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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 3, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

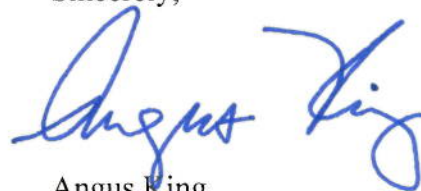
I write in support of the Maine Department of Transportation's (MaineDOT) application to the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program. Through their application, MaineDOT is requesting funding to assist with a project that will raise a section of roadway in rural Addison, Maine.

Located in the easternmost county in the United States, this project will directly improve the resilience of East Side Road in Addison, Maine, through climate adaptation measures. The existing causeway crosses a low-lying tidal creek and is vulnerable to sea-level rise due to its locations directly adjacent to tidal Pleasant Bay and its tributary, Knowles Brook. This section of road frequently floods, often prohibiting passage, therefore disconnecting communities in South Addison from critical emergency services.

If funded, this project will reduce the impact of flooding events and mitigate potential for interruptions in service by elevating the roadway and associated bridge above astronomical high tide levels. Additionally, an increase in the size of the crossing over Knowles Brook will enhance water flow capacity, allowing for more naturalized flows. This project is needed to ensure that area residents continue to receive access to critical services.

I am in full support of MaineDOT's efforts to improve the resilience of Maine's transportation infrastructure. I respectfully urge you to give every appropriate consideration for full funding of this project, in accordance with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have questions regarding MaineDOT's project and please notify Adam Lachman in my office (202) 224-5344 when a final decision has been made.

Sincerely,



Angus King  
United States Senator

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