

Willie C. Taylor, Regional Director  
Economic Development Administration  
The Curtis Center, Suite 140 South  
601 Walnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3323

September 20, 2013

Dear Willie,

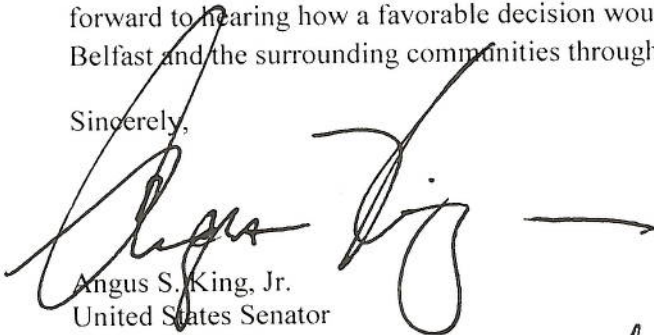
I am pleased to write in strong support of the application submitted by the City of Belfast to the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant Program to assist the *Front Street Reconstruction Project*. Belfast plans to make critical infrastructure improvements and update water lines to Front Street, an area that supports a key growing business district in the area. By helping remove impediments to future development of the site, the project will lead to significant investment from private industry, resulting in both job creation and the continued success of local businesses.

The proposed project will benefit businesses situated along Front Street, with the most notable impact on Penobscot McCrum, a manufacturer of potato products and Front Street Shipyard, a premiere boatyard in Midcoast. Given the issues on Front Street around ingress and egress, coupled with the limited capacity of its aging water infrastructure, Penobscot McCrum has started to question their long term viability in Belfast and begun an initial process of considering relocating their production facility. The improvements planned for Front Street would enable Penobscot McCrum to stay in the area, thus retaining a local workforce of 130 plus jobs and furthermore, encourage Front Street Shipyard to move forward on their plans to build a new state-of-the-art facility, an \$8.7 million investment leading to the creation of 110 new jobs.

I applaud the vision and hard work of Belfast community and business leaders who have developed an attractive financing plan to make these infrastructure improvements a priority. I fully support the application and I hope the factors and vision presented by the City of Belfast compel the EDA to give every consideration to their application, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

Thank you for your time and effort on behalf of the City of Belfast and the residents of Midcoast Maine. Please notify Adam Lachman on my staff at 202-224-5344 if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to hearing how a favorable decision would have a great impact on the economic development in Belfast and the surrounding communities throughout Midcoast Maine.

Sincerely,



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator

great project - hope you can help!