

## Michaud Announces USDA Funding for Projects in Mechanic Falls and Farmington

Wednesday, April 22 2009

WASHINGTON, DC &mdash; Today, Congressman Mike Michaud praised the USDA's announcement of funding for projects in Mechanic Falls and Farmington. The USDA Rural Development program has approved a Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant of \$885,000 and \$675,000, respectively, for the Mechanic Falls sanitary district. Farmington received a loan of \$143,000 and a grant of \$387,000 from the same program. Mechanic Falls and Farmington are two of the 56 communities nationwide that will receive water infrastructure funds from the USDA.

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"This funding is a welcome investment in our state," said Michaud. "The need to improve water infrastructure is an issue facing towns throughout the country. If not properly addressed, these infrastructure deficiencies can negatively impact public health and the environment."

Both the Mechanic Falls and Farmington projects will assist in upgrading existing sewage infrastructure. According to the USDA, in Mechanic Falls, Rural Development funds will be used to install new storm drains along Elm, Park and Schools Streets and complete sewer replacement upgrades along Marshall and Main Streets. The emphasis of the project on sewer remediation and separation will remove peak excess flows, reducing untreated discharged into the Little Androscoggin. In Farmington, funds will be used to install a new pumping system to replace failing pumps. The current system is in danger of breaking down and sending raw sewage overflow into the Sandy River or the surrounding residential basements.

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