

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON
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Commissioners:

Christopher M. Gardner, Chairman
John B. Crowley, Sr., Commissioner
Vinton E. Cassidy, Commissioner

County Manager:

Betsy Fitzgerald
Administrative Secretary:
Carla J. R. Manchester

October 3, 2017

David Bernhardt, PE, Commissioner
Maine Department of Transportation
16 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0016

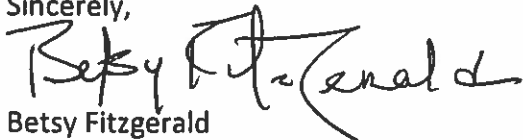
Dear Commissioner Bernhardt:

I am writing on behalf of the Washington County Commissioners who certainly support the construction of an I-395/Route 9 connector between Brewer and Eddington. As residents of Maine, we are all well acquainted with the time and mileage that is saved by using a "short cut." As travelers of many miles per year, finding a new short-cut is celebrated and extensively used once discovered.

Time and travel are intricately related. Being the easternmost county in the state, the Commissioners are well aware and supportive of any action that would reduce the travel burden. MaineDOT has statistics as to the savings that would be realized from such construction including savings in driving time, vehicle miles traveled, and vehicle costs of operation; the numbers are startling.

Washington County prides itself on finding and utilizing efficiencies. The Commissioners have no doubt that a connection between I-395 and Route 9 would be high on the list.

Sincerely,



Betsy Fitzgerald
County Manager



"The Sunrise County – where the sun first shines!"