



October 22nd, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Support Letter for Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) Application to the
USDOT FY2023 - 2026 Bridge Investment Program (BIP) Bridge Grant Projects.

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System (BACTS) is writing in support of MaineDOT's funding request to the FY2023 - 2026 Bridge Investment Program (BIP) for repairs, rehabilitation and/or replacements of nine Off-System bridges throughout central Maine. Over time, these bridges have deteriorated into a state of poor condition and will continue to decline if not replaced in the near future.

As the MPO and RPO for rural Penobscot County, BACTS has worked with MaineDOT to successfully carry out similar projects. We are committed to supporting sustainable solutions through replacement of these structures as part of a safe, resilient transportation system.

BACTS is committed to being a strong partner to assist MaineDOT through implementation across all sites as well as help gain community and partner support to advance these bridge projects. BACTS's current commitments to some of these projects include rural technical assistance and outreach in Penobscot County on behalf of MaineDOT. If awarded, BACTS is committed to seeing the Off-System Bridge Replacement BIP projects through to successful implementation.

BACTS is in full support of MaineDOT's efforts to address these structures that are in poor condition, applying state-of-the-practice solutions to maximize state and federal investments into structure linkages that are critical to rural areas of central Maine.

Sincerely,

Sara Devlin

Sara Devlin
BACTS Executive Director

