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Via Email

August 11, 2025

Hon. Sean Duffy
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Request for Information
Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary
Docket No. DOT-OST-2025-0468**

Dear Secretary Duffy:

Protect the Adirondacks ("PROTECT") writes to respectfully urge the U.S. Department of Transportation to advocate for full Congressional support and sustained funding for the Wildlife Crossing Pilot Program. PROTECT is a New York not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the protection, stewardship, and sustainability of the natural environment and human communities of the Adirondack Park, a six million-acre park in the State of New York.

Each year, more than one million wildlife-vehicle collisions occur in the United States, resulting in hundreds of human fatalities, thousands of injuries, and over \$8 billion in economic losses. Wildlife crossings—such as overpasses, underpasses, and fencing—are proven, science-based solutions that significantly reduce collisions while maintaining ecological corridors for wildlife movement and migration.

With increasing habitat fragmentation and the effects of climate change altering wildlife behavior and movement patterns, investing in this infrastructure is more important than ever. The pilot program provides an opportunity to address these challenges while fostering collaboration among federal, state, tribal, and local governments, as well as nonprofit and community partners.

Protect the Adirondacks

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PROTECT respectfully requests that the Department continue to prioritize this program and urge Congress to support robust funding in the upcoming fiscal year. Doing so will not only protect lives and property but will also demonstrate our nation's commitment to sustainable and responsible infrastructure development.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this vital issue. We look forward to your continued support for policies that protect both people and wildlife on America's roads.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Amato", with a stylized, flowing script.

Christopher Amato
Conservation Director and Counsel