

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

May 5, 2021

Ms. Megan Brown  
Chief  
State, Tribal, Local, Plans, and Grants Division  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street, N.W., Mailstop 7360  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Chief Brown:

We write in support of the application submitted by the Maine Development Foundation (MDF) to the National Park Service Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants Program. MDF was awarded funding in 2019 that allowed it to fund six high-priority projects across the state. Due to the high demand for subgrants, MDF seeks funding to continue this program in support of historic preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation projects in Maine, and in doing so, help foster economic development in Maine communities.

Established in 1978, MDF is a private, nonpartisan member organization that provides leadership development, trusted research, and creative partnerships to enable Maine business, community, and government leaders to drive Maine's long-term economic growth. Over the past 20 years, MDF has led important efforts addressing the needs of Maine's historic downtowns through its Maine Downtown Center (MDC) program, which was established by the Maine Legislature in 1999 to advance preservation-based economic development. MDC serves as the state coordinator for the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Main Street Program.

According to its proposal, MDF plans to establish the RevitalizeME Gen 2 program to provide subgrants for historic revitalization, preservation, and other upgrades that support economic development activities throughout Maine. If successful, such funding will provide important financial capacity and resources to help encourage infrastructure development and private sector investment that in turn will increase the value and use of historically significant properties. This program will enable the preservation of historic properties, spur economic growth, and preserve Maine's unique sense of place.


Thank you for your time and effort on behalf of the Maine Development Foundation. We urge your careful review of its proposal, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, and ask that you please notify [REDACTED] when a final decision has been made.

Sincerely,

  
Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator

  
Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator

  
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

  
Jared F. Golden  
Member of Congress