

Monday, April 25, 2016: Kenduskeag race, scrap I-395 connector, solar veto

Scrap I-395 connector

As a former Brewer city councilor and a representative to the I-395/Route 9 Connector committee, I cannot believe that this project is going forward. Maine Department of Transportation Deputy Commissioner Jon Nass thinks that 16-year-old data still is good data to use.

Having spent eight years in connector meetings, I know that most routes were dismissed as not viable. Finally, a solution came in the form of the "Ring route," which was initially approved by both the committee and the Department of Transportation. It was shelved because of the lack of funds, and the project went underground. Then an unknown person not only got the preferred route tossed out but got one of the worst routes certified as preferred.

Officials from the Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration not answering simple questions is unacceptable. It's their way and the highway. I now feel the only route to stop this boundoggle is to call our two senators and representatives and insist our highway funds be better spent on fixing up existing, crumbling roads and bridges.

Manley DeBack Jr.

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