

**WILLIAM G  
VFW**



**FOURNIER  
916**

February 22, 2021

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

Director,

This correspondence is in response to the letter you sent to my State Representative Carol McEntee dated February 19, 2021 in reference to the Rhode Island Purple Heart Trail. I am the Co-Chair of the Committee of RI Veterans who are leading our State's Purple Heart Trail initiative. We have 5 members who are all Purple Heart recipients except for me. I am their VFW Post Commander and the VFW RI Junior Vice Commander, and they have asked me to be the public advocate representing them.

I am asking for a meeting this or next week in person at your office at your convenience along with principals (named below) in the letters I am attaching who are stake holders in this matter. I have spoken to Wil Hernandez who indicated that most of RIDOT's administrative team has conferenced mostly remotely during the pandemic and is utilizing zoom or other video conferencing platforms to hold meetings. That would be acceptable with me. I respectfully ask that it happens this or next week, as this matter has been on the back burner with RIDOT since it was initially passed the RI House and Senate in June and signed into law by the Governor in July, 2020. That is not acceptable to me or our Purple Heart Veterans.

Thank you for your immediate response. I will send --by email and postal mail-- this letter along with relevant materials to bring all the stake holders up to speed for the call. I will of course send copies to the members of our State Legislature who are sponsoring this initiative.

With Respect and Honor

Joe "Tiger" Patrick II  
VFW Post 916 Commander 2017-Present  
VFW RI Jr Vice Commander 2020-2021  
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