

## STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 1 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001

April 11, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the Maine Department of Transportation's (MaineDOT) application for grant funding through the Federal Transit Administration's Low or No Emission Vehicle Program. If awarded, this funding will be used for capital and operating expenses for low- and no-emission transit vehicles throughout Maine.

MaineDOT is working in partnership with seven Maine transit agencies. Not only do these organizations provide critical transportation for thousands of people in our state, but these agencies also support jobs in our state – both directly and indirectly.

Given the impact that the transportation sector has on our climate, it is imperative that we make significant changes to reduce vehicle emissions if we are to preserve our planet for future generations. Replacing diesel and gasoline buses and vans with hybrid and electric vehicles will help reduce carbon emissions.

Converting transit vehicles to low- or no-emission vehicles supports my administration's climate action plan – "Maine Won't Wait" – and corresponding Clean Transportation Roadmap. These climate-focused upgrades also support the long-range planning initiatives at MaineDOT.

Thank you in advance for the serious consideration you will give this application for grant funding.

Sincerely,

Janet T. Mills Governor

