

May 21, 2025 House Finance Committee Rhode Island State House 82 Smith St Providence, RI 02903
Dear Chair Abney and members of the committee: The Kennedy Plaza Resilience Coalition supports Rep. Alzate's H6020, a bill whose sole purpose is to adjust RIPTA's funding in FY2026 sufficiently to avoid service cuts. The initial draft of the FY2026 budget kept RIPTA's funding at a level which is known to be \$32.6 million too low to keep existing public transit services. We appreciate that the new bill being heard today fixes this problem. Rhode Island's current level of public transit services and offerings must be maintained. People in many parts of Rhode Island want better bus service, and funding RIPTA adequately would benefit residents and local businesses that would profit from increased mobility, while making progress toward climate goals more efficiently than single-person car travel does. Randall Rose, Kennedy Plaza Resilience Coalition