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**From:** Nick Rutter <nickrutter0@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 2, 2026 3:26 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance  
**Subject:** SUPPORT (S2813) - Transit Master Plan Bond Referenda

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Dear Chair DiPalma (Senate) and Committee members,

My name is Nick Rutter. I live in Smithfield, and I am writing in support of Senator Vargas' Transit Master Plan Bond Bill S2813.

I have lived the majority of my life in suburban areas, which has led to my employment, family and social connections also being primarily suburban. While I primarily use RIPTA to traverse through the suburbs to Providence, I have made some very long treks from suburb to suburb via transfers, like my first ever RIPTA ride from Cumberland to our capital pre-license.

RIPTA being able to expand beyond the hub and spoke and create more direct routes between suburbs would be key in not only improving rider experience while attracting more of them, but also making existing fixed routes more efficient and it would decrease intersuburb traffic as we see too often on the 295, 6/10, and 146 corridors. The [Metro Connector](#) is a necessary step for a more cohesive and resilient state.

For just over one-sixth of a Washington Bridge, our whole state can finally reap the benefits of our already established [Transit Master Plan](#), facilitating our goals on climate, and providing much needed rehabilitation to our transit infrastructure that directly serves riders: stops and shelters, crosswalks, sidewalks, and curb ramps, bathrooms, bike racks, and waiting areas. A more complete transit network paired with a more complete transit experience is well worth investing in for the future of our state, and I urge you to support S2813 so we can start making a return on it as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Nick Rutter  
12 Howard Street Smithfield, RI 02917