

VALERIE J. SOUTHERN - TRANSPORTATION CONSULTANT, LLC

May 18, 2022

Mr. Peter Alviti, Jr., PE Director Rhode Island Department of Transportation Two Capitol Hill Providence, Rhode Island 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 Valerie J. Southern – Transportation Consultant LLC, I am writing in support of RIDOT's FY2022 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity Program (MPDG) Application for completion of the I-95 Missing Move and Ramps to Quonset Business Park. This project 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 Islanders 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 stronger connections to one of the state's largest employers. This is an important freight route in the state's economic infrastructure.

Valerie J. Southern – Transportation Consultant, LLC strongly supports RIDOT's MPDG Application. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Valerie J. Southern

President