



Department of Transportation  
Two Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02903

Office 401-222-2450  
Fax 401-222-3905  
[www.dot.ri.gov](http://www.dot.ri.gov)

March 3, 2026

The Honorable Evan P. Shanley  
Chair, House State Government & Elections  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: 2026 H 7984 AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- INDEPENDENT PERFORMANCE AND EFFICIENCY  
AUDIT OF THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Dear Chairman Shanley:

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) respectfully shares the following testimonial information on H 7984, - AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE -- INDEPENDENT PERFORMANCE AND EFFICIENCY AUDIT OF THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION , this bill "Requires that an independent performance and efficiency audit be conducted for the department of transportation by the auditor general".

RIDOT would like to offer the following information outlining the performance standards the Department is already legally obligated to provide.

With the passage of H7409 SUB Aaa, and S4426 Aaa, RhodeWorks became law in 2016. Section 42-13.1-16 of this legislation requires the department to provide the following:

"RIGL 42-13.1-16. Reporting. – The department shall submit to the office of management and budget, the house fiscal advisor, and the senate fiscal advisor, a report on the progress of implementation of this chapter within thirty (30) days of the close of each of the fiscal quarters of each year. The reports shall also be posted on the department's website. The reports shall include, at a minimum:

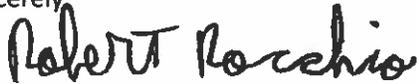
- (1) Construction and design contracts of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) or greater planned to be advertised in the upcoming federal fiscal year, their value and expected award date;
- (2) Construction and design contracts of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) or greater awarded in the prior federal fiscal year, date of award, value, and expected substantial completion date;
- (3) Expected final cost of: (i) Any construction contracts of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) or greater that reached substantial completion in the prior federal fiscal year; and (ii) Any design contracts of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) or greater completed in the prior federal fiscal year; and
- (4) Total number of workers employed through the contract and the number of the workers in that total with a Rhode Island address.
- (5) This report shall also include a current list of all federal, discretionary, and any other grants that the department has applied for and the status of that application and identify any changes from the prior report. For any grants that require

a state match, the department shall identify if the source for the state's match is available under currently authorized funding.”

This Quarterly report provides a beneficial overview on project timelines and project budgets, bridge and pavement conditions.

For these reasons, RIDOT respectfully submits this information to offer some clarification on the measures the department already has in place. Thank you for your consideration. The Quarterly Report is available to view on the Departments webpage <https://www.dot.ri.gov/accountability/index.php>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Rocchio". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Robert Rocchio, P.E.  
Interim Director, Rhode Island Department of Transportation

cc: The Honorable Members of the House State Government & Elections Committee  
The Honorable Teresa A. Tanzi  
Nicole McCarty Esq. Chief Legal Counsel.