

Chris O'Brien

From: Francesca Gallo <francescag123@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 4:09 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Wednesday, 4/7 Hearing on Budget Article 1, Section 18 (Extension of Bonds)

Francesca Gallo; Budget Article 1, Section 18, line 6; amendment

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

My name is Francesca Gallo and I live in 02906, Providence.

I am highly concerned about the loss of a central bus hub where Rhode Islanders can make timely transfers and connections to get to their homes, places of work, essential errands, and sites of recreation. Breaking up transfer locations means that it will take folks even longer than it already does to get to where they're going by bus.

I am especially distressed and frustrated that RIDOT will use the 2014 Mass Transit Hub Infrastructure Bond funds to dismantle and deconstruct the central bus hub in Kennedy Plaza, against the will of Rhode Island's RIPTA users. This was not what voters like me intended when we voted in favor of that bond.

Please amend Article 1, Section 18 by inserting the following two sentences beginning on line 6 of as follows:

"Per the 2014 Mass Transit Hub Infrastructure Bond ballot question, funds may only be utilized to fund enhancements and renovations to transit hub infrastructures. No bond funds may be utilized to dismantle or otherwise deconstruct the state's primary transit hub in Kennedy Plaza."

Thank you,

Francesca Gallo