

Dear Chair Cortvriend and Honorable Members of the Committee,

As a Providence resident, I am writing to express my support for Bill H7127 funding the RIPTA budget and urging you to support the restoration of funding for RIPTA by undoing the service cuts. As RIPTA is the main public transit option for Providence residents, any service cut is a huge blow, not only to low-income residents or those without a car but, in the event of severe weather which we have experienced much of this winter, for everyone when driving is not safe or feasible. As a one-car household, my family relies on RIPTA for my partner to get to his various work sites around the city. The process is already lengthy, what would be a 20 minute bike ride or car ride is often a 45 to an hour RIPTA ride. We need MORE funding for RIPTA, not less.

I urge you to support the funding for RIPTA in the Governor's Budget, H7127 and to advocate for the restoration of funding that resulted in devastating service cuts this fall.

Thanks,

Kerry Cardoza

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