



8/7/2024

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 *Chargers to Promote Resilience: A Recharge Maine Community Project* under the FY 2024-2025 Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program

Dear Administrator Bhatt,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Maine Department of Transportation’s (“MaineDOT”) grant application for the Federal Highway Administration’s Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program. The *Chargers to Promote Resilience: A Recharge Maine Community Project* (“Project”)—supported by project partner Efficiency Maine Trust (“Efficiency Maine”)—aims to deploy electric vehicle (EV) charging stations throughout Maine, particularly in areas facing climate change-related resiliency challenges.

Through the Project, MaineDOT and Efficiency Maine will install 64 DC Fast Charger ports across 10 communities and at 6 hospitals. The locations—primarily near the State’s numerous peninsulas and along flood-prone rivers—have increasingly faced flooding and prolonged power outages due to severe weather. Other locations support affected communities during evacuations from such events.

The Project will:

- Improve charger availability during widespread power outages;
- Ensure communities statewide, including disadvantaged and rural areas, have equitable access to charging infrastructure; and
- Help Maine meet its goal to decrease greenhouse gas emissions 45 percent by 2030, 80 percent by 2050, and achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.

[MaineHealth – Maine Medical Center] is eager to participate in this important project that includes the installation of EV chargers at our facilities. Our hospital is committed to promoting sustainable practices and enhancing community resilience. By providing EV charging stations, we aim to support EV adoption among our staff, patients, and visitors while also contributing to the region’s preparedness for climate-related events.

The presence of EV chargers at our hospital will not only benefit our immediate community but also serve as a valuable resource during potential evacuations or power outages. This initiative directly aligns with our mission to enhance public health and environmental stewardship. In light of these considerations, we respectfully request the Federal Highway Administration give favorable consideration to the *Chargers to Promote Resilience Project*.

Sincerely,

Michael Arsnow

Michael Arsnow
Manager – Sustainability