

MAINE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

For immediate release

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Anne Ball Hired by Maine Development Foundation

Ball will lead Maine Downtown Center Program

AUGUSTA, Maine - The Maine Development Foundation (MDF) announced Anne Ball has been hired as interim program director for Maine Downtown Center (MDC). Ball has served as a consultant for MDC since 2012 and has been heavily involved in the success of the Healthy Maine Streets Program, Grants to Green, and Making Headway in Your Community.

"I cannot think of a more respected, capable, and ready professional to keep us moving forward seamlessly this year. We are thrilled that Anne has joined our team at MDF and will lead our Maine Downtown Center program. She is a proven leader who has the experience and vision to take MDC to another level. Anne believes we can create a dynamic future - including the right sustainable delivery and staffing structures for the organization to grow," said Yellow Light Breen, president and CEO, Maine Development Foundation.

Currently, MDC is involved in strategic planning for the organization in the field, and extensive outreach and technical assistance to the dozens of communities the program serves across the state.

In her interim position, Ball will lead the MDC program through 2016, working with stakeholders to finalize strategic and operational planning for MDC. She will work closely with Breen to identify and build the capacity necessary to deliver critical day-to-day work and grants initiatives at the Center.

"I am excited about my new position with the MDC and I am looking forward to building on my relationships with the MDF staff. Maine has so many great downtown areas and growing the MDC program by expanding partnerships and promoting it to more Maine businesses will improve economic development in downtown areas across the state," said Ball.



Anne Ball has been hired as the interim program director for the Maine Downtown Center program. Photo courtesy: MDF

Ball is the former project director of Grants to Green Maine, a partnership of Maine Development Foundation's Maine Downtown Center, Efficiency Maine and the Maine Community Foundation. In recent years, she was project director for a CDC Grant known as Healthy Maine Streets and worked in the state on other multi-sector projects, including serving as the cultural and heritage tourism coordinator for DECD for six years.

During the past several years, Ball has served as a consultant to many organizations in Maine including Maine Preservation, Maine Humanities Council, Maine State Museum and private architecture firms and communities.

Ball replaces Lorain Francis, the former senior program manager for the Maine Development Foundation and Maine Downtown Center, who left the organization in June.

To learn more about the Maine Development Foundation, visit mdf.org.

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Editor's note:

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[Anne Ball has been hired as the interim program director for the Maine Downtown Center program. Photo courtesy: MDF](#)

About the Maine Development Foundation (MDF):

The Maine Development Foundation (MDF) is a private, non-partisan membership organization that provides leadership, trusted research, and creative partnerships to enable Maine business, community and policy leaders to drive Maine's long-term economic growth. Created in statute in 1978, the nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation works statewide across all sectors. MDF includes more than 250 statewide members including business people, educators, government officials and community leaders that are passionate about Maine's economy. MDF provides a common ground for leaders to discuss and act on issues affecting Maine's economy. Learn more at mdf.org.

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