

**News from U.S. Rep. Tom Allen (D-ME)**  
Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

[http://www.house.gov/commerce\\_democrats/](http://www.house.gov/commerce_democrats/) \* <http://tomallen.house.gov/>

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To view this release on Representative Allen's website, [click here](#)

**Rep. Allen: Omnibus Appropriations Bill Includes Millions for Projects Important to Maine**

*Cites "significant success" winning funds earmarked for transportation, infrastructure, conservation, research and other state and local priorities*

Portland, Maine-U.S. Representative Tom Allen said today that he is very pleased with his significant success in securing funding for valuable Maine projects contained in the \$388 billion omnibus appropriations bill approved by Congress on November 21st. He cited examples in the areas of transportation, infrastructure, conservation and research among others. Representative Allen also vowed to continue to work in the new 109th Congress for additional funding earmarked for important Maine initiatives.

"Some projects funded by the bill are vitally important to local areas, like the \$800,000 earmarked for reconfiguring the I-295 on ramp in South Portland," Representative Allen said. "I fought hard for this project because state and local officials identified it as critical to help alleviate severe traffic congestion, make feasible scores of new housing units and improve access for the new regional postal processing facility and its 700 workers. Other funding earmarks, while individually important, cumulatively will have an enormous impact. For example, I have advocated aggressively to bring additional research funds to Maine's academic and private laboratories because these grants create tremendous opportunities for groundbreaking discoveries and exciting new investment and job potential to grow the state's economy. This appropriations bill contains over \$16 million for Maine research projects ranging from \$1.9 million for the Gulf of

Maine Ocean Observing System to \$250,000 for the University of New England's Marine Science Center."

### **First District Projects**

South Portland On Ramp Reconfiguration: \$800,000  
Southern Maine Community College Entrepreneurial Program: \$150,000  
Kennebunk River Dredge Project: \$625,000  
Scarborough River Dredge Project: \$250,000  
STRIVE U: \$190,000  
Community Counseling Center's Greater Portland Trauma Assistance Program: \$400,000  
University of Southern Maine Center for Integrated and Applied Environmental Toxicology: \$1.2 million  
Gulf of Maine Research Institute: \$121,250  
University of New England Marine Science Center: \$250,000  
Mt. Agamenticus to the Sea/York River Land Conservation: \$1 million  
Rachel Carson National Wildlife Reserve: \$500,000  
Hancock Lands (Sebago) Conservation Project: \$500,000  
Spurwink Incarcerated Youth Ed Training Program: \$300,000  
Spurwink Technical Training Program: \$400,000  
Camp Ellis Beach Restoration Project: \$100,000  
University of Southern Maine College of Nursing: \$250,000  
Maine Medical Center: \$1 million  
Jeremiah Cromwell Disabilities Training Initiative: \$100,000  
Windham Little Falls Redevelopment/Infrastructure: \$200,000  
PROP Affordable Housing Development: \$250,000  
Deaf Education Broadband Initiative: \$3.5 million (loan guarantee)  
Fox Island Electric Cooperative: \$3.5 million (loan guarantees)

### **Statewide Projects**

Katahdin Forest Conservation Project: \$4.5 million  
Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership: \$250,000  
Jackson Labs: \$250,000  
University of Maine Lowbush Blueberry Research: \$236,000  
University of Maine Potato Research: \$1.509 million (shared between states)  
University of Maine Wood Utilization Research: \$6.285 million (shared between states)  
National Cold Water Marine Aquaculture Center (Franklin, Maine): \$3 million  
New England Green Chemistry Consortium: \$500,000

University of Maine Drinking Water Sensor Program: \$500,000  
Statewide Bus Mass Transit Program: \$2.5 million  
Statewide Job Access and Reverse Commute: \$1.5 million  
Gulf of Maine Groundfish Survey: \$519,000

A description of each of these Maine projects funded by the omnibus appropriations bill may be found on Representative Allen's website at the following link or may be obtained by contacting his office:

<http://tomallen.house.gov/showart.asp?issueID=0&contentID=1439>

"All of these funding earmarks are the result of intense cooperative effort with state and local authorities, non-profit groups and citizens working to achieve locally-identified objectives," Representative Allen said. "Projects like the Kennebunk and Scarborough river dredges and Camp Ellis beach restoration are examples of critical locally-identified needs that often require funding in stages over a number of years. Conservation acquisitions like the Mt. Agamenticus project and the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge help to extend protection to natural areas that have environmental value and are important to meet recreation and sprawl prevention objectives.