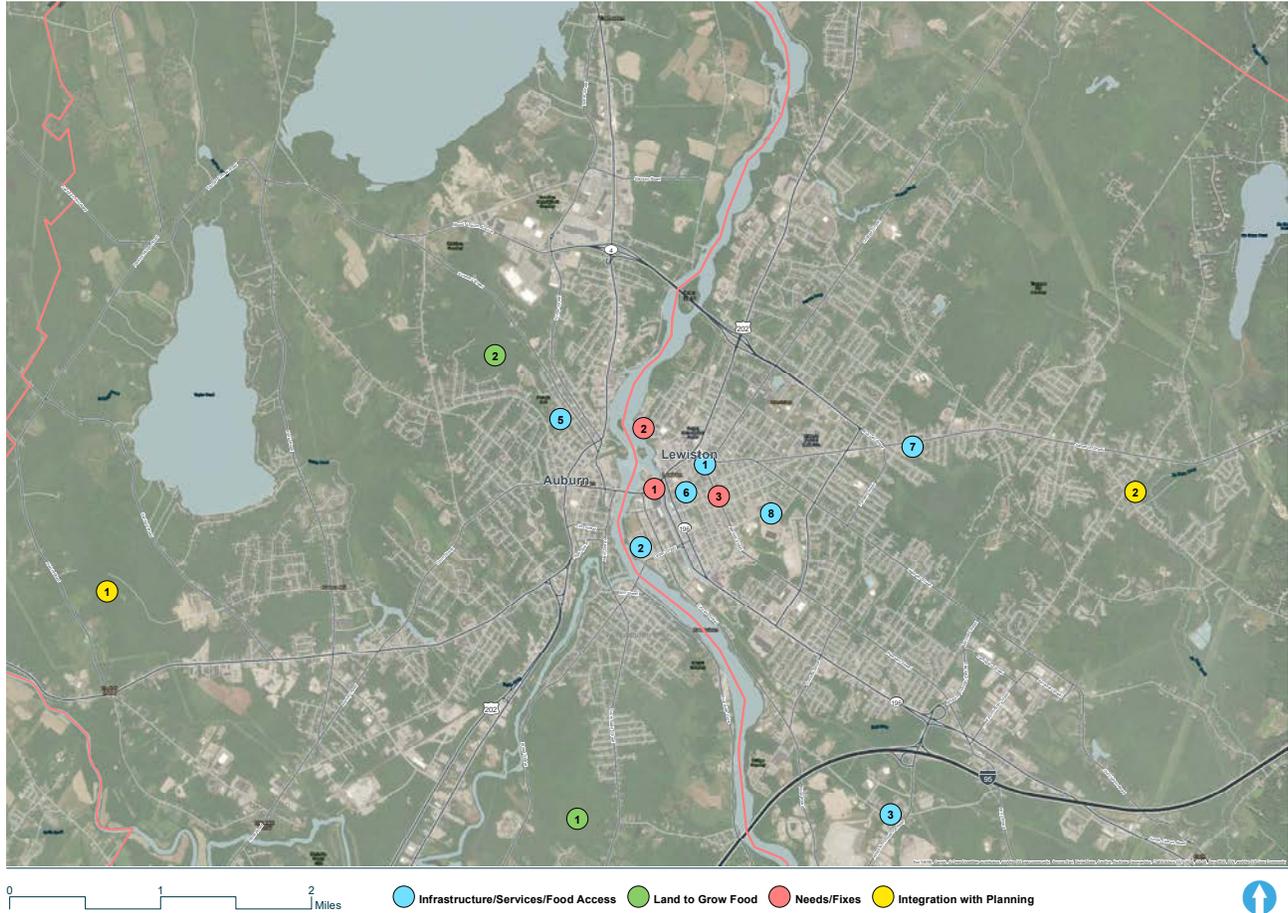


Dot Comment Key (City)

Dot Comment

- 1 Mill Space / Commercial Kitchen Opportunity
- 2 Composting
- 3 Cooking classes, more knowledgeable of how to prepare food/produce
- 1 Food hub + future storage, distribution
- 2 Permanent location for Lewiston Farmer's Market combined with smaller food related business
- 3 Food processing facility (future)
- 4 Food processing facility (future)
- 5 Commercial Kitchens (Nutrition center + PALS center) exist
- 6 Commercial Kitchens (Nutrition center + PALS center) exist
- 7 Need for affordable store
- 8 Healthy snacks and local food at sports concessions
- 1 Auburn Ag. Zone
- 2 Public Canal- e.g. Pettengill Park area Auburn
- 1 Mount Apatite Park - 325 acres of land underutilized
- 2 Small scale ag. zone (less than 1 acre) - look at Somerville ag ordinance, used to have farm stand

LOCAL FOODS, LOCAL PLACES | LEWISTON-AUBURN, ME (CITY)

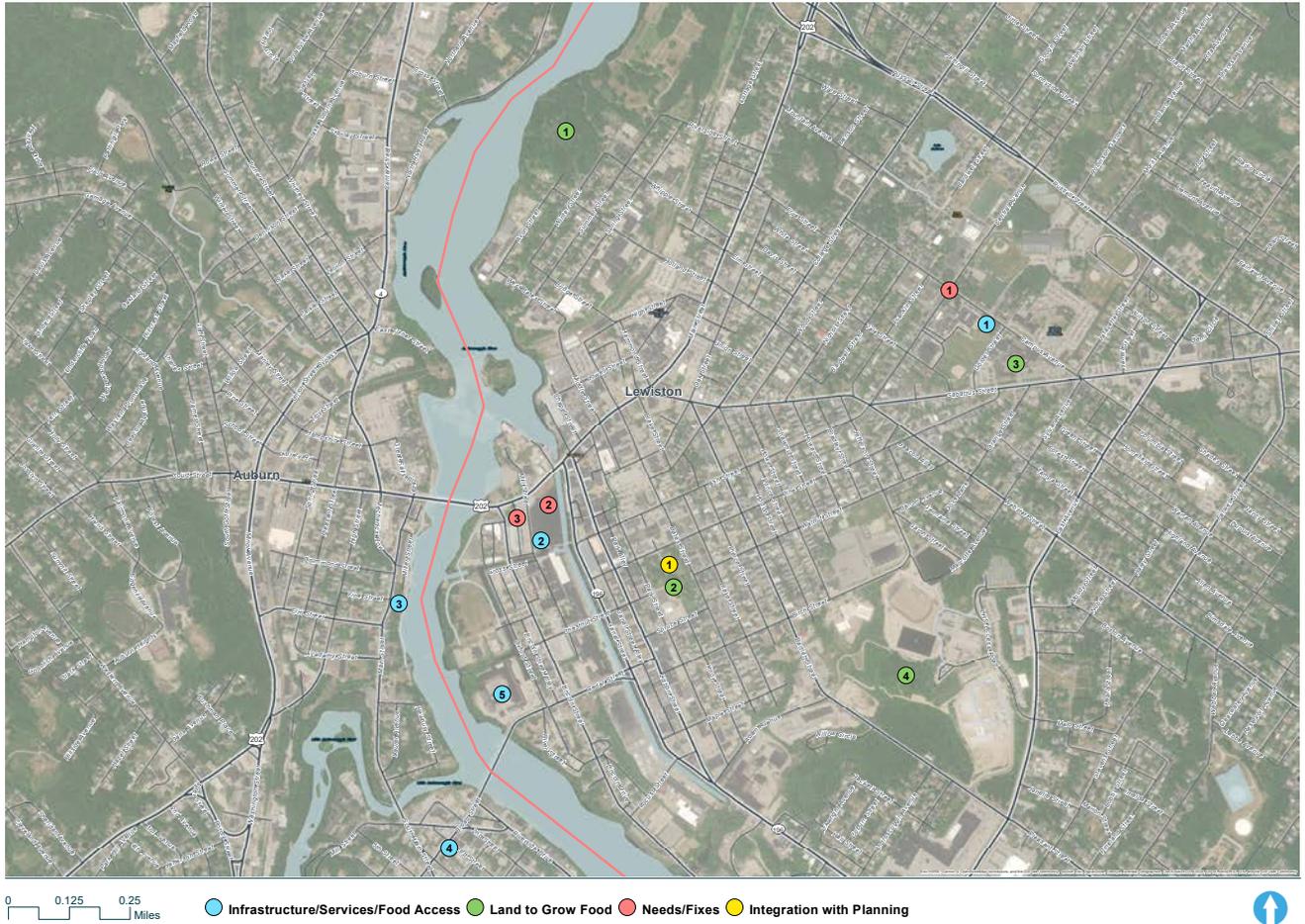


Dot Comment Key (Neighborhood 1)

Dot Comment

- 1** Busy area - pay attention for travel & walking
- 2** Commercial kitchen
- 3** Perm designed farmer's market
- 1** Food store or farmer's market - potential for future
- 2** Food processing / commercial kitchen - potential for future
- 3** Auburn FM (existing)
- 4** 4 season farmer's market (existing)
- 5** New mill development with commercial and industrial uses for production, grow, processing
- 1** Farmable?
- 2** Small garden plots or public food forest
- 3** Expansion of school gardens
- 4** Build greenhouse to grow food for high schoolers

LOCAL FOODS, LOCAL PLACES | LEWISTON-AUBURN, ME (NEIGHBORHOOD)

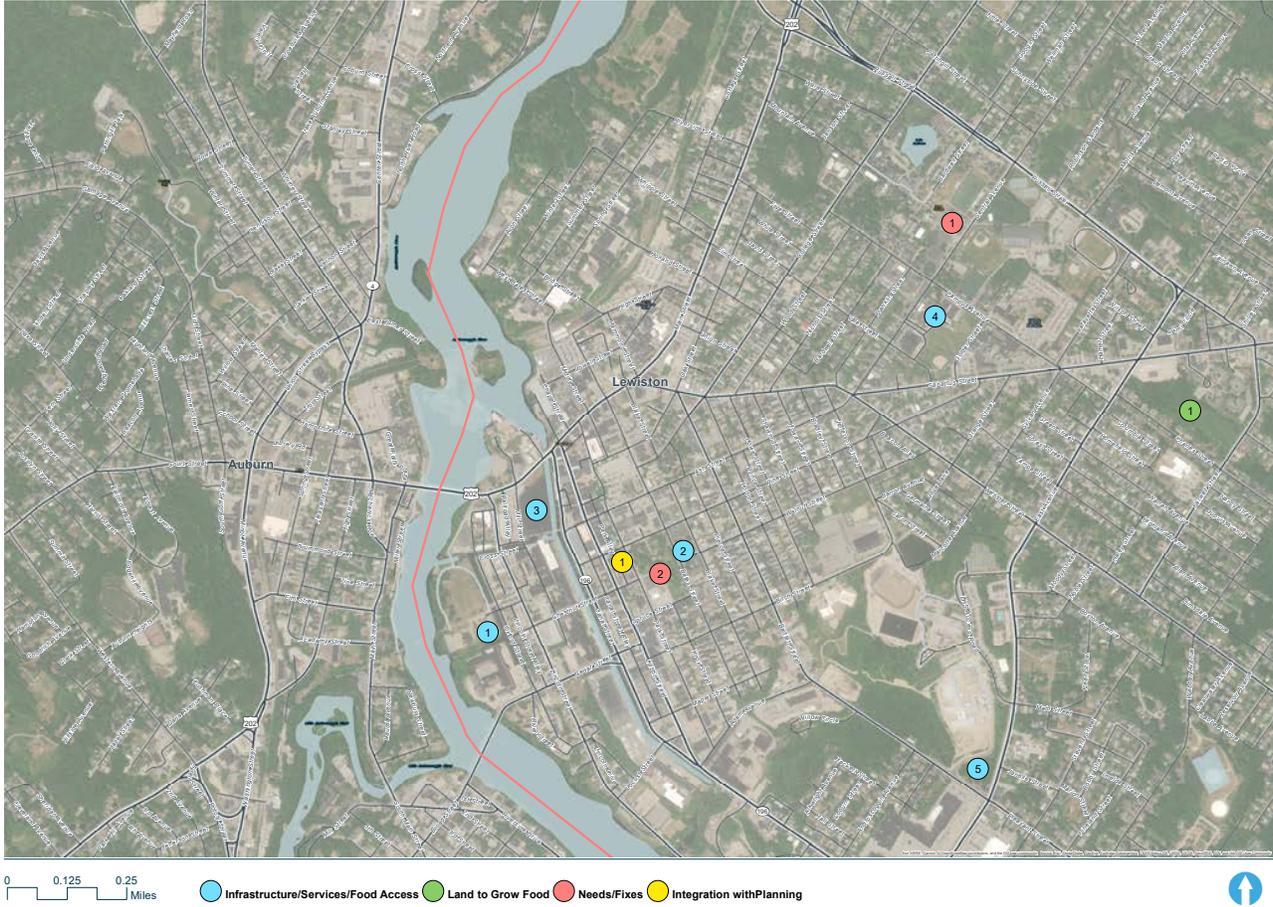


Dot Comment Key (Neighborhood 2)

Dot Comment

- 1** Matchmaking for age-ing or departing farmers to those who desire to grow
- 2** Connect immigrant farmers + cultural foods to cultural business + cultural food market
- 1** Connect immigrant farmers + cultural foods to cultural business + cultural food market
- 2** Connect immigrant farmers + cultural foods to cultural business + cultural food market
- 3** Expand Agri-tourism & create more supports for farms (marketing)
- 4** MITC + Ocean gateway - food & EU shipping, international part
- 5** Good Shepherd Food Bank Storage
- 1** Pinelands Farms - creamery, value added products
- 1** Intermodal Rail - Air - Ground transport

LOCAL FOODS, LOCAL PLACES | LEWISTON-AUBURN, ME (NEIGHBORHOOD)



Food System Diagramming

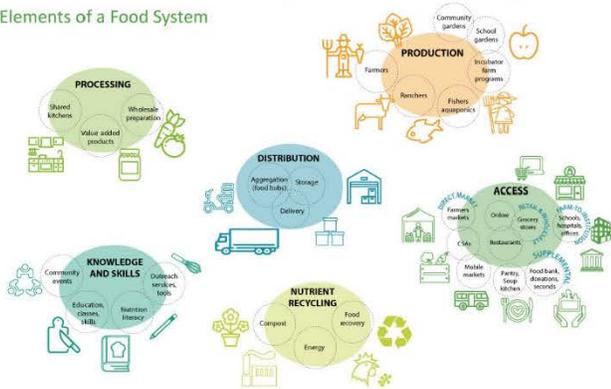
On the morning of day two, October 23rd, the workshop conducted a food system diagramming exercise. The instructions slide for the exercise is below, followed by the results.

Diagram Your Local Food System

Black marker – Things you have now

Blue marker – Things that are missing

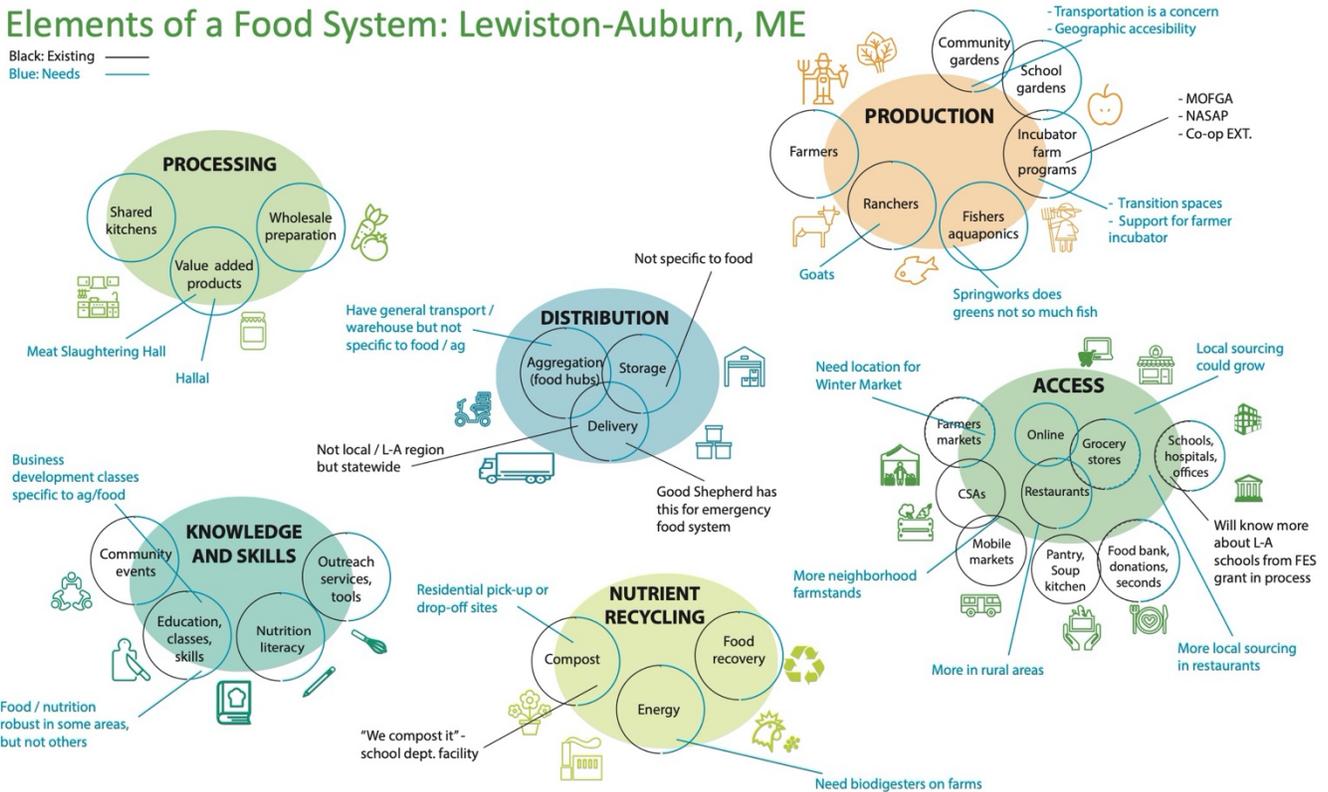
Elements of a Food System



Purpose: An idea generation and discussion tool, pre-action planning. Can illuminate strengths, gaps, needs, and who-is-doing-what in the community.

Elements of a Food System: Lewiston-Auburn, ME

Black: Existing
Blue: Needs



Offers and Asks

A desired outcome of the Local Foods, Local Places technical assistance is to build connections within a community. In a final exercise of the workshop, participants were asked to describe one way in which they will work towards the goals and actions to advance the action plan (e.g. with their time, capacity, skills, networks, and other resources). The full list of statements is below.

Name	I will...with....
Jessica Woiderski	I will contact Forager within 100 days and work with them and Sandy Alles (Cultivating Community) to get more farms and businesses in Lewiston-Auburn using Forager, within six months.
Kyra Bleicher	<p>I would like to support goal leader Jesse (for two items under Goal #2). These projects relate to passing the food sovereignty act in Lewiston and passing/working toward an urban agriculture ordinance. I would like to participate in further conversation with others in the community around these topics.</p> <p>I am a member of local community land trust "Land in Common" and would like to support/see this group aid in the achievement of the land transfer/land justice item under Goal #4.</p> <p>I will work with the NC on further work related to the action plan (perhaps) as an AmeriCorps member.</p>

LOCAL FOODS, LOCAL PLACES COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN
Lewiston-Auburn, Maine

Name	I will...with....
Anna Tracht	I will work with New American farmers to tell their stories as part of the L/A local food brand.
Erin Guag	I can open a conversation between Central Maine Healthcare Sodexo and Forager App about increasing local food purchasing.
Dina Jackson	I will ensure local agriculture is properly represented in our regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. I am willing to provide input/feedback to the brand identity discussion.
Julia Harper	I will, with the Good Food Council of LA, work to incorporate the LFLP action plan into GFCLA goal and priorities. Specifically, we want to continue equitable land access work with SBCA and other stakeholders, and continue to work with city staff and policy makers to enhance local policies and programs to support a sustainable food system.
Mohamed Maalin	I will like to get new equipments to grow more food with variety selections. I would like to involve in New Roots and SBCA.
Batula Ismail	I will like to work with Cultivating Community to partner with us, in order to grow and expand our farm land and access different farm market, CSA.
Isnino Ibrahim	I would like to be part of commercial kitchen. I would like to be involved in Isuken Co-Op.
Abdirashid Osman	I want to be involved in increase access to land. I would like to involve with SBCA.
Muhidin Libah	I would like to involve in access to equitable land. I want to involve with SBCA.
Omar	I will work with CDI New American become more self sufficient.
Kirsten Walter	I will help connect dots between the LFLP Action Plan, Healthy Neighborhoods transformation plan and Good Shepard's community driven strategies... crosswalk actions, determine synergies, etc. I will commit Nutrition Center staff time and capacity to support city comprehensive plan enegagement. I will continue to seek funding for the Good Food Council as a natural lead for several of these actions.
Misty Parker	I will help leverage city resources to advance economic development goals in the action plan. I will share the LFLP goals with CDBG consolidating committee to incorporate in consolidated plan.
Francis Eanes	I will provide research support (focus groups, surveys, background research of technical reports and academic literature) to any and all parts of the action plan. I will do this with students in my capstone environmental studies course (taught every semester); other faculty at Bates; connecting students through internships and their senior thesis projects; Good Food Council of LA; St. Mary's Nutrition Center; and my role in Healthy Neighborhoods.
Jonah Fertig-Burd	I will meet with SBCA New Roots about land purchasing and work to raise funds; convene Land Access Group; connect with others about commercial shared kitchen; and reach out to Bonnie and others about land funds.

LOCAL FOODS, LOCAL PLACES COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN
Lewiston-Auburn, Maine

Name	I will...with....
Habibo Hassan	I would like to be involved in commercial kitchen group. I would like to be with Isuken.
Sherie Blumenthal	I will help with research development of commercial kitchen; permanent home of farmers market and (if possible) local food branding.
Ghali Farah	I would like to be part of Kitchen Action Plan and I would like to be working with Isuken and Nutrition Center.
Isabel Ganga & Helena Golai	We plan to create a kitchen program for elementary schools, with health food. We would create a strategy involving other groups, that way spreading farming vision around LA elementary schools.
Marcel Gagne	I want to see Community Credit Union become a neighborhood anchor!
Sophia Gamache	I will look for more opportunities to support agriculture in my community in any way that I can.
Katie Boss	I want to support the steering committee and overall LFLP process (overarching action plan created today). I want to help with implementing Goal 2, and am specifically interested in the comprehensive plan strategy. I will continue to seek funds to support the Good Food Council to expand and grow. Encourage people to serve on Auburn Council and committees. Support the creation of a robust agriculture committee in Auburn.
Scott Bensot	I will work with my municipal and regional colleges to develop and implement an economic growth strategy to support agricultural production, processing and distribution (Goal #2). I will engage the LA Metro Chamber board in supporting the Action Plan.
Brett Sawyer	I will lay the groundwork for developing an Economic Growth Strategy to support agricultural production, processing and distribution in Auburn (and Lewiston). I will work with Lewiston staff, LA Metro Chamber, and AVCOG to develop this plan.
Jesse Tanneubaum	I will continue to work on the passage of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act on a local level while also working with the GFCLA, David Heuiger, Misty Parker, and the Lewiston City Council to pass a citywide small scale agriculture zone in the City of Lewiston.
Catherine Proulx	I would like to be involved or work with Jesse Tanneubaum and his group of people to implement and support Goal 2 plan. I will help in any way needed to support these efforts. I want to make sure that food from local farms gets to people. I will help get a permanent home for the farmers market.
John Foster	Follow up on questions from several participants during workshop. Identify LFLP communities with branding campaigns.
Lauress Lawrence	Will continue partnering with Lewiston organizations and community to help them achieve goals of healthy sustainable food production, consumption, and business.
Molly Myers	I will work with Lewiston Middle School students to consider their role and contribution in various actions and to support their work.
Ben Daley	I will work with Lewiston Farmers Market steering committee to find a new good location for an indoor/outdoor permanent farmers market location with the new contacts/information we talked about in Group 1.

Name	I will...with....
Bridgette Bartlett	I will connect back in with Kristin Cloutier and Alissa Roman about what's holding back composting from happening in the schools.
Michelle DeBlois	I will work with Molly Myers and Alissa Roman to help create a kitchen at Lewiston Middle School. Students – supply workforce grant writing.
Josh Nagine	I will be part of a team that researches and creates a local food brand for LA and also a permanent home for Lewiston farmers market.
Gerald Walsh	I will be part of a team that researches and develops a commercial kitchen.

Appendix B:

Workshop Participants and Contact List

Workshop Participant List and Contact Information

Below is a table cataloging workshop participation on 10/22/2019 (Day 1) and 10/23/2019 (Day 2).

Day 1	Day 2	Full Name	Affiliation/Organization	Email
x		Jabril Abdi	New Roots Cooperative Farm	Newrootscooperativefarm@gmail.com
	x	Mohamed Abukar	New Roots Cooperative Farm	Newrootscooperativefarm@gmail.com
x		Ron Adams	Maine Farm & Sea Cooperative	chefracdams@gmail.com
	x	Seynab Ali	New Roots Cooperative Farm	Newrootscooperativefarm@gmail.com
x		Ashley Bahlkow	Somali Bantu Community Association	bahlkow.a@gmail.com
x	x	Bridgette Bartlett	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	bbartlett@stmarysmaine.com
x		Artur Bastos	Immigrant Resource Center	arturbastos@gmail.com
	x	Scott Benson	Lewiston-Auburn Metro Chamber of Commerce - LAEGC	scott@lametrochamber.com
	x	Ava Blachette	Lewiston Middle School	
x	x	Kyra Bleicher	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	kyraalyce@gmail.com
	x	Nahlia Bolduc	Lewiston Middle School	
x		Aicham Bontogo	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	
x	x	Katie Boss	Healthy Androscoggin	bosska@cmhc.org
	x	Sam Boss	Bates College	Aboss@bates.edu
x		Kelsey Brown	U.S. Housing and Urban Development	kelsey.d.brown@hud.gov
x		Onijah Burns	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	oniyahburns32@gmail.com
x	x	Matt Chotkowski	USDA Food Nutrition Service	matthew.chotkowski@usda.gov
x	x	Kristen Cloutier	City of Lewiston	kcloutier@lewistonmaine.gov
x		Jessica Cooper	Cultivating Community	jessica@cultivatingcommunity.org
	x	Jessica Woiderski	Cultivating Community	jessica@cultivatingcommunity.org
x		Sam Costa	Auburn Schools	samueldacosta9250@gmail.com
x	x	Shanna Cox	Lewiston-Auburn Metro Chamber of Commerce	shanna@lametrochamber.com
x		Margaret Craven	Maine House of Representatives	margaret.m.craven@gmail.com
x		Siiri Cressey	Lots To Gardens	wyld_womyn@yahoo.com

Local Foods, Local Places Technical Assistance Program
Lewiston-Auburn, Maine

Day 1	Day 2	Full Name	Affiliation/Organization	Email
	x	Phil Crowell	City of Auburn	pcrowell@auburnmaine.gov
x	x	Denis D'Auteuil	City of Lewiston	ddauteuil@lewistonmaine.gov
	x	Yusuf Dakane	Lewiston Middle School	
	x	Ben Daley	Chirp Creek Farm	chirpcreekfarm@gmail.com
x	x	Michelle DeBlois	Lewiston Middle School	mdeblois@lewistonpublicschools.org
	x	Audrey Donahue	Lewiston Middle School	
	x	Matt Duff	Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District	
x		Rebecca Dugan	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	rdugan@stmarysmaine.com
x	x	Francis Eanes	Bates College	feanes@bates.edu
x		John Engler	High Sail Cannabis	jengler7@gmail.com
x	x	Nutrition Center Fall Gardeners	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	ehuberweiss@stmarysmaine.com
x		Ghali Farah	Isuken Coop	Isukencoop@gmail.com
x	x	Jonah Fertig-Burd	Cooperative Development Institute	jfertig-burd@cdi.coop
x	x	John Foster	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	foster.john@epa.gov
	x	Marcel Gagne	Cooperative Development Institute	mgagne@cdi.org
x	x	Sophia Gamache	Lewiston Farmers Market and Master Gardener Volunteer	Gamache.sophia@gmail.com
	x	Skylar Gaudette	Lewiston Middle School	
x		Edmund Gay	Franco-center	gaypare@aol.com
	x	Elaina Gendron	Lewiston Middle School	
	x	Stephanie Gilbert	Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry	stephanie.gilbert@maine.gov
x	x	Erin Guay	Healthy Androscoggin	guayer@cmhc.org
	x	James Hanna	Cumberland County Food Security council	jhanna@ccfoodsecurity.org
x	x	Julia Harper	Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn	goodfood4LA@gmail.com
x	x	Omar Hassan	Cooperative Development Institute	Ohassan@cdi.coop
	x	Asli Hassan	Cultivating Community	asli@cultivatingcommunity.org

Day 1	Day 2	Full Name	Affiliation/Organization	Email
x		Kathy Helming	Good Shepherd Food Bank of Maine	khelming@gsfb.org
x		Eliza Huber-Weiss	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	ehuberweiss@stmarysmaine.com
x		Habiba Hussein	Isuken Coop	Isukencoop@gmail.com
x	x	Khadija Hussein	Cultivating Community	khadija.hussein18@gmail.com
x	x	Fatuma Hussien	Immigrant Resource Center	fhussein@uswofmaine.org
x	x	Isnino Ibrahim	Isuken Coop	Isukencoop@gmail.com
	x	Batula Ismail	New Roots Cooperative Farm	Newrootscooperativefarm@gmail.com
	x	Dina Jackson	Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments	djackson@avcog.org
x		Rachel Jalbert	Bates College	rjalbert@bates.edu
x		Luke Jensen	Lewiston Public Schools	lukedylanjensen@gmail.com
x		Shespya Jesus	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	
	x	Joseph Langley	Lewiston Middle School	
	x	Craig Lapine	Cultivating Community	craig@cultivatingcommunity.org
x	x	Lauress Lawrence	Elmina B Sewall Foundation	llawrence@sewallfoundation.org
	x	Hugo Lopes	Lewiston Middle School	
x		Odiuio Mariano	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	
x		Heidi McCarthy	City of Lewiston	hmccarthy@lewistonmaine.gov
x		Aliya Mohamed	Bright Future	aamohamed07@yahoo.com
x		Amir Moussa	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	
	x	Hussein Muktar	Cultivating Community	hussein@cultivatingcommunity.org
x		Halimo Mursai	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	
	x	Molly Myers	Lewiston Middle School	Mmyers@lewistonschools.org
x		Joshua Nagine	Lewiston Farmers Market	joshuanagine@gmail.com
x	x	Jeff Newell	Androscoggin Gleaners	jeffnewell9@gmail.com
	x	Missy North-Drain	Healthy Androscoggin and Lewiston Resident	northme@cmhc.org
x		Shelley Norton	Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments	snorton@avcog.org
x		Wais Noussa	Immigrant Resource Center of Maine	wais@uswofmaine.org

Day 1	Day 2	Full Name	Affiliation/Organization	Email
x		Abdi Osman	Isuken Coop	Isukencoop@gmail.com
x	x	Misty Parker	City of Lewiston	mparker@lewistonmaine.gov
x	x	Camille Parrish	Bates College	cparrish@bates.edu
x		Jules Patry	Davincis	jules@davinciseatery.com
x		Robin Pelkey	St. Mary's Clinical Nutrition	rpelkey@covh.org
x		Chris Pierce	Davinci's	chris@davinciseatery.com
x		John Pinkham	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	
x	x	Adam Platz	Baxter Brewing Company	adam@baxterbrewing.com
x	x	Catherine Proulx	Good Food Bus	Cfirefighter36@aol.com
x		Darby Ray	Bates College & L/A Arts	dray3@bates.edu
	x	Laura Reading	Developers Collaborative	reading.lauraj@gmail.com
x		Craig Saddlemire	Raise Op Housing Co-Op	raiseop207@gmail.com
x		Jesse Saffeir	Bates College	jsaffeirr@bates.edu
	x	Brett Sawyer	City of Auburn, Maine	bsawyer@auburnmaine.gov
	x	Rebecca Schoen	Healthy Androscoggin, Androscoggin Gleaners	schoenre@cmhc.org
x		Christine Schwartz	Bates College	cshwart@bates.edu
	x	Carol Segal	Mount Apatite Farm	cookincarol@roadrunner.com
x		Kathy Shaw	4 Season Farm Market and Valley View Farm	kath@valleyviewfarmme.com
	x	Rebecca Swanson Conrad	RSC Consulting	rebeccaswansonconrad@gmail.com
x	x	Jesse Tannenbaum	Eli's Homestead LLC.	elishomestead@outlook.com
	x	Anna Tracht	Cultivating Community	fsf@cultivatingcommunity.org
	x	Alyssa Tremblay	Lewiston Middle School	
	x	Emily Trider	Lewiston Middle School	
x		Eliza Waasa	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	
x		Stephanie Wade	Bates College	swade@bates.edu
	x	Wais Waiss	IRC	
	x	Daniel Wallace	Coastal Enterprises Inc.	Daniel.Wallace@ceimaine.org

Day 1	Day 2	Full Name	Affiliation/Organization	Email
x		Gerald Walsh	Knead	kneadmaine@gmail.com
x	x	Kirsten Walter	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	kwalter@stmarysmaine.com
	x	Jacariya Wright	Lewiston Middle School	
x		Khadija Noorow	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	khadija.noorow52@gmail.com
	x	Osman	Cultivating Community	
	x	Isnino	Cultivating Community	
	x	Karina	Immigrant Resource Center of Maine	karinabrancocroz@gmail.com
	x	Mumina Isse	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	
	x	Boucharro Yassin	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	
	x	Issak		

Workshop Contact List

Name	Organization	Email
Technical Assistance Consultants		
Holly Fowler	Northbound Ventures	holly@northboundventures.com
Jessica Dimmick	EPR PC	j.dimmick@epr-pc.com

Federal and State Agency Partners		
John Foster	EPA HQ Office of Community Revitalization	foster.john@epa.gov
Christine Beling	EPA Region 1 (Boston)	beling.christine@epa.gov
Matt Chotkowski	USDA Food and Nutrition Service Northeast Region, School Nutrition Programs (Boston)	matthew.chotkowski@usda.gov
Kelsey Brown	U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development - Bangor Field Office	kelsey.d.brown@hud.gov
Kara Norman	U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development - New England Regional Office (Boston)	kara.e.norman@hud.gov
Jessica Sheeran	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, HRSA - Region 1 Office	jessica.sheeran@hhs.gov

Local Steering Committee		
Sherie Blumenthal	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	sblumenthal@stmarysmaine.com
Kristin Walters	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	kwalters@stmarysmaine.com
Deb Burd	Covenant Health	dmbreader@gmail.com
Francis Eanes	Healthy Neighborhoods	feanes@bates.edu
Jonah Fertig-Burd	Cooperative Development Institute/Maine Farm and Sea Cooperative/Celebration Tree Farm	jfertig-burd@cdi.coop
Sam Boss	Community-Engaged Learning and Research Program	aboss@bates.edu
Shanna Cox	Lewiston-Auburn Metro Chamber of Commerce	shanna@lametrochamber.com
Jim Hanna	Somali Bantu Community Association/Cumberland Food Security Council	jhanna@ccfoodsecurity.org
Omar Hassan	Cooperative Development Institute/New Roots Cooperative Farm	ohassan@cdi.coop
Misty Parker	City of Lewiston/Healthy Neighborhoods	mparker@lewistonmaine.gov
Julia Harper	Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn	goodfoodforla@gmail.com

Several community members joined the post-workshop calls to provide valuable insights on the action plan tables.		
Cathy Proulx	Grace Lutheran Church, St. Mary's Nutrition Center, and The Root Cellar	cfirefighter36@aol.com
Jesse Tannenbaum	Eli's Homestead LLC	elishomestead@outlook.com
Alisa Roman	Lewiston Public Schools	aroman@lewistonpublicschools.org
Josh Nagine	Lewiston Farmers Market	joshuanagine@gmail.com
Rebecca Schoen	Healthy Androscoggin	schoenre@cmhc.org
Shelley Norton	Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments	snorton@avcog.org
Kyra Bleicher	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	kyraalyce@gmail.com
Lynne Holland	University of Maine Cooperative Extension	lynne.holland@maine.edu
Bridgette Bartlett	St. Mary's Nutrition Center	bbartlett@stmarysmaine.com

Appendix C:

Workshop Photo Album



Figure 1 – St. Mary's Nutrition Center is a hub for health and food services in the community.



