**MEMORANDUM**

To: Bowdoinham Selectboard

From: Community Development Advisory Committee

Date: June 13, 2023

Re: Recommendation for DOT BikePed Grant Application

**Recommendation:**

CDAC unanimously recommends that the Town of Bowdoinham apply for a MaineDOT BikePed Program grant to extend the sidewalk along Main Street 1,100 feet west along the south side towards our population centers in alignment with the goals and recommendations of the 2010 Walkable Village Plan. We recommend a motion to allow the committee to draft an application for consideration at the July 11, 2023 Selectboard meeting. We recommend utilizing the CMP TIF to fund this project which will not entail any outlay of town money in order to launch the project as transportation is an approved use for the fund.

**Background**

We have an opportunity to apply for a MaineDOT BikePed Program grant to further 2010 Walkable Village Plan design work for the redevelopment of the waterfront. The MaineDOT BikePed Program principally supports locally-initiated projects that improve the community transportation environment, economic vibrancy, safety for pedestrians and bicyclists, downtown revitalization initiatives and environmental mitigation.

We are requesting to apply for a grant award of $550,000 and for approval of our local match requirement of 20% which is $137,500, for a total project cost of $687,500. Our match would be required in two installments: $31,100 due on January 1, 2024 for design and right of way and $106,400 around March 1, 2026 for construction.

This total project costs were determined using a $400/linear foot formula provided by DOT which we believe is conservative, but without bids in hand, it is possible that a greater match may be required depending on our contract amount to accomplish the work. This match would be an authorized expense in our CMP TIF Program.

**Grant Information**

MaineDOT BikePed Program Grants are due Friday, July 14, 2023. This is a three-year grant and awards would be announced in January of 2024.The maximum award is $720,000. A match, in cash or in-kind, of 20% of total project cost is required. Those not chosen for awards in January will be given a second chance to revamp their submissions and be considered for the next round of funding.

**Proposed Scope**

January – February 2024: Upon award schedule a kick-off meeting with the assigned DOT Project Manager.

March – May 2024: Draft and issue RFP for project design, interview applicants, and award a contract for a design consultant for the project.

June 2024 – June 2025: Designing project with public engagement process

December 2025 – June 2026: Right of Way work

June – August 2026: Draft and issue RFP for project construction, interview applicants, and award a contract for a construction contractor for the project.

September – December 2026: Project construction and close out.