



3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

February 23, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We write today to lend our full support to the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) and Eastern Trail Management District (ETMD)'s Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant application for discretionary funding to assist with the development of two segments of the Eastern Trail in York County, Maine.

This joint project will construct approximately 2.7 miles of off-road trail in two segments in the towns of North Berwick, Wells, and Kennebunk, in Southern Maine. The 0.7-mile trail in Kennebunk will link a village center to the existing off-road Eastern Trail. The 2-mile trail segment in Wells and North Berwick will provide a safe, off-road path for bicyclists and pedestrians traveling between these communities. Both segments of the trail will connect residential areas with employers, schools, and other services, increasing access for those without automobiles or preferring active transportation options.

These trails will fill in two segments of trail that have been identified by the Eastern Trail Alliance and have undergone a feasibility study by MaineDOT, the ETMD, and the municipalities. MaineDOT and the ETMD have a history of partnership in the development of the Eastern Trail, which has benefited many communities in Southern Maine. We urge you to give their application strong consideration and grant them the funding they are requesting.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Joseph E. Rafferty Jr. in black ink.

Joseph E. Rafferty
State Senator

Handwritten signature of Daniel J. Hobbs in black ink.

Daniel J. Hobbs
State Representative

Handwritten signature of Tiffany Roberts in black ink.

Tiffany Roberts
State Representative

Handwritten signature of Daniel Sayre in blue ink.

Daniel Sayre
State Representative