

By Mary Standard, Special to the Sun Journal

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CANTON — The town received an invitation from the state Friday to continue with its application for a \$500,000 grant to build a dam at the outlet of Anasagunticook Lake.

"This invitation is not a guarantee of funding or permission to begin the project or expend funds for proposed project activities," advised Thaxter R. Trafton, commissioner of the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development in his letter to the town.

Dam Core Committee Chairman Malcolm Ray said they will continue the application process, which began in January.

"I expect we will be arranging meetings with (officials) to discuss how to proceed," he said.

The grant, if awarded, would give the town 75 percent of the money needed to build a dam on Whitney Brook. It would replace one that fell into disrepair.

Last summer, volunteers from Canton and Hartford built a temporary dam, which helped raise the water level of the lake. The lake lies in both towns.