

Town of Caratunk

Office of Selectmen

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October 22, 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,


The Town of Caratunk 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.

The Town of Caratunk has worked with Maine DOT 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.

The Town of Caratunk is committed to be 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. Caratunk's current commitments to some of these projects include public outreach, advocacy, agency partnering, and project coordination. If awarded, Caratunk is committed to seeing the Off-System Bridge Replacement BIP projects through to successful implementation.

The Town of Caratunk 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,



Elizabeth Caruso
Select Board Chair

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