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September 20, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in strong support of the Maine Department of Transportation's (MaineDOT) application for funding through the FY 2022 Bridge Investment Program (BIP). MaineDOT is seeking \$480,000 in funding assistance to implement a planning project with a total cost of \$600,000. MaineDOT intends to create an Off-System Bridge Investment Program, which will be used to prioritize the backlog of 239 off-system bridges within their inventory that are listed in poor or critical condition.

This program will help MaineDOT establish a program to identify bridge bundles for replacement or rehabilitation, which MaineDOT intends to pursue with competitive funding through the Bridge Investment Program in future years. Many of these candidate bridges are located in Maine's underserved, rural communities.

MaineDOT has repeatedly proven their ability to successfully deliver grant-funded projects on time and within budget and I have no doubt that this project will result in similar success. Thank you for your attention to their application. I urge your careful consideration of this application, subject to all applicable laws and regulations, and ask that you please notify Adam Lachman in my office at (202) 224-5344 when a final decision has been made.

Sincerely,



ANGUS S. KING, JR.
United States Senator

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