



Community Development Economic Development Division

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

TOWN OF GORHAM ANNOUNCES 2025 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

Maine Community Bank returns as sponsor for second year

Gorham, Maine – The Town of Gorham is proud to announce the launch of its **2025 Capital Expenditure (“CapEx”) Matching Grant Program**, designed to support local businesses and farms in their efforts to grow, innovate, and invest in the future of Gorham’s economy.

This competitive grant program offers **up to \$12,000 in matching funds** to eligible businesses and farms for a **single, non-recurring capital purchase**—such as equipment, technology, or facility upgrades—that will help drive expansion, increase production, or enhance market reach.

The program targets three key sectors:

- **Agriculture, Agribusiness and Agritourism**
- **Manufacturing & Skilled Trades**
- **Retail & Food Services**

At least one grant will be awarded in each sector, with funding made available through the Town’s FY2025 municipal budget and generous support from Maine Community Bank. The program is open to businesses operating on commercial or agricultural property within Gorham.

“Maine Community Bank is proud to support the Town of Gorham’s 2025 CapEx Matching Grant Program and the local businesses it serves. This initiative helps drive sustainable growth across our community, and we’re honored to play a role in its success.” said Becky Winslow, Director of Community Relations & Foundation.

Last year, the CapEx Grant Program supported eight Gorham-based businesses and commercial farms, awarding grants ranging from \$2,500 up to \$14,000. Funded projects included the acquisition of machinery for established manufacturers and new retail businesses, as well as the construction of barns and greenhouses that enabled farms to scale production and host community-focused events.

“Investing in programs and resources that empower local businesses to pursue their own growth strategies is a smart move for our community,” said Kevin Jensen, Economic Development Director for the Town of Gorham. “The gains made by last year’s grantees shows our commitment to supporting small businesses is delivering real results.”

“We’re truly grateful for the Town’s support of family-owned businesses like ours,” says Chad



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Decker, Owner of Green Growth Lawn Care and a recipient of last year's program. "The purchase of a new commercial mower using grant funds allowed us to take on more clients and supports the continued growth of Green Growth Lawn Care into our fourth season."

To be eligible, applicants must propose a capital expenditure of **at least \$5,000**, demonstrate how the investment will support business growth, and provide detailed pricing for the proposed purchase. **The program provides 50% reimbursement of a capital item, service or site expansion project, up to a maximum award of \$12,000.** Preference will be given to applicants who have not previously received Town grant funding.

Details and instructions for applying can be found on the Town's economic development website (www.gorhammaine.org) under "Our Services." Applications are due by **Thursday, July 31, 2025, at 5:00 PM**. Submissions can be made via email or in person at the Department of Community Development.

For full program guidelines and application materials, visit the Town of Gorham's website or contact the Economic Development Division at econdev@gorham.me.us.

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