



TOWN OF HUDSON, MASSACHUSETTS
Economic Development Commission
Town Hall, Hudson, Massachusetts 01749
978-562-2989

Donald Garcia
Chairman

Tina Brooks, Undersecretary
Department of Housing & Community Development
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Town of Hudson/City of Marlborough, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Joint Application

Dear Ms. Brooks:

I am writing in support of Hudson and Marlborough's joint application for a Community Development Block Grant. As Chairman of the Hudson Economic Development Commission, I fully support this effort.

The Town's Façade Program is important to the vitality of our two business districts. Located in a Historic District, restoring these grand buildings is essential to maintaining the character of our Historic Downtown. In addition, our Downtown is suffering from severe vacancy problems. Safe, attractive storefronts will attract businesses to rent those storefronts, and in turn, will attract customers to those businesses. The façade program will also assist businesses to address dilapidated exteriors along Route 85 to complement the brand new roadway currently under construction. Hardscape areas of parking, walkways, and ramps may also be upgraded in order to allow parking and pedestrian access to buildings impacted by the widening and reconstruction.

The final project the Town is looking to do is to reconstruct South Street Extension. In addition to repaving, project proposes to reconstruct sidewalks with brick banding and install historic-style lighting used throughout Historic District. This road reconstruction will enhance walkability for residents and employees in the area. This roadway is extensively used to access the Hudson Food Pantry, the Cellucci Skate & Splash Park as well as many businesses located throughout the area. The Assabet River Rail Trail also crosses the roadway. Promoting walkability along this street can only increase use of these amenities. The reconstruction of this street is necessary to provide mobility for residents and employees, and will connect them not only with the park and the Assabet River Rail Trail, but also with the Downtown Business District.

I ask that you look favorably upon this joint application.

Sincerely,