



**Central Western Maine Workforce
Development Board
87 Winthrop Street, Suite 400
Augusta, ME 04330**

April 25, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
U.S. 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 Central Western Maine Workforce Development Board (CWMWDB) 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MaineDOT, in partnership with Maine transit agencies, is seeking funding to refurbish the Agency's facilities that are outdated and in poor condition. This funding will allow MaineDOT to improve the condition of public transportation infrastructure to maintain critical services and assure that users have access to safe and reliable transportation. Additionally, the infrastructure improvements will put the agency in a good position for future fleet transition into low-or-no emission vehicles.

Maine is a large, rural state where lack of transportation can be an impediment to finding a family-sustaining job. For those who can't afford their own car, public transportation is a lifeline to upward mobility. Access to a good, quality job is the keystone to growing the state's economy. As a workforce board that oversees the region's workforce development system, this is particularly important.

The Central Western Maine Workforce Development Board strongly supports MaineDOT's grant application for this pivotal project. I am hopeful that you will give the project your full consideration and award the requested funding.

Sincerely,

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The Central Western Maine Workforce Development Board provides equal opportunity in employment and programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.