



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

December 5, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

We are writing to express our strong support for the Maine Department of Transportation's (MaineDOT) funding request to USDOT through the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Program. The purpose of this letter is to highlight the critical importance of MaineDOT's proposed project, *Reconnecting our Villages: Historic Libbytown Project*, and its positive impact on the accessibility and safety of the Libbytown neighborhood. This community originally served as the gateway to the City of Portland before being divided by Interstate 295.

MaineDOT's application seeks funding to support accessibility to housing, employment, healthcare, tourism and recreation. The project proposes to improve safety and efficiency for motorists and active transportation users while restoring connectivity to critical services.

We urge you to consider the profound impact that MaineDOT's proposed project could have on the transportation infrastructure and overall safety of this region of Maine and residents within the Libbytown community. We respectfully request that you give MaineDOT's application full consideration and grant them the funding they are seeking.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Jill Duson, with "SD27" written below it.

Jill Duson
State Senator

Handwritten signature of Matt Moonen.

Matt Moonen
State Representative

Handwritten signature of Samuel L. Zager.

Samuel L. Zager
State Representative