

Attention the Appropriations Committee:

I have never been able to drive a car, so remain dependent on the Bus System in Stamford. At one point the fares were increased. The plan was to raise them each year for three years, but to make using the bus system user friendly they did not raise the fare again. Increasing the fare to \$1.50 will make life more difficult for those who depend on the bus. Here in Stamford, the traffic on I 95 and the Merritt Parkway is very difficult for drivers.

Encouraging the use of both Trains and Busses would lessen traffic.

Making using busses easier would mean more companies would be willing to either come to Stamford, or not move away. Some companies have had difficulties finding employees willing to make the long commute.

Governor Malloy had been Mayor of Stamford, so is well aware of the problems with traffic in this area.

As one who is eligible for ADA Door to Door transportation, the ending of non-ADA fare subsidies by \$576,361 would not affect me. However, the lives of the elderly would be made more difficult. The lessening by 3.1 Million for the Department of Social Services Transportation Employment Independence Program could mean fewer people who would with such help work no longer do so. Encouraging DSS Clients to work could provide them with some level if independence.

Thank you for considering my thoughts about this important matter.

Sincerely,

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