



April 5, 2024

The Honorable Marvin Abney, Chairman  
House Committee on Finance  
State of Rhode Island  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

RE: [H-7918](#) – Relating to Capital Development Program – 2024 Bond Referenda

Dear Chairman Abney and Members of the House Committee on Finance,

We, the undersigned representatives of the three Aquidneck Island municipalities, write in full support of House Bill 7918 that would authorize a bond referenda ballot question to be put before the voters of the state on November 5, 2024.

Approval of the question would allow the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds, refunding bonds, and/or temporary notes in an amount not to exceed twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000), toward implementation of Rhode Island's adopted [Statewide Bicycle Mobility Plan](#). Used as a state match, these funds would leverage up to an additional \$125,000,000 in federal investment through the U.S. DOT.

Implementing this plan would bring great benefit to Aquidneck Island, to our tourism industry, to reducing traffic, congestion and climate emissions, to providing our residents with healthy active transportation choices and to improving the quality of life on Aquidneck Island.

We hope that you will support bringing this question to the voters of our State in November.

Sincerely,

Laura Sitrin  
Interim City Manager  
City of Newport

Shawn J. Brown  
Town Administrator  
Town of Middletown

Richard A. Rainer Jr.  
Town Administrator  
Town of Portsmouth