



# SIERRA CLUB

## MAINE CHAPTER

PO Box 3760  
Portland, ME 04104  
Phone: (207) 761-5616  
[www.sierraclub.org/maine](http://www.sierraclub.org/maine)

16 August 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 traveled 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:

- 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;
- 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; and
- Advance Maine's progress toward reducing harmful emissions from vehicles.

Sierra Club has been prioritizing EV charging expansion in our rural areas to ensure equity as we rapidly transition our transportation sector to electric vehicles, supporting Efficiency Maine's on-going effort. This proposed Project will further the work, greatly reducing "range anxiety" by closing gaps between charging locations, which will alleviate hesitation about making the switch to EVs: the biggest impediment we hear from our members and supporters.

<sup>1</sup> A Report from the Coastal & Marine Working Group of the Maine Climate Council 5 June 2020

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,

Matt Cannon  
Sierra Club Maine