



*Distinctive Communities  
Powerful Alliance*

April 7, 2026

The Honorable Senator Robert Britto, Chair  
Senate Commerce Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

RE: SENATE BILL 2767 – AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- RHODE ISLAND UTILITY FAIR SHARE ROADWAY REPAIR ACT

Chair Britto and Honorable Committee Members,

On behalf of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns and our 39 member municipalities, we write to express our support for Senate Bill 2767, which amends Chapter 39-2.2 of the General Laws by requiring public utilities to provide advance notice to property owners prior to road closures.

This legislation presents several clear benefits for municipalities and the residents they serve. Requiring utilities to provide at least 48 hours' notice to affected property owners promotes greater transparency and allows residents and businesses to better prepare for temporary disruptions caused by construction activity. Improved communication of this kind can help reduce inconvenience and enhance overall public confidence.

In addition, advance notice supports municipal operations by giving local public works departments, traffic officials, and emergency responders the opportunity to coordinate with utilities in advance of closures. This helps ensure that appropriate traffic control measures are in place, detours are clearly established, and emergency access is maintained.

Importantly, the bill places the responsibility for notification on the utilities themselves, avoiding any direct financial burden on municipalities. While some level of coordination may be required at the local level, this type of engagement is already a routine part of municipal operations and is not expected to create significant administrative challenges.

The League believes that Senate Bill 2767 is a practical, resident-focused, and municipal-friendly measure for our members.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our perspective.

Sincerely,

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

Randy R. Rossi  
Executive Director

Cc: Senate Commerce Committee