

Dan Fishbein, MD President Sun Life U.S. 110 Thames Street Portland, ME 04101

February 22, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

As a Maine resident, and on behalf of Sun Life's more than 500 Maine employees, I am writing in support of the grant application made by the Maine Department of Transportation and IDEALS (Initiative for Digital Engineering and Life Sciences) that will bring important infrastructure improvements to Portland's East Deering neighborhood.

The grant will allow the Maine Department of Transportation and the City of Portland to make significant upgrades to East Deering, including improving roads and intersections, creating better pathways and trails that will reduce the reliance on motor vehicles, and making coastal areas more accessible to the public. All of these changes are necessary to prepare the East Deering neighborhood to be the future campus of the Roux Institute at Northeastern University.

Sun Life is both a Portland neighbor and a partner of the Roux Institute, and we have seen the caliber of their students. This grant supports the Roux Institute's expansion in Maine, and we respectfully ask that you approve their application.

Thank you,

Dan Fishbein, MD President, Sun Life U.S.