Figure 2 – The community garden at St. Mary's Nutrition Center features raised beds, a reading spot, and a meditation path.



Figure 3 – Composting is practiced in the community garden at St. Mary's Nutrition Center.



Figure 4 – St. Mary's Nutrition Center promotes the Good Food Bus and discounts available for fresh food.



Figure 5 – St. Mary’s Nutrition Center hosted a pre-community tour group lunch for the steering committee, technical assistance team, and federal partners.



Figure 6 – Kirsten Walter, Executive Director of St. Mary’s Nutrition Center, explains the evolution of the community garden.



Figure 7 – The community tour visits the New Roots Cooperative Farm, an enterprise of four refugee families.



Figure 8 – Several new hoop houses on the farm were built with the assistance of USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service funds.



Figure 9 – A New Roots Cooperative Farm member stands amidst the dry corn stalks in fall.



Figure 10 – Colorful purple Brussels sprouts grow at New Roots Cooperative Farm.



Figure 11 – The 4 Season Farm Market is located in New Auburn and operated by a local farmer, Kathy Shaw.



Figure 12 – A selection of locally grown fresh vegetables is for sale inside the 4 Season Farm Market.



Figure 13 – In addition to SNAP and WIC, the market also accepts discount coupons for Maine's senior population.



Figure 14 – The market offers a wide selection of ingredients and value-added products from other local farms and producers.



Figure 15 – The community tour walks from Auburn to downtown Lewiston via a bridge spanning the Androscoggin River.



Figure 16 – One of the many former mills in Lewiston-Auburn slated for redevelopment.



Figure 17 – E. Claire & Pastries is one of several food businesses helping to revitalize the Bates Mill Complex.



Figure 18 – A mural in downtown Lewiston celebrates the diversity of the community.



Figure 19 – Storefronts along Lisbon Street, the main commercial corridor in downtown Lewiston.



Figure 20 – Kennedy Park is a large greenspace in the center of Lewiston.



Figure 13 – The tour visits and shops at the farmers market in Kennedy Park hosted by Cultivating Community.



Figure 14 – The Good Food Bus mobile market sells fresh produce and local products.



Figure 23 – A full house inside the Agora Grand for Day 1 of the Local Foods, Local Places workshop.



Figure 24 – On Day 2 of the workshop, participants identify key assets and opportunities on maps and food network diagrams.



Figure 25 – Workshop participants begin the action planning process with an individual brainstorm.



Figure 26 – Lunch on Day 2 featured fare produced by local farms and food businesses.



Figure 27 – Participants discuss with one another as they prioritize actions for each community goal.



Figure 158 – Participants capture details of each action to support a goal in a large grid at small group tables.



Figure 29 – Actions spur conversation among workshop participants.



Figure 30 – Day 2 concludes with a presentation of actions selected and highlights of conversations at each goal table.

Appendix D: Community Data Profile

This appendix provides some key data for the cities of Lewiston and Auburn. The Environmental Protection Agency's EJSCREEN: Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool, <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>, provides demographic and environmental data. The reports from EJ Screen were generated on the two cities, shown in Figure 1 below. A second set of reports from the Healthy Food Access Portal, Research Your Community web portal, <http://www.healthyfoodaccess.org/access-101/research-your-community>, provides demographic, workforce, food environment, and health indicator data for the cities.

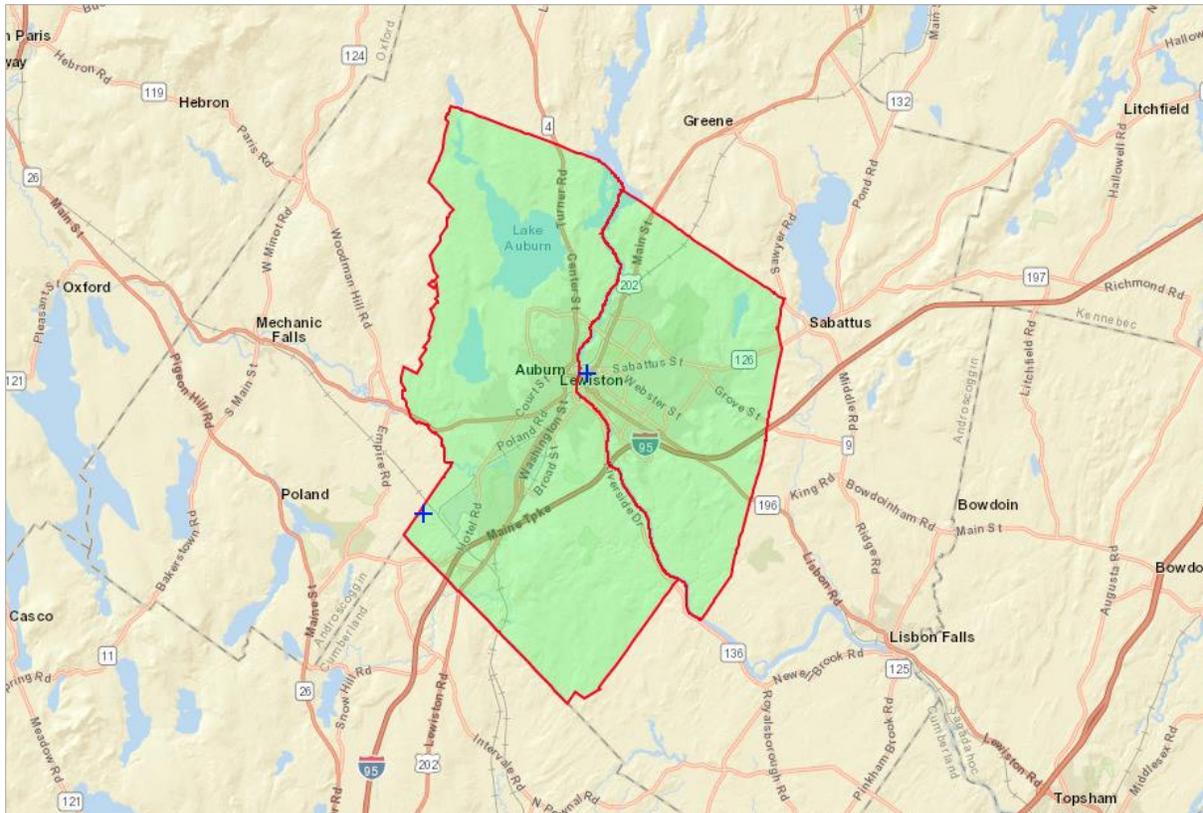


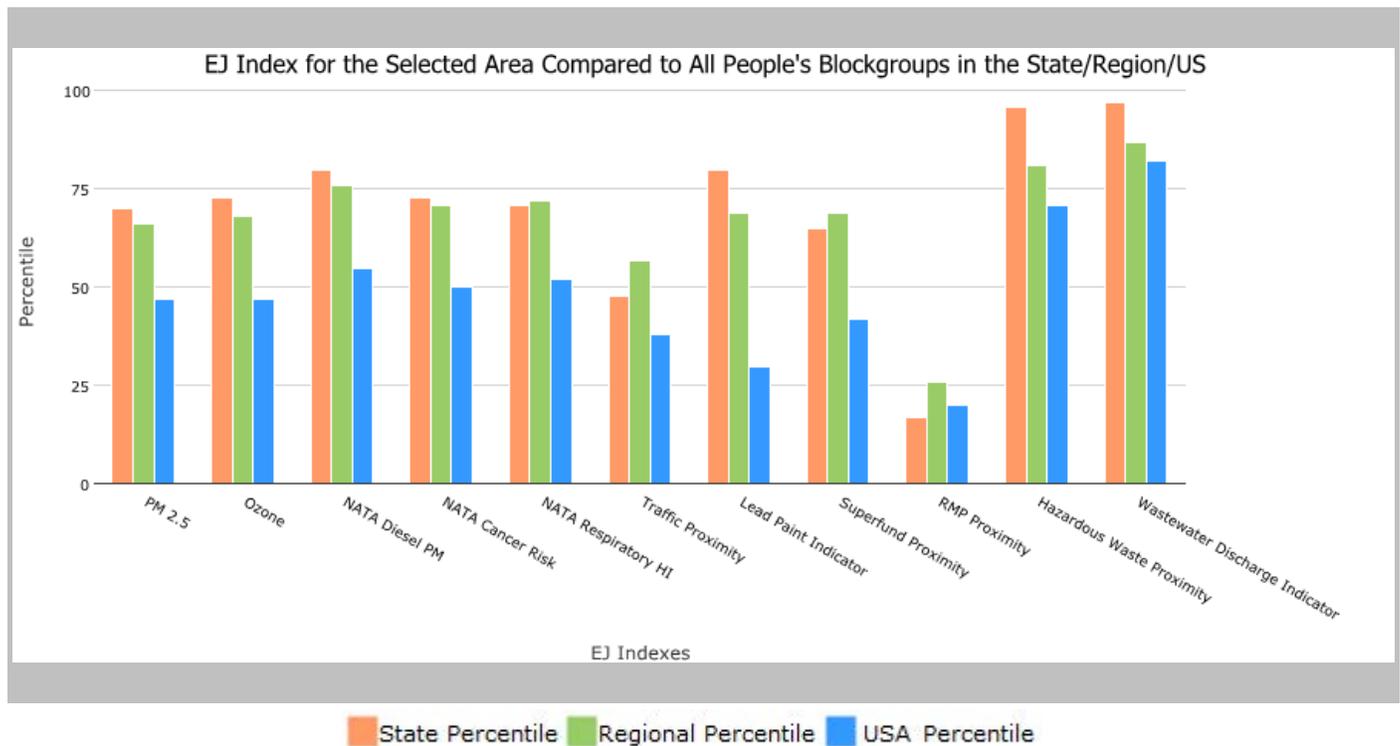
Figure 1 – Cities of Lewiston (right) and Auburn (left).
Source: EPA EJSCREEN mapping tool.

City: Lewiston, MAINE, EPA Region 1

Approximate Population: 36,277

Input Area (sq. miles): 35.53

Selected Variables	State Percentile	EPA Region Percentile	USA Percentile
EJ Indexes			
EJ Index for PM2.5	70	66	47
EJ Index for Ozone	73	68	47
EJ Index for NATA* Diesel PM	80	76	55
EJ Index for NATA* Air Toxics Cancer Risk	73	71	50
EJ Index for NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	71	72	52
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity and Volume	48	57	38
EJ Index for Lead Paint Indicator	80	69	30
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	65	69	42
EJ Index for RMP Proximity	17	26	20
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	96	81	71
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge Indicator	97	87	82



This report shows the values for environmental and demographic indicators and EJSCREEN indexes. It shows environmental and demographic raw data (e.g., the estimated concentration of ozone in the air), and also shows what percentile each raw data value represents. These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state, EPA region, or nation. For example, if a given location is at the 95th percentile nationwide, this means that only 5 percent of the US population has a higher block group value than the average person in the location being analyzed. The years for which the data are available, and the methods used, vary across these indicators. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports.

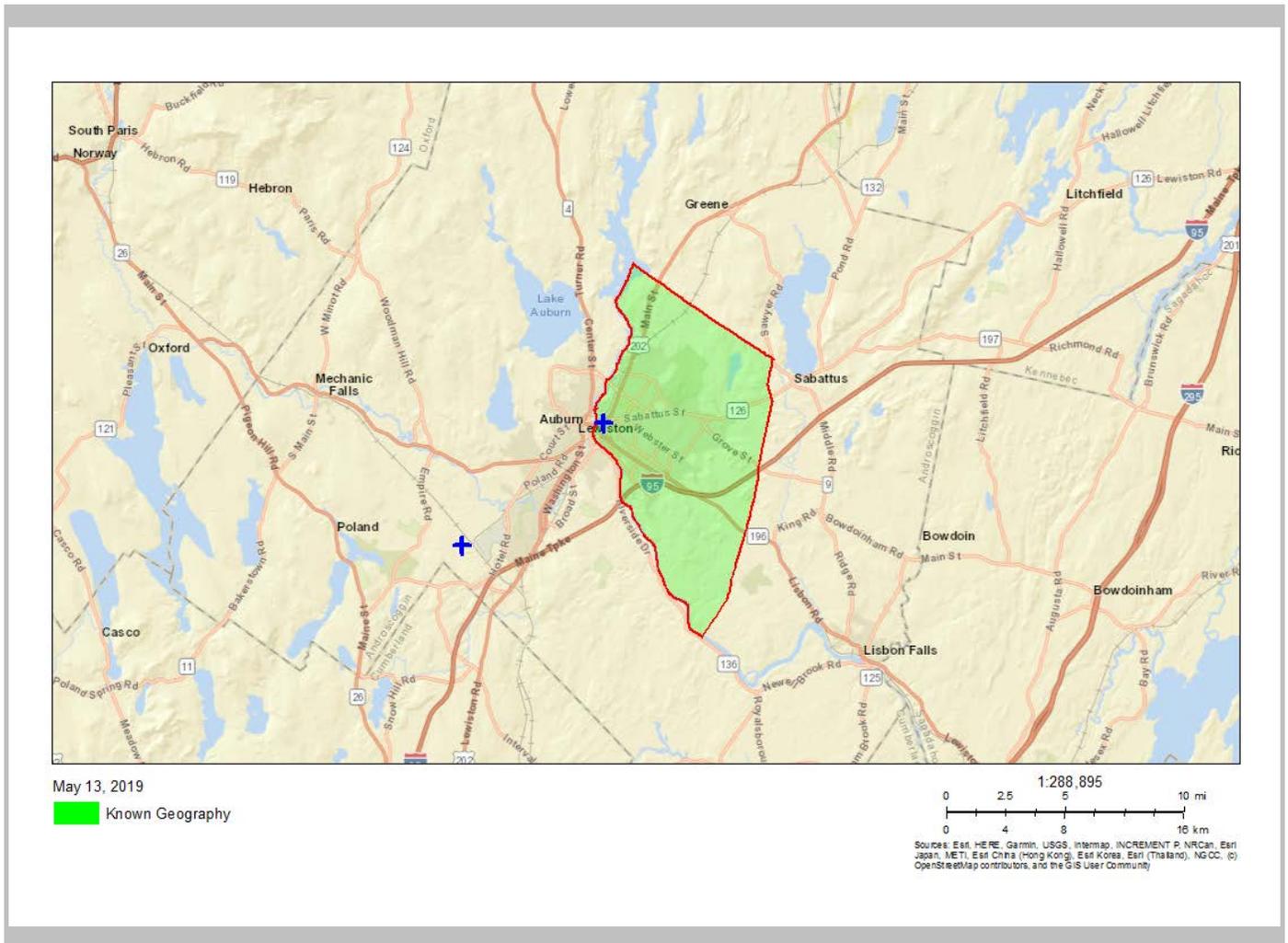
EJSCREEN Report (Version 2018)



City: Lewiston, MAINE, EPA Region 1

Approximate Population: 36,277

Input Area (sq. miles): 35.53



Sites reporting to EPA	
Superfund NPL	0
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDF)	2

EJSCREEN Report (Version 2018)



City: Lewiston, MAINE, EPA Region 1

Approximate Population: 36,277

Input Area (sq. miles): 35.53

Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	EPA Region Avg.	%ile in EPA Region	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Environmental Indicators							
Particulate Matter (PM 2.5 in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	7.33	6.91	78	7.37	46	9.53	13
Ozone (ppb)	33.8	34	52	39.6	4	42.5	7
NATA* Diesel PM ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.531	0.379	83	0.713	<50th	0.938	<50th
NATA* Cancer Risk (lifetime risk per million)	32	23	88	33	<50th	40	<50th
NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	1.5	0.88	88	1.5	50-60th	1.8	<50th
Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)	270	85	91	320	74	600	67
Lead Paint Indicator (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.58	0.37	83	0.45	65	0.29	81
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.036	0.062	56	0.14	24	0.12	40
RMP Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.93	0.35	87	0.56	79	0.72	75
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	1.7	0.58	89	2.5	64	4.3	74
Wastewater Discharge Indicator (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.0016	0.11	80	0.11	70	30	70
Demographic Indicators							
Demographic Index	29%	19%	87	24%	72	36%	48
Minority Population	13%	6%	90	23%	50	38%	28
Low Income Population	44%	33%	76	25%	82	34%	70
Linguistically Isolated Population	3%	1%	89	4%	63	4%	62
Population With Less Than High School Education	14%	8%	86	10%	76	13%	62
Population Under 5 years of age	6%	5%	71	5%	65	6%	53
Population over 64 years of age	17%	18%	50	16%	63	14%	69

* The National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) is EPA's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. EPA developed the NATA to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that NATA provides broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the NATA analysis can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/national-air-toxics-assessment>.

For additional information, see: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice

EJSCREEN is a screening tool for pre-decisional use only. It can help identify areas that may warrant additional consideration, analysis, or outreach. It does not provide a basis for decision-making, but it may help identify potential areas of EJ concern. Users should keep in mind that screening tools are subject to substantial uncertainty in their demographic and environmental data, particularly when looking at small geographic areas. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports. This screening tool does not provide data on every environmental impact and demographic factor that may be relevant to a particular location. EJSCREEN outputs should be supplemented with additional information and local knowledge before taking any action to address potential EJ concerns.

EJSCREEN Report (Version 2018)

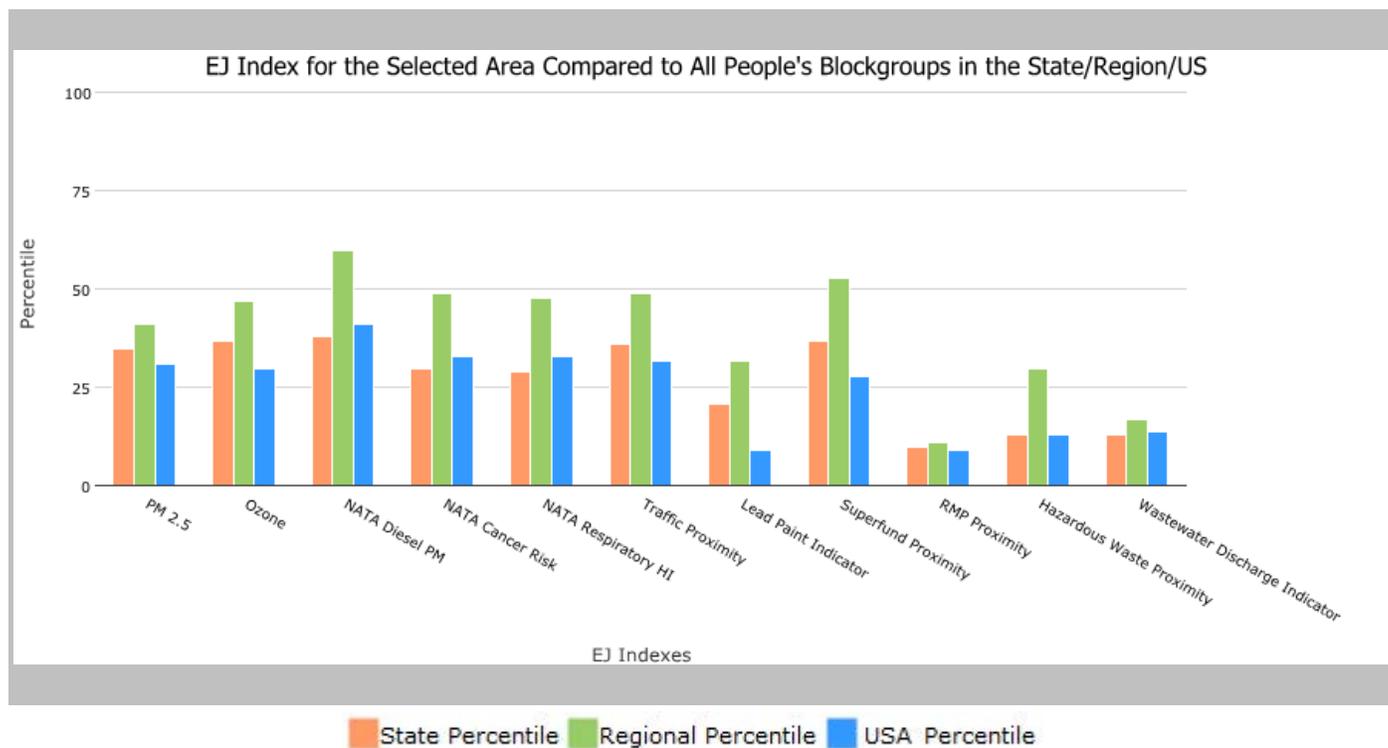


City: Auburn, MAINE, EPA Region 1

Approximate Population: 22,943

Input Area (sq. miles): 65.74

Selected Variables	State Percentile	EPA Region Percentile	USA Percentile
EJ Indexes			
EJ Index for PM2.5	35	41	31
EJ Index for Ozone	37	47	30
EJ Index for NATA* Diesel PM	38	60	41
EJ Index for NATA* Air Toxics Cancer Risk	30	49	33
EJ Index for NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	29	48	33
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity and Volume	36	49	32
EJ Index for Lead Paint Indicator	21	32	9
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	37	53	28
EJ Index for RMP Proximity	10	11	9
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	13	30	13
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge Indicator	13	17	14

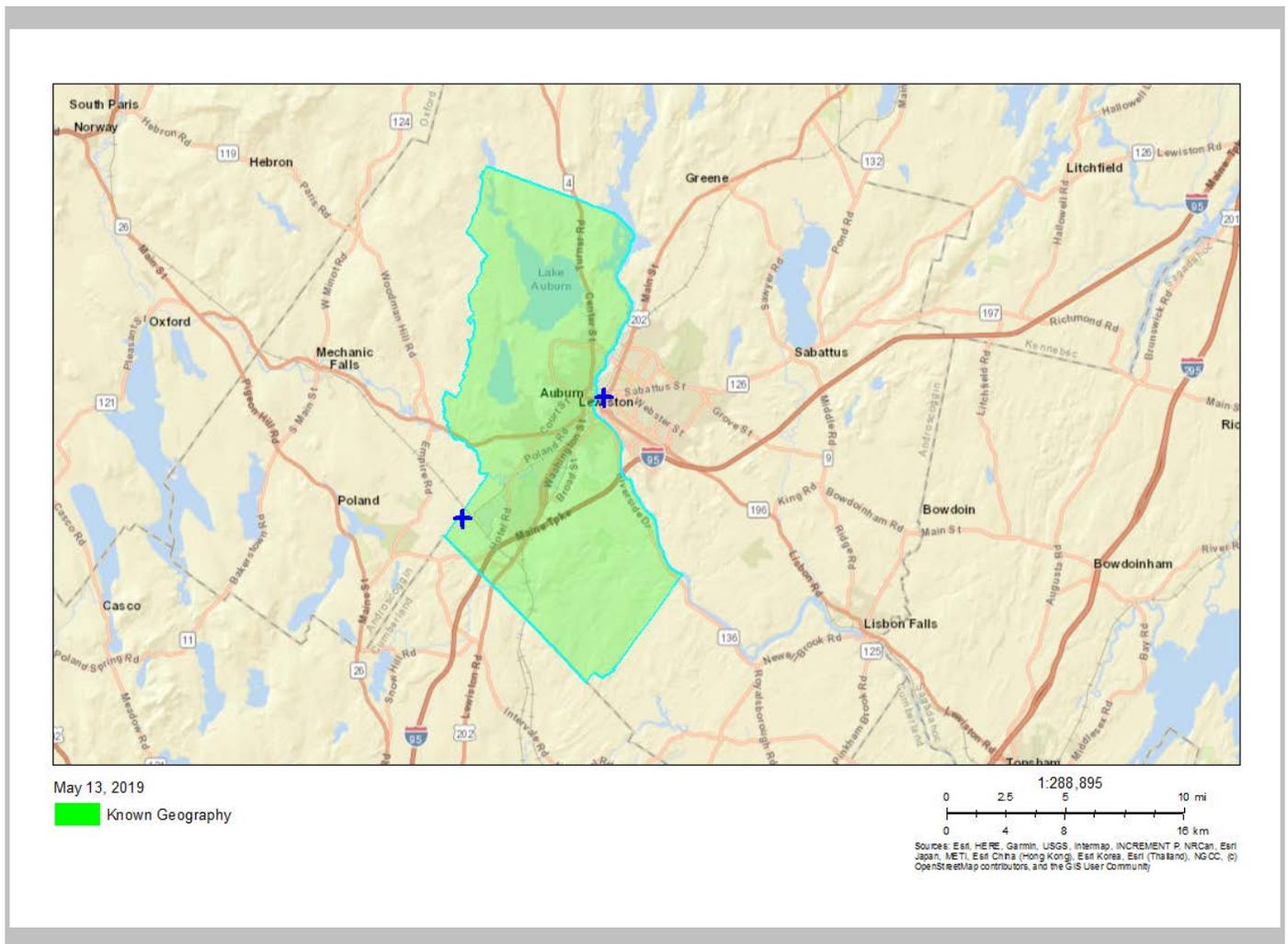


This report shows the values for environmental and demographic indicators and EJSCREEN indexes. It shows environmental and demographic raw data (e.g., the estimated concentration of ozone in the air), and also shows what percentile each raw data value represents. These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state, EPA region, or nation. For example, if a given location is at the 95th percentile nationwide, this means that only 5 percent of the US population has a higher block group value than the average person in the location being analyzed. The years for which the data are available, and the methods used, vary across these indicators. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports.

City: Auburn, MAINE, EPA Region 1

Approximate Population: 22,943

Input Area (sq. miles): 65.74



Sites reporting to EPA	
Superfund NPL	0
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDF)	2

EJSCREEN Report (Version 2018)

City: Auburn, MAINE, EPA Region 1

Approximate Population: 22,943

Input Area (sq. miles): 65.74



Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	EPA Region Avg.	%ile in EPA Region	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Environmental Indicators							
Particulate Matter (PM 2.5 in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	7.26	6.91	71	7.37	41	9.53	12
Ozone (ppb)	33.7	34	50	39.6	4	42.5	7
NATA* Diesel PM ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.437	0.379	81	0.713	<50th	0.938	<50th
NATA* Cancer Risk (lifetime risk per million)	29	23	85	33	<50th	40	<50th
NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	1.3	0.88	84	1.5	<50th	1.8	<50th
Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)	270	85	91	320	74	600	67
Lead Paint Indicator (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.58	0.37	83	0.45	65	0.29	81
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.035	0.062	54	0.14	23	0.12	38
RMP Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.94	0.35	87	0.56	79	0.72	75
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	1.3	0.58	83	2.5	57	4.3	68
Wastewater Discharge Indicator (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.0074	0.11	87	0.11	83	30	79
Demographic Indicators							
Demographic Index	22%	19%	65	24%	61	36%	35
Minority Population	9%	6%	80	23%	39	38%	21
Low Income Population	35%	33%	57	25%	73	34%	56
Linguistically Isolated Population	2%	1%	86	4%	58	4%	57
Population With Less Than High School Education	10%	8%	69	10%	65	13%	50
Population Under 5 years of age	6%	5%	69	5%	63	6%	51
Population over 64 years of age	16%	18%	42	16%	56	14%	63

* The National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) is EPA's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. EPA developed the NATA to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that NATA provides broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the NATA analysis can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/national-air-toxics-assessment>.

For additional information, see: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice

EJSCREEN is a screening tool for pre-decisional use only. It can help identify areas that may warrant additional consideration, analysis, or outreach. It does not provide a basis for decision-making, but it may help identify potential areas of EJ concern. Users should keep in mind that screening tools are subject to substantial uncertainty in their demographic and environmental data, particularly when looking at small geographic areas. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports. This screening tool does not provide data on every environmental impact and demographic factor that may be relevant to a particular location. EJSCREEN outputs should be supplemented with additional information and local knowledge before taking any action to address potential EJ concerns.

