



October 7, 2019

Jeffrey R. Diehl  
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer  
Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank  
235 Promenade St., Suite 119  
Providence, RI 02908

Merrill W. Sherman, Chair  
Board of Directors  
Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank  
235 Promenade St., Suite 119  
Providence, RI 02908

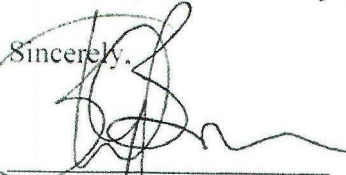
Dear Mr. Diehl and Ms. Sherman:


We are writing on behalf of the Town of Middletown, City of Newport, and Town of Portsmouth to request that the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank (RIIB) act as the lead agency for a study of options for transfer of certain Navy infrastructure, including roadway and utilities, to state and/or local control. This request is based on the fact that the study and the possible implementation of the transfer of infrastructure will involve and benefit the three Aquidneck Island municipalities, the Navy, and possibly the State. The study will include an infrastructure inventory and identification and evaluation of options for the future disposition of roadway, water, and sewer facilities, and builds on a study completed in 2016 for the Newport County Chamber of Commerce (attached). We request that RIIB, as the lead agency, work with the city and towns to finalize a scope of work, solicit proposals from qualified firms, and contract with the selected firm(s) to complete the study.


Regarding funding for the study, the US Economic Development Administration has indicated that grant funding is available through its Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) program which will fund up to 50% of the cost for this type of project. As such, and given the regional and state interest in the identification of appropriate options for infrastructure transfer, we also request that RIIB participate in this effort by providing \$300,000 in matching funds for this \$600,000 project.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests. We look forward to working with you. Feel free to contact any of us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

  
Shawn J. Brown  
Town Administrator  
Town of Middletown

  
Joseph J. Nicholson, Jr.  
City Manager  
City of Newport

  
Richard A. Rainer, Jr.  
Town Administrator  
Town of Portsmouth

Attachment