

## Chris O'Brien

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**From:** Raub, Patricia <PRAUB@providence.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:43 AM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Wednesday, 4/7 Hearing on Budget Article 1, Section 18 (Extension of Bonds)

SUBJECT: Wednesday, 4/7 Hearing on Budget Article 1, Section 18 (Extension of Bonds)

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

My name is Patricia Raub. I live in Providence, and I depend upon RIPTA's 55 bus line to travel back and forth to Kennedy Plaza to get to the bank, City Hall, RI Foundation, and Providence Public Library.

I'm very concerned about the loss of a central bus hub where I can make timely transfers and connections to get to Wayland Square for medical appointments, Brown's Rockefeller Library, and the Avon Cinema on Thayer Street. Breaking up transfer locations means that it will take me even longer than it already does to get where I'm 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 we voted in favor of that bond. As a member of RIPTA Riders (now RI Transit Riders) I lobbied actively for passage of the bond, believing it was meant to improve the transit experience for bus passengers, not make it worse.

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,

Patricia Raub  
86 Bradley Street  
Providence 02908

Coordinator, RI Transit Riders