



# TOWN OF WELLS

*Wells, Maine*

Michael W. Pardue  
Town Manager  
mpardue@wellstown.org

January 20, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington D.C. 20590

**RE: Support Letter for Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) and the Town of Wells Application to the USDOT FY 26 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program.**

Dear Secretary Duffy:

As Chairman of the Town of Wells Board of Selectmen I am writing in support of MaineDOT and the Town of Wells' funding request to the 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant application for the MaineDOT "**Route I Community Gateway Beautification and Safety Project in Wells, Maine.**"

The MaineDOT and Wells proposed project will improve safety and amenities for active transportation users, while optimizing the mobility and efficiency of motorists along the congested Route 1 corridor. Grant funding would allow the addition of sidewalks, bike lanes, traffic signal hardware upgrades, enhanced crossings, expanded transit stops, pedestrian lighting, and other amenities to maintain or improve operations along the Route 1 corridor. The Project will transform 5.6 miles of Route 1 in Wells into a more continuous, connected multimodal transportation network that serves all roadway users in Wells, while supporting economic growth and improving quality of life in this rural community.

We support this transformational project to create a community gateway along the Route 1 corridor in Wells that will reduce vehicle trips and vehicle emissions through implementation of multimodal opportunities. The Town of Wells is a growing residential community, including more travelers making it their vacation destination, which adds to the increased traffic flow along the 5.6 miles of Route One in Wells. The addition of more traffic lights at difficult intersections, as well as added crosswalks, sidewalks, improved traffic flow patterns along with the numerous other safety features will provide enhanced safety along the Route One corridor.

Sincerely,

Timothy Roche  
Chairman, Board of Selectmen

# WELLS FIRE DEPARTMENT



*Mark A Dupuis, Fire Chief*

207 646-7912

www.wellstown.org

1563 Post Road  
Wells, ME 04090

Fax: 207 646-0597

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**January 21, 2026**

The Honorable Sean Duffy  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Re: Assurance of Matching Funds for MaineDOT Application to the USDOT FY26 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program.**

Dear Secretary Duffy,

On behalf of the Wells Fire Department, I write to express strong support for the MaineDOT "Route 1 Community Gateway Beautification and Safety Project in Wells, Maine" and the Town of Wells' commitment to matching funds for the FY 2026 BUILD Grant application.

This transformative project will improve safety, mobility, and access along the congested Route 1 corridor for motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, and seasonal visitors, while supporting the economic vitality of local family-run businesses. Proposed improvements include sidewalks, bike lanes, pedestrian crossings, enhanced traffic signals, lighting, and other features designed to reduce accidents and enhance overall corridor safety.

Safe and efficient emergency access is critical for our community. The planned upgrades will allow the Wells Fire Department and other emergency responders to navigate the corridor more effectively, reduce response times, and improve public safety for residents and visitors alike.

The project stems from a MaineDOT and Town of Wells Planning Partnership Initiative (PPI), incorporating a Planning and Feasibility Study, Roadside Safety Assessment, and extensive public input. It targets High Crash Locations and provides a comprehensive, multimodal approach to improve traffic flow, pedestrian safety, and economic opportunities along this key corridor.

We fully support this project and urge your favorable consideration of the BUILD grant application, recognizing its significant benefits for public safety, mobility, and quality of life in Wells.

Sincerely,

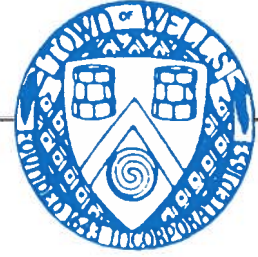
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Dupuis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "D".

Mark A. Dupuis  
Fire Chief  
Wells Fire Department



TOWN OF WELLS  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
*"Protecting a great community"*

P.O. BOX 949, WELLS, ME 04090



**Jo-Ann Putnam**  
Chief of Police

January 23, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Re: Assurance of Matching Funds for MaineDOT Application to the USDOT FY26 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program**

Dear Secretary Duffy:

The Wells Police Department is in support of MaineDOT and the Town of Wells for the FY26 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant application for the MaineDOT **"Route 1 Community Gateway Beautification and Safety Project in Wells, Maine"**.

We feel this collaborative project will improve the flow of traffic and safety for the traveling public along the Rt.1 corridor in Wells. The project will add gateway features that are favorable to Wells, make travel safer for vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists and help support the businesses in this popular tourist destination.


