



August 15, 2024

The Honorable Shailen Bhatt, Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Maine Department of Transportation's application to fund the *Delivering the Charge: A Recharge Maine Corridor Project* under the FY 2024-2025 Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program

Dear Administrator Bhatt,

Please accept this letter of strong support for the Maine Department of Transportation's (MaineDOT) application under the FY 2024-2025 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program. The application outlines MaineDOT's important plans — with support from project partner Efficiency Maine Trust — to expand access to electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure along Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs) in Maine.

Through the *Delivering the Charge: A Recharge Maine Corridor Project*, MaineDOT and Efficiency Maine will install 80 DC Fast Charger ports for light-, medium-, and heavy-duty EVs across 20 strategic locations on Maine's most heavily travelled corridors. The new chargers will supplement the existing and growing network of public and private chargers and help complete the State's AFC buildout.

In alignment with the *Maine Plan for Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment*, the Project will:

- Reduce EV range anxiety for residents and Maine's many visitors along Federally designated AFCs.
- Strengthen Maine's economy by reducing drivers' fuel costs and ensuring charging ease for visitors.
- Advance Maine's progress toward reducing harmful emissions from vehicles.
- Help Maine meet its overarching goals to decrease greenhouse gas emissions 45 percent by 2030, 80 percent by 2050, and achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.

Forth is a mission-driven nonprofit that helps cities, states, utilities and employers plan and execute the transition to electric transportation. Forth promotes the adoption of EVs of all types and sizes; plans for thoughtful installation of EV charging infrastructure in various settings; promotes local, state and national policies that support transportation electrification; and helps launch and scale shared electric mobility initiatives ranging from e-scooters and e-bikes to ride-hailing companies and electric car-sharing. Forth firmly believes that Maine's *Delivering the Charge Project* will aid in the transition for light-, medium- and heavy-duty vehicles to go electric.

Widespread adoption of EVs is essential to reducing carbon emissions and protecting the State's natural resources. In light of these considerations, we respectfully request the Federal Highway Administration give favorable consideration to the *Delivering the Charge Project*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cat Plein', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cat Plein
Communications and Development Director