



*Distinctive Communities
Powerful Alliance*

April 14, 2026

The Honorable Marvin L. Abney, Chair
House Finance Committee
Rhode Island House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: HOUSE BILL 8144– AN ACT RELATING TO CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM -- 2026 BOND REFERENDA

Chair Abney and Honorable Committee Members,

On behalf of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, we write to express our general support for the proposed green bond initiative to be presented to voters in November 2026.

The League recognizes the importance of continued investment in environmental resilience, infrastructure, and sustainable community development across Rhode Island. Municipalities are on the front lines of addressing climate-related challenges, maintaining critical infrastructure, and ensuring that our communities remain safe, resilient, and economically vibrant. In that context, we are supportive of the overall intent of advancing a green bond to help meet these shared goals.

At the same time, we respectfully note that the structure and implementation of such investments are critically important to ensuring their success at the local level. Cities and towns vary widely in size, capacity, and resources, and any funding programs stemming from this initiative should be designed with flexibility and accessibility in mind.

We also recognize the importance of ensuring that there is funding to conserve important forests, farmlands, and open spaces across Rhode Island, and that we can continue to improve public recreation opportunities.

The League looks forward to working collaboratively with the Administration and the General Assembly to help shape this proposal in a way that maximizes its effectiveness for municipalities. In particular, we are eager to engage in discussions to ensure that funding opportunities are structured to support a broad range of local projects, are administratively feasible, and reflect the diverse needs of Rhode Island's 39 cities and towns.

We appreciate your consideration of this important initiative and thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We stand ready to serve as a resource and look forward to working with the Administration and the General Assembly as the proposal continues to develop. Please do not hesitate to reach out should we be able to provide any additional information or assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy R. Rossi".

Randy R. Rossi
Executive Director

Cc: Honorable Members of House Finance Committee