

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 28, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

We write to express our strong support for the application submitted by the City of Waterville, Maine, for funding through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program to fulfill local transportation and economic needs by making critical infrastructure improvements in the city's downtown district. The City is seeking \$7.4 million in federal funding to design and construct the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project.

The City of Waterville, located on the Kennebec River and home to both Colby College and Thomas College, has been making significant plans and investments to revitalize its downtown area to spur much-needed economic development and job growth. Waterville has a rich and enduring history as an industrial and manufacturing center for textiles and pulp and paper, and as an important employment hub and service center for Central Maine. The decline of manufacturing in the latter part of the 20th century has had a profound impact on the city and region. The aim of the multipronged and interconnected project is to create the conditions that are conducive to long-term economic growth and job creation.

If selected for funding, the City will reconstruct five key gateway interchanges and upgrade traffic signaling and channeling. The project will also convert the existing two-lane, one-way roadways into two-way vehicle traffic, creating safer traffic flows and improving lines of sight and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. Based on completed traffic studies, Waterville estimates that these improvements will reduce traffic times and crashes and will reduce congestion and increase connectivity of Main Street businesses. Importantly, this project will leverage more than \$65 million in development projects in downtown Waterville by Colby College, as well as other investment by the private sector on Main Street. This public-private partnership will create long-term economic development in Waterville and the surrounding region.

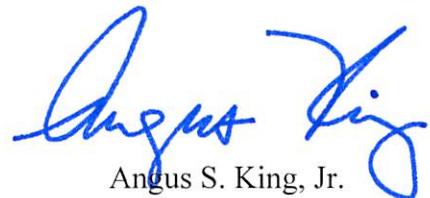
The City of Waterville's BUILD proposal will be a central step towards revitalizing its downtown by modernizing infrastructure in key areas. We strongly believe the outlined improvements will aid in generating economic activity and enhancing the Waterville community, ultimately ensuring the city's long-term commercial viability and overall vibrancy.

Thank you for your attention to this proposal. We respectfully request that the Department give careful consideration to the City of Waterville's application, subject to all applicable laws and regulations, and ask that your staff notify Cam O'Brien on Senator Collins' staff at (202) 224-2523 and Adam Lachman on Senator King's staff at (202) 224-5344 when a final decision has been made.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



CHELLIE PINGREE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
1ST DISTRICT, MAINE

July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write to express my support for the BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant application submitted by the City of Waterville, Maine. Waterville seeks \$7.4 million in federal funding to design and construct the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project.

Waterville has a rich and enduring history as an industrial and manufacturing center for textiles and pulp and paper, and as an important employment hub and service center for Central Maine. The decline of manufacturing in the latter part of the 21st century has had a profound impact on the city and region. The aim of the multipronged and interconnected effort underway today is to create the conditions that are conducive to long-term economic growth and job creation.

The Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project will reconstruct five key gateway interchanges and upgrade traffic signaling and channeling. The project will also convert the existing two-lane, one-way roadways into two-way vehicle traffic, creating safer traffic flows and improving lines of sight and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. Based on similar streets projects and completed traffic studies, Waterville estimates that these improvements will reduce traffic times and crashes by channeling through traffic to the peripheral and will reduce congestion and increase connectivity of Main Street businesses. Importantly, this project will leverage more than \$65 million in investments by Colby College and the private sector on Main Street, the result of a public-private partnership that is aimed at long-term economic development in Waterville and the surrounding region. Waterville is already experiencing job growth, increasing property values, and has its highest population since 1997.

I strongly support this project, a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council. Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chellie R.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Office of the
City Manager

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: City of Waterville Build Grant Application.

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am pleased to submit this application for Build Grant funding on behalf of the City of Waterville.

~~Over the past 2 years, the City has entered into a very productive partnership with the Maine~~
Department of Transportation and Colby College to study the transportation, pedestrian and economic development needs of our downtown area.

This long public process culminated with the issuance of a Downtown Feasibility Study covering all aspects of our downtown revitalization initiative. The issues of traffic safety, pedestrian concerns and streetscape improvements were key focus areas of this work.

