

# Appendix E

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

July 22, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We write in support of the application submitted by the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant program. MaineDOT is requesting \$25 million in federal funding for the *Interstate 95 at Hogan Road Improvement Project*. This project will make critical improvements to Maine's transportation infrastructure by using the most innovative solutions to improve safety at the state's busiest diamond interchange.

The interchange is currently not performing to acceptable standards, and MaineDOT has routinely ranked it as "poor" due to the high number of crashes that occur there. In fact, it is Maine's worst performing interchange due to the number of consecutive years the four intersections within the interchange have registered a high number of crashes. Once complete, the new Diverging Diamond Interchange is expected to reduce crashes by 50%, alleviate congestion, increase mobility, and improve overall safety by preventing dangerous backups on I95.

Having efficient, reliable transportation to connect Maine citizens, who are already economically challenged, to necessary resources has a direct impact on the vitality of the region and the ability to attract a more diverse population. This intersection and overpass connect Maine people living throughout very rural central and northern Maine, some traveling more than 150 miles, to the area's main commerce center. These funds will enhance the efficiency of our transportation network and deliver benefits that will be felt by Maine families and businesses throughout our great state.

Thank you for your time and effort on behalf of the MaineDOT. We urge your careful consideration of its proposal, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, and ask that you please notify us directly or your staff notify Trevor Hustus (Collins) at (202) 224-2523 and Dan Jenkins (Golden) at (207) 241-6767 when a final decision has been made.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator



Jared F. Golden  
Member of Congress



June 28th, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg;

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System (BACTS) is pleased to offer this letter of support for the Maine Department of Transportation's (MaineDOT) application for the 2021 Rebuilding America's Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant. The grant would help fund the Hogan Road/I-95 Improvement project, a project that will improve safety and traffic flow in the region.

The proposed Divergent Diamond Interchange project will reduce high crash locations at the Hogan Road/I-95 interchange, reduce traffic cues, and will improve transit services along this corridor. In addition, the overpass bridge will be improved to allow for safe bicycle and pedestrian travel, which is currently non-existent.

As the Bangor region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), BACTS, is in support of MaineDOT's grant application, as this project will improve safety and mobility for all modes of travel.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

*Sara Devlin*

Sara Devlin  
Executive Director, BACTS

CC:  
Bill Mayo, City of Old Town  
John Theriault, BACTS Chair



# DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING

## CITY OF BANGOR

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JOHN THERIAULT PE, PTOE  
CITY ENGINEER

June 29, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: MaineDOT - Diverging Diamond Interchange Project – Bangor, Maine  
Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity  
(RAISE) Grant Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Bangor is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Maine Department of Transportation's RAISE Grant application for funding of the Divergent Diamond project to be located at the I-95 Interchange with Hogan Road.

Hogan Road is a heavily travelled commercial arterial that provides access to the City's major shopping centers, businesses, and technical schools. Within the vicinity of the I-95 Interchange, there are currently three locations that have been identified as high crash locations by the MaineDOT. In addition, there are no facilities along Hogan Road at the bridge to safely accommodate pedestrians or bicyclist. The Maine Department of Transportation held a public meeting concerning this diverging diamond project a couple of years ago and the project was well received by city staff as well as the public.

City staff and the public were excited for the project because of the safety benefits that will result. We believe the project will reduce congestion on Hogan Road as well as reduce the number and severity of vehicle crashes. The project will also provide safe and necessary pedestrian and bicycle accommodations across the bridge completing a vital connection across the interstate for active modes of transportation.

The City of Bangor fully supports this important project and hopes that you consider it for funding through the RAISE Grant Program.

Sincerely,

John Theriault, PE  
Bangor City Engineer