



**TOWN OF MEXICO
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER**

JOHN E. MADIGAN, JR.

P.O. Box 251
134 Main St.
Mexico, ME 04257-0251

4/11/14

To: James Foster, P.E.
Bridge Management Engineer
Maine Department of Transportation
16 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333-0016

RECEIVED

APR 10 2014

From: John E. Madigan, Jr.
Town Manager, Mexico

Re: Androscoggin River Bridge #2019, Letter of Support

Dear James,

The Town of Mexico, Board of Selectmen voted unanimously at their April 8, 2014 meeting to send a letter of support for the replacement of the Mexico-Peru Bridge over the Androscoggin River. The bridge was built in 1930 and is in need of serious repair. The bridges' rating has been recently lowered to 25 tons.

The Selectmen wish to express how important this bridge replacement project is to the economy of our region. This bridge is a necessary connector between two major arteries; U.S. Route #2 and State highway #108. The average daily traffic count over this bridge is 5,819 and 9% of that is heavy truck traffic. The majority of those trucks haul logs, lumber, paper and supplies to and from two major mills located in the towns of Dixfield and Rumford. Our local Regional School District relies on that bridge to transport students back and forth several times a day to various elementary, middle and high schools on either side of the river. The replacement of this bridge is absolutely necessary at this time. It certainly needs immediate attention.

Thank you for your effort to fund the replacement of this bridge through the 2014 TIGER Grant program. This needs to be replaced as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Richard Philbrick
Chairman, Board of Selectmen

John E. Madigan, Jr.
Town Manager