



**Office of
Representative Hannah E. Kane
Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

For Immediate Release

Contact: Anna Darrow, 617-722-2810, Anna.Darrow@mahouse.gov

March 9, 2020

House approves \$18.2 billion transportation bond bill

Representative Kane secures funding for local infrastructure projects

BOSTON – State Representative Hannah Kane, R-Shrewsbury recently joined with her colleagues to support a multi-year transportation bond bill that provides more than \$18.2 billion in funding authorizations for municipal infrastructure projects and improvements to the state’s transportation system.

House Bill 4506, *An Act authorizing and accelerating transportation investment*, was engrossed by the House of Representatives on a vote of 150-1 on March 5th. In addition to increasing funding for municipal road and bridge repairs under the Chapter 90 program from \$200 million to \$300 million, the bill also provides \$70 million for the Municipal Small Bridge Program and \$50 million for the Complete Streets Program.

During floor debate, Representative Kane successfully secured funding for several local projects, including \$1,400,000 for the reconstruction of the Toblin Hill Bridge in Shrewsbury and \$250,000 for parking improvements at the Commuter Rail station in Westborough. More than \$1.6 billion in local transportation improvement projects was added to the bond bill through the amendment process.

Representative Kane also worked with her colleagues Representative Dykema (D-Holliston) and Representative Gregoire (D-Marlborough) to secure an amendment creating a multi-stakeholder standing working group to investigate, develop, implement, and coordinate a mitigation plan for the Allston I-90 corridor before and during the construction of the Allston Multimodal Project. The amendment ensures that the Stakeholder Group will work throughout the duration of the Project in an attempt to mitigate the detrimental effects the 10-year long Project will have on commuters from Shrewsbury and Westborough.

“I am thrilled to have secured critical funding and policy changes that will allow for substantive improvements for Shrewsbury and Westborough residents in the Transportation Bond Bill. Additionally, as the Central MA representative on the Allston Multimodal Task Force, the efforts of the Westborough delegation to secure mitigation for the duration of the 10-year project will be critical as the project progresses,” remarked Representative Kane.

House Bill 4506 includes \$5.6 billion for interstate and non-interstate federal highway projects; \$1.75 billion for non-federally-aided roadway and bridge projects; and \$1.25 billion for the construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, repair and improvement of bridges, approaches and related infrastructure. It

also contains \$350 million for repairs and improvements to the approaches to the Bourne Bridge and the Sagamore Bridge to help leverage additional federal funding.

In addition to setting aside \$900 million for general rail improvements and \$330 million for regional transit networks, the bond bill also authorizes spending for a number of rail projects across the state, including the South Coast Rail (\$825 million); Green Line extension (\$695 million); South Station improvements (\$400 million); and projects related to the East-West Rail (\$175 million). In addition, the bill requires MassDOT to conduct a feasibility study relative to rail service between Pittsfield, Springfield and Boston, with a report due by March 1, 2022.

House Bill 4506 also allows for Supplemental Infrastructure Financing for Transportation (SIFTs) for projects agreed upon by MassDOT and municipalities. This would allow cities and towns to fund transportation infrastructure projects using tax increment revenues.

The transportation bond bill now heads to the Senate for further consideration.

###