



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

May 26, 2016

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Rhode Island State Planning Council
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5870

To the Rhode Island State Planning Council:

It is with great frustration and disappointment that we hereby submit for the hearing record this letter strongly objecting to the FFY 2017-2025 Draft State Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which is scheduled for public hearing today, Thursday, May 26, 2016.

The timeline set forth in the TIP for addressing projects we consider crucial to the future success of East Providence—such as Waterfront Drive, the I-195 Interchange, and the Extension of the Ten Mile River Greenway—is simply unsatisfactory to us and to the residents of East Providence whom we're honored to represent.

Even worse, the repaving of Pawtucket Avenue—a state managed roadway about which we've previously written to urge a priority status (see enclosure)—is not scheduled to occur for many years to come. Given this dreadful determination, we must ask with all sincerity: Does the Draft TIP even attempt to address the immediate and ongoing safety/vehicular concerns we've continued to raise to RIDOT and others, both in public and in private? It would seem that the answer is a resounding, "NO."

Kindly ensure this letter and enclosures are included as part of the formal hearing record today, Thursday, May 26th, the scheduled timing of which is disappointing to all of us, as well as to our constituents—the vast majority of whom work for a living, and in any case should not be compelled to take time out of their busy schedules in order to voice their objection to such a blatantly flawed plan.

As taxpayers, we all deserve better than this.

Sincerely,

Sen. Daniel Da Ponte
D. 14 (E. Providence)

Rep. Katherine S. Kazarian
D. 63 (E. Providence)

Rep. Gregg Amore
D. 65 (E. Providence)

Sen. William J. Conley, Jr.
D. 18 (E. Providence, Pawtucket)

Rep. Helio Melo
D. 64 (E. Providence)

Encl. November 2, 2015 letter to DOT Director Alviti
December 18, 2015 response letter from DOT Director Alviti



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

November 2, 2015

Peter Alviti, Jr. P.E.
Director, RI Department of Transportation
Two Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Director Alviti,

As you are aware, the districts we represent cover substantial portions of East Providence. In recent months, each of us has been inundated with complaints regarding the deplorable condition of Pawtucket Avenue—a state managed roadway and the primary thoroughfare which residents must traverse to get from Point A- to-Point B in the City. In short, Pawtucket Ave. might otherwise be referred to as “Townie Highway.”

In order to be responsive to our constituents’ safety and vehicular concerns, we are writing to jointly and respectfully request that the Department provide us with a detailed update on RIDOT’s plans for repairing and resurfacing Pawtucket Avenue in East Providence.

As state legislators, we certainly appreciate the overwhelming demand for improvement of our state’s roadways. However, we must insist that a priority status for Pawtucket Ave. is truly warranted, due to the level of deterioration that both we and many, many city residents see and “feel” on a daily basis.

Thank you in advance for your timely consideration of this request. Please know that we will make ourselves available to further discuss this matter if you should have any concerns.

Sincerely Yours,

Senator Daniel Da Ponte
D. 14 - East Providence

Representative Gregg Amore
D. 65 - East Providence

Representative Katherine Kazarian
D. 63 - East Providence



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Department of Transportation
Two Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02903

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December 18, 2015

Senator Daniel DaPonte
District 14 - East Providence
State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Subject: Pavement Condition of Pawtucket Avenue (Route 103, Rout 114 and Route 1A)
From Willett Avenue (Route 103) to City of Pawtucket
Schedule for Upcoming Repairs to Pawtucket Avenue

Honorable Senator DaPonte,

Thank you for the November 2, 2015 letter bringing attention to the pavement condition of Pawtucket Avenue in the City of East Providence. As you know, Pawtucket Avenue begins as Route 103 at the intersection with Willett Avenue and extends north to the border with the City of Pawtucket becoming portions of Route 114 and Route 1A along the way.

Using an asset management approach and with current funding levels, the Department has developed a 10 Year Paving Pipeline that utilizes an objective method (pavement condition, surface type and traffic volumes) to plan and schedule future resurfacing projects. Based on anticipated funding, the following table shows various sections of Pawtucket Avenue that are included in Roadworks program for resurfacing:

<u>Begin</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Year to be Paved</u>
Newport Ave (Rt 1A)	Beverage Hill Ave	2016
Warren Ave (US-6)	Taunton Ave (US-44)	2023
Bullocks Point Ave	Wampanoag Tr (Rt 114)	2024

The proposed 10 Year Plan can be accessed on our website. Comments on the proposed 10 Year Paving Pipeline may be submitted through the Division of Planning (www.planning.ri.gov), as this is the process for approval of all Federal funds. The condition of all State roads will be evaluated every year and the 10 Year Paving Pipeline will be updated as well. Should you have any questions or require additional information please contact me.

Sincerely,

Peter V. Alviti, Jr., P.E.

Director

Rhode Island Department of Transportation