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May 1, 2024

Dear House and Senate Transportation Committee Members,

Transportation for Vermonters (T4VT) has been following the important work of your respective committees on H.868. As a coalition representing a broad array of interests and constituencies that works to achieve a sustainable, accessible transportation system for our rural state, we appreciate the progress H.868, and S.309, makes toward this goal.

We believe that the following provisions are reasonable and impactful changes to support mobility for all Vermonters:

Electric Bicycle Incentive Program.

- Vermont's first-in-the-nation e-bike incentive program has been an extremely popular program that has helped increase access to an active transportation solution for Vermonters with different abilities and in more rural areas - yet, we continue to underfund the program. The \$150,000 for e-bike incentives as recommended by the House is a cost-effective investment in accessible mobility. It is also important to ensure that our independent bike and outdoor recreation shops are not left holding the bag when incentive programs are encouraged and then not consistently funded.

Sustainable Transportation Funding and a Regulatory and Revenue-Raising Approach to Build a Cleaner Transportation System.

- We appreciate the incorporation and support for examination of policy and regulatory approaches in the transportation sector to reduce climate pollution in line with what the Global Warming Solutions Act requires, which T4VT and others have advocated for for several years. We also know that funding challenges in the transportation sector (and beyond) are much broader, and a more comprehensive analysis as recommended by the House to assess potential long-term, sustainable revenue sources to maintain and enhance our rural transportation system is critical.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to continuing to work with you on these important issues.

Kati Gallagher

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