



Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island

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May 25, 2022

Mr. Peter Alviti Jr., PE
Director
Rhode Island Department of Transportation
Two Capitol Hill
Providence, R.I. 02903

**RE: RIDOT's FY2022 MPDG Application
Completing the I-95 Missing Move and Ramps to Quonset Business Park**

Dear Director Alviti:

On behalf of the Town of North Kingstown, I write to you in full support of RIDOT's FY2022 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity Program (MPDG) Application to advance the "Completing the I-95 Missing Move and Ramps to Quonset Business Park," which will direct freight traffic away from local roads by constructing the "Missing Move" ramps linking Interstate 95 to and from Route 4 in East Greenwich, and installing deferred Route 403 ramps to the West Davisville district of the Quonset Business Park in North Kingstown. With a total project cost of \$135 million, RIDOT is requesting \$81 million in its application.

For decades, Rhode Island travelers have been unable to complete the links between Route 4 and Interstate 95 without navigating a series of signals and local roads. This project would finally complete the link between these two highways and provide smoother connections to one of the state's largest employers by building the deferred Route 403 ramps to the West Davisville district of Quonset Business Park in North Kingstown. This would benefit not only the employees and patrons to the business park but also the residents of North Kingstown.

This is an important freight route that serves as a critical element of our economic infrastructure. MPDG funding for this project will deliver economic opportunity and vitality for our State by allowing faster, more efficient commerce through this busy freight trucking link, and by supporting much-needed construction jobs. From a local perspective, North Kingstown is home to the Quonset Business Park. As host community, the town is aware of the need to ensure continued improvements to the highway system that provide a positive economic impact as well a net benefit to the local

community. As the park continues to find success as one of Rhode Island's freight ports, we must ensure that the growth and progress is not detrimental to our local residents, businesses and community at large. INFRA funding will facilitate the much-needed connection between Route 4 and Interstate 95, reducing the need for commercial trucking to utilize our local roads and allowing for faster access into the business park, delivering economic opportunity and vitality for our state. The construction jobs associated with the infrastructure improvements could directly benefit North Kingstown's economy through the use of our local job force and service amenities.

Because we must seize this window of opportunity to rebuild this critical transportation infrastructure, The Town of North Kingstown enthusiastically support RIDOT's MPDG Application and look forward to working with RIDOT in advancing the reconstruction of the most vital north-south link in our state today.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph Mollis". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "R" and a cursive "Mollis".

Ralph Mollis, Town Manager