

**CARIBOU ADMINISTRATION  
25 HIGH STREET  
CARIBOU, ME. 04736**



**MEMO**

**TO:** Caribou City Council Members  
**FROM:** Penny Thompson, City Manager  
**DATE:** February 24, 2025  
**RE:** City Manager's Report

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I am attaching the list of grants that the City of Caribou is currently working on, along with the standard updates.

**Suggested Action:**

No action is required. This is informational only.

# GRANT PROJECT UPDATES

## FEBRUARY 2025



### CERCLA

**\$1.8 MILLION**

EPA EMERGENCY ACTION ON STEAM  
PLANT

- Final fact sheet will be available in Spring 2025
- Asbestos abatement completed in steam plant.



MAINE  
CONNECTIVITY  
AUTHORITY

**\$1.8 MILLION**

Contract for this fully-funded project at the Caribou Public Library.  
Bids are awarded for asbestos and design.



### NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION (NBRC)

RIVERFRONT PLAN & PROJECTS **\$472,550**

- 30-day Public Comment on Draft EA (NEPA Review) over.
- A Monitoring & Compliance Plan for Mitigation has been requested.
- Hoping for Final Notice to Proceed soon.

### CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING REQUESTS

#### SENATOR COLLINS:

FY23 - POLICE STATION **\$2.5 MILLION**

Documents loaded to new portal DRGR

LEARN MORE: <https://www.cariboumaine.org/police-station-project/>

FY23 - CARIBOU POND & PARK RECLAMATION PROJECT **\$4.459 MILLION**

AE Contractor hired

FY24 - IMPROVEMENTS TO FIRE STATION **\$1.359 MILLION**

City Council will be putting out an RFO for an AE contractor.

#### SENATOR KING:

FY24 - ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS AT LIBRARY

This appropriation passed with the federal budget.



### EPA BROWNFIELDS FY2023

DIESEL PLANT & OTHER

**\$900,000**

- Approved for Brownfields Grant/Loan for PCB soils clean-up at Birdseye
- Working with Maine DEP Brownfields program on identifying other sites.
- Applied for FY2025 EPA Brownfields Grant 11.14.2024

LEARN MORE: <https://www.cariboumaine.org/grants/>

### ARPA NEU FUNDS:

2022 & 2023 - USED AS MATCH FOR COUNTY ARPA PROJECT  
2024 - MUNICIPAL SEWER EXPANSION PROJECT

### ARPA - AROOSTOOK COUNTY MATCHING FUNDS

FY2022 - IMPROVEMENTS TO FIRE STATION &  
AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT

**\$150,000**

FY2023 - FIRE DEPARTMENT TURN-OUT GEAR,  
POLICE BODY WORN CAMERAS & RADIOS

**COMPLETE**

FY2024 - APPLICATION APPROVED FOR TWO  
PROJECTS: MATCH FOR POLICE/FIRE  
EQUIPMENT & SEWER PROJECT

**\$100,000**



### DOT VPI

**\$50,000**

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

- See website for details.



The City of Caribou has applied for a State of Maine  
Department of Economic and Community  
Development Housing Opportunity Program  
Municipal Grant for a housing study. Received  
letter indicating that Caribou is a high-scoring  
application. More details to follow on a contract.



### CDBG: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

- Local business was approved for CDBG through State, administered by City. More details to follow soon.

**CARE** for our community, **ENVISION** the future, then  
help Caribou **DO** what it takes to make it happen!

# Care. Envision. Do. CARIBOU 2034

JOIN THE CONVERSATION: [CARIBOUMAINE.ORG/CARIBOU2034](https://www.cariboumaine.org/caribou2034)

Did you know that a successful grant application starts  
with well-constructed planning documents?

The City of Caribou is working on their 2024-2034  
Comprehensive Plan which will be the foundation for  
grant applications going forward.



**City Manager's Report  
February 24, 2025**

**Economic Projects**

<b>River Front - Powerplants</b>	The EPA will be demobilizing soon. The project funding runs out on March 14, 2025. We are also expected to receive an updated Fact Sheet and deconstruction plan as part of this project.
<b>Broadband Initiative</b>	No new updates.
<b>Ogren Dump Solar Project</b>	Staff is working with the owner on the ground lease payments and DEP requirements for decommissioning.
<b>Events and Marketing</b>	No new updates.
<b>Landbank</b>	No new updates.
<b>Chapter 13 Rewrite</b>	No new updates.
<b>Federal American Rescue Plan Act</b>	No new updates.
<b>Blight Cleanup</b>	No new updates.
<b>Birdseye Cleanup</b>	No new updates.
<b>Caribou Development Committee</b>	On tonight's agenda.
<b>River Front - Master Plan</b>	The draft environmental assessment was accepted by NBRC in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the 30-day comment period has passed. They have requested an additional monitoring plan.
<b>Façade Improvement Program</b>	No new updates.
<b>Aldrich ATV/Snowmobile Storage</b>	No new updates.
<b>Caribou Economic Growth Council</b>	No new updates.
<b>Business Outreach</b>	No new updates.

**Other Administrative Projects**

<b>Tax Acquired Property Policy</b>	No new updates.
<b>Nylander</b>	During school vacation, "Dino Days" was a big hit.
<b>Fire Structural Work</b>	No new updates.
<b>Fire Station Renovations</b>	No new updates.
<b>Police Station</b>	The committee continues to meet with the design team to meet deadlines.
<b>River Road</b>	No new updates.
<b>Investment Policy</b>	No new updates.
<b>Cable Franchise Renewal</b>	No new updates.
<b>Airport</b>	On tonight's agenda.
<b>Personnel Policy</b>	No new updates.
<b>New LED Street lights</b>	No new updates.
<b>Comp Plan Update</b>	Planning Board meets on Thursday February 27 @ 6pm. Staff will provide an update.
<b>LD 2003 Implementation</b>	No new updates.
<b>15 Prospect Street</b>	No new updates.
<b>Water Street Fire</b>	No new updates.
<b>Age-Friendly Efforts</b>	No new updates.
<b>Personnel Changes</b>	No new updates.
<b>DOT Village Partnership</b>	No new updates.
<b>Aroostook Waste Solutions</b>	No new updates.
<b>Cary Medical Center</b>	No new updates.
<b>Other Updates</b>	No new updates.
<b>Administrative Approvals</b>	No new updates.