

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

May 27, 2020

Ms. Bridget Bean
Assistant Administrator for Grant Programs
Grant Programs Directorate
Federal Emergency Management Agency
400 C Street SW, 3N
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Ms. Bean:

We write in support of the application submitted by the Town of Veazie to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) program. The Veazie Fire and Rescue Department seeks to replace its current cardiac monitor/defibrillator that was discontinued by the manufacturer in February 2020 and is no longer serviceable.

The Town of Veazie provides direct emergency response and public safety protection for approximately 2,000 citizens across 4.2 miles in one of the most densely populated communities in the central Maine area. The Veazie community has seen an increase in population due to new housing developments and the construction of new homes. In addition to serving the needs of the immediate community, the Veazie Fire and Rescue Department provides mutual aid to the neighboring communities of Bangor, Orono, and Old Town.

Funding from the AFG program would enable the Veazie Fire and Rescue Department to purchase a new cardiac monitor/defibrillator. This equipment is vital to the Department's ability to respond to public health emergencies and ensure the safety of residents in need of care. Emergency medical calls represented over half of the incidents that the Department responded to last year. Since the Department is licensed to the Advanced EMT level, Veazie Fire and Rescue is required by Maine Emergency Medical Services to have a monitor/defibrillator with up-to-date capabilities. In replacing the monitor/defibrillator, the Department would greatly improve the public safety in the Town of Veazie and surrounding communities.

Thank you for your time and effort reviewing the Town of Veazie's proposal. We urge your careful consideration of their application, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, and ask that you please notify

when a final decision has been made.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator

Jared F. Golden
Member of Congress