

**Neighbors  
Welcome!**  
Rhode Island



The Honorable Louis P. DiPalma  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, RI 02903

April 2, 2026

RE: SUPPORT (S2813) - Transit Master Plan Bond Referenda

Dear Chair DiPalma and Members of the Committee:

Neighbors Welcome! Rhode Island (“Neighbors Welcome”) is a network of neighbors advocating for more homes in Rhode Island. Our goal is to promote strong and sustainable housing production so that residents across the state, at every stage of life, have housing options that meet their needs.

**We are writing today to urge the General Assembly to support the bond referenda for \$100M in capital funding to implement the Transit Master Plan.**

Rhode Island is facing a multifaceted housing crisis that negatively impacts every community across the state. An integral part of the state’s housing production plan, is Transit Oriented Develop (TOD). Transit Oriented Development allows for more homes to be built near public transit infrastructure. If we do not have a robust transit system, this type of development will continue to be infeasible, setting us up to continue to fall behind our neighboring states in addressing the housing and transportation needs of our residents.

The Transit Master Plan (TMP) was adopted by the state in 2020 with considerable input from Rhode Islanders. It represents a collective vision of a future Rhode Island where residents can move efficiently and affordably from home to work, school, or many of the state’s recreational attractions. The plan makes Transit Oriented Development (TOD) a reality, which supports the state’s housing production goals and our Act on Climate goals.

**Now is the time to fund the TMP to support a future where a reliable and efficient public transit system moves Rhode Islanders from their homes to where they need to go.**

We want to thank Senator Vargas, the bill sponsor, the Chair and Committee for considering this critical investment in our future and urge you to allow the Transit Master Plan bond referenda to go out to voters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristina Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kristina Brown | Executive Director | Neighbors Welcome! Rhode Island