



October 27, 2017

Mr. Peter Alviti
Director RI Department of Transportation
Two Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02903

RE: RIDOT's FY2018 INFRA Grant Application Providence Viaduct Northbound Project

Dear Director Alviti:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA), I write to you in full support of RIDOT's FY2018 INFRA Grant Application to construct a new bridge and highway improvement project at the crucial I-95 Providence Viaduct Northbound.

I-95 is the major artery through the capital city of Providence. As such, it is a key component to economic activity in Providence – and the entire state. It is also a vital link to the New York City-Boston component of the Northeast Megaregion.

A properly functioning highway system is vital to the future of the entire area. In addition, we believe that this potential \$264 million project will help create economic opportunities for the State – both by allowing for faster, more efficient commerce travel through Rhode Island's busiest commercial corridor and also directly by adding much-needed construction jobs.

As a statewide public transit authority, RIPTA routes travel on I-95 through Providence every day and we rely on safe and efficient road infrastructure. This area is of particular interest to us because of the density of service we provide in the Greater Providence area.

We hope the State is able to take advantage of this opportunity to rebuild critical transportation infrastructure, and we enthusiastically support RIDOT's INFRA Grant Application. As always, we look forward to working with RIDOT, and please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Pettine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amy Pettine
Interim CEO
Rhode Island Public Transit Authority