

Senator Kitchel and Members of Senate Appropriations Committee;

The Administration submitted a budget proposal that contained a 3% increase in our core funding for FY 25. The House passed budget supported that increase as well.

Our work to recover from floods and to implement priorities of the Legislature including housing development, Act 250 reform and floodplain and river corridor permitting might suggest funding beyond the 3% increase might be appropriate, however we recognize the fiscal environment in which we find ourselves.

In light of this, ***we respectfully ask that you concur with the House proposal on our funding level for FY 25.***

Although the Administration and House did not include funding to further Vermont's brownfields redevelopment efforts, you have made significant prior year investments in assessing properties. Now, those properties need funding to clean them up and Vermont agencies no longer have clean-up funds to build on the prior year investments.

I ask that you allocate funds for clean-up at \$5 million for FY 25 and that you ask that the properties selected come from all areas of the state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Peter

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