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Grafton County EDC Provides Gap Financing to Help Family-Owned Enfield Business Expand

New location offers enhanced opportunity for local auto repair center while filling underutilized business space

ENFIELD, NH – December 2, 2015 – With the help of Grafton County Economic Development Council (GCEDC) and Lake Sunapee Bank, J & B Autoworx received the funds to purchase a commercial property to expand its family-owned and operated auto repair center serving the Enfield, Canaan and Upper Valley areas.

In support, GCEDC provided \$90,000 in partial financing to Robert Labine, the owner of J & B Autoworx, who was awarded a total of \$360,000 to fund the purchase of a commercial property located on Route 4 in Enfield, NH. The planned purchase will provide Mr. Labine an opportunity to now occupy his own location and fills an underutilized business space in the Town of Enfield.

"We are pleased to contribute our financial resources to support this project," said Bob Walker, Loan Officer at GCEDC. "Purchasing this new location will provide greater visibility for an established, local business and aligns with our commitment to supporting job retention in Grafton County."

Currently J & B Autoworx employs four fully-certified ASE Technicians, an auto repair service writer/manager and a secretary at the Shaker Valley Auto location.

"The new location will not only provide our patrons greater access to our services," said Robert Labine, the owner of J & B Autoworx, "the cost savings of occupying our own location will free up more capital to put toward business operations."

Renovations to the former Allstate Polyethylene property will include a new concrete floor to house automobile lifts and wheel alignment equipment, electrical improvements, and upgrades to existing office space.

For more information on the Grafton County Economic Development Council or to learn how we can help support your business, please contact Chris Wellington at cwellington@graftoncountyedc.org or visit www.graftoncountyedc.org.

About J & B Autoworx

J & B Autoworx provides a full array of auto repair services to residents and business patrons throughout the Enfield, Canaan and Upper Valley markets. Its more customary services include oil changes, air conditioning service, transmission repairs, brakes, shocks and struts, and other repairs. J & B Autoworx also sells tires with a full active wheel alignment, using a state of the art Hunter Laser Alignment System. Tire sales include major brands such as Nokian, Firestone, Bridgestone, Cooper, Goodyear, Michelin, BF Goodrich, Uniroyal, and Car-Quest Certified replacement parts are available.

About Grafton County Economic Development Council

GCEDC is a 501(c)3 organization founded in 1997 and is one of ten recognized Regional Development Corporations in New Hampshire. GCEDC partners with municipalities and businesses throughout Grafton County to promote and support economic development projects and has several loan programs available to businesses to help retain and create jobs in the area. GCEDC also owns and operates the Enterprise Center at Plymouth in partnership with Plymouth State University and the Dartmouth Regional Technology Center in partnership with Dartmouth College and North Country Council.

Additional information on GCEDC is available on the website <u>http://www.graftoncountyedc.org</u> or by contacting Chris Wellington at cwellington(at)graftoncountyedc(dot)org or (603) 674-3167.