

Finance Department

Danielle P. West

City Manager

September 26, 2023



The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Support Letter for Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) and City of Portland to the USDOT FY2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant application.

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The City of Portland is writing in support of MaineDOT and City of Portland's funding request to the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods grant program for the *Reconnecting Our Villages: Historic Libbytown* project that will provide bicyclists and pedestrians with safe access to jobs, schools, housing, and other services in this community and the surrounding neighborhoods.

This project will link neighborhoods on either side of Interstate 295 to essential services in adjoining communities such as medical services and grocery shopping. By installing multi-use pathways to encourage active transportation along rights-of-way that are safe and modern, the project will restore connectivity – allowing the neighborhood to serve as the city's gateway as intended and meet ADA and MaineDOT standards.

The City of Portland has committed \$2,800,000 in non-federal match towards the MaineDOT's RCN Grant application, *Reconnecting Our Villages: Historic Libbytown*. The City of Portland has the funds available for its portion of the non-federal match of this project.

Sincerely,

Danielle P. West

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