



## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

**SENATOR CINDY F. FRIEDMAN**

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*Chair*

JOINT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE FINANCING

*Chair*

SENATE COMMITTEE ON STEERING AND POLICY

April 7, 2025

Chair James Eldridge  
Joint Committee on Revenue  
24 Beacon St. Room 511-C  
Boston, MA 02133

Chair Adrian Madaro  
Joint Committee on Revenue  
24 Beacon St. Room 34  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chair Eldridge and Chair Madaro,

I write in support of a bill I filed that is before your committee, S.2009, *An Act relative to regional transportation ballot initiatives*.

This legislation would allow municipalities to use ballot initiatives to generate tax revenue to fund transportation projects. The legislation would allow the municipality to raise this revenue on its own or by joining other municipalities. The scope of transportation projects municipalities could use these funds to support is intentionally broad, including projects such as constructing a bike path, a regional transit bus line, or a park and ride facility, as examples. This broad scope allows towns, cities, and districts to determine what projects are right for their own regions.

Notably, S.2009 would allow municipalities or districts to use the money they raise under this bill to meet the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's requirements to receive federal matching funds. Allowing municipalities to use money for this purpose will make Massachusetts more competitive in obtaining those federal funds, which will help support the many transportation projects the Commonwealth has in the pipeline. Given the uncertainty around the future viability of appropriated federal funds, as well as the fiscal constraints facing our municipalities, this legislation would provide new avenues to generate revenue needed to continue to invest in our infrastructure and our future.

These are just several of the ways this legislation would empower municipalities to use ballot initiatives to support regional transportation projects. I ask that you consider the tools this legislation will provide to our local governments and report S.2009 out of the committee favorably.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cynthia F. Friedman", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Cindy F. Friedman