

Chris O'Brien

From: Shelby Adams <shelby@cleverhood.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2026 10:53 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Support H8298

Categories: Green category

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Shelby Adams
41 Chapin Ave
Providence RI 02909
April 14, 2026

Re: Letter of Support — Rhode Island Bike Path Bond Question (H8298)

Chairman Abney and Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my strong **support for H8298**, the proposed bond measure to fund the implementation of the Rhode Island Statewide Bicycle Mobility Plan and the completion of bike paths across Rhode Island. It has been 8 years since we last included funding in our Green Bond, and when asked, voters overwhelmingly supported the investment, with 78.9% voting yes.

Safe, well-connected bicycle infrastructure is a sound public investment. Rhode Island's communities stand to benefit in multiple ways: reduced traffic congestion, improved air quality, stronger public health outcomes, and increased economic activity along active transportation corridors. Studies consistently show that every dollar invested in bike infrastructure yields significant returns through tourism, local business activity, and reduced healthcare costs.

Visting my grandmother in Riverside was the highlight of my childhood summers. It meant I had access to the East Bay Bike Path. Freedom! I was allowed to bike with my sister down to Del's in Warren because the adults knew the East Bay Bike Path was a safe corridor for us to navigate as children. Now, I use that same bike path to go visit my grandmother. Being safely removed from car traffic from India Point Park down to Riverside makes it such an enjoyable trip. Significantly better than sitting in Washington Bridge traffic.

Rhode Island already has a proud legacy in this space. Dedicated bond funding would allow the state to close critical gaps in the network, improve safety at dangerous intersections, and expand access to communities that rely on cycling for everyday transportation, as well as those of all ages who use it for recreation. Bike Paths across our small state are vital corridors that provide safe access for alternative transportation.

I urge the Committee to **support H8298**, adding this component to the Green Bond question in 2026 and

give voters the opportunity to once again invest in bike paths and in Rhode Island's future, one that is healthier, greener, and more connected.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Shelby Adams
Providence RI 02909