

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 3, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

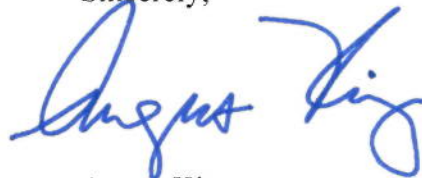
I am writing to express my strong support for the Maine Department of Transportation's (MaineDOT) funding request through the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program. If awarded, the project will have a positive impact on the transportation infrastructure and environmental resilience of the State of Maine.

MaineDOT's application seeks funding to address the elevation of U.S. Route 1-A in Frankfort, Maine, a location that is particularly vulnerable to sea-level rise due to its proximity to the South Branch Marsh River. Currently, a portion of this roadway sits 2.5 feet below the Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT), posing a significant risk to both the infrastructure and the safety of the community. This stretch of U.S. Route 1-A also serves as a vital Hurricane Evacuation Route, making its vulnerability to flooding a pressing concern.

It is important to underscore the impact that MaineDOT's proposed project would have on the transportation infrastructure, environmental resilience, and overall safety of this region in Maine. Granting MaineDOT the funding they are requesting would be a significant step towards achieving these goals and ensuring a more secure future for residents in rural Maine.

I respectfully urge you to give every appropriate consideration for full funding of this project, in accordance with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have questions regarding MaineDOT's project and please notify Adam Lachman in my office (202) 224-5344 when a final decision has been made.

Sincerely,



Angus King
United States Senator