



WELLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mark A Dupuis, Fire Chief

207 646-7912

1563 Post Road
Wells, ME 04090

www.wellstown.org

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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 FY25 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and
Equity (RAISE) Grant Program**

Dear Secretary of Transportation:

The Wells Fire Department is writing in support of MaineDOT and the Town of Wells's funding request to the 2025 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant application for the MaineDOT *Wells Route 1 Community Gateway: Implementing a Multimodal Vision for Transportation in Wells, Maine Project*.

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 addition of more traffic lights at difficult intersections, as well as the added crosswalks, sidewalks, improved traffic flow patterns and the numerous other safety features, will greatly enhance the corridor in many ways, especially in safety. We applaud this design and proposal and fully support the project as a whole. Our ability to navigate this new proposed corridor in emergencies is paramount, and as this is proposed to enhance traffic flows, we support it fully, with the hope that the new design will reduce accidents at key locations and keep our pedestrian traffic safer than the current design does.

We hope that you will consider accepting this proposed project as it enhances the public safety of Wells residents and visitors alike.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Dupuis
Wells Fire Chief