



STATE OF VERMONT

MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. Robin Scheu, Chair, House Committee on Appropriations
From: Rep. Matt Walker, Chair, House Committee on Transportation
Date: January 23, 2025
Subject: Provisions in the Governor's Proposed FY 2025 Budget Adjustment Act

Thank you for the opportunity to review the provisions of the fiscal year 2025 Budget Adjustment Act that relate to the Transportation Committee's jurisdiction.

*** * * Repeal of Transfer to Vermont Recreational Trails Fund * * ***

10 V.S.A. § 446 provides for "an annual transfer from the Transportation Fund to the Recreational Trails Fund in the amount of \$370,000.00." The FY 2025 Budget duplicated that transfer in Sec. D.101, thereby doubling the amount to be transferred from the Transportation Fund. Because it was not the intent of the General Assembly to double the amount transferred from the Transportation Fund to the Recreational Trails Fund in fiscal year 2025, the Committee on Transportation supports the repeal of the language in Sec. D.101 that duplicated the statutory transfer.

*** * * Reversion from Department of Motor Vehicles to General Fund * * ***

The Budget Adjustment Act is proposed to include the reversion of \$2,482.81 in unexpended appropriations from the Department of Motor Vehicles to the General Fund. The Committee supports the reversion of these funds as proposed.

*** * * Replenish Incentive Programs for Efficient Vehicles * * ***

The incentive programs for efficient vehicles, including the Incentive Program for New Plug-In Electric Vehicles (PEVs), MileageSmart, and Replace Your Ride, exhausted all of the State funding made available for fiscal year 2025 in October of last year. Therefore, the Committee requests that the following additional amounts be appropriated to those programs from the General Fund for the remainder of fiscal year 2025: \$1,500,000.00 to the Incentive Program for New PEVs, \$250,000.00 to MileageSmart,

and \$250,000.00 to Replace Your Ride. This request is contingent upon the Governor's proposing to continue those programs in fiscal year 2026.

* * * Public Transportation * * *

The Committee has deep concerns regarding pending reductions in public transportation service and cuts to existing routes, which will significantly impact public transportation-dependent Vermonters. The Agency of Transportation provided testimony to the Committee regarding its efforts to identify opportunities for greater efficiency within the State's public transportation systems. The Committee expects that through those efforts the Agency of Transportation, working together with public transit agencies, will identify opportunities to prevent the pending service reductions and cuts within the existing appropriation.