

LCHIP

Land & Community Heritage
Investment Program



MEMO

DATE November 2, 2021
TO Council on Resources and Development (CORD)
FROM Dijit Taylor, LCHIP Executive Director
TOPIC Request to Expend from Community Conservation Endowment Income

As long time CORD members may remember from LCHIP's annual request to CORD, RSA 162-C:7 assigns CORD to "oversee, direct ad expend funds" set aside under RSA 227-M:12 I, LCHIP's Community Conservation Endowment (CCE).

LCHIP's monitoring endowment (the CCE) is to be used as follows:

227-M:12 II. Funds added to the monitoring endowment pursuant to RSA 227-M:12, I shall be used to support monitoring by state agencies, local municipalities, and qualifying nonprofit corporations of easement interests acquired under this chapter. Such monitoring shall be to ensure that the resources protected through the program will be managed according to the legal agreements concerning easement interests in the resource.

LCHIP's FY 2022 administrative budget, approved by the LCHIP Board of Directors at its June 28, 2021 meeting, includes an income item of \$39,000 to be drawn from the CCE. The funds are intended to help cover a portion of the costs of LCHIP employees who monitor LCHIP properties. LCHIP Board and staff feel that using the funds this way meets the standard set out in RSA 227-M: 12, "to ensure that the resources protected through the program will be managed according to the legal agreements concerning easement interests in the resource."

With approval from both the LCHIP Board of Directors and CORD, LCHIP included funds from the CCE to support similar costs in FYs '20 (\$11,900) and '21 (\$12,000). The proposed draw for FY '22 reflects the decision at LCHIP to assign one seasonal and one newly full-time (with required benefits) staff person to stewardship of the more than 300 properties currently under active legal agreements with LCHIP.

The net income to the CCE for FY 2021 was \$383,352. The FY 2021 disbursement for incentive payments to LCHIP-assisted properties that submitted acceptable timely monitoring reports was \$83,100. The proposed transfer represents about 10.2% of FY '21 net income. Through August of FY '22, the year-to-date net income is over that in FY '21 and is already, at \$178,192 more than four times as large as this request.

Proposed motion: That CORD approve a disbursement of \$39,000 from the Community Conservation Endowment to the FY 2022 LCHIP administrative budget to help pay for LCHIP staff monitoring property interests held by LCHIP.