



**RHODE ISLAND LEAGUE  
OF CITIES AND TOWNS**

*Distinctive Communities  
Powerful Alliance*

March 26, 2024

The Honorable Evan P. Shanley  
State Government and Elections Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith St  
Providence RI, 02903

RE: Bill Number: 7666 Relating to State Affairs and Government – Department of Administration – The Rhode Island Municipal Infrastructure Grant Program

Dear Chairman Shanley and Honorable Members of the State Government and Elections Committee:

We are writing to express our support for the proposed legislation House Bill 7666, which aims to make minor technical changes to our state planning council.

The proposed amendment, particularly the inclusion of the secretary of housing or their designee in the state planning council, is a necessary step towards comprehensive and inclusive planning. By broadening the council's membership, we can ensure that diverse perspectives and expertise are considered in shaping our state's future.

Moreover, clarifying language regarding the role of the technical committee will provide clarity and guidance in our planning efforts. Clear communication and defined roles are essential for efficient decision-making and implementation of plans for the physical, economic, and social development of our state.

It is evident that the orderly development of our state requires a strategic and coordinated approach. The interests of our citizens, the need for effective planning, and the complexities of modern challenges all underscore the importance of initiatives like House Bill 7666.

Together, we can ensure that our state's planning processes are robust, responsive, and capable of meeting the needs of our communities now and in the future.

On behalf of the League of Cities and Towns thank you for allowing me the opportunity to express our views.

Sincerely,

David M. Bodah  
Associate Director

Cc: State Government and Elections Committee Members  
Ernie Almonte, Executive Director, RILCT