

INTRODUCTION

■ NONRESIDENTIAL USES SHAPE THE CHARACTER OF MAINE COMMUNITIES

As we look around at Maine communities, it's quite obvious that retail stores, service businesses, offices, manufacturers, roller skating rinks, shopping centers -- the entire complement of nonresidential uses -- are key elements in our cities and towns. These nonresidential uses create the jobs upon which we depend, contribute to the tax base of our communities, and provide the goods and services we all need. As importantly, these commercial and industrial uses play a major role in shaping the character of Maine's cities and towns.



A drive around the state will show many examples of recent nonresidential development that are positive additions to our communities and neighborhoods. The reason? These projects have been planned and designed to be good neighbors. And in many cases, a local site plan review process has contributed to the quality of the development. These projects often exhibit common attributes.

- **The projects are designed so that traffic can get in and out safely.**



- **The projects are sensitive to their neighbors and take measures to reduce possible impacts on adjacent properties.**



