



**GARDINER CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET**



Meeting Date	03/20/2019	Department	City Council
Agenda Item	4.3 Consideration to collaborate with Johnson Hall to apply for a Northern Border Regional Commission Grant		
Est. Cost	TBD		

Background Information

Johnson Hall volunteers and directors have asked the City of Gardiner to collaborate with them in applying for a Northern Border Regional Commission Grant. The Northern Border Regional Commission is a Federal-State partnership for economic and community development. This commission provides federal funds for development that can lead to new jobs and possible private sector investments. Since 2010 the NBRC program has invested almost \$8.1M in Maine with most recent projects including infrastructure upgrades, business block upgrades, and buildings.

Johnson Hall is asking the city to partner with them to apply for a grant. The proposed project would be the redevelopment of the backside of Johnson Hall for a ramp to allow performance groups easier access, Mechanic Street upgrades, and some restructuring of the sidewalk area at the top of the steps on Mechanic Street.

The grant requires a 20% match, however, the City can use the 20% match requirement as actual labor costs should we undertake the project upgrades on our portion ourselves.. Tony LaPlante, Public Works Director, was asked to estimate a cost for the City's portion of this project. Hiring a contractor it was estimated at a cost of \$17,500. This would include tree removal, granite curbing reset, concrete sidewalk measuring 5'x66', HC tipdowns, and replacement of the light (a catch basin may also be required).

Johnson Hall is prepared to hire the grant writer for this project

Requested Action	'I move to partner with Johnson Hall in applying for a Northern Border Regional Commission Grant, to allow upgrades to occur at Johnson Hall and on Mechanic Street.'
City Manager and/or Finance Review	The City Manager recommends the above action.
Council Vote/ Action Taken	
Departmental Follow-Up	

City Clerk Use Only	1 st Reading _____	Advertised _____	EFFECTIVE DATE _____
	2 nd Reading _____	Advertised _____ w/in 15 Days	
	Final to Dept _____	Updated Book _____	Online _____