Location: City: Lewiston city
 Ring (buffer): 0-mile radius
 Description:

Summary of ACS Estimates		2012 - 2016
Population		36,277
Population Density (per sq. mile)		1,062
Minority Population		4,790
% Minority		13%
Households		15,772
Housing Units		17,099
Housing Units Built Before 1950		7,793
Per Capita Income		22,111
Land Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)		34.15
% Land Area		96%
Water Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)		1.39
% Water Area		4%

	2012 - 2016 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Race			
Total	36,277	100%	596
Population Reporting One Race	34,046	94%	1,012
White	32,030	88%	580
Black	1,542	4%	208
American Indian	65	0%	52
Asian	324	1%	128
Pacific Islander	0	0%	10
Some Other Race	85	0%	34
Population Reporting Two or More Races	2,231	6%	224
Total Hispanic Population	1,036	3%	185
Total Non-Hispanic Population	35,241		
White Alone	31,487	87%	592
Black Alone	1,370	4%	203
American Indian Alone	65	0%	52
Non-Hispanic Asian Alone	324	1%	128
Pacific Islander Alone	0	0%	10
Other Race Alone	22	0%	32
Two or More Races Alone	1,973	5%	224
Population by Sex			
Male	17,192	47%	350
Female	19,085	53%	400
Population by Age			
Age 0-4	2,209	6%	166
Age 0-17	7,179	20%	223
Age 18+	29,098	80%	399
Age 65+	6,245	17%	162

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.
 N/A means not available. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2012 - 2016.

Location: City: Lewiston city
 Ring (buffer): 0-mile radius
 Description:

	2012 - 2016 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population 25+ by Educational Attainment			
Total	24,623	100%	347
Less than 9th Grade	1,530	6%	107
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma	1,819	7%	99
High School Graduate	9,100	37%	183
Some College, No Degree	7,756	31%	231
Associate Degree	2,385	10%	158
Bachelor's Degree or more	4,418	18%	161
Population Age 5+ Years by Ability to Speak English			
Total	34,068	100%	573
Speak only English	27,673	81%	442
Non-English at Home ¹⁺²⁺³⁺⁴	6,395	19%	200
¹ Speak English "very well"	4,901	14%	186
² Speak English "well"	970	3%	93
³ Speak English "not well"	364	1%	63
⁴ Speak English "not at all"	160	0%	33
³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than well"	524	2%	67
²⁺³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than very well"	1,494	4%	104
Linguistically Isolated Households*			
Total	446	100%	69
Speak Spanish	22	5%	32
Speak Other Indo-European Languages	328	74%	48
Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages	41	9%	52
Speak Other Languages	55	12%	21
Households by Household Income			
Household Income Base	15,772	100%	230
< \$15,000	3,111	20%	156
\$15,000 - \$25,000	2,250	14%	145
\$25,000 - \$50,000	4,327	27%	165
\$50,000 - \$75,000	2,813	18%	155
\$75,000 +	3,271	21%	133
Occupied Housing Units by Tenure			
Total	15,772	100%	230
Owner Occupied	7,764	49%	168
Renter Occupied	8,008	51%	218
Employed Population Age 16+ Years			
Total	29,549	100%	523
In Labor Force	18,518	63%	505
Civilian Unemployed in Labor Force	1,214	4%	90
Not In Labor Force	11,031	37%	276

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.

N/A means not available. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS)

*Households in which no one 14 and over speaks English "very well" or speaks English only.

Location: City: Lewiston city
 Ring (buffer): 0-mile radius
 Description:

	2012 - 2016 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Language Spoken at Home*			
Total (persons age 5 and above)	34,068	100%	573
English	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spanish	N/A	N/A	N/A
French	N/A	N/A	N/A
French Creole	N/A	N/A	N/A
Italian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Portuguese	N/A	N/A	N/A
German	N/A	N/A	N/A
Yiddish	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other West Germanic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Scandinavian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Greek	N/A	N/A	N/A
Russian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Polish	N/A	N/A	N/A
Serbo-Croatian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Slavic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Armenian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Persian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gujarathi	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hindi	N/A	N/A	N/A
Urdu	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Indic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Indo-European	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chinese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Japanese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Korean	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mon-Khmer, Cambodian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hmong	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thai	N/A	N/A	N/A
Laotian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vietnamese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tagalog	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Pacific Island	N/A	N/A	N/A
Navajo	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Native American	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hungarian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arabic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hebrew	N/A	N/A	N/A
African	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other and non-specified	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Non-English	N/A	N/A	N/A

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.
 N/A means not available. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2012 - 2016.
 *Population by Language Spoken at Home is available at the census tract summary level and up.

Location: City: Auburn city
 Ring (buffer): 0-mile radius
 Description:

Summary of ACS Estimates		2012 - 2016
Population		22,943
Population Density (per sq. mile)		387
Minority Population		2,124
% Minority		9%
Households		9,774
Housing Units		10,707
Housing Units Built Before 1950		5,193
Per Capita Income		24,826
Land Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)		59.33
% Land Area		90%
Water Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)		6.41
% Water Area		10%

	2012 - 2016 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Race			
Total	22,943	100%	467
Population Reporting One Race	21,653	94%	831
White	20,952	91%	464
Black	226	1%	122
American Indian	42	0%	26
Asian	353	2%	126
Pacific Islander	2	0%	10
Some Other Race	78	0%	83
Population Reporting Two or More Races	1,290	6%	113
Total Hispanic Population	332	1%	83
Total Non-Hispanic Population	22,611		
White Alone	20,819	91%	464
Black Alone	204	1%	122
American Indian Alone	42	0%	26
Non-Hispanic Asian Alone	347	2%	126
Pacific Islander Alone	2	0%	10
Other Race Alone	0	0%	10
Two or More Races Alone	1,197	5%	113
Population by Sex			
Male	11,089	48%	285
Female	11,854	52%	253
Population by Age			
Age 0-4	1,354	6%	131
Age 0-17	5,221	23%	228
Age 18+	17,722	77%	339
Age 65+	3,640	16%	143

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.
 N/A means not available. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2012 - 2016.

Location: City: Auburn city
 Ring (buffer): 0-mile radius
 Description:

	2012 - 2016 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population 25+ by Educational Attainment			
Total	15,756	100%	292
Less than 9th Grade	557	4%	61
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma	1,012	6%	66
High School Graduate	5,477	35%	179
Some College, No Degree	4,585	29%	202
Associate Degree	1,549	10%	131
Bachelor's Degree or more	4,125	26%	202
Population Age 5+ Years by Ability to Speak English			
Total	21,589	100%	422
Speak only English	19,353	90%	362
Non-English at Home ¹⁺²⁺³⁺⁴	2,236	10%	127
¹ Speak English "very well"	1,583	7%	110
² Speak English "well"	484	2%	78
³ Speak English "not well"	153	1%	75
⁴ Speak English "not at all"	16	0%	16
³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than well"	169	1%	75
²⁺³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than very well"	653	3%	81
Linguistically Isolated Households*			
Total	213	100%	54
Speak Spanish	27	13%	28
Speak Other Indo-European Languages	138	65%	53
Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages	47	22%	34
Speak Other Languages	1	0%	10
Households by Household Income			
Household Income Base	9,774	100%	161
< \$15,000	1,263	13%	77
\$15,000 - \$25,000	1,361	14%	105
\$25,000 - \$50,000	2,478	25%	104
\$50,000 - \$75,000	1,661	17%	116
\$75,000 +	3,011	31%	170
Occupied Housing Units by Tenure			
Total	9,774	100%	161
Owner Occupied	5,402	55%	117
Renter Occupied	4,372	45%	129
Employed Population Age 16+ Years			
Total	18,425	100%	328
In Labor Force	12,129	66%	301
Civilian Unemployed in Labor Force	663	4%	79
Not In Labor Force	6,296	34%	174

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.

N/A means not available. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS)

*Households in which no one 14 and over speaks English "very well" or speaks English only.

Location: City: Auburn city
 Ring (buffer): 0-mile radius
 Description:

	2012 - 2016 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Language Spoken at Home*			
Total (persons age 5 and above)	21,589	100%	422
English	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spanish	N/A	N/A	N/A
French	N/A	N/A	N/A
French Creole	N/A	N/A	N/A
Italian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Portuguese	N/A	N/A	N/A
German	N/A	N/A	N/A
Yiddish	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other West Germanic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Scandinavian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Greek	N/A	N/A	N/A
Russian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Polish	N/A	N/A	N/A
Serbo-Croatian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Slavic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Armenian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Persian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gujarathi	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hindi	N/A	N/A	N/A
Urdu	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Indic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Indo-European	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chinese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Japanese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Korean	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mon-Khmer, Cambodian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hmong	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thai	N/A	N/A	N/A
Laotian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vietnamese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tagalog	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Pacific Island	N/A	N/A	N/A
Navajo	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Native American	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hungarian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arabic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hebrew	N/A	N/A	N/A
African	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other and non-specified	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Non-English	N/A	N/A	N/A

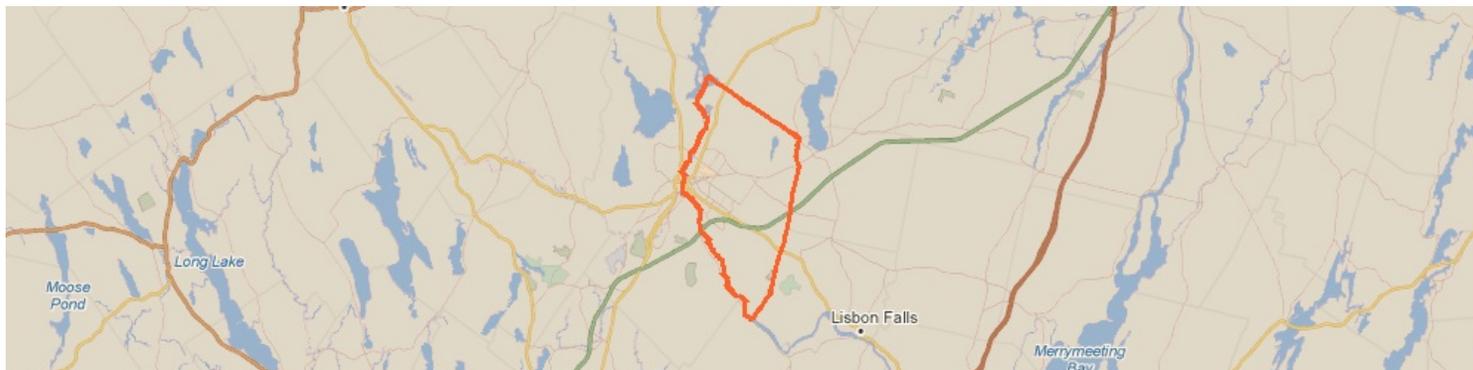
Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.
 N/A means not available. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2012 - 2016.
 *Population by Language Spoken at Home is available at the census tract summary level and up.

Healthy Food Access Portal

Research Your Community

Report for Lewiston, ME

This report provides information about the population living within the city and their food environment.



Demographics

Accessing healthy food is a challenge for some Americans - particularly those living in low-income neighborhoods and communities of color. Research has shown that, if a person is Black, Hispanic or living in a low-income block group they are more likely to live in an area with limited access to a full service supermarket.

Current estimates show that the area has steadily grown since 2000 and the total population is 36,211 people. According to 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) data, the population of a minority race was 13.46% and 2.56% were of Hispanic ethnicity. In terms of age, 18.97% were children under age 18, while 17.44% were over age 65.

Demographics in Lewiston, ME

Lewiston	2000	2010	2013-2017
Total Population	35,690	36,592	36,211
Pct. Hispanic	1.0%	2.0%	2.6%
Pct. Minority	5.1%	14.5%	13.5%
Pct. < 18 Years	20.6%	22.1%	19.0%
Pct. 65 or Older	17.8%	15.5%	17.4%

Median Household Income

	Lewiston	Maine
Median Household Income (2013-2017)	\$39,890	\$53,024

Source: Census 2000, Census 2010, Census ACS 2013-2017

Workforce and Unemployment

Some communities look to improve access to food for existing residents by meeting both the demands from the daytime population (workforce) and the residential population. The table at right shows the number of people in the workforce that are employed within the

Local Employment in Lewiston

	Resident	Employed
--	----------	----------

area and the number of people who reside in the area who are part of the workforce. This data tells us that 23,695 people work in Lewiston, while 14,320 workers reside in Lewiston according to the Local Employer-Household Dynamics data. Increasing the number of healthy food retailers can lead to jobs and may be a force of revitalizing economically distressed communities.

Total Workers (2015)

14,320
Resident

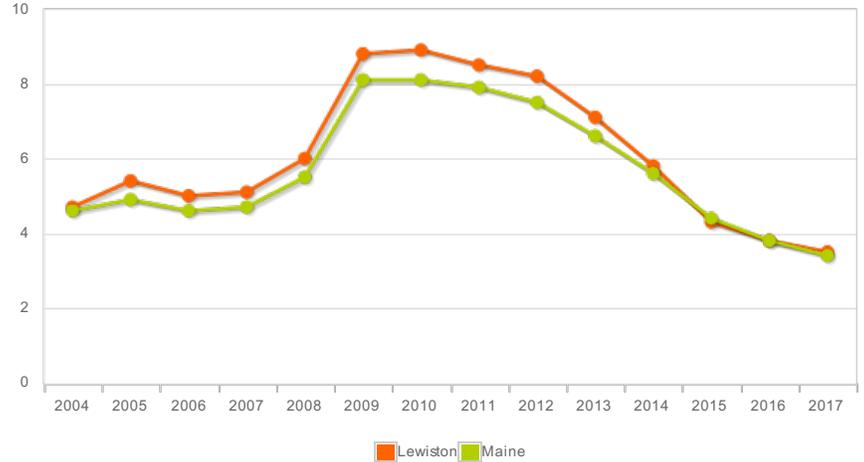
23,695
Employed

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Employment-Household Dynamics

Lewiston's unemployment rate is 3.5%, compared to the statewide unemployment rate of 3.4%. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the largest domestic hunger safety net program (according to the USDA). It serves many low-income people, including those who are currently unemployed.

Within Androscoggin County, 25.18% of people received SNAP benefits in 2011, amounting to \$42,087,000 in benefits to program participants.

Annual Unemployment



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Employment-Household Dynamics

Food Environment

Determining if a community is underserved by healthy food retailers can be a complicated process that includes a variety of factors including population density, car ownership rates, and the quality and location of supermarkets, grocery stores and farmers markets. Researchers have produced many studies and online tools to help communities to identify areas with limited access to supermarkets and sources of healthy food. Methods and measures vary but two studies and national online data tools are Reinvestment Fund's [Limited Supermarket Access \(LSA\) Study](#) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) [Food Access Research Atlas](#). These studies seek to provide guidance on how to understand whether a new supermarket, an expansion of an existing store, or a farmer's market is the appropriate strategy to pursue.

In 2016, there were 3 full service supermarkets located in Lewiston. There are 9 Limited Service stores located within the study area, and 3 farmers' markets. SNAP benefits are accepted at 62 participating stores, farmer's markets, social service agencies or other non retail providers in this community.

According to the USDA, 5 of 9 census tracts in Lewiston are Low-Income, Low-Access tracts. ([Show/hide list of USDA Low-Income, Low-Access Tracts](#))

Based on Reinvestment Fund's 2018 analysis, there is 1 LSA area within Lewiston. 10,351 people live in this LSA area and are considered to have limited access to a supermarket. The estimated leakage for this area is \$14,082,000; this represents the amount that residents spend at stores located outside of the LSA. Please see the [PolicyMap Data Directory](#) for Reinvestment Fund's methodology.

Food Retailers in Lewiston

Full Service Supermarkets	3
Limited Service Stores	9
SNAP Retailers	62
Farmers' Markets	3
Fast-food and Takeout Restaurants	N/A

Source: USDA ERS Food Access, Census County Business Patterns, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, Reinvestment Fund Study of Low Supermarket Access

Limited Supermarket Access in Lewiston

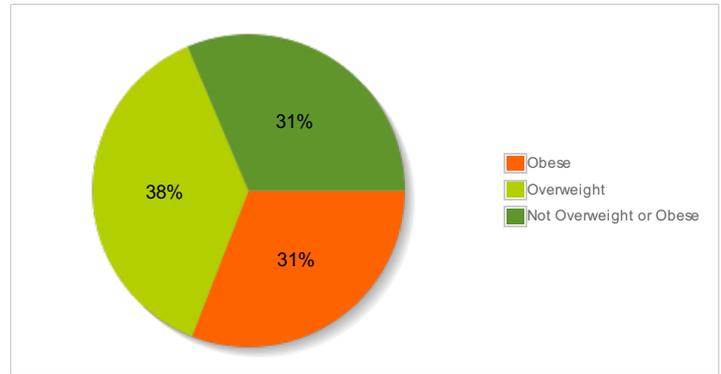
Population within LSA	10,351
Total Grocery Leakage	\$14,082,000

Source: Reinvestment Fund Study of Low Supermarket Access.

Health

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) provides survey data about the health of the residents within an area. The chart at right displays the Body Mass Index (BMI) classification for adults in Lewiston. It reports that 37.73% of the population is considered overweight and 30.9% is considered obese.

BMI Classification in 2013, Lewiston

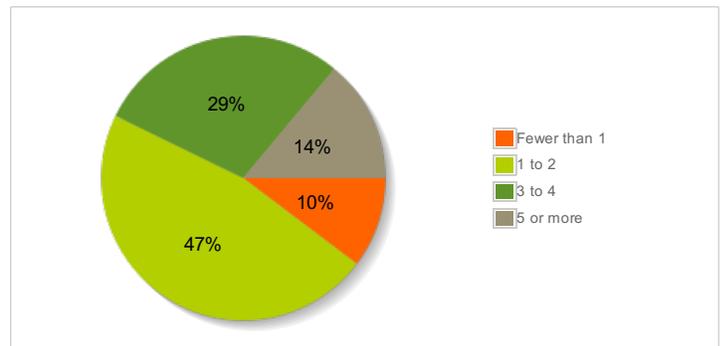


Source: CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2013, ACS 2009-2013

Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

According to the CDC, fruits and vegetables are critical to promoting good health. Most adults need to increase the amount of fruits and vegetables they currently eat to get the amount that's recommended every day. The CDC reports that the recommended level of consumption depends upon an individual's age, weight and current level of physical activity. Visit ChooseMyPlate.gov for specifics on how many servings to eat. Of the adult residents in Lewiston, 86% reported eating fewer than 5 fruits and vegetables per day, and 14% report eating five or more per day.

Number of Fruits/Vegetables Consumed per day in 2013, Lewiston



Source: CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2013, ACS 2009-2013

Federal Programs & Investments

Areas within Lewiston may be targeted for economic development or community development activities. By working within these areas, community development entities or commercial operators may be able to seek grants or loans to finance intervention strategies that address the community's lack of food access. Some certified Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) operate specific programs designed to finance food retailers that choose to locate in an area that otherwise lacks healthy food access. The New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) Program is another federal incentive structure that can provide financing to large commercial developments in eligible areas.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) eligible block groups are places that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has designated for targeted resources. Within this target area, there are 12 CDBG eligible block groups and 6 NMTC eligible tracts. There are 8 CDFIs working to improve distressed areas of the state. [\(See list of certified CDFIs in Maine\)](#)

Federal Program and Investment Dollars in Lewiston, ME

New Markets Tax Credit Investments (QLICI) 2012-2016	\$10,200,004
<hr/>	
CDFI Loans/Investments 2007-2016	\$10,879,140

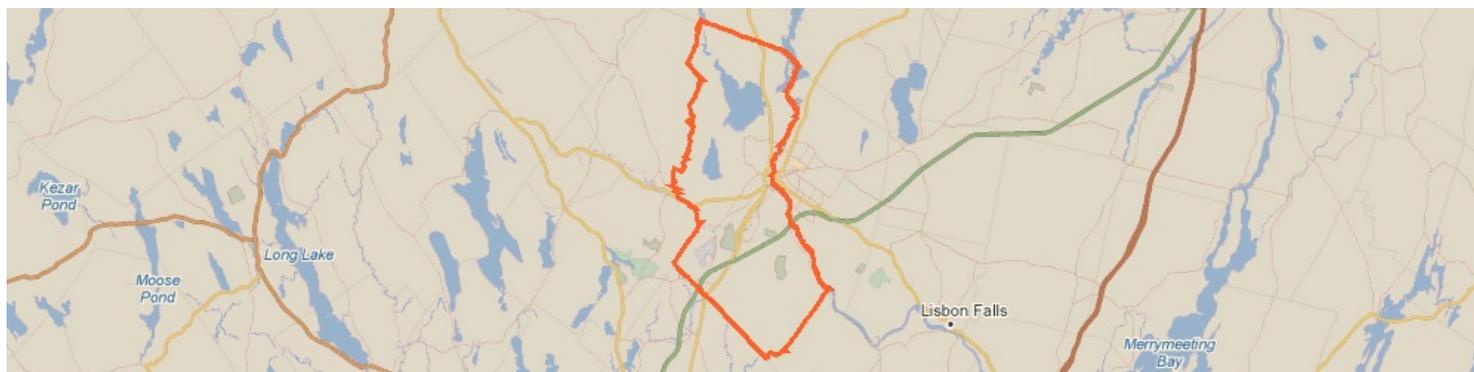
Source: CDFI Fund, HUD

Healthy Food Access Portal

Research Your Community

Report for Auburn, ME

This report provides information about the population living within the city and their food environment.



Demographics

Accessing healthy food is a challenge for some Americans - particularly those living in low-income neighborhoods and communities of color. Research has shown that, if a person is Black, Hispanic or living in a low-income block group they are more likely to live in an area with limited access to a full service supermarket.

Current estimates show that the area has declined since 2000 and the total population is 22,941 people. According to 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) data, the population of a minority race was 9.56% and 1.54% were of Hispanic ethnicity. In terms of age, 22.85% were children under age 18, while 16.71% were over age 65.

Demographics in Auburn, ME			
Auburn	2000	2010	2013-2017
Total Population	23,203	23,055	22,941
Pct. Hispanic	0.8%	1.5%	1.5%
Pct. Minority	3.6%	7.2%	9.6%
Pct. < 18 Years	23.0%	22.1%	22.9%
Pct. 65 or Older	17.1%	15.3%	16.7%

Median Household Income		
	Auburn	Maine
Median Household Income (2013-2017)	\$48,363	\$53,024

Source: Census 2000, Census 2010, Census ACS 2013-2017

Workforce and Unemployment

Some communities look to improve access to food for existing residents by meeting both the demands from the daytime population (workforce) and the residential population. The table at right shows the number of people in the workforce that are employed within the

Local Employment in Auburn		
	Resident	Employed

area and the number of people who reside in the area who are part of the workforce. This data tells us that 16,497 people work in Auburn, while 10,486 workers reside in Auburn according to the Local Employer-Household Dynamics data. Increasing the number of healthy food retailers can lead to jobs and may be a force of revitalizing economically distressed communities.

Total Workers (2015)

10,486
Resident

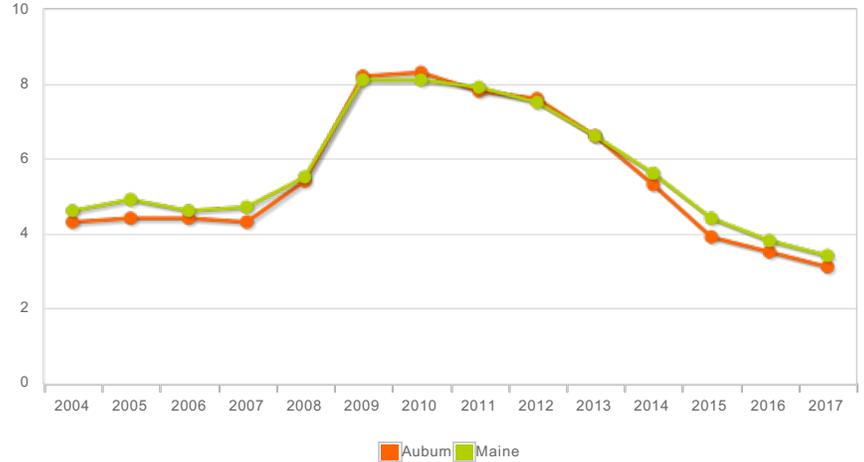
16,497
Employed

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Employment-Household Dynamics

Auburn's unemployment rate is 3.1%, compared to the statewide unemployment rate of 3.4%. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the largest domestic hunger safety net program (according to the USDA). It serves many low-income people, including those who are currently unemployed.

Within Androscoggin County, 25.18% of people received SNAP benefits in 2011, amounting to \$42,087,000 in benefits to program participants.

Annual Unemployment



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Employment-Household Dynamics

Food Environment

Determining if a community is underserved by healthy food retailers can be a complicated process that includes a variety of factors including population density, car ownership rates, and the quality and location of supermarkets, grocery stores and farmers markets. Researchers have produced many studies and online tools to help communities to identify areas with limited access to supermarkets and sources of healthy food. Methods and measures vary but two studies and national online data tools are Reinvestment Fund's **Limited Supermarket Access (LSA) Study** and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) **Food Access Research Atlas**. These studies seek to provide guidance on how to understand whether a new supermarket, an expansion of an existing store, or a farmer's market is the appropriate strategy to pursue.

In 2016, there were 3 full service supermarkets located in Auburn. There are 7 Limited Service stores located within the study area, and 1 farmers' markets. SNAP benefits are accepted at 32 participating stores, farmer's markets, social service agencies or other non retail providers in this community.

According to the USDA, 0 of 8 census tracts in Auburn are Low-Income, Low-Access.

Based on Reinvestment Fund's 2014 analysis, there are 0 LSA areas within Auburn.

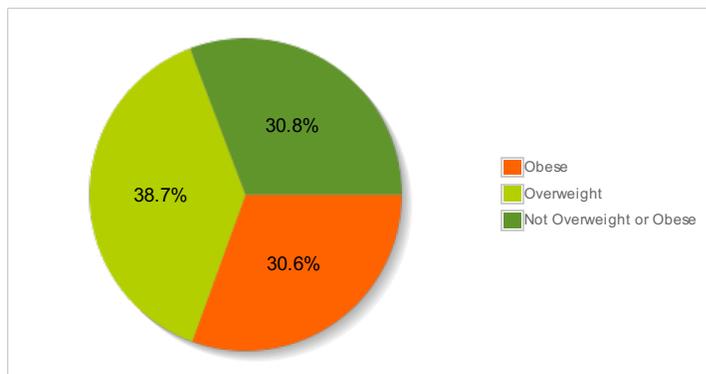
Food Retailers in Auburn	
Full Service Supermarkets	3
Limited Service Stores	7
SNAP Retailers	32
Farmers' Markets	1
Fast-food and Takeout Restaurants	N/A

Source: USDA ERS Food Access, Census County Business Patterns, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, Reinvestment Fund Study of Low Supermarket Access

Health

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) provides survey data about the health of the residents within an area. The chart at right displays the Body Mass Index (BMI) classification for adults in Auburn. It reports that 38.68% of the population is considered overweight and 30.55% is considered obese.

BMI Classification in 2013, Auburn

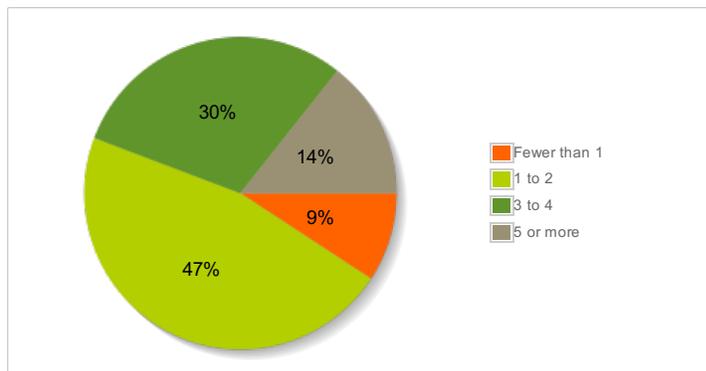


Source: CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2013, ACS 2009-2013

Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

According to the CDC, fruits and vegetables are critical to promoting good health. Most adults need to increase the amount of fruits and vegetables they currently eat to get the amount that's recommended every day. The CDC reports that the recommended level of consumption depends upon an individual's age, weight and current level of physical activity. Visit ChooseMyPlate.gov for specifics on how many servings to eat. Of the adult residents in Auburn, 86% reported eating fewer than 5 fruits and vegetables per day, and 14% report eating five or more per day.

Number of Fruits/Vegetables Consumed per day in 2013, Auburn



Source: CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2013, ACS 2009-2013

Federal Programs & Investments

Areas within Auburn may be targeted for economic development or community development activities. By working within these areas, community development entities or commercial operators may be able to seek grants or loans to finance intervention strategies that address the community's lack of food access. Some certified Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) operate specific programs designed to finance food retailers that choose to locate in an area that otherwise lacks healthy food access. The New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) Program is another federal incentive structure that can provide financing to large commercial developments in eligible areas.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) eligible block groups are places that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has designated for targeted resources. Within this target area, there are 6 CDBG eligible block groups and 3 NMTC eligible tracts. There are 8 CDFIs working to improve distressed areas of the state. [\(See list of certified CDFIs in Maine\)](#)

Federal Program and Investment Dollars in Auburn, ME	
New Markets Tax Credit Investments (QLICI) 2012-2016	\$0
CDFI Loans/Investments 2007-2016	\$1,886,144

Source: CDFI Fund, HUD

Appendix E: Funding

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Cities and towns can strengthen their local food systems through a variety of federal, state, local, and philanthropic projects and programs. USDA and other federal agencies help support local food systems by working with producers, engaging with communities, financing local processing and distribution, or helping retailers develop local food connections. Below are some of the resources available.

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service

Farmers Market Promotion Program

The program aims to increase domestic consumption of and access to locally and regionally produced agricultural products, and to develop new market opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving local markets. This program can support the development, improvement, and expansion of farmers markets, agritourism activities, and other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities. Grant awards range from \$50,000 to \$250,000 for capacity-building projects and \$250,000 to \$500,000 for community development, training, and technical assistance projects. The program requires cost sharing or matching 25 percent of the grant.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/fmpp>

Local Food Promotion Program

The program offers grant funds with a 25 percent match to support the development and expansion of local and regional food business enterprises to increase domestic consumption of, and access to, locally and regionally produced agricultural products, and to develop new market opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving local markets. Planning grants fund the planning stages of establishing or expanding a local and regional food business enterprise. Activities can include but are not limited to market research, feasibility studies, and business planning. Implementation grants help establish, improve, or expand local and regional food business enterprises. Activities can include but are not limited to training and technical assistance for the business enterprise and/or for producers working with the business enterprise; outreach and marketing to buyers and consumers; and non-construction infrastructure improvements to business enterprise facilities or information technology systems.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/lfpp>

Organic Certification Cost Share Programs

Two Organic Certification Cost Share Programs help certified organic operations defray the costs associated with organic certification. Organic operations can be reimbursed for 75 percent of their certification costs up to \$750.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/occsp>

USDA Programs in the Local Food Supply Chain

The Agricultural Marketing Service created a fact sheet to help identify which USDA grants and programs apply to you depending on your place in the local and regional food system.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/FoodSupplyChainFactSheet.pdf>

USDA Rural Development

Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

This program provides funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas with no more than 20,000 residents. Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve local food system facilities such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs, and greenhouses. The program offers grants of up to 75 percent of eligible project costs, low-interest loans, and loan guarantees.

- <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program>

Economic Impact Initiative Grant Program

Funding for essential community facilities is also available through this program for communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression.

- <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/economic-impact-initiative-grants>

Rural Business Development Grants

These grants fund technical assistance, training, and other activities leading to the development or expansion of small businesses in rural areas with no more than 50,000 residents. Generally, grants range from \$10,000 up to \$500,000 and do not require cost sharing. The program can support activities such as training and technical assistance; acquisition or development of land; construction or renovation of buildings, equipment, roads, and utilities; capitalization of revolving loan funds; rural transportation improvements; feasibility studies and business plans; and rural business incubators.

- <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants>

Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program

This micro-loan program can fund agriculture production activities. Potential loan recipients would need to find out if there is an existing loan fund in their geographic area, or an experienced lending organization could apply to Rural Development to start a loan fund.

- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-microentrepreneur-assistance-program>

Value-Added Producer Grants

These grants help agricultural producers with the processing and marketing of value-added products. The program aims to generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities, and increase producer income. Planning grants of up to \$75,000 can be used for activities such as conducting feasibility studies and developing business plans for processing and marketing a value-added product. Working capital grants of up to \$250,000 can be used for processing costs, marketing and advertising expenses, and some inventory and salary expenses. The grants require matching funds of 50 percent of total project costs.

- <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/value-added-producer-grants>

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program

This program provides grants to collaborative partnerships of public or private entities for education, mentoring, and technical assistance initiatives for beginning farmers or ranchers.