We believe very strongly that the attached application will provide all the funding necessary to meet these objectives. We are prepared to begin and are extremely fortunate to have willing, committed partners that will help make this project a success.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Roy
City Manager
City of Waterville



1 Common Street, Waterville, ME 04901-6699
Phone: (207) 680-4204 | Fax: (207) 680-4207
mroy@waterville-me.gov | www.waterville-me.gov



CITY OF WATERVILLE
Office of the City Engineer

July 17, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Project Readiness & Permitting
for the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to you today in response to my review of the Build 2018 Grant application for the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project. As you know, this project has been in the works for many years and has included extensive public outreach and input, all of which has been integrated into this application.

The 2017 Downtown Waterville Feasibility Study conducted by Gorrill Palmer investigated many different conceptual designs and provided necessary guidance to complete the final design of the project. The key to the timeline for most projects is the review and approval of necessary permits. Based on the recommended concepts presented in Gorrill Palmer's 2017 study, it appears this project will have minimal environmental impact and not require any extensive environmental permitting. We will review with representatives of Maine DEP and Army Corps of Engineers for concurrence as we proceed with this project.

While there may be some public meetings and minor construction details left to complete, I am comfortable with the timeline as outlined in the application and feel this project is ready to proceed. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 680-4232.

Sincerely,

Nicholas M. Champagne, P.E.
City Engineer

Copy: Michael J. Roy, City of Waterville
Garvan D. Donegan, Central Maine Growth Council



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1902

July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write to express my support for the BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant application submitted by the City of Waterville, Maine. Waterville seeks \$7.4 million in federal funding to design and construct the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project.

Waterville has a rich, enduring history as an industrial and manufacturing center for textiles, pulp, and paper, and is an important employment hub and service center for Central Maine. The decline of manufacturing in the latter part of the 21st century has had a profound impact on the city and region. The aim of the multipronged and interconnected effort underway today is to create the conditions that are conducive to long-term economic growth and job creation. Waterville plays a major role in the region's economy, meaning this investment will have benefits throughout Central Maine, including portions of Maine's 2nd district.

The Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project will reconstruct five key gateway interchanges and upgrade traffic signaling and channeling. The project will also convert the existing two-lane, one-way roadways into two-way vehicle traffic, creating safer traffic flows and improving lines of sight and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. Based on similar street projects and completed traffic studies, Waterville estimates these improvements will reduce traffic times and crashes, and increase connectivity of Main Street businesses. Importantly, this project will leverage more than \$65 million in investments by Colby College and the private sector on Main Street, the result of a public-private partnership that is aimed at long-term economic development in Waterville and the surrounding region.

I fully support this project and strongly urge you to consider this competitive grant application. Thank you for your consideration, and I respectfully request that you notify my District Director Corenna O'Brien at Corenna.Obrien@mail.house.gov when a final decision has been made.

Sincerely,



Bruce Poliquin



50 Elm Street • Waterville, ME 04901
Telephone (207) 873-3315 • Fax (207) 877-0087
kimberly@midmainechamber.com
www.midmainechamber.com

July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this letter as a statement of our strong support for the BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant application submitted by the City of Waterville, Maine, to design and construct the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project.

Waterville has a rich and enduring history as an industrial and manufacturing center for textiles and pulp and paper, and as an important employment hub and service center for central Maine. The decline of manufacturing in the latter part of the 21st century has had a profound impact on the city and region. The aim of this integrated project is to create the conditions that are conducive to long-term economic growth and job creation.

The Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project will reconstruct five key gateway interchanges and upgrade traffic signaling and channeling. The project will also convert the existing two-lane, one-way roadways into two-way vehicle traffic, creating safer traffic flows and improving lines of sight and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. Based on similar streets projects and completed traffic studies, Waterville estimates that these improvements will reduce traffic times and crashes by channeling through traffic to the peripheral and will reduce congestion and increase connectivity of Main Street businesses.

We support this project, a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council, and we strongly urge you to consider this competitive grant application. Please know that the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce stands committed to supporting this project and is ready to assist in its future continued success and expansion.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Kind regards,

Kimberly N. Lindlof
President & CEO
Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce



July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this letter as an ardent support statement of the BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant application submitted by the City of Waterville, Maine, to plan and build the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project.

Central Maine Growth Council's (CMGC) mission is to act exclusively as a nonprofit corporation for the charitable and public purposes of promoting increased employment and living standards in the region's four-town area of Waterville, Winslow, Oakland, and Fairfield, Maine, by encouraging and assisting the physical settlement, expansion, resettlement, and strengthening of business enterprises within this area, promoting civic improvements therein, fostering and preserving the free enterprise system, developing a skilled workforce, and acting in the public interest.

Specifically, CMGC's purpose is to stimulate industrial and commercial enterprise growth through defining and administering projects and programs that will result in increased employment and living standards for the region. CMGC considers this integrated project to align strongly with our mission.

The Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project will accomplish this in several ways: (i.) safer and calmer traffic patterns for vehicular, pedestrian, and bike traffic, (ii.) increased traffic efficiencies and modernization within five gateway intersections, (iii.) reduced travel times by channeling through traffic to the peripheries of the downtown district, and (iv.) improved vibrancy and connectivity for Main Street businesses. In addition, this project leverages over 65 million dollars in investment from Colby College and the private sector on Main Street.

We support this project, a top priority of the Waterville City Council and my organization, Central Maine Growth Council, and we firmly support your consideration of this competitive grant application.

Thank you for your time and attention to this request.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Garvan Donegan', is written over a horizontal line.

Garvan Donegan
Director of planning & economic development
Central Maine Growth Council



COLBY COLLEGE
4774 Mayflower Hill
Waterville, Maine 04901-8847
TEL 207-859-4774
FAX 207-859-4775

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION
AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

July 17, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to express Colby's strong support for the \$7.4 million BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant application submitted by the City of Waterville, Maine, to design and construct the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project.

This project is the result of a comprehensive plan to revitalize downtown Waterville as developed and supported by a broad range of City, civic, and business leaders in the community. The Project will make integrated improvements to intersections, roadways, sidewalks, lighting, streetscapes, planting, and public spaces to improve vehicular and pedestrian safety, reduce congestion, connect businesses on Main Street to the many new opportunities at the Riverwalk. The goal is to revitalize Waterville as an attractive, safe, and vibrant destination that supports business, arts and culture, recreational, and residential activity and is accessible and welcoming to visitors and residents with all levels of physical ability. These improvements will, in turn, spur increased economic activity and business investment, building upon recent successes, including more than \$65 million in private investment and recruiting 200 technology jobs to Main Street.

Colby has partnered with Waterville and the Maine Department of Transportation to develop the transportation elements of the plan, building upon a history of partnerships between the three entities. The College has committed \$200,000 towards the engineering/design phase of the Project and, contingent upon Waterville receiving a BUILD grant, pledges \$800,000 towards construction and other expenses associated with the Project. Colby has also committed administrative, project management, and other technical support to Waterville for the project as an in-kind contribution.

Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project. Please contact me if you have questions or would like to discuss Colby's support for the Project.

Sincerely,

Douglas C. Terp
Vice President for Administration
and Chief Financial Officer



July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

We are writing to share our strong support for the \$7.4 million BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant application submitted by the City of Waterville, Maine, to design and construct the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project.

Waterville has a rich and enduring history as an industrial and manufacturing center for textiles and pulp and paper, and as an important employment hub and service center for Central Maine. The decline of manufacturing in the latter part of the 21st century has had a profound impact on the city and region.

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As a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council, we are proud to lend our support to this initiative. Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project, and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Bill Mitchell
Principal
GHM Insurance
51 Main Street
Waterville, ME 04901





July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

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As a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council, we are proud to lend our support to this initiative. Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project, and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Anthony DiSotto
Senior Vice President, Regional Retail Leader
Key Bank
1 Canal Plaza
Portland, ME 04101





July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

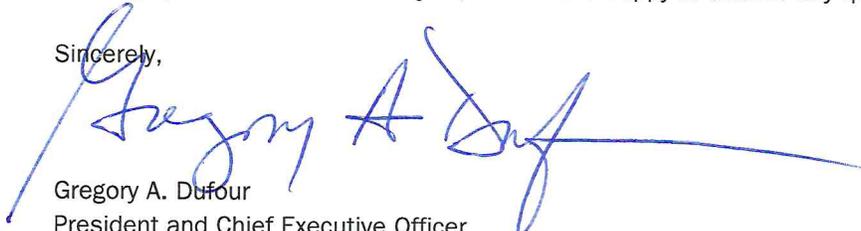
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As a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council, we are proud to lend our support to this initiative. Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project, and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,



Gregory A. Dufour
President and Chief Executive Officer
Camden National Bank
2 Elm Street
Camden, ME 04843





July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

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As a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council, we are proud to lend our support to this initiative. Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project, and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony Gatti".

Anthony Gatti
Principal
North River Hathaway LLC
10 Water Street
Waterville, ME 04901





July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

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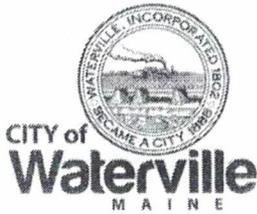
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As a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council, we are proud to lend our support to this initiative. Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project, and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Chris Gaunce
President/Owner
Central Maine Motors Auto Group
420 Kennedy Memorial Drive
Waterville, ME 04901





July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

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As a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council, we are proud to lend our support to this initiative. Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project, and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Charlie Giguere
Principal
Giguere Management Co.
2 Silver Street
Waterville, ME 04901





July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

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As a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council, we are proud to lend our support to this initiative. Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project, and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Matt Hancock
Principal
TAP LLC
31 Temple Street
Waterville, ME 04901





July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

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As a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council, we are proud to lend our support to this initiative. Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project, and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Pat Mulligan
Principal Waterville Pie LLC
173 Main Street
Waterville, ME 04901





July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

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As a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council, we are proud to lend our support to this initiative. Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project, and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Tracy Nale Sewall and Thomas J. Nale Jr.
Nale & Nale Law Offices
30 Elm Street, PO Box 633
Waterville, ME 04903-0633





July 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

We are writing to share our strong support for the \$7.4 million BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant application submitted by the City of Waterville, Maine, to design and construct the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project.

Waterville has a rich and enduring history as an industrial and manufacturing center for textiles and pulp and paper, and as an important employment hub and service center for Central Maine. The decline of manufacturing in the latter part of the 21st century has had a profound impact on the city and region.

This project is the result of a comprehensive plan to revitalize downtown Waterville developed and supported by a broad range of City, civic, and business leaders in the community. The Project will make integrated improvements to intersections, roadways, sidewalks, lighting, streetscapes, planting, and public spaces to improve vehicular and pedestrian safety, reduce congestion, connect businesses on Main Street to the many new opportunities at the Riverwalk. The goal is to revitalize Waterville as an attractive, safe, and vibrant business, arts and culture, recreation, and residential destination, accessible and welcoming to visitors and residents with all levels of physical ability. These improvements will, in turn, spur increased economic activity and business investment, building upon recent successes, including more than \$65 million in private investment and recruiting 200 technology jobs to Main Street.

As a top priority of the Waterville City Council and the Central Maine Growth Council, we are proud to lend our support to this initiative. Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project, and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Allan L. Rancourt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Allan L. Rancourt
President
Kennebec Federal Savings
70 Main Street
Waterville, ME 04901





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OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION
AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

July 27, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I'm writing to express Colby College's further financial support for the City of Waterville, Maine's, 2018 BUILD Discretionary Grant application, Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project.

The project is the result of a comprehensive plan to revitalize downtown Waterville as developed and supported by a broad range of city, civic, and business leaders in the community. To that end, Colby has made more than \$65 million in commitments to purchase and redevelop commercial properties in downtown Waterville to catalyze long-term economic development. In just three years, we have begun to see real signs of progress for this former mill town with hundreds of new jobs created or committed; the strongest residential real estate market in Maine in 2017; and, for the first time in twenty years, population growth. The BUILD request has the opportunity to leverage the investments by Colby and by many others to fully realize job gains and ensure continued, sustainable economic growth.

The submitted project budget assumes that 6 percent, or \$547,800, will be raised from a variety of sources. The College has been very successful in attracting private and foundation philanthropy towards the revitalization efforts, with nearly \$30 million raised to date. Given that track record, we are confident we will be able to raise those funds.

It is our understanding, however, that the Department gives preference to BUILD applications that are fully funded. Recognizing the Department's preference and the importance of the project to Waterville and the central Maine region, Colby will provide up to \$547,800 towards the project through fundraising or the College's own resources. This is in addition to the \$1,000,000 committed to the project in the application.

In other words, Waterville now has commitments for the full \$1,842,800 in project partners funding identified in the grant application. Colby's commitments are, of course, contingent upon Waterville being awarded a BUILD grant.

Thank you for your consideration of the Waterville Downtown Transit Corridor, Gateways, and Revitalization Project. Please contact me directly with any questions or to discuss Colby's support for the project.

Sincerely,

Douglas C. Terp
Vice President for Administration
and Chief Financial Officer