



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Jeff M. McCabe

13 Olive Street  
Skowhegan, ME 04976

Residence: (207) 474-5402

Business: (207) 399-3185

Cell Phone: (207) 399-3185

E-Mail: jeffmccabe4me@gmail.com

July 12, 2012

Gov. Paul R. LePage  
Office of the Governor  
#1 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0001

Dear Governor LePage,

I am writing to you today to respectfully request that you reconsider your decision to refuse to authorize bonds for the Communities for Maine's Future program approved by Maine voters in 2010.

In June 2010 Maine voters went to the polls and voted to support a bond issue directing \$3.5 million dollars to the newly created Communities' for Maine's Future program to support investments in community and economic revitalization projects. The funds were to be awarded on a competitive basis and required the applying towns to provide a 100 percent match for the project. One of the towns which was approved for a project was my hometown of Skowhegan.

Following approval in 2010, Skowhegan signed contracts with the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) and began to proceed with the project per application guidelines. Since Skowhegan began work on the project they have spent nearly \$40,000 dollars and have entered into contracts and agreements to secure funding for the town's portion of the project.

At the time of your unexpected announcement to halt the voter-approved bond authorizations, the town was about to put the construction contract out to bid. The project is now on indefinite hold and Skowhegan is unable to move forward. What should have been, and perhaps could still be, a tremendous opportunity to improve our downtown and promote economic activity has instead become a serious legal and contractual problem for our town. Delaying this project further will only increase its cost and delay the creation of needed jobs.

I strongly urge you to authorize the sale of these bonds and allow these already approved projects to move forward. We do need to be fiscally prudent during these tough economic times. I encourage you to work with our cities and towns to create jobs, rather than halting economic development projects that are already underway.

Thank you for considering my request. If you have any questions or if I can be of any further assistance in this matter please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'M' followed by a horizontal line.

Jeff McCabe  
State Representative District # 85

cc: Commissioner George Gervais  
Skowhegan Town Manager John Doucette