- <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/beginning-farmer-and-rancher-development-program-bfrdp>

Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program

This program helps private nonprofit entities fight food insecurity by funding community food projects that help promote the self-sufficiency of low-income communities. Community food projects are designed to increase food security in communities by bringing the whole food system together to assess strengths, establish linkages, and create systems that improve the self-reliance of community members over their food needs. Preferred projects develop linkages between two or more sectors of the food system, support the development of entrepreneurial projects, develop innovative linkages between the for-profit and nonprofit food sectors, encourage long-term planning activities, and build long-term capacity of communities to address the food and agricultural problems of communities. Grants range from \$10,000 to \$400,000 and require a dollar-for-dollar match in resources.

- <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/community-food-projects-competitive-grant-program-cfpcgp>

Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Grant Program

This program supports projects to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables among low-income consumers participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program by providing incentives at the point of purchase. It funds pilot projects at up to \$100,000 over one year; multi-year, community-based projects at up to \$500,000 over no more than four years; and multi-year, large-scale projects of more than \$500,000 over no more than four years. USDA gives priority to projects that provide locally or regionally produced fruits and vegetables.

- <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/food-insecurity-nutrition-incentive-fini-grant-program>

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

The program provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to plan and implement conservation practices that improve soil, water, plant, animal, air, and related natural resources on agricultural land. Producers are eligible for payments totaling up to \$450,000 for completed high tunnel systems that can extend the growing season for high-value crops in an environmentally safe manner. The program can also provide up to \$20,000 per year for organic producers and those transitioning to organic to address natural resource concerns and meet requirements for the National Organic Program.

- <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip/>

USDA Farm Service Agency

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

This program provides low-interest financing so producers can build or upgrade permanent facilities to store commodities. Eligible facilities include cold storage facilities for fruits, vegetables, dairy, and meat products. Producers may borrow up to \$500,000.

- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/price-support/facility-loans/farm-storage/index>

Microloan Program

The Microloan Program helps finance small, beginning, niche, and non-traditional farm operations; farms participating in direct marketing and sales such as farmers markets; and farms using hydroponic, aquaponic, organic, and vertical growing methods. Eligible uses of funds include to make a down payment on a farm; build, repair, or improve farm buildings; purchase hoop houses, tools, and equipment; gain GAP (Good Agricultural Practices), GHP (Good Handling Practices), and organic certification; and market and distribute agricultural products. The maximum loan amount is \$50,000.

- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/microloans/index>

USDA Food and Nutrition Service

Farm to School Grant Program

These grants support farm-to-school programs that improve access to local foods in schools.

- Implementation grants of \$50,000 to \$100,000 help state and local agencies, schools, or school districts scale or further develop existing farm-to-school initiatives.
- Planning grants of \$20,000 to \$50,000 help schools or school districts just getting started on farm-to-school activities organize and structure their efforts for maximum impact by embedding known best practices into early design considerations.
- Training grants of \$20,000 to \$50,000 help state and local agencies, Indian tribal organizations, agricultural producers, and nonprofit entities support trainings that strengthen farm-to-school supply chains or provide technical assistance in local procurement, food safety, culinary education, and/or integration of an agriculture-based curriculum.

- <http://www.fns.usda.gov/farmentoschool/farm-school-grant-program>

Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

This program, similar to the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, awards grants to state agencies and Indian Tribal organizations to provide low-income seniors with coupons for fruits and vegetables at farmers markets. The state agencies provide nutrition education to participants and authorize farmers markets to accept the benefits. For a list of state program contacts, visit:

- <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfmnp/sfmnp-contacts>

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP offers nutrition assistance to low-income individuals and families. Benefits can be used to purchase many of the foods sold at farmers markets, including fruits and vegetables, dairy products, breads and cereals, and meat and poultry. The Food and Nutrition Service works with state agencies, nutrition educators, and neighborhood and faith-based organizations to help that those eligible for nutrition assistance access benefits. The Food and Nutrition Service also has resources for farmers markets and retailers interested in accepting SNAP benefits.

- <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>

USDA Grants and Loans that Support Farm to School Activities

The Office of Community Food Systems created a 2018 fact sheet listing USDA funding available to assist farms, schools, and every link in between in feeding kids healthy local meals; teaching them about food, farming and nutrition; and supporting local agricultural economies.

- <https://www.fns.usda.gov/farmentoschool/grantsandloans>

WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

The program is associated with the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, popularly known as WIC. It awards grants to state agencies and Indian Tribal organizations to provide coupons for fresh, unprepared, locally grown fruits and vegetables to WIC participants for use at farmers markets. The state agencies provide nutrition education to participants and authorize farmers markets to accept the benefits. For a list of state program contacts, visit:

- <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fmnp/fmnp-contacts>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Program

This program provides grants to develop an area-wide plan for assessing, cleaning up, and reusing brownfield sites. Plans focus on a specific project area, such as a neighborhood, downtown district, commercial corridor, old industrial corridor, waterfront, or city block affected by a single large or multiple brownfield sites.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/types-brownfields-grant-funding#tab-5>

Brownfields Assessment Grants

Assessment grants provide funding to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning and community involvement related to sites potentially contaminated by hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or petroleum. The maximum grant amount is \$350,000.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/types-brownfields-grant-funding>

Brownfields Cleanup Grants

Cleanup grants provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at sites contaminated by hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or petroleum. The maximum grant amount is \$200,000 per site.

Awardees must contribute 20 percent of the amount of funding provided by EPA, although waivers of this requirement are available. An applicant must own the site for which it is requesting funding at time of application.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/types-brownfields-grant-funding>

Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program

This program provides financial assistance to organizations for projects that address local environmental and/or public health issues in their communities using EPA's Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Model. The program helps recipients build collaborative partnerships to help them understand and address environmental and public health concerns in their communities.

- <https://www.epa.gov/environmental-justice/environmental-justice-collaborative-problem-solving-cooperative-agreement-0>

Environmental Justice Small Grants

This grant program supports and empowers communities working on solutions to local environmental and public health issues. The program is designed to help communities understand and address exposure to multiple environmental harms and risks and funds projects up to \$30,000. Previously funded projects include Educating South Florida's Residents on Hydroponic Urban Gardening; Promoting Sustainable Agriculture and Healthy Food Production in Athens, Georgia; Creating Safe Soil for Healthy Gardening; and Promoting Urban Agriculture and Food Sustainability in Brooklyn, New York.

- <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-small-grants-program>

Targeted Brownfields Assessments

This program helps states, tribes, and municipalities minimize the uncertainties of contamination often associated with brownfields. This program supplements other efforts under the Brownfields Program to promote the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields. Services include site assessments, cleanup options and cost estimates, and community outreach. Services are for an average of \$100,000. The sites for this program are selected locally, once a year. Applicants should currently have redevelopment plans for the contaminated property.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/targeted-brownfields-assessments-tba>

Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities Program

This program funds three organizations who—with their extensive team of subgrantees, contractors, partners, and other network contacts—provide technical assistance to communities and other stakeholders. The program helps communities tackle the challenge of assessing, cleaning up, and preparing brownfield sites for redevelopment, especially underserved, rural, small and otherwise distressed communities.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/epas-technical-assistance-brownfields-tab-communities-program-providing-technical>

Urban Waters Small Grants

This grant program helps protect and restore urban waters, improve water quality, and support community revitalization and other local priorities. Projects address local water quality issues related to urban runoff pollution, provide additional community benefits, actively engage underserved communities, and foster partnerships. The grants are competed and awarded every two years, with individual award amounts of up to \$60,000.

- <https://www.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants>

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) Entitlement

This program provides funding to help entitled metropolitan cities and urban counties meet their housing and community development needs. This program provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled communities to carry out a wide range of community development activities directed toward neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and improved community facilities and services.

- <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-entitlement/>

CDBG Non-Entitlement Communities Program for States and Small Cities

This program provides funding to help states and units of local government in non-entitled areas meet their housing and community development needs. The program provides grants to carry out a wide range of community development activities directed toward neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and improved community facilities and services. All CDBG activities must meet at least one of the following national objectives: benefit low- and moderate-income persons, aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight, or meet certain urgent community development needs. No less than 70 percent of the funds must be used for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons over a period specified by the state, not to exceed 3 years.

- <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-state/>

CDBG §108 Loan Guarantee Program

This program provides loan guarantee assistance for community and economic development. Section 108 is the loan guarantee provision of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Under this section, HUD offers communities a source of financing for certain community development activities, such as housing rehabilitation, economic development, and large-scale physical development projects. Loans may be for terms up to 20 years.

- <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/section-108/>

Programs of HUD

This 2017 document provides a complete listing of all HUD programs including major mortgage, grants, assistance, and regulatory programs.

- <https://www.hud.gov/hudprograms>

U.S. Small Business Administration

Guaranteed Loans

Loans guaranteed by the Small Business Administration range from \$500 to \$5.5 million and can be used for most business purposes, including long-term fixed assets and operating capital. Businesses must be for-profit, do business in the United States, have invested equity, and have exhausted financing options. Even those with bad credit may qualify for startup funding.

- <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans>

Microloan Program

The Microloan program provides loans up to \$50,000 to help small businesses start up and expand. The average microloan is about \$13,000. The Small Business Administration provides funds to specially designated intermediary lenders, which are nonprofit community-based organizations with experience in lending as well as management and technical assistance. These intermediaries administer the Microloan program for eligible borrowers.

- <https://www.sba.gov/partners/lenders/microloan-program/list-lenders>

Local Assistance

District Offices offer counseling, training, and business development to help you start and grow your business. Regional Offices support local district offices and promote economic development growth and competitiveness within their geographic area. The Small Business Administration also works with a number of local partners to counsel, mentor, and train small businesses. SCORE volunteer business counselors, advisors, and mentors offer individual free to low-cost counseling. Small Business Development Centers provide counseling and training to help small businesses start, grow, and expand small businesses, while Women’s Business Centers focus specifically on women.

- <https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance>

Others

National Endowment for the Arts Our Town Grant Program

Our Town supports creative placemaking projects that integrate arts and culture into community revitalization work—placing arts at the table with land use, transportation, economic development, education, housing, infrastructure, and public safety strategies. Projects require a partnership between a nonprofit organization and a local government entity, with one of the partners being a cultural organization. Matching grants range from \$25,000 to \$200,000. In 2016, the American Dance Institute and the village of Catskill, New York, received an Our Town grant to renovate a former lumberyard and associated buildings into a permanent home for the institute’s artist residency, which will include a

theater, artist housing, and an open interior courtyard for performances, visual arts displays, and the local farmers market.

- <https://www.arts.gov/grants-organizations/our-town/introduction>

Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH)

REACH is a national program administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities. Through REACH, recipients plan and carry out local, culturally appropriate programs to address a wide range of health issues among African Americans, American Indians, Hispanics/Latinos, Asian Americans, Alaska Natives, and Pacific Islanders. REACH gives funds to state and local health departments, tribes, universities, and community-based organizations. Recipients use these funds to build strong partnerships to guide and support the program's work. Along with funding, CDC provides expert support to REACH recipients.

- <https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/state-local-programs/reach/index.htm>

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Transportation Alternative Set Aside

This program provides set-aside funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives (including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity); recreational trail projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former divided highways. Funds are allocated to state departments of transportation, which select projects through a competitive process. Local governments, school districts, and nonprofit organizations responsible for the administration of local transportation safety programs are among the entities eligible to apply for funding.

- http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation_alternatives/guidance/guidance_2016.cfm

Private Grant Funding

While funding programs of individual foundations can change from year to year, these resources are good starting points to look for philanthropic and other private support:

AARP Community Challenge Program

AARP provides small grants for quick-action projects to improve housing, transportation, public space, smart cities and other community elements.

- <https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/about/info-2017/aarp-community-challenge-submission-instructions.html>

Aetna Foundation

The Aetna Foundation funds community groups that are advancing healthy eating and active living in homes, schools, and neighborhoods. A major part of this effort is connecting people of limited means with fresh fruits and vegetables through community gardens, urban farms, and farmers markets.

- <https://www.aetna-foundation.org/grants-partnerships/health-eating-living.html>

American Community Gardening Association

The American Community Gardening Association offers a list of grant opportunities for community gardens and other related projects.

- <https://communitygarden.org/resources/funding-opportunities/>

America Walks Community Challenge Program

The America Walks Community Challenge grant program works to provide support to the growing network of advocates, organizations, and agencies using innovative, engaging, and inclusive programs and projects to create places where all community members have safe, accessible, equitable, and enjoyable places to walk and be physically active.

- <https://americawalks.org/community-change-grants/>

Farmers Market Coalition

The Farmers Market Coalition website includes funding resources for farmers markets and other community food projects.

- <https://farmersmarketcoalition.org/education/funding-opportunities/>

Healthy Food Access Portal

The Healthy Food Access portal was created by PolicyLink, The Food Trust, and Reinvestment Fund to better support communities seeking to launch healthy food retail projects. The portal has a funding section including grants, loans, and incentives suited for healthy food projects.

- <http://www.healthyfoodaccess.org/funding>

Kids Gardening

Kids Gardening provides their own grant programs and maintains a list of additional grant opportunities that support school and youth garden programs.

- <https://kidsgardening.org/grant-opportunities/>

Kresge Foundation

Kresge Foundation's Developing Healthy Places focus area offers programs and grants to promote health equity among people in low-income neighborhoods and foster improved health for entire communities. In 2015, Kresge offered planning grants under the initiative "Fresh, Local & Equitable: Food as a Creative Platform for Neighborhood Revitalization," which "seeks to help create a sense of

place in communities where culinary ventures are integrated into community life, creating synergies that exceed the sum of their parts.”

- <https://kresge.org/grant/build-healthy-places-network>

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation supports research and programs to help build a national culture of health. Projects that link local foods assets such as community gardens and farmers markets with recreation and alternative transportation projects that seek to improve access to healthy foods could fit with the foundation’s giving. The foundation has programs that help to transform local environments in ways that remove health barriers and make it easier for people to lead healthier lives.

- <http://www.rwjf.org/en/our-focus-areas/topics/built-environment-and-health.html>

The foundation also has programs to increase the ability to provide more free fresh produce in low-income communities, raise public awareness about food insecurity, and encourage healthier eating.

- <http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/collections/healthy-food-access.html>

Walmart Community Grant Program

The Walmart Foundation provides community grants of \$500 to \$5,000 to nonprofits, government entities, educational institutions, and faith-based organizations for projects that benefit the service area of a Walmart facility (Walmart Store, Sam's Club, or Logistics Facility). Funding areas include hunger relief and healthy eating, health and human service, quality of life, education, community and economic development, diversity and inclusion, public safety, and environmental sustainability.

- <http://giving.walmart.com/walmart-foundation/community-grant-program>

W.K Kellogg Foundation

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation helps communities transform school food systems, improve community access to good food, and create environments for active living. The foundation accepts grant applications from organizations and institutions throughout the year.

- <https://wrm.wkkf.org/uWebRequestManager/UI/Application.aspx?tid=24bf1841-48f7-4971-b7a7-96bd78992f62&LanguageID=0>

Appendix F: References

Additional resources available are grouped into the following categories:

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I. Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity

Case Studies in Delivering Safe, Comfortable and Connected Pedestrian and Bicycle Networks

This 2015 Federal Highway Administration document provides an overview of pedestrian and bicycle network principles and highlights examples from communities across the country.

- https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/network_report/

Design Guidance

The National Center for Bicycling & Walking compiled resources that provide design guidance for bicycling and pedestrian facilities.

- <http://www.bikewalk.org/thepractice.php>

Guidebook for Developing Pedestrian and Bicycle Performance Measures

This 2016 Federal Highway Administration document helps communities develop performance measures that can fully integrate pedestrian and bicycle planning in ongoing performance management activities.

- http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/performance_measures_guidebook

Resources for Implementing Built Environment Recommendations to Increase Physical Activity

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has created a 2017 compilation of real world examples, a 2018 Implementation Resource Guide, and a 2018 Visual Guide to help communities implement recommendations for built environment approaches that combine one or more interventions to improve transportation systems (activity-friendly routes) with one or more land use and community design interventions (everyday destinations) to increase physical activity.

- <https://www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/community-strategies/beactive/index.html>

Safety Demonstration Projects: Case Studies From Orlando, FL, Lexington, KY, And South Bend, IN

The National Complete Streets Coalition helped three cities build skills in safer street design, creative placemaking, and community engagement, and then put those skills into practice. This 2018 report includes case studies of local demonstration projects in Orlando, Florida; Lexington, Kentucky; and South Bend, Indiana where communities transformed their streets, intersections, and neighborhoods into slower, safer places for people.

- <https://smartgrowthamerica.org/resources/safety-demonstration-projects-case-studies-from-orlando-fl-lexington-ky-and-south-bend-in/?fbclid=IwAR0qTdwv8j1H1NUiC9LLg-j7m0K3ozRSKFeBOQkPj3t9GDHcxY0Y6JRbi9c>

Small Town and Rural Multimodal Networks

This 2016 Federal Highway Administration document helps small towns and rural communities support safe, accessible, comfortable, and active travel for people of all ages and abilities. It provides a bridge between existing guidance on bicycle and pedestrian design and rural practice, encourages innovation in the development of safe and appealing networks for bicycling and walking, and shows examples of project implementation.

- https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/small_towns/fhwahep17024_lg.pdf

II. Community Gardens

Cultivating Community Gardens

The Local Government Commission created a fact sheet on the role of local government in supporting community gardens, including case studies, best management practices, resources, and tools for policy-makers.

- <https://www.lgc.org/community-gardens/>

Elder-Accessible Gardening: A Community Building Option for Brownfields Redevelopment

This 2011 EPA document provides a tip sheet for starting a community garden accessible to people of all age groups and physical activity levels. It includes guidance on starting a garden on a brownfield property.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-elder-accessible-gardening>

Garden Organizer Toolkit

The Vermont Community Garden Network provides tools to help organizers, managers, coordinators, and supporters of community-based gardens, including resources for starting, organizing, and learning in community-based gardens.

- <http://vcgn.org/garden-organizer-toolkit/>

III. Community Kitchens

The Shared Kitchen Toolkit: A Practical Guide to Planning, Launching, and Managing a Shared-Use Commercial Kitchen

The Food Corridor, Fruition Planning and Management, and Purdue Extension Services co-created this 2018 toolkit that delivers guidance on feasibility and planning for new kitchen projects, as well as management practices for the day-to-day operations of shared-use kitchens. It also provides an overview of emerging kitchen models and highlights opportunities for kitchens to expand their community impact and enhance financial sustainability.

- <http://www.thefoodcorridor.com/announcing-the-shared-kitchen-toolkit/>

Commercial Kitchen Guide

The Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture published a guide that provides information on policies and regulations for those looking to open or operate in a community commercial kitchen.

- <http://www.misa.umn.edu/publications/commercialkitchenguide>

Culinary Incubator Map

CulinaryIncubator.com is a nonprofit website to help small food businesses locate commercial kitchens. It includes an interactive map with descriptions of commercial kitchens across the United States.

- <http://www.culinaryincubator.com/maps.php>

IV. Farm to School

Farm to School Resources

The National Farm to School Network has compiled resources for communities working to bring local food sourcing, school gardens, and food and agriculture education into schools and early care and education settings.

- <http://www.farmtoschool.org/resources>

The USDA Farm to School Planning Toolkit

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service created a guide of questions to consider and helpful resources to reference when starting or growing a farm-to-school program. It is designed for use by schools, school districts, and community partners.

- <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/f2s/F2S-Planning-Kit.pdf>

Farm to Child Nutrition Programs Planning Guide

The USDA Office of Community Food Systems created a guide that directs you through questions to consider when starting or growing a farm to school, farm to child care, for farm to summer program. It includes guiding questions, a planning template, and a sample of a completed planning guide.

- <https://www.fns.usda.gov/farmentoschool/farm-school-resources>

V. Farmers Markets

Creating a Farmers Market Living Lab: Lessons Learned in Growing a Farmers Market

This booklet from the Historic Lewes Farmers Market is the result of asking the question: What can we do to increase sales and attendance at our market? It is a summary of lessons learned.

- <https://www.historiclewesfarmersmarket.org/living-lab-report/>

Local and Regional Market News

USDA Market News works with state departments of agriculture and local and regional food systems to provide prices, volume, and other information on agricultural commodities sold at local and regional markets throughout the United States.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/local-regional-food>

Market Makeover: 25 Best Practices for Farmers' Markets

This report from the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project provides guidance for making market improvements and dealing with common issues in the areas of management, regulations, risk management, food safety, improving vendor sales, and marketing.

- <http://asapconnections.org/downloads/market-makeover-25-best-practices-for-farmers-markets.pdf>

National Farmers Market Directory

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service maintains a directory of information about farmers markets, including locations, directions, operating times, product offerings, and accepted forms of payment.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/local-food-directories/farmersmarkets>

National Farmers Market Managers Survey

Nearly 1,400 farmers market managers responded to this national survey that the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service conducted in 2014.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/file/2014-farmers-market-managers-survey-summary-report-final-july-24-2015pdf>

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) at Farmers Markets: A How-To Handbook

This 2010 report from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA Food and Nutrition Service, and Project for Public Spaces, Inc. describes how to accept SNAP benefits at farmers markets, including

what equipment is required, how to install electronic benefit transfer (EBT) systems, and how to make SNAP EBT succeed at farmers markets.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/SNAPat%20Farmers%20Markets%20Handbook.pdf>

Sharing the Harvest: A Guide to Bridging the Divide between Farmers Markets and Low-Income Shoppers

This 2012 report from the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project provides tips and tools to improve the accessibility of local markets and increase consumption of healthy local produce.

- <http://asapconnections.org/downloads/asap-farmers-market-access-guide.pdf>

Understanding the Link Between Farmers' Market Size and Management Organization

This 2007 report by the Oregon State University Extension Service examines common management tools and structures for farmers markets of different sizes to guide strategic planning and resource allocation for new markets and for established markets confronting growth or other significant changes.

- <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sr1082>

VI. Food Co-ops

Capital Campaign Workbook

The Food Co-op Initiative's 2016 workbook helps consumer-owned food co-ops design and implement successful capital campaigns that effectively engage their owners and meet their capital needs.

- <http://www.foodcoopinitiative.coop/sites/default/files/Capital%20Campaign%20Workbook%20Food%20Co-op%20Initiative%20March%202016.pdf>

The FCI Guide to Starting a Food Co-op

This 2017 updated guide from the Food Co-op Initiative provides organizers, board members, and development centers with an introduction to starting a food co-op and an overview of the basic steps and procedures.

- <https://www.fci.coop/sites/default/files/Startup%20guide-02.2017.pdf>

How to Start a Food Co-op Manual

The Cooperative Grocers' Information Network created a guide in 2010 that provides an overview of the basic steps and procedures for starting a food co-op.

- <http://www.cooperativegrocer.coop/library/start-a-food-coop>

Publications for Cooperatives

USDA Rural Development provides publications, reports, and educational materials for cooperatives, including Cooperative Information Reports that provide descriptive information about the cooperative

form of business and various cooperative topics, Research Reports, and Service Reports that include USDA's annual compilation of farm cooperative statistics.

- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/publications/publications-cooperatives>

VII. Food Hubs

Findings of the 2017 National Food Hub Survey

This document by the Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems in cooperation with the Wallace Center at Winrock International details the scope and scale of food hub activities, their challenges, and their regional influence based on a survey of more than 100 food hubs across the country.

- <https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/2017-food-hub-survey>

Moving Food Along the Value Chain: Innovations in Regional Food Distribution

This 2012 report from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service shares lessons learned and best practices from eight producer networks and their partners distributing locally or regionally grown food to retail and food service customers.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/Moving%20Food%20Along%20the%20Value%20Chain%20Innovations%20in%20Regional%20Food%20Distribution.pdf>

Regional Food Hub Resource Guide

This 2012 report from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service examines the role of food hubs in regional food systems and compiles information on the resources available to support them.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/Regional%20Food%20Hub%20Resource%20Guide.pdf>

Running a Food Hub series

USDA Rural Development developed a technical report series in partnership with Virginia Foundation for Agriculture, Innovation and Rural Sustainability and Matson Consulting that offers new and existing food hubs information on how to plan for success, address challenges, and achieve viability.

- Vol 1 – Lessons Learned from the Field (2015)
https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/SR_77_Running_A_Food_Hub_Vol_1.pdf
- Vol 2 – A Business Operations Guide (2015)
https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/SR_77_Running_A_Food_Hub_Vol_2.pdf
- Vol 3 – Assessing Financial Viability (2016)
<https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/publications/SR%2077%20FoodHubs%20Vol3.pdf>
- Vol 4 – Learning from Food Hub Closures (2017)
https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/publications/SR77_FoodHubs_Vol4_0.pdf

VIII. Food Waste

Excess Food Opportunities Map

EPA created the Excess Food Opportunities Map, a national, interactive map that identifies more than 500,000 potential generators of excess food and estimated generation quantities, as well as over 4,000 potential recipients of excess food. The map can help users identify potential sources of food for rescue; potential feedstocks for compost and anaerobic digestion; potential infrastructure gaps for managing excess food; and, alternatives to sending food to landfill. This resource is intended to give users the tools to understand the potential magnitude of excess food in their communities and help make connections between generators and recipients such that more food is diverted from landfills and put toward beneficial uses.

- <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/excess-food-opportunities-map?fbclid=IwAR1rCQWWKbR6yYZqxnE-fRRWNyWarqvKtoRbP7m1AKGeinRFGJm7uuAdMns>

Food Recovery Challenge

As part of EPA's Food Recovery Challenge, organizations pledge to improve their sustainable food management practices and report their results. Food Recovery Challenge participants and endorsers include groups such as grocers, educational institutions, restaurants, faith organizations, sports and entertainment venues, and hospitality businesses. Participants can reduce their environmental footprint, help their community, receive recognition, and get free technical assistance.

- <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/food-recovery-challenge-frc>

Tools for Preventing and Diverting Wasted Food

EPA offers a variety of wasted-food assessment tools to suit a food service establishment's specific circumstances. Several of the tools are described below.

- <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/tools-preventing-and-diverting-wasted-food>

A Guide to Conducting and Analyzing a Food Waste Assessment

Retail, food service, and other food management establishments can use EPA's 2014 guidebook to learn how to take a "snapshot in time" of their wasted food by either manually sorting through materials in a garbage sample or visually observing and estimating waste.

- <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/tools-preventing-and-diverting-wasted-food#assessguide>

Toolkit for Reducing Wasted Food and Packaging

This 2014 toolkit is designed to help food service establishments and commercial kitchens save money by reducing wasted food and packaging with suggested strategies, templates, and case studies. It includes a tool to track the daily amount, type of, and reason for wasted food and packaging. Users enter information into a spreadsheet, which automatically creates graphs and data summaries to help

identify patterns of waste generation. Based on these patterns, a business can make strategic changes to its operation to maximize waste reductions and cost savings.

- <https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/tools-preventing-and-diverting-wasted-food#packaging>

IX. Healthy Living

Community Health Online Resource Center

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention created this database of webinars, model policies, toolkits, guides, fact sheets, and other practical materials to help implement changes to prevent disease and promote healthy living. Content areas include healthy and safe physical environments and healthy eating.

- <https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dch/online-resource/>

Making the Business Case for Prevention Video Series

This series from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows how healthy living initiatives can help businesses increase profits, bring in more customers, and build goodwill. The series includes videos about healthy food programs, city planning, and community partnerships.

- <https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/multimedia/videos.html>

SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework and Interpretative Guide

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service created this 2016 guide to measure the success of SNAP-Ed programs. It provides information on evidence-based obesity prevention interventions and policy, systems, and environmental change interventions. It also provides information on outcome indicators' background and context, outcome measures, surveys and data collection tools, and more.

- <https://snaped.fns.usda.gov/evaluation/evaluation-framework-and-interpretive-guide>

X. Smart Growth and Placemaking

The Built Environment: An Assessment Tool and Manual

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2015 assessment tool helps communities measure the core features and qualities of the built environment that affect health, including walkability, bikeability, and access to grocery stores, convenience stores, and farmers markets.

- <https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dch/built-environment-assessment/>

Creative Placemaking on Vacant Properties: Lessons Learned from Four Cities

This Center for Community Progress 2018 report offers practical guidance for communities curious about how to leverage the power of creative placemaking to transform vacant properties. It includes a creative placemaking primer and key takeaways based on work conducted over the course of two

years. It also explores emerging practices in four communities: Kalamazoo, Michigan; Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania; Newburgh, New York; and Macon, Georgia.

- http://action.communityprogress.net/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?signup_page_KEY=11388&fbclid=IwAR3Xx0Md0abEeLOVNfIHJbSdgCKliwV9h0C5qelc7ydsxiPRne1bQp4GsJO

Growing Food Connections

This website from the American Planning Association provides planning and policy briefs and other resources to help increase food security in vulnerable areas, strengthen the sustainability and economic resilience of urban and rural communities, and support farms engaged in local and regional food systems that use sustainable practices.

- <https://www.planning.org/research/foodconnections/>

Smart Growth

EPA's smart growth website provides publications, tools, and other information on a range of development and conservation strategies that help protect our health and natural environment and make our communities more attractive, economically stronger, and more diverse.

- <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth>

XI. Urban Agriculture

Aquaponics Business Plan User Guide

This 2016 EPA document is modeled after the Urban Farm Business Plan Handbook (see below) and provides an outline and guidance for the development of a business plan for an aquaponic farm.

- <https://www.epa.gov/land-revitalization/aquaponics-business-plan-user-guide>

Brownfields and Community Supported Agriculture

EPA's Brownfields program provides information on community supported and urban agriculture projects on brownfield properties.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-community-supported-agriculture>

Brownfields and Urban Agriculture: Interim Guidelines for Safe Gardening Practices

This EPA document is a condensation of the input of 60 experts from academia, state, and local government, and the nonprofit sector who gathered in Chicago on October 21 and 22, 2010 to outline the range of issues which need to be addressed in order to safely grow food on former brownfields sites.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-urban-agriculture-interim-guidelines-safe-gardening-practices>

How Does Your Garden Grow? Brownfields Redevelopment and Local Agriculture

This 2009 EPA document provides some insight on how best grow safe food during brownfields redevelopment.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/how-does-your-garden-grow-brownfields-redevelopment-and-local-agriculture>

Industrial Properties Renewed Through Agriculture: Reusing Land to Support Agriculture and Food Systems

This 2010 EPA document discusses reusing industrial brownfields that might serve a wide variety of agriculture-related reuses, including important public health considerations as well as environmental and planning and zoning considerations.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-industrial-properties-renewed-through-agriculture>

Steps to Create a Community Garden or Expand Urban Agriculture

EPA's Brownfields Program offers information on how to create a community garden or expand urban agriculture, particularly in areas that might be at risk from potential contaminants.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/steps-create-community-garden-or-expand-urban-agriculture>

Urban Agriculture Toolkit

This 2016 toolkit from USDA lays out the common operational elements that most urban farmers must consider as they start or grow their operations. It also contains a section on resources for developing indoor growing operations, such as aquaponic facilities. For each element, the toolkit identifies technical and financial resources from federal, state, and local partners.

- <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/urban-agriculture-toolkit.pdf>

Urban Farm Business Plan Handbook

This 2011 document from EPA, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the U.S. Department of Transportation provides guidance for developing a business plan for the startup and operation of nonprofit and for-profit urban farms.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/urban-farm-business-plan-handbook>

The associated Urban Farm Business Plan Worksheets provide a framework in which to compile and organize the information needed to draft a business plan.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/urban-farm-business-plan-worksheets>

XII. General

Communities for Healthy Food: The Toolkit – A Practical Guide for Integrating Healthy Food Access and Social Justice into Community Development

This 2018 toolkit from LISC NYC helps community organizations use healthy food access strategies and food justice principles to enhance their community development efforts. The toolkit presents a flexible and comprehensive approach to planning, designing, and implementing a portfolio of programs to ensure low-income communities and communities of color have access to healthier food options, a voice in the food movement, and economic opportunities.

- http://www.lisc.org/media/filer_public/bd/63/bd6327a3-8841-45b0-9eba-1b9fa3f90ce6/lisc_nyc_communities_for_healthy_food_toolkit_march_2018.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3njWOP1Nz3eHGBOQ8wKuehF5z7NvH1XVnWACLbWQ6LcEM7Pn2gmtIkEro

The Economics of Local Food Systems: A Toolkit to Guide Community Discussions, Assessments and Choices

This 2016 toolkit produced by the USDA Agriculture Marketing Service helps guide and enhance the capacity of local organizations to make more deliberate and credible measurements of local and regional economic activity and other ancillary benefits.

- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/ILAMSToolkit.pdf>

The Economics of Local Food: An Emerging Community of Practice

Colorado State University hosts a website aimed to help communities understand agriculture and food enterprise viability, market dynamics, and other key socio-economics metrics of local and regional food systems.

- <https://localfoodeconomics.com/>

Farmland Access Legal Toolkit

The Center for Agriculture and Food Systems at Vermont Law School created this online resource to help farmers and landowners affordably access, transfer, and conserve farmland. The toolkit explains legal arrangements that provide farmers more affordable and equitable farmland access and help landowners balance earning income for retirement with making their land affordable to the next generation of farmers.

- https://farmlandaccess.org/?fbclid=IwAR12aAoLz84nRya9R-vdPBjFg9pjSHKQzyMsZuk0BICcmR_ab5K6eFPrk8A

Food Value Chains: Creating Shared Value to Enhance Marketing Success

This 2014 report by the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service provides guidance on how food value chains are initiated and structured, how they function, and the benefits they provide to participants.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/local-regional/food-value-chain>

Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) & Good Handling Practices (GHP) Auditing and Accreditation Programs

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service provides voluntary audit and accreditation programs that let producers and suppliers of agricultural products assure customers of their ability to provide consistent quality products or services. The programs are paid through hourly user fees.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/auditing/gap-ghp>

Harvesting Opportunity: The Power of Regional Food System Investments to Transform Communities

The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's agencies of Rural Development and the Agricultural Marketing Service published a 2017 book that focuses on regional food systems as a means for enhancing economic opportunity. It explores recent findings; highlights models for collaboration between policymakers, practitioners, and the financial community; and discusses research, policy, and resource gaps that, if addressed, might contribute to the success of regional food systems strategies.

- <https://www.stlouisfed.org/community-development/publications/harvesting-opportunity>

Local Food Compass Map

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service hosts the Local Food Compass Map to provide a quick way for farmers, ranchers, market managers, consumers, and others to learn more about local and regional food projects in their communities and across the United States. The searchable map can be filtered and selected by state or tailored regions to see farmers markets, food hubs, and assets like meat processors and farm to school programs. The map also includes local food projects and programs funded through USDA and other federal agencies.

- www.ams.usda.gov/local-food-sector/compass-map

Local Food Directories

USDA's voluntary Local Food Directories help producers and customers locate farmers markets, on-farm markets, CSAs, and food hubs across the country. These listings can help potential vendors, partners, and customers find local food market opportunities.

- www.ams.usda.gov/services/local-regional/food-directories

Local Food Research & Development

The USDA Agriculture Marketing Service produces research-based publications on a range of local food market channels to help producers, market managers, planners, and others better understand the impact of these outlets on local economic development, food access, and farm profitability.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/local-regional>

Measuring Rural Wealth Creation: A Guide for Regional Development Organizations

This 2016 document by the National Association of Development Organizations introduces concepts of measuring progress in rural wealth creation for regional development organizations that are involved in a range of community and economic development within their regions. The guide includes

information on developing a measurement plan, measuring multiple forms of community capital beyond jobs, measuring inclusiveness and local ownership of assets, and more strategies and tips for measuring and communicating progress.

- <https://www.nado.org/measuring-rural-wealth-creation-a-guide-for-regional-development-organizations/>

National Good Food Network - Webinar Archive

The Wallace Center Winrock International supports the National Good Food Network, which offers monthly interactive webinars to learn and connect with on-the-ground practitioners and experts. Topic areas include: aggregation/distribution; business/finance; certification; farm to school; farming; food hubs; food safety; funding; infrastructure; metrics/evaluation; policy; processing/value add; retail/foodservice; social justice/food access; training/education; value chains; food hubs; food safety; research.

- <http://ngfn.org/resources/ngfn-cluster-calls/ngfn-cluster-calls>

Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program

EPA's Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program is a voluntary membership program that promotes the adoption of innovative, alternative pest control practices such as integrated pest management. It publicly recognizes members who have demonstrated their commitment to environmental stewardship and made progress in reducing pesticide risk. Members can receive technical support for transitioning to lower-risk pest management practices and developing integrated pest management strategies.

- <https://www.epa.gov/pesp>

Wholesale Markets and Facility Design

The USDA Wholesale Markets and Facility Design Team provides technical assistance on the construction or remodeling of wholesale markets, farmers markets, public markets, and food hubs.

- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/local-regional/facility-design>

Green Infrastructure

Green infrastructure is a cost-effective, resilient approach to managing wet weather impacts that provides many community benefits. Learn more about green infrastructure elements that can be woven into a community, from small-scale elements integrated into sites to larger scale elements spanning entire watersheds.

- <https://www.epa.gov/green-infrastructure/what-green-infrastructure>
- [Downspout Disconnection](#)
- [Rainwater Harvesting](#)
- [Rain Gardens](#)
- [Planter Boxes](#)
- [Bioswales](#)
- [Permeable Pavements](#)
- [Green Streets and Alleys](#)
- [Green Parking](#)
- [Green Roofs](#)
- [Urban Tree Canopy](#)
- [Land Conservation](#)

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF MAY 19, 2020

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

SUBJECT:

Public Hearing & Final Passage for re-zoning the properties at 949 College Street, 2 East Merrill Rd, 4 East Merrill Rd, 6 East Merrill Rd, 8 East Merrill Rd, 10 East Merrill Rd and portions of 1 East Merrill Rd, 3 East Merrill Rd and 5 East Merrill Rd from the Rural Agriculture (RA) District to the Low-Density Residential (LDR) District.

INFORMATION:

The property owner of 10 East Merrill Road would like to change the zoning of the properties listed above as part of his request to modify the front and side building setback requirements for the construction of a residence and accessory structure at 10 East Merrill Rd. The split zoning of the Latulippe Subdivision directly impacts 3 other properties at 1, 3 and 5 East Merrill Rd.

On April 28, 2020 the Planning Board voted unanimously (7-0) to send a favorable recommendation to the City Council to rezone the above referenced properties.

The attached memorandum from City Planner Douglas Greene offers additional information regarding this item.

APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

The City Administrator recommends approval of the requested action.

EAB/kmm

REQUESTED ACTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	M
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That the proposed amendment to re-zone the properties at 949 College Street, 2 East Merrill Rd, 4 East Merrill Rd, 6 East Merrill Rd, 8 East Merrill Rd, 10 East Merrill Rd and portions of 1 East Merrill Rd, 3 East Merrill Rd and 5 East Merrill Rd from the Rural Agriculture (RA) District to the Low-Density Residential (LDR) District, receive final passage by a roll call vote.

AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO ZONING BOUNDARIES

THE CITY OF LEWISTON HEREBY ORDAINS:

Appendix A of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lewiston, Maine is hereby amended as follows:

APPENDIX A

ZONING AND LAND USE CODE ARTICLE IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICTS

Sec. 1. Zoning Map

The City of Lewiston hereby ordains that the official Zoning Map of the City of Lewiston be amended by rezoning the properties located at 2 East Merrill Road (*See* Androscoggin County Registry of Deeds at Book 3925, Page 169), 949 College Street (*See* Said Registry at Book 5260, Page 121), 4 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 7643, Page 4), 6 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 5118, Page 348), 8 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 8090, Page 56), 10 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 9672, Page 251), and portions of 1 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 7396, Page 246), 3 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 6600, Page 58), and 5 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 4016, Page 298); as described in the Map attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and depicted on Land Use and Space and Bulk Chart attached hereto as Exhibit "B", from the Rural Agriculture (RA) to Low Density Residential (LDR).

REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

The reasons for the proposed amendment includes correcting the split zoning of the Latulippe Subdivision, which will permit lot owners to make reasonable modifications and additions to the structures on their land. Said purpose is in compliance with the City of Lewiston's Legacy Lewiston Comprehensive Plan (hereinafter the "Plan"), which states "[f]urther from downtown, neighborhoods take on suburban pattern with cul-de-sacs and limited points of entry. These low-density neighborhoods started developing in the 1950s, utilizing a suburban a form that was supported by the City's zoning and land use code." *See* Legacy Lewiston Comprehensive Plan at Page 33.

The proposed amendment would correct a split in zoning as to 1, 3, and 5 East Merrill Road. All three properties are currently both Low Density Residential and Rural Agricultural. This split in zoning creates uncertainty for the subject properties in complying with the zoning and land use code.

Rezoning the entire Latulippe Subdivision to Low-Density Residential (LDR) will align the neighborhood character with the appropriate zoning.

CONFORMANCE WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The City Council of the City of Lewiston hereby determines that the change to the Zoning Map is in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan for the following reasons:

- 1) The properties are currently zoned partly Rural Agricultural (RA), while some lots are partially or entirely zoned as Low Density Residential LDR).
- 2) The Legacy Lewiston Comprehensive Plan describes Low-Density development as, “[f]urther from downtown, neighborhoods take on suburban pattern with cul-de-sacs and limited points of entry. These low-density neighborhoods started developing in the 1950s, utilizing a suburban a form that was supported by the City’s zoning and land use code.”
- 3) The Latulippe Subdivision was designed and approved as a low density neighborhood not as an agricultural area. *See* Legacy Lewiston Comprehensive Plan at Page 33.

We therefore believe the new zoning will meet the purposes of the LDR zone. Below is a table showing how the Rural Agricultural (AR) District compares to the Low Density Residential (LDR) District.



CITY OF LEWISTON

Department of Planning & Code Enforcement

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Douglas Greene, City Planner

DATE: April 28, 2020

RE: Planning Board recommendation: East Merrill Road Area Zone Request

The Planning Board took the following action at their Zoom meeting held on April 27, 2020:

MOTION: by **Lucy Bisson**, to send a favorable recommendation to the City Council for the zoning application to change the zoning of properties located at 949 College Street, 2 East Merrill Road, 4 East Merrill Road, 6 East Merrill Road, 8 East Merrill Road, 10 East Merrill Road and portions of 1 East Merrill Road, 3 East Merrill Road and 5 East Merrill Road from Rural Agriculture (RA) to Low-Density Residential (LDR) in the Latulippe Subdivision with the findings:

1. The application meets the requirements of Article XVII, Amendment and Other Legal Provision, Section 5 Amendments.
2. The purpose and intent of the 1988 amended Latulippe Subdivision was to create a low-density type development.
3. The rezoning of the portion of the Latulippe Subdivision currently zoned Rural Agriculture (RA) to Low-Density Residential will bring the development into conformance with the Comprehensive Plan's description of a low-density type development (pg. 33).
4. The portion of the Latulippe Subdivision zoned Low-Density Residential in 1988, did not anticipate that the subsequent low-density development (Latulippe Subdivision rev. 2) would extend into land zoned Rural Agriculture and create split-zoned properties.

Second by **Norman Anctil**.

VOTED: 7-0 (Passed Unanimously)

During the public hearing for this item, no one spoke in opposition or support.

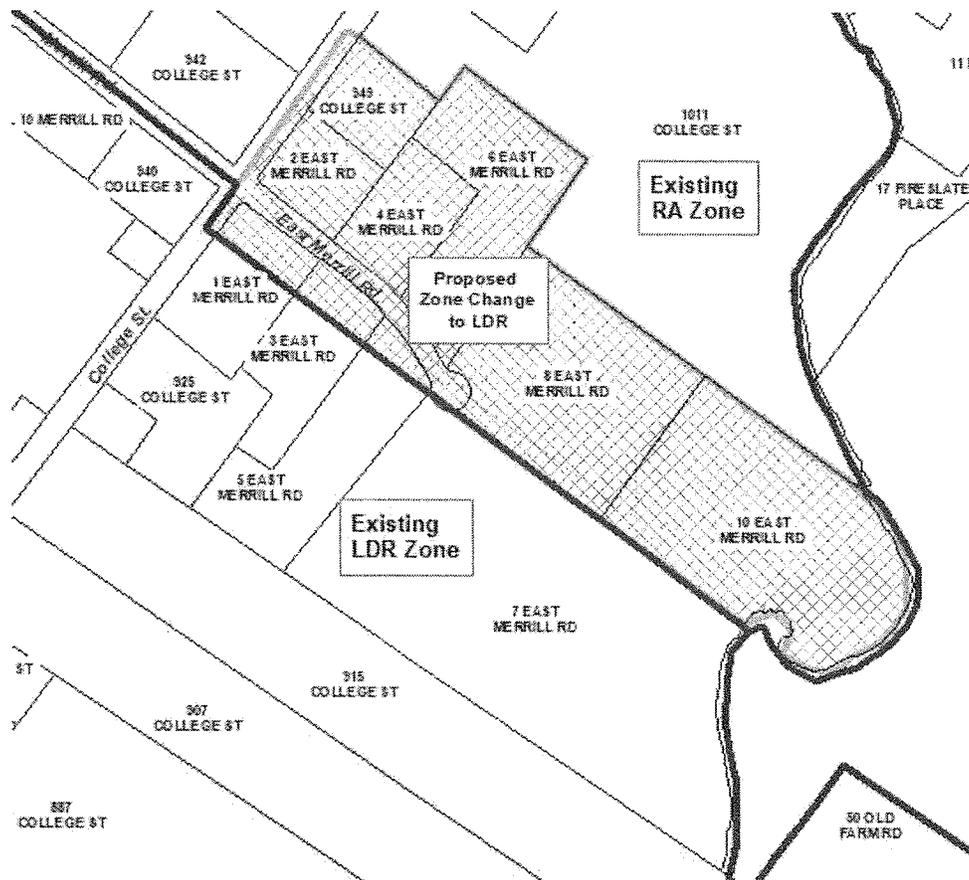


CITY OF LEWISTON

Department of Planning & Code Enforcement

TO: Lewiston Planning Board
 FROM: Douglas Greene, AICP, RLA, City Planner
 DATE: April 27, 2020
 RE: Agenda Item 4b, East Merrill Road Zone Change Request

A petition submitted by David Langelier, property owner of 10 East Merrill Road, seeks to change the zoning from Agricultural Rural (AR) to Low-Density Residential (LDR) for properties located at 949 College Street, 2 East Merrill Road, 4 East Merrill Road, 6 East Merrill Road, 8 East Merrill Road, 10 East Merrill Road, and portions of 1 East Merrill Road, 3 East Merrill Road and 5 East Merrill Road. The properties proposed to be rezoned are shown as hatched on the map below and were created in 1988 with the Latulippe Subdivision revision 2.



The proposed zone change for a portion of the Latulippe Subdivision is shown as hatched.

The applicant, David Langelier, submitted this zone change request, in part, to modify the front and side building setback requirements for the construction of a residence and accessory structures at 10 East Merrill Road. The split zoning of the Latulippe Subdivision directly impacts 3 other properties, 1, 3 and 5 East Merrill Road.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

The applicant has provided Exhibit C in the application that provides a history of how the split zoning of Rural Agricultural (RA) and Low-Density Residential came about. This area of Lewiston had been zoned agricultural for many years. A zoning map from 1985 shows some changes to the area with Industrial (I) zoning to the southwest and a Residential (R8) zone to the south. In 1988, an area on the east side of College Street up to the intersection of Merrill Road was zoned to Low-Density Residential (LDR) zoning, and an area to the east was zoned to Office Service (OS). The next zoning map (1990) shows a new road, East Merrill Road, near the location of the Rural (R) and LDR zones. Finally, the last zoning map (1991) shows the lotting of the Latulippe Subdivision. Staff looked at the subdivision history in the area and found the original 1973 Latulippe Subdivision, a rural type of development, as amended in 1988 in a low-density residential development pattern. The Agricultural and Low-Density Residential zoning splits the development but not down the centerline of the new East Merrill Road.

ZONING MAP AMENDMENT APPLICATION

Mr. Langelier, the applicant, met with Staff to discuss his desire to rezone his property from Rural Agriculture (RA) to Low-Density Residential (LDR) in order to meet building setback for the construction of a garage and house at the end of a frontage right of way. In discussing his zone change request, it was felt a more appropriate approach would be to request a zone change for the entire Latulippe Subdivision to LDR by removing the split zoning.

The application submitted to the Planning Board includes a petition to amend the zoning map, an ordinance to change zoning boundaries, the reasons for the proposed amendment, a statement how the request complies with the Comprehensive Plan, and a map showing the proposed change to the zoning map.

STAFF REVIEW and COMMENTS

In its review, the Staff recognizes that the primary purpose of this zone change request is to reconcile a disparity of a low-density subdivision that is split zoned Rural Agriculture and Low Density Residential districts. The Comprehensive Plan on page 33, describes low-density type development as, "Further from downtown, neighborhoods take on a suburban pattern with cul-de-sacs and limited entry points. These low-density neighborhoods started developing in the 1950s, utilizing a suburban form that was supported by the City's zoning and land use codes." The Staff sees the split zoning of the Latulippe Subdivision as an unintended oversight.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Planning Board send a favorable recommendation to the City Council for the proposed zoning map amendment to change the properties zoned Rural Agriculture (RA) in the Latulippe Subdivision to Low-Density Residential (LDR).

ACTION NECESSARY

Make a motion to send a favorable recommendation to the City Council for the zoning application to change properties zoned Rural Agriculture (RA) in the Latulippe Subdivision to Low-Density Residential (LDR) with the findings:

1. The application meets the requirements of Article XVII, Amendment and Other Legal Provision, Section 5 Amendments.
2. The purpose and intent of the 1988 amended Latulippe Subdivision was to create a low-density type development.

3. The rezoning of the portion of the Latulippe Subdivision currently zoned Rural Agriculture (RA) to Low-Density Residential will bring the development into conformance with the Comprehensive Plan's description of a low-density type development (pg. 33).
4. The portion of the Latulippe Subdivision zoned Low-Density Residential in 1988, did not anticipate that the subsequent low-density development (Latulippe Subdivision rev. 2) would extend into land zoned Rural Agriculture and create split-zoned properties.

April 3, 2020

Lewiston Planning Board
City Council Chambers
27 Pine Street
Lewiston, ME 04240

Re: East Merrill Subdivision Rezoning Request

Dear Sir or Madam:

On behalf of my client, David Langelier, I submit the attached Petition to Amend the Zoning and Land Use Code for the City of Lewiston. This request asks this Board to rezone properties located in a single subdivision on East Merrill Road. The subdivision and the effected properties are depicted on maps enclosed herewith.

My client has the particular interest of modifying the setback requirements for his property located at 10 East Merrill Road, but this rezoning petition benefits more than his property alone. Several properties located in the subdivision, namely 1, 3, and 5 East Merrill, are “split zoned” i.e. the lots are divided by the Rural Agricultural (RA) and Low Density Residential (LDR) boundaries. In addition, lots across the street from one another, of the same type, purpose and use, are zoned differently.

These properties originally came into existence in 1973 as the “Latulippe Development” at that time consisted of large rural lots zoned as Agricultural, now referred to as Rural. In 1988 the City of Lewiston revised its zoning maps, and divided the area at issue between Agricultural and Low Density Agricultural, seemingly along the lot lines described in the 1973 Latulippe plan. Later in 1988, however, the Latulippe plan was amended to add a number of lots and a road. Unfortunately, this subdivision was now divided between Agricultural and Low Density Residential and some lots as described above were bisected by that existing 1988 zoning line. The zoning was never modified to recognize the subdivision amendment and the inconsistency was carried forward to the current 1991 zoning map depicting the land. This progression is detailed in the map series attached to the Petition as “Exhibit C”.

In order to correct the discrepancy created by the split and mixed zoning in the subdivision, we hereby request that all lots in the subdivision, as listed on the Petition attached hereto, are re-zoned as LDR. This will resolve the inconsistencies, and better serve the actual lot usage in the subdivision. Furthermore, this change in zoning is supported by and in conformity with the City of Lewiston’s Comprehensive Plan, as further detailed in the attached Petition.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have regarding the enclosed materials.

Sincerely,

Emma Burgess Roy, Esq.
ISAACSON & RAYMOND, P.A.

EBR
Enclosures

AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO ZONING BOUNDARIES

THE CITY OF LEWISTON HEREBY ORDAINS:

Appendix A of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lewiston, Maine is hereby amended as follows:

APPENDIX A

ZONING AND LAND USE CODE ARTICLE IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICTS

Sec. 1. Zoning Map

The City of Lewiston hereby ordains that the official Zoning Map of the City of Lewiston be amended by rezoning the properties located at 2 East Merrill Road (*See* Androscoggin County Registry of Deeds at Book 3925, Page 169), 949 College Street (*See* Said Registry at Book 5260, Page 121), 4 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 7643, Page 4), 6 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 5118, Page 348), 8 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 8090, Page 56), 10 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 9672, Page 251), and portions of 1 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 7396, Page 246), 3 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 6600, Page 58), and 5 East Merrill Road (*See* Said Registry at Book 4016, Page 298); as described in the Map attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and depicted on Land Use and Space and Bulk Chart attached hereto as Exhibit "B", from the Rural Agriculture (RA) to Low Density Residential (LDR).

REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

The reasons for the proposed amendment includes correcting the split zoning of the Latulippe Subdivision, which will permit lot owners to make reasonable modifications and additions to the structures on their land. Said purpose is in compliance with the City of Lewiston's Legacy Lewiston Comprehensive Plan (hereinafter the "Plan"), which states "[f]urther from downtown, neighborhoods take on suburban pattern with cul-de-sacs and limited points of entry. These low-density neighborhoods started developing in the 1950s, utilizing a suburban a form that was supported by the City's zoning and land use code." *See* Legacy Lewiston Comprehensive Plan at Page 33.

The proposed amendment would correct a split in zoning as to 1, 3, and 5 East Merrill Road. All three properties are currently both Low Density Residential and Rural Agricultural. This split in zoning creates uncertainty for the subject properties in complying with the zoning and land use code.

Rezoning the entire Latulippe Subdivision to Low-Density Residential (LDR) will align the neighborhood character with the appropriate zoning.

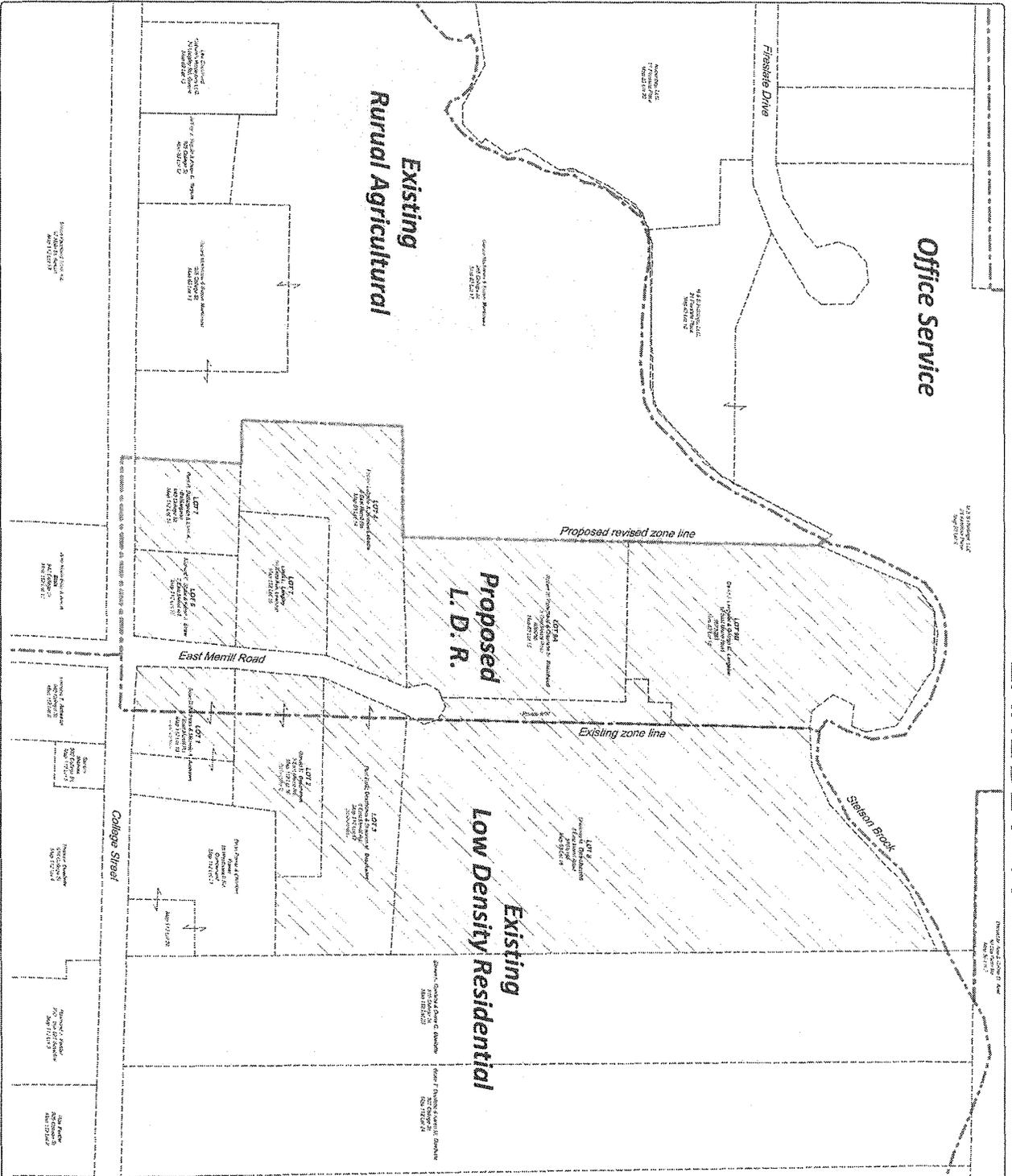
CONFORMANCE WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The City Council of the City of Lewiston hereby determines that the change to the Zoning Map is in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan for the following reasons:

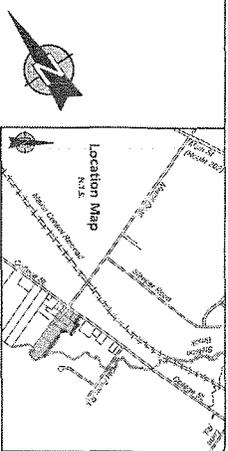
- 1) The properties are currently zoned partly Rural Agricultural (RA), while some lots are partially or entirely zoned as Low Density Residential LDR).
- 2) The Legacy Lewiston Comprehensive Plan describes Low-Density development as, “[f]urther from downtown, neighborhoods take on suburban pattern with cul-de-sacs and limited points of entry. These low-density neighborhoods started developing in the 1950s, utilizing a suburban a form that was supported by the City’s zoning and land use code.” *See* Legacy Lewiston Comprehensive Plan at Page 33.
- 3) The Latulippe Subdivision revision (1988) was planned and approved as a low density neighborhood not as an agricultural type subdivision.

We therefore believe the new zoning will meet the purposes of the LDR zone. Below is a table showing how the Rural Agricultural (AR) District compares to the Low Density Residential (LDR) District.

EXHIBIT A



Zone Change Request

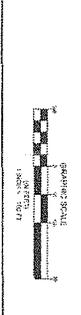


General Notes:

- This plan is subject to the zoning laws, regulations and provisions of the City of Lewiston, Maine, and the zoning map of the City of Lewiston, Maine, as amended.
- The zoning map of the City of Lewiston, Maine, as amended, is hereby adopted as the zoning map for the purposes of this plan.
- The zoning map of the City of Lewiston, Maine, as amended, is hereby adopted as the zoning map for the purposes of this plan.
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Legend:

Existing	Proposed
Property Line	Property Line
Zone Line	Zone Line
Lot Line	Lot Line
Lot Area	Lot Area
Lot Dimensions	Lot Dimensions
Lot Number	Lot Number
Lot Owner	Lot Owner
Lot Address	Lot Address
Lot Zoning	Lot Zoning
Lot Area	Lot Area
Lot Dimensions	Lot Dimensions
Lot Number	Lot Number
Lot Owner	Lot Owner
Lot Address	Lot Address
Lot Zoning	Lot Zoning



Petitioners' Plan of Zoning Map Amendment
of one boundary between
Low-Density Residential & Rural Agricultural Zones
East Merrill Road
Lewiston, Maine
prepared for
City of Lewiston

PROJECT #18-4001
DATE: 2/29/20
SCALE: 1" = 100'

Rev.	Date	Drawn/Checked	Note
2/20/20	JCC	ooh	Issued to petitioners for review
2/21/20	JCC		Revised per City Planner comments
2/8/20	JCC		Revised per City Planner comments

SWI SURVEYWORKS, INC. This plan shall not be modified without the written consent of SWI Surveyworks, Inc. SWI Surveyworks, Inc. is not responsible for any errors or omissions in this plan or for any consequences arising therefrom. SWI Surveyworks, Inc. shall not be held liable for any damages, including consequential damages, arising out of or from the use of this plan. SWI Surveyworks, Inc. shall not be held liable for any damages, including consequential damages, arising out of or from the use of this plan.

Exhibit B

Sec. 22. Land Use Requirements.

