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February 11, 2015

Senator Andrew Maynard
Representative Antonio Guerrero
Transportation Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2300
Hartford, CT 06106

Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero, Senator Boucher, Representative O'Dea and members of the Transportation Committee:

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to speak today on several bills which I have submitted for consideration to the Transportation Committee. I am very appreciative that committee leadership has seen the bills fit to be heard in a public forum and I hope that the entire committee will also see the value in moving the bills forward.

SB 486 AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE INTERSECTION OF ROUTES 190 AND 83 IN SOMERS. I would like to address this proposal first and express once again my gratitude for the opportunity to be heard. I have spoken with representatives from the Department of Transportation and have been assured that the location mentioned in the bill is currently included in a future DOT traffic signal upgrade project with construction anticipated in 2017/18. Unless the Transportation Committee sees fit to recommend an updated study on this intersection, I feel that the matter is being satisfactorily addressed and I will continue further conversations on the matter directly with the Department of Transportation.

SB 484 AN ACT CONCERNING BICYCLE CROSSINGS. This proposal was brought to me by a constituent, David Potter of East Granby. Currently the State of Connecticut employs a flashing light system at bike crossings. When bicyclists come up to a road, they can press a button on the traffic light to make it flash yellow. The flashing light is supposed to signal motorists to stop and allow the bikes to cross. According to Mr. Potter, instead of stopping, however, many motorists

ignore the lights. Motorists treat the yellow flashing lights much the same as they do at traffic lights they encounter at intersections: they slow down or speed up but do not stop. His intention in asking me to submit SB 484 is to change our current system to mirror that used in Massachusetts where the traffic lights at the intersections of roadways and bike paths constantly flash yellow until a bicyclist presses the button to cross. Then, the lights start flashing red and the bicyclist is given a "Walk" sign much like pedestrians do in crossing streets in urban areas.

SB 494 AN ACT AUTHORIZING SPECIAL TAX OBLIGATION BONDS FOR A RAIL STATION IN ENFIELD. This proposal is a top priority for the Enfield delegation and for local officials. The rail station located in the downtown Thompsonville area of Enfield will be a regional resource which will foster responsible, transit-oriented growth in our area. The approval of these funds will have a significant impact on the Town. The rail station will mean jobs, economic growth, and quality of life improvements. It is the keystone to our revitalization efforts and will help usher in a new phase of vibrancy in Enfield. I am encouraged not only by the bipartisan support exhibited in this proposal, but by the support for this project displayed by Governor Malloy during a visit to Enfield in September. Additionally, the bond commission has previously authorized planning funds for the Enfield station as part of a \$5.75 million package for the "Hartford Line" of the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield rail line. I believe the momentum is present across party lines to overhaul our transportation systems in Connecticut and this line and this station can and should play an important role. I am confident that bipartisan spirit will propel this proposal forward.

Thank you for your time and for your consideration and support.