

August 7, 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 (“Efficiency Maine”)—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 (“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; and
- 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.

The CFI Discretionary Grant Program to fund EV infrastructure development is in direct alignment with the goals of the state of Maine’s Clean Cities and Communities coalition, Maine Clean Communities. Our mission is to advance the adoption of alternative fuels, vehicle efficiency technologies and the decarbonization of the transportation sector.

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,



Sara Mills-Knapp
Director of Sustainability and Maine Clean Communities