



**For the Planning and Development Committee
Testimony of Alicea Charamut, Executive Director
February 28, 2025**

Rivers Alliance was formed to fight for sound water policies at the state and federal levels, to provide education on water resources, and to advocate for any person or group striving to protect water. If you want clean, free-flowing and healthy rivers, and high-quality drinking water, Rivers Alliance is here to help.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the following raised bill before you today.

**HB 7061 - AN ACT CONCERNING MANDATORY MINIMUM PARKING
REQUIREMENTS – [Supports](#)**

Minimum parking requirements promote the installation impervious surfaces—such as asphalt parking lots—that prevent rainwater from naturally infiltrating the ground. This excess of impervious surfaces significantly contributes to stormwater runoff, which carries pollutants directly into our rivers, streams, and drinking water sources. By removing these mandates, we can reduce the amount of paved surfaces, allowing for more green spaces, permeable alternatives, and effective stormwater management.

Additionally, eliminating parking minimums encourages more compact, transit-oriented development. Less pavement means less heat absorption, improved groundwater recharge, and a decrease in flooding risks.

We urge you to support this measure to help create healthier watersheds and more sustainable communities.