



CITY OF  
**SOUTH  
PORTLAND**

**Scott Morelli**  
*City Manager*

**Joshua Reny**  
*Assistant City Manager*

April 25, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary  
United State Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Support Letter for Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) Application to the Federal Transit Administration's Bus and Bus Facilities Competitive Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of South Portland is pleased to support MaineDOT's request for funding through the Federal Transit Administration's Fiscal Year 2024 Bus and Bus Facilities Competitive Program.

MaineDOT, in partnership with Maine transit agencies, is seeking funding to replace outdated vehicles in the Agency's bus fleet with two 35' Gillig low-floor diesel buses. As part of the application, MaineDOT and the city are proposing necessary workforce development.

The Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program's goals are to improve the condition of public transportation assets in order to maintain critical services and assure that our users have access to safe and reliable transportation. This grant opportunity will provide urgently needed funds to bring our agency's fleet to a state of good repair by replacing two 2014 35' Gillig low-floor diesel buses in 2026. It will maximize operational reliability and ensure safety of agency personnel and transit riders.

If funded, the City of South Portland's Bus Service Department will be able to reconstruct and expand its fleet which will meet all compliance standards, enhance amenities for current and future agency employees, and improve the reliability of the agency's service in South Portland, downtown Portland and the Gallery Blvd. shopping area in Scarborough.

Executive Department, 25 Cottage Road, South Portland, ME, P.O. Box 9422 South Portland, ME  
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[smorelli@southportland.org](mailto:smorelli@southportland.org)

The City of South Portland strongly supports MaineDOT's grant application for this pivotal project. We are hopeful that you will give the project your full consideration and award the requested funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Morelli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line at the end.

Scott Morelli  
City Manager  
City of South Portland  
smorelli@southportland.org  
207 767-7606

cc:

Donna Tippett, Director of Bus Service