

Chris O'Brien

From: Jordan Goyette <goyettejordan@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 9:00 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Testimony against Article 1, Section 18

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

Dear Chairman Abney & members of the committee,

I'm very concerned about the loss of a central bus hub where the most needy users of public transit can make timely transfers and connections to get where they're going. Breaking up transfer locations means that it will take me even longer than it already does to get where this vulnerable population is 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. The funds have sat unused since their approval in 2014, but are just now being proposed to obliterate a crucial service for local residents just to appease wealthy property owners who don't like seeing homeless people around their buildings.

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,

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Sent from my iPhone