

Chris O'Brien

From: Eric <ericm.harrison@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 9:44 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: SUPPORT H5470 Transit Master Plan Bond Referenda

Dear Chairman Abney and Honorable Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of H5740, the bill to provide funding towards RIPTA's Transit Master Plan. I live in Lincoln, right on the edge of where it is technically feasible to live without a car. Unfortunately, the bus closest to my house (75) runs on a frequency between 60 & 75 minutes on weekdays, and stops running at 6PM. I would be a daily rider of this bus and would use it for shopping, dining, and entertainment at Lincoln Mall, as well as to get into Pawtucket to transfer to other routes. Thankfully, one piece of the TMP includes increasing the frequency to every 30 minutes, and running until at least 9PM. This would be transformative for me and would allow me to drive even less than I already do. I am lucky because I can afford to own a car and supplement the poor transit service to get myself where I need to go. Unfortunately, there are many others near me who are not as fortunate and whose opportunities are limited without reliable and affordable transportation. I urge you to support this bill to bring Rhode Island closer to equity in transportation, and closer to our stated climate goals.

Thank you for your consideration and I hope you will support H5470 to bring a better transit future to our state.

Respectfully,
Eric Harrison
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Lincoln RI