

# **Sabattus Walkable Audit Report**

## **July 2009**

### **Introduction**

The Androscoggin Transportation Resource Center (ATRC), in cooperation with Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) conducted a Walkable Community Audit Workshop at the Primary School on No Name Pond Road in Sabattus on May 5, 2009.

### **Purpose**

This report helps summarize the physical conditions, needs, and opportunities for pedestrian facilities within Sabattus village. The town is currently focused on successful enhancement of open space among the community. There are several town-owned acres that can be developed as recreational trail networks to other resources as well as neighboring town resources. The information contained in this report will provide the Town of Sabattus and its residents with priority projects towards becoming a more pedestrian friendly community.

The Sabattus Town Office and Post Office, which are anchors in successful downtowns, have relocated from the Sabattus village area to other areas within the town. Sabattus village was once a busy area for resident services; with the decline of the village significance for services, the town would like to reinvent the village area as an attractive place for active and passive recreation.

### **Methodology**

Several hours of pre-audit work was conducted prior to holding the community walking audit. Work began with correspondence between ATRC staff and town officials to determine the most appropriate area of the community to conduct an audit. Once the audit area was selected staff visited the town to meet the town official(s) and walk the focus area to gain familiarity. The pre-audit walk involved taking pictures within the community which offered good and bad examples of a pedestrian friendly environment. The pictures were then downloaded to be used in a PowerPoint presentation given at the community walkable audit. A PowerPoint presentation was created to educate workshop attendees on pedestrian design, safety, education, and enforcement while using pre-audit pictures in the presentation for examples.

The Sabattus Town Manager posted fliers throughout the community announcing an upcoming Walkable Community Workshop asking for participation towards making Sabattus more pedestrian friendly. The workshop was sponsored by MaineDOT and administered by ATRC staff; there were 4 participants consisting of citizens and municipal representatives.

The workshop was four hours and included the PowerPoint presentation discussing pedestrian design, safety, education, enforcement, and encouragement. The workshop concepts were explained through town specific examples relating to trail, path, and sidewalk conditions and pedestrian-scale safety and development standards. After the

PowerPoint presentation the group went out and walked the focus area and stopped along the way to discuss and identify the obstacles to walking and potential short and long-term solutions. Following the walk the participants were asked to write comments of what is needed within the town (community buy-in); comments were written on maps of the focus area and the entire town. Comments are outlined in the list below. This report includes a summary of comments for the focus area and town wide; list of workshop attendees; and promotional flier for the workshop. The report has been submitted to the community for comments or changes prior to the report being finalized.

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**Summary of Comments:**

<b>Sabattus Crosswalks and Sidewalks</b>			
	<b>Issue/Community</b>	<b>Priority/Timeframe</b>	<b>Implementation</b>
1	Extend the sidewalk system up Elm Street past Princess Drive.	To be determined by Town	Town Manager
2	Extend the sidewalk system from No Name Pond Road at the Lewiston town line to Hemlock Street connecting to Elm Street.	To be determined by Town	Town Manager
3	Extend the sidewalk system from High Street up Long Beach Road to Sabattus Road (Route 126).	To be determined by Town	Town Manager
4	Improve the condition of the existing sidewalk network in Sabattus.	To be determined by Town	Town Manager
5	Paint crosswalks in Spring to maintain visibility or use durable material (e.g., thermal plastic).	To be determined by Town	Town Manager, Public Works
6	Install sidewalk with curbing on Hemlock Street and No Name Pond Road and Main Street	To be determined by Town	Town Manager
<b>Sabattus On-Road Facilities</b>			
	<b>Issue/Community</b>	<b>Priority/Timeframe</b>	<b>Implementation</b>
1	Continue Bike/Pedestrian path to extend up Main Street to Lisbon Road to No Name Pond Road to the existing path in Lewiston.	To be determined by Town	Town Manager
2	Pave shoulders to accommodate park lands off of Main Street	To be determined by Town	Town Manager, MaineDOT
3	Sign maintenance (i.e., replace or update)	To be determined by Town	Public Works, MaineDOT

<b>Sabattus Development</b>			
	<b>Issue/Community</b>	<b>Priority/Timeframe</b>	<b>Implementation</b>
1	Connect the 30 acres of town-owned land off Elm Street via a potential right-of-way off Princess Drive to the Martin's Point Park and Boat Launching Facility off Lake Street.	To be determined by Town	ATRC, Town Manager
2	Establish public "pocket" parks on Main Street adjacent to the river/dam and the intersection of Main Street and Greene Street at the dam.	To be determined by Town	Town Manager
3	Work to develop a transition plan for the town to become ADA compliant (refer to statutory reference 28 CFR §35.150(d). (9-12-06). <i>The ADA requires any public agency with more than 50 employees to make a transition plan setting forth the steps necessary to make its facilities accessible to persons with disabilities.</i>	To be determined by Town	Town Manager
4	Develop Park area next to Sabattus Stream on Main Street, including purchasing additional adjacent land and warehouse building.	To be determined by Town	Town Manager, Board of Selectmen, Town Meeting
<b>Sabattus Off-Road Facilities</b>			
	<b>Issue/Community</b>	<b>Priority/Timeframe</b>	<b>Implementation</b>
1	Develop walking trails on the town-owned 47 acres located off of Pleasant Hill Road.	To be determined by Town	ATRC, Town Manager
2	Develop trails on town-owned 30 acres off of Elm Street.	To be determined by Town	Town Manager



Walking Audit Flier:

# SABATTUS VILLAGE WALKING WORKSHOP



Sabattus  
Primary  
School

MAY 5, 2009  
1:00 — 4:00 pm



## Who Should Attend?

Business owners, citizens, municipal officials, public safety officials,  
and others interested in learning how to make Sabattus Village an  
“active community environment”

*(Bring your walking shoes—rain or shine)*

