

Chris O'Brien

From: Wells, Hanna <hanna_wells@brown.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 6:49 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Wednesday, 4/7 Hearing on Budget Article 1, Section 18 (Extension of Bonds)

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

My name is Hanna, I'm from College Hill.

I am writing in vehement support of the resolution against the Kennedy Plaza bus hub break up plan. Although the current system and network of bus routes are not always the most efficient way of getting from one place to another in Rhode Island, breaking up Kennedy Plaza is NOT the solution.

Breaking up the bus hub would effectively (1) make it more difficult for current RIPTA users to use the system they are familiar with and depend on, and (2) decrease incentives for new ridership.

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 intended when voting in favor of the 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,
hanna wells
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