

Corrinne Collett  
Brooklin Climate Response Committee  
LD 258

On behalf of the Brooklin Climate Response Committee I urge the Maine legislature to continue its support of the Community Resilience Partnership program. In particular our committee would like to speak about our experience working with the local service provider on the Blue Hill peninsula, Allen Kratz of Resilience Works LLC.

We formed our committee in the Fall of 2022 at the request of the Brooklin select board to help the town enroll in the Partnership. I think it is fair to say the committee members were novices at working with state requirements and were rather daunted by the forms placed in our hands. The expert guidance and assistance Mr. Kratz provided at this initial stage was critical to our successful Partnership application, and made it possible for us to move on to other projects.

In the few months since we first created the committee we are assisting our school with energy efficiency advice for their upcoming renovation program, helping the select board with efficiency improvements at municipal buildings, and building a neighbor to neighbor program to help town residents and businesses lower their energy demands and avail themselves of the many incentives offered by Efficiency Maine and the state and federal tax codes. Throughout this process, Mr. Kratz has been our eyes and ears into the wider world of grants, government programs, and other Maine organizations working to fight climate change. His advice and encouragement have been essential in helping our committee to move forward with confidence and speed. Without a service provider available to explain processes and make connections, I think it is safe to say that we would be struggling, if not failing entirely. Instead we have taken his advice to “think big” as we grow our projects to confront the effects of climate change.

It’s hard for me to imagine a more effective use of state monies than the funding of the local service providers like Mr. Kratz. His hard work and impressive talents have been essential to bringing the Governor’s climate programs to the residents of Brooklin.

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