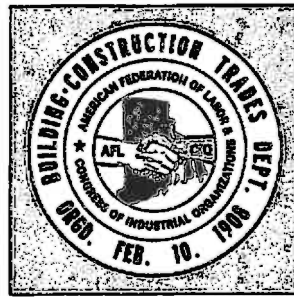


Michael F. Sabitoni
President

RHODE ISLAND



BUILDING TRADES

Scott Duhamel
Secretary/Treasurer

October 27, 2017

Mr. Peter Alviti, P.E.
Director
State of Rhode Island Department of Transportation
2-Capital Hill
Providence, RI 02903

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

Dear Director Alviti:

The Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council is comprised of seventeen (17) local trade unions with approximately 9,500 members. On behalf of our Council I am writing to express our full support of RIDOT's FY2018 ~~INFRA~~ Grant Application for the reasons that follow.

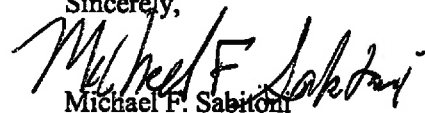
This application will allow the State to advance and construct a new and important bridge highway improvement at the heavily travelled I-95 Providence Viaduct Northbound. This highway is the key component to the economic activity in Providence, not only as Rhode Island's capital city but an important link in the New York City to Boston component of the Northeast Megaregion.

A properly functioning highway system is a key component to the future of the entire area. In addition, we believe that this potential \$264 million project – with the help of the \$60 million INFRA funding – will help to create economic opportunity both in allowing faster, more efficient commerce through Rhode Island's busiest commercial corridor, and directly by adding much-needed construction jobs.

Communities in our region have long sought the kinds of improvements outlined in this INFRA Grant Application for the safety and well-being of our traveling public. In the past, repeated attempts to fix crumbling bridges and stop queuing of cars in this well-traveled commercial area have been stymied by lack of proper infrastructure funding.

Accordingly, for the foregoing reasons we enthusiastically support RIDOT's INFRA Grant Application and look forward to working with your Department in advancing the reconstruction of the most vital east-west link in our transportation infrastructure in our state today. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,


Michael F. Sabitoni
President

cc: RI Building and Construction Trades Council

Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council
410 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903
(401) 331-9682 Fax: (401) 861-1480

