

Chris O'Brien

From: Gayle Gifford <gayle@ceffect.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:16 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Wednesday, 4/7 Hearing on Budget Article 1, Section 18 (Extension of Bonds)

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

I'm very concerned about the loss of a central bus hub in Providence where our residents and students who depend on mass transit can make timely transfers and connections to get where they are going. Breaking up transfer locations means that it will take everyone even longer than it already does to get where they are going by bus.

I'm especially upset that RIDOT will use the 2014 Mass Transit Hub Infrastructure Bond funds to dismantle and deconstruct the central bus hub in Kennedy Plaza. This was not what voters like me intended when I 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 used 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,
Gayle Gifford
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