

February 9th, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Support for the Maine Department of Transportation's application to the FY24 Federal Transit Administration's Rebuilding Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing on behalf of The Acadia Corporation to encourage you to fund the Maine Department of Transportation's (Maine DOT) application to the Rebuilding Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program to acquire up to 24 electric buses, plus charging stations and supporting infrastructure, for Downeast Transportation. These buses will upgrade the current fleet of propane buses that traverse rural Hancock County, Maine, as well as Acadia National Park, providing critically needed links to employment, outdoor recreation, and service centers.

The Acadia Corporation, supports this grant application because we believe public transportation, especially electric, is beneficial to everyone. It benefits visitors to the area and local community members. It enables everyone the opportunity to move about safely and economically. Electric infrastructure is particularly important. Electric transportation is an important part of moving our community towards a better future. Mount Desert Island and Acadia National Park would be ideal showcases to educate and demonstrate how electric transport can meet our needs.

We support Maine DOT's application to the RAISE grant program and encourage you to fund it. Thank you very much for considering this letter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



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