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39 Glenhill Rd  
Dover, NH 03820  
August 3, 2007

To: Council Members  
From: Tony McManus

I understand that there may be a vote on Aug. 8 to authorize funds for the repairs to the Butterfield Gym building. I'm not able to attend that meeting, so I'm writing in advance to urge your support for this proposal.

I think we have an obligation, exclusive of any agreement with the Children's Museum, to make the necessary repairs. However this building is going to be used it is foolhardy, in my judgment, not to maintain our municipal buildings in proper condition. This is not to say that we should spend lavishly or unnecessarily, but this is obviously a situation where Mother Nature stepped in and caused serious damage to an otherwise useful building. The cost is substantial, but these are repairs that must be made.

Beyond that, the city does have a commitment to the Children's Museum and I believe we should fulfill that commitment. The potential positive effect of the museum being located in Dover is immeasurable. It is probably the best thing that has happened to downtown Dover in a long time and should be the impetus for future beneficial development of the urban core. A vote against funding the repairs would be extremely short-sighted and contrary to the best long-term interests of the city.

I urge you to vote "yes" for the proposal.

Thank you.