



TOWN OF BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

STEVEN CONTENTE
Town Administrator

Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
Office of the Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 30, 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As the elected Town Administrator of the Town of Bristol, Rhode Island, acting in the best interest of the residents of Bristol, I respectfully ask for funding support of the Mount Hope Bridge dehumidification and deck rehabilitation project, under the Bridge Investment Program.

The 93-year-old Mount Hope Bridge that connects the peninsula of Bristol with the neighboring communities of Portsmouth, Middletown, and Newport is a heavily traveled roadway. The wires that make up the two large supporting cables of the suspension bridge show significant breakage, a condition that will continue to worsen if preventative measures such as the dehumidification and deck rehabilitation project are put off any longer.

On behalf of the Town of Bristol, I urge you, through the US Department of Transportation, to provide some of the funding for this \$58 million project under the Bridge Investment Program, which is specifically intended to rehabilitate, preserve, and protect bridges like the Mount Hope.

Without funding for this prevention and rehabilitation project, repair or replacement of these cables will cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars and impede daily travel for the thousands of commuters who rely on the Mt. Hope Bridge to go to work and school.

I encourage you to support this funding and welcome you to visit the Town of Bristol, Rhode Island, named the "Best Place to Raise a Family," and home to America's oldest, continuous Independence Day Celebration.

Respectfully,

Steven Contente
Town Administrator
Bristol, Rhode Island

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND
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