



Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
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AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

April 15, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to express my strong support of the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) application recently submitted by the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT). Through their application, MaineDOT is requesting \$25 million in grant funding to complete a \$35.1 million project that would revitalize and modernize active transportation and roadway infrastructure in Southern Maine.

MaineDOT's application, developed in collaboration with the City of Portland and the Initiative for Digital Engineering and Life Sciences, outlines a transformative project aimed at enhancing infrastructure connectivity in the East Deering neighborhood of Portland, Maine. The project, through the expansion, redesign, and improvement of multi-use bike and pedestrian pathways, will foster safer and more accessible means of active transportation and will establish a vital link between East Deering and the Old Port section of downtown Portland.

I urge you to give strong consideration to MaineDOT's application. This RAISE funding is integral to completing this project that promises to significantly enhance community connectivity and promote sustainable transportation solutions throughout Portland. Please do not hesitate to contact me or MaineDOT Commissioner Bruce Van Note with any questions you might have regarding this project or the department's application. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Janet T. Mills, Governor
State of Maine



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