(a) Land Use Requirements - All buildings or structures hereafter erected, reconstructed, altered, enlarged, or relocated, and uses of premises shall be in conformity with the provisions of this Code. No building, structures, land or water area shall be used for any purpose or in any manner except as permitted within the District in which such building, structure, land and water area is located. The District designation for a particular site shall be determined and apply to all land shown on the "Official Zoning Map, City of Lewiston" _

Key to Table:

(P) Allowed/Permitted(the use must be inÜonformance with all applicable sections of the Zoning and Land Use Code)

(C) Allowed/Permitted only after the issuance of a conditional use permit in accordance with Article X of this Code (the use must be on conformance with all applicable sections of the Zoning and Land Use Code)

Blank/Empty Column Use not allowed/permitted space and bulk requirement not applicable

Land Use Table: All Zoning Districts 02.20.2020	Rural Agricultural (RA)	Low Density Residential (LDR)
USES (15)(33)		
Accessory use or structure	P	P
Commercial Service		
Veterinary facilities excluding kennels and humane societies		
Veterinary facilities including kennels and humane societies	C	
Nursery School	C	C
Small day care facilities	C	P(22)
Day care centers	C	
Day care centers accessory to public schools, religious facilities, multifamily or mixed res. developments, and mobile home parks		C(22)
Business and professional offices including research, experimental, testing laboratories, engineering, research, management and related services		
Restaurants		
Drinking places		
Adult business establishments		
Hotels, motels, inns		
Movie theaters except drive-in theaters		

Places of indoor assembly, amusement or culture		
Art and crafts studios		
Personal Services		
Retail stores		
Neighborhood retail stores		
Lumber and building materials dealer		
Gasoline service stations		
Gasoline service stations which are a part of and subordinate to a retail use		
New and used car dealers		
Recreational vehicle, mobile home dealers		
Equipment dealers and equipment repair		
Automotive services including repair		
Registered dispensary(27)		
Registered primary caregivers engaged in the cultivations of medical marijuana for two to five registered patients.		
Tattoo Establishments		
Marijuana store(27)		
Industrial		
Light industrial uses		
Industrial uses		
Building and construction contractors		
Fuel oil dealers and related facilities		
Wholesale sales, warehousing and distribution facilities and self-storage facilities		
Self storage facilities		
Commercial solid waste disposal facilities		
Junkyards and auto graveyards		
Recycling and reprocessing facilities		
Private industrial/commercial developments(23)		
Marijuana cultivation, manufacturing, testing, nurseries, and registered dispensary (27)		
Transportation		
Airports or heliports	C	
Commercial parking facilities		
Transit and ground transportation facilities		
Transportation facilities		
Public and Utility		
Pumping stations, standpipes or other water supply uses involving facilities located on or above the ground surface and towers for municipal use	P	P
Utility structures	C	C
Municipal buildings and facilities	C	C

Preservation of historic areas; emergency and fire protection activities; bridges and public roadways		
Dams		
Land Use Table: All Zoning Districts 02.20.2020	Rural Agricultural (RA)	Low Density Residential (LDR)
Institutional		
Religious facilities	P	P
Cemeteries	P	P
Congregate care/assisted living facilities, institutions for the handicapped, nursing or convalescent homes, group care facilities		
Hospitals, medical clinics		
Museums, libraries, and non-profit art galleries and theaters		
Academic institutions, including buildings or structures for classroom, administrative, laboratory, dormitories, art, theater, dining services, library, bookstores, athletic facilities and student recreational uses, together with buildings accessory to the foregoing permitted principal buildings or structures		
Civic and social organizations		
Public community meeting and civic function buildings including auditoriums		
Residential		
Single-family detached dwellings on individual residential lots	P(8)	P
Mobile homes on individual residential lots	P(8)	
Two-family dwellings		
Multifamily dwellings in accordance with the standards of Article XIII		
Single-Family attached dwelling in accordance with the standards of Article XIII	C	
Mixed single-family residential developments in accordance with the standards of Article XIII	C	P
Mixed residential developments in accordance with the standards of Article XIII		P
Mixed use structures		
Lodging houses		
Home occupations	P	P
Bed and breakfast establishments as a home occupation	P	P

In-law apartments in accordance with the standards of Article XII	P	P
Single family cluster development	P	P
Family day care home	P	P
Shelters		
Dormitories		
Natural Resource		
Agriculture	P(8)	
Farm Stands	P	
Forest management and timber harvesting activities in accordance with the standards of Article XIII	P	P
Earth material removal	C	
Community gardens(20)	P	P
Water dependent uses, e.g. docks and marinas		
Non-residential structures for educational, scientific or nature interpretation purposes, containing a maximum floor area of not more than ten thousand (10,000) square feet		
Recreation		
Campgrounds	C	
Public or private facilities for nonintensive outdoor recreation	C	C
Commercial outdoor recreation and drive-in theaters		
Fitness and recreational sports centers as listed under NAICS Code 713940		

Space and Bulk Table: All Zoning District 10.06.16

Dimensional Requirements (13)	Rural Agricultural I (RA)	Low Density Residential (LDR)
Minimum lot size with public sewer		
Single family detached (24)	60,000 sf	10,000 sf
Single family attached	20 acres	
Two-family dwellings		
Single family cluster development	20 acres	5 acres
Mixed single family residential development (14)	20 acres	5 acres
Mixed residential development (14)		5 acres
Multifamily dwellings		
Mixed use structures		
Agriculture	120,000 sf	
Religious facilities	120,000 sf	40,000 sf
Veterinary facilities	120,000 sf	
Other uses	40,000	20,000 sf
All permitted uses		

Minimum lot size without public sewer (3)		
Single family detached, mobile homes on individual lots (24)	60,000 sf	40,000 sf
Single family attached	60,000 sf	
Two-family dwellings		
Single family cluster development (1)	20 acres	5 acres
Mixed single family residential development (14)	20 acres	5 acres
Mixed residential development (14)		5 acres
Multifamily dwellings		
Mixed use structures		
Agriculture	120,000 sf	
Religious facilities	120,000 sf	40,000 sf
Veterinary facilities	120,000 sf	
Other uses	4,000	40,000 sf
Minimum net lot area per d.u. with public sewer		
Single family detached	60,000 sf	
Single family attached	60,000 sf	
Two-family dwellings		
Mixed single family residential development (14)	60,000 sf	7,000 sf
Mixed residential development (14)		7,000 sf
Multifamily dwellings		
Mixed use structures		
All permitted residential uses		
Minimum net lot area per d.u. without public sewer		
Single family detached, mobile homes on individual lots	60,000 sf	
Single family attached	60,000 sf	
Two-family dwellings		
Mixed single family residential development (14)	60,000 sf	20,000 sf
Mixed residential development (14)		20,000 sf
Multifamily dwellings		
Mixed use structures		
All permitted residential uses		
Minimum frontage		
Single family detached, mobile homes -	200 ft	100 ft
Single family attached	200 ft	
Two-family dwellings		
Single family cluster development (with multiple vehicular accesses)	200 ft (50 feet)	200 ft (50 ft)
Mixed single family residential development (with multiple vehicular accesse	200 ft (50 feet)	200 ft (50 ft)
Mixed residential development (with multiple vehicular accesses) (14)		200 ft (50 ft)

Multifamily dwellings (with multiple vehicular accesses)		
Mixed use structures		
Agriculture	250 ft	
Religious facilities	250 ft	200 ft
Veterinary facilities		
Other uses	200	100 ft
All permitted uses		
Minimum front setback		
Single family detached, mobile homes on individual lots	25 ft	20 ft
Single family attached	50 ft	
Two-family dwellings		
Single family cluster development	50 ft	50 ft
Mixed single family residential development (14)	50 ft	50 ft
Mixed residential development (14)		50 ft

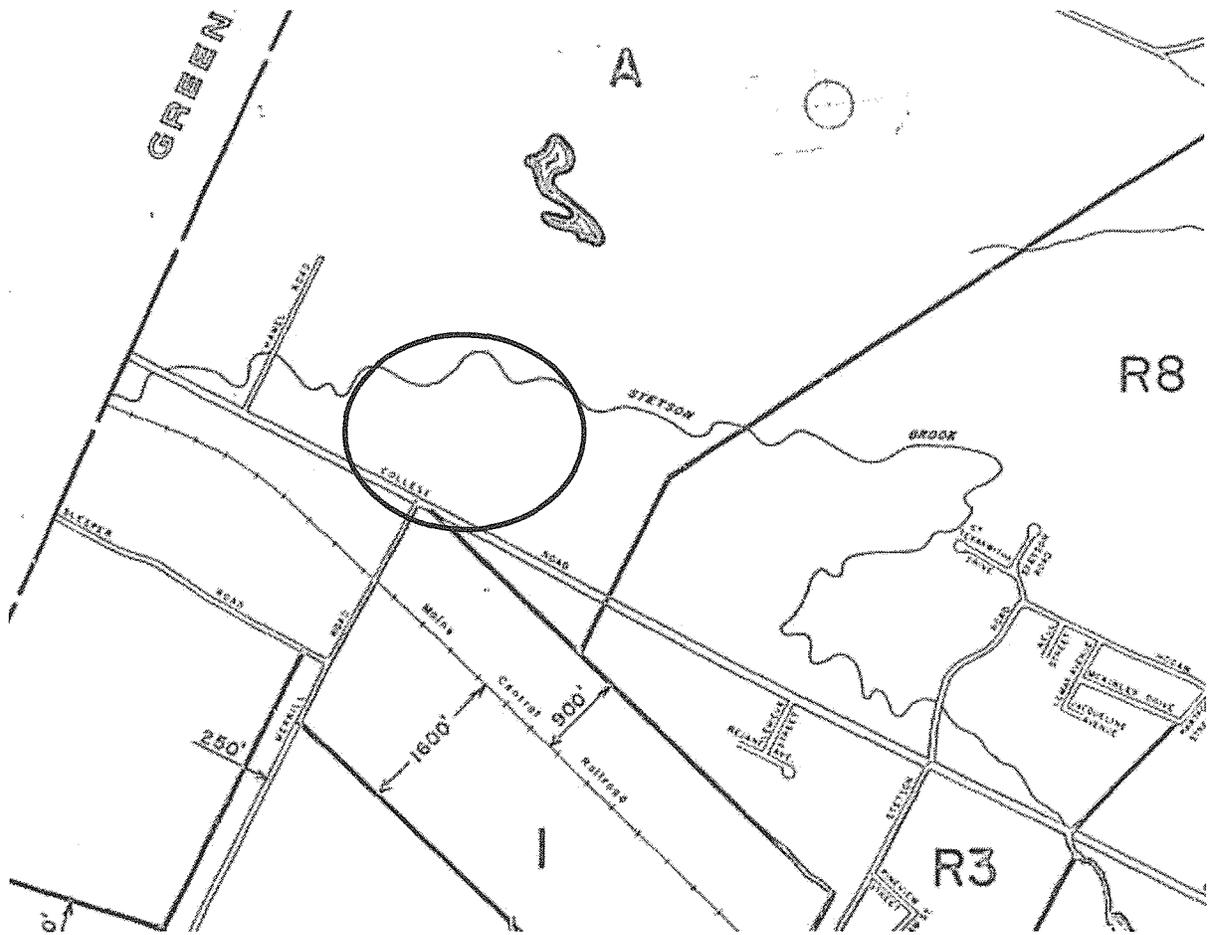
Space and Bulk Table: All Zoning District 10.06.16

Dimensional Requirements (13)	Rural Agricultural I (RA)	Low Density Residential (LDR)
Multifamily dwellings		
Mixed use structures		
Agriculture	50 ft	
Religious facilities	25 ft	50 ft
Veterinary facilities	25 ft	
Other uses	25 ft	20 ft
All permitted uses		
Minimum front yard		
Single family detached, mobile homes on individual lots	25 ft	20 ft
Single family attached	50 ft	
Two-family dwellings		
Single family cluster development	50 ft	50 ft
Mixed single family residential development (14)	50 ft	50 ft
Mixed residential development (14)		50 ft
Multifamily dwellings		
Mixed use structures	25 ft	
Religious facilities	25 ft	20 ft
Veterinary facilities	25 ft	
Other uses	25 ft	20 ft
All permitted uses		
Minimum side and rear setback		
Single family detached, mobile homes on individual lots	25 ft	10 ft
Single family attached		
Two-family dwellings		
Single family cluster development	50 ft	30 ft
Mixed single family residential development (14)	50 ft	30 ft
Mixed residential development (14)		30 ft

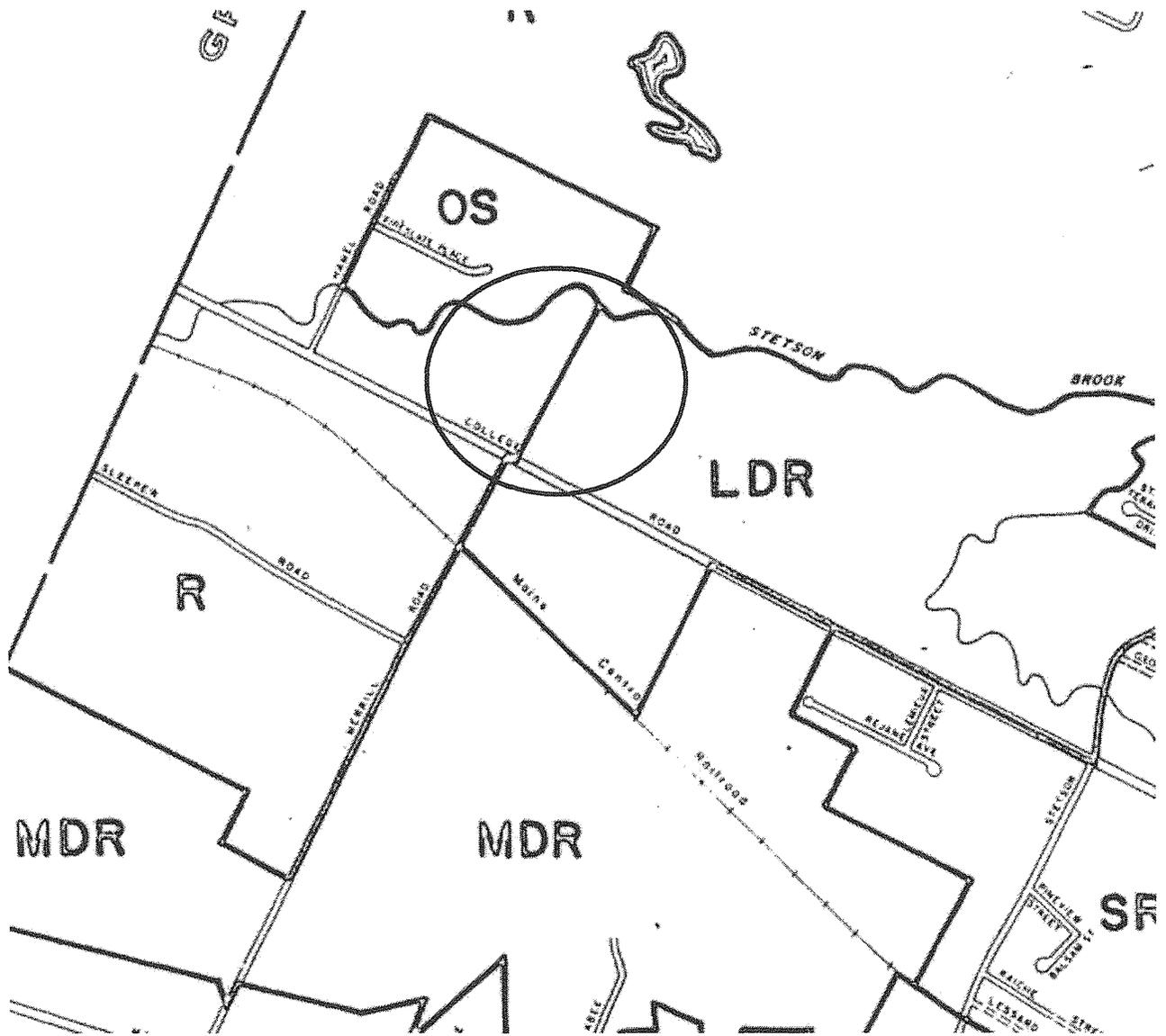
Multifamily dwellings		
Religious facilities	50 ft	50 ft
Mixed use structures		
Veterinary facilities	50 ft	
Farm structures for keeping of animals	100 ft	
Other uses	50 ft	25 ft
All permitted uses		
Minimum side and rear yard		
Single family detached, mobile homes on individual lots	10 ft	10 ft
Single family attached	50 ft	
Two-family dwellings		
Single family cluster development		
Mixed single family residential development (14)	50 ft	30 ft
Mixed residential development (14)	50 ft	30 ft
Multifamily dwellings		30 ft
Mixed use structures		
Religious facilities		25 ft
Veterinary facilities	25 ft	25 ft
Farm structures for keeping of animals	25 ft	
Other uses	25 ft	
All permitted uses	25 ft	25 ft
Maximum height		
Agriculture	75 ft	
	35 ft	35 ft
Other permitted uses		
Hospital, nursing homes and medical offices		
Ratios		
Maximum lot coverage	0.15	0.3
Maximum impervious coverage		

Exhibit C

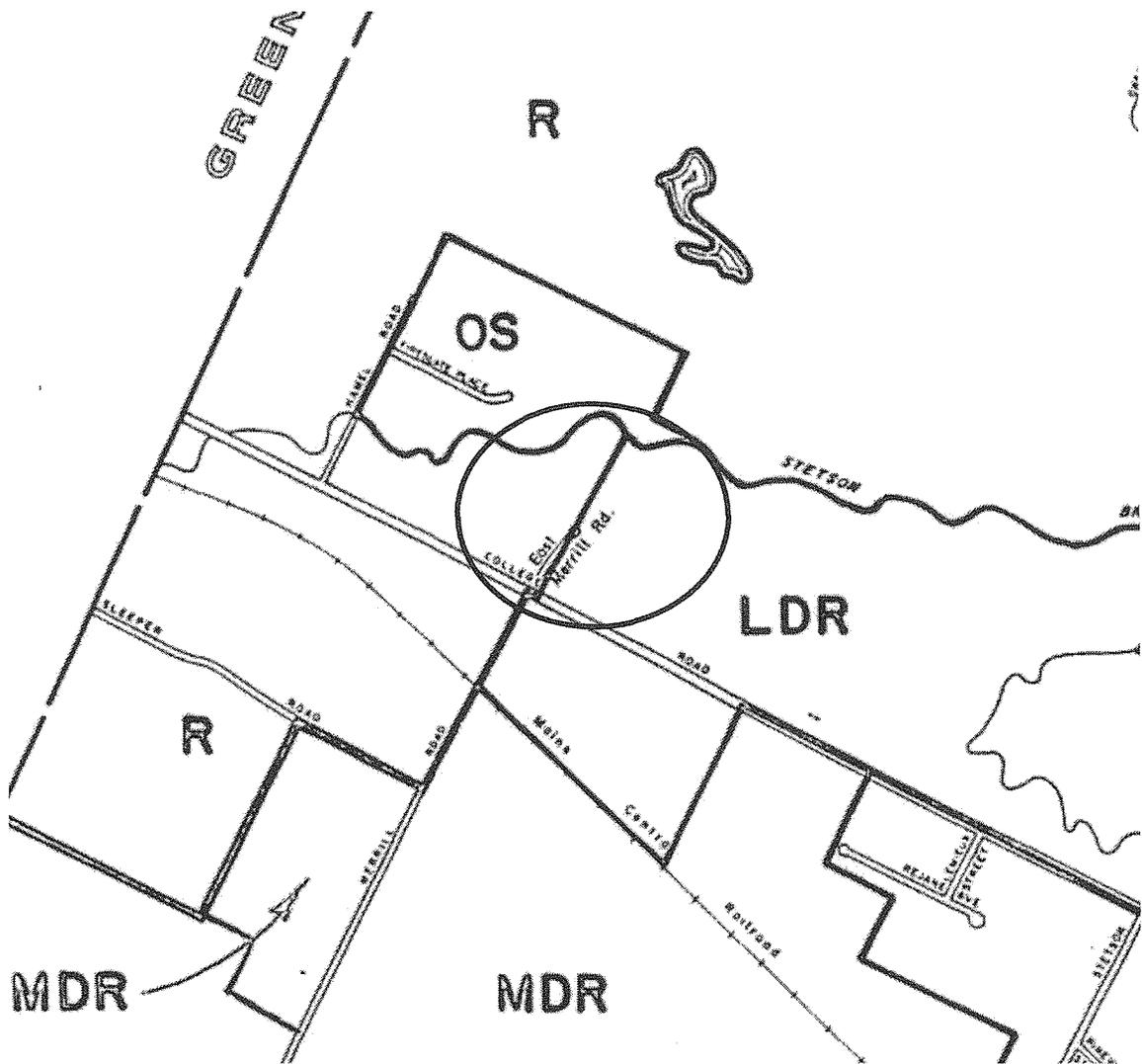
Zoning Mapping and Land Subdivisions in the East Merrill Road Area



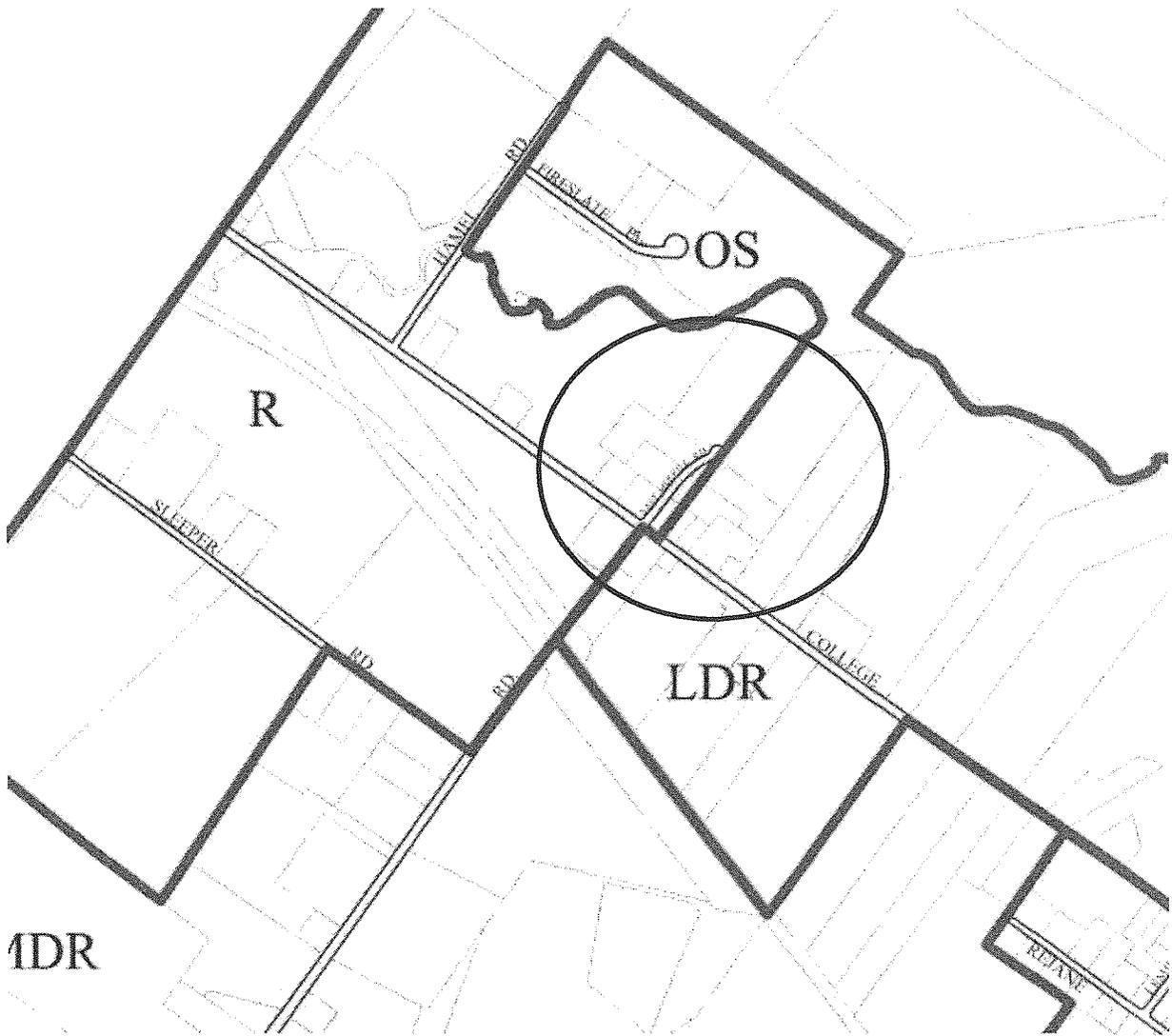
In 1985, the area under consideration for the zone change (red circle) was Zoned Ag (A)



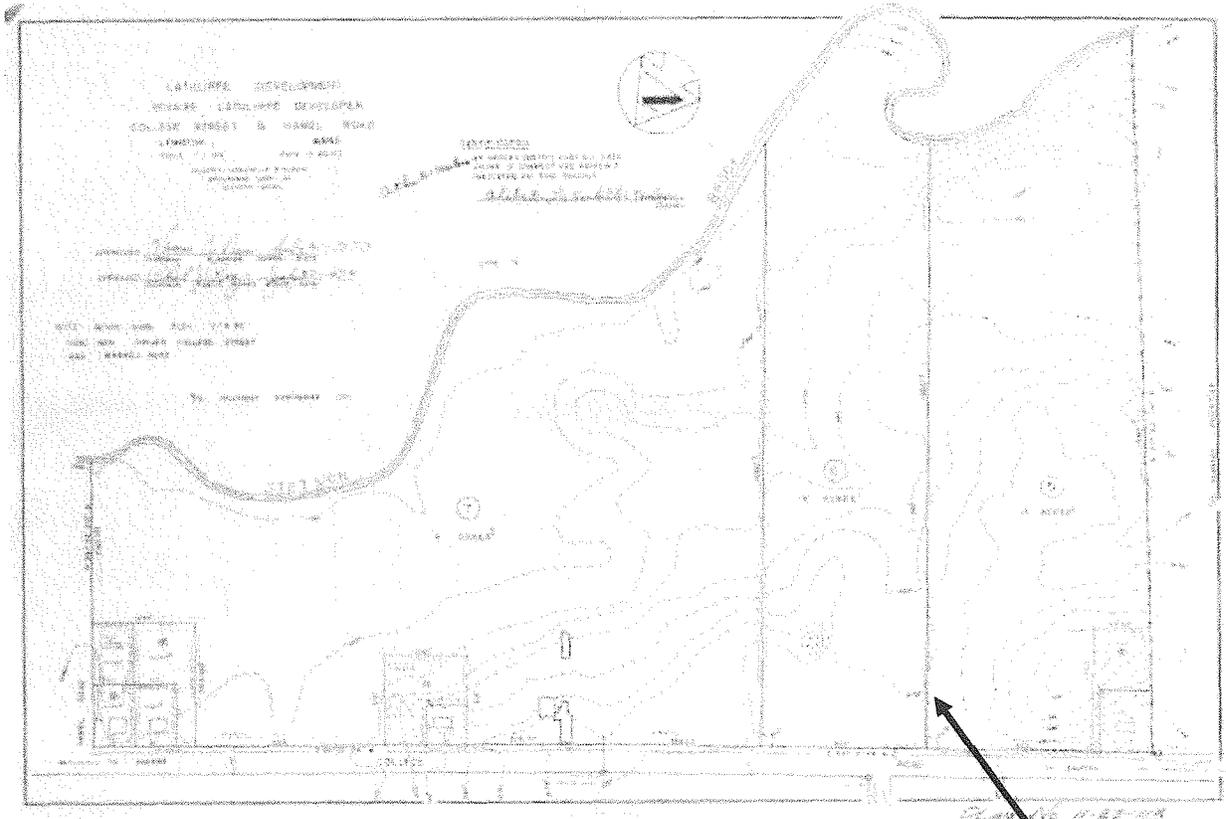
The January 1988 zoning map now shows the proposed zone change area (red circle) as both Low Density Residential (LDR) and Rural (R) zoning.



The 1990 zoning map now shows East Merrill Road with LDR on one side and R on the other. The October 1988 Latulippe Subdivision has not made it on this zoning map.



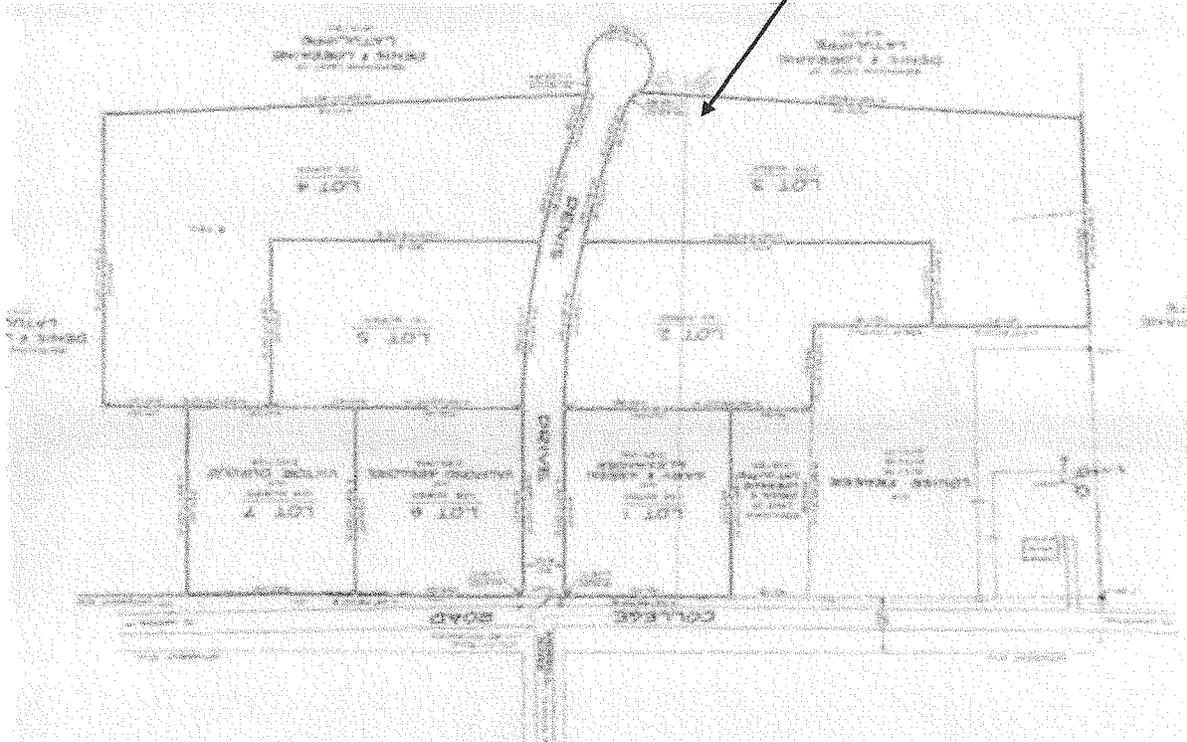
The 1991 zoning map now shows East Merrill Road with the lots created with the Latulippe Subdivision (Rev. 2).



The original Latulippe Development (1973) as a rural subdivision.

This lot line appears to be the basis for the zone line established in 1988

Zone line (red) for AG and LDR



The Latulippe Development revision 2 from October 1988 shows the subdivision as it (generally) appears today. Note the red line on the plan showing the split zone line between AG and LDR zones.

PETITION TO AMEND THE CITY OF LEWISTON
ZONING AND LAND USE CODE

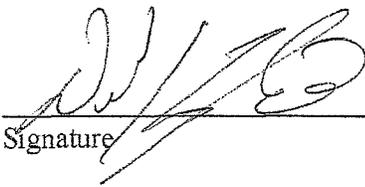
Pursuant to Appendix A, Article XVII, Section 5, Amendments, of the City of Lewiston Zoning and Land Use Code, we the undersigned residents of the City of Lewiston, being eighteen (18) year of age or older, do hereby petition the City of Lewiston to amend Article III, Official Map for the zoning of properties located at 2 East Merrill Road, 949 College Street, 4 East Merrill Road, 6 East Merrill Road, 8 East Merrill Road, 10 East Merrill Road, and portions of 1 East Merrill, 3 East Merrill and 5 East Merrill Road from Rural Agricultural (RA) District to Low-Density Residential District (LDR), which would permit the Uses and Space and Bulk standards as per Article XI, Article XI, District Regulations as described and shown in the exhibits attached hereto:

	SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	PHYSICAL STREET ADDRESS (No PO Boxes)	DATE
1	<i>George C. Langelier</i>	GEORGE C. LANGELIER	56 LAURIER ST	3/6/2020
2	<i>Carol A. Langelier</i>	Carol A. Langelier	56 Laurier St.	3/6/2020
3	<i>Karen Shaw</i>	Karen Shaw	2 E. Merrill rd	3/7/2020
4	<i>Claudette Robichaud</i>	ROBICHAUD CLAUDETTE	8 E MERRILL	3/7/2020
5	<i>R. Robichaud</i>	R. Robichaud	8 E MERRILL	3-7-20
6	<i>Christine Robichaud</i>	Christine Robichaud	8 EAST MERRILL RD	3-7-2020
7	<i>Julie Nolan</i>	Julie Nolan	3 E Merrill Rd	3-7-2020
8	<i>Jennifer Ciober</i>	Jennifer Ciober	2161 Lisbon lot 1	3-7-2020
9	<i>Donald R Langelier</i>	Donald R Langelier	3 E Merrill Rd	3-7-2020
10	<i>Richard F. Shaw</i>	Richard F. Shaw	2 - E. MERRILL RD	3-9-2020
11	<i>Paul Baillargeon</i>	PAUL BAILLARGEON	949 COLLEGE RD	3-9/20
12	<i>Sean Andrews</i>	Sean Andrews	1 E Merrill Rd,	3/9/2020
13	<i>Michelle Andrews</i>	Michelle Andrews	1 E Merrill Rd	3/9/2020
14	<i>Fabien Lazard</i>	FABRIEN LAZARD	6 E Merrill Rd	3/15/2020
15				

16				
17				
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CIRCULATOR'S VERIFICATION

I hereby verify that I am the Circulator of this petition that all the signatures to this petition were made in my presence, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, each signature is that of the person it purports to be, and each person is a resident of the City of Lewiston.



 Signature

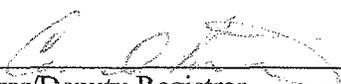
David Langelier
 Printed Name of Circulator

3/15/20
 Date

REGISTRAR'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify and verify that the names of all of the petitions listed as valid appear on the voting list of registered voters in the City of Lewiston.

Total Valid: 13 Total Invalid: 1



 Signature of Registrar/Deputy Registrar

Date: 3-23-20

Economic and Community Development

Lincoln Jeffers

Director



To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Lincoln Jeffers
RE: **Summary Memo for CDBG Amendments to CDBG 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, FFY2019 CDBG Action Plan, Amendments to Draft 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, and Draft FFY2020 CDBG Action Plan**
Date: April 29, 2020

Lewiston has been a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Community since 1974. As such, we receive an annual allocation of CDBG funds, based on a formula and the amount of CDBG funds appropriated by Congress. For Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2020, which coincides with City FY21, Lewiston will receive \$915,413.

On April 1st the City was notified it would receive an additional \$538,518 in CDBG funding to be used to address the impacts brought about by the COVID-19 Pandemic. In order to get the funding out into the community programs needed to be developed, and regulatory documents need to be amended to allow funding of the programs. Following is a summary of the CDBG program, and amendments needed to existing plans.

More detail will be provided with each requested City Council action.

