

January 16, 2019

Kathleen Mulcahey-Hampson
Public-Private Partnership Infrastructure Oversight Commission
7 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302

Dear Ms Mulcahey-Hampson,

I'm writing to the Commission as a resident of Dover to express my opposition to the proposed privatization of Dover and Portsmouth bus terminals. While I appreciate concerns related to the crowded nature of these lots and the potential tax benefit to my community of privatization, I feel it is important to keep these lots open to the public without fee. Having free parking promotes not only bus usage, but other ride sharing, which keeps cars off our already crowded highways.

My family of three uses the Dover based C&J bus service 2-3 times per year to commute to Boston's airports and train stations. It can be difficult to find a parking spot in the lot during busy travel weeks (holiday and school vacations), however we have always been successful. If we were required to pay a daily fee to park, it would make more economical sense to drive directly to Logan Airport or to a MBTA station in Boston, especially considering the added time involved in bus travel. On a recent trip, we left our vehicle in the Dover lot, carpooled to Boston, then returned late at night via the bus days later. Without access to the lot ahead of our bus travel, we would have had to significantly alter our plans.

That said, if the Commission does recommend privatization of these lots, I would prefer a two-vendor system, whereby the owner/lessee of the lot would be an entity separate from the bus operation. Additionally, municipalities should place conditions on the sale/lease that protects consumers.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heidi Heninger", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Heidi Heninger