Grant funding would allow the addition of sidewalks, bike lanes, traffic signal hardware upgrades, enhanced crossings, expanded transit stops, pedestrian lighting, and other amenities to maintain or improve operations along the Route 1 corridor. The Project will transform 5.6 miles of Route 1 in Wells into a more continuous, connected multimodal transportation network that serves all roadway users in Wells, while supporting economic growth and improving quality of life in this rural community.

One of the biggest reasons we are behind this initiative is the significant increase in vehicular traffic that occurs during the summer months. At times, this congestion causes travel times to increase by two to three times the normal duration along the same stretch of road. We also support this project because we feel it will create a community gateway along the Route 1 corridor in Wells that will reduce vehicle trips and vehicle emissions through implementation of multimodal opportunities.

We are hopeful that the addition of new sidewalks and bicycle paths will provide an alternative mode of transportation, encouraging both residents and visitors to walk and bike rather than rely solely on their vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration for this important project.

Sincerely,



Jo-Ann Putnam  
Chief of Police

**Wells  Maine**  
**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

January 28, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Assurance of Matching Funds for MaineDOT Application to the USDOT FY26 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program**

Dear Secretary Duffy:

I am writing today on behalf of the Board of Directors and the members of the Wells Chamber of Commerce in support for the MaineDOT "Route 1 Community Gateway Beautification and Safety Project in Wells Maine" and the Town of Wells commitment to matching funds for the FY 2026 BUILD Grant application.

This project will improve safety and amenities for active transportation users, while optimizing the mobility and efficiency of motorists along the congested Route 1 corridor. Proposed improvements include the addition of sidewalks, bike lanes, traffic signal hardware upgrades, enhanced crossings, expanded transit stops, pedestrian lighting, and other amenities to improve operations along the Route 1 corridor. The Project will transform 5.6 miles of Route 1 in Wells into a more continuous, connected multimodal transportation network that serves all roadway users in Wells, while supporting economic growth and improving quality of life in this rural community.

Tourism is the economic engine for the Town of Wells. The Wells community has long recognized the importance of a healthy tourist industry to its local economy. This generational project will support economic growth and travel efficiency and safety not only for our residents but our visitors that have selected Wells as their vacation destination of choice.

We fully support this project and urge your favorable consideration of the BUILD grant submission.

Sincerely,



Eleanor J. Vadenais  
President / CEO

**WELLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**PO BOX 356, 136 POST ROAD**  
**WELLS, MAINE 04090**  
**207.646.2451**  
**[www.wellschamber.org](http://www.wellschamber.org)**

February 5, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Re: Support Letter for Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) and Town of Wells Application to the USDOT FY26 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program.**

Dear Secretary Duffy:

York County Community College is writing in support of MaineDOT and the Town of Wells' funding request to the 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant application for the MaineDOT "Route 1 Community Gateway Beautification and Safety Project in Wells, Maine."

The MaineDOT and Wells proposed project will improve safety and amenities for active transportation users, while optimizing the mobility and efficiency of motorists along the congested Route 1 corridor. Grant funding would allow the addition of sidewalks, bike lanes, traffic signal hardware upgrades, enhanced crossings, expanded transit stops, pedestrian lighting, and other amenities to maintain or improve operations along the Route 1 corridor. The Project will transform 5.6 miles of Route 1 in Wells into a more continuous, connected multimodal transportation network that serves all roadway users in Wells, while supporting economic growth and improving quality of life in this rural community.

We support this transformational project to create a community gateway along the Route 1 corridor in Wells that will reduce vehicle trips and vehicle emissions through implementation of multimodal opportunities. This project aligns with York County Community College's commitment to supporting accessibility, safety and sustainability for our students, faculty, and the broader community. Improved multimodal transportation options along the Route 1 corridor will enhance access to educational opportunities for our commuter students, many of whom rely on public transit, biking, or walking to reach campus. Additionally, the project will promote environmental sustainability by reducing vehicle dependency, aligning with our efforts to foster a greener and more connected community. We strongly support this investment in infrastructure to better serve the needs of our region.

Sincerely,



Michael Fischer, EdD.  
President



FIND THE FEARLESS YOU.

112 College Drive, Wells, ME 04090-5341

P 207.646.9282 | 800.580.3820 | YCCC.edu