Background

CDBG funds must primarily be spent to benefit low to moderate income residents. As with the municipal budget, the City Council decides how CDBG funds are invested each year. However, as a Federal grant, there are regulations and processes which must be abided by in coming to that decision.

The CDBG program is administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The overarching goals of the program are to help provide the following, principally for persons of low and moderate income:

- Safe, decent and affordable housing
- A suitable living environment
- Expanded economic opportunities

The CDBG program has three National Objectives, and every funded activity must meet at least one of them. The National Objectives are:

- Benefit low/moderate income people
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight
- Meet an Urgent Need that is serious, threatening, and that cannot be met with other sources of funds

HUD regulations require each Entitlement Community to have a Citizen Participation Plan that states how citizens, especially low to moderate income residents, and stakeholder groups that work with and serve that population, can be aware of and involved with determining how CDBG funds are invested in the community. Regulations require that every 5 years a Consolidated Plan be developed that articulates the goals, strategies and activities for how CDBG funds will be invested over the coming 5 years. Annually, a CDBG Budget and Action Plan is created that specifies how funding will be invested that year to help achieve the goals articulated in the Consolidated Plan. **CDBG funds cannot be invested in activities that are not in the Consolidated Plan.**

Recent Activity

A public hearing was held on December 17, 2019, following which the City Council adopted the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The goals articulated in that Plan were the ones applicants seeking CDBG funding structured their requests around. The Citizen Advisory Committee followed the plan to determine who could best meet the goals of the plan as the committee developed its recommendations to the City Council for how to invest CDBG dollars beginning on July 1, 2020. (City Fiscal Year 2021, coincides with Federal Fiscal Year 2020) The recommended CDBG and HOME budgets and Action Plans were provided to the Council in their March 26, 2020 workshop packets. My memo summarizing those documents is attached.

After that workshop, the COVID-19 pandemic took hold and gained momentum across the United States. As part of the response to the national pandemic, Congress allocated additional CDBG resources to be used to mitigate the effects brought about by the pandemic. This action is known as the CARES Act. Of that additional CDBG funding, Lewiston was allocated an additional \$538,518. While the additional funds are needed and will be well spent, the process required to get the money on the streets quickly is convoluted, requiring amendments to plans that will expire soon as well as the future plans recently presented in workshop that are slated for Council adoption on May 5th.

The first CDBG related item on the May 5th City Council agenda will be an amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan. Those changes will expedite the additional approvals required to authorize and allocate the use of the CDBG CARES funding.

Requested Actions

In order to meet HUD's administrative requirements to release CARES Act funds, Lewiston's Citizen Participation Plan, 2015 -2019 Consolidated Plan, and 2019 Action Plan must be amended.

Substantial Amendment to 2015 -2019 Consolidated Plan

This plan did not authorize Microenterprise or Economic Development grants to be made, only loans. With the onset of COVID-19, department staff undertook a significant outreach effort to Lewiston businesses. The refrain most often heard was that with no revenues coming in and the future uncertain, local businesses were wary of taking on new debt. They needed grants. We are recommending amending the 2015 Consolidated Plan to allow grants to be made to microenterprises (1-5 employees), economic development grants to larger business, emergency income assistance to households having difficulty meeting rent, mortgage, or utility payments because of loss of income attributable to the pandemic, and funding to support the expansion of broadband service in the CDBG Target Area (Census Tracts 201 -204) and other low income neighborhoods. The amendment will also allow loan payments received under the City's Revolving Loan Program, which under HUD regulations can only be used to make loans, to be recorded as regular CDBG program income, which will allow the funds to be used to make grants as well as loans. Amendments to the Consolidated Plan will also allow funding to be allocated to these programs.

Substantial Amendment to Federal Fiscal Year 2019 (City FY20) Annual Action Plan

Under the CDBG program, Annual Action Plans articulate how CDBG funds will be spent and establish the budget for doing so in any given year. The City Council approves each Annual Action Plan. Recommendations on how CDBG funds should be invested each year are developed by Lewiston's CDBG Citizen Advisory Committee, which reviews and scores all CDBG funding requests and forwards a recommendation to the City Council on how the money should be spent. The decision on how the funds are spent rests with the City Council, but with that approval, the City is bound to abide by the approved Action Plan.

In order to get the CARES Act and other CDBG dollars for the new programs on the streets before July 1st, the same changes articulated for the Amendments to the 2015 -2019 Consolidated Plan must be made for the City's FY20 Annual Action Plan.

Note that the draft City FY21 CDBG Action Plan was provided to the City Council at a workshop in March and was initially scheduled to be adopted in April. The CARES act funding delayed that action and it will also appear on tonight's agenda for Council approval.

CARES Act Funding Recommendations

As previously noted, Congress has allocated an additional \$538,518 in CDBG funds to be used to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. In response to the concerns raised by businesses and residents city staff have developed an **Emergency Business Assistance** grant program that will provide up to \$15,000 to **Microenterprises** that employ 1-5 people, and up to \$25,000 for larger businesses (**Emergency Business Assistance**). The money can be used for operating expenses such as, but not limited to, rent, utilities, and payroll. For each \$25,000 or portion thereof granted, one job

must be created or retained that is occupied by someone making no more than 80% of the area median income or the business owner must be income qualified. Under the CARES Act funding, \$30,000 is allocated for the **Microenterprise Program**, and \$50,000 for the **Emergency Business Assistance Program**. Additional funding for these programs will be made available from existing CDBG resources through amendments to the 2015–2019 Consolidated Plan and FY 20 Action Plan.

An **Emergency Rehabilitation Expense** grant program has been created that will provide up to \$1,750 in funding to make physical changes to business locations in order to be able to safely operate during a widespread emergency situation.

An **Emergency Income Payment Assistance** grant program has been created that will provide up to \$1,000 in rental or mortgage payment assistance, for up to three months, to income qualified households that are unable to meet their obligations, as well as up to \$500 in utility payment assistance in total over the three month. For approved grants, payments will be made directly to landlords, lenders, or utility providers. The plan allocates \$247,830 of the CARES Act funding for this program.

General Assistance Caseworker

In order to meet the increased demand for General Assistance services, \$55,000 of the CARES Act funding will be used to fund the salary and benefits for one case worker position in the City's General Assistance office.

Additional Public Services Funding

It is anticipated that the pandemic will result in many public service agencies having an increased demands for their services. CDBG rules cap the amount of CDBG funds that can be used to support public service agencies at 15% of each year's allocation plus the prior year's program income. With the CARES Act funding, that cap has been lifted. Accordingly, staff recommends that \$105,688 of the CARES Act allocation be invested in agency services. The agencies to be funded have not yet been determined, but an open request for proposals will be issued to agencies that are working to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic.

Program Administration

Administration of the CARES Act funding, which will entail gathering loan and grant documentation to determine eligible businesses and households, reviewing additional public service agency funding requests, and reporting plans and progress to HUD, will use \$50,000 of the allocation, which is 9.2% of the additional funding. HUD regulations allow up to 20% for administrative costs, but staff thinks the money is better spent on the programs being created.

Public Notice

Public notice was printed in the Sun Journal on March 31, 2020 informing the public of the availability for review of the Draft FFY 2020 CDBG and HOME Annual Action Plan and Budgets, and the 2020–2024 Draft Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing. Public

Notice was printed on April 24, 2020 listing (1) Substantial Amendment to 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, (2) Substantial Amendment to FFY 2019 Annual Action Plan, (3)CDBG-CV:Cares Act Additional CDBG Entitlement Funds, (4) Public Hearing and Final Adoption with Changes to 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan with the 1st Annual Action Plan, and (5) Amendments to Citizen Participation Plan.

Both public notices provided the requisite public comment period. Both referenced the May 5th City Council meeting as the date of the public hearing for the items noticed.

More detail will be provided in the documentation associated with each agenda item.

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF MAY 19, 2020

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

SUBJECT:

Public Hearing and Order directing consolidation of polling locations for the July 14, 2020 state and municipal election.

INFORMATION:

Due to the pandemic and issues related to administering an election during the public health situation, the City Clerk is recommending that Longley School be designated as the citywide polling place for the July 14 election. The Council held a workshop on this topic on May 12.

APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

The City Administrator recommends approval of the requested action.

EAB/Kmm

REQUESTED ACTION:

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1) To conduct a Public Hearing to receive citizen input and comments regarding the proposal to consolidate the city polling places for the July 14, 2020 election.

2) To adopt the Order to Consolidate the Polling Locations for the July 14, 2020 election.



City of Lewiston, Maine

Department of City Clerk

Kathleen M. Montejo, MMC
City Clerk & Registrar of Voters

Kelly J. Brooks, CMC
Deputy City Clerk



ORDER DIRECTING CONSOLIDATION OF POLLING LOCATIONS FOR THE JULY 14, 2020 STATE AND MUNICIPAL ELECTION

May 19, 2020

WHEREAS, we are currently being impacted by the COVID-19 global public health pandemic; and

WHEREAS, two of the regular polling places, the Lewiston Armory and The Green Ladle Culinary Arts building on the Lewiston High School campus, are currently in use for COVID-19 related programs and may not be available for voting on July 14, 2020; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the pandemic, the necessary number of citizens needed to adequately staff all seven polling places, usually 150 workers, will be difficult to achieve due to concerns for personal health and safety; and

WHEREAS, due to similar concerns, many voters are planning to vote by absentee ballot instead of going to the polls; and

WHEREAS, the majority of ballot questions for this election pertain to political party primaries and school budget adoption, both of which are traditionally fairly low turnout elections, with past five-election average voter participation rates of 7 to 18% and 2.3 to 4.3% respectively; and

WHEREAS, the Maine Governor has waived the requirements in state law regarding the usual absentee ballot order deadline of four days before an election and is now requiring absentee ballots be available from June 15 through 8 pm on July 14, thereby requiring the City Clerk's Office to be a location to cast an absentee ballot on election day, a service not usually available to all voters under state law; and

WHEREAS, Longley School serves as the usual voting place for three out of the seven wards during a regular election; and

WHEREAS, Longley School serves as the designated citywide polling place for many elections such as the School Budget Validation Election, Mayoral Run-Off Election and is therefore a well-known location for voters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED that, after conducting a public hearing to receive citizen input and comment held on May 19, 2020, the Municipal Officers, in accordance with Title 21-A, MRSA, section 631, subsection 1, approve the Certificate of Consolidation of Voting Places, consolidating the City's current seven voting locations into one master polling location for the July 14, 2020 state and municipal election;

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the Longley School, located at 145 Birch Street, Lewiston, Maine, is hereby designated as the voting place for the consolidated voting district; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that this Order is contingent upon approval from the State of Maine Governor and/or the Maine Secretary of State; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that this Certificate be recorded with the City Clerk and that she immediately file an attested copy with the Secretary of State's Office, in accordance with Title 21-A, section 631, subsection 1.

**CERTIFICATION OF CONSOLIDATION OF VOTING PLACES
RECITALS**

Whereas, the City of Lewiston currently has four voting locations for the seven city wards that were previously established by the Municipal Officers and approved by the Secretary of State's Office, and

Whereas, after notice via legal advertisement and conducting a public hearing, the Municipal Officers adopted an Order on May 19, 2020, consolidating the City's current seven voting locations into one master polling location for the July 14, 2020 state and municipal election and designating the Longley School located at 145 Birch Street, Lewiston, Maine as the voting place for the consolidated voting district; and

Whereas, the Order adopted by the Municipal Officers is contingent upon the approval of the Governor of the State of Maine and/or the Maine Secretary of State; and

Now, Therefore, pursuant to Title 21-A, section 631, subsection 1, the Municipal Officers of the City of Lewiston hereby certify that the existing polling places will be consolidated into one master voting location for the City of Lewiston for the July 14, 2020 state and municipal elections.

Dated at Lewiston, Maine this 19th day of May, 2020.

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS OF THE CITY OF LEWISTON:

Mark Cayer, Mayor

Safiya Khalid, City Councilor, Ward 1

Zachary Pettengill, City Councilor, Ward 2

Alicia Rea, City Councilor, Ward 3

Michel Lajoie, City Councilor, Ward 4

Luke Jensen, City Councilor, Ward 5

K. Lee Clement, City Councilor, Ward 6

Stephanie Gelinias, City Councilor, Ward 7

A true copy, Attest:

Kathleen Montejo, City Clerk, Lewiston, Maine

TO: Lewiston Mayor and City Council
FR: Kathy Montejo, City Clerk
DT: May 12, 2020
RE: State and City Election on July 14

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Mills changed the date of the state election from Tuesday, June 9 to Tuesday, July 14. At this point, the election will be administered as a traditional election – voting will be available in person at polling places as well as in advance via absentee ballots. The candidate races and ballot questions for this election are the Democratic and Republican primaries for US Senate, US House, state and county offices, as well as two state referendums and the city school budget validation.

Preparing for and administering an election during a public health crisis has created many interesting challenges. In order to contain and manage these changes, I am requesting the City Council consider consolidating the polling places into one central location at the Longley School.

There are a few reasons for the recommendation to consolidate the polls:

- 1) Concerns with hiring enough available workers to adequately staff the polls – Many of the workers are older and fall within the “at risk” category. As such, many might not be able to serve as election workers due to concerns for their own health and safety. In addition, since many summer camps and summer programs for children are closed due to the pandemic, regular workers might not be available to work a (rare) summertime election since they may be helping with childcare for grandchildren. For a regular election, Lewiston operates 7 polling places and hires about 150 citizens to work at the polls.
- 2) Controls for social distancing spacing – Implementing and enforcing the mandatory social distancing precautions for the check in tables, voting booths, workers in line, etc will be challenging and may require on-the-spot adjustments to adapt. Having one location to manage would be easier logistically.
- 3) Procurement of supplies – All election workers will need to be equipped with proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The Secretary of State’s Office is working to obtain PPE supplies for election workers but this may not be feasible given the statewide volume. We are working on the inventory the city has for these items. In addition, cleaning supplies such as Clorox wipes, etc will be needed and used on a regular basis. The CDC has guidelines about wiping down voting booths regularly, allowing pens to only be used one time then cleaned, etc. All of this will add another dimension to ensure both safety for workers and voters. Having this contained to one location would make it easier to manage.
- 4) Unknown turnout/anticipated low in person turnout – There are many statewide community groups as well as the state and municipalities that are strongly urging voters to consider voting at home via absentee ballot. Many large-scale advertising and outreach efforts are currently gearing up to encourage voters to consider voting by absentee to protect their own health and the health of the election workers and thus the community as a whole. Strong absentee voter turnout has been observed in other states

and it is projected that Maine will also see this interest. While it is difficult to predict the in-person voter turnout on July 14, we do believe it will be low.

- 5) Absentee ballots available at City Hall on election day – Governor Mills has lifted the state requirement of the deadline to request absentee ballots. As such, absentee ballots can be obtained for the July election at City Hall right up until 8pm on election day. As such, in-person voting, via absentee ballot, will be available on election day at City Hall. Usually the deadline to request an absentee ballot is the Thursday before the Tuesday election. For July, voters will have several additional days to obtain an absentee ballot thus providing more opportunity to vote in advance and minimizing their need to go to the polls on election day.
- 6) Longley is the regular polling place for 3 out of 7 wards – Longley is the regular voting place for about 42% of citywide voters and is the usual location for any special or unscheduled elections such as a Mayoral Run-Off election. It is a well-known location.

For the March 3 Presidential Primary election, the City consolidated all voting to Longley School. Due to the state hockey championship game being played at The Colisee across the street, there were issues with traffic congestion and parking during the afternoon and evening. Please see the related Report to the City Council dated March 5 which addresses some of these concerns. We have tried to contact The Colisee recently but have been unable to reach anyone most likely due to the sale of the facility and the associated transition of ownership. Given the situation, however, and the number of event cancellations we have seen, we do not anticipate a similar conflict this July.

Should the Council be supportive of the recommendation to consolidate, the following steps are needed to proceed:

- 1) Order from Governor - We are anticipating the Governor will amend the Executive Order to waive the 90-day requirement in state law to allow municipalities that are interested in consolidating to pursue this option. According to the Secretary of State's Office, there are only 12 municipalities with multiple polling places, so this change would only be applicable to a handful of communities. I have spoken with the municipal clerks in most of these 12 communities and they are interested in consolidating for the above stated reasons.
- 2) Public Hearing – The Council would need to hold a public hearing to consolidate the polls. A legal ad would be placed before the hearing.
- 3) Order from City Council – The Council would need to approve an Order to consolidate for the July 14 election.
- 4) Approval from Secretary of State – The Secretary of State would need to approve Lewiston's request to consolidate for the state election. Representatives have already indicated they are supportive of this effort and would approve it if submitted.

I am happy to answer any questions the Council may have regarding this request. Thank you.

**PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF LEWISTON
PROPOSED CHANGE FOR VOTING LOCATIONS**

A public hearing regarding the proposal to consolidate the City's regular polling places for the July 14 State and Municipal Election will be held during the City Council meeting on **Tuesday, May 19, 2020, at 7:00pm**, or as soon thereafter as it may be heard. This meeting will be held remotely and broadcast live at www.lewistonmaine.gov/2020cc The proposal is to have one master, citywide polling place for the July 14 election to be located at the Longley School, 145 Birch Street.

Any interested persons will be given the opportunity to be heard before City Council action is taken on the proposal. Comments can be offered during the live public hearing via the website www.lewistonmaine.gov/2020cc, by submitting comments via email to publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov or by calling City Hall at 513-3021 in advance of the hearing to obtain the conference call phone number and meeting passcode.

The City of Lewiston is an EOE. For more information, please visit our website at www.lewistonmaine.gov and click on the Non-Discrimination Policy.

Kathleen M. Montejo, MMC
City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine

LEGAL AD - SUN JOURNAL - Thursday, May 14, 2020

TO: Venise - Advertising Dept.
FROM: Lewiston City Clerk's Office

Please bill the City Clerk's Dept. account and please contact us at 513-3124 with any questions you may have regarding this legal ad. Thank you.

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF MAY 19, 2020

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

SUBJECT: Order, Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute a Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Lewiston And the Garcelon Cemetery Association

INFORMATION:

In 2014, David Garcelon, the President of the Garcelon Cemetery Association, requested a donation from the City to assist in offsetting the cost of maintaining the Cemetery since the Association was running low on funds and members willing to volunteer to perform maintenance activities. In addition, he indicated that the City of Lewiston actually owns a portion of the cemetery. At that time, the Council did not provide funding noting that the Association was managing to address basic needs. More recently, he again contacted the City indicating that the Association's membership and funds have declined to the point where it will soon be unable to perform or pay to contract for maintenance and requesting that the City assume maintenance responsibilities.

It should be noted that the Cemetery consists of three lots. Lot 1, which we have generally believe to be owned by the Association; Lot 14, which we believe is owned by the heirs of John B. Garcelon; and lot 15, owned by the City by virtue of an 1871 deed. After the most recent discussion with the Council in 2019, the Council directed staff to work with David Garcelon, a representative of the association, to reach an agreement regarding maintenance and other responsibilities for the cemetery. That has been done and a proposed agreement is attached along with some related background information.

APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

The City Administrator recommends approval of the requested action.

ERAB/kmm

REQUESTED ACTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	M
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To approve the Order, Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute a Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Lewiston And the Garcelon Cemetery Association



CITY OF LEWISTON, MAINE

May 19, 2020

COUNCIL ORDER

Order, Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute a Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Lewiston And the Garcelon Cemetery Association.

Whereas, the Garcelon Cemetery is an historic ancient burying ground; and

Whereas, for many years, it has been maintained by the Garcelon Cemetery Association; and

Whereas, the membership of this Association is declining and its finances are limited; and

Whereas, given that the City of Lewiston owns a portion of the cemetery and the number of veterans interred at this location, the Association has asked the City to assume routine maintenance responsibilities so that the Association could focus its efforts on improvements, including the repair and restoration of headstones; and

Whereas, after a number of discussions at workshop settings, the City Council has indicated its agreement to do so and directed staff to develop a partnership agreement with the Association;

Now, therefore, be it ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that

The City Administrator is hereby authorized to execute a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Lewiston and the Garcelon Cemetery Association in a form substantially as attached hereto.

**Memorandum of Agreement
Between the
City of Lewiston
And
Garcelon Cemetery Association**

This agreement is for the maintenance of the Garcelon Cemetery located at 287 Ferry Road in Lewiston and is made between the City of Lewiston, Maine (“the City”), located at 27 Pine Street, Lewiston, Maine and the Garcelon Cemetery Association (“the Association”), located at 21 High Head Road, Harpswell, Maine. The purpose of this agreement is to define the financial and physical roles and responsibilities for the maintenance of this facility.

Whereas, Garcelon Cemetery was established on May 17, 1819 and has been cared for by the Association since 1905; and

Whereas, the City, from time to time, has assisted the Association with the maintenance; and

Whereas, the Cemetery consists of 3 lots, 0.59 acres, 0.47 acres, and 0.07 acres, one of which is owned by the City; and

Whereas, ownership of the other two lots is not clear to the parties to this agreement; and

Whereas, among the more than 470 persons buried here, there are at least 32 veterans buried on two of the three lots; and

Whereas, there are still committed and uncommitted vacant plots in the cemetery; and

Whereas, State Law requires that the City, in collaboration with the Association, keep in good condition the burial place of Revolutionary soldiers, and sailors and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

Whereas, State Law also allows the City to care for Ancient Burying Grounds established before 1880; and

Whereas, the Association membership is declining, financial contributions are now insufficient to maintain these three lots consistent with State Law, and the Association has requested that the City assume routine maintenance of all three lots comprising the Cemetery;

Now, Therefore, the parties have agreed to the following:

1. The City will assume all routine maintenance of the three parcels, to include spring leaf and debris cleanup, mowing, litter removal, tree trimming, and fall cleanup. This will begin in the spring of 2020 and may be done with City forces or by contractor at the City’s discretion.

2. The Association will, with its remaining funds, focus on one-time improvements such as repair of damaged grave markers and repair or removal of the wrought iron perimeter fence. The Association will coordinate all activities directly with the City's Department of Public Works.
3. Once the Association has expended all its funds and is no longer financially viable, the City will take perpetual responsibility for all maintenance of all three lots. The Association may choose to remain active as an advisor to Public Works on the status and issues involving the Cemetery.
4. The City will honor all documented burial plots sold by the Association prior to execution of this agreement. No new burial plots will be sold once this agreement is executed.

This agreement is made and entered into as of this the _____ day of _____, 2020.

Garcelon Cemetery Association

Witness:

By: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

City of Lewiston

Witness:

By: _____

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

CHRONOLOGY
&
HISTORY
of the
GARCELON CEMETERY



Copyright by David C. Garcelon, 2019

May 16, 1814

A large portion of the *Intervale Cemetery* which

was located on James Garcelon's farm was washed downriver by the flood waters of the Androscoggin River. Among those buried in the Cemetery were James Garcelon (1739-1813), Sally (Garcelon) Moody (1776-1811), and James Ames (1801-1803).

The Cemetery was located on the bank of the Androscoggin River just below the James Garcelon homestead.

May 17, 1819

Hannah (Ames) Garcelon (1771-1819) died. She was the wife of Mark Garcelon (1771-1830). On the same day the Garcelons deeded a 6 rod (99 feet) by 8 rod (132 feet) parcel to the Town of Lewiston for a burying ground and Hannah was buried on that parcel.

September 18, 1871

John Blethen Garcelon (1830-1904) deeded a parcel of land to the City of Lewiston as an addition to the “*old burying ground.*”

Garcelon reserved to himself a “*piece of the above described land twenty eight feet wide, across the old burying ground, and six (6) rods and eight (8) links in length, which shall be reserved to the said grantor for a burying ground, and for nothing else and for no other purpose.*”

It is noteworthy that Garcelon did not add “to my heirs and assigns.” The reason is quite clear. Garcelon wanted his burial plot to be on the portion of land he had deeded to the City of Lewiston. At the present time (May, 2019) there

are at least eight persons buried on this plot and is considered as a plot within the City of Lewiston's "ownership."

Garcelon's conveyance to the City of Lewiston's abutted the northwesterly boundary of the existing Cemetery which was 225.06 feet wide by 111 feet more or less wide. The result was a plot of ground which is 225.06 feet by 215 feet (more or less) rectangle; its frontage along Ferry Road was 225.06 feet.

June 9, 1905

The Garcelon Cemetery Association was formed under the laws of the State of Maine, and its formation was for the express purpose of caring for the cemetery. At the time of the Association's organization it did not, and has not, since the days of its formation, ever claimed any ownership of the land occupied by the burial plots. It is listed as a Maine non-profit organization (T13, C81) with a charter number of 19050003N.

The Association has always assumed the City of Lewiston owned the Cemetery. This assumption is verified by the fact that in 1871 John Blethen Garcelon had deeded the final plot of land which resulted in the present boundaries of the Cemetery.

The cemetery had its genesis in 1819. After 86 years it became obvious that the City was not caring for the Cemetery, and that was the sole

purpose of the Association's formation. For the past 114 years the Association has cared for the Cemetery but has never made any legal claim to the ownership of it.

April 17, 1912

Abram W. Garcelon conveyed to the Garcelon Cemetery Association *“the right to take and use water from a certain spring situated on land now owned by this Grantor, also the right and privilege to enter upon the land now owned by this Grantor, for the purpose of laying and keeping in repair all necessary pipe to convey said water from said spring to the said Garcelon Cemetery.”*

This deed is the only conveyance of any sort to the Garcelon Cemetery Association. Parts of the water line still exist although it has not been used for more than thirty years.

There are many deeds which refer to the Garcelon Cemetery as being owned by the Town or City of Lewiston. Most of those deeds refer to the City as an abuttor.

Some of the deeds in the Androscoggin County and Lincoln County Registry of Deeds which refer to the abutting or underlying land are as follows:

Vol. 1 Ps. 23 and 24	April 12, 1854
Vol. 1 Pgs. 25 and 26	March 1, 1854
Vol. 10 Pg. 584	Oct. 7, 1835

Vol. 42 Pg 460	Jan. 30, 1866
Vol. 11 Pgs. 484 – 486	December 3, 1853
Vol. 11 Pgs. 486 and 487	Jan 1, 1857
Vol. 54 Pg. 56	April 8, 1865
Vol. 59 Pg, 8 and 9	Dec 16, 1805
Vol. 59 Pgs. 9 and 10	Dec. 16, 1805
Vol. 65 Pg. 383	September 18, 1871
Vol. 70 Pg. 129	October 20, 1808
Vol. 84 Pgs. 80 – 83	May 11, 1876
Vol. 754 Pg. 17	date unknown
Vol. 1350 Pg. 83	June 30, 1978

It should be noted that Lewiston was part of Lincoln County until 1854, when it became part of Androscoggin County.

The Town of Lewiston was incorporated in 1795; it became the City of Lewiston in 1863.

The conclusion drawn from all of these deeds is that the Garcelon Cemetery is a plot of ground which is a 225.06 foot by 215 foot (more or less) rectangle; its frontage along Ferry Road is 225.06 feet.

The Cemetery is owned by the City of Lewiston.

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF MAY 19, 2020

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

SUBJECT: Resolve, Authorizing the Acceptance of a Public Art Installation to be Located on City Owned Property in or Adjacent to the Lewiston Canal System.

INFORMATION:

In January 2019, the LA Metro Chamber of Commerce and L/A Arts, with formal support from both the City of Lewiston and the City of Auburn, were awarded a Maine Arts Commission grant for \$75,000 to support the implementation of Cultural Plan LA, a plan approved by both cities in 2016. Specifically, this grant was awarded to "utilize arts and culture to spur economic development and enhance LA's image to attract residents, tourism, and new investment" and to further the position of arts and culture in local government." Part of the implementation plan is to create and cultivate broad-based support for a public art plan for the community, select and install two pieces of public art, and cultivate support in the community for public art.

The Council previously reviewed and adopted the public art plan. The public art working group has solicited and received proposals for the public art piece to be located in Lewiston and recently appeared at a Council workshop to present its recommendation on the piece to be accepted. At that meeting, the City Council indicate its support.

This work is fully funded through the grant and no local matching funds are required. It should be noted, however, that Public Works will provide some in-kind services during installation and the City will be assuming maintenance responsibilities.

The attached Resolve will accept this artwork and authorize its installation. The plan is to locate it in cross canal #1 between Bates Mills 5 and 1.

APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

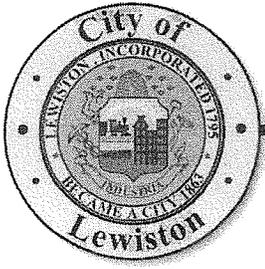
The City Administrator recommends approval.

EATB/Kmm

REQUESTED ACTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	M
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To approve the Resolve, Authorizing the Acceptance of a Public Art Installation to be Located on City Owned Property in or Adjacent to the Lewiston Canal System.



CITY OF LEWISTON, MAINE

May 19, 2020

COUNCIL RESOLVE

Resolve, Authorizing the Acceptance of a Public Art Installation to be Located on City Owned Property in or Adjacent to the Lewiston Canal System.

Whereas, in January 2019, the LA Metro Chamber of Commerce and L/A Arts, with formal support from both the City of Lewiston and the City of Auburn, were awarded a Maine Arts Commission grant for \$75,000 to support the implementation of Cultural Plan LA, a plan approved by both cities in 2016; and

Whereas, the intent of this grant was to "utilize arts and culture to spur economic development and enhance LA's image to attract residents, tourism, and new investment" and to "further the position of arts and culture in local government;" and

Whereas, one element of the implementation plan is to select and install a piece of public art in both Lewiston and Auburn; and

Whereas, the public art working group established to guide the implementation effort has solicited and received proposals for the public art piece to be located in Lewiston and has made a recommendation to the Council as to the artwork to be accepted; and

Whereas, this work is fully funded through the grant and no local matching funds are required; however, Public Works will be asked to provide some in-kind services during installation and the City will be assuming future maintenance responsibilities;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that

The recommendation of the public art working group of the artwork to be commissioned and installed in the City of Lewiston is hereby accepted and its installation in or adjacent to the Lewiston Canal system is hereby authorized. The City accepts future maintenance responsibilities for this work and the Council authorizes the Public Works Department to assist in its installation.

Public Art Initiative Update

Lewiston City Council Workshop - May 12, 2020

Public Art Initiative Update

The Grant

- \$75,000 from the Maine Arts Commission to implement part of Cultural Plan LA
- Our proposal: Use public art to boost community identity/pride and spur economic development
- 1 artwork per City to be installed in 2020 or 2021
- In-kind contribution from the City for site work and maintenance

The Public Art Plan

- Provides definitions, guiding principles, and an administrative structure for encouraging and managing public art.
- Public art = accessible, original cultural expressions and/or physical works of art located within a public space that enrich the City by contributing to its uniqueness and stimulating learning, reflection, and conversation.
- The Public Art Committee helps administer public art projects and provides expert advice to the City on matters related to public art. For now, the Working Group serves as the Public Art Committee.

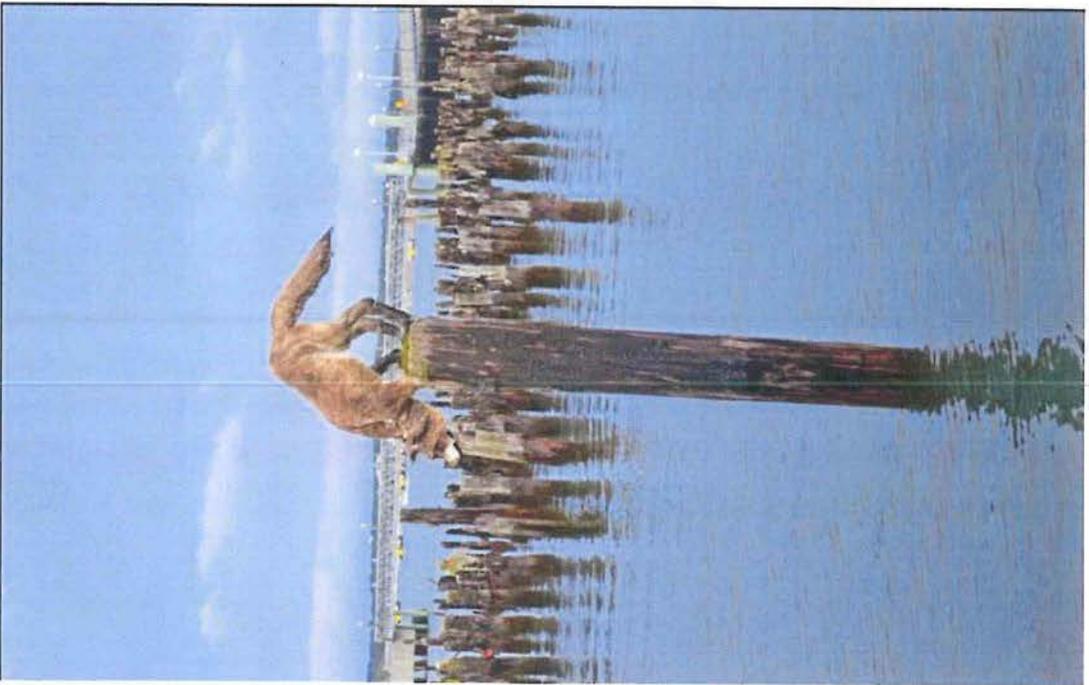
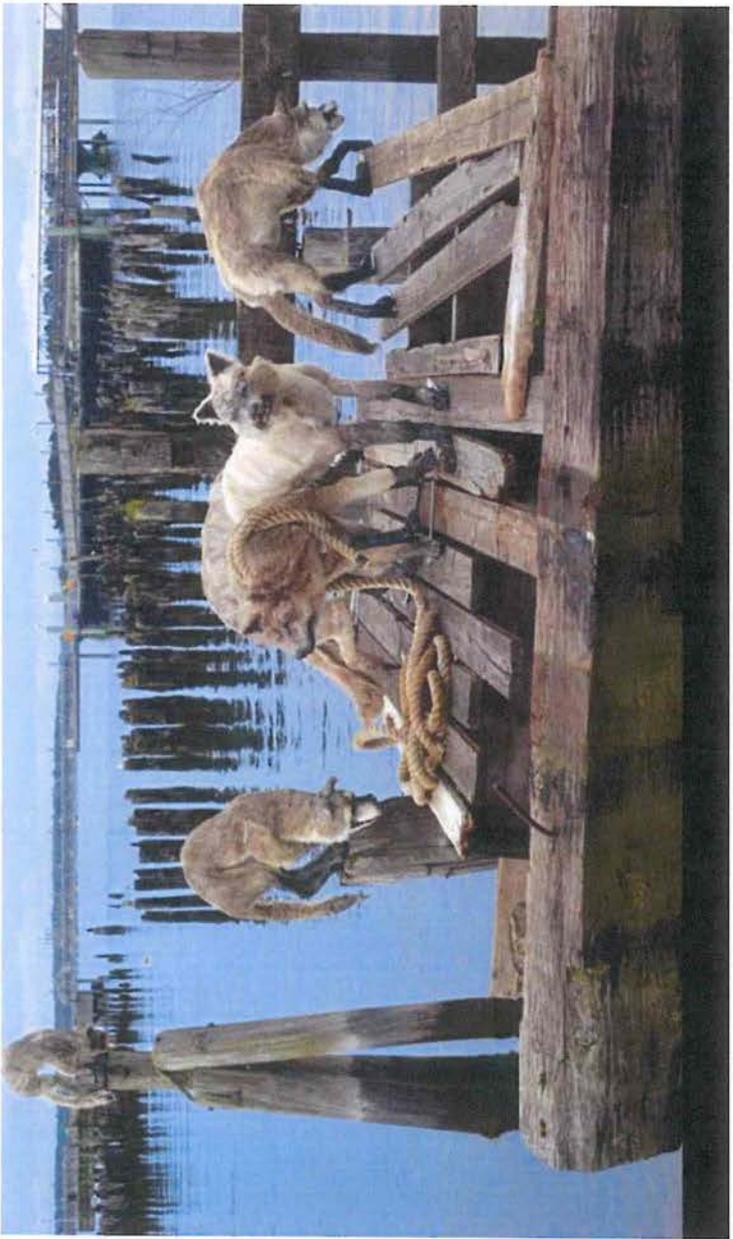
The current public art project

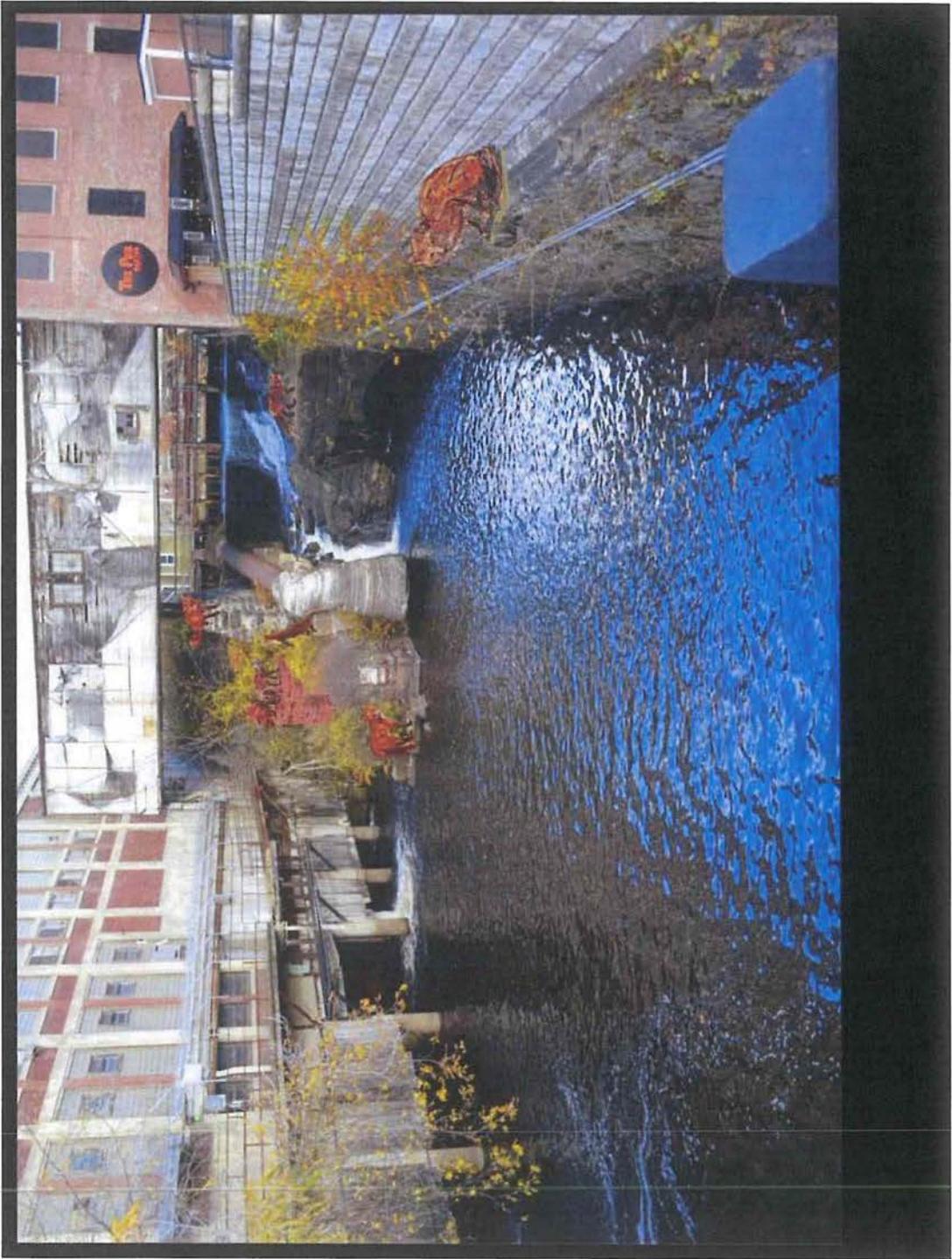
- Began with an RFP to Maine-based artists
- Received 11 viable proposals
- The Public Art Working Group, along with two high school students (one per city), reviewed proposals and selected 2 finalists per city.
- The Group hosted finalist presentations. Public Works staff joined these presentations to consider site selection and preparation, installation, and maintenance issues.
- The Group made a final selection and submitted its recommendation to City staff and is now presenting it to the Council for consideration and, we hope, eventual approval.

We recommend

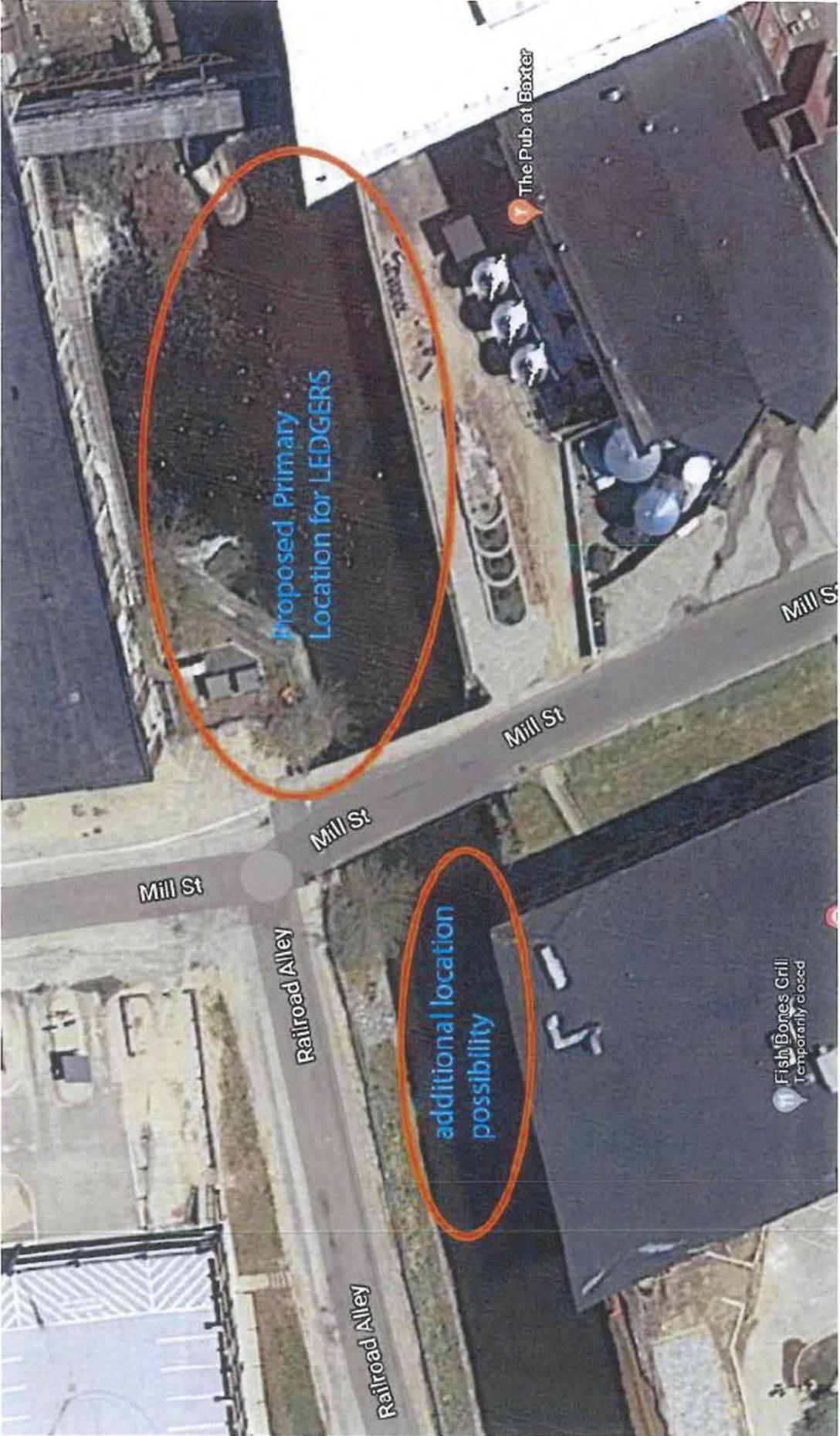
Artist Andy Rosen

- Native of Auburn, resident of South Portland
- His works have been widely exhibited:
 - Miami
 - New York City
 - Numerous locations in Maine and Massachusetts.
- An exciting young artist on his way up!









We welcome your questions/comments.

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF MAY 19, 2020

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

SUBJECT: Resolve, Authorizing Correcting an Assessing Error on the Property Owned by James Goupil at 56 Jenkins Street Involving the Homestead Exemption.

INFORMATION: The City Clerk periodically informs the Assessor of any death certificates filed with her office so that he can use this information to cancel the homestead exemption. Without this process, we would have no way of knowing if a homestead is or is not valid other than self-reporting, which most citizens would likely not even realize they should do. Mr. Goupil and his son had the same name (with different middle initials, but the initials were not on the deed). When the son's death certificate was filed 7 or 8 years ago, assessing removed the homestead and changed the ownership in our records (and the address on the tax bill) to the Heirs of James Goupil. The bills have subsequently gone to the "heirs" and not included the homestead. This is the first case that we are aware of where an error was made in such a homestead adjustment.

State law generally places the responsibility on the property owner for checking the accuracy of the assessment and the tax bill, recognizing that municipalities are dealing with a large number of tax accounts. We have over 10,000. The law does allow the Assessor to correct an error and provide a rebate for the current tax year. Bill Healey has made this correction for the current tax year. State law allows the municipal officers to go back an additional two years to approve a correction -- in effect setting out a three year statute of limitations. This again recognizes that the taxpayer has a certain responsibility to call errors to our attention and also the potential significant financial impact that a multiple year error could have.

Mr. Goupil is requesting that the Council authorize a refund for an additional two year period in recognition of the error. Please see the attached correspondence from him outlining why he did not recognize the error sooner.

Authorizing this correction is at the discretion of the City Council.

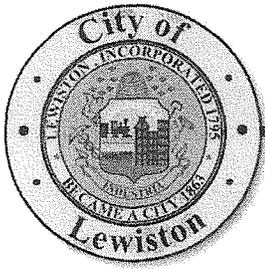
APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

Approval is discretionary with the City Council. This is an unusual error and Mr. Goupil's explanation as to why he did not recognize it should be reviewed and taken into consideration. *EAB/K*

REQUESTED ACTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	M
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To approve the Resolve, Authorizing Correcting an Assessing Error on the Property Owned by James Goupil at 56 Jenkins Street Involving the Homestead Exemption.



CITY OF LEWISTON, MAINE

May 19, 2020

COUNCIL RESOLVE

Resolve, Authorizing Correcting an Assessing Error on the Property Owned by James Goupil at 56 Jenkins Street Involving the Homestead Exemption.

Whereas, he City Clerk periodically informs the Assessor of any death certificates filed with her office so that he can use this information to cancel the homestead exemption; and

Whereas, without this process, the City would have no way of knowing if a homestead is or is not valid other than self-reporting, which most citizens would likely not realize they should do; and

Whereas, Mr. Goupil's homestead was incorrectly removed when the Assessor was informed of the death of Mr. Goupil's son of the same name; and

Whereas, since then, property tax bills have been addressed to the Heirs of James Goupil and not included the homestead; and

Whereas, Mr. Goupil became aware of this when he failed to receive a payment from the State Treasurer recently made to all Maine citizens who were receiving a homestead exemption; and

Whereas, he contacted the Assessor who, as allowed by state law, corrected Mr. Goupil's tax bill for this tax year; and

Whereas, state law permits the municipal officers to correct assessment errors for two additional tax year; and

Whereas, Mr. Goupil has requested such relief and has provided his explanations as to why he did not sooner recognize this error and bring it to our attention;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that

Mr. Goupil's homestead was removed in error and he shall be reimbursed for the homestead exemption for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 in the respective amounts of \$498.76 and \$504.54.

City of Lewiston

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

William Healey – Chief Assessor
Susan Ricker – Sr. Personal Property Appraiser Kendall Priest – Sr. Appraiser
Kristy Sheehan - Appraiser

March 11, 2020

James Goupil
56 Jenkins Street
Lewiston, ME 04240

Dear Mr. Goupil,

I am writing regarding the State of Maine Homestead Exemption for your property located at 56 Jenkins Street. As we discussed during our recent phone conversation, the Exemption was removed in 2013 because the Assessor's Office thought you had passed away. As you informed me, it was your son with the same name but different middle initial, who had deceased. It is important to point out that the deed for your property does not have a middle initial listed with your name. The deed simply reads James Goupil. The Assessor's Office had no way of knowing they had removed the wrong person at the time.

Here are the Homestead Exemption dollar amounts you requested; Fiscal Year 2014 \$240.60, Fiscal Year 2015 \$241.97, Fiscal Year 2016 \$249.07, Fiscal Year 2017 \$375.92, Fiscal Year 2018 \$498.76, Fiscal Year 2019 \$504.54, and Fiscal Year 2020 \$508.82.

Please be advised that I have issued a tax abatement on your behalf with the Tax Collector's Office in the amount of \$508.82 tax dollars for the Fiscal 2020 Tax Year. As I mentioned during our conversation, the Law does not allow me to grant abatement beyond the current Fiscal Year. I also sent an email to the State Treasurer's Office telling them you should have received the 2020 Homestead Refund of \$104.00 from the State of Maine.

Feel free to contact me personally with any other questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

William H. Healey, RES, CMA
Chief Assessor

*City of Lewiston, Assessor's Department - 27 Pine St - Lewiston, ME 04240
(207) 513-3122*

Correspondence to and from Mr. Goupil

Report a Concern Form

Name:*	Contact Information	
Address:*	james m. goupil	
City:*	56 JENKINS ST	
State: *	LEWISTON	
	Me.	Zip:* 04240

I called city hall on 3/10/2020 to find out why I did not receive the state homestead tax relief. Bill Healey told me I was taken off the homestead list in 2013 because my son James L. Goupil had passed away. Bear in mind he had not lived at my address since 2002. Someone did not do their job to verify. The amount lost was \$240.60 for 2014, \$241.97 for 2015, \$249.07 for 2016, \$375.92 for 2017, \$498.76 for 2018, \$504.54 for 2019, total \$2,110.86. I was born & raised in Lewiston. I never received assistance & always paid my taxes. I am not asking for a handout, I am asking for what was taken from me. The finance committee can make this right. Respectfully James M. Goupil

From: Ed Barrett

Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 8:45 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: William Healey <bhealey@lewistonmaine.gov>; Denis D'Auteuil <DDAuteuil@lewistonmaine.gov>; Dot Perham-Whittier <dottie@LewistonMaine.gov>; Janet Labbe <JLabbe@lewistonmaine.gov>; Mark A. Cayer <MCayer@lewistonmaine.gov>

Subject: Report a Concern

Mr. Goupil:

I am aware of your situation and have discussed it with both the City Assessor and the Mayor. The Assessor has agreed to reimburse you for \$508.82 for the most recent year's homestead exemption, and you should have or will shortly receive a check for that amount. He has also informed the State Treasurer's Office that you should have received the recent refund of \$104 provided to homestead property owners by the state.

As I believe the Assessor has explained to you, he is limited by law to adjusting errors in tax assessments for the current tax year only. The City Council does have the authority to make a refund, but state law limits that to only an additional two years. This provision of state law recognizes that errors can happen, but limits the refund period on the basis that property owners' have an independent responsibility to review and verify that their tax assessment is correct.

I have spoken with the Mayor and he has indicated his interest in having your request presented to the City Council. If you wish to take advantage of this, please let me know and I will arrange for it to be scheduled before the City Council. If you prefer, I can simply forward

what you provided in your report a concern to the Council. Or, if you wish to provide more information in support of your request, feel free to do so via email or the address provided below. I will also provide the Council with a copy of the Assessor's letter to you.

I will let you know in advance of the date and time when the Council will consider your request.

You can provide the request to me by email at ebarrett@lewistonmaine.gov or regular mail at the address below.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Ed Barrett
City Administrator

From: james goupil [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 11:51 PM
To: Ed Barrett
Subject: homestead

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

I was reading the comments that bill Healey said & I want to answer his questions. It took seven years because after I applied for the homestead exemption, the second year I called to find out if I had to apply every year & I was told I only had to apply once & I believed them. I did notice that my bill said James Goupil (heir) & it was confusing; however I did not understand it & I did not know it was going to affect my bill. Understanding stuff like that is his profession & I am sure he is good at it. If I told him he would need a 309 filler wire to join carbon to stainless he probably would not know what I was talking about. Whoever took my name off that list knows they are supposed to verify, that is their profession. I hope his questions are to help me. That is his job. The answers are obvious, I am not that smart in that area. If I had not asked about the state homestead tax relief, I may have never known I was removed.

Thank you again for your help. Respectfully James M. Goupil

From: james goupil [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 5:50 PM
To: Ed Barrett <EBarrett@lewistonmaine.gov>
Subject: homestead

Thank you for your response. I apologize that my ability to understand bills & assessing is limited & confusing. I often depend on them being correct. Going forward let's don't lose sight of the fact that \$2110.86 was taken from me due to no fault of my own. I don't understand how this could happen. There must be a date of birth verification or something required. I am sure the intent of any law was not for this. I am reaching out to the state to help me understand. In the meantime I appreciate your help going forward at the city level.

Respectfully James M. Goupil

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF MAY 19 2020

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

SUBJECT: Resolve, Waiving Certain Fees and Policies Involving the Public Right of Way and Municipally Owned Property and Establishing a Procedure to Allow for the Use of Private Parking Areas for the Purpose of Assisting Lewiston Organizations in Implementing Social Distancing

INFORMATION: As the state moves to relax restrictions on certain public facing businesses, such as restaurants and retail stores, those businesses will still be required to take steps to ensure that they can operate safely and mitigate the spread of the Corona19 virus. In some instances, this will result in reduced occupancy limitations. One option to address such limitations is to relocate portions of the operation outside. In some areas, businesses have limited access to privately owned outdoor property, including parking lots, but may face zoning restrictions on such use. In other instances, such as our downtown, expansion may be possible into the public right of way or onto public open spaces owned and controlled by the City.

In order to support such accommodations, staff is recommending that we relax certain policies and restrictions. The attached Resolve would authorize city staff to work with businesses seeking permission to expand their operations onto municipal rights of way and public or private open spaces and parking areas. These accommodations would include: permitting commercial activities to take place in city parks and open spaces and waiving any park use fees; waiving sidewalk and street occupancy fees; authorizing a business to occupy sidewalks near but not adjacent to their property with permission from the adjacent property owner; granting permission to occupy designated on-street parking spaces for outside dining and sales if approved by designated staff; closing sections of public streets for specified periods to allow for their commercial use by adjacent or nearby businesses; otherwise being granted permission to use outdoor areas controlled by the City; and establishing a temporary mechanism to allow for expansion onto private parking areas or open spaces that a business or organization controls while ensuring such expansions are laid out in a manner to ensure public safety. Permission for such uses would remain in place until ten days after all social distancing restrictions have been eliminated or November 1, 2020, whichever occurs first.

APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

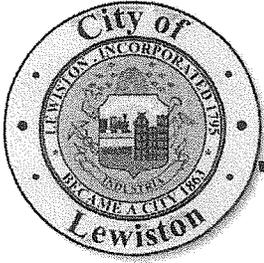
The City Administrator recommends approval.

EAB/kmn

REQUESTED ACTION:

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To approve the Resolve, Waiving Certain Fees and Policies Involving the Public Right of Way and Municipally Owned Property and Establishing a Procedure to Allow for the Use of Private Parking Areas for the Purpose of Assisting Lewiston Organizations in Implementing Social Distancing



COUNCIL RESOLVE

Resolve, Waiving Certain Fees and Policies Involving the Public Right of Way and Municipally Owned Property and Establishing a Procedure to Allow for the Use of Private Parking Areas for the Purpose of Assisting Lewiston Organizations in Implementing Social Distancing

Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the temporary closure of numerous public facing businesses and organizations such as restaurants and certain retail operations; and

Whereas, the Governor has advanced a plan that will lead to these organizations being allowed to reopen subject to meeting certain restrictions, such as limiting the number of patrons and visitors allowed in the premises and establishing social distancing arrangements; and

Whereas, these restrictions are likely to limit the number of people that will be able to be served; and

Whereas, it may be possible for certain organizations to serve additional visitors if they are able to incorporate outside areas into their operations; and

Whereas, organizations that own or control outside areas may currently be restricted from using them given zoning and site plan requirements; and

Whereas, these requirements can be temporarily lifted subject to presentation and implementation of a plan that ensures patron safety when using these areas; and

Whereas, not all affected organizations have access to such privately controlled areas, particularly in denser sections of the city such as downtown Lewiston; and

Whereas, in those areas, it may be possible for operations to be expanded into adjacent city owned, managed, or maintained rights of way or open spaces; and

Whereas, while emergency operating restrictions continue, the City desires to support local businesses and other community organizations by working with them where possible to allow for the use of publicly owned or controlled areas;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that

While organizations will continue to be required to obtain a permit from the city for the use of city sidewalks, streets, parking spaces, and public open spaces for purposes directly related to that organization's normal operations, and to abide by the restrictions and requirements of such permits, fees for the use and occupancy of such spaces are hereby waived, such waiver to remain in effect until ten (10) days following the lifting of all social distancing restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic or until November 1, 2020, whichever occurs first. In

addition, organizations wishing to use municipal sidewalks or rights of way, including parking spaces, located near but not directly adjacent to their property, may be allowed to do so subject to a showing that permission has been granted by the owner or lessee of the property abutting the municipal space the organization wishes to occupy. Such organizations may also be permitted to occupy nearby municipal open spaces.

Be it Further Resolved, that

A staff committee composed of the City Administrator, Public Works Director, and Director of Planning and Code Enforcement or their designees is hereby authorized to review and approve or deny permits for the use of such municipal space or receive permits for these purposes. In addition, this Committee is hereby authorized to approve:

- the closure of certain streets to allow for those streets to be occupied and used for the purposes outlined above.
- the use of on-site open space or parking spaces normally used to meet Zoning and Land Use parking requirements to serve patrons, subject to presentation of a plan showing how this can be done safely.

Permissions granted by this committee may be revoked at any time should the operation violate any permit or use restrictions or operate in such a manner as to negatively impact the public or other adjacent property owners or create a hazard to public safety. The decisions of this Committee may be appealed to the City Clerk.

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF MAY 19, 2020

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

SUBJECT:

Resolve Asking the Governor of the State of Maine to Re-Open Androscoggin County.

INFORMATION:

Councilor Clement has drafted a proposed Resolve for the Council's review and consideration. The Resolve is asking the Governor to consider authorizing the reopening of services within Androscoggin County. Please see the Resolve for more details.

APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

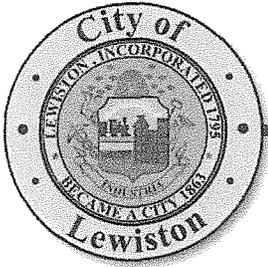
Councilor Clement has prepared the Resolve for the Council's consideration.

SAIB/kmm

REQUESTED ACTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	M
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To approve the Resolve Asking the Governor of the State of Maine to Re-Open Androscoggin County.



CITY OF LEWISTON, MAINE

MAY 19, 2020

COUNCIL RESOLVE

Resolve, ASKING THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MAINE TO RE-OPEN ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY

WHEREAS, the City of Lewiston is currently under a gubernatorial quarantine as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS said quarantine is adversely affecting not only the economy, but also the ability of its citizens to work and their ability to maintain Maine's quality of life, thereby damaging not only the economy but also the mental health and well-being of our residents; and

WHEREAS, The State of Maine is the only state in New England to not be tabulating or quantifying data on a daily basis, and this is leading to the inability of accurately analyze epidemiological trends; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lewiston and Androscoggin County would appear to be in the same statistical position to proceed with re-opening its community alongside the other Maine counties were restrictions have been lessened; and

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that residents of the City of Lewiston and Androscoggin County are now routinely travelling to those areas that have seen a relaxation to obtain goods and services that cannot be obtained under the current restrictions locally; and

WHEREAS, there are prophylactic strategies that will mitigate COVID-19 without having to shut down the economy and quarantine the healthy; and

WHEREAS, to include Androscoggin County in the group of restricted counties is not rationally related to a virus that does not recognize geographical borders;

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the City Council of the City of Lewiston, in regular session, hereby respectfully ask the Governor of the State of Maine, the Honorable Janet T. Mills, to reconsider her recent decision to include Lewiston and Androscoggin County in the four county group that remains subject to the strictest regulations; and

We strongly recommend that virus testing be expanded as rapidly as possible and all recommended data be reported as frequently as suggested by the Federal CDC so as to maximize the information available for analysis; and

We ask that Governor Mills direct the Maine CDC to follow their peers and begin to release data of confirmed COVID-19 cases by town or city, and to communicate with local officials and work with them as a team; and

We ask that Governor Mills consider making any quarantine a voluntary action that will neither force any business to remain closed or require any to be open; and

We ask that businesses that choose to open be allowed to do so under current “best practice” guidelines of those promulgating public health advisories; and

We ask that the force of law concerning the quarantine restrictions be immediately removed; and
We strongly recommend that those persons at highest risk, namely those of advanced age and/or living in congregate settings and/or possessing known co-morbidity factors, be readily afforded such assistance as will help them to mitigate exposure; and

FINALLY, we believe Maine people are resolute and possess the necessary knowledge, will and drive to pick up the pieces responsibly, thereby starting the all-important task of re-building our economy, which will contribute to our citizens’ economic and mental health and well-being and allow us to once again become “The Great State of Maine.”

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF MAY 19, 2020

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

SUBJECT:

Order Authorizing execution of Municipal Quitclaim Deeds for Real Estate located at 42 Raiche Street and 186 Bartlett Street.

INFORMATION:

One of the most powerful collection tools in a municipality's arsenal is the ability to lien properties for delinquent taxes (real and special only), water and sewer balances, and most recently stormwater balances. Once a lien is recorded, eighteen months must lapse without payment before the lien matures. Prior to maturity, the City Council may waive the right to foreclose on a maturing lien as you have done in the past. If the lien is permitted to mature, the municipality may elect to foreclose on the property or, if subsequent payment is received, return the property to its owner via a quitclaim deed.

At this time, the Finance Director is asking the Council to approve a municipal quitclaim deed for the property located at the above listed address. The quitclaim deed will release any interest the City may have by virtue of undischarged real estate tax liens or utility liens on this property. Payments due for this property have all been received in full. Should the Council approve this Order, the quitclaim will be issued to the owners.

APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

The City Administrator recommends approval of the requested action.

BARB KUMM

REQUESTED ACTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	M
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To approve the Orders authorizing execution of municipal quitclaim deeds for real estate located at 42 Raiche Street and 186 Bartlett Street.



CITY OF LEWISTON, MAINE

May 19, 2020

COUNCIL ORDER

Order, Authorizing Execution of a Municipal Quitclaim Deed – Real Estate Located at 42 Raiche Street.

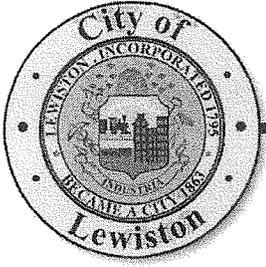
WHEREAS, the owner, Gerald H. Doyer, failed to pay his bill on a timely basis for 42 Raiche Street (Tax Map 168, Lot 124, Parcel 00-002974); and

WHEREAS, a tax lien was filed on June 21, 2018 (Book 9865 Page 133) and matured on December 21, 2019 in the amount of \$158.72; and

WHEREAS, payment was received in full;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the CITY COUNCIL of the CITY of LEWISTON,

That a quitclaim deed is hereby authorized to release the City's interest in the property located at 42 Raiche Street to the owner.



CITY OF LEWISTON, MAINE

May 19, 2020

COUNCIL ORDER

Order, Authorizing Execution of a Municipal Quitclaim Deed – Real Estate Located at 186 Bartlett Street.

WHEREAS, the owners, Tanya and Greg Burt, failed to pay their bills on a timely basis for 186 Bartlett Street (Tax Map 196, Lot 143, Parcel 00-007719); and

WHEREAS, a water lien was filed on August 29, 2013 (Book 8760 Page 85) and matured on February 28, 2015 in the amount of \$133.18; and

WHEREAS, a sewer lien was filed on August 29, 2013 (Book 8760 Page 187) and matured on February 28, 2015 in the amount of \$196.14; and

WHEREAS, payment was received in full;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the **CITY COUNCIL** of the **CITY of LEWISTON,**

That a quitclaim deed is hereby authorized to release the City's interest in the property located at 186 Bartlett Street to the owner.