



**MIDDLETOWN**  
Rhode Island

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

**TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN**

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February 25, 2025

House Finance Committee  
State House  
Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Re: RI Commerce Site Readiness and Main Street grant programs

Dear honorable members of the House Finance Committee,

Please accept this letter in support of the Site Readiness and Main Street grant programs administered by the RI Commerce Corporation. The Town of Middletown was a recipient of grants from both of these programs in the 2024 grant round.

The site readiness grant will assist with predevelopment work to support the redevelopment of underutilized town-owned property in partnership with a private development team. The proposed mixed-use development, which would include a hotel, retail space, and 150 units of multi-family housing, will provide economic benefits to the Town and State, produce jobs, and facilitate construction of sorely needed housing.

The Main Street grant will provide funding to facilitate implementation of the Town's plan to improve sidewalks and enhance amenities in the Atlantic Beach business district along lower Aquidneck Avenue. These improvements will make the district more walkable, more aesthetically pleasing, and attract more visitors to the area, thereby benefiting the many restaurants and shops in the district.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments, and feel free to contact me with any questions regarding the Town's experience with these grants.

Sincerely,

Ronald M. Wolanski, AICP  
Director of Planning & Economic Development