



YARMOUTH MAINE

August 6th, 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.

Recently, the Yarmouth Town Council set ambitious targets to reduce carbon emissions by 85% by 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050, using a 2019 baseline. To meet these goals, enhancing the accessibility and widespread availability of EV charging

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infrastructure in our region and along AFCs is crucial. Yarmouth, like many other Maine towns, will be able to leverage the benefits of a completed AFC buildout to promote economic growth, enhance environmental sustainability, and improve equity and quality of life. This project will help our community reach our goals, reducing vehicle emissions while fostering a thriving, connected community for residents, visitors, and local businesses.

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 "Scott LaFlamme", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott LaFlamme
Town Manager