April 9, 2024

Project Canopy Maine Forest Service 22 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

Letter of Support – Town of Bowdoinham's Project Canopy Tree Planting Grant Application

Dear Jan Santerre,

I'm writing this letter, on behalf of the Comprehensive Planning Committee, in support of the Town's Project Canopy Tree Planting grant application to further the work necessary for the re-development of our waterfront park. The Comprehensive Planning Committee was the responsible for development and approval of the Master Site Plan for the re-development of the waterfront in 2019, as the implementation of the Town's Waterfront Plan is one of the recommendations of our Comprehensive Plan.

The development of our new park has been years in the making, and it has finally reached a stage at which we can begin addressing the state of active and ongoing erosion along its shorefront, which also threatens the upland property and existing vegetation within the shoreland zone. Trees near the shoreline are being undermined by bank erosion and will soon be lost. Additional loss of trees and upland area will continue to occur if an effective shoreline stabilization solution is not employed.

We hope that you will consider funding the Town's application, as we are looking forward to being able to start the next phase of the waterfront's redevelopment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dave Asmussen, Chair Bowdoinham Comprehensive Planning Committee