

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 30, 2021 Contact: Rich Grogan rgrogan@nbrc.gov (802) 461-8089

Northern Border Regional Commission – U.S. Economic Development Administration Joint Awards Announced

Today, the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) announces the funding of 6 projects under a Memorandum of Agreement signed between the NBRC and the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) to amplify both agencies' economic development impact in Northern Border communities. The NBRC has received a special appropriation since 2018 for these awards, which has resulted in working closely with the EDA to award funds to projects that meet the strategic objectives of both agencies.

The total of the awards made in 2021 is **\$3,000,000**, and a brief summary of each of the awarded projects is below:

Town of Hermon, ME - \$750,000: The *Hammond Street* pump station upgrade and *Logistics Lane* main transmission install will add wastewater capacity for both existing and new industrial properties. The pump station upgrade modernizes and right sizes infrastructure currently at the end of its useful life. [Note: The NBRC also awarded this project an additional **\$50,000** as part of the Agency's Economic & Infrastructure Development grant program, on August 4, 2021]

Town of Colebrook, NH - \$750,000: The project invests in municipal wastewater treatment through cleaning and dewatering, providing additional depth capacity for the Town's wastewater treatment facility. The project supports the expansion of a manufacturer, which will add jobs to the community. [Note: The NBRC also awarded this project an additional **\$250,000** as part of the Agency's Economic & Infrastructure Development grant program, on August 4, 2021]

Town of Johnsburg, NY - \$750,000: The funds for this project will support the construction of a wastewater collection and treatment system in the Hamlet of North Creek, which will allow for increased economic development activities in the Hamlet's downtown.

Town of St. Johnsbury, VT - \$135,859: Design and construction of a cross-country trail and a new South Main Street underpass, creating a seamless off-road transportation route linking the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, and St. Johnsbury's Designated Downtown, promoting non-motorized travel and supporting businesses in the area. [Note: The NBRC also awarded this project an additional **\$806,851** as part of the Agency's Economic & Infrastructure Development grant program, earlier this summer]

Town of Westford, VT - **\$466,194**: The project will expand the public wastewater system for Westford by expanding wastewater capacity and allowing for future connections. As such, the completed project will support local business creation and expansion.

Town of Richmond, VT - **\$147,947**: The project will extend an existing town sewer system on Route 2, which will retain jobs at a brewery that has outgrown its location, increase tourism, and allow for more housing & commercial development.

"The collaboration with our colleagues at the EDA gets stronger each year, which benefits NBRC-region communities as they engage both Agencies," said **NBRC Executive Director, Rich Grogan**. He added: "We welcome the 2021 awardees and look forward to working with them to successfully implement these projects in the years to come."

"EDA is pleased to partner with the NBRC to support local strategies designed to boost the competitiveness of the Northern Border region," **said Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Alejandra Y. Castillo**. "These projects will help to diversify and grow the regional economy and we wish these communities our best as they advance their strategies."

The funds for this program, and all NBRC programs, are available thanks to the support of the Congressional Delegations of all four NBRC states: Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont.

Depending on the availability of funds in 2022, the NBRC anticipates another round of joint NBRC-EDA project awards next year. Please refer to NBRC's website, <u>www.nbrc.gov</u>, for announcements about future Funding Opportunities.

About the Northern Border Regional Commission (<u>www.nbrc.gov</u>)

Created in 2008, the Northern Border Regional Commission is a federal-state partnership whose mission is to help alleviate economic distress and encourage private sector job creation in Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont. In its thirteen-year history, including these new awards, the commission has awarded 331 grants, amounting to more than \$90.6 million in direct investment and \$296 million in additional leveraged investments, across the four states through its primary State Economic & Infrastructure Development (SEID) grant program and other special initiatives. <u>Subscribe here</u> to receive NBRC news and updates.

About the U.S. Economic Development Administration (<u>www.eda.gov</u>)

The mission of the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting competitiveness and preparing the nation's regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy. An agency within the U.S. Department of Commerce, EDA makes investments in economically distressed communities in order to create jobs for U.S. workers, promote American innovation, and accelerate long-term sustainable economic growth.