

## Chris O'Brien

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**From:** barry schiller <bschillert358@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2026 4:12 PM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Amy Joy Glidden; Rep. Tanzi, Teresa A.  
**Subject:** support for H8298 from RI Transit Riders

Dear House Finance Committee

This is Barry Schiller writing on behalf of RI Transit Riders in support of bill H8298 which proposes a \$25 million bond to go to the voters to fund implementation of the Bicycle Mobility Plan (BMP.) As the "findings" indicate, the BMP indeed "identifies a statewide network of bicycle facilities designed to improve safety, enhance mobility, and create connected transportation options linking communities, employment centers, schools and public transit."

We note some bus and train passengers use bicycles to access stops or stations, especially as all the fixed route buses have bike racks, and MBTA trains allow bike access (except at rush hour.) This extends the reach of both bicycling and using transit.

However, the progress in implementing the BMP since the state approved the plan in 2020 has largely stalled. Thus, though we got a good start on our bike paths, (really shared use paths also used by roller skaters, walkers, joggers, people in wheelchairs, people pushing baby carriers etc) we still haven't connected the paths in Providence, or reached downtown Woonsocket and Pawtucket, the coast in Narragansett, or anything further north on the Woonasquatucket Greenway beyond its terminus in Johnston. There are also opportunities on Aquidneck Island, Tiverton, Warren and more. On-road improvements have also been very limited. Therefore, to make the bike system more useful, and to build bike-transit connections that can help our environment, address climate change, support more affordable housing, and keep more of our energy dollars in the state, we need this bond to build out the Bike Mobility plan. So we urge the Committee to support bill H8298 to give Rhode Island voters the opportunity to support this plan.

We thank the sponsors, and the Committee for its consideration of our views.

Barry Schiller, for RI Transit Riders  
cc Amy Glidden, Chair of RI Transit Riders  
Rep Teresa Tanzi, sponsor