



Representative Marvin Abney, Chair

House Finance Committee

Rhode Island House of Representatives

May 21st, 2025

RE: Green Energy Consumers Alliance Supports House Bill 5470

Dear Chair Abney and members of the Committee,

On behalf of Green Energy Consumers Alliance and our thousands of members across Rhode Island, **I write in strong support of House Bill 5470**, which would put forward a \$100 million bond for capital improvements for the implementation of the Transit Master Plan.

The Transit Master Plan is Crucial to Meet Rhode Island's Climate Goals

Successful implementation of the [Transit Master Plan](#) (TMP) is critical to achieve the Act on Climate. Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the state of Rhode Island, making up almost 40% of the state's emissions. To reduce emissions from the transportation sector, we must not only electrify all vehicles on the road, but reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) by:

1. Decreasing the number of single-occupancy vehicle trips by promoting and investing in alternative modes of transportation (e.g., rail, bus, ridesharing, biking, walking)
2. Reducing the length of single-occupancy vehicle trips by encouraging higher-density patterns of development or changes in behavior

The TMP would help accomplish both. It is based on investment in alternative modes that will decrease single-occupancy vehicle trips and more robust transit will promote more concentrated development. In total, the plan will:

- Increase transit ridership by over 60%
- Increase transit mode share for work trips from 3.1% to 5%
- Reduce VMT by 8%
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 155,300 metric tons per year

The TMP is a necessary plan that has not yet had the opportunity to be implemented. The time is now to fund the investments laid out in the plan and give Rhode Islanders a robust public transit system that is essential for resident's well-being and to achieve the Act on Climate.

Conclusion

Green Energy Consumers Alliance thanks Representative Tanzi for introducing this important legislation and urges the Committee and full General Assembly to vote in favor of its passage.

Sincerely,

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