

April 2, 2024

Project Canopy
Jan Santerre, Senior Planner
Maine Forest Service
22 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Jan Santerre,

On behalf of the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC), we strongly support the Town of Bowdoinham's Project Canopy Tree Planting Grant Application for the waterfront redevelopment project. CDAC members are appointed by the Selectboard and we represent a broad spectrum of the community. We look forward to the redevelopment of the property as it will greatly enhance the waterfront assets in Town in a way that will support our core economic strengths – the arts, by expanding outdoor public spaces to be inspired and creative, and outdoor recreation, by creating greater capacity to support a broad range of outdoor activities and for a broader users-group.

We urge you to approve the Town's Project Canopy Grant to replace some of the many trees we have lost to erosion at the waterfront. The town is undertaking a shoreline stabilization project in tandem with this effort to ensure the longevity of the trees to be planted and protecting them and other assets in the park from flooding. CDAC recognizes the important role trees have in enhancing public health and air quality, providing ecosystem services, and enhancing the beauty and aesthetics of a community.

CDAC unanimously supports the objectives of this grant application and urges you to select our project. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Signed,

Jean de Bellefeuille, Chair

Ian McConnell

Lee Parker, Secretary

Wendy Rose, Co-Chair